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Graduating into the millennium

Ward, Doug . The Vancouver Sun ; Vancouver, B.C. [Vancouver, B.C]04 Oct 1999: A6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

Profiles of Winston Tong, Angela Wesley, Mike Kryk, Mia Amir and Nikesh Mehta.

Angela has found school boring since the beginning. She'd hang on to her bed and scream when it was time to go to pre-school. Angela figures her mom spent more time at her pre-school as a volunteer than Angela did as a student. Through grade school and high school, Angela repeatedly skipped classes. Just wouldn't show up.

Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Winston Tong. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / angela wesley. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Mike Kryk. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Mia Amir. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Nikesh Mehta. ;

FULL TEXT

Profiles of Winston Tong, Angela Wesley, Mike Kryk, Mia Amir and Nikesh Mehta.

Doug Ward talks with seven Grade 12 students at Moscrop secondary , who provide a snapshot of the Class of 2000.

WINSTON TONG

Winston Tong looks stressed. He's rushing to get to a physics test -- vectors -- but is late because he forgot his calculator.

It's Monday and Winston was at a leadership camp all weekend. He wasn't able to complete all of his assigned chemistry homework. Or study for the physics test. To top it off, he's got a cold.

"I'm having a bad day," says Winston, heading into portable 13 for his physics test.

It's the first test of the year in the course and Winston is anxious to get off to a good start. Like many other Grade 12 students, he wants to gain early university admission.

"If you don't work hard this year, it's going to be too late."

Winston says he needs 86 per cent to get early admission into the University of B.C., or 80 per cent for regular admission.

"My main goal is to have the grades to go to university. Next year, where am I going to be? I'm always thinking

about university."

Winston says that Grade 12 is a different world from Grade 11. "Homework is double or triple the amount [than] in Grade 11."

A teacher might assign questions one-through-10 for homework. Winston feels he should complete questions one-to-20 just to stay ahead.

The odd time he's even been up at 5 a.m. doing schoolwork, which never happened in Grade 11.

Last year Winston would come home from school, have a snack and start homework after dinner. He'd watch The Simpsons.

He even had enough time to be on Moscrop's track and field team.

This year, Winston begins homework as soon as he arrives at home.

"I get home at four o'clock and work until 5:30 and then take a shower at 6. I have dinner and then start working at 7 and go until 10:30. Minimum."

TV this year? Forget it. "I don't recall watching TV for the past two weeks."

The track team? Sports are out this year, says Winston, because his parents want him to focus on academics.

Winston studies about five hours on the weekend. On Sunday, he goes to church at the Vancouver Chinese Christian Church.

Winston spends most lunch hours studying in a classroom. "I hang around with people who work during lunch time."

Most of his lunch partners are ethnic Chinese students, plus kids whose families recently immigrated from Europe.

Winston came to Canada from Hong Kong when he was nine years old. He was in ESL classes for two years.

A slight majority of kids at Moscrop are non-Caucasian. Race isn't an issue at the school, Winston says, though it often determines your peer group.

"It's pretty much a blend. I would say there's discrimination," Winston said. "But your friends tend to be people who came from where you came from. If you're from Hong Kong, you tend to hang out with people from Hong Kong. And if you're Caucasian and born here, you stick with the same."

Winston said that Canadian-born ethnic Chinese are more likely to hang out with Caucasians than are Chinese-Canadians who are new immigrants.

Although Winston desperately wants to get to university – law is his career preference – he has concerns.

"I have friends in university who say you don't really make friends. And there is so much more work."

He's going to miss Moscrop too, and the teachers, "who were like friends to us."

ANGELA WESLEY

Angela Wesley hates school, always has, but she loves Moscrop, especially because of her teacher, Ms. Deitch.

"I love this school. As many times as I've screwed up, they've let me come back," Angela said.

"If I couldn't go to this school, I probably wouldn't go to school at all. And I think they know that."

When her mom developed cancer last year, Angela couldn't cope with coming to school. Her mom needed her and, "it was totally pointless for me to come to school. The little-ist thing would have set me off."

But Anne Deitch, who teaches Angela in the school's alternative program, phoned her regularly. She'd ask how Angela was doing and told her that when she was ready to return, Moscrop would be ready to have her back.

At 17, Angela is back. She probably won't graduate this year, but maybe next.

Not every Grade 12 student is headed to university or college. In every senior class in B.C. there are certain kids who struggle to get through. Some won't make it and have to come back a year or more later.

Often it's not because they are lazy or unintelligent. Often it's because their brains are hardwired such that they can't cope in a regular classroom. And often it's because of other stresses in their life. They don't get As and Bs, but their passage through school can be even more impressive than those on the honour roll. Angela is one of these students.

Angela has found school boring since the beginning. She'd hang on to her bed and scream when it was time to go to pre-school. Angela figures her mom spent more time at her pre-school as a volunteer than Angela did as a student. Through grade school and high school, Angela repeatedly skipped classes. Just wouldn't show up.

"I really get bored with school. The same thing over and over. I guess I have a listening problem because I never know what's going on."

But Moscrop never lost interest in Angela, and now she's taking catch-up courses to graduate sometime.

"I don't think I'm going to make this year. Maybe if I work my ass off this year and go to summer school, I'll still be able to graduate in the year 2000. But I won't be graduating with my friends."

When she does graduate, Angela will be in debt to Ms. Deitch, who "is like the most awesome person I have ever met."

Angela has a ring through her lower lip that she got in Grade 9. She's toned down her look, which during the early grades was pretty freaky, what with her black hair, black clothing and piercings.

Music-wise she listens to CFOX and prefers her music on the heavy side: Korn, Limp Bizkit and the Deftones.

She had a Deftones poster on her bedroom wall, but she woke up one night and ripped it off for no apparent reason. Now there's nothing on her walls, which are painted all black.

"It's kind of depressing in my bedroom, but I like it."

School, despite being boring at times, is mostly a haven. What comes after graduation is scarier.

"It's like this is what I know right now and I don't want to leave it. I want to stay 16 and 17 for the rest of my life.

"My days are planned out for me. I come to school at 8:40 and I'm out at three o'clock and I go home.

"And soon I'm going to have to decide all that for myself: what I want to work and what I want to do. But, like, I don't know what I want to do."

MIKE KRYK

Mike Kryk is different from most Grade 12 students at Moscrop -- he knows exactly what he wants to be when he grows up.

And his job choice is decidedly un-millennial. Something of a throwback.

Mike, 18, wants to be a car mechanic. He loves cars and he wants to fix them. The inside of his school locker is covered with photos of flashy cars and the Canadian racer Jacques Villeneuve.

Mike has a natural impulse to fix that which is broken.

"My favourite thing ever is to take something that is broken or worn out and to put something new in it.

"Even with things other than cars. Although cars are my big passion."

He doesn't care that his choice is unfashionable.

"I have friends that like my idea, but most people have not much interest because they say it's too greasy with your hands. Too much physical work."

Mike's idea is to graduate and then get a job at Canadian Tire or a similar place with auto parts.

He has a driver's licence and borrows his dad's car. He says only about 10 kids at Moscrop have cars. He'd like to own his own wheels, but right now is concentrating on school.

He'll save money after he starts working and then buy a car. Maybe a Camaro, or a Honda Civic. He'll do his own maintenance work on the car. Keep it in mint condition. And he'll help his friends when they have trouble with their cars.

His plan is to work days and take night courses in auto mechanics.

"I get a lot of support from my friends, but I don't hear too many people talking about mechanics," said Mike.

"They're all talking about modern computers, office jobs, the stock market. Lot of business jobs, I hear often."

Mike won't be joining the class trip to Mexico. "It's quite an expensive trip and I'm trying to save my money for my car, which is my big priority now."

Mike's family left Poland when he was a year old. He speaks with a barely detectable accent. His dad is a carpenter who builds boats while his mom manages the bridal salon at The Bay. His grandfather was a car mechanic.

He comes across as someone at ease with himself and the world. He and his dad go fishing most weekends in their 28-foot boat, usually off Bowen Island.

Besides cars and fishing, Mike likes music. He's played guitar for five years and has played in a band with his younger brother. Last year he played the Eagles' Hotel California in a band at Woodstock – a once-a-year music festival staged on the school's front lawn.

Mike said most Grade 12s are still unclear about what jobs they want. "They don't know what they like and so they say that whatever pays the most, they'll do."

He expects that many students in his graduating class will end up in boring jobs, like working in fast food restaurants, until they finally choose a profession.

Mike hangs out at lunch with five friends. They sit on the front lawn and have lunch and talk. Mike says he'll miss Moscrop and that he sometimes worries about the coming pressures of the work world.

"It is worrying in one way, but it will also be a fun experience. After being so long in school, you really want to do something. All your hard work will have paid off.

"You can really get into it – your career field. Really focus on one thing."

Like cars.

MIA AMIR

Mia Amir looks like she stepped out of a photograph of a Stanley Park be-in, circa 1968. Her tousled hair is cropped short and she's wearing an African sarong.

Mia, 17, has the best qualities of that era too – an uncynical intelligence and a fierce social conscience. She's the antithesis of the apathetic student.

While her schoolmates are worrying about grades and weekend parties, Mia is attending meetings on how to oppose the coming World Trade Organization summit in Seattle.

In September, Mia travelled to Hull, Quebec, where she was one of 17 Canadian high school students invited to attend the Youth Roundtable on the Environment. The next weekend, she was in Clayoquot Sound on a tour of the environmental hotspot with other activists.

In 1998, Mia won one of the city of Burnaby's four annual environmental awards.

"I've always felt really close to the earth," Mia said. "Ever since I was a child, I've felt the weight of the world on my shoulders.

"For some crazy reason. I don't know why."

Her idea of a good time on Saturday afternoon isn't to take the SkyTrain downtown and hit the clothing stores on Robson. It's more likely she'll be attending a conference on social justice or the environment.

She doesn't buy clothes at Club Monaco or The Gap anyway. Mia only shops at second-hand stores like Value Village. She doesn't want to purchase clothes that might have been produced by child labour.

Despite her different take on the world, Mia feels at home at Moscrop and has lots of friends. It wasn't, however, always that way.

In her early grades, Mia and some of her friends were tagged as the different kids at the school.

"We were the 'Skids' and we wore combat pants a lot and tattered whatever and our Value Village stuff. And we listened to hardcore music like Nine Inch Nails.

"People called us names, and I used to get spat on in Grade 9 by people."

Over the years, many of Mia's grunge friends became more mainstream, and the mainstream kids became more tolerant. Mia doesn't get spat on anymore. She isn't exactly "in." But she isn't "out," either.

Mia is comfortable with her limbo-land status. "I know a lot of people here and talk to a lot of people. I don't feel isolated.

"I feel isolated in my beliefs and my way of life. But it's something I try to influence other people with.

"By doing what I do, I see myself reflected upon them. Like they won't litter in front of me. They know they have to recycle. Just little things that slowly made a difference."

Inside Moscrop's social hierarchy, there are fewer "definitive lines anymore," Mia said. There used to be the hip-hop or homie kids who hung out at the nearby 7-Eleven store, in their black, baggy pants, gold chains and sweater vests. There were the Skaters or Skids in their grunge clothes. And there were the Preppies with their jeans and khakis and shirts from The Gap and Club Monaco.

But these days there is a certain homogeneity, dress-wise, in the Grade 12 class. "Everyone is looking exactly the same. It's really frightening," said Mia, with an ironic smile.

Mia hopes to organize an environmental and social justice group at Moscrop. Maybe bring in some speakers.

Mia became politicized in Grade 10 when she went on the Lifeboat Flotilla – nine ships that travel to the Gulf Islands with 200 teenagers and 50 mentors, discussing issues relating to development and the local ecology.

"It was an amazing life-changing experience. I got to meet a lot of amazing youth who were my age and doing exactly what I wanted to do."

Mia credits her English teacher, Marlena Morgan, for encouraging her activism. "She's the one who told me about the Lifeboat Flotilla, and she's really helped at low points in my life," Mia said.

"There's a lot of good teachers in this school."

Mia was born in Israel and moved to Canada when she was two years old. Her father is a limousine driver here, her mother a musician and violin teacher.

A well-paying career isn't at the top of her priorities. After graduation, Mia wants to take a year off and visit Israel. After that she plans to go to El Salvador and work on a project aimed at rebuilding that country's diminishing sea turtle population.

Her dream is to be an independent filmmaker – a dream that shaped her experiences during the past two summers at a film school for kids on Galiano Island.

"I don't think I'll ever hold a full-time job," Mia said. "But I feel like I do work every day of my life because I go to meetings and do a lot of volunteer work."

NIKESH MEHTA

Nikesh Mehta doesn't look like a star jock. Standing five-feet, four-inches tall, weighing 100 pounds, he looks more like a candidate for the chess club.

But Nikesh, 17, is lightning quick and that's why he's captain of the Moscrop soccer team. He's a midfielder, the playmaker.

Moscrop has never been a soccer power, mostly because it has never had a Grade 12 until this year. Nikesh thinks the Moscrop team will earn some respect this season.

Nikesh also plays soccer at the club level for Wesburn in Burnaby. Nikesh is so good he was recruited to play for Fiji in this year's Nations' Cup, a prestigious tournament of adult teams. His father, a big soccer fan, was born in India but spent many years in Fiji.

Nikesh has played soccer since he was two years old. He's a big Manchester United fan. David Beckham and Andy Cole are his favourite players.

Nikesh hopes to play for the UBC Thunderbirds, but says that academics will come first. "Once I get in, then I'll worry about getting on the team."

Nikesh wants to study human kinetics and be a P.E. teacher. He worked at the UBC soccer camp teaching kids last summer. He wants to remain connected to athletics for the rest of his life.

"I love sports, basically. I love anything in the environment of sports."

He has soccer games or practices every night from Monday to Thursday – "by Friday morning, I'm a bit tired." And there's always a game on Saturday.

Nikesh is enthusiastic about Grade 12. "I feel like it's the year that you've been working towards ever since kindergarten. This is the year that counts."

Illustration

Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Winston Tong. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / angela wesley. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Mike Kryk. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Mia Amir. ; Color Photo: Ward Perrin, Vancouver Sun / Nikesh Mehta. ;

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

The planning and development award went to the Eight Rinks skating complex along with the Canadian Autoworkers Union and the Burnaby Firefighters Charity Association. The groups created a bottle and can recycling program for Eight Rinks that will prevent 250,000 containers a year from ending up in landfills.

FULL TEXT

The winners of the city of Burnaby's four annual environmental awards for 1998 will be honoured tonight at the Shadbolt Centre.

Dean Lamont of the Burnaby Mountain Preservation Society won in the communications category for his articles and columns in local papers and for the trail maps of the 309 hectares the society has preserved on Burnaby Mountain.

The Vancouver Angling and Game Society and the Burnaby Lake Advisory Association shared the award for community stewardship. The society has worked on Burn Creek for several years, doing stream cleanup, sediment monitoring and salmon enhancement.

The youth award went to Grade 11 Moscrop secondary student Mia Amir, who has worked on several youth environmental projects and took part in the Lifeboat Flotilla program.

The planning and development award went to the Eight Rinks skating complex along with the Canadian Autoworkers Union and the Burnaby Firefighters Charity Association. The groups created a bottle and can recycling program for Eight Rinks that will prevent 250,000 containers a year from ending up in landfills.

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Eco-teacher Jeff Gibbs has lived his dream since age 16

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

"I am not an environmental zealot," [Jeff Gibbs] says, pointing out that he has never chained himself to trees. Rather, the catch word for Gibbs is sustainability - the fine balance of harvesting nature wisely, without exploiting it.

That was the vision that a teenage Jeff Gibbs brought back from his first trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands. Upon his return to his high school, he rallied fellow students to write to more than 400 politicians about the battle over logging on the island of South Moresby. After graduating, Gibbs returned to the island to work with the Haida Indians and others to gain protection for the area. In 1987, the island was made a national park.

Color Photo: Captain Gibbs: "I don't get cynical." ; Color Photo: Jeff Gibbs / The Strait savers superlist: Floating school: Members of the Leadership Initiative for Earth (LIFE) sail the Strait while studying its ecology. (Photo ran on page 8) ;

FULL TEXT

Profile of Jeff Gibbs.

Why does Jeff Gibbs set sail on the Strait of Georgia every summer with a small navy of teenagers? You might say it offers him a chance to relive hundreds of times over the voyage that changed his life forever.

In a sense, he's retracing the trip he made when he was 16, sailing around the Queen Charlotte Island of South Moresby. Far from the concrete of his Vancouver neighbourhood, it was Gibbs' first time walking below mammoth, ancient trees, and dipping his hands into water teeming with creatures.

It was his introduction, he says, to the "web of life."

On the same 10-day trip, a stark patch of clear-cut forest swung into view, and Gibbs suddenly understood the role that each person can play in either tearing away or preserving nature's web.

"That was really a life-changing moment for me," he says, reminiscing from his Granville Island office. "I made a life-long pledge to myself to work to bring a greater understanding of the importance of the natural world and search out ways we as a society could somehow live more in partnership, rather than adversarial ways, with nature.

At 31, Gibbs has already made good on that promise.

He has started up his own non-profit company called Leadership Initiative For Earth (LIFE), whose programs have reached more than 1,000 teenagers over the past four years.

Most of those teens were passengers aboard the LIFEboat flotilla, eight sailboats that each spring tour around southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. The collective crew spends seven days exploring the Georgia Strait ecosystems and taking classes from nature experts like Jane Goodall and Robert Bateman.

Before embarking, the teens are obliged to spend 25 hours volunteering with stream clean-ups and other local environmental projects. They must also raise at least half of the \$600 fee themselves.

The purpose, Gibbs says, is not to mould "foot soldiers for the environment movement."

"I am not an environmental zealot," Gibbs says, pointing out that he has never chained himself to trees. Rather, the catch word for Gibbs is sustainability - the fine balance of harvesting nature wisely, without exploiting it.

That was the vision that a teenage Jeff Gibbs brought back from his first trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands. Upon his return to his high school, he rallied fellow students to write to more than 400 politicians about the battle over logging on the island of South Moresby. After graduating, Gibbs returned to the island to work with the Haida Indians and others to gain protection for the area. In 1987, the island was made a national park.

"That made me realize and believe in impossible dreams," Gibbs said.

In pursuit of his dreams, Gibbs has explored the Amazon and Borneo and honed his skills as an environmental educator. In 1993, when only 25, he was one of the youngest people to be included in the United Nations' Global 900 Honor Role.

Gibbs' latest project is a 100-foot wooden LIFEship that young volunteers will build. The \$8-million boat will be a solar-powered model of environmental sustainability, Gibbs says.

"I don't get cynical," Gibbs says, "because I get to live my dream."

Illustration

Color Photo: Captain Gibbs: "I don't get cynical." ; Color Photo: Jeff Gibbs / The Strait savers superlist: Floating school: Members of the Leadership Initiative for Earth (LIFE) sail the Strait while studying its ecology. (Photo ran on page 8) ;

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Goodall appearance thrills students

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

NANAIMO, B.C. (CP) -- Famed chimpanzee savior Jane Goodall thrilled local residents while attending Lifeboat Flotilla.

FULL TEXT

NANAIMO, B.C. (CP) -- Famed chimpanzee savior Jane Goodall thrilled local residents while attending Lifeboat Flotilla.

Wendy Slavica, a 16-year-old student from Kelowna, is sharing two days with Goodall and about 200 other students who are taking part in the unique environment-based expedition for young people organized by the Vancouver

based Leadership Initiative for Earth (LIFE).

"I am a role model," said Goodall, who became involved in the LIFE organization during its inception three years ago.

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B.C.'s Top 25 most influential: Next Wave: Some are used to the spotlight, others work in private, but their innovative thinking sets them apart. The Sun looks at B.C. residents to watch in '98.

Gillian Shaw and Doug Ward . The Vancouver Sun ; Vancouver, B.C. [Vancouver, B.C.]05 Jan 1998: A10.

[ProQuest document link](#)

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

[Firoz Rasul] is no newcomer to the B.C. business scene, but the past year has seen his company make significant progress in moving its fuel- cell engines into the mainstream market. Rasul's recent deal with Ford Motor Co., brought a \$650-million injection into [Ballard] and two related companies and put Ballard on the road to getting its fuel cells in cars as early as 2004. For investors who bought in at \$8 a share in 1993 when the company went public, Ballard is finally proving a bonanza with Ford's deal pushing it around the \$100 mark. The Ford deal follows last summer's \$450-million alliance with Daimler-Benz, which introduced the world's first methanol-fuelled passenger car in September, thanks to power by Ballard fuel cells. Ballard makes fuel cells for zero-emission buses and has sent three to the Chicago Transit Authority this year. The buses convert hydrogen into electricity through an electrochemical process. It is only part of Ballard's work in developing low-emission fuel-cell systems for vehicles, marine, stationary and portable power applications. At a time when the world is finally beginning to worry about how badly we're polluting the atmosphere, this company has impressive technology and impeccable timing.

That last protest failed to win as broad support in B.C. as did the Clayoquot struggle. Nevertheless, it received international news coverage, bolstering Greenpeace's strategy of consumer boycotts in the U.S. and Europe. Expect [Tzeporah Berman] to be back in the headlines this spring in some old-growth area on the B.C. coast.

Photo: [John McArthur] ; Photo: [David Sutcliffe] ; Photo: [Gabriel Yui] ; Photo: [Terry McBride] ; Photo: [Kalle Lasn] ; Photo: [Nancy Harrison] ; Photo: [Don Matrick] ; Photo: [Lynne Stopkewich] ; Photo: Firoz Rasul ; Photo: [Jim Heppell] ; Photo: [David Schulz] ; Photo: [Mark Townsend] ; Photo: [Brian Scudamore] ; Photo: [Tim Collings] ; Photo: [Valerie MacLean] ; Photo: [Doug McCallum] ; Photo: Tzeporah Berman ; Photo: [Craig Jones] ; Photo: [Mike Ferraro] ; Photo: [Laurie Papou] ; Photo: [Gail Anderson-Dargatz] ; Photo: [Liz Evans] ; Photo: [Nancy Bradshaw] ; Photo: [Jeff Gibbs] ; Photo: [Geoff Plant] ; Photo: Nava Mizrah ;

FULL TEXT

Some have already seen their names in the news, but some of B.C.'s up- and-comers are toiling away out of the media spotlight.

For now.

B.C. has more than its fair share of interesting up-and-comers to watch and while it would take too much space to tell you of them all, these are just a few of the people you'll likely see more and more in the coming years. What they have in common is an innovative approach to everything they do, whether it's in business, the arts or other sectors.

Some, like Ballard's Firoz Rasul, have already impressed their home province. But the last year pushed Rasul up the list as his company was wooed by suitors bearing millions of dollars for a chance to use its made-in-B.C. technology. Ballard's 1997 alliances could see its fuel-cell technology in electric cars as early as 2004.

Others represent a new generation of entrepreneurs, cultural and political figures who can count numerous successes on their resumes at an age when others might still be graduating from college. They have business smarts and political savvy and with technology breaking down global barriers, the world is truly their arena.

Their goal isn't necessarily the corner office or fame and fortune. They may be driven by more altruistic ends -- whether it's finding the cure for cancer or feeding Third World children.

They're not afraid to take risks, they question traditions and build their own new ones. They tend to dispense with bureaucratic hierarchy and while they lead, they build committed teams who share their goals.

They are worth watching.

John McArthur, 23

1998 Rhodes Scholar

A poster boy for over-achieving, non-slacker, young men, McArthur graduated from the University of B.C. in 1996 and is currently studying at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

At UBC, McArthur was on the swim team for four years and competed 17 times in the Canadian University Swimming championships. As well, he volunteered with the Immigration Services Society of B.C.

At Harvard, he's involved in rowing and edits the international section of The Citizen, a Harvard newspaper. The Rhodes scholarship covers study expenses for two years at Oxford, where McArthur intends to study law.

Terry McBride, 38

President of Nettwerk Management

McBride founded Nettwerk Records in 1984 in his West End living room with a \$5,000 loan. Nettwerk hit pay dirt when he discovered and then began to manage singer Sarah McLachlan, whose audience grew exponentially with each album, boosting Nettwerk's net worth into the millions. He quit his job as president of Nettwerk Records to devote most of his time to McLachlan's skyrocketing career. McBride's Nettwerk was co-producer of Lilith Fair, last summer's festival of female acts, which generated considerable media buzz, especially for its founder McLachlan. Nettwerk's roster, headed by McLachlan, also includes Moist and Barenaked Ladies.

Doug McCallum, 53

Mayor of Surrey.

His nickname at Magee secondary school in Vancouver was "Mona," as in Mona Lisa, because he never cracked a smile. But McCallum must permit himself the odd chuckle as he surveys his meteoric rise from one-term Surrey councillor to mayor of the 12th largest city in Canada.

And perhaps a grin, too, as he reads the headlines he's generated with his vigorous attacks on the Greater Vancouver regional district.

McCallum early on tried to sell his city centre as a site for the Molson Indy race, attempting to steal a major event from Vancouver. He then set his sights on the GVRD, demanding wholesale changes in its structure, which he claims is dominated by Vancouver.

His crankiness has been popular with many Surrey residents who've tired of seeing their city ridiculed as low-rent by people in the big city. All this should stand McCallum in good stead if rumours are right that he will eventually seek a Liberal nomination in one of Surrey's provincial ridings.

Nava Mizrah, 18

YTV Achievement Award winner

This recent graduate of Eric Hamber secondary school is international president of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization.

She was named the YWCA's Young Woman of Distinction for 1996 because of her role in raising awareness of social concerns such as homelessness, the environment, racism and anti-Semitism.

In her official capacity as the B'nai B'rith's "Sh'lica," a Hebrew term meaning messenger or educator, Mizrahi coordinated the Eastern Europe Israel Summer Institute program in which Jewish teenagers visited Poland and the Czech Republic and then travelled to Israel to meet Palestinian youths and discuss peace prospects.

Laurie Papou,

Artist

Papou has won a reputation for her minutely detailed but life-sized portraits, exploring our sexual condition. Papou has spent years working in her east Vancouver studio, creating life-sized portraits of herself and her partner, Iain Ross, always in local landscapes.

Papou's oil paintings cross Lotusland imagery with the lush style of the Renaissance masters.

Papou seems destined to be included in the West Coast canon along with Jack Shadbolt, Gordon Smith and Gathie Falk.

Geoff Plant, 42

Liberal MLA for Richmond-Steveston

Plant is a rising star in the B.C. Liberal party caucus and a sure bet for a top cabinet position should the Liberals form the government after the next election. Plant was elected to the legislature for the first time in 1996 after a successful career at blue-chip law firm Russell and Du Moulin where he acted for corporate groups like the Council of Forest Industries (COFI) and the B.C. Business Council.

Plant has the ear of Liberal leader Gordon Campbell, a boyhood friend with whom he co-owns a condominium in Victoria.

Firoz Rasul, 45

President and CEO, Ballard Power Systems

Rasul is no newcomer to the B.C. business scene, but the past year has seen his company make significant progress in moving its fuel-cell engines into the mainstream market. Rasul's recent deal with Ford Motor Co., brought a \$650-million injection into Ballard and two related companies and put Ballard on the road to getting its fuel cells in cars as early as 2004. For investors who bought in at \$8 a share in 1993 when the company went public, Ballard is finally proving a bonanza with Ford's deal pushing it around the \$100 mark. The Ford deal follows last summer's \$450-million alliance with Daimler-Benz, which introduced the world's first methanol-fuelled passenger car in September, thanks to power by Ballard fuel cells. Ballard makes fuel cells for zero-emission buses and has sent three to the Chicago Transit Authority this year. The buses convert hydrogen into electricity through an electrochemical process. It is only part of Ballard's work in developing low-emission fuel-cell systems for vehicles, marine, stationary and portable power applications. At a time when the world is finally beginning to worry about how badly we're polluting the atmosphere, this company has impressive technology and impeccable timing.

David Schulz, 28

President, Area 51 Interactive Inc.

On his third company already, Schulz was one of the spunky startup brains behind Internet Direct, an Internet service provider that was launched in B.C. with the first flat-fee, unlimited-access service. It stumbled on its own success as thousands of users rushed to sign up and jammed the lines and modems, but the competition proved beneficial in the long run for consumers because other companies had to scramble to better their Internet offerings. In a dilemma facing many high-tech start-ups, Internet Direct needed money to fuel its growth and Schulz lost control when the company went public on the VSE, although he remains a shareholder. With the stock languishing and ISPs facing stiff competition from cable and other providers, perhaps it was time for Schulz to move on and he has. His new company teams up with Palmer Jarvis Advertising on projects and has an impressive range of clients, both corporate and government (including Pacific Press), who look to Area 51 Interactive Inc. to develop their Internet and Intranet strategy and develop commerce on the web.

Brian Scudamore, 27

Founder, The Rubbish Boys

Scudamore was barely more than a boy himself when at 19, he bought a \$700 truck to start a garbage-removal business, rather than settling for a minimum-wage summer job. He never did graduate with that commerce degree, but eight years later, The Rubbish Boys is a \$1.2-million operation with 12 trucks and 20 employees, a figure that

jumps to 38 and more in the summer. Scudamore is known for hiring students and teaching them how to make money on a profit-sharing plan calculated on daily performance – a program known as STEP, for Summer Training in Entrepreneurship. Scudamore is marrying high-tech answers to a low-tech industry. His call centre serves franchises in B.C. and Alberta using digital phones to send out text messages to the trucks. Scudamore recently signed up his first two franchises – other young students learning about business – and plans to sign 20 by February.

Lynne Stopkewich, 33

Movie director

Last year she lived the dream of every young independent filmmaker: Cobbling together money from friends and family for a debut feature that goes on to win plaudits at film festivals.

Kissed starred Vancouver actress Molly Parker who played a pretty, young necrophiliac. The movie won Stopkewich the \$15,000 Telefilm prize for best new Western Canadian feature film at the Vancouver Film Festival. Stopkewich is part of a new generation of local filmmakers that is offering moviegoers an original, un-Hollywood voice.

David Sutcliffe, 38

President and Chief Executive Officer, Sierra Wireless.

Sierra Wireless is a company at the leading edge in wireless data technology. It specializes in the techno-wizardry that lets computers and personal communications devices communicate without wires.

From its base in Richmond, the company, a market-share leader in wireless technology, is helping put B.C.'s high-tech industry on the map. The demand for wireless data is taking off as businesses increase their reliance on electronic mail, the Internet and Intranets. Sutcliffe had his start in Motorola's Mobile Data Division. He was president and CEO of Xillix Technologies Corp., a digital imaging company, before he joined Sierra in May, 1995. Presiding over a company that has seen a staggering growth rate of 2,400 per cent in the past three years, Sutcliffe is steering his high-tech team to success.

Sutcliffe is no stuffed shirt stuck in a corner office. His office is mainly his laptop computer and he keeps the company lunchroom stocked with junk food – the fuel that keeps geeks going.

Mark Townsend, 36 and Liz Evans, 32

Poverty activists.

Influential activists on the Downtown Eastside, Townsend and Evans are founding coordinators of the Portland Hotel, the last-resort residence for the hardest-to-house in Vancouver.

Townsend is a former college lecturer and lighting staff person at the Old Vic Theatre in Britain. Evans used to work as a nurse in the psychiatric emergency department at Vancouver Hospital.

The couple called up blue-chip architect Arthur Erickson and talked him into designing a new building for them, and

then got \$8 million out of the province and the city. Construction will start soon on Hastings Street, across from the Army & Navy Department Store.

They don't just act polite: In their spare time, they have stopped traffic and crashed banquets for Jean Chretien to publicize the AIDS epidemic in the Downtown Eastside.

Gabriel Yui, 35

Chinese-Canadian commentator

Yui, a columnist at Ming Pao and talk-show host on AM 1470, was this year's recipient of the City of Vancouver Cultural Harmony Award.

Yui, who came to Vancouver from Hong Kong in 1991, owns a flower shop.

But his real passion is raising issues affecting Chinese-Canadians, including why some Asian immigrants are returning home and are often very sensitive to any hint of racism.

Gail Anderson-Dargatz, 34

Novelist

Anderson-Dargatz's best-selling debut, *The Cure for Death by Lightning*, was a big hit in Canada and Britain. The coming-of-age book won the 1997 Ethel Wilson Prize, the top award for fiction at the B.C. Book Prizes Gala, and was shortlisted for two major literary prizes.

The novel is about a 15-year-old girl living in Turtle Valley, B.C., during the Second World War. Anderson-Dargatz deftly mixes a realistic portrayal of rural life with a surreal world haunted by shifting memories and elusive spirits.

Anderson-Dargatz, who lives on Vancouver Island, is a writer of dazzling promise.

Tzaporah Berman, 28

Greenpeace international forest campaigner

The most highly-visible environmentalist in the boycott-and-blockade fight to stop the logging of old-growth rainforests in B.C., Berman made her name during the Clayoquot Sound protest and was back in the news last spring with the protest at King Island.

That last protest failed to win as broad support in B.C. as did the Clayoquot struggle. Nevertheless, it received international news coverage, bolstering Greenpeace's strategy of consumer boycotts in the U.S. and Europe. Expect Berman to be back in the headlines this spring in some old-growth area on the B.C. coast.

Nancy Bradshaw, 34

Founder and president, Hope Unlimited

Bradshaw represents social conscience – the next generation. A believer that business can have a conscience, Bradshaw was behind the launch of the Canadian version of the American Business for Social Responsibility, an organization that includes corporations such as Levi Strauss, the controversial Body Shop, Lotus and Reebok.

Her West Fourth Avenue store, Hope Unlimited, is filled with environmentally friendly items made by local artists and with products from around the world that only reach the shelves if the employees who made them have good working conditions and a fair wage. Bradshaw wants to demonstrate through her business that it's possible turn a profit while treating your staff and community with decency and compassion. Her business gives 10 per cent of its profits to charity.

A graduate of the University of B.C. with a Bachelor of Commerce degree, Bradshaw left a successful career doing multimillion-dollar contracts with high-tech firms to follow her dream in 1994. She was recently named to the 1997-98 board of directors of the VanCity Community Foundation.

Tim Collings, 35

Simon Fraser University engineer and V-chip inventor

Collins fused his electronics skills and his conservative Christian morality to become the "father of the V-chip," which can filter out sex, violence and bad language from television programs.

Beyond inventing the V-chip, Collins has become a leading commentator on television violence and its impact on children.

Sometime this year parents will be able to buy a device that uses the V-chip.

Mike Ferraro, 20

Computer animator for Mainframe Entertainment Inc.

Only a few years ago Ferraro was an Abbotsford teenager, drawing cartoons for fun and being dazzled by big Hollywood blockbusters with computer graphics. He studied design communications in high school and is now an emerging star in the burgeoning computer animation industry.

While in Grade 12, Ferraro landed a job at Mainframe Entertainment – the Vancouver-based company that produces two kids' TV shows, ReBoot and Beasties. Mainframe also claims to produce more computer graphics than any other firm in the entertainment industry.

Ferraro has gone from being a novice animator to director of one ReBoot episode. His career potential seems unlimited now that Mainframe is negotiating several deals with Hollywood, including a full-length movie feature.

Jeff Gibbs, 30

Executive director of LIFE (Leadership Initiative for Earth)

Gibbs became an environmental activist in high school, joining the anti-logging struggle to turn the South Moresby region of the Queen Charlotte Islands into a national park. In 1989, Gibbs founded the Environmental Youth

Alliance, a national network of young Canadian environmentalists.

Gibbs is also one of Canada's leading environmental educators. He founded the Vancouver-based LIFE, which operates the LIFEboat flotilla – 200 teenagers and 50 mentors on nine ships, discussing issues relating to development and the local ecology. LIFE hopes to set up a learning centre in a small town on Vancouver Island to develop demonstration projects geared towards sustainable forestry, energy and aquaculture.

Maclean's magazine recently named him among the top "100 Canadians to watch" and he's been named to the United Nation's environmental honour roll, along with David Suzuki and Jacques Cousteau.

Nancy Harrison, 33

Senior Vice-president, Ventures West

A geophysics engineer/MBA turned venture capitalist, Harrison is quietly doling out funds from Ventures West's \$150 million technology purse for high-tech startups. She has no shortage of money but when companies come calling, the trick is having the financial and technical savvy to separate the diamonds from the duds. Her investment credo: Be smart; don't follow the crowd; make your own decisions; and make sure you know the people in the companies you're putting money into. Ventures West is a top technology venture capital firm in western Canada, managing more than \$400 million. Not surprisingly, some of her favourite companies are run by other smart young entrepreneurial types working on developments to improve lives. Business acumen runs in the family: Her father, Michael Harrison, was dean of BCIT's business school until he retired two years ago. Harrison is a success story in an area short of women.

Jim Heppell, 42

Partner, Catalyst Corporate Finance Lawyers

Heppell was part of breakaway trio that left the prestigious Russell and DuMoulin law firm six years ago to strike out on their own with a boutique corporate finance firm. Two of the original three remain, the third left to become president of Aber Resources, a company known for its rich diamond find. The firm first doubled, then tripled its space to accommodate nine lawyers. It's known for taking a pro-active role in providing legal services, introducing clients to financing providers and doing more than pushing paper across a desk. From the firm's profits, a percentage goes every year to charity, last year it totalled \$20,000 and another percentage is divided in bonuses for everyone from the receptionist to the associate lawyers. Heppell gives back to the community – one of his projects is the fund-raising committee of Picasso Cafe, a restaurant where street kids get training in the food service industry.

Craig Jones, 32

Law student and civil libertarian

Jones won his 15 minutes of fame after being arrested by police at UBC for holding two signs near a motorcade of foreign leaders during the APEC conference. Tensions were high as protesters clashed with police using pepper-spray. Jones found himself in jail.

Jones, a member of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, seems destined to a few more minutes of fame now that

he's filed a lawsuit against the federal government and the RCMP, alleging the Prime Minister's Office deliberately tried to keep protesters from being seen by the APEC motorcade.

Kalle Lasn, 55

Editor of Adbusters Magazine

Lasn and his anti-advertising Adbusters are generating considerable buzz south of the border. Lasn's irascible attempts to subvert the dominant consumerist paradigm prompted a prestigious American publishing firm to give him a \$125,000 advance to write *The Culture Jammer's Handbook*.

Adbusters enjoys enormous popularity among some circles in the U.S., although not with the people who run that country's major television networks.

They turned down Lasn's request to buy air-time to publicize his Buy-Nothing Day (Nov. 28). This rejection, however, prompted a front-page story in the *Wall Street Journal*, which in turn, sparked a raft of media coverage.

Don Matrick, 33

Senior vice-president for worldwide studios, Electronic Arts Ltd.

A pioneer gamer, Matrick founded Distinctive Software, the Burnaby company that became part of Electronic Arts, the giant American-based interactive entertainment software company.

He is recently back in B.C. after spending a year in EA headquarters in San Mateo, Calif. He was back in time for the sod-turning on the company's largest studio, which will have more than 550 employees.

Along with that Burnaby project, Matrick oversees five studios in North America, plus others in Europe and Asia. The creative minds at Electronic Arts in Burnaby are behind top-selling games like *NBA Live '98* basketball and *NHL '98* hockey and they are transforming *ReBoot*, the made-in-Vancouver animated TV series into a 32-bit CD-ROM adventure game.

Valerie MacLean, 43

General manager, Better Business Bureau Mainland B.C.

A former police officer, MacLean has brought a no-nonsense approach to an organization that had been seen as nothing more than a mouthpiece for its business members. Bad businesses, from local fly-by-night contractors who rip off customers to fraudulent telemarketers who scoop hundreds of thousands of dollars from unsuspecting victims, are her targets. Membership in the bureau is no longer secured by simply sending a cheque. MacLean screens newcomers and sets high standards for existing members – no more rubber-stamping membership. She is the most outspoken consumer advocate in a province known for weaknesses in its consumer legislation. She has raised the profile of the bureau and when she slams "scumbags," her voice is heard on investigative news programs across Canada and the U.S.

Illustration

Photo: John McArthur ; Photo: David Sutcliffe ; Photo: Gabriel Yui ; Photo: Terry McBride ; Photo: Kalle Lasn ;

Photo: Nancy Harrison ; Photo: Don Mattrick ; Photo: Lynne Stopkewich ; Photo: Firoz Rasul ; Photo: Jim Heppell ; Photo: David Schulz ; Photo: Mark Townsend ; Photo: Brian Scudamore ; Photo: Tim Collings ; Photo: Valerie MacLean ; Photo: Doug McCallum ; Photo: Tzeborah Berman ; Photo: Craig Jones ; Photo: Mike Ferraro ; Photo: Laurie Papou ; Photo: Gail Anderson ; Photo: Liz Evans ; Photo: Nancy Bradshaw ; Photo: Jeff Gibbs ; Photo: Geoff Plant ; Photo: Nava Mizrah ;

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Flotilla taught us about life

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

12-year-old Genevieve Doghertry reports on the LIFEboat Flotilla, an experience in ecological education organized by the Leadership Initiative For Earth (LIFE).

As a participant in the LIFEboat Flotilla '97, I got the chance to spend six days alongside 201 other youths from over 66 communities in Canada and seven other countries, learning about nature in and around the Gulf Islands.

FULL TEXT

12-year-old Genevieve Doghertry reports on the LIFEboat Flotilla, an experience in ecological education organized by the Leadership Initiative For Earth (LIFE).

If you really want to know about and care for the environment that surrounds us, you have to get out and experience it first hand.

As a participant in the LIFEboat Flotilla '97, I got the chance to spend six days alongside 201 other youths from over 66 communities in Canada and seven other countries, learning about nature in and around the Gulf Islands.

I listened and learned with the help from environmental experts from various fields, while hiking through the forest, walking along the shore line and kayaking along the coast.

These experts opened my eyes and heart to some very important issues concerning the protection of our natural resources.

The evenings were spent aboard ship talking about our future as young environmental leaders soon to play a major role in each of our own communities.

Each day at dawn we put on rain gear, a smile, shared a hug, and ate breakfast in close quarters with hopes for another great adventure ahead.

Wednesday evening, in a sheltered bay on Thetis Island, the entire Flotilla community shared a salmon feast, First Nation style, with stories and songs filling the night air.

We returned to Vancouver on Friday to develop local projects we are to carry out in our own backyards. This wonderful week came to an end with a celebration and parade on Granville Island.

I felt privileged to be one of the youngest participants in this year's voyage and would highly recommend it to others. It was an experience I will not soon forget.

Illustration

Black & White Photo; PHOTO: ALL ABOARD: THE TSEKOA WAS ONE OF THE VESSELS THAT CARRIED KIDS ON LIFEBOAT FLOTILLA '97.

Credit: VANCOUVER SUN

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Vancouver Teens learn to tackle environmental problems

Miro Ceretig . The Globe and Mail ; Toronto, Ont. [Toronto, Ont]13 Mar 1997: A.2.

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

"I don't think you can just put out a campaign any more that just says, 'Save the next valley' and expect the same response we got in the '80s," he said. "People are looking for something different now. They want to find ways where environmentalism is integrated with everyday life. The public is way more sophisticated."

FULL TEXT

Teens learn to tackle environmental problems

Vancouver

Teens learn to tackle environmental problems

Thursday, March 13, 1997

THE Strait of Georgia, the expanse of steel-blue Pacific between the B.C. coast and Vancouver Island, is one of the most scenic bodies of water in Canada. Framed by snowcapped mountains, it is rife with salmon, porpoises and pods of killer whales.

Most Vancouverites rarely get to see it from beyond a beach. But this Monday, 205 teen-agers will go down to Vancouver's Granville Island to board 14 boats that will transport them through the strait for five days. They are turning the strait, which Captain George Vancouver once described as an inland sea, into nature's classroom.

The project, the largest of its kind in the world, is called the lifeboat flotilla, the innovation of Jeff Gibbs, 29. The Vancouver environmentalist, who founded the group Leadership Initiative for Earth (LIFE), is attempting to add a

new dimension to the West Coast's environmental movement.

From the 1970s to the 1980s, environmentalism on the West Coast was largely centred around the "last of" phenomenon. Save the last valley; save the last stream; save the last river.

As a young man, Mr. Gibbs was impressed by such calls to the environmental ramparts, as generations of West Coasters have been. At the age of 16, he took his first boat trip up to the Queen Charlotte Islands, which the Haida Indians call Haida Gwaii, and he fell in love with the landscape. Soon he was deep into the battle to keep the southern tip of the Charlottes, known as South Moresby, from being logged.

That battle lasted through much of the 1980s and was won. But times have moved beyond the once-effective, but often simplistic, practice of circling a piece of wilderness and exhorting people to run out and save it, Mr. Gibbs believes. People have heard that too many times.

"I don't think you can just put out a campaign any more that just says, 'Save the next valley' and expect the same response we got in the '80s," he said. "People are looking for something different now. They want to find ways where environmentalism is integrated with everyday life. The public is way more sophisticated."

That's where the Strait of Georgia comes in. The idea of the lifeboat flotilla is not to immerse young people in British Columbia's raw wilderness or seascape, of which there is still plenty. The strategy is to put them in an environment that is under siege by civilization, where decisions about development and preserving the environment stare them straight in the face.

The strait certainly fits the bill. Almost from the day Europeans began colonizing the West Coast, it has been in decline, albeit one so slow most people don't notice.

Humpback whales were the first thing to go when the whalers hunted them down. Since then, housing developments, parking lots, and the mud slides from short-sighted logging operations have filled in thousands of rivers and streams. The population of coho salmon, one of the valuable fish species sought by sports fishermen, has gone into sharp decline. Sewage from Vancouver and other coastal communities continues to spill into the Strait.

The teens on the flotilla are expected to measure the effects of such things first-hand, to see the interface of man and nature for themselves.

"The youth will break up into groups during the day, and go off to explore," explained Mr. Gibbs. Each boat has an environmental expert of some sort, to give them a rounded picture of what they are seeing. "In a sense we're like a pod of whales. We go off individually for a while to explore but come back to the bigger pod at night."

Then, as they sit under the stars in a big group, listening to the water lap against the hull of their floating classrooms, they talk over the day's discoveries. It makes for a marvellous bonding experience, said Mr. Gibbs. Last year, after the first-ever flotilla finished its voyage, he was astounded to see most of the 200 teens in tears as they left their vessels for the last time.

Their responsibilities under the program weren't over, though. All are required to go back to their communities afterward and volunteer at least 25 hours in a project to help the environment. That might be something as simple as setting up a recycling program in their school or rehabilitating a salmon stream. The more ambitious from the

previous year's flotilla even attempted to sketch out a long-term community plan for sustainable development, which they then offered to community leaders.

In the end what the flotilla will do, hopes Mr. Gibbs, is create a sophisticated new breed of environmentalist on the West Coast. Not the stereotyped radicals who made headlines by blockading logging roads to create an oasis in the woods. But rather adults who will instinctively understand that sustainable development is more than a buzz word.

"I see what we're doing as very much creating a different movement," said Mr. Gibbs, who in 1993 was elected to the prestigious United Nations Global 500 Honour Roll for environmental achievement, a title he shares with the likes of Jacques Cousteau and David Suzuki. "We're not focusing on specific environmental issues, or creating protected areas that in a sense we are cut off from. This is a sustainability movement, teaching us how to live better in our environment."

The fruits of his labour, he said, will be evident in 20 or 30 years, when he expects the teens he has taken onto the Strait to be at the pinnacle of their own careers. It is then, he hopes, they will remember the lessons from long ago, learned during their week on the Strait of Georgia.

"We're not trying to just create conservationists," he said. "We're interested in seeing these youth become architects who build houses differently or business people who build companies more in synch with the natural world."

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Local enviro-heroes hailed: Sergio Marchi lauds the efforts of three activists and admits the Liberal government has not met its goals on gas emissions.

Bohn, Glenn . The Vancouver Sun ; Vancouver, B.C. [Vancouver, B.C.]28 Feb 1997: B.3.

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

Federal Environment Minister Sergio Marchi called three British Columbians "local heroes" Thursday for their efforts on behalf of the environment, but also conceded that the federal Liberal government has been less than heroic in keeping a 1993 pre-election promise.

In the 1993 federal election, the Liberals promised measures to cut Canada's greenhouse gas emissions by 20 per cent by 2000, but the latest statistics from Marchi's department show that emissions aren't dropping. In fact in B.C., where the provincial New Democratic Party in 1991 also promised a 20 per cent cut, there's been an estimated 15 per cent jump in emissions in the last five years.

FULL TEXT

Federal Environment Minister Sergio Marchi called three British Columbians "local heroes" Thursday for their efforts on behalf of the environment, but also conceded that the federal Liberal government has been less than

heroic in keeping a 1993 pre-election promise.

Marchi, who is scheduled today to address a scientific conference on the potentially catastrophic impact of global warming on B.C.'s environment and economy, said the government won't be able to achieve a major environmental promise before the next federal election, which political observers expect this year.

In the 1993 federal election, the Liberals promised measures to cut Canada's greenhouse gas emissions by 20 per cent by 2000, but the latest statistics from Marchi's department show that emissions aren't dropping. In fact in B.C., where the provincial New Democratic Party in 1991 also promised a 20 per cent cut, there's been an estimated 15 per cent jump in emissions in the last five years.

"We've all fallen short," Marchi said in an interview Thursday.

Marchi noted that most countries have also failed to cut their emissions.

"The entire international community is guilty of not meeting those targets," he said.

A notable exception is Germany, which has closed polluting factories.

In a speech at the Waterfront terminal of the West Coast Express commuter train, Marchi noted that cars are a major source of the so-called greenhouse gases that trap the sun's warmth like glass traps heat in a greenhouse.

He gave a certificate of appreciation to Cheeying Ho, a coordinator of the year-old Alternative Transportation Centre under the Science World SkyTrain station. The non-profit centre encourages cycling and other alternatives to single-occupant car travel.

The other two environmental heroes recognized Thursday by Environment Canada were Yvan St.-Germain and Jeff Gibbs.

St.-Germain is a printing industry employee whose efforts led to the 1994 opening of a 99-per-cent effluent-free Transcontinental Printing Plant in Delta. Gibbs is a founder of an environmental education program that takes youths and scientists on boat tours of the Gulf Islands.

Marchi announced in New Westminster the creation of a non-profit society to promote social, economic and environmental sustainability in the Fraser River Basin -- home to the world's most productive salmon river system and two-thirds of B.C. residents.

The existing Fraser Basin Management Program, created in 1992 with a budget last year of \$1.1 million, funded demonstration projects and issued annual report cards on the basin.

On April 1, the management program's board is being replaced by a Fraser River Council with 33 directors. The federal and provincial governments have each committed \$350,000 during the council's first year. A total of \$250,000 is also coming from eight regional districts and 60 cities and towns. Board chair Iona Campagnola said the new legal structure allows companies to donate money.

Illustration

Black & White Photo; PHOTO: VANCOUVER SUN; RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS: SERGIO MARCHI (CENTRE)

PAINTS ALONGSIDE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LIFEBOAT FLOTILLA AFTER A CEREMONY ABOARD THE GULFSTREAM II.

Credit: VANCOUVER SUN

DETAILS

Publication title:	The Vancouver Sun; Vancouver, B.C.
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Class acts: Join us in celebrating B.C.'s own Achievement Generation

Publication info: The Province ; Vancouver, B.C. [Vancouver, B.C.]19 May 1996: A11.

[ProQuest document link](#)

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

Achievements: Student-council president; winner of the 1995 B.C. and Yukon Columbian Squire of the Year Award; named most valuable player, 1994-95, in the Abbotsford World Hockey tournament; elected valedictorian by graduating class; voted citizen of the year by school staff

Achievements: Accepted to UBC with \$10,000 scholarship for outstanding student initiative; Kanata Award for multicultural awareness within the school; top athlete and top academic student for three consecutive years; awarded the Order of the Lion, the most prestigious athletic award at Princess Margaret

COLIN PRICE/ [John Pavao] ; LES BAZSO/ [Danny Nguyen] ; ARLEN REDEKOP/ [Katie Jenion] ; JON MURRAY/ MONEY SANGHERA ; LES BAZSO/ [Lisa Acosta] ;

FULL TEXT

Kinetically active mind

Name: John Pavao

Age: 18

School: David Thompson secondary school, Vancouver

Career goal: Plans to earn a degree in human kinetics and become a physical-education instructor

Achievements: Student-council president; winner of the 1995 B.C. and Yukon Columbian Squire of the Year Award; named most valuable player, 1994-95, in the Abbotsford World Hockey tournament; elected valedictorian by graduating class; voted citizen of the year by school staff

Nominator's comment: "He's a young man who, at a very young age, has all the attributes of being very successful . . . one of those rare young people who comes along and is exceptional."

-- Lorne Turner, graphics instructor, David Thompson secondary

Parents: Manuel and Victoria Pavao

with an eye on his goal

Name: Danny Nguyen

Age: 18

School: Princess Margaret secondary, Surrey

Career goal: Enrolled in the University of B.C. arts faculty; hopes for a career in law or optometry

Achievements: Accepted to UBC with \$10,000 scholarship for outstanding student initiative; Kanata Award for multicultural awareness within the school; top athlete and top academic student for three consecutive years; awarded the Order of the Lion, the most prestigious athletic award at Princess Margaret

Nominator's comment: "He is by far the most talented, determined individual I have ever met . . . with his dreams as well as those of his parents, Danny strives every day to fulfil his goals and aspirations."

– Jennifer Northam, friend

Parents: Mai and Van Nguyen

ever Eco-involved

Name: Lisa Acosta

Age: 17

School: Richmond secondary school

Career goal: Forest management, with a conservation focus; accepted into University of B.C.'s forestry program for this fall

Achievements: Three-time winner of the mayor's environmental- achievement award for contributing to Richmond's environment; volunteer with Environmental Youth Corps;

co-chair of Students Against Violation of the Earth (SAVE), Richmond high's environment club; participated in the LIFEboat Flotilla, an expedition to inspire environmental awareness among youth; member of the Delta Deas Rowing Club

Nominator's comment: "I've been seeing her working so hard since September . . . she's striving for excellence."

– Louis Acosta, father

Parents: Mila and Louis Acosta

Accent's on the positive

Name: Katie Jenion

Age: 17

School: Mennonite Educational Institute, Clearbrook

Career Goal: Master of counselling degree from Trinity Western University; hopes to be a high-school counsellor, a pastor in counselling or pastor of women's ministry

Achievements: Youth Hall of Fame Award for outstanding volunteer service; honor-roll student; student-council member; member of Abbotsford Youth Commission; wrote on youth issues for the Abbotsford News; member of church youth choir

Nominator's comment: "Kate stands out as one who is willing to commit to positive change, one day at a time, one person at a time."

– Abby Chan, Mennonite Educational Institute

Parents: Phil and Helen-Anne Jenion

gung-ho caregiver

Name: Money Sanghera

Age: 20

School: Simon Fraser University

Career Goal: Obstetrician

Achievements: Pursuing bachelor of sciences; volunteer liaison at Surrey Memorial Hospital for past two years, serving as clerk, resource person, and translator for nurses, staff and patients

Nominator's comments: "He's just a really all-around nice guy . . . he's gung-ho about volunteering – he never misses a day. I'm really impressed by him and I'm proud of him."

– Debbie Sanghera, sister

Parents: Karnail and Jaswinder Sanghera

Illustration

COLIN PRICE/ JOHN PAVAO ; LES BAZSO/ DANNY NGUYEN ; ARLEN REDEKOP/ KATIE JENION ; JON MURRAY/
MONEY SANGHERA ; LES BAZSO/ LISA ACOSTA ;

DETAILS

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Database:	Canadian Newsstream

LINKS

[Check for full text](#), [Link to OCLC WorldCat](#)

Flotilla reaches Victoria - Slide shows are expected for peer and

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

"It's like having a big wake ripple out across the province and the country. We'll be hearing from these youth." The 200 young people spent their time on nine chartered vessels, ranging from 21 to 125 metres in length. [Jeff Gibbs] said they had chances to learn about biology, ethnobotany and kayaking in the 100 workshops conducted en route. "They learned leadership skills, how to get along in large groups in small quarters, and how to learn from each others. And they'll take those skills back where they came from and will use them." Gibbs made his connection to the environment a dozen years ago on a trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands. In 1993 he was elected to the United Nations Global 500 honor roll for environmental achievement. "Look at the inspiration of Jeff Gibbs," said Nikola Brabanec, of Comox.

FULL TEXT

community groups - by Ian Dutton - Times Colonist Staff - Ian McKain/TC photo More than 200 young people from across B.C. who took to the LIFEboats Monday made it to Victoria Friday.

The teens, aged 13 to 17, were part of the first LIFEboat Flotilla.

They spent their spring break learning about environmental careers, sailing and ocean navigation, as well as how to conserve salmon streams, intertidal regions and forests.

Shortly after arriving, the young people - some dressed as sea creatures, other as oil spills or pollution - paraded to the legislature, where they used street theatre to discuss how they can live together.

The ecological armada's five-day voyage of discovery led from Vancouver's False Creek to Victoria Harbor, with Gulf Islands pauses to explore and examine nature.

The voyage was organized by Leadership Initiative for Earth (LIFE).

Its founder, Jeff Gibbs, said its effect was profound.

"These youth are saying that this has changed their lives," said Gibbs, 28.

"It's like having a big wake ripple out across the province and the country. We'll be hearing from these youth." The 200 young people spent their time on nine chartered vessels, ranging from 21 to 125 metres in length. Gibbs said they had chances to learn about biology, ethnobotany and kayaking in the 100 workshops conducted en route. "They learned leadership skills, how to get along in large groups in small quarters, and how to learn from each others. And they'll take those skills back where they came from and will use them." Gibbs made his connection to the environment a dozen years ago on a trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands. In 1993 he was elected to the United Nations Global 500 honor roll for environmental achievement. "Look at the inspiration of Jeff Gibbs," said Nikola Brabanec, of Comox. The 16-year-old gestured to the throng at Ship Point. "One person made such a difference, one person can inspire all this - and there are 200 of us." Before qualifying for the flotilla, each teenager had to volunteer 25 hours to a conservation project, read an ecology book, and raise \$300 for the voyage.

When they get home they are expected to conduct follow-up slide shows to peer and community groups. "As well as inspiration, what this trip has showed me is that there are other people who care," said Comox resident Diane Cross, 16.

The budget for the project ran at about \$250,000, with fund- raising by the participants as the single major cash component, Gibbs said.

DETAILS

People:	Gibbs, Jeff
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LINKS

[Check for full text](#), [Link to OCLC WorldCat](#)

All at sea with our truck-drivin' premier

Aird, Elizabeth . The Vancouver Sun ; Vancouver, B.C. [Vancouver, B.C.]23 Mar 1996: D.6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

Glen Clark must be the only premier in Canada whose official vehicle is a pickup truck.

The premier's vehicle of choice, for the record, is a 1996 Dodge Dakota, V8, forest green with silver trim, six seatbelts. Clark doesn't know its gas mileage, which can't be great. But he's typical of his generation of parents who are buying trucks and Chevrolet Suburbans and Jeep Cherokees to cart kids and dogs. The New York Times named it a phenomenon in a recent story, saying that 1990s families think big is beautiful. "Sport utility vehicles," they're called in the business. Besides, trucks are a guy thing.

Talk turned to Clark's truck one day this week, as the premier shot the breeze on the Granville Island docks. He was there to speak, be seen and say goodbye to a group of young environmentalists off on a week-long eco-voyage through the Gulf Islands. The LIFEboat Flotilla is a floating conference with 208 teenagers on nine boats. The acronym stands for Leadership Initiative for Earth, a Vancouver youth group.

FULL TEXT

Glen Clark must be the only premier in Canada whose official vehicle is a pickup truck.

After his leased Buick caught fire as he was driving along Hastings Street last month, Clark had a chance to pick what he wanted.

He needs a truck, he says, because he's always running errands for his mother and taking things to the recycling depot.

The premier's vehicle of choice, for the record, is a 1996 Dodge Dakota, V8, forest green with silver trim, six seatbelts. Clark doesn't know its gas mileage, which can't be great. But he's typical of his generation of parents who are buying trucks and Chevrolet Suburbans and Jeep Cherokees to cart kids and dogs. The New York Times named it a phenomenon in a recent story, saying that 1990s families think big is beautiful. "Sport utility vehicles," they're called in the business. Besides, trucks are a guy thing.

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acronym stands for Leadership Initiative for Earth, a Vancouver youth group.

Clark, environmentalist Jean-Michel Cousteau, Liberal MP Anna Terrana and assorted media were to do a lap on the last boat to leave.

The 11 a.m. departure time came and went, but neither Clark nor Trish Webb, his press secretary, seemed to mind much, even though they had to be at Langara for Clark's tuition-fee freeze announcement at 12:30. It was a beautiful day of sun and salt tang. The premier hung out, with no media in sight most of the time.

CKNW reporter George Garrett walked up and said he didn't know what the event was, whereupon Clark revealed a rather impressive understanding of what he was doing there and why the flotilla mattered beyond being a fine photo op.

"What they're really doing is learning how they can incorporate environmentalism into their day-to-day lives and into future jobs, so it's a very pragmatic conference for five days. If we play our cards right and support young people like this, we can be on the leading edge of environmental jobs and technology in the future."

Pragmatism, then the idealism: "If you have 200 young people and they go out and talk and share their experience with other young people, you really can change the world. You can see these kids really want to do that."

Positive political messages, maybe, but the proof was right beside him. Teenagers, giddy with excitement, clustered in their "species groups," named for everything from turtles to whales.

Two jellyfish awaited their ships: Andria Nelson, 17 and Zosia Bornik, 15, Latin name *aurelia aureta*, they informed me. Andria goes to Maple Ridge Secondary, Zosia to Crofton House.

"It's cool," said Zosia of being a jellyfish. "We can be dangerous but we can also be elegant and graceful. Powerful."

Zosia and her two sisters, Olivia, 17 and Yola, 13, were all on the flotilla. Olivia is head girl at Crofton House, plays the violin and "everything" in sports and leads a group at the family's Unitarian church. She's already won a \$15,000 scholarship to Queen's University, and is a semi-finalist for a \$25,000 fund. "I'm really into biology and chemistry," she said. And the environment, of course.

The flotilla was full of kids perhaps not as privileged as Olivia, but equally inspired and inspiring. Andria Nelson got money for her trip partly by working on a fundraising vegetarian dinner that drew 200 people. She's already a diver, and works in a group called Students Acting for Global Awareness. Ashley Turgeon, 14, of 100 Mile House, collected bottles and cans to raise her money. She wants to be a marine biologist. "I've loved the ocean for so many years." Analise Saely, 14, of North Vancouver wants to be an environmental lawyer.

It was a fine day, full of hope and high spirits. The premier played Captain Clark, grabbing the boat's mast as it headed into the horizon. He knows he has hit a pitch-perfect political note with his talk of young people and the future.

As the young environmentalists headed out to learn about saving the world, Clark delivered a jocular environmental warning: "Gordon Campbell is going to do to the environment what I did to the Buick."

Credit: VANSUN

DETAILS

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PEOPLE

Publication info: Edmonton Journal ; Edmonton, Alta. [Edmonton, Alta]20 Mar 1996: A.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

She's a little more whole wheat than white bread, and the prim face and frumpy bow tie have given way to a sleek collarless blouse and generous smile. Say hello to the newest incarnation of that supermarket diva, Betty Crocker. The eighth version of the venerable cake-mix model was introduced Tuesday by Minneapolis, Minn.-based General Mills, which celebrated Betty's 75th birthday with a contest to pick 75 women, including two Canadians, whose features would be blended to create the new Betty. "I think the nose is shaped like mine," said Marie Gilbert, a 66-year-old homemaker in Hyde Park, Ont. who was one of the two Canadian Crockers.

FULL TEXT

Seventy-five ingredients in new Betty Crocker mix

She's a little more whole wheat than white bread, and the prim face and frumpy bow tie have given way to a sleek collarless blouse and generous smile. Say hello to the newest incarnation of that supermarket diva, Betty Crocker. The eighth version of the venerable cake-mix model was introduced Tuesday by Minneapolis, Minn.-based General Mills, which celebrated Betty's 75th birthday with a contest to pick 75 women, including two Canadians, whose features would be blended to create the new Betty. "I think the nose is shaped like mine," said Marie Gilbert, a 66-year-old homemaker in Hyde Park, Ont. who was one of the two Canadian Crockers.

RIGHT OUT OF THE BOX -- Waiyee Kennedy, Elaine Birks and Rose McBrien look to see their likenesses in the Betty Crocker 75th Anniversary portrait unveiled Tuesday in New York.

Cents-less: Alberta government financial wizards, ever the penny-pinchers and among Canada's baddest bottom-liners, have sent Calgary Joan Drader a cheque for one cent. The penny refund is for the removal of a mole on her cheek in 1994 -- a medical procedure for which she was billed \$117.46. Drader paid the bill from her dermatologist but apparently it was for one cent too much. "At first, I thought it was a joke," said Drader. "But this cheque has provided us with more entertainment than if we'd hired someone to come in and sing for us." She and husband Dave plan to have the cheque framed so they can display it in their home. It's unlikely she'll ever cash it. "We're checking the travel section to see where we could spend it all."

Bank drains boy's account: April Belmore-Dalton wanted to teach her young son the value of saving money. But instead of making interest on his hard-earned dollars, eight-year-old Raymond racked up service charges that almost emptied his modest account. The Hamilton, Ont. boy Saturday withdrew the last \$6 from his Canada Trust account -- all that was left of the \$20 he deposited two years ago when he and his mother opened the joint account. There was no service charge when they first opened the account, his mother said. But a teller explained

to the family Saturday that as of Jan. 1, 1995, a \$1-a-month charge is taken out of accounts with balances under \$500. When bank officials heard about Raymond's financial downfall on Monday, they offered to reverse the charges and put the \$14 – plus interest – into a youth account, to which the service charge does not apply.

A female environment: Oceanographer Jean-Michel Cousteau knows how to get teenage boys interested in saving the planet. Tell them that's where the girls are, said the 57-year-old the son of marine explorer Jacques Cousteau. "These guys don't know what they're missing," he said Monday as he rode the waves of Vancouver's Burrard Inlet. A Zodiac carried him to shore after he and British Columbia Premier Glen Clark helped launch the LIFEboat Flotilla. The five-day shipboard environmental adventure for B.C. teenagers is using nine ships to carry 208 teens and 50 mentors. Girls outnumber the boys 6-1.

– Compiled by Ian Hamilton from Journal

*** Infomart-Online ***

Illustration

Black & White Photo; AP; ILLUSTRATING WAIYEE KENNEDY, ELAINE BIRKS AND ROSE MCBRIEN LOOKING AT BETTY CROCKER 75TH ANNIVERSARY PORTRAIT

Credit: THE EDMONTON JOURNAL

DETAILS

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LINKS

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Teens set sail to help save the planet: A five-day voyage in B.C. waters is aimed at teaching students about environmental problems.

Aird, Elizabeth . The Vancouver Sun ; Vancouver, B.C. [Vancouver, B.C.]19 Mar 1996: B.1 .

[ProQuest document link](#)

ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

“These guys don’t know what they’re missing,” said Cousteau, as he surfed the waves of Burrard Inlet on Monday. A Zodiac carried him to shore after he and Premier Glen Clark helped launch the LIFEboat Flotilla, billed as a five-day shipboard environmental “adventure” for teenagers from around the province. Girls outnumber the boys six to one.

FULL TEXT

Jean-Michel Cousteau says he knows how to get teenage boys interested in saving the planet. Tell them that’s where the girls are.

“These guys don’t know what they’re missing,” said Cousteau, as he surfed the waves of Burrard Inlet on Monday. A Zodiac carried him to shore after he and Premier Glen Clark helped launch the LIFEboat Flotilla, billed as a five-day shipboard environmental “adventure” for teenagers from around the province. Girls outnumber the boys six to one.

The flotilla – nine ships, 208 teenagers, 50 mentors – is the work of Leadership Initiative for Earth (LIFE), a Vancouver group founded by environmentalist Jeff Gibbs, who at 28 is a member of the United Nations Global 500 honor role for environmental achievement.

Over the next four days, the teenagers will learn about intertidal life, hear about "eco-forestry" from Ladysmith horse logger Merv Wilkinson and talk about the native Indian fishery at Brentwood Bay. They'll look at petroglyphs on Gabriola and find out about wooden-boat building on Galiano. They'll study plankton at the Cowichan Bay Ecology Station and the Great Blue Heron on Sidney Island. There will be storytelling, medicine-wheel teachings and introductions to professional oceanography and environmental journalism.

The journey ends Friday at the provincial legislature, where the teenagers will mount a "wild ocean parade" to draw attention to endangered ocean species.

The \$250,000 flotilla costs \$300 per person, which Gibbs says barely covers food and fuel. The boats and crew time are being donated by charter companies. The major sponsors are Environment Canada and the B.C. environment ministry. The B.C. government will be giving more money for "leadership youth summits," at which the teenagers will discuss environmental issues in their own communities.

Cousteau, the 57-year-old son of marine explorer Jacques Cousteau, lives in Santa Barbara, Calif., and spends about a third of his life on and in the ocean. The environmentalist, diver, architect, and lecturer was invited to Vancouver to speak to the young environmentalists, who thronged around him with questions and requests for autographs.

He said it means "a lot" that girls so outnumber boys. "Women are a lot more sensitive to environmental issues than guys are."

*** Infomart-Online ***

Illustration

Black & White Photo; MARK VAN MANEN; VANCOUVER SUN; ADVENTURE BOUND: MORE THAN 200 YOUTHS FROM AROUND THE PROVINCE WILL BE JOINING JEAN MICHEL COUSTEAU (IN CENTRE AT THE HELM) ON A FIVE-DAY ECOLOGICAL TRIP THROUGH THE GULF ISLANDS. THEY WILL BE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AS WELL AS MANY SEAGOING SKILLS. SITTING TO THE RIGHT OF COUSTEAU ARE STUDENTS ASHLEY TURGEON 14, AND ANALISE SAELY, 14.

Credit: VANCOUVER SUN

DETAILS

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