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University mopping up oil slick

by Jackie Lee
Research Co-ordinator of Bamfield Marine Station

A marine biology station co-owned by the University of Alberta is helping to clean up an oil spill on the beaches of Vancouver Island.

The Bamfield Marine Station, located on a remote part of the west coast of the island, has been part of the effort to clean up the results from an American oil spill on December 22. Much of the shoreline has become littered with the debris from the spill, ranging in size from small globs of pure oil to mats of all sizes.

Carcasses of birds, so coated with oil as to be almost unidentifiable, are also being washed up on shore. Scavengers such as eagles, crows, gulls, and crabs feed on the carcasses, ingesting oil that can be fatal to them. Local seabirds are also falling victim to the oil as it coats their feathers and affects their ability to swim, fly, and

keep warm.

Though this area has apparently not been as hard hit as some of the more exposed areas to the north, the impact of the oil could have dramatic short-term effects. Many marine animals live or feed on drift kelp, which is being coated with films of oil. Underwater scavengers such as crabs will also encounter oil as they forage.

Beaches must be cleaned to get rid of a much debris as possible and thus lessen the environmental impact. Local residents, including most of the BMS staff, are working on removing the oil and its remnants.

The debris must be picked up by hand, stuffed in bags, and stacked on the beach. The bags are removed by helicopters, as none of the local beaches are accessible by road. A bird cleaning station has been established at BMS, and oiled birds are being cleaned according to instructions

from the SPCA.

The spill will self clean in six months to one year, says Dr. Tim Parsons, who has studied oil spill biology. Plant and animal populations will return to normal shortly after that.

Volunteers source of service's success

by Kisa Mortenson

Looking for summer time action? Want to meet new students? Student Orientation Services (SORSE) is looking for you!

SORSE begins volunteer recruitment in February. SORSE operates in summer and winter and is an organization in which university students provide new U of A (students) with information concerning campus life. Students give tours of the campus and deliver lectures.

SORSE helped some 1000 new students during the summer of 1988. Kim Onusko, now a first year student, went through the program. "[SORSE] taught me how to adjust from high school to university."

People interested in helping out new students are encouraged to volunteer some of their time to SORSE. Applications can be picked up at the SORSE office located in 238B SUB. The deadline for summer positions is March 2.

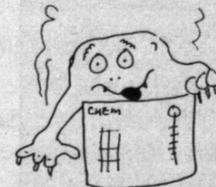
Coleen King, Director of SORSE, says SORSE benefits student volunteers in many ways: it is fun, social, a valuable work experience, and you learn to give public presentations, to work in groups, and much more.

When compared to other universities, SORSE is a unique orientation service because it is run by students, says King. She adds students also can "move up the ranks" from volunteer to paid office staff.

"We're really interested in new students," said Katherine Huisig, Associate Director of SORSE. She feels SORSE is a good opportunity for students around in the summer who want to get involved.

On The Wild Side

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69
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STUDENT UNION GENERAL ELECTION AND REFERENDUM MARCH 9 & 10

Nominations are Open for the Following Positions:

SU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- President
- VP Internal Affairs
- VP Finance and Administration
- VP Academic
- VP External Affairs

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- 1 Student Representative

UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC BOARD

- President Athletics
- VP Women's Athletics
- VP Men's Athletics

CLOSING OF NOMINATIONS:
TUES. FEBRUARY 21/89 1700 HRS.

NOMINATION FORMS ARE
AVAILABLE FROM THE
RECEPTIONIST IN 256 SUB

CJSR REFERENDUM

"Do you support allocating \$1.25 per term of your Students' Union fees as the total annual S.U. financial grant to CJSR-FM88?"

TUITION POLICY REFERENDUM

"Should Students' Council be required to establish a policy concerning tuition fee levels before 30 September of each year?"

CLOSING OF REGISTRATION:
MONDAY FEB. 20/89 1700 HRS.

NOTE: An important meeting for those wishing to represent a side shall be held WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14/89 at 1700 HRS in Room 034 SUB

Registration Packages Available in
SU Executive Offices 256 SUB

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM: THURSDAY FEBRUARY 21 1800 HRS IN 034 SUB

For Further Information, Contact the Chief Returning Officer,
Michael Hunter, in Room 234 SUB or 492-7088