

# Jessica's Travels: The Dangers and Pleasures of Working in New Zealand

By Jessica Zotto

Right off the bat, I can honestly say that there are great dangers to working in a vineyard. I've been hit by flying grapes innumerable times, I've fallen flat on my face coming out of the portable toilet in front of all my coworkers, and I have had grapes ground into my face (that really hurts when they're still

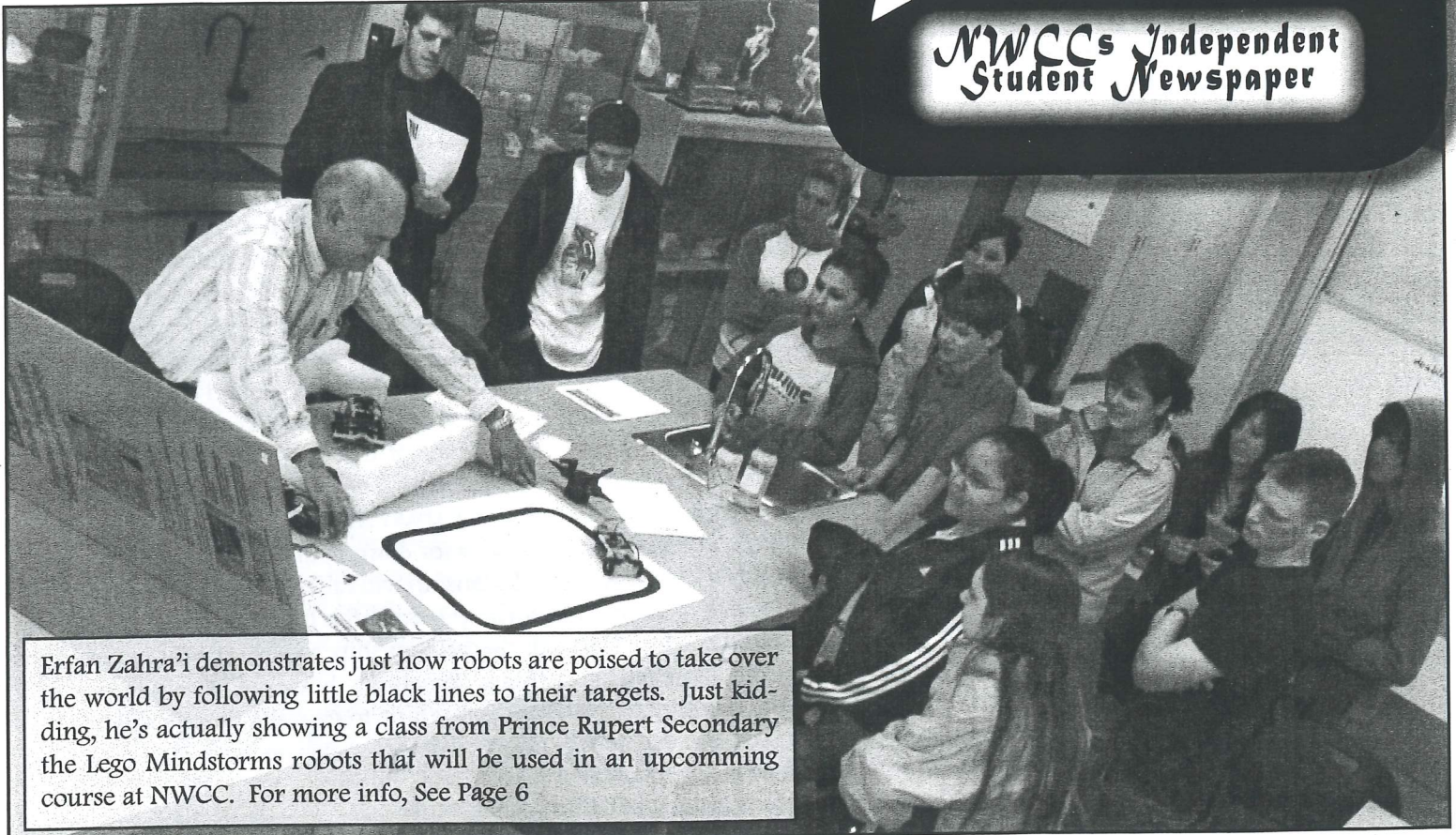
hard and don't pop right away).

One of my friends, Blair, who is a really funny Scottish guy, found out that bad luck comes in threes in New Zealand, too. First off, he had a huge thistle (a type of spiny plant) hit him squarely in the face (the thistle was intended for me, but flew backward and upwards...the result was hilarious),

- Continued on Page 5

**S**tudents  
**U**nited  
**P**ress

NWCC's Independent Student Newspaper



Erfan Zahra'i demonstrates just how robots are poised to take over the world by following little black lines to their targets. Just kidding, he's actually showing a class from Prince Rupert Secondary the Lego Mindstorms robots that will be used in an upcoming course at NWCC. For more info, See Page 6

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# Dear Jim & Tim

Dear Jim and Tim

So I've this humongous crush on this girl since the days of way back when and now she potentially might be my girlfriend only one problem: we've become great if not best friends in the last few years. Now, long story short, I kinda have a date with her but now that I do, I'm not sure if I really wanted the date. Not only that if we do go on a date, I dunno what to really do on a date with the girl of my dreams. I mean, we do hang out in big groups on the regular, 'cept this is way different, she was all like 'hey we should ditch this weekend and just kick it together at my house. Like just me and you. My parents are out of town and I don't really feel like doing the big group thing. Plus we haven't kicked it solo for such a long time.' And I mean, c'mon! If that isn't a date I dunno what is! Err.. maybe I'm reading way too far into it. I'm excited for kicking it with her, but on the flip side I don't wanna lose just about the greatest friend I've ever had. Man, I need this favour one time- I need major guidance- tell me how I should handle myself.

Raphael Gonzales

Jim:

Raphael, sorry to tell you this but, you can't have the best of both worlds. You can make your girlfriend become your best friend, but woe to you if you make your best friend be a girlfriend because as soon as you do, then you lose your best friend. Stuff that you used to do as best friends, you can't do as a couple. When you become involved with a best friend- the friendship will never be the same no matter how lame the boyfriend-girlfriend thing was. I highly suggest just kicking it with your best friend and not get into the sticky business of women problems. Having said that, you might lose a great opportunity to own a Good One, you gotta ask yourself if you're ready to lose a best friend for a whiny girlfriend (and believe me, they all whine). You should converse with her and explain how things will never be the same, your friendship will be lost if you date. If you both are cool with risking what you have- then hey, do as you please. Just understand that you lose a friend when you do. However from the sounds of it the girl digs you man. I mean, "my parents aren't home, we should hang out solo", those are definitely make out cues. And my advice to that, is go ahead, but always, and I mean always, leave room for dessert. Too much of a good thing, is an awesome thing, but too much of an awesome thing, is not so good. Make her stay hungry for you, don't rush anything, just take it easy, be smooth, remember- there's a lot of fish in the sea and with a name like Raphael any girl would be worthy of having the privilege of serving you. I'd take it easy with one fish at a time, but I don't oppose polygamy. Last advice is be yourself man, never change. There's nothing worse then a man who lost to a woman. Remember kids, You can have many girlfriends in the course of your life, they come and go and are as common as dirt, but a best friend is forever, never trade a best friend for anything in the world, especially dirt.



Tim

I'm not really sure what kicking it means, but let me tell you, violence solves nothing. Even play fighting amongst friends desensitizes you and gives everyone the message that kicking one another is right. Secondly, tread very carefully when you consider a relationship with a friend. You say that you are unsure if you really want to share in a relationship, and just that tells me that you are not ready for a relationship. You have to be extremely sure that you want to have a relationship with any girl especially if that girl happens to be your best friend. Girls are delicate, and you cannot lead them on, if you really like her then don't let the chance of true love slip through your fingers but if you're dating for some other reason than love, you shouldn't be dating at all. Your reasons for dating must be wholesome or your relationship will falter. It is good to have a relationship based on a friendship but be warned, if the relationship goes sour you lose everything. Sometimes however, it is necessary to risk everything to gain the illusive thing called love. On a more positive note, if you end the relationship positively then you can remain friends, but never expect to be best friends again. My advice for any relationship is respect yourself, respect her, and you'll have a good healthy relationship. Lastly, women are as delicate and beautiful as flowers and deserve the greatest respect and care, if you're not ready to respect or care for them, you don't deserve their company.

# Editorial

## Blubbering for a Clubbering.

By Marlin Smyth

Lately I've been hearing a lot of fuss about the seal hunt back East. People seem to be bothered by the thought of killing an animal for its pelt and meat. Hunting animals doesn't strike me as bizarre; also at any given time I'm usually wearing at least two types of animals, and have eaten just as many in the last day. People kill and eat other animals quite readily. I figure killing a seal is no different from killing a deer, except that seals have a delightfully fishy taste whereas deer meat tastes more like beef. Some people complain that the seals are too young when they are killed, but they aren't much older than lamb or calves, which are raised for meat; they live longer than most chickens we eat.

Protesters call it "barbaric" and "cruel" but these uninformed whiners, most of which are from countries without a seal hunt, like the United States or England, know nothing about seals. These activists don't realize that the seal hunt is necessary to control numbers and help the return of the damaged cod fisheries; they are only lured in by the cute white coats, so instead of spouting off about an animal that is in real need of protection they choose an animal with a completely healthy population. These activists, led by poster boy and head radical Paul McCartney, have even begun a futile boycott of Canadian fisheries. These people get suckered into trying to stop a profitable, viable, and humane fishery simply because they think these animals are cute. These superficial and small-minded people would never protect an ugly animal, even if it actually were endangered.

The truth is that the adorable little white seals aren't killed; hunters need to wait for the seals to moult and become dark coloured before they are fair game. Also a seal must be independent before it can be killed; this is helpful because mother seals have sharp teeth and bite readily. These self-sufficient creatures are fully capable of escaping and swimming away, and in their own environment they are far from easy prey. So next time you hear a song by Wings, don't go running for your picket sign, grab a seal burger and relax.

## Letters to the Editor

Submit To It!

PRSS PWN'D CHSS

13-4

It's almost time! Time for what? Well for those who care, the Ultimate Fighting Championship's 3rd season of The Ultimate Fighter starts in less than two weeks on April 6th, and by "those who care" I'm well aware that my audience is limited to the single digits. For those that remain, let me just say that this season promises to be the best yet. I mean come on, look who the coaches are - none other than UFC legends Tito Ortiz and Ken Shamrock. It doesn't get any better than that. Ken Shamrock happens to be my favourite UFC fighter so of course I'm gonna be a little biased in regards to which team I root for, but I know that both men will turn out to be outstanding coaches for both sides. The best part is that the finale of this season will feature the coaches from both teams locking horns in the octagon one more time. Those that know a little bit of UFC history should be familiar with the bad blood between Ortiz and Shamrock. It's no secret that real-life rivalries in the UFC always make for classic battles in the octagon (Nick Diaz and Diego Sanchez from the season 2 finale is a fine example) and I'm sure that this rivalry will be no exception. Shamrock may have lost the last battle but I know he's still got some fire left in him. At 42 years old he's basically the most dangerous and experienced fighter that the UFC has to offer (unless we see an upset in the Gracie vs. Hughes match-up at UFC 60). But that's not for a while yet - The Ultimate Fighter 3 comes first and it won't disappoint, so be sure to tune into Spike TV on April 6th for an action-packed season 3...

- Royden Mutch (Rules!)

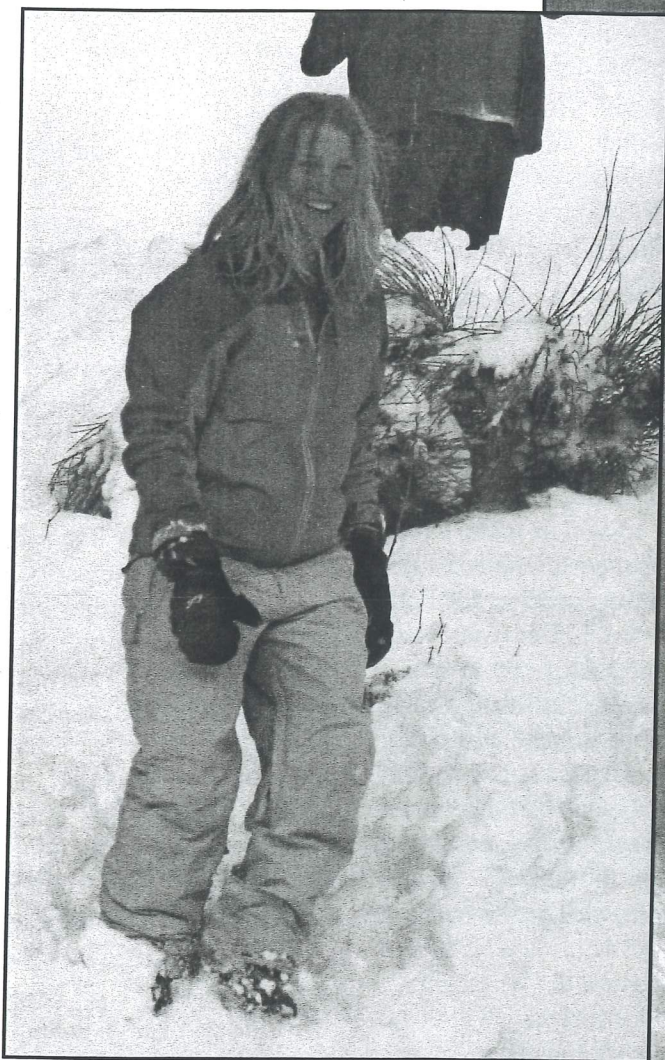
Now, I didn't actually see or have a first hand account of the hockey game nor do I need any, facts are that PRSS REIGNS SUPREME. In fact I can give you a play by play without even being there. Period One: extreme whining from CHSS, and PRSS humiliates them. Period Two: just to give the PRSS fans their moneys' worth PRSS allows CHSS to score strictly for entertainment purposes. I'm not really sure if hockey has three or four periods but I can only assume that the last periods were easily won by the ice superiority of PRSS. I can extrapolate from my younger years that CHSS did a bunch of whining and poor sportsman like stuff. Congratulations to the PRSS team for owning CHSS once again- and just as a side note, I'm not really sure what the score was, 12-3, 13-4, or 13-3, the fact remains, PRSS at least tripled the score of CHSS.

- Salomon Garcia

### S.U.P. Submission Guidelines

- Articles, letters, stories or essays should be type written and as a general rule, under or around 400 words.
- Contents should relate to NWCC or its students somehow.
- Simple typed documents are best, provide any accompanying pictures or visuals as separate files.
- We reserve the right to edit inappropriate content.
- Send submissions to [nwccnewspaper@nwcc.bc.ca](mailto:nwccnewspaper@nwcc.bc.ca)

# Intense Sledding Action!

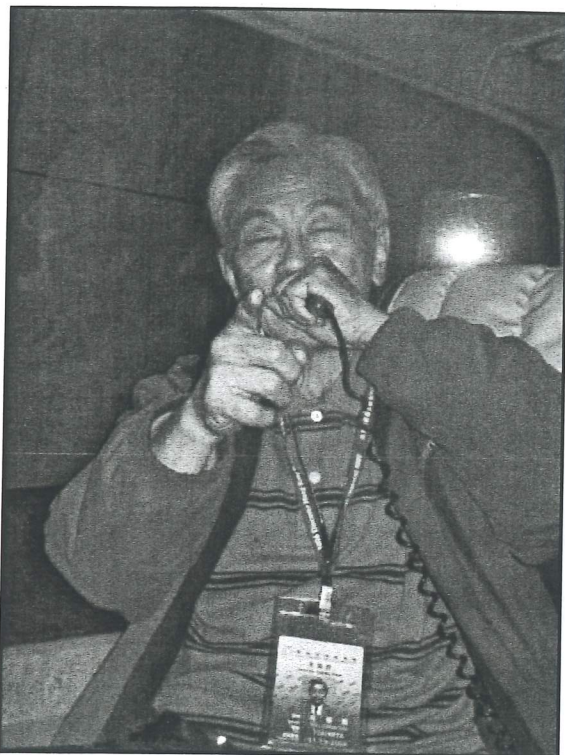


These NWCC students enjoyed the brief but potent snowfall Prince Rupert had by sledding at the local golf course.

- Continued From Page 1

he was hit by an extra large bunch of grapes directly in the face, and another well aimed (or badly aimed, depending on whose point of view you have), grape almost took out an eye. Believe me, in each and every instance I laughed as hard as I could to make him feel better faster. :)

I also worked at the annual Havelock Mussels Festival on Saturday serving bacon burgers. What a day! The most hilarious people were perform-



ing on stage. They were called AbbaLicious and were dressed as the insane...or like people did thirty years ago...same difference. My friends Pippa, Brian, and I stood there in shock staring at these people on stage because it was unbelievable to us that mature adults could go in front of a thousand people and sing old Abba songs for an hour dressed in tight, golden outfits. They came on three times throughout the day, and all of our opinions eventually changed. By their last song we were their ultimate fans. Almost groupies, if you will.... Man, that was a hard day of work! Ha-ha...

Okay...to tell the truth, my brain is exceedingly dumb right now due to a long night last night, but I promise that a better and more understandable email will be sent soon. Sleep remedies all. :) The Mussel Festival was an amazing experience that needs more than a

few sentences and more details will follow.

All of you that I love and miss, you know who you are. All you other goofballs probably got this email accidentally. :)

-Jessica

By the way, I am attaching two photos from my China tour (See Issue 1) – finally. The photo at left was my China tour bus driv-

er who was romancing me with Elvis songs, and the photo below is a shot of a Hong Kong street. There are so many people to shelter that buildings just go up, up, up!



## THINGS TO KNOW

**Anthropology 498** – UNBC is offering a 5 day course on Anthropology's engagement with natural resource communities. The readings will focus on fisheries and forestry issues, among other things. Anthropology 498 will run June 5th to June 9th, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. For more information contact Dr. Caroline Butler at 250-960-5205, or at [butler@unbc.ca](mailto:butler@unbc.ca).

**Options for Sexual Health Clinics** – Every Monday from 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM at the Health Unit. Confidential, unbiased, and non judgmental services open to all ages. Low cost birth control – Condoms – Depo Provera – Pregnancy testing and counselling – Pap Tests – STD testing and counselling – Someone to talk to about relationships and your sexual and reproductive health. For more information go to [www.optionsforsexual-health.org](http://www.optionsforsexual-health.org).

**Student's United Press Submissions** – This is our second to last issue, so if you have an article inside of you you want to get into the very last issue this year., you'll need to send it in by APRIL 5. The sooner it gets sent in to [nwccnewspaper@nwcc.bc.ca](mailto:nwccnewspaper@nwcc.bc.ca) the more likely it will get in. Remember, we will want a healthy amount of submissions when the paper starts up again in the fall so send in pictures of how you spent your summer!

# The Wake of Ferry Tragedy

By Wynn Lippett and Marlin Smyth

On the 22nd of March, the BC ferry Queen of the North sank after striking a rock in Wright Sound while carrying passengers to Port Hardy from Prince Rupert. Within an hour of the collision the ferry had sunk, luckily most of the crew and passengers were evacuated, and were headed towards Hartley Bay where they spent the rest of the morning. Injured and elderly personnel were quickly air-lifted to Prince

Rupert for medical attention. As passengers and crew returned to Prince Rupert, Premier Gordon Campbell and BC Ferry President David Hahn greeted them. There were 102 passengers and approximately 16 vehicles on board at the time.

The residents of the small community of Hartley Bay are being hailed as heroes after quickly responding to the ferry's Mayday. The people of the fishing village quickly jumped into action by rescuing passengers and providing them with blankets, clothing, and hot beverages. The passengers and crew were then transported to Prince Rupert on board the Sir Wilfred Laurier.

The Queen of the North was built in 1969, and had the capacity to hold 700 passengers and crew as well as up to 115 cars. The ferry is an extremely important link to Vancouver Island and to isolated locations such as the Queen Charlotte islands. The Queen Charlotte Islands rely heavily on the ferry to bring supplies and tourists, and the full repercussions of its sinking are not known.

A couple from 100 Mile House are still unaccounted for in the wake of this event. They are now viewed as missing persons. The ferry's wreck lies approximately 1200 feet below the surface and is too deep for most remotely operated vehicles. Several divers were sent to determine the cause of the accident and have so far ruled out mechanical and steering errors. The ship is not salvageable due to massive destruction of the hull during its descent. The ecological impact of the ferry's sinking is not known, but there was a considerably large diesel slick where it sank.

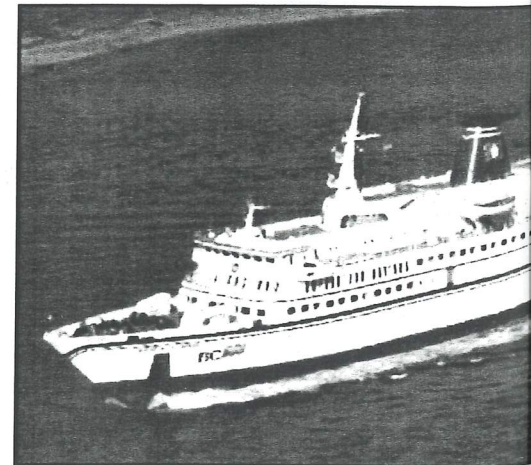
## Domo Arigato, Mr. Roboto



This fall a new course will be offered at NWCC's Prince Rupert Campus. The course CPSC 113: Computer Programming with Lego Robots will begin in September. This class uses Lego Mindstorm® Robots and Java programming to construct and operate robots to perform a series of tasks. This course will introduce students to the basic elements of programming and robot control algorithms; exploring fundamental concepts such as data types, loops, decisions, arrays, classes and objects. It will also integrate other disciplines including team work, design, engineering and electronics. This

course has a three hour weekly lab in which students are expected to make use of their time to build robots and become more familiar with the program. No previous experience with Java is required but knowledge of information technology or physics would be helpful.

Beginners are encouraged to try this course. If you have more questions about what is covered by this course or when it will run you can contact instructor Erfan Zahra'i at 624-6054 Local 5739 or email him at [ezahrai@nwcc.bc.ca](mailto:ezahrai@nwcc.bc.ca)



# Spirit of Hartley Bay

By Cheryl Hardy

Eleven passengers were air lifted to Prince Rupert hospital from Hartley Bay. The oil spill is now larger than Vancouver Island but has not done any "serious" environmental damage. A submersible was sent to determine how the ship went down and possibly locate the two missing passengers. It has been suggested that the next boat that runs through this route bears the name 'Spirit of Hartley Bay' because of the hospitality and bravery of the people of Hartley Bay.

The 'Queen of the North' sunk after it hit a rock off Gil Island in Wright Sound, about 125 kilometres from Prince Rupert. David Hahn, president and CEO of BC Ferries speculates that the ship went off course, ran aground and sunk 350 metres deep. The captain, who had this position for one month was not on deck at the time because he was taking a nap, this is not uncommon in the late shift for captains to nap and leave crew members in charge. There were 102 passengers and crew on deck, two passengers Shirley Rossette and Gerald Foisey of 100 Mile House are missing and it is presumed they went down with the ship.

Robyn Mitchell a student at PRSS spoke to me about the incident, her sister Megan is a student at NWCC. Robyn says "I was pulled out of school and brought home, my dad was on the ship and we hadn't heard from him." Her father, Lawrence Mitchell, told her of the traumatic experience, "He was awake in the night and was about to go back to sleep when there was a loud noise, he went out into the hall and a bloody person with a head wound was walking down the hall shocked and in a parka. He went back into his room, got a life jacket, tried to read the emergency instructions, and then went up on deck." The 125 metre ship had hit a rock and



Shirley Rossette and Gerald Foisey are missing persons now presumed to have sunk with the Queen of the North at 12:25am Wednesday March 23rd.

was sinking. A distress call was sent. "The crew was getting people into lifeboats, lowering them into the water and then attached all the boats together. Once everyone was on they got far away from the boat, and there was a spotlight on the boat." The boat sunk in form similar to the titanic, split in half and went straight up and down with cars crashing into each other, and then it disappeared. Lawrence waited two and a half hours in the life boat for the coast guard who was near by at the time...many passengers had been brought to Hartley Bay, but he was not one of them. The Coast Guard ride home took seven hours. With his family panicking at home and his van history he was so relieved when he saw his family "he broke out of the room and he wasn't allowed and yelled for his wife. They hugged and cried, then he gave them souvenirs from the Queen of the North and went back to finish paperwork and orientation." Later he was shown saying goodbye to Megan and his wife for a second time on the news.

## S.U.P. Team

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Events

Whitney Magliocchi

Compiled By  
Whitney Magliocchi

Prince Rupert Idol! – Kaien Island Youth Council presents “Prince Rupert Idol”, Friday, March 31st at the PAC. Doors open at 7:00 PM, show starts at 7:30. Any youth aged 13 to 29 years old are welcome to participate. Admission is by donation! If you think you are the next Prince Rupert Idol, or if you would just like more information, call Treena at 622-2332, ext. 29.



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\*contest rules available on website

Check out “ICE” – An exhibit of recent impressions and paintings of local frozen landscapes by North Coast artist A. Dionys De Leeuw. The exhibit is on at the Museum of Northern BC from March 1st, 2006 to April 18th, 2006.

WHAT: Crotchet & Knitting Club  
WHEN: Wednesdays at Noon  
WHERE: NWCC Room 266  
WHO: All Students & Staff

Volunteer opportunities in the outdoors. Coastal mapping and monitoring programs in Prince Rupert. Children & adults are welcome. Learn about flora, fauna and the ecosystems in your environment while helping out. For more info visit [http://ca.geocities.com/environment\\_community/](http://ca.geocities.com/environment_community/) or Contact Jennifer Rice (250) 624-3705 ext 22 [diverjen@yahoo.com](mailto:diverjen@yahoo.com)

## CLASSIFIEDS

Suite for rent in heritage home. Close to college/downtown in quiet neighbourhood. Parking, private entrance, furnished or unfurnished. Spacious deck & yard with BBQ. Contact Jennifer Rice 627-4623 or [diverjen@yahoo.com](mailto:diverjen@yahoo.com)

“Success by 6” is collecting childrens’ books for distribution to early childhood education projects in the Prince Rupert area.

Books can be dropped off Monday to Friday at The Berry Patch-300 2nd Ave. West

Girl Guides of Canada is looking for adults to help with groups and act as advisers. Girls are welcome to join Sparks, Brownies, or Guide groups anytime. For info call 1-800-565-8111

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