

APEC leaders end summit confident in finance plan



Prime Minister Jean Chretien promises aid for beleaguered economies, but says human rights may never be an APEC consideration.

Police pepper-spray UBC protesters

Protesters gathered at UBC for a demonstration, but police used pepper spray to clear the area.

Report slams Indian affairs over welfare

A report from the Auditor General criticizes the Indian Affairs department for its handling of welfare payments.

Police consider upgrading charges in teen's murder

The police are reviewing the charges against a teenager involved in a recent murder case.

New Victoria Skeena deal largest bailout in B.C. history

The province has agreed to a major financial package for the Skeena region, marking a significant bailout.

Advertisement for Jordans furniture store, featuring a photo of a living room and text about furniture and savings.

Child teasing, bleeding life



DIANA NETHERCOTT/Vancouver Sun

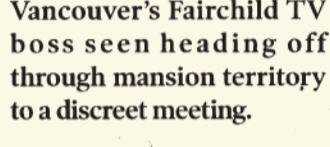
Pages from having slit her wrists, she still faced cruel comments from other teenagers. Virk's foster sister, who didn't want to be named, said Virk had left the foster home they shared on Sept. 28 and was excited to be going home with her parents. But a short time later the foster sister said she got a phone call from Virk, who told her he was coming back into foster care because "she liked it better than being at home." Virk's father Manjeet Virk said the murder of his daughter has been overwhelming and all the more difficult to accept because of the beating she had suffered.

Neighborhood reacts with anger to teen's murder



Jiang sends a car for local media mogul

Malcolm Parry, Vancouver's Fairchild TV boss, is seen heading off through mansion territory to a discreet meeting.



Opposition leader Gordon Campbell still doesn't have his coalition ducks in a row. Clark could overpower MLA-recall campaigns with the slogan: "Let all British Columbians have a vote in our future."

Finally, New Democrats and Big Labour are back in bed together. At least Health Minister Joy MacPhail and B.C. Federation of Labour boss Ken Georgetti's flame is flickering anew.

JULIANA CHEN, who was named world champion magician in Dresden this summer, finds rabbits in hats, aces in sleeves and diamond rings in audience member's pockets.

But she couldn't find her apartment key Tuesday as she was leaving for Harrah's Club, Reno, and a TV gig tonight on World's Greatest Magic IV.

It was in the garbage, as some dumpster diving proved. But by then — abracadabra! — Chen's plane had disappeared.

P.S.: She caught a later flight. APEC NOTEBOOK: Forum security chief RCMP Superintendent Wayne May may be glad he missed Maritime Museum curator emeritus Leonard McCann's presentation at the Vancouver Archives Monday.

The theme: the freighter Green Hill Park, which exploded here in March, 1945, shaking downtown and killing eight.

U.S. economic-intelligence types are trying to divine China's likely response should South Korean, Thai and Indonesian problems require an International Monetary Fund bailout above \$100 billion US — half the IMF's ceiling.

They want China to press on with its plan to join the World Trade Organization in early 1998, without which they believe Southeast Asian and Japanese difficulties might lead China to request IMF aid itself and spark worldwide recession.

Canadians don't want to find Japan drawing down some of its \$60 billion in Canadian "sovereign" debt (federal and other government bonds and short-term notes), which might drive our buck below 70 cents US and jack up interest rates.

Bill Clinton might have kept his Waterfront Centre room until Feb. 10 had he known Elaine Stevens will show hotel chefs and guests how to make herbal aphrodisiacs.

Reach Malcolm Parry at mparry@pacpress.southam.ca or 605-2984 or 929-8456.



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GET IN: Fairchild's Thomas Fung and China's Jiang Zemin.

The Chinese leader sent a car to Shaughnessy's leafy Crescent, where it collected the Fairchild Television boss from the sidewalk and drove eastward.

Let's guess it wasn't heading to former media biggie Gordon and Jean Southam's nearby mansion on one side of Angus Drive, or golf mini-mogul Roberta Beiser's on the other.

A more likely destination: China's consular house round the corner on Granville Street.

RON STERN, who as Vancouver Symphony Society's board chair reported a fourth season "in the black," has been succeeded by Point Grey neighbour and longstanding orchestra fund raiser Nezhath Khosrowshahi.

Khosrowshahi, whose husband Hassan founded Future Shop, is joined on the board by Gary Patterson, whose day job as Future Shop's executive VP and chief financial officer bodes well for the VSO's staying in fiscal tune.

GLEN CLARK has got to be considering a spring election. Bill Clinton all but kissed him for standing up to Uncle Sam in the Pacific salmon scrap.

He's close to announcing an environment-linked Nike shoe plant, which he'll claim shows investor confidence in B.C.

He'll either save Skeena Cellulose jobs with a politically hazardous bailout, or sacrifice Prince Rupert MLA Dan Miller in a tough-love decision to let the company fail, saying it's British Columbians' money and he's looking after it.

A Southeast Asian economic shock wave, if it comes to ravage the B.C. economy, won't arrive until late spring or summer.

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