

Stark Raving Sane: On My Pit of Despair

By Catherine SWEET

Yay! Catherine is finally graduating! Oh boy, oh boy, this is my last year! I'm sorry, but I can't really get excited. In fact, to me, May looms like a cavernous pit. I had a nice four-year cushion leading up to this year. I think I always knew that in my last year, I'd still not have really found any direction that grabs my attention.

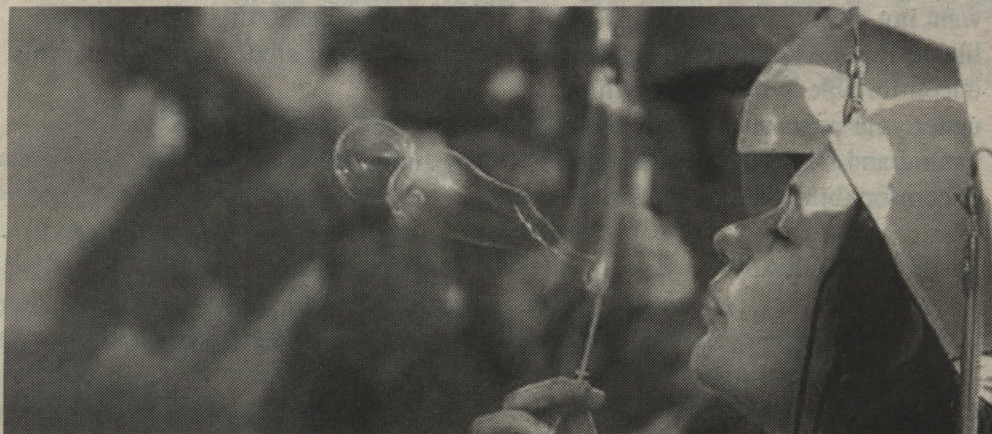
So now, this is the time of year that those of us thinking about Graduate School have to get applications together. My problem is, I am interested in so many things, I have no idea what direction to go in. And then, just because something interests me, does that mean I want to make a career of it? Not really. I'm interested in everything from entomology to etymology, but I'm going buggy over all the choices.

Why can't I have a passion? You hear about people all the time who knew from the womb that they were going to be a teacher, or a doctor, or a writer. When I was a kid, I was dead set on being a marine biologist. When and to where did that idea

disappear? That would be great right now. I'd know how to scuba dive, I'd be graduating from UBC right now, with a job lined up at the Vancouver Aquarium doing research in all the beautiful little inlets of British Columbia.

There are some things I know I don't want to do. I don't want to do anything that involves dental hygiene, or small children, or asking if you want to supersize your order. I'm glad getting my first degree will open more doors so I'll have more options when I graduate, but there's also a sneaking suspicion that I'll end up working in a field totally unrelated to my studies.

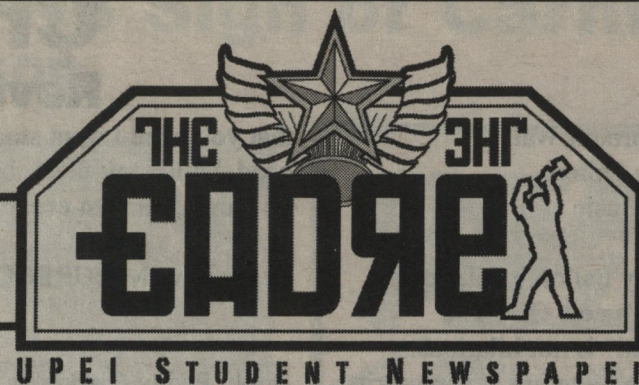
I know I have to make an appointment over at Student Services, but I'm expecting a lot out of this visit. I want them to have a giant list of careers that I can go through, crossing them off until I narrow it down to about 10. Then I can rationally pick and choose. Or better yet, I want to have some sort of supernatural experience in which a Hobbit tells me what to do. Or Elijah Wood, I don't care.



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