### KGC Newsletter

**Issue 17, July 2003** 





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KGC Newsletter team

Students are encouraged to submit letters to our editors. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for publication.

Any comments or ideas, please email to newsletter@kgc.bc.ca

### **Great Summer Barbecues!**





today. If we go to any supermarket, we can see several kinds of grills.

Brian

often enjoy going on a picnic with my family. When my family goes on a picnic in Korea, we usually prepare all kinds of food to eat in advance because many picnic areas do not permit us to cook on site. However, when I first came to Vancouver with my family, I was surprised that most people could enjoy outdoor cooking in many picnic areas; also, I was happy that my family could easily enjoy barbecues at these picnic sites. Thus, I did a little research in order to share with other students some ways to enjoy a great barbecue.

#### What is a barbecue?

There are several versions of the barbecue's origin; according to Yahoo dictionary, "the etymology of the word 'barbecue' is American Spanish 'barbacoa', of Taino origin." Likewise, Barbecue'n On The Internet, which is a website about barbecues, explained "Taino is a member of an Arawak people of the Greater Antilles and the Bahamas who became extinct under Spanish colonization during the 16th century.", and "Taino barbacoa' means the stick stand with four legs and many sticks of wood on top to place the cooking meat." Nowadays, Yahoo dictionary translates "barbecue" as follows: "a grill, pit, or outdoor fireplace for roasting meats or a whole animal carcass or section thereof roasted or broiled over an open fire or on a spit, or a social gathering, usually held outdoors, at which food is cooked over an open flame."



Types of Grills There are many types and sizes of wood, charcoal, and gas grills on the market Barbecuing using a wood or charcoal grill is better than barbecuing using a gas grill because the food tastes better. On the other hand, to barbecue using a gas grill is easier and faster than to barbecue using a wood or charcoal grill. Grills also come in all sizes from portable to large party size. We can also enjoy having a barbecue without needing to own a grill because many parks near Vancouver provide us with charcoal grills. If we prepare charcoal and food for the barbecue, we can enjoy good outdoor cooking. By the way, if you want to have a barbecue during a busy holiday, you should be diligent because you will have to compete with many people to get the use of a grill. In my case, I have a portable gas grill. When I go on a picnic with my family, I usually take it and cook some meat or seafood. We have a good time on our picnics because we can enjoy delicious food.

#### **ENJOY YOUR OUTDOOR COOKING!**

In former days, we mainly barbecued meat. Nowadays, we can barbecue several kinds of food including beef, pork, chicken, fish, sausage, vegetables, etc. We can also use many kinds of sauces when we have a barbecue. My family likes to barbecue pork ribs, prawns, and vegetables. While we are eating the food that we barbecued, we feel as though we are eating in a first-class restaurant.

Going on a BBQ is a great way to get away from our daily routine and have some fun. I

hope that the students at KGC will enjoy some good barbecue dinning this summer!

Reference from <a href="http://www.barbecuen.com/">http://www.barbecuen.com/</a>

## If you like fireworks, Come on

## Enjoy the Great Vancouver Fireworks shows



By Helen

hen I first saw the fireworks in Vancouver, I was so surprised because lots of families were sitting on the beach and were watching the fireworks ,even though it was raining . I am a big fireworks fan, and I would like to share some of my experiences with other KGC students.

#### The Canada Day Fireworks Show --

Usually, we can see fireworks at Canada Place every Canada Day, but due to the government's concerns that too many people crowded near the

fireworks might be dangerous, the fireworks were cancelled this year. I hope I can see them next year.



The Canada Day Fireworks show -- 2002

The Butchart Gardens Fireworks show -- Naturally, when I visited Victoria last summer, I went to Butchart Gardens. Although I had to stay in Victoria for one night because I missed the last return ferry, I had a good time because I was able to see an exciting fireworks show. Until now, I still can't describe how amazing it was!

From June through August, every Saturday night in Butchart Gardens, Victoria, BC, firework shows are available. I really



The Butchart Gardents Fireworks Show



The Vancouver International Firework Festivals -- 2002

hope I can go there again!

The Vancouver International Fireworks Festival -- Since 1990, Canadians have had exciting times watching the Vancouver International Firework Competition Festival. It consists of four nights of fireworks shown over a period of two weeks. Three countries display their native fireworks on different nights, and the fourth show is the grand finial. After the shows, people vote for the best one. I watched the Vancouver 2002 International Fireworks. Although I was not able to hear the music very well because I didn't I reserve a seat in the best area, I had a great time.

15	th century	Gunpowder used in military applications
16	th century	Fireworks used increasingly for entertainment purposes
18	th century	Fireworks displays begin to incorporate music
19	060	The French at Cannes synchronize a sound track to a fireworks spectacle
19	90	Vancouver's first international fireworks competition

"The competitors of 2003 will be the Czech Republic, Canada, and China. The details as following:

July 30 -- The Czech Republic will capture your attention with traditional and bright colors

August 2 -- Canada, the 2002 event winner, dazzled you with innovation. This year's performance, "Symphony of Voices," brings you another original show.

August 6 -- China lights up the sky with many different fireworks styles. Watch for their falling leaves, willows, peonies and more in their "From January to December" performance.

August 9 -- All three competitors perform at the grand finale on Saturday."

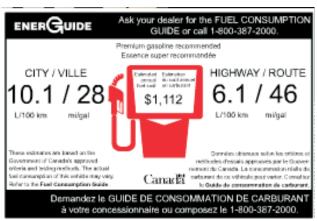
I really enjoy sitting on the beach at English Bay or sitting on the grass in Buchart Gardens on a Saturday evening watching the amazing firework shows. If you like fireworks, you can learn more about them from the websites listed below.

#### Resources:

http://www.celebration-of-light.com/fireworks/ http://www.johnharveyphoto.com/Fireworks/ Http://www.butchartgardens.com/visiting/



## Selecting the Right Car!



Http://www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/vehicles/home.cfm

ancouver is a very beautiful city with parks, tourist attractions, and kind people. All of these features have made it a very popular city for tourists. I came to Vancouver last April. Although the public transit system is convenient in Vancouver, I chose to drive a car because it is easier to get where I want to go. Many students study in Vancouver for an extended period of time, so they sometimes choose to have a car. I am writing this article to show students how to choose a good car; I hope it proves helpful.

#### New or Used:

Should I buy a new car or a used car? Many international students ask this question, but I think the answer is quite clear. Because they can buy a four or five year old used car for only about 55% of the original price, many students should choose to buy a used car. If you buy a used car, make sure the car is ok and well maintained. You may want to ask a friend who knows about cars to help you.

#### Price:

You can choose new or used cars in different models and brands at list price on many car websites. In addition, there are some car magazines which can help you to understand the local car market. After doing some research, you will know the background, price, and details related to your ideal car. Then, when you go to car dealers, you will know whether the car dealer is being honest. Remember there may be some extra charges you will need to pay such as taxes, registration fees, and insurance premiums.



Http://www.jaguar.com/us/

#### Safety and Reliability

I think you will agree that the safety and reliability of a car are the most important aspects we should care about. Vehicle crashworthiness test reports can tell us how well the car can protect passengers during a crash. Some features that improve vehicle safety are Airbags, Four wheel ABS, Traction control, Skid control etc. Checking safety recalls for the model you intend to buy is also a good idea. If there are too many major recalls, you may wish to avoid this model. It is possible to get information on recalls from the Internet.

http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov

#### **Fuel Economy**

Usually, students prefer small cars because they can save on fuel costs. In addition, there are some important factors for choosing a fuel saving small car. A car which uses advanced technology and has a standard transmission can save on fuel costs. You can check from the Internet and compare the consumption ratings for each model of car. Some cars have the EnerGuide labels which are placed on officially proven fuel saving cars.



Http://www.euroncap.com/results.htm

#### **Standard or Automatic Transmission**

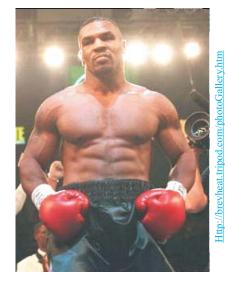
Cars with standard (manual) transmissions cost less and consume less fuel, and they are more powerful and reliable than automatic transmissions. However, some people prefer to drive cars with automatic transmissions because they are more convenient in the city, especially in heavy traffic. As has been said, both types of transmissions have advantages and disadvantages. Choose the type that best meets your needs.

As you can see, there are many ways to choose a car. If you decide to buy a used car, make sure that it is not a lemon! Don't buy a very low priced car because it may need a lot of repairs. A used car is worth buying only if it is in good condition; otherwise, you might be buying a lottery ticket. I love cars, so I am preparing to study automotive service at BCIT. If you want to buy a car or just talk about cars, I would be very glad to help you and talk with you!

Happy car hunting!

## "Iron" Mike Tyson

By Jasper



re you a boxing fan? Do you have a favorite boxing idol? Hi, I'm Jasper, a level-six student at KGC. Although I don't have much knowledge of boxing, I still have a favorite boxing idol. As you may know, boxing matches are becoming popular today. If people are fans of boxing, they will know the boxing champion----Mike Tyson. I am a boxing fan, and I admire him. Many people, however, have lost respect for Tyson because of his negative actions including biting another boxer's ear and going to jail for another crime.

Mike Tyson, a dominating heavyweight champion, was the biggest fighter in the history of the sport. He was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 30, 1966. He grew up in a hard environment, and his parents never married, so he grew up with his mother because his dad had left when Tyson was just two years old. At the age of ten, Tyson's raw boxing ability was both realized and harnessed by Bobby Stewart, his first coach.

When he was sixteen years old, Tyson had a record of 15-0, and in 1986, his boxing record reached 37-0 with 33 knockouts. In 1986, he won the WBC heavyweight title (World Boxing Council)In 1987, he added the WBA (World Boxing Association) title to his boxing career. Even though Tyson was at the top of boxing, he was experiencing many problems in his boxing life.

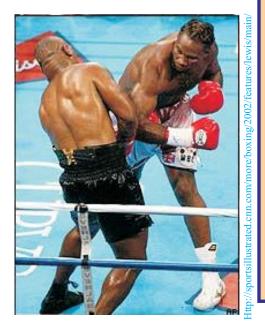
Everyone who is a boxing fan knows there were two main matches in Mike Tyson's boxing life; they also were the reason people lost respect for him.

In 1995, most people lost respect for Tyson

because he assaulted a woman and was convicted of the crime, so he had to go to jail for six months. In 1997, Mike Tyson boxed against Holyfield. This match caused even more people to lose respect for Tyson because in the third round, he bit Holyfield's ear, and after the referee warned him, he bit a piece of Holyfield's ear off. Most boxing fans couldn't believe their eyes. They never believed their idol Tyson would lower himself to bite another fighter's ear, so this match was called "The Biting of the Century" .As a result, Tyson was banned from boxing for one year and was fined \$3 million. Although Tyson is still one of my idols, I don't like the way he fought Holyfield. I think a good fighter should also have an honest and enduring heart.

Because Tyson is getting older, he is losing his power and speed in boxing matches. In 2002, Lennox Lewis fought Mike Tyson, and Lewis won this match by knocking out Tyson in the 8th round. When hearing this, a lot of people were happy because they wanted Lennox Lewis to be the new boxing champion. Although the result was not good for me because I expected Mike Tyson to win the match, I still felt respect for Tyson for his unremitting spirit. Recently, it was reported that Mike Tyson will challenge Lennox Lewis again next April. I hope that Tyson wins that match.

If a person makes serious mistakes in life, do you think he should get another chance? I believe if Mike Tyson tries to become a better person, he should be given another chance. I also hope Tyson will make a great comeback and become a true role model for young people in the future.



## Our Best Friends



ne reason why many people love cats so much is cats are very lovely animals. People often treat their pets like a member of their family; so many cats live a high life-style today. Because I love cats, I always collect photos of them from the internet. Let me share with you some of the reasons why I love cats so much.

Today, most of us try to eat healthful food to avoid diseases and other illnesses. Now, pet owners give healthful food to their cats because they want them to be healthy. Although a high quality diet can keep cats healthy, every cat's health requirements are very different In addition, some pets' owners try to help their pets lose weight if the pet is overweight. Even though my homestay mother has a beautiful cat, she thinks it is a little overweight. So after dinner, she always takes it for a walk in order to help it lose weight.

Do you ever wish your cat could talk to you? If people feel very lonely, especially older men or women, they try to find someone to talk to. Is it is really possible for a cat to talk with someone? I believe they can. There are some ways that cats communicate with people. They often use body language to communicate. For example when the cat is relaxed, he closes his eyes and lies beside you to show you he is very happy. In addition, if he trusts you, he may lick your face. Also, when your cat nuzzles your face and touches your nose that tells you he loves you very much.

When I was about 10 years old, we had a cat in my family. It came from a friend of my mother. I liked it very much because it was very cute. Everyday I gave him very delicious food. On weekends, we always played together; therefore, I felt very happy. He had a Chinese name Mimi. Unfortunately, when he was 2 years old, he died from an illness. I was very sad, and I still miss him.

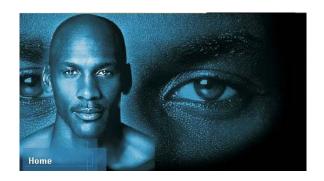
Cats are usually really tame animals. They have become human's friends, and we live together very happily. I hope everyone will treat their pets very well because we all have a responsibility to care for these lovely animals.



## Mighael Jordan



By Howard



## "There is only one person who can define success in your life - and that is you!!"

ere's an interesting question for you who do YOU think is the most successful person in the world? In my opinion, that person is Michael Jordan because he is the greatest basketball player in the world!

Recently, Michael Jordan retired from the NBA. The first time I saw Michael Jordan play on TV, I was amazed to see him sink almost every shot he made! That was the day he became my favorite all-time basketball player. I would like to share, with those of you who admire Michael Jordan as much as I do, some details about his childhood, his rise to fame, and more reasons why I like him so much.

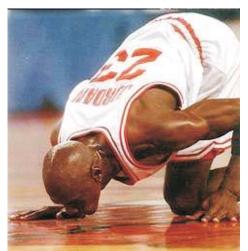
Michael Jordan was born in Brooklyn, New York, on February 17, 1963. Michael is the fourth of five children born to Delores and James Jordan. The young family moved to Wilmington, North Carolina when Michael was still a toddler. While growing up it was clear that he was very talented in many sports including baseball, golf, and football.

Michael's love for basketball began when his older brother, Larry, continuously beat him in one-on-one pick-up games. As with any challenge Jordan faced, this made him determined to become better. After college, in 1984, Jordan was drafted third by the Chicago Bulls into the NBA. In his very first game, October 26, 1984, playing for the Chicago Bulls, Jordan proved to be the top player in the entire NBA. However, after winning his third NBA championship,



some very troubling events happened in his life. His father was brutally killed by a group of robbers. In his grief, Jordan lost his motivation and completely dropped out of basketball. At this point, I can only imagine what it must have felt like for him to have lost his father so suddenly. I know that if this happened to me, I would have gone crazy and my world would have fallen apart around me.

Fortunately, Michael bounced back, finding another challenge baseball! He amazed everyone by quickly rising to a high level of achievement in this sport as well! But his heart was in basketball, and, on March 18,



1995 Michael Jordan announced "I'm back!" and rejoined the Chicago Bulls. In that year, he proved to the world that he was still the best basketball player in the NBA and led the Bulls to great heights once again.

Michael Jordan went on to win six NBA championships and was named Most Valuable Player in more season playoffs than we can count; offense, defense, he did it all! He holds more records than Imelda Marcos owns shoes! Not to mention his own line of shoes what young man didn't want a pair of Air Jordan at some point in his life!

In my opinion, Jordan has been the hardestworking player in the NBA. At times, he would practice shooting thousands of baskets, till he felt he was good enough. People may not know that he also does a lot of things to help children. For example, he donates money to enable children from poor families to go to school. Michael is able to do this largely because of the huge amounts of money his name raises for the Nike shoe industry. Almost every young person wants to buy "Michael Jordan shoes" because he is the greatest. This includes me causing my own parents great expense keeping me in running shoes! However, the main characteristics I admire most about Michael Jordan are his athletic ability, technical skills, intelligence, dedication, effort, and competitive spirit. I don't believe anyone yet has surpassed the skill level demonstrated by Michael Jordan throughout his career. Though he has now retired from the NBA for good, Michael Jordan will always remain my favorite basketball player for all time.



Www.23jordan.com

# Make taking a bus your first choice!





By Fric

uses are the most popular type of public transportation in the world because they are convenient and cheap. There are several styles of buses such as electronic buses and gas buses; in addition, they have many different functions. Each country has their peculiar style of buses. I have been studying in Vancouver for half a year, and I take the bus to school everyday. I would like to share some useful information on buses with other students at KGC.

In Vancouver, the two kinds of basic bus services are the B-Line Service and the Local Bus Service. The B-Line buses run very fast and have few stops in order to help people get to work or school quickly. The B-Line buses are very long and can hold almost a hundred people on each bus. There are now three B-Line routes: The 97 B-Line, the 98 B-Line and the 99 B-Line. The 97 B-Line goes from Coquitlam Station to Lougheed Station. The 98 B-Line goes from Burrard Station to Richmond Centre. The 99 B-Line goes from Broadway Station to UBC. When I first took the 99 B-Line, I missed my stop because I was very tired and had fallen asleep on the bus. Since the bus ran very fast and had very few stops, I was far from my destination when I woke up. I got off the bus immediately, but I didn't know where I was. So I just went across the road and took a bus in the opposite direction; that day I was late for school. Another kind of bus service is the Local Bus Service. The main benefits of this kind of bus are that the routes go almost all over the Greater Vancouver area and there are many bus stops. The local buses have two styles, electronic buses and gas buses. In addition, the gas buses have two generations. When I first took an old generation bus, I made an unusual mistake. People who have already taken buses in Vancouver know that if you want to get off the bus, you should push the bar on the door when the bus stops. However, the old generation buses don't have bars on the door. If you want to get off, you just step

down when the bus stops and the door will open. Since I didn't know the old generation buses don't have bars, I wondered why I couldn't find the bar when I wanted to get off. So, I just stood in front of the door and pushed the door in order to open it. The bus driver saw that and said "No, no, no, just get down." When I got down, the door opened. I laughed about that for a long time.

Buses in Vancouver also offer other special services. I think the two most worthwhile services are the Community Shuttle Service and Accessible Service. The Community Shuttle Service is provided for people who live in suburban areas in order to give them more cost effective and flexible transit service. The community shuttles are smaller than conventional buses and can hold either 20 passengers or 16 passengers and two wheelchairs. Also, Buses offer an Accessible Service in Vancouver. This kind



of service is designed to carry passengers with physical or cognitive disabilities. People who have disabilities just need to phone the company and make an appointment if they want to go somewhere. Moreover, they don't need to pay extra fees. I think both of these special bus services are very valuable.

If you are new to Vancouver, it may take some time before you get used to taking buses. Let me tell you about an interesting experience I had. One day, when I first went to school, I prepared some coins to take the bus because you can't use paper money when taking a bus. I just sat on the bus bench and waited for the bus. A few minutes later, I saw a bus coming, so I just continued to sit there and wait until the bus stopped.

However, the bus didn't stop and kept on going, so I had to wait for another bus. This time I stood up when the bus came, so I could get on the bus. When I wanted to buy a ticket, I found that there were two coin slots, one used to input the money, and the other one used to output the ticket. My problem was that I didn't know which one I should put the money in, so I just put it in any slot. The driver said: "No, this way." I laughed, put my money in the correct slot and got on the bus. Since I didn't know how to pull the cord when I wanted to get off, I just stood in front of the door and waited for the bus to stop. I was in trouble again because the bus didn't stop and continued on. I wondered why the driver didn't stop; at that time, a woman saw me and asked me: "Did you want to get off?" I said: "Yes". Then she said: "You should have pulled the cord." Now I understood and said: "Thank vou". I pulled the cord and stood in front of the door, and the bus stopped. However, when I wanted to get off, the door didn't open. I was so confused. That nice woman helped me again and said: "Push that bar". Finally, I got off the bus; I will never forget this incredible experience.

Although I made many unusual mistakes when taking buses, I still believe they are the most convenient form of public transportation in Vancouver. Make taking a bus your first choice because there is no better way to get around in Vancouver.

All the information and pictures are from www.translink.bc.ca

