



Pedal Power

The cobblestoned streets of Gastown come alive Jul. 11 for the Global Relay Gastown Grand Prix (page 44). This thrilling race attracts **elite cyclists from around the world**—including, back in 1991, Lance Armstrong—with a route that loops around landmarks such as the Gastown Steam Clock and statue of Gassy Jack. The action starts at 5:45 p.m., but arrive early, as 45,000 spectators are expected.



PHOTOS: (TOP) COURTESY GREG DESCANTES. (BOTTOM) BY ALYSSA BURTT

SWEET SOUNDS

For 35 years, the Vancouver Folk Music Festival (Jul. 13 to 15; page 46) has been **filling Jericho Beach Park with eclectic sounds**, ranging from the soulful rap of K'naan to the fiery blues of Shakura S'Aida to the klezmer punk rock of Geoff Berner. Seven stages mean there's something for all ages and tastes, while the seaside setting ensures postcard-worthy backdrops for every photo snapped. And despite what you may have heard, it rarely rains in Vancouver (in July, anyway).

Summer Silliness

Forget about the 2012 Summer Olympics in London—*Summer TheatreSports* right here in Vancouver is where to find the real competition. **Watch improv jocks compete** to produce the quickest quip, silliest spoof and most cringe-worthy pun, all while tackling the toughest task of all: keeping the audience entertained. If the Vancouver TheatreSports League (page 71) can't tickle your funny bone, you don't have one.

