



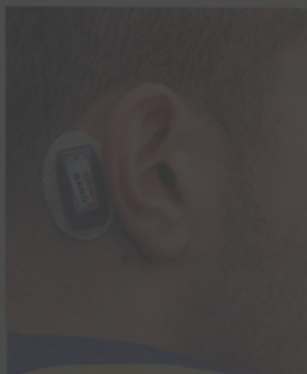
Your essential daily news

Migrants clash with police near Greece-Macedonia border. **World**

Study uses sensors to look at head hits

CONCUSSION

Researchers gauge impact on brain function



UBC Thunderbirds' Brandon Deschamps wears a sensor behind his left ear. BOB FRO/UBC

associate professor with the School of Kinesiology, expressed the need for caution with the data, citing "false-positive or false-negative" results.

In some cases, the sensors show an impact; however, nothing actually occurs with the athlete. In other cases, Blouin said, the opposite would take place.

Video is used to help confirm if there has been a real impact.

The objective is to better understand the data and technology so that developers can produce a better sensor that "really gives you the information about what the head is ... going through during those impacts," said Blouin.

"Right now, I would say it's better than nothing. But not quite where we want to be."



Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

With more than one documented concussion in his career, UBC Thunderbirds running back Brandon Deschamps has a vested interest in research being done at the university into the effects of impacts to the heads of football players.

Deschamps suffered a concussion in the first week of this season. For the past two years, he's been wearing, under his football helmet, a small sensor designed to collect data from hits to the player.

The research is, in part, to find links between brain functions and the number of hits players sustain during a season, according to the university.

A total of 30 UBC players — 16 in 2014 and 14 this year — have taken part.

The sensor, which fits behind a player's ear, is designed to measure the acceleration and direction of the hit, said Harrison Brown, a PhD candidate with the UBC School of Kinesiology.

Jean-Sebastien Blouin, an



PIER PARK VANCOUVER BIENNALE SETS UP NEW ART PIECES Crews prepare shipping containers for a piece of public art called Wow Westminster. The art will be installed at Pier Park in New Westminster on Monday as part of the Vancouver Biennale. RIC LAM/ROAMING THE PLANET

CABINET

B.C. Conservatives given critic roles

Seven Conservative MPs from British Columbia have been given critic roles by the Official Opposition party.

Appointed to the shadow

cabinet are Abbotsford's Ed Fast (on the environment and climate change), South Surrey-White Rock's Dianne Watts (infrastructure and communities) and Richmond's Alice Wong (small business).

They're joined by Cathy McLeod on indigenous affairs, Mark Strahl on fisheries, oceans and the coast guard, and Mark Warawa on seniors.

While not on the shadow cabinet, Dan Albas has

also been named critic for interprovincial trade. Now led in the interim by Rona Ambrose, the Conservatives won 99 seats in last month's election, losing to Justin Trudeau's Liberals' 184 seats. METRO