

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

# gauntlet

VOLUME 46 • ISSUE NO. 36 • APRIL 6 • 2006

**Celebrating our 40th with the new  
Campus Calgary Digital Library**

news page 6

# CALENDAR OF CURIOSITIES

www.su.ucalgary.ca



University of Calgary Students' Union (SU)

## 2006/2007 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE (SAA) APPOINTED POSITION

Term: Starts immediately

Pay: Honoraria of up to \$400/month

Faculty Reps are the main communication link between the SU and the faculty in which they are registered. They are responsible for representing and promoting the academic interests of the students in their faculty. Their role involves staying up-to-date and briefing SAA on issues and concerns related to students in their faculty and the SU; and informing their faculty about SU policies, programs, and services.

Duties include preparing for, attending and participating in SAA and General Faculties Council (GFC) meetings; working with the student clubs in their faculty; attending Faculty Promotions Committee (FPC) meetings and acting as the student member on the faculty Student Appeal Committee; attending Faculty Council (FC) and any sub-committee meetings; and assisting in administering Teaching Excellence Awards in their faculty.

The following Faculty Rep positions are available: **Education, Communication & Culture**, and **Social Work**. Please send a letter of interest and resume to the attention of the Executive Cabinet Administrator.

**Deadline: Monday, April 17, 2006 at 4:30 pm.**

### CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER (CRO)

Term: Part-time, from August 2006 to March 2007

Pay: Honoraria of up to \$2000 for the by-election and up to \$3000 for the general election.

The CRO is responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the SU fall by-election and winter general election. Duties include hiring all election officials; supervising nominations and voting process; setting up voting stations; and ensuring SU by-laws, policies and procedures are fol-

lowed. Your work will be concentrated in September, October, January, February and early March.

You must have completed one session of studies at U of C. Preference will be given to those with experience in student, civic, provincial, or federal election. Please submit a cover letter and resume to the attention of the Executive Cabinet Administrator.

**Deadline: Monday, April 17, 2006 at 4:30 pm.**

### FOOD COURT ATTENDANTS

Two positions are available in the Food Court.

Full-time hours for summer (May 1 to August 31).

One position is Wednesday to Sunday (12:00 pm - 8:00 pm) and the other is Monday to Friday (10 am to 6 pm).

**Please submit your resume to [resumes@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:resumes@su.ucalgary.ca)**



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Set-up & Catering Staff

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Previous experience working within a catering and events or banquets environment is preferred, but if you believe you are a high energy person with uncommon dedication to fulfilling guest expectations we could be interested in you!

If you are interested please submit your resume and cover e-mail stating the type of position you are interested in, as well as what shifts or days you are available to work (days, evenings, weekends, part-time, full-time) to [resumes@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:resumes@su.ucalgary.ca).

## THANK YOU

to the following businesses that contributed great items to the auction at our Volunteer Appreciation Party on April 5th, 2006. Your generosity and willingness to donate are much appreciated:

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  - Blue House Cafe
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  - Calgary Folk Music Festival
  - Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra
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  - Canada Safeway  
Brentwood location
  - CKUA Radio Network
  - Calgary Co-Op  
Brentwood location
  - Decidedly Jazz Danceworks
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  - Greyhound Canada Transportation Corp.
  - Hostelling International  
Pacific Mountain Region
  - Ironwood Stage and Grill
  - Keg Restaurants Ltd.
  - Kilkenny Irish Pub
  - One Yellow Rabbit Performance Theatre
  - Plaza Theatre
  - Play Entertainment  
Market Mall location
  - Swizzlesticks SalonSpa
  - The Yoga Gateway
  - The Yoga Studio
  - Crowchild Square location
  - Theatre Calgary
- 
- Health & Recreation Centre  
University of Calgary
  - Nickle Arts Museum
  - The Den
  - Travel Cuts
  - University Health Services

**Volunteer Services**

## Students' Union Weekly Schedule of Events, April 10 to 15, 2006

Monday, April 10

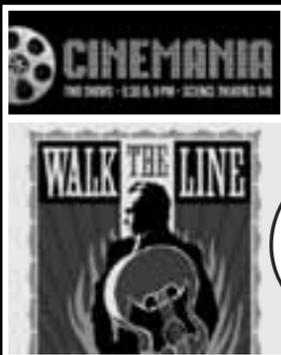
Tuesday, April 11

Wednesday, April 12

Thursday, April 13

Friday, April 14

Saturday, April 15



**Bermuda Shorts Day**  
wristbands are available April 10 to 12 in the MSC North Courtyard, 9 am to 6 pm.  
Age and student ID are required to obtain wristband.

**Bermuda Shorts Day**

Good Friday  
University closed



**STUDENTS' UNION**

**FULL OF SELF-IMPORTANCE SINCE 1967**





Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

## Shave your head for cancer

Or be an asshole. Whatever. See if I care.

### 4 EDITORIAL/LETTERS

#### BS fucking D

An editorial about drinking to give you a break from the year-end stupor.

### 5 NEWS

#### Hancock as the new Ralph?!

It's official. The Alberta government has given the U of C \$113 million to build a digital library. Whatever that is. Good thing they aren't getting \$100 million to hire profs. That'd be weird.

### 15 OPINIONS

#### Letters and superheroes

Who knew that people cared so much about abortion? What with having to devote an extra page of the paper to all the letters we've got about it, you'd think it was a contentious issue or something.

### PULL OUT FICTION SUPPLEMENT

#### Super Death Love Entropy

Read a collection of your peers' fictive exploits, all across the panoramic backdrop of the eternal struggle between ponies and robots. Pulling out is not an effective means of contraception.

### 31 SPORTS

#### The night of the Dino

Some people were also inducted into the U of C Athletic Hall of Fame. The sports editor was supposed to present the awards but he, uh, couldn't make it.

### 38 FEATURE

#### Copywrite

Will anyone know the words to "Stairway to Heaven" in 2101? And how would a lead zeppelin work, anyway? Lead can't float. I don't care what you put it in. That's just fucking stupid.

### 40 ENTERTAINMENT

#### Bands are good, big bands are better

Or at least that's the driving philosophy of the bands we've covered in this week's entertainment section. Together they could probably overthrow China, or at least bust a rhinoceros out of the zoo. The Calgary Zoo must know that without a steadfast rhino defense, the reds will win. So let's all get behind this and make sure we have at least 45 rhinos in the city within the next fortnight.



# STRESSED

about

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## GAUNTLET

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters must be typed, double-spaced and received by Monday at 4 p.m., and must include the author's name, student ID number, telephone number and signature. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libellous or defamatory material.

All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the *Gauntlet*," and be no longer than 300 words. The *Gauntlet* retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the *Gauntlet* office, Room 319 MacEwan Student Centre, or sent by e-mail to [gauntlet@ucalgary.ca](mailto:gauntlet@ucalgary.ca).



## To hell with politics, let's get drunk

This week Prime Minister Stephen Harper opened the 39th session of Parliament with his throne speech and the NDPS responded by making a strange alliance with the Progressive Conservatives. Klein announced plans to abdicate his throne in six months time and five MLAs resigned from the Legislative Assembly.

Despite these recent political developments, it's safe to say students in their bleary-eyed, caffeine-supported final weeks of the semester are concerned with matters much more pressing than the fate of our fair province and country. Even here at the *Gauntlet*, the editorial board couldn't stop talking about the Bermuda Shorts Day long enough to come up with biting political commentary. For first year students and fifth year BSD veterans alike, the *Gauntlet* editors put their heads together to give a little advice for BSD revelers this year.

It's best to start pre-BSD preparations now. This means you have exactly one Thursday night to make

a friend in rez. A rez-rat buddy means a place to take a mid-day nap, and also saves you valuable dollars by providing instant access to the one place on campus where it's legal to drink your own alcohol. Thursday nights at the Den are always a good place to meet rez dwellers, and the \$7 pitchers allow you to build up alcohol tolerance before the big day.

When BSD morning arrives, begin drinking immediately. This is one of the only days of the year where drinking beer for breakfast is not only permissible, but encouraged. It's best to crack the first beer in the shower, where the combination of cold beer and warm water is refreshing and invigorating enough to start the day off right. Also, it's like drinking two, and saves you bling.

Breakfast choices are also very important. Pancakes always work well to provide a breadly pillow for alcohol to be poured on. The engineers, always on top of innovative new ways to drink, mix rum with their syrup in a 1:1 ratio. Pancakes

should be followed by a second beer, preferably shotgun-style on your front porch. If you don't have a porch, the hallway of your apartment or the C-train platform will do fine.

At this point it's probably time to get dressed. Remember you're going to be outside all day so—as any good Boy Scout knows—the key to outdoor dress is layers. Bermuda shorts and loud Hawaiian shirts are required, but it could snow or it could be sunny so, like a boy scout, “be prepared.”

Ladies, avoid those slinky sundresses—not only do layers keep your warm in an Alberta April blizzard, they also provide more pockets to stash a few “road pops” or a flask. Also, include a plastic bag in one of those pockets—it will serve you well as an emergency barf bag on the cab ride home later in the day. Even if you don't need it you can pass it off to a less fortunate friend.

Another dressing tip: avoid flip-flops at all cost. Yes, they're trendy and fit with the whole Hawaiian theme, but nothing is worse than

slogging through the piss-mud on the way to the Port-o-Potties wearing a pair of thongs. Rubber boots are the best bet for a BSD aficionado.

To go to class or to not go to class? That is the classic BSD question. If you choose to bear the slings and arrows of attending a lecture, make sure to bring refreshments. A degree doesn't really count unless you've consumed a beer in class. Sit in the back row and try coughing while cracking one. Or, if you're not willing to risk taking arms against a sea of troubles a vodka water looks oh-so-inconspicuous in a Nalgene bottle.

As the day progresses remember to drink responsibly. This means writing your name, phone number and address on your arm with a Sharpie marker in case you get lost. This will allow you to bring any hook-ups home if you experience a case of alcohol-induced amnesia. Just be sure not to show it to the trench-coated man handing out cupcakes to children on the C-train.

## Editor, the *Gauntlet*: Abort, retry, fail?

### God loves babies

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

It is a sad day for justice and freedom in Canada when the barbarous murder of innocent babies is declared a right, but honestly showing the gruesome act for what it really is, is “going too far.”

Abortion rights advocates will some day be seen in the same light as selfish slave owners of the 1800s who dehumanized Africans in order to victimize them. The intellectual dishonesty and tactics are the same today, only the victims are different. The reason many people can't handle the pictures

is because they are guilty, guilty, guilty! And they know it, buried deep below their lie callused conscience!

The only remedy for that ailment is repentance and forgiveness from God. But I guess most university educated proaborts are too “enlightened” to believe in Him. The Bible says, God just “sits on His throne and laughs” at such pride. He is amused at the arrogance coming from such tiny pip-squeaks who think they got here without Him and they can go out on their own terms without having to face Him and give an account in the end. Jesus said it best when He said, “they will not come to the light (Him) because their deeds are evil.”

Donald Spratt

### So does science

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

Recently there has been a vast debate regarding pro-life and pro-choice around campus. To be opinionated in relation to a particular issue is human nature. But to have rational reasoning as per your argument is what separates intellectuals from the remainder of society. The pro-life club, sponsored by the university administration demonstrated a strong lack of logic this past week. Many people on campus were offended by this graphic display, but for the wrong reasons. The offense comes not in the graphic display itself, but in the lack of sound arguments used by the pro-life club to justify their

display. Comparing the slaughter of innocent civilians to an aborted fetus is a serious scientific misrepresentation. Being a biological sciences student, I had to examine this from a scientific perspective. Pain sensory in humans is located in the cerebral cortex; this particular area of the brain isn't matured until late in development. Similarly, a fetus is incapable of rational thought and does not respond to external stimuli. To claim that individuals subject to torture were in the same position is ludicrous. Not only is it disgraceful and derogatory, but it is an insult to anybody with a shred of intellectual ability. While the pro-life club was allowed to put up this display, and had the right to implement the use of free-speech, it must

See ABORT, ABORT!, pg 16

# NEWS

## Hancock resigns

### Advanced Education Minister steps down to pursue leadership

Chris Beauchamp  
News Editor

Alberta Advanced Education minister Dave Hancock resigned his cabinet post this week to pursue leadership aspirations for the Progressive Conservative Party. The move comes on the heels of Premier Ralph Klein's announcement that he will step down in six months. It also comes while the post-secondary system is smack in the middle of a comprehensive review process.

"This is unfortunate from a student perspective because it puts into question whether all the commitments he's made will be seen through," said University of Calgary Students' Union vice-president external Jen Smith.

Calgary Egmont MLA Denis Herard will be sworn in as Advanced Education Minister Thu., Apr. 6. Herard was first elected in 1993

and is one of five new cabinet ministers appointed by Klein to fill vacancies left by leadership hopefuls.

Smith was present at the Wed., Apr. 5 announcement, and said the focus was not on education, but health-care.

"We're afraid the third way is taking over," said Smith, adding Klein barely mentioned education when reporters asked him about his priorities for the remainder of his term.

Smith is concerned the PSE review process could be hurt by the cabinet shuffle, but Advanced Education spokesperson Cam Traynor insisted the process is still on track.

"The *A Learning Alberta* review

is coming to fruition this spring and summer and minister Herard has already said he's excited about completing the process," said Traynor. "He has quite a background in education issues."

Traynor noted Herard chaired the education and employment standing committee and has also sat on a number of education boards. Herard also sponsored the motion to create the Alberta centennial education savings plan.

Traynor said the *A Learning Alberta* steering committee is currently preparing its final report to the minister, and admitted there will be a transition process.

"With the change of minister we'll have to review the situation," he said. "But he brings a lot to the table in both his experience and passion for education."

Both Hancock and Herard were unavailable for comment before press time.



Herard.



Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

Hancock could be premier, but I wouldn't bet on it.

## 400 more drunks to invade BSD

Chris Beauchamp  
News Editor

There will be 400 more rowdy party-goers at Bermuda Shorts Day Thu., Apr. 13.

Capacity in the beer gardens at the annual year-end party has been increased 10 per cent over last year, bringing the total capacity to 4,400 people, according to Students' Union vice-president events and good times Alex Vyskocil. One thousand guest wristbands will be available.

"It's my last BSD," said Vyskocil, who graduates this year after a two-year term as VP events. "I think the acts are going to be rad.

Hopefully your last BSD will be as good as mine."

The line up includes the rock-a-billy band HorrorPops, Edmonton dance band Shout Out Out Out Out, ska-punksters Five Star Affair and BSD veterans Small Town DJs. Vyskocil said there will also be a dance stage in the beer gardens and a student stage near the prairie chicken for campus bands.

The price for beer will remain at \$3.75, though the event will see a slightly increased security presence to account for the increased capacity. Vyskocil said the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission approved increasing capacity because the good

times were tame times last year.

Campus Security manager Lanny Fritz said two or three extra security officers will be on hand, as well as seven Calgary Police constables on paid duty and SU events staff.

He said last year was successful due to good management rather than good luck, noting the SU has addressed problems from the past by increasing the number of washroom facilities, expanding the total area of the beer gardens and eliminating long line-ups. Fritz did caution against some common pitfalls, adding some students inevitably drink too much every year.

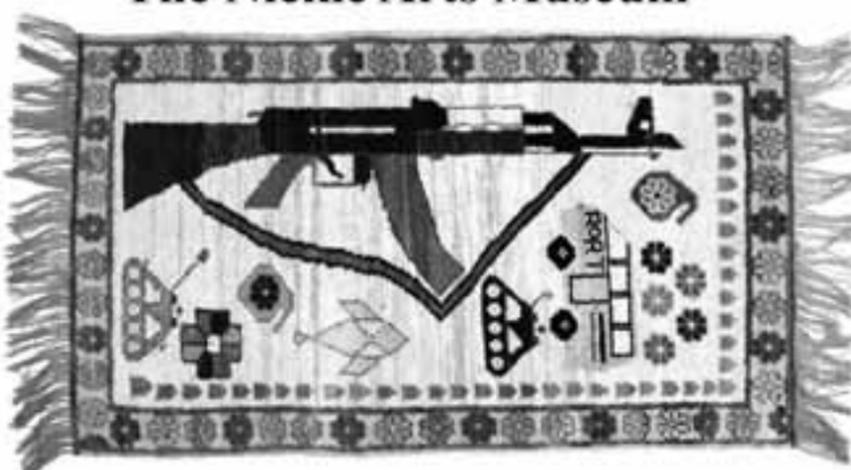
"Alcohol consumption is still

only legal in the beer gardens," said Fritz, noting police will also have an active checkstop set up after

the event to deter drunk driving. Vyskocil said a decision will be

see BSD, page 8

### The Nickle Arts Museum



**Made in Afghanistan: Rugs and Resistance, 1979-2005**  
25 February - 31 May, 2006

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434 Collegiate Blvd. NW http://www.ucalgary.ca/~nickle  
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### CAMPUS QUIPS



"We don't have a mascot anymore!"  
- Ryan Slika, second-year English



"I'm kinda sad, but I don't really know why."  
- Desirae Stepien, third-year chemical engineering



"It's like when a clown dies, I don't know how you feel about that..."  
- Branko Lazarevic, fifth-year biological sciences



"I think it's awesome, he should retire sooner."  
- Brina Goyette, second/third-year computer science

What do you think about Ralph Klein retiring?

# Digital library gets big bucks

## New building will alter the heart of campus forever

Chris Beauchamp  
News Editor

The University of Calgary is on track to see a massive new digital library building by 2008 thanks to over \$100 million in funding announced last week.

Alberta Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock was on campus Fri., March 31, on the eve of the U of C's 40th anniversary, confirming that \$113 million dollars will be allocated over the next three years for the Campus Calgary Digital Library.

In addition to a large new building beside the existing library, the project is a collaboration between Calgary area post-secondary institutions to allow students from each access to U of C's collections.

U of C president Dr. Harvey Weingarten dedicated the building to the citizens of Calgary at the celebration event in a tent on the west side of MacKimmie Library Block.

"Today we are marking the start of the construction of an information complex that will significantly change how our students and the community access information," said Weingarten. "This is a facility that will support a learning community of over 35,000 students."

The presidents of Mount Royal College, SAIT, ACAD, Bow Valley College, Red Crow College on the Blood Reserve, Old Sun College,



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

U of C president Dr. Harvey Weingarten checks his notes at the groundbreaking of the CCDL. That screen behind him is just one example of the new technology available—TV!

St. Mary's University College and Nazarene Alliance University College were also on hand. The event was open to all, and included a video conference presentation with staff and faculty at both Bow Valley and MRC.

Construction is expected to begin next fall, although architects have yet to be hired. The project will be complete in 2008, and will form the cornerstone of the province-wide Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library, said Hancock.

"It's not just about print resources being digitized," said Hancock. "It really, truly is about the future of learning. Because the CCDL will be the first of its kind in the country, it will serve as a model. This is bigger and broader than one institution."

The digital library itself will be located on the site of the tent, and will free up approximately 10,000 square metres of space on campus for other uses by housing a number of existing services in the new

building. The Learning Commons, Information Commons, Student Academic Services, Nickle Arts Museum, Library Archives and Special Collections will all be housed in the new space. Plans also include 500 new computer workstations, 18 seminar rooms, 35 new collaborative work rooms, an internet café and a new lounge space.

"The Alberta government is firmly committed to building a knowledge-based society," said Hancock. "Today is the epitome of that example."

Dr. Ann Davis, acting director of Information Resources, stressed building plans are very preliminary.

"To be quite candid, we're not even sure where it's going to go," said Davis, adding that major changes are being looked at including moving the MacEwan Student Centre loading docks to the north side of the building and eliminating the road through the centre of campus.

Davis stressed that although the design and construction will be accomplished on a heightened timetable, the decision making process will be extremely thorough.

"Because we're trying to fast-track it, we'll lay the foundations before the top floor is designed," she said. "We will have a very functional program."

Davis said the planning committee is currently working through a 100-page document in order to hand it over to the architectural team.

"I really believe the U of C will be a world leader in this type of initiative," she said.

The announcement culminated in a ground-breaking ceremony complete with fireworks.

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## U of C dominates head shave



Jade Jensen is among 70 students who cut it all off for cancer.

Emily Senger  
News Assistant

Michelle Stiphout has a new do. It's a little shorter than she may have liked, and though her buzz cut cost her eight inches of blond locks, it raised more than \$2,400 for the Alberta Cancer Foundation.

Stiphout, a fourth year social sciences major, was one of 73 University of Calgary students who shaved their heads to collectively raise over \$50,000 for cancer research at the fourth annual Kick-off to Cancer Month Head-shave in MacEwan Student Centre Thu., Mar. 30.

"Since my mom was diagnosed [with breast cancer] again I've been sitting by and letting her battle by herself and now I decided to do something," explained Stiphout of her motivation to lose her locks. "She's really proud of me."

Mount Royal College, NAIT, the University of Lethbridge and Red Deer College joined in the head-shave this year for some friendly competition to see which school could raise the most money, but the U of C came out well ahead of its competitors.

"Between all the campuses we've raised a total of \$107,000," said U of C event co-organizer Jamie Souldre. "U of C raised almost double the amount of anyone else. The head-shave's been running at this school for the past four years and I think the amount raised by U of C has a lot to do with the history."

For students who didn't get to shave their head the last time around the U of C medical students are holding their own head-shave on Tue., Apr. 11. Email [pmcantle@ucalgary.ca](mailto:pmcantle@ucalgary.ca) for more information.

## Get out by tomorrow

### Policy forcing rez students to leave 24 hours after last exam to stay in place

Sara Hanson  
Gauntlet News

No time to say goodbye—students living in residence will be forced out within 24 hours of their last exam again this year.

The 24 hour policy was first introduced two years ago to prevent students from celebrating the end of finals and ruining the quiet study time of students who have exams until the last day.

"This is a fairly common practice with residences across the country," said residence services director Joel Lynn. "Our number one concern is that we protect the rights of those students who need to study until the last day."

The hasty move out process presents obstacles for some students.

Kaitlyn Stangeland and Alissa Wilchynski, two first year students living in Kananaskis Hall, had planned to make the journey to their hometown of Swift Current, Sask. together but due to the policy this is no longer possible.

"Alissa's last exam is on the 20th, but mine is on the 22nd so we can't go home together because I can't stay until she is done," said Stangeland.

"It doesn't make plans easy," said Wilchynski. "I've had to work around

it a lot to make things work."

Lynn explained alternative policies are available for students whose plans conflict with the 24 hour rule.

"We are working with the Residence Students' Association to be sure that we have a flexible policy in place that accommodates special needs," said Lynn.

If a student's travel plans are 500 km or further and they are not able to make the journey within 24 hours of their last exam, they can provide Residence Services with a written explanation. Lynn stressed

that students in the past have had a lease for the summer but nowhere to go once their exams finished. These students often resorted to bunking with friends who were still writing exams, defeating Residence Services' goal of maintaining an academic environment.

Wyatt confirmed RSA has received a letter approving their suggestion so students who have a lease beginning on May 1 will be allowed to remain in residence. To qualify for the extension, these students must provide a signed copy of their lease and agree

to the conditions outlined by Residence Services.

Despite these exceptions, students with a practicum are still concerned with the move-out process.

"I think it's ridiculous because we pay per semester and the

semester does not end until the end of April," said first year nursing student Heather Lefebvre.

Lefebvre has a two-week practicum after her last exam, but was unaware that students could apply for an extension.

Lynn explained there is a special policy in place for nursing students who want to continue to live in rez during their practicum because it is an academic commitment.

While they will be required to pay

see REZ MOVE-OUT, page 8

**"It is extremely unfair and changes need to be made."**

-RSA president-elect Allan Bailey

that extension requests will be assessed on a case by case basis.

Lynn said a second alternative is available to those students who are flying home and have already purchased a ticket for a date they cannot change. These students can present a copy of their ticket for an exception to be made.

The RSA proposed an additional policy for students who are staying in Calgary over the summer but have a lease beginning on May 1. RSA president Emily Wyatt explained

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April 11 & 13  
11 am - 2 pm

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# Rez move-out cont'd from pg. 7



Ryan May/the Gauntlet

You better be ready to hoist your furniture right after you finish exams.

for the extra two weeks, they will continue to be charged the student rate rather than the more expensive summer conference rate.

RSA president-elect Allan Bailey agrees the policy adds

extra stress for students.

"It's extremely unfair and changes need to be made," he said. "Ideally I would like to see a 48 hour move out policy, along with strict consequences for those who choose to

violate the community standards."

Residence students will receive a letter by the end of the week confirming the date of their last exam and outlining steps to request an extension.

# New U of C chancellor elected

Felicia Pacentrilli  
Gauntlet News

Joanne Cuthbertson—University of Calgary graduate, long-time advocate of education, scholarship donor, mother, wife, philanthropist, and now, chancellor.

On March 24th, Cuthbertson was elected as the university's 11th chancellor, the third female to ever hold this position.

"She is also the first alumna of the U of C to be elected chancellor, which is especially fitting in commemoration of the university's 40th anniversary," said U of C senator and chair of the joint committee for chancellor search Anast Demitt. "It's phenomenal to see graduates coming back and becoming chancellors."

Officially, Cuthbertson will be responsible for representing the university in the community, chairing the Senate—a group of 62 volunteers with interest in the U of C—and chairing the Chancellors Club—a group of generous Calgarians who support the university. She'll also assist with entrance scholarships and sit on the Board of Governors and Executive Committee. Cuthbertson will help in determining who receives honorary doctorates, preside over convocation ceremonies and confer degrees.

"My goal is for everyone to be proud of their university experience and have a sense of ownership of their time here," said Cuthbertson. "Students should all feel really good about what they're studying and where they are. And the faculty also needs to feel that they are teaching in the best place possible."

To achieve this, Cuthbertson plans on taking action.



Courtesy U of C External Relations

Cuthbertson.

"I want to speak out to the public, be open to speaking to the media and talk to more students about their experiences," she said. "I am going to narrow my focus, resign some of my other commitments and just be really dedicated to this position. I also want to increase public awareness of what a world-class establishment the U of C is. We have internationally ranked medicine, kinesiology, creative writing, and education faculties and I want the community to recognize that."

Demitt said he's confident Cuthbertson will be excellent for the U of C and the senate.

"She's been an advocate of public education for a number of years, and her track record really speaks for itself," he said.

Cuthbertson will be present at the official unveiling of the first of the 40 new spaces on campus and would love to start speaking to students about their education.

"Education really matters to me, it really is our tool to change the world," she said.

# BSD cont'd from pg. 5

made Friday or Monday to determine if the weather is expected to cooperate. If the weather doesn't cooperate, the event will be moved into MacEwan Hall with capacity reduced to 3,000.

Two years ago BSD faced a similar situation, leaving a number of students upset that guests were allowed into the event while they were turned away. Vyskocil said any decision to reduce the number of guest bands handed out depends on an early

weather prediction, but that nobody with a wristband—guest or student—would be turned away until the venue reaches capacity.

Vyskocil is optimistic the event will be a success.

"It's going to be awesome," he said.

Wristbands will be available in the MacEwan Student Centre North Courtyard April 10-12. Wristbands are free with student ID and proof of age. Please drink as responsibly as your pathetic will-power allows.



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# Incompletoplex almost complete

Stephanie Shewchuk  
News Assistant

After almost four years, the third floor development of MacEwan Student Centre is nearing completion. Due to ongoing negotiations, the new area for CJSW is still stalled, but spaces for a revitalized Chaplain's Centre and NUTV are to be finished by May 1.

"To be honest, it was very surprising, pleasantly surprising to be able to see the end," said NUTV executive director Michelle Wong. "The concept of the new space is almost a one-eighty from the non-accessible, non-visible place we had before."

Located for some time in Taco Time's old kitchen, NUTV will move into a 2,500 square foot studio space on the third floor. The concept of the new office is based on transparency and will be more noticeable and available, allowing students to watch the station at work.

Wong described the office as basic, bright and open and it will be painted in a coloured television bar scheme.

NUTV will also be introducing some new ideas to coincide with the new development.

"One major thing we're doing is soliciting TV pilots this summer, seeing how it goes and then giving shows to different organizations," she said.

The Chaplain's Centre also sees the potential for increased programming in its new prayer space.

"The primary thing about the larger space is that we'll have the ability to enable more people to affirm their faith," said Chaplain's Centre director Kelly Johnson. "We have a very active Sikh group on campus, as well as active Muslims and Christians. We also see potential to connect with the Native Centre here on campus."

Johnson hopes the bigger area will make the Chaplain's Centre more accessible to the student population. The new washrooms on the



The NUTV executive (Clockwise from left) Tinu Sinha, Michelle Wong, Tim Mooney and Sheryl Orr are pumped about their new space and awesome hardhats.

floor will also include footbaths for Muslim students.

Students' Union vice-president operations and finance Joel Lockwood said the expansion is a good way to bring about increased activity and innovation at the university.

"It's not really a one-step process, it's a different way of thinking," he said. "The new space certainly helps foster student participation."

Also in the works for the third floor development is a Women's Centre, which is still undergoing negotiations with the SU, but is slated to open in December 2006.

"We are currently in the process of meeting with different stakeholder groups in order to see what people want on campus," said special advisor to the president on student life

Sheila O'Brien. "Our focus is supporting the academic plan and providing a gathering place. We want it to be a place of kindness where people can feel welcome and valued."

A donation of \$100,000 has been provided for the space by a private donor, who will be revealed when the centre opens in the future. O'Brien explained this funding will cover infrastructure and also some programs.

"We don't want to deliver a bunch of services that are already available," said advisor to the president on women's issues Dr. Claudia Emes, who is spearheading the project with O'Brien. "It will be a bright and warm place that people can use as a central hub or contact point on campus. We will be meeting on Apr. 10 from 1-3 p.m. in the Rozsa

Centre where students can come and tell us what they want to see."

Lockwood emphasized that the rest of the project on the third floor is very close to completion.

"We're done 92 per cent of it," he said. "We just need to do some more

work on the ceiling, some painting, work on hardware, and then clean up, then we're finished."

In all, the total cost of the development, excluding the Women's Centre and CJSW's agreement, was approximately \$1.3 million.

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photo illustration Chris Beauchamp, Nicola Waugh/the Gauntlet

# PeopleSoft saves the day

## New software can beat up old software

Simon Jackson  
Gauntlet News

A further potential conflict between University of Calgary support staff and

administration was narrowly averted this week after a new system rollout in the payroll department helped fix a glitch that cost staff as much as \$900 from their pay cheques. The error, caused by a programming

miscalculation in the legacy payroll system had removed too much tax from the previous week's salary and had left many staff members short of money and extremely frustrated. The issue caused a flurry of emails

between staff members unhappy with the results. Several members demanded that their union representatives speak to the administration to seek a resolution. Alberta Union of Provincial Employees Local 52 chair Shirley Maki stressed that the problems were purely software related.

"The issue was repaired as of [Mon., Apr. 10]," said Maki. "The shortage in pay was caused by an incorrect calculation in the old payroll system, not the fault of our brothers and sisters in the payroll department."

Maki said several members of staff were charged excessive tax on their pay. The mistakes varied, with between \$5 and \$900 in excess tax being removed.

"As far as I understand it, the rollout of the new PeopleSoft system fixed any glitches and any money was refunded," she said. "The situation was made worse in the minds of many of our members because our newly negotiated pay raises had been affected. The pay deal was to provide extra pay retroactively for the previous 11 months and so the mistakes had cost staff more than usual."

Payroll manager Pat Aldridge, in charge of implementing the new PeopleSoft system, said staff were aware that there would likely be glitches, but didn't expect the scope of the problems.

"The backdated pay was included in the last week's salary so it caused extra frustration when things went wrong," said Aldridge. "The functions to analyze tax calculations

were not working correctly. This was a symptom of our old system and one of the reasons we replaced it with PeopleSoft. Although we might have eventually discovered the reasons for the errors, they would have cost a lot of time and money to fix. With the rollout of PeopleSoft only a week away it was not worth the cost of attempting to alter the structure of the legacy system."

Aldridge explained the rationale behind switching to PeopleSoft, highlighting the university administration's rollout of the product.

"The use of PeopleSoft is strong in the public sector and the administration intends to utilize its functionality across the campus in all administrative areas," said Aldridge. "The system has been planned in payroll since February 2005, and finally went live this week on April 1."

Reaction from employees was generally mixed, with many hoping for improvement, but being wary of the reputation of the new system. Outdoor Centre operations manager Albi Sole is optimistic mistakes can be avoided in the future.

"It's ironic really that this whole thing happened," said Sole. "The rollout of PeopleSoft was delayed until the final calculations for year end and taxes were done, and to allow the retroactive changes to pay to be made. In the end they needed PeopleSoft to fix the situation."

PeopleSoft was implemented as the key component of Project Emerge, a plan to overhaul the U of C's administrative systems.

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# Hundreds storm Ralph's party

## Health care more important to people than PCs thought



Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

Is this what democracy looks like? Huh?!?! Well is it??



Andrew Rininsland/the Gauntlet

Is this what tyranny and exclusion look like? Yes.

Andrew Rininsland  
Gauntlet News

Several hundred protesters gathered at Olympic Plaza Fri., Mar. 31 to rally against Alberta Premier Ralph Klein's Third Way health-care reforms. Afterwards, the group mobilized and moved to protest in front of the Telus Convention Centre, site of this year's Progressive Conservative Party general meeting.

"Ralph's future is in the balance, and we're going to help him, to help the delegates, make the right choice," said Calgary-Mountain View MLA Dr. David Swann, who was the opening speaker at the event and

one of the main organizers.

The event was partially organized by the citizen-interest group Friends of Medicare and was used to drive awareness of what are seen as attempts to privatize health-care in Alberta by the Klein government. The group is critical of the plan and sees it as an attempt to further divide the rich and poor.

Several groups made speeches while the Raging Grannies sang songs throughout the event. Members from the provincial Liberal, New Democratic and Green parties spoke against the plan.

"We asked Ralph Klein during the [provincial election] debate if he had a secret plan for privatizing health-

care—he lied," said Edmonton Highlands MLA Brian Mason. "I've got a message for Ralph Klein: We've stopped you before and we'll stop you again."

Once the rally was finished, the protesters marched on the Telus Convention Centre. The delegates for the convention caught outside watched as nearly 700 people appeared out of nowhere to claim ownership of the street outside the building. The group chanted slogans

such as "Third Way, no way" and "This is what democracy looks like" while Conservative Party members awaiting the results of Ralph Klein's leadership review watched from the second floor.

After a while, a group of protesters splintered off from the main group gathered in the street to try and enter the main building via a +15 walkway attached to the Telus Convention Centre South building, directly across the street. They

were quickly halted by police and some time later, moved back to the street where the group attempted to enter the main building *en masse*, only to be barred by a metal gate.

Tory supporters caught on the outside had the difficult task of trying to get around the mob, which continued to protest for several hours. Police were called in to supervise the protest, which lasted until around 8 p.m. that night.

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# Islam defies easy definition



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

Calgarian Muslims share their experiences of converting to Islam as part of Islamic Awareness Week.

Eric Klotz  
Gauntlet News

Islamic fundamentalism and terrorism reinforce negative stereotypes of Islam as a violent religion and fuels academic arguments for a clash of civilizations between the West and Islam. This week the Muslim Students Association is doing its part to reverse negative stereotyping with Islamic Awareness Week at the University of Calgary.

"The Muslim, Christian and Jewish religions have a common heritage," said MSA president Muhammad Al-Murayri. "We need to sit at the same table and engage in dialogue."

Al-Murayri is organizing the April 3-7 awareness campaign focused on inter-faith dialogue.

On Monday evening the MSA brought together a Rabbi and an Islamic Scholar to discuss the violently controversial Danish cartoons first published in September 2005 and again in Canada in February 2006—most notably by Calgary-based news magazine, the *Western Standard*.

Dr. Jamal Badawi introduced the Danish cartoons as a tragic event which introduced an important opportunity for interfaith-dialogue.

"The silver lining in such a tragedy is that we can sit down and discuss such matters," said Badawi, noting the dialogue concerning the Danish caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad has been described as an example of a potential clash of civilizations between the U.S.-led West and Islam.

Samuel P. Huntington spawned the clash of civilizations as a political theory with an article in a 1993 issue of the journal *Foreign Affairs*, which later became a book. The basic premise of Huntington's thesis is that 21st century geopolitics will be dominated by culturally based civilizations rather than the interests of nation-states.

"This is not a clash of civilizations, it is a clash between the uncivilized on both sides [Muslim states and the West]," said Badawi.

After the publications of the caricatures of the Prophet Mohammad by a Danish newspaper, the Danish Embassy in Beirut was burned down and approximately 45 people were killed in violent demonstrations throughout the Muslim world.

"Under Islamic teaching there is no grounds to take such violent reprisals," said Badawi. "This violates long-standing Islamic traditions."

Badawi stressed the lack of civility on both sides of the conflict.

"This is not an issue of cartoons, this is an issue of depicting the Prophet as a terrorist," said Badawi. "How is it in the West that a Holocaust denier be put in prison,

see ISLAM, page 12

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# A trek to save the caribou

Katy Anderson  
Gauntlet News

What would it take for you to follow thousands of caribou across barren, frozen tundra for five months?

A husband and wife team did it to raise awareness about the issues facing the caribou. Last week, their story came to campus at a film screening in Residence of *Being Caribou*. The film chronicles the journey of filmmaker Leanne Allison and wildlife biologist Karsten Heuer, as they trek 1,500 kilometres on foot to highlight the plight of the caribou. The situation concerns both American and Canadian experts.

Drilling in the arctic is part of the U.S. Congress' budget bill this week. If the bill goes through it will violate a 1987 treaty between the U.S. and Canada, affecting wildlife and the way of life for the Alaskan first nations people, the Gwichin.

"The issue is that the [U.S.] government wants to drill for oil in the porcupine caribou's calving grounds," said Alaska Wilderness League national field director Erik DuMont.

The caribou need the coastal plains for three reasons: they eat grass to build up their fat for the journey back, the ocean breeze keeps the mosquitoes away and there are less predators. If the caribou leave these things—and they will—they will be much less successful in raising their calves, explained DuMont.

"Our own government scientists have estimated that drilling in their calving grounds would decrease the



Karsten Heuer (l) and Leanne Allison spent five months among 120,000 caribou to bring attention to their cause. What have you done lately?

herd by 40 per cent," said DuMont. "They wouldn't be able to relocate to another suitable area. There just isn't space for it, the coastal area is too small."

Caribou are not the only form of wildlife that would suffer from drilling for oil on the coastal plains, explained Yukon's only member of parliament, Larry Bagnell. There are many species of migrating birds and polar bears (also increasingly endan-

gered) that den there. The dozen villages of people who harvest the caribou on their journey will also be affected.

"The Gwichin people can eat caribou one, two or three times a day, on occasion," said Bagnell. "If the herd goes extinct it would basically be a cultural genocide of Gwichin people, who base their whole life around the caribou. They would be forced to migrate south, which

would break up their community. It would bring an end to the equilibrium the Gwichin have shared with the caribou for thousands of years."

The Gwichin would not be able to sustain their way of life without the caribou because of the remoteness of the villages. It would be too expensive for most Gwichin to bring up supplies, explained Bagnell. Not only is caribou a major staple of the

Gwichin diet but they also use them for clothing and artwork.

"We can't—in this increasingly complicated world—afford to cause any culture and their ideas to go extinct," said Bagnell. "Every culture has some of the answers that we need to draw on—as we draw on all cultures—for the key to survival of us all."

Check out [www.beingcaribou.com](http://www.beingcaribou.com) for more info.

Courtesy Being Caribou

## New U of A centre bigger than ours

Stephanie Shewchuk  
News Assistant

The University of Alberta has responded to the growing number of students pursuing science majors with a brand new building on campus, the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.

In order to accommodate growth, the new centre will provide 1,200 more spaces for undergraduate students and 478 more spaces for graduate students studying science. A total of 57 new faculty

members will also be added.

In comparison, the U of C currently hosts 6,000 students in the faculty of science, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The U of A announced the development of the new facility at the end of March, asserting that it hopes to inject fresh perspectives into research and teaching through its creation.

Though the CCIS isn't slated to open until 2010, the Alberta government has already committed \$285 million over the next three years towards its construction. In total,

the project will cost an estimated \$315 million and will be 52,227 square metres.

U of A president Dr. Indira Samarasekera warmly received the announcement.

"This commitment clearly demonstrates the province's vision and

leadership in innovation, learning and access to post-secondary education," she said. "The CCIS is a state-of-the-art facility that will enhance our research reputation and foster interdisciplinary collaboration. It is a brilliant and visionary investment by Albertans

in the future of science and knowledge."

The new building will replace two older science facilities that are no longer functional and will become the flagship of the faculty of science. Construction is expected to begin as early as June 2006.

## Islam, cont'd from pg 12

yet when the Prophet to one-fifth of the world's population is insulted it is said to be a right of freedom of speech? The Muslim world felt they had been oppressed not only internally by tyrannical leaders, but also from the outside from the biggest power in the world.

Rabbi Dovid Weiss also felt the real issue has been misinterpreted.

"Interfaith dialogue doesn't have to mingle our faiths," said Weiss. "The issue is that something has been misconstrued. The cartoons

that were printed [are] something that has been bothering the Jewish religious community for some time. Political movements are the catalyst that brings about something like these cartoons.

Weiss said he believed it is political agendas on both sides that tend to antagonize issues out of proportion.

Islamic Awareness Week runs until Fri., Apr. 7. The MSA will be in the MacEwan Student Centre North Courtyard with more info.



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Next week will be the final TLF section of the year. It seems as though you all enjoy humiliating me, judging by the overwhelming failure of last week's contest—not *one* of you would just fucking humour me... assholes. So I'm going to try something new. For next week I propose a photo TLF section. You can make this happen. Participate, for fuck's sake, or we will ban TLFs forever. Yes, I wield that kind of power—at least until the editorial changeover. You know the drill—bring your photo TLF to MSC 319 or email them to [tlfs@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca](mailto:tlfs@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca). All submissions must include your name, ID number, phone number and signature. Submissions judged to be sexist, racist, homophobic or attacks of a personal nature will not be printed.

What's behind the plywood in the Social Sciences hallway? I've got to know! Come and see (and get food!) on Wed., Apr. 12 at 3 p.m.

-Taking my place

Play Aussie Rules Football this summer! New players welcome. Training is just starting. Email Gareth for details, [williag@ucalgary.ca](mailto:williag@ucalgary.ca).

In need of slip n' slides for awesomeness in near future, say BSD? Contact us at [needslipnslides@hotmail.com](mailto:needslipnslides@hotmail.com).

Living as a hobo/student on campus this week. Check out my site: <http://hobostudent.blogspot.com>.

Next week is anti-douchebag week! If you have come to realize your prof is a douchebag, then don't go to class. That's what textbooks are for.

-Capt. Ratbeard, founder of the anti-douchebag movement

To the drunk/stoned fucktards in Castle Hall the night of Apr. 4: I think it's great you have nothing better to do with your time than to go around ripping the message boards off of people's doors at 3:30 a.m. I am comforted by imagining your looks of horror in early June while you gaze with dismay at your GPAs of 0.28 and wonder why you are on academic probation. This is the real world, fuckers. Go back to high school.

-Pissed off and sleepless

BSD Pub Crawl! Tickets are \$30, email [mjflotta@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mjflotta@ucalgary.ca).

I would like to apologize to all *Gauntlet* readers for all the substandard TLF's I have produced over this past year. If you see me walking the halls, please give me a swift kick in the balls.

-thedrewskii

Looking for serious South Asian poets, writers, artists, and musicians who are interested in forming a forum to develop arts and literature in the S. Asian community and hopefully organize a festival toward that end. Please contact Sarah at [sarahsmalik@yahoo.ca](mailto:sarahsmalik@yahoo.ca).

To the couple who oogles each other in *wmst201*: I get so horny when I see that. No really, it turns me on. My favourite part is when you wash the Tim Hortons down with each other's saliva

To the idiots in *cpsc203 TR 11 a.m.* who have been talking through class the entire semester: Why do you even go to class? Next year, try having some fucking respect for your professor and fellow students or just don't bother showing up. No one wants you there anyway.

*(Wait, someone actually feels the need to pay attention in *cpsc203*? I wonder who the real idiot is here...)*

-PrediKate ed.)

Responsible and experienced bartender needed for fast-paced downtown bar. Hours are 4 p.m. to close, Monday through Friday. Please email resume to [janicechenier@shaw.ca](mailto:janicechenier@shaw.ca).

Intrigued Blue Eyed Brunette: Come by the gym, I'm interested to check out your technique. I could always help you out with your form. Maybe you could show me how you "pump it."

-Curious Red head.

For professional proofreading and editing (for organization, coherence[sic], etc.) of your papers by a veteran English teacher and author, email [paper\\_editing@hotmail.com](mailto:paper_editing@hotmail.com).

*(Do I even need to say it?)*

-PrediKate)

Gender Bender Drag Show @ the Den, Sat., Apr. 8. Doors at 8 p.m., Shows at 9 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Everyone welcome! Tickets \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. Email [glass@ucalgary.ca](mailto:glass@ucalgary.ca) for more info.

To the guy who sits it the back right corner in *enel343*: Are you George-Michael?

-Anne

You: Shorts and blue medical clogs. Me: shaved head, glasses on Wed. morning standing at the front of the 20 Heritage bus to the Foothills Hospital, we both got armpit face washes by the same weird dude and laughed in astonishment before we got off... Lets get together and fight against these space invaders. [Aphelia001@hotmail.com](mailto:Aphelia001@hotmail.com).

Gregg is infantile in the crotchular region.

-Grady

Happy birthday Hilary! Damn grandma, you're getting old.

-G-spot, Kdog, Darryl and Les

To the soft/muscley guy with blonde streaks and the perpetually bored look on his face who was doing work on his laptop in the library commons on Mar. 30 and who always has a girl walking with him (I hope they're your hags). I'm in love with you and have been since Sept. If you want to get in touch, I'll be wearing my gay atheist awareness week t-shirt. Kisses.

I don't love MB. Get a life, get a job, or get laid and for the love of God, stop vandalizing the home room you pathetic geeks. There's more to life than programming, the Den, and Starcraft. Oh wait, I forgot, you're engineers, good luck with the getting laid part.

-Zoo Sucks

*(Ironically enough, an engineer sent this in. I guess he's got first-hand knowledge when it comes to failing to get laid. Get it? Hand?)*

-PrediKate ed.)

To the 5'9" brunette in *hist529*: Come to the 5th floor and get your sexual chocolate! Same place as last time.

-Hot, black, and strong (like coffee)

Why do I see these ads all around campus once a year: "For Sale: One slightly used couch, worn off fabric, duct tape on one cushion, smells like ass. \$30 O.B.O." You think anyone wants to buy your sexually abused couch?

-Sick

*Wmst201 TR at 11:00 a.m.*: "Although some may see the inclusion of personal narrative as a strength of young feminism, others see it as a weakness, regarding it as self-indulgent, unchallengable, and theoretically weak." Please read p 65 of the text and shut up.

-This is a class, not a counseling session

To the Canadian Troops and U.S. Marines: We support you. You guys are doing a good job, keep it up! RIP Private Robert Costall.

Dear Wednesday night girl: Thanks for the good times this year. You know how to keep a guy satisfied.

-Your Special Friend

School year end is nigh! Wanted: Pretty girl, preferably with blue eyes, blonde hair, freckles... But I am open to all lookers for a summer romance and maybe more. Maybe I can start that on BSD or as soon as you email me at [desesperado88@hotmail.com](mailto:desesperado88@hotmail.com).

*(Yeah. That's sketchy.)*  
-PrediKate ed.)

To the most gorgeous Asian girl I sort of met and traded wanting looks with a few weeks back at the Den: You probably don't remember me, but I sure remember you... Hope to see you at BSD!

-Wishful thinking

Secure, heated, underground parking. Great deal at \$49/month! Phone 239-0380 or 397-3020.

Look out women! A shoe thief is making her rounds in the women's locker room. As if we don't have enough to worry about during this time of year.

-Recycled Goodyear tire shoes rule

To the star wars guy in the basketball courts: You are ridiculous!

Dear 'Prince of Persia': You are going off on a tangent with your "apple story." This is not about apples, but about atomic weapons. If Iran wanted nuclear energy only, why didn't they allow UN inspections? You are not supporting Persia, but an extremist totalitarian regime. If you like freedom, stop defending the axis of evil!

-Educated Muslim

BJH: Who's going to be my Tues. 2 p.m. coffee date now that you are graduating? I'm going to miss you. You're irreplaceable. Good luck in everything... But don't you go forgettin' about me.

-Karma (Yeah, you know it)

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-Hoedown wrecker

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# OPINIONS

Opinions Editor: Kyle Francis  
opinions@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca

## A comic paradox

Ryan Pike  
Gauntlet Opinions

Thanks to the recent wave of comic book movies like the upcoming *Superman Returns* and *X-Men: The Last Stand*, there's never been more interest in comic books. Unfortunately, comics have only gotten increasingly inaccessible. Plenty of movie-goers have trotted into their local comic book store to grab a companion to their favourite superhero movie, only to come out frustrated and confused. The reason is simple: Spider-Man's gone corporate, kids.

If you want to read all of Spider-Man's wacky adventures this month, put aside a lot of time and money. Marvel publishes seven monthly (and one annual), comics featuring the wall-crawler. That alone would set you back \$35, if you wanted them all. With a notebook and a lot of luck, you'll understand what's going on. But odds are you'll need to find out the background for most of the character—which may prove a bit troublesome, considering Marvel's been publishing at least one monthly Spider-Man comic since 1963.

What compels the publishers to crank out so many Spider-Man comics each month? Money. *Amazing Spider-Man* averages 80,000 unit sales per month. *Astonishing X-Men*, featuring the X-Men characters from the movies, sells 140,000 issues. *New Avengers*, featuring Spider-Man and Wolverine, manages to entice 125,000 nerds out of their money. If Spider-Man and Wolverine sell lots while appearing in one issue per month, there's no reason for the companies not to put them in more books. The two big comic book publishers, Marvel Comics and DC Comics, are both publicly traded companies that have a responsibility to maximize sales as much as they can, which easily explains the innumerable Batman, Superman, Spider-Man and X-Men stories.

While comic books have developed some mainstream appeal, the flaw with the industry's newfound corporate responsibility is increased inaccessibility. Long-time readers may have no trouble following their favourite characters after movies have doubled their monthly appearances, but it's daunting for a new reader to pick

up *Amazing Spider-Man* #532 and try to catch up. Marvel attempted to amend this problem when they launched the Ultimate Marvel line in 2000, re-writing their most popular characters in a more contemporary setting. Despite being designed for accessibility, Ultimate Marvel has become a victim of its own success, with sales dictating the expansion of the line from one book in 2000 to an unwieldily six monthly comics recently. It's hard to write a cohesive universe and compelling continuity over six different titles—each with a different writer.

At the other end of the accessibility spectrum sits *Archie Comics*. While easily accessible, the stories are always the same and characters in stasis. Reggie never stops trying to steal Veronica away from Archie, who, in turn, will never be able to stop chasing two girls at once. The stories have no consequence, which can be just as frustrating to the reader as having to wade through decades of stories about clones, goblins and dead girlfriends. Appropriately, Archie's sales are much lower than those of the superheroic—at a ratio of around 30 to 1.

Comic books are neat. They're

a great medium for visual storytelling, and the publishers have come upon a veritable gold-mine of potential new readership thanks to the movies. Unfortunately, the serialized nature of the medium and the corporate nature of the publishers have conspired to make comic books a joy only for the patient and the rich. In time, hopefully the publishers will find a balance between accessibility and consequence, and Little Billy will be able to walk into the comic store on the way home from the movies without being frightened and confused by what he finds inside.



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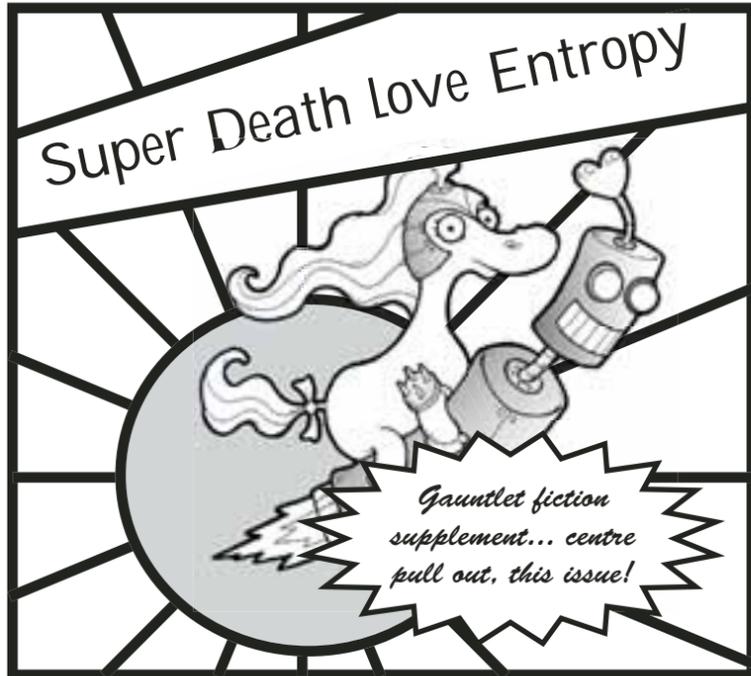
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# Abort! Abort!

## Letters, cont'd from page 4

be employed with caution. The use of false logic and non-comparable phenomena is an insult to the academia at this institute, and leads the thought process of the pro-life club, as well as the administration to be held in contempt. Regardless of the issue at hand, logic should always prevail, which sadly was not the case here.

Shahbaz Syed

### Ctrl-Alt-Del

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
 [Re: "Genocide Awareness Project," March 30, 2006]

Regarding your article covering the pro-life Genocide Awareness Project, it is necessary to clear up some of the mistakes that you have made. Once again, while reading the *Gauntlet*, I felt like I was perusing the pages of the *National Inquirer* or the top 10 fiction list at Chapters.

I'd like to start by pointing out that several minds were changed as a direct result of this display. While this so-called "newspaper" claims that our arguments

are "basic at best and wholly incorrect at worst" you in no way showed how they were incorrect or basic but rather resorted to insults and base humour. This is typical of pro-abortionists in general, who are brilliant at coming up with irrelevant and *ad hominem* arguments such as "your campaign stinks like manure" and "one, two, three, four, I declare a choice war."

In fact, it is not the pro-lifers but the other side who really have no argument to justify the killing of the most innocent of human beings. This is so evident, even to them, that we found nobody at the abortion clinic, Planned Parenthood, or even the university willing to debate this issue in a formal setting.

I was also far from amused to read the article suggesting that the pro-life movement is based on economic motivations. This is simply inappropriate, and while I realize it was written in order to poke fun at our message, it showed a clear lack of understanding about the issue. Since when does society make killing legal because those committing the act may get harmed in the process? We don't make bank robbery legal even though it is dangerous for the criminal, do we? Despite your best efforts, we will not go away, we will not be silent, and our message will be heard.

Matthew Wilson

meet interesting people

volunteer

gauntlet

Room 319 MacEwan Students Centre • 220-7750  
 Koko Taylor Band photo by Ken Clarke

### Seriously, they're offensive

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
 [Re: "Pro life display offensive," March 30, 2006]

I want to thank Sarah Laemon on behalf of my Oma and Opa, as well as my Aunt Greta, for her letter admonishing the pro-life display. I was personally hurt when I saw the pictures of genocide displayed. Did the pro-life protestors not stop to consider the feelings of those whose families were involved in these atrocities? I realize that you

are going for shock value to try to prove your point, and I applaud you for exercising your democratic rights, but you crossed a line between making a point and just being insensitive.

I cannot imagine what my Aunt Greta would say if she had seen that. Her entire family was murdered in Auschwitz. She only survived because my Oma and Opa risked their lives, and the lives of their four small children, to hide her and keep her safe throughout the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.

I don't care if you are pro-life or pro-choice. I realize that not everyone is going to have the same point of view as I do. I accept that and respect that. I think you would receive a much better reaction if you adopted a campaign that was informative and respectful.

I ask you, pro-life club, to stop exploiting a very painful time in my family's history for the purpose of furthering your own agenda. That is not what we are supposed to have learned from such atrocities in history.

Nicole van der Meulen

### Kyle Francis is teh suck

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
 [Re: "Supporting the unborn could support the economy," March 30, 2006]

Kyle Francis, I am disappointed in you. Campus Pro-Life was not calling for criminalising abortion. You are blowing smoke.

Here's the abortion debate in a nutshell: If one doesn't want a baby the baby's life has no intrinsic value. If one wants the baby the baby's life has value; want=value. A human life is now a transaction to be voided at will.

The 'right to choose' implies respect for human dignity. How many creatures in nature wantonly kill their own offspring? We as western nations are behaving extremely questionably by killing our weakest and most voiceless.

Arthur Schmidt

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# Two tiered health-care good

Adam R. Ramsay  
Gauntlet Columnist

*"The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings; the inherent virtue of socialism is the equal sharing of miseries."*

—Sir Winston Churchill

During the last few months the lurking omen of two tier health-care did a vanishing act, and each time it reappeared the debate was more contentious. Without mincing any words, I must admit I was starting to cheer for the away team. It wasn't that I did not sympathize with the experts and the impassioned monologues that carved the slopes of the alarmist mountains. Sure it may be slippery slope, but there were many risks in the desert of unknowns, and the debate over the matter of a two tier, privatized health-care system needed an injection of relativity. Who were they kidding anyway? A two tier health-care system? We live in a two tier society.

The sayings are so obvious they begged me to endure the hysteria and dare suggest that a health-care system envisioned with the Hippocratic Oath at heart had long ago been replaced by Dom Perignon at the bedsides of the ICU. Such is not the case, and somewhere in their own foggy reasoning lies an important realization. It's comic that we're up in arms over the inequity of the rich having access to greener pastures—this is the case in every other facet of society. Cars, vacations, defense lawyers, houses, interest rates, clothes, food and education are already available in their highest quality to the highest bidder. Being rich is advantageous in more than one arena, so why is health-care delivered at a premium any more

subject than access to Johnny Cochrane or quadruple-ply toilet paper.

Perhaps it's the last refuge of the commoner. The Pollyanna notion that despite the best efforts of everyone, the wealthy have front row tickets to the crucifixion, fly first class to the Las Vegas recreation of Paris, and smoke cigars rolled on the supple thighs of virgin Cuban children. While the need for health-care is fundamental, there's no reason why profit motive shouldn't affect it as well. Going over the income statements of pharmaceutical giants Bristol Myers Squibb and Pfizer (combined profits of \$11 billion in 2005) I must say that if capitalism has not

already invaded medicine then I am somewhere outside the loop.

That said, the fears of the two tier system cannot be completely discounted, however, just because the rich will have access to better health-care does not necessarily mean the current system will violently implode.

The inherent problem is the current system is oddly reminiscent of

self-defeating protectionism. If the two tier system is lambasted by the notion that it will be unaffordable for almost everyone then I must say everyone needs to go back to first year economics. By the same means of competition the new providers prices will eventually come down and for those who place a premium on their health, with a little rearranging in the monthly budget (less Starbucks

and Lu Lu Lemon), the superior system may just be affordable for the many.

Universal health-care is a beautiful concept, one that speaks to the hearts and minds of the deep rooted compassion of the average Canadian. But that same nationalistic makeup has never been one to deny the luxuries to those willing to pay for them.



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# Real estate? More like fake estate

Hey! Salespeople are slimy. Didn't you know?



Adam R. Ramsay  
Gauntlet Columnist

"Buy land, they're not making it anymore."

—Mark Twain

As Calgary's real estate market booms, earning a 26 per cent average gain in 2005, everyone should be grateful that the heavenly tar sand deposits formed where they did. Alberta's resources wealth has bolstered

our real estate to incredible proportions. But there is a dark side to real estate, not in the fine print nor in polluted land but in the agents that sell it. Real estate agents represent a useless and archaic enterprise that should be destroyed. Shakespeare once said that first we must kill all the lawyers. While I don't disagree, we should also kill all the real estate agents while we're at it.

Home buying can be intimidating. Significant money is involved

and of course it is an experience one takes on with little to no experience. But nowhere does such an experience call for the surrendering of six per cent or more of your home's market value to a pimp that took a three month course. I don't know about you, but when I think of integrity I don't think of fridge magnets and bus stop advertising. Somewhere between the 895 million porn sites online there is a plethora of information to assist first time buyers. One such website, *Welist.com*, has quite successfully eliminated the need for any hands to be stuffed

in the home equity cookie jar

Real estate agents continue to thrive in this city for two outlandish reasons. Firstly, home appreciation is occurring at such a rate that no one cares about that six per cent, and secondly we somehow have been conditioned to think they're necessary. If that six per cent seems insignificant, consider that on your suburban kingdom with a market value of about \$500,000 that six per cent represents \$30,000, or roughly the after-tax annual income of the majority of Canada's population.

The day I need a real estate agent is the day I need a professional ass wiper. It might be convenient, but I would never want to be involved in something so degrading.

At the current growth rate, your real estate investment—quite possibly the biggest investment you will ever have—will double roughly every three years. If you want to pass away those gains to someone in a short-sleeve suit from Wal-Mart who's business card has their nickname in quotations, please contact me instead. Adam "the land pimp" Ramsay! Don't forget to bend over.

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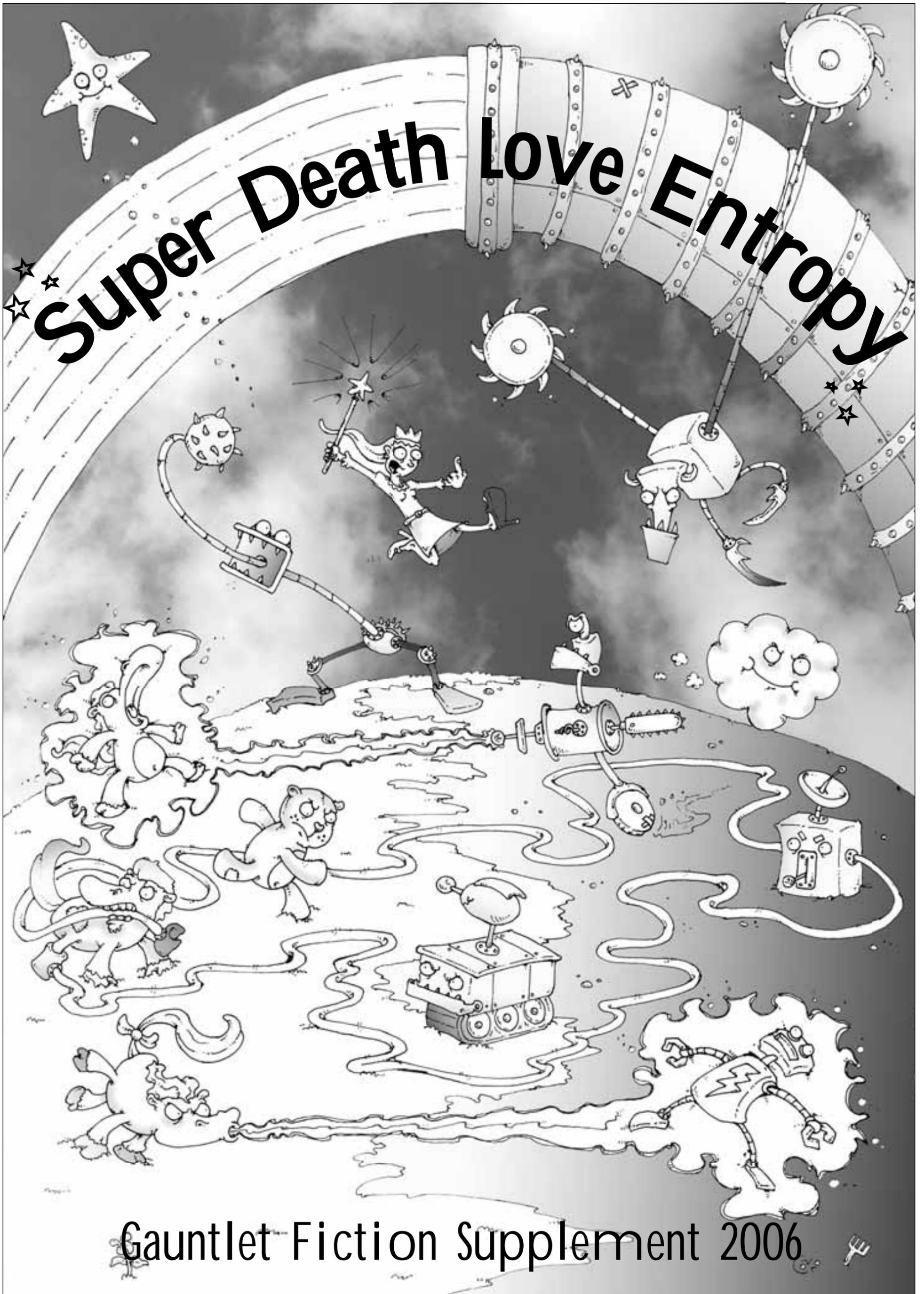
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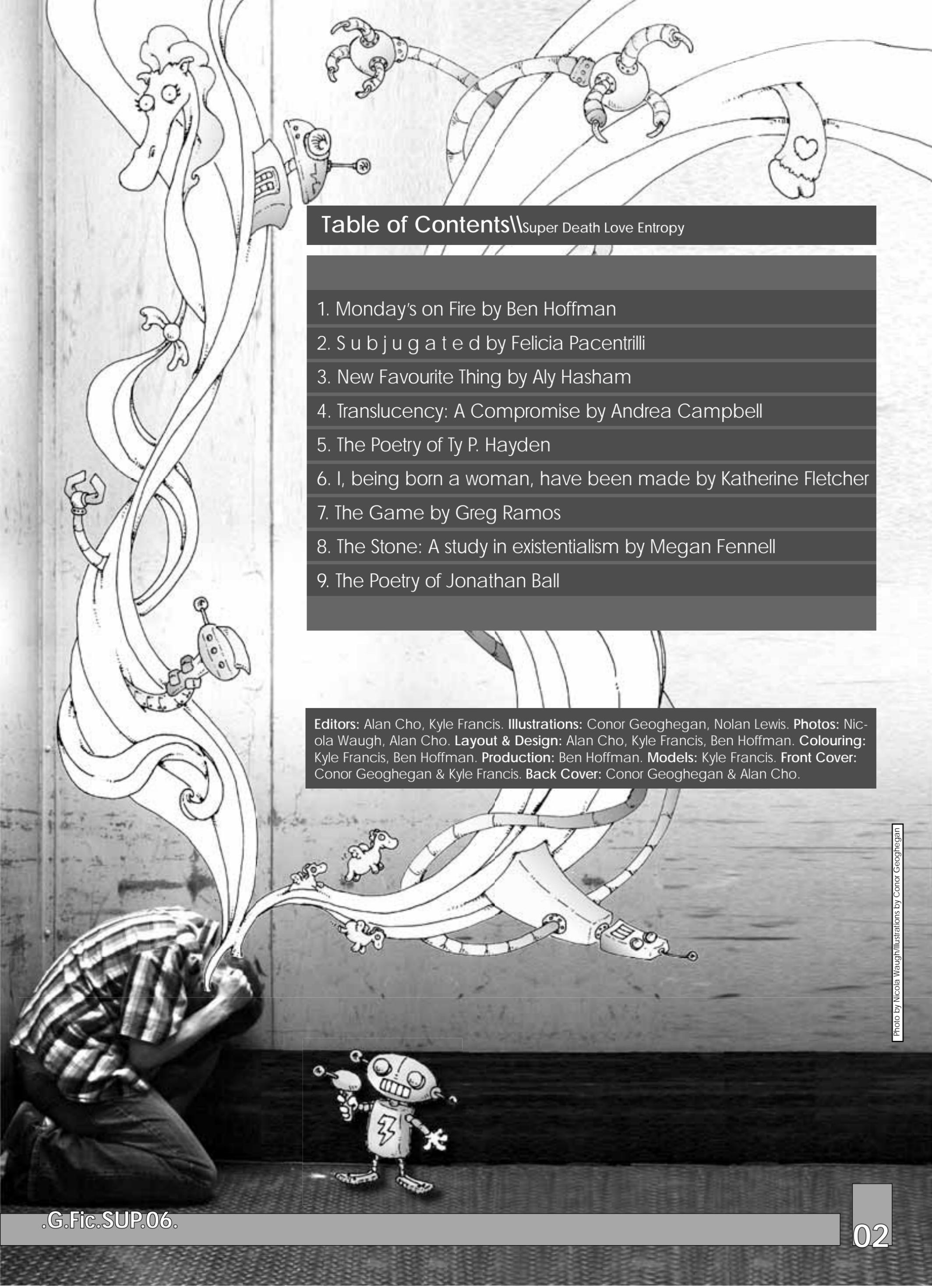
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# Super Death Love Entropy

Gauntlet Fiction Supplement 2006



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**Editors:** Alan Cho, Kyle Francis. **Illustrations:** Conor Geoghegan, Nolan Lewis. **Photos:** Nicola Waugh, Alan Cho. **Layout & Design:** Alan Cho, Kyle Francis, Ben Hoffman. **Colouring:** Kyle Francis, Ben Hoffman. **Production:** Ben Hoffman. **Models:** Kyle Francis. **Front Cover:** Conor Geoghegan & Kyle Francis. **Back Cover:** Conor Geoghegan & Alan Cho.

# Monday's on fire

By Ben Hoffman

Against the setting sun behind the large Buddha head carved in the valley's rock wall, Mr. Monday's orange robes appear on fire. The other monks' robes glow a similar hue of twilight bright, but they still seem dull and simple juxtaposed with Mr. Monday. He reaches down to his right for the needle. "You don't mind if I hit this while I answer?"

His next words float unnaturally from a mouth crowned by rolled-up eyes. "There are moments when I don't feel like I need to be saved—those really obtuse, happy moments. *Par exemple*, this one time, I sat in a café on a tribal reserve, you know, those shitty, poorly maintained ones—or they used to be. These kids, all about 12 years old, in their clean little *Dashikis*, were laughing and pounding their *Djembes*. It wouldn't have even stood out, but two of the kids were white, and their parents—I think their parents, I was pretty stoned—were all laughing together at the table next to me. Nobody was complaining about anybody else's values eroding their own; nobody said anything about their superiority.

"I bet you think that sounds flaky; someone like me should have a more controversial answer, right? Well, fuck that. I edged my way into their conversation, and it turns out they ran a farm commune together. White African farmers were the most obstinate people before this all started, so that was a surprise. And, yeah, those kind of things make it worth it, no matter how much like Angelina Jolie that makes me sound. Anyway, I didn't pursue that moment any further. What purpose would it serve to find out they weren't doing it because they saw the value of peace, but were they just afraid of Rex Monday? I just shut up and enjoyed it. Does that answer your question?"

Mr. Monday sucks his joint into his triumphant diaphragm. His eyes pierce me with knowing sadness, and coughs the next sentence out as a cloud in my direction.

"I can see I didn't," he gently places the roach on the ashtray beside him to fiddle with his rings. "How's this for a quote, then? And feel free to use either one of these on your goddamn record, although I'll be mighty cold before you'd quote me about laughing children." His voice turns overbearingly charismatic.

"Rex Monday finds many things worth it. Rex Monday loves money, women, power—all the fine things. There was never any question about Rex Monday ruling the world; he knew he had to since his fifth birthday. Rex Monday will ride in on a white horse alight in mystical blue flames to pull mewling kittens from burn-

ing asbestos buildings. He will eat the asbestos so nobody gets cancer; he will stop wars with his glowing sword that cuts even shadows and he will disobey Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle. Nobody knows better where they are and where they are going."

He fiddles His ring off its finger, resting it gently on the cloth and moves his hand over to the last of his tea.

"Rex Monday is far too goddamn sure about himself, but whatever."

A monk walks by to refill the teacup, and several minutes are spent staring out over the green Himalayan basin before Rex Monday talks again.

"You know, I hate you reporters. You used to want to listen to what I had to say, now you just want callouts to put in big fucking purple boxes on your wonderful magazine pages. No offence intended, I mean, but when did this stop being about the world and start being about Rex Monday?"

A million questions one could ask Rex Monday, but He addresses only what He wants. It is the endearing quality, He would say, that got Him where He is. No need to ask Rex Monday a question, only the need to listen to His answers.

Looking at His freshly removed jewelry, the used hypodermic and the cloth that held them, he sighs disdainfully. Grabbing the cloth, He bunches it up and throws His stuff off the cliff where His legs dangle.

"No more today for Rex Monday. Rex Monday stopped a fight three days ago that's gone on for decades. Surprising, how easy it really was to make the Israelis allow the Palestinians to live in their mutual holy city. There's a statue to Rex Monday in Jerusalem now. So tell me, you little fucker: if it's so easy for Him to stop wars, why can't He stop doing this shit?" He rubs the track marks inside his elbow and sighs louder before silence overtakes him.

"You know, you guys always ask what makes all the fighting worth it, but you think anybody ever asks about the bad shit? No? Didn't think so. I'll tell you the worst part: Do you think Rex Monday cured AIDS? Hell, no; allocating one one-hundredth of my eastern front surplus is hardly finding a cure. What do you think the papers said the next morning, though? Bullshit, that's what."

A tank engineer lightens the moment by delivering a large canister to Mr. Monday. They exchange greetings before He opens it up and the overpowering stench of low-grade diesel wafts out.

"Rex Monday overshadows everybody and their achievements. Even me. Hell, especially me. I used to think that was a good thing, but it turns out it's not." Rex Monday looks straight into me, and a shudder rips through my nerves. His voice, as concentrated as I've ever heard it, sears words to match a battle-scarred face. "I can tell you're confused about my use of third person.

"I am not Rex Monday. Rex Monday is a fiction. When the war is over, and we are free from tyranny and subjugation, Rex Monday will be all that subjugates us. This nonsense has gone far enough that Rex Monday will even survive me. Rex Monday is the horseman Pestilence, freeing you from the pain of life by afflicting you. When we die, Rex Monday will eclipse us, the Omega ain't got nothin' on Him. Get it, yet?"

Rex Monday tilts the canister over

his head and the diesel-stink multiplies tenfold. The fuel pours down his robes, their twilight glow fading. The runoff makes its way into his teacup, and he laughs as he sucks it down.

"There has always been a Rex Monday. I was just the first person to be blessed with the name. It's a stupid fucking name, isn't it? And it'll be better off without me." He turns to me one last time, his soaked hair dripping into bizarrely satisfied eyes. "I'm afraid this will have to be the end of our interview Mr..."

Kent.

But he has already lit the book of *Funkytown Bar & Grill* matches I never saw him produce. The flame consumes the "call me" with a little heart scribbled on the inside, and any words left in the monastery.

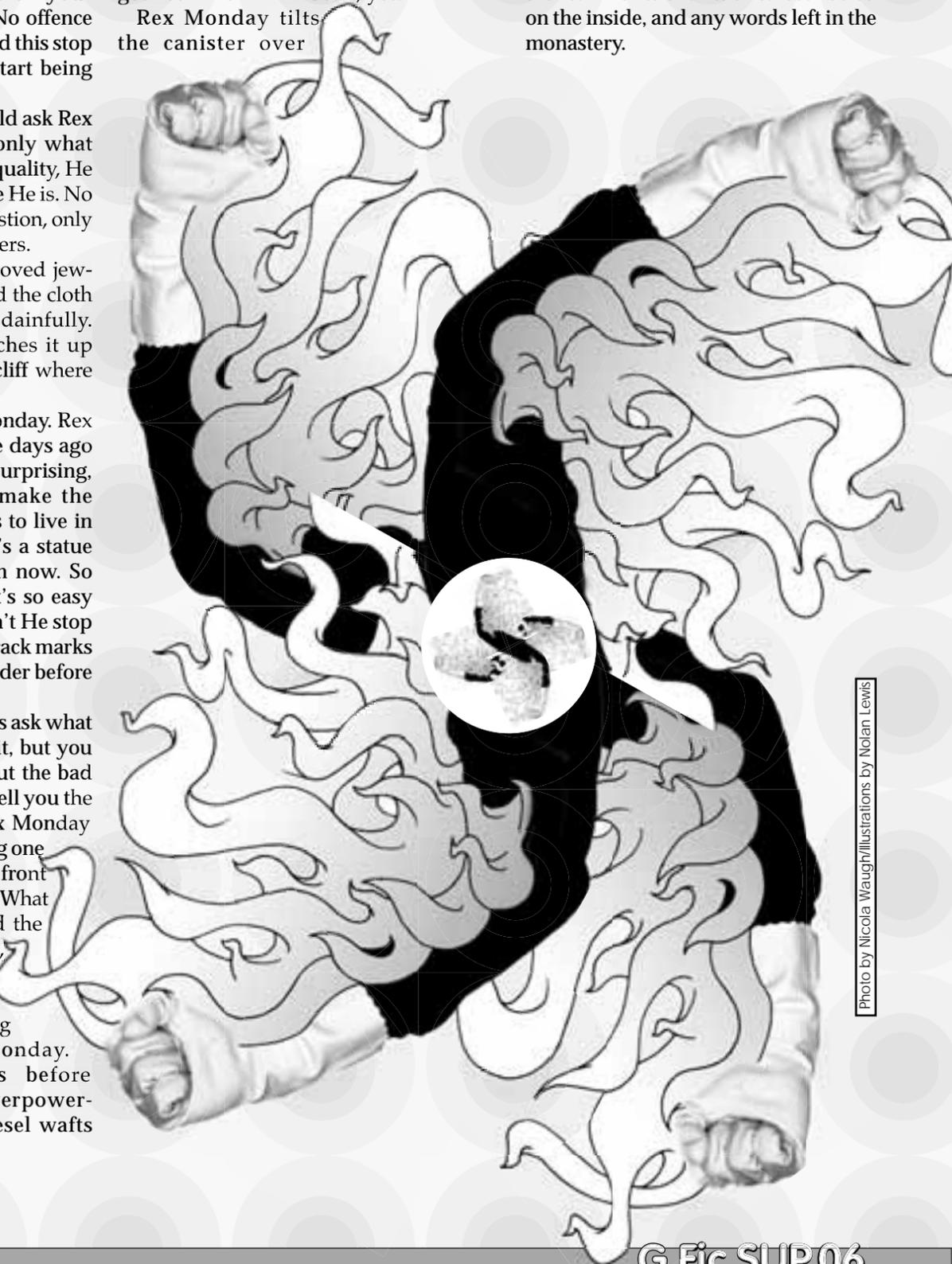


Photo by Nicola Waugh/illustrations by Nolan Lewis

# Subjugated



By Felicia Pacentrilli

I had to work at a liquor store once  
distributing drops of acid amber rain to  
hardened mouths while hoarding haphazard histories

"You've got such yummy feet," he says  
my naked toes roll out of flimsy flip flops  
Nails painted a subtle shade of flesh and protruding  
He licks his lips and grins at the bare  
and exposed gaps between them

"I don't need a sample, I'd drink the whole thing"  
"That's not much of a hit, hey?"  
Pools of drool clutter up the corners of their mouths  
as ski runs solidify under their nose from the cold  
"Now you got us started,"

Black mouths of thirsty backpacks open  
wide to swallow glass. They don't bother to chew  
Posing as studious weekend scholars  
Some just pack a cooler, no illusions there  
no hidden pockets or zip pouches

Another staggers over. "You're cute." Brown stain  
on his front tooth makes his whole mouth look  
dirty. And bruised. "My daughter's your age  
you know." I hope he doesn't look  
at his daughter that way

"How's that for an old man?" he asks  
as he wiggles his behind on his way to pay  
leering over his shoulder  
and winking ridiculously

He'll charm the pants right off you, that one  
Here comes Steve  
Steve is coming

"I'm more of a hard liquor drinker myself."  
Lips glued together on one side  
Suctioned shut, contributing to the stream of spittle and  
choppy cut off sentences, while I politely nod

Ravaged stubs of grubby  
fingers grab then gulp. One toothed grins  
Dropping skinny dimes, slices of silver and  
clumps of copper into my hand

"Like I wouldn't take a sample,"  
Cheeks sucked back into her skull. Swipes her spare  
change back up and leaves a strand of  
spit clinging to the cup

"Bit thick, a bit malty,"  
Head bobbing in and out like a sea turtle  
watery green eyes bulging  
Ranting about good water for good beer and  
Ontario, tomatoes and corn feed for cows

Trying to hold my breath  
so I didn't have to share theirs

Cashier with mouth full of swollen gums  
appears to chew her cheeks or  
a wad of cud. Her hair falls in sheets  
and her pupils are drowning

Steve is back  
My arms raise their bumps  
flesh flares as the chill  
of the cooler climbs all over me

"I already know what that tastes like,"  
retreating from eager bubbles and promiscuous  
foam flaunting around the rim  
He had serious eyes, knowing mouth,  
dissolving brain

"Do you wanna go for a dance later? I'm strong Ron,  
dancing Ron." Stumbling, swirling, moustache  
twirling. "I like your necklace,"  
eyes not on the lace at my neck

"We'll take a 12 pack we have an hour to dry up,"  
Freckles forming constellations cluster



'bove the orbs of his nostrils and creeping  
below the crescents of his cheeks

"Oh no, I don't drink it dear  
First, I pour the beer in a pan  
and then I place in the ham and  
let it boil 'till it soaks up all the salt"

"Are you even old enough to be in here?"  
asks the man with one eye stapled shut  
it's seen enough and has retired

All have sunken faces  
puckered, lined, fish heads  
washed-up on land  
useless, struggling gills

Steve passes out in the parking lot  
Puddles of ruddy play on his face  
granules of blood blotching together  
forming patches of hot rashes

Wasted, a hazy rain starts and tries to  
wash the sores from his mouth,  
the grime in his nails  
and the glass on his lips.

# New Favourite Thing

by Aly Hasham

Early in the day and the bar was without customers except for a woman who sat alone. She pressed the rim of an empty rock glass against her shiny, pink bottom lip. An ashtray cradled a burning, neglected cigarette on the table in front of her. She alternated her stare from the shape shifting fire that burned in the fireplace to out the large windows at the city limply suffocated by cocaine-snow. Occasionally she glanced at the empty chair across from her. When a young man walked in the woman extinguished the cigarette and plucked another from her pack, but chose not to light it.

"Sorry," said the young man as he unbuttoned his coat, "my class ran late."

She offered him a cigarette, which he took. He then took her lighter and used it to light her unlit cigarette and then his own. "It's ok, I don't think I'll go back to work today anyway."

The server came up to the table and exchanged the old ashtray for a clean one. "Can I get you two anything?"

"I'll have another Glenlivet neat," said the woman.

"A Glenlivet on the rocks for me," said the young man, interrupted from looking at the woman's hands. Her nails were done in a French manicure and she wore a ring only on her right ring finger. She wore a sterling silver charm bracelet and matching choker.

"I can't come this weekend," said the young man.

The waiter came back and set the drinks on the table. The woman and the young man touched glasses. "You must like her," said the woman.

"We haven't been seeing each other for very long."

"It doesn't matter."

"I don't think she likes me the same way I like her."

"It's rare. If she did then it might be love."

The young man nodded in the way of people who do not understand what they have been told nor care to. "It's her birthday this Saturday," he offered.



"What will you give her?"

"I don't know."

The woman took the last drag her cigarette had. "What about a choker like this?" The woman slid the backs of her thumbs along the front of her slim neck, under the sterling silver oval tag with "Tiffany & Co." etched into it. "I'll pay for it."

"Actually I noticed she has the same one."

The woman clasped her hand over his, "I like her."

The waiter returned and the woman retracted her hand. "Anything more?" asked the waiter.

The woman nodded, "Another round."

"Of course," said the waiter.

"I'm not going to give jewelry to a girl I just met. What about a book?" said the young man.

"Only if she likes books like you do. Where will you take her for dinner?" The woman took out two more cigarettes.

The waiter set the drinks down and left.

"Her last boyfriend was a lawyer and took her to expensive restaurants," said the young man as he repeated the ritual of lighting the woman's cigarette and then his own.

"I'll make you reservations Saturday night at Il Sogno. It's very nice and I'll arrange something special for her. Let me pay."

"I don't want you to pay."

The woman took the last sip from her glass, "I'll pay for it."

The young man said nothing.

The woman set her barren glass next to the young man's glass so they touched. She nodded, "I like her very much, your new girlfriend. I think she will be my new favourite thing."



Photo courtesy of the Internet and fine family dining/illustrations by Conor Geoghegan



Photo by Nicola Waugh/illustrations by Conor Geoghean

## Translucency: A Compromise

By Andrea Campbell

The metallic staccato of items scan through, bar codes translating the prices to the till. The beeps sound reminiscent of a home alarm system's warning octet, those opening bars of evenly spaced quarter notes before the sirens begin. Here, there is no grand finish, no crescendo, no release, no cacophony. Just, "That'll be \$36.63, please."

In a corner grocery (a convenience store masquerading as a supermarket by virtue of a produce section) she stands behind a woman who reminds her of her aunt on her mother's side. Auntie haggles the cashier about whether the Red Delicious are on special or if it is the McIntosh's only. No matter that the cashier with the flier open on the counter top points to the price already highlighted in that sad almost-fluorescent yellow of faded grocery fliers.

Two feet behind the dispute, her head tilts, slight smile turning up the right hand corner of her mouth. Arm bent, holding the weight of her wallet at chest height so when her turn came her credit card would be quickly accessible, minimizing all inconvenience and cementing her role as the Considerate Shopper. She congratulates herself on remaining so stalwart in the face of such unjustifiable waste of breath as Auntie's fight for \$0.42. In the

midst of her mindful meditation, a twitch begins to creep up her jaw line, leaving a taut tendon in her neck and clenched molars in its wake.

"Jesus fucking Christ you sadistic, victimizing, screaming for attention, all juiced up on Trazodone sorry excuse for a well-adjusted recovering divorcee! Pay the extra \$0.42 for your quarter pound of apples and get your complimentary package of Junior Mints for shopping at Sam's and move along now, I have TV dinners to purchase to go with the TV show starting in 27 minutes that I must get home in time to watch!"

She stands bug eyed, waiting for the backlash. The flabbergasted look from the shunted customer. The backwards step of whomever stood in line behind her. The raised eyebrow but ultimate approval (and appreciation) of the cashier. She gleefully awaits the repercussions of her public blasphemy in conjunction with her unmitigated disrespect for the elderly.

As ye old aunt continues to flip and cashier lady keeps placating, it takes her almost a full five seconds to fully appreciate it wasn't that they ignored her, they hadn't heard her. And they hadn't heard her because... Because she hadn't said anything. She hadn't even moved. It seems the creeping twitch was a figment

as well because she stands as dignified as before, complete with head tilt.

Before she full processes this non-happening, she leans over the flapping flyer, slams her palm on the ruffled pages, pointedly ignores the aunt, and says directly to the cashier, "Would it be possible for me to ask you ladies to suspend your conversation for a moment while I pay for my items?" She blinks, twice, waiting patiently for a response. Even politeness doesn't make an impression. Of any kind. Or had she...

Confounded. She had spoken clearly, succinctly... But no. She hadn't spoken at all. Again. Her hands demurely settle, one holding her wallet, the other resting on the conveyor belt's silver siding. The cashier now on the phone to her manager, the old lady huffing and sighing and shifting weight, but at least had stopped yapping about apples.

She sees herself trapped in a bad B horror flick, an Ed Wood piece where the set changes from shot to shot, no continuity, and appalling dialogue. "Pay for my items?" Who uses the word "items" in a sentence?

The ruminating buzz of the fluorescents. The ding ding ding of food stuffs running through the till. The tapping of the girl's manicured nails on the keys. The rustling

of the flier on the counter. And her. Frozen in mid head-tilt.

"I'm so sorry about the wait." The words jerk her back, confirm the time and space continuum of the present. The cashier looks pointedly at her, but ignores the script and in the next instant, she sees all reels instantaneously. In addition to her 11 possible reactions in this moment, she sees the outcome of each, and then the chain reaction of each outcome, not only for her here, but for everyone everywhere. The camera pulls back and reveals the shot she's watching to be a single square in a myriad of others, all flickering and shifting composites of the whole. For that moment, she peeks inside Schrodinger's box without actually opening it, she understands chaos theory, she sees the heaven and the earth and it is good, she grasps that the answer is unequivocally 42, and then in the next...

Everything collapses onto itself as she opens her mouth and out rolls, "Oh, it's okay. No worries. I'm not in a rush." And she seals the minute, form fits herself, rips the top off the box and finds the cat dead. She repeats the memorized script.

The walk home is predictably cold. The weight of the plastic straps dig into her palms. She trudges slowly; her television show ended four minutes ago.



The poetry of Ty P. Hayden

# wal-mart december 22

i slouch through an elephant graveyard  
of SUVs  
a glazed behemoth snacks a  
yuppie,  
touches itself, farts gently,  
and dies  
halos of fruit-flies screech overhead  
neckerchiefs of chloroform  
wal-mart teeters choked by snow  
doors slide like mosquito  
foreskin  
a wall of perfume and  
mesquite  
the check-outs are badgered by  
truckers  
brandishing tickle-me-al-gores:  
"but wait, we have to sort out this  
whole land, food, air deal  
before we reap the salty nectar of  
modern living!  
hehehe...that tickles"  
towers of jewelry crackle with  
electricity  
simply vanilla chinchillas

scurrying over dental floss  
12:00 hipster in pin-stripe polyester  
slinks from eggnog panty section  
his corndog leer tasers bo peep  
holes  
i shudder (will he spoon and buy  
dinner after?)  
he cackles  
an anti-gravity  
nativity bass snarl  
"i was eyeing your scarf,  
timid beef in the death rattle of  
a copper kettle,  
did you get it in  
manchester?" munches hipster  
conversation ebbs out by a pack of  
christmas carolers  
my ears steep cardinal house and i  
still haven't spotted the kiosk  
where we pay palm leaves to  
sit in jesus' lap and ask:  
"why do we have to  
orphan so many evergreens for your  
birthday?"

# your eyes blush war

when the ice-ache avenue lays like  
lambs cocooned in saran...  
when mist razors headlights into lines  
of coca-cola...  
when evergreens grope each other like  
punch-drunk prom dates...  
when cadillacs lurch past us hopping  
like heffalumps...  
when chicken grizzle drizzles the  
mogwai dashboard...  
when herons peck peck our lychee  
cavities...  
when snowflakes bullet the  
windshield...  
when my hamster heart rots peach  
fuzz...

# instructions for urban sprawl

lie in the gutter  
and make a dust angel

Photo by Nicola Waugh/illustrations by Nolan Lewis

# I, being born a woman, have been made



By Katherine Fletcher

I, being born a woman, have been made  
 A hardcover book which men are to peruse—  
 Two have plucked me from the shelf, both  
 dismayed  
 With such a plain cover, and therefore refuse—  
 Will not even bother!—to take a further glance.  
 This man here—yes, him!—a potential reader,  
 indeed—  
 Will he look at me and decide to take a chance?  
 “Stroke my delicate pages with your long fingers,”  
 I plead  
 With him. “Breathe in the fragrance of my fresh  
 ink,” I implore  
 Him. “Place your bookmark between my leaves,  
 or attach  
 A bookplate to indicate that I am yours.” But he  
 ignores  
 My appeals. He searches the shelf and decides to  
 snatch  
 The fancy book next to me—he has chosen her  
 instead.  
 And so I remain here on this shelf: unopened and  
 unread.

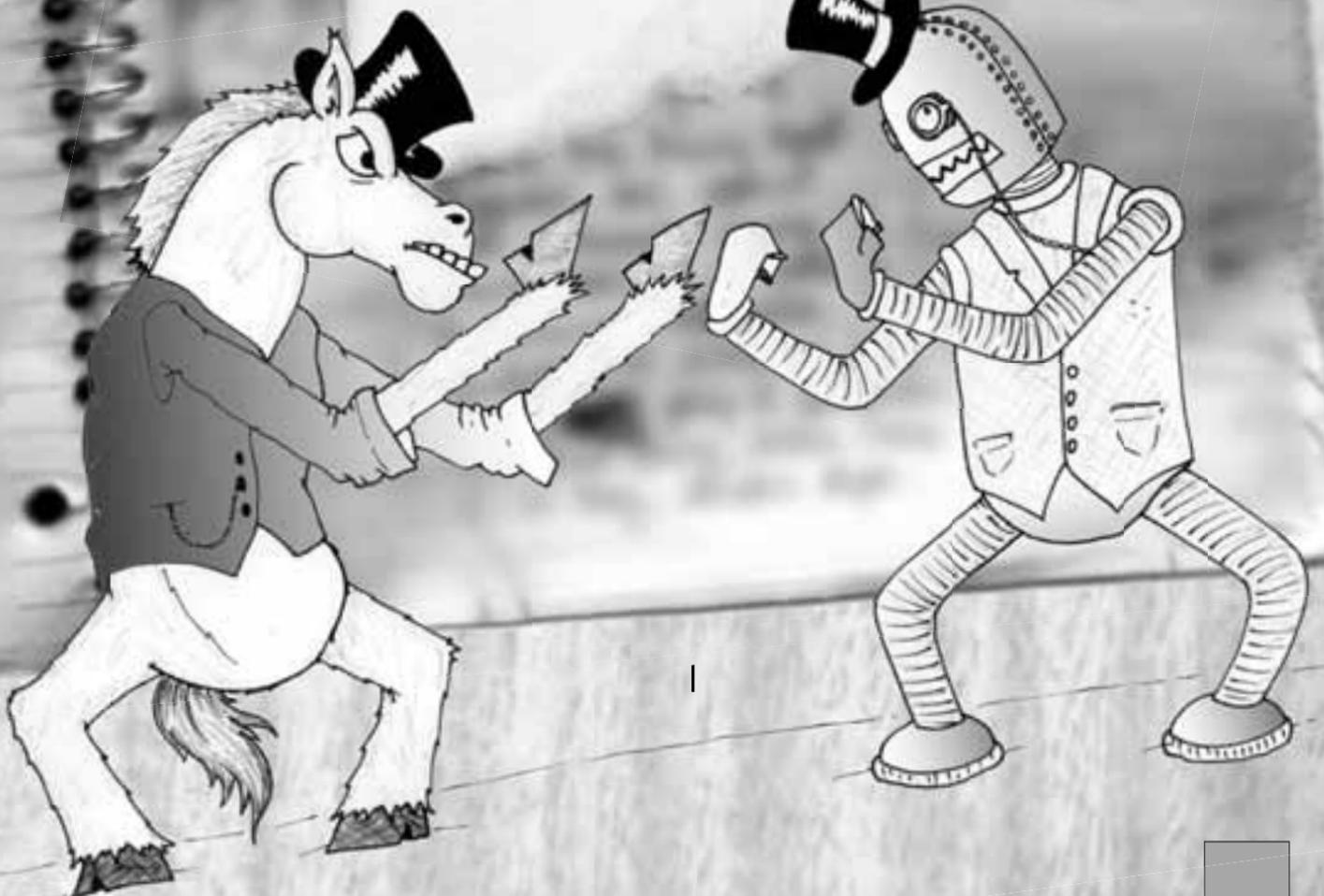


Photo by Nicola Waugh/illustrations by Nolan Lewis

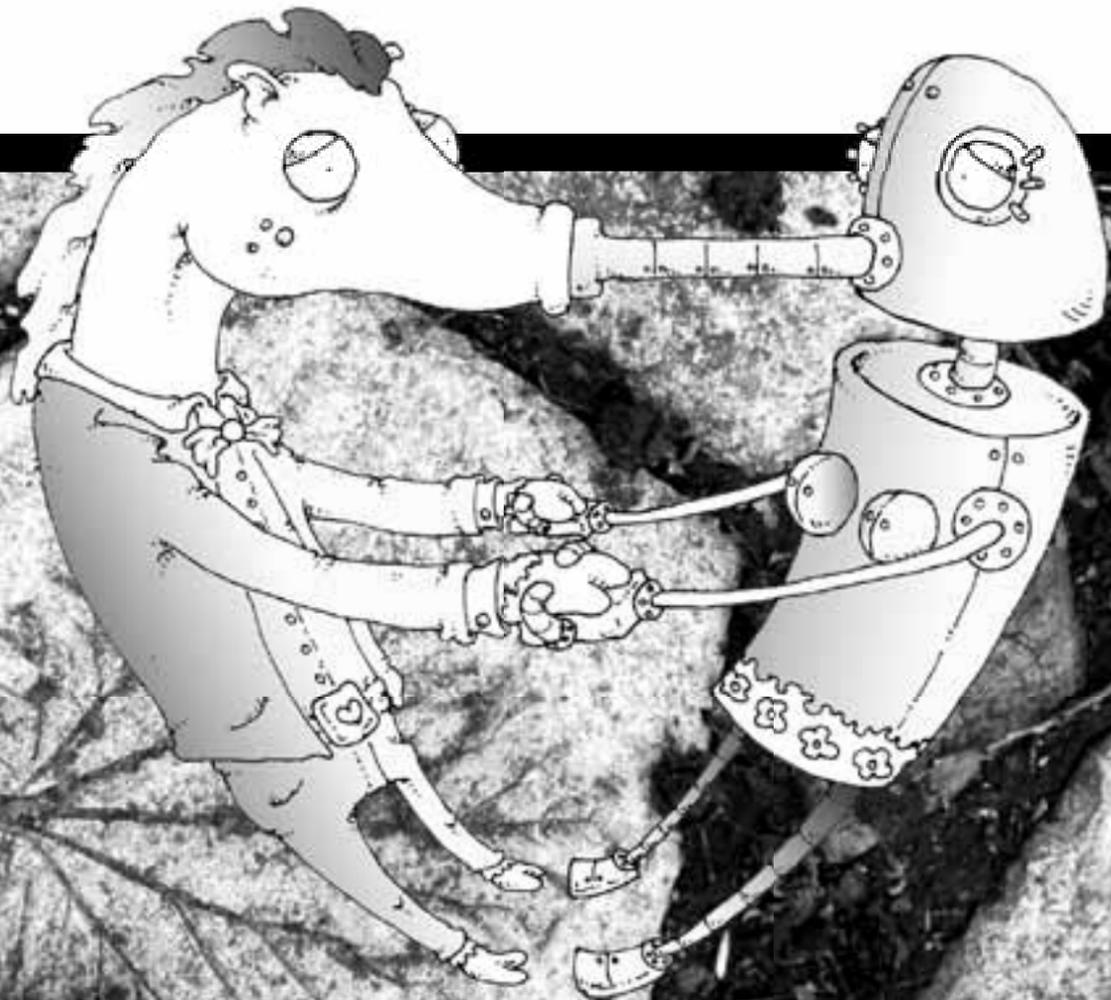


Photo by Nicola Waugh/Illustration by Conor Geoghegan

## The Game

By Greg Ramos

The paper was strewn about like so many scattered dreams.

The boy slapped himself mentally for thinking such a clichéd thought. Nevertheless, the messy happenstance of the table in front of him was all he could think clearly about. The girl slammed the Pochacco pencil case on the table, multicolored pens rolled to a stop. It looked to him like a scrambled Monopoly game board. Clearly, he wasn't thinking clearly.

Then again, not a lot of the past few weeks were particularly clear to him. Sometimes, with a twinge of guilt, he hoped the girl was in as much of a confused haze as he was. Aware of a quiet whimpering next to him something inside him decided to take action. He stood up slowly, almost unaware of the movement.

He leaned over and whispered, "Let's go." The girl rapidly wiped her eyes and stood up from her chair. He tugged on her arm as they made their way towards the door. He didn't even have to look to see if anyone was looking at them. He knew they were. He pushed open the door and they were in the stairwell.

Slowly, he led her down the flights of stairs with a gentle grasp on her arm, just above the elbow. "That's how I hold my grandma's arm," were the only words she said on the way down. He said nothing.

Outside the boy led her around to the side of the building; the closest they would get to privacy on campus that day.

"Okay," he said, "we're gonna' play a game now."

"What?" she replied.

"Just listen," he cut her off. "We're going to play a game."

"What kind of game?"

"The absolute worst game you or I will ever play," he

whispered. "Do you want to play?" Her eyes answered the question.

"Okay," said the boy, "this is how it works. For 15 minutes you and I will be together. For 15 minutes we will not be restricted by what other people say, think or want of us. The rules are that for 15 minutes, we will forget all that has happened between us, and all that will happen after this 15 minutes. We cannot talk about what happened or what will happen. We will be like what we should've been from the start. That's the game."

"And after the 15 minutes are up?"

"For 15 minutes we will be what we never will be ever again. The game is over when the 15 minutes are over."

"Let's play," choked the girl.

"Okay," he said. The boy looked at his watch: 1:13 p.m. "Go."

Immediately the girl grabbed the boy in a deep hug. Confused, the boy reached his arms up at the elbows and patted her back. "It's a beautiful day isn't it babe?" she said.

"It sure is."

She looked up at him and frowned.

"You're not playing the game right," she sighed.

"Sorry," he said. He stepped and looked straight into her eyes. Slowly he reached down and drew her hand from her side. He brought it to his mouth and kissed it as an 18th century gentleman would. The girl smiled and mashed herself back into his chest. She seemed content for the time, so the boy put his arms back around her and rested his chin on her head.

He drew breath through his nose, every time he caught the scent of her hair; the pleasant smell of a carefully formulated, focus group tested, well-marketed

shampoo—and hair. He took a surreptitious look at his watch: 1:18 p.m. Five minutes already.

The boy looked around for the first time since they had come outside. A rather secluded spot, the winter sun shone brightly a couple hand's-widths off of the horizon it provided little warmth. The barren campus seemed dead to him. The scraggly claws of the tree branches reached into the sky to bring down as much warmth as the sun could provide. The ghost white of a lone cloud threatened to obliterate at the slightest gust of wind.

As the boy was about to lose himself to another drawn out daydream narrated by verbose literary terms he heard the girl snuffle. He withdrew his chin from her head and said, "Now you're not playing the game right."

"Sorry," came her muffled reply. He looked at his watch again: 1:25 p.m. Time passed faster than he thought. He had trouble deciding whether that was a good thing or not. He debated it for another two minutes.

At 1:27 p.m, the girl pulled away from the boy. She looked up at him and asked the time. The boy had been afraid of this. He said it was 1:27 p.m. and 20 seconds. The girl's countenance changed to desperation.

"I uh," she stammered.

"Yes?" he said.

"I want to tell you... but I don't know if it's right."

"We're playing the game remember?"

"Oh. Okay... Umm..." she hesitated.

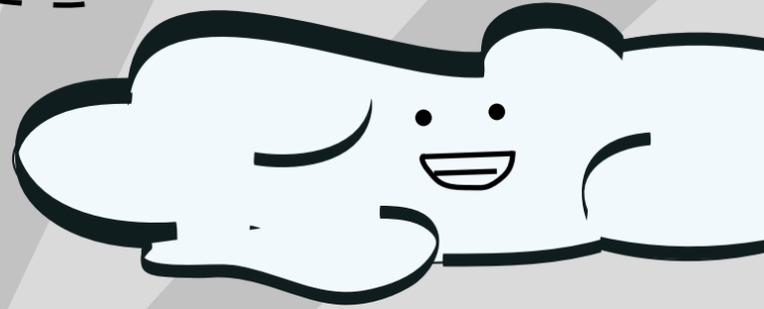
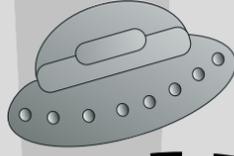
"Time's almost up,"

"Okay... Umm. I love you," the girl blurted, "Do you... Do you love me?"

The boy looked at his watch. 1:28 p.m. and four seconds. "I'm sorry," he said, "the game is over."

# The Stone

## A study in existentialism



By Megan Fennell

In the middle of a field there sits a stone.

Just an ordinary stone, a little larger than your fist. Grey and cold from the Earth, a stubborn tuft of moss clings to one face. Perhaps the only thing worth noticing is nothing at all. It was not placed in the middle of the field by any grand design or supernatural intervention.

It just is.

A man happens along this particular field on some given day. The day doesn't matter, nor does the colour of the sky. The man has a name, but it does not describe his mind. In his own opinion, he is a philosopher. When his gaze catches on the stone, he is delighted.

"Aha! Look at this stone!" he exclaims. Philosophers, he has decided, are at liberty to make such remarks aloud to themselves in the middle of empty fields. It's practically a job requirement.

"This fine specimen of the natural world," he continues with aplomb, "has been placed here for the purpose of my contemplation."

Sweeping away a tangle of cobweb and taking a quick check for thorns, the philosopher sits down to focus deeply on the object of his contemplation. He takes quiet pride in his ability to sit like this for hours. Although he knows he's not one of the leading philosophers in his field, he's certainly the best in this field.

When the sun begins to set, dragging

long shadows over the ground with its descent, a second man stumbles into the field. He's embracing bitterness, letting himself grow hot with the flush of insulted dignity, and there is alcohol on his breath. He sees the philosopher sitting in the field, his breath making visible clouds in the cool evening air, dew gathering on his clothing. He sees a lunatic.

"What are you doing?"

The seated man jumps slightly, pretending he's been startled out of his deep contemplation, though he saw the second man coming minutes ago.

"Why, I'm contemplating this stone. I am a philosopher, you see. The best in the field."

"You're what? There's a spider crawling up your leg!"

"I'm one with nature."

"You're out of your mind! You're a freak."

"A philosopher, sir."

The drunk does not appreciate the way the lunatic calls him "sir." In his ears, it's an insult he cannot tolerate. Not after the day he's had. Allowing the alcohol to steer him, the man hefts the stone with a growl and brings it down on the lunatic's head, until blood runs hot over his hands.

No more than a minute passes. The lunatic becomes a corpse at his feet, sprawling and undignified in

death, and the stone he clutches in his shaking hands becomes a murder weapon. The moss is patched with crimson. The murderer drops the weapon, choking with guilt, and runs away.

The next morning, the sun comes up on a third man walking across the field. People tell him he's a "tough old guy," so he is. When he finds the body, he refuses to panic. He forces himself to think practically.

If he were left lying in a field like this, he supposes he would like to be buried so he could be at peace. Already nearby crows hop and caw with morbid hunger, so the tough old guy picks up the stone and begins to dig a shallow grave.

With the body laid out and covered with earth, he uses the stone to mark the place. His mind is peaceful when he leaves the field.

Hours pass when a fourth man wanders past the stone. He sings to himself, exorcising some popular tune stuck in his head since yesterday, and the stone catches his attention only because of the spider creeping over it. Picking it up gingerly and shaking the spider onto the ground, he picks up two other stones of roughly equal size and leaves the field juggling.

*"To do is to be."*

—Jean-Paul Sartre

# The Poetry of Jonathan Ball

## Crow Rites

It is a little known fact that crows perform funerary rites. rituals differ from group to group. the crows in my area croak lower tones, walk short distances instead of taking flight. & at night, when they should be soft. blending, they sing. & rot. in the air.



Photo by Nicola Waugh/illustrations by Nolan Lewis

## Crow Cross

Its eyes were black its beak was black & its feathers were black. It had been dead for a long time & I thought that by now it must be black on the inside. I watched it from a safe distance. I had been watching it for some time. I had killed it & hung it on a cross but it had not come back & I was starting to believe it would never come back. I could still see it & when I looked away & looked back it was the same still the same black as the spaces in between the stars. Its wings were black & its tail was black & its claws were black too. Everything was black. It could have been a crow or it could have been nothing.

## Crow Tears

Use of anaesthesia is recommended during dissection of live crows. The human animal has a tendency to anthropomorphize other animals. Anaesthesia is helpful in this regard it numbs you to the screaming.

Colour me for  
your parents' love!

# Super Death Love Entropy



# SPORTS

Sports Editor: Sean Nyilassy  
sports@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca

## Dinos athletes have their glory

Sean Nyilassy  
Sports Editor

Oh the memories! While some of us have no hope of retaining any memories from the evening, others will cherish them forever. The 39th Annual Night of the Dino took place Tue., Apr. 4, honouring many deserving athletes.

The big winners of the night were Dan Federkeil and Brittane Laverdure, who took home the Dr. Dennis Kadatz Athlete of the Year trophies.

Federkeil, a football team member, joined the Dinos in 2001 and has been a starting defensive end for four years. He played in this year's east-west shrine game put on in the U.S.A. for outstanding college football players. He was also Canada West's nominee for the J. P. Metras Trophy for Canadian Interuniversity Sport Lineman of the Year.

Laverdure has been wrestling for the Dinos for five years and became the first wrestler to be named the University of Calgary Female Athlete of the Year. She was undefeated this season, winning the CW and CIS titles in her 55-kilogram weight class.

The finalists for the Athlete of the Year Award were given Athletic Awards of Merit. Joe Bentley, Chad Hankewich, Geoff Kerr and Chris Wright were the male recipients and Laura Grant, Shannon Popowich, Natalie Schwartz and Taryn Swiatek were the female recipients.

Bentley went undefeated in the 68-kilogram division in CIS wrestling this season. Hankewich was the gold medalist in the 100-metre



Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

Federkeil and Laverdure strike a pose behind their big shiny trophy.

freestyle at the CIS Swimming Championship and won five silvers. Wright threw down an average of 15 points and 7.9 rebounds per game for the basketball Dinos this season

and was the only fifth year on the team.

Grant won her 50-metre freestyle event at the CIS Swimming Championship this year along with

three silvers. Popowich placed fourth in this season's CIS Cross-Country Championship and was a First-Team All-Canadian. She was also named Performer of the Meet at the CW Track and Field Championship, winning gold in the 1,500- and 3,000-metre runs. Schwartz, the women's volleyball team captain, led her squad to a national bronze this season. She has led CW in assists for the last three seasons. Swiatek stopped many goals on the Dinos women's soccer team's path to their first CW Championship. For her efforts at the CIS Championship, she earned a spot on the all-tournament team.

Kerr and Megan Gould received the Calgary Booster Club Scholar Athlete of the Year awards for outstanding athletic and academic achievements.

Kerr was a Second-Team All-Canadian in both cross-country and track and field this year. He won the 1,500- and 3,000-metre runs at the CW Track and Field Championship and silver in the 3,000-metre run at the CIS Track and Field Championship this season.

Along with his athletic successes, Kerr kept a 3.5 grade point average in the Haskayne School of Business this year.

Gould, a third-year women's soccer team member, is deeply involved on campus and in the community. Along with playing soccer, she coaches a youth team and volunteers at the Special Olympics.

Gould, who recently healed following a knee injury, managed to pull off a super-human 4.0 GPA despite her soccer team commitments.

The winners of the Bill Popplewell Rookie of the Year Awards were Tanis Bartolome and Travis Friedley. Bartolome was named Canada West Field Hockey Rookie of the Year and Friedley was Canada West's highest-scoring defenseman in hockey.

Runners up for the award were Leah Callahan of wrestling, Katelyn Murdoch of swimming, Ross Bekkering of basketball and Josh Ratzlaff of track and field.

The Margaret Southern Award for the greatest contribution to Dinos athletics by a female went to Lindsay Minor. She has a five-year history recording stats at basketball games.

The Dr. Lou Goodwin Award for the greatest contribution to the Dinos by a male went to Wayne Thomas, an assistant coach of the men's basketball team. He sends out game reports to subscribers, founded the ball-boy program—allowing young basketball players to observe the Dinos on game day—and helped expand the mentoring program that many Dinos teams participate in. He played on the Dinos men's basketball team in the 1960s.

The Murray Fraser Award for student-volunteers was given to Jessica Moser and Nick Comeau. Moser, an athletic therapist, has put in 600 hours for her schooling, but volunteered over 700 hours of her own time. Comeau was an integral part of the CIS Women's Volleyball Championship that took place here at the U of C Mar. 2-4.

Recipients of the *Gauntlet* Extra Effort Award were Brett Thurston and Deanna Delisle. See page 33 for details.

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# The 1980s were full of great athletes

Sean Nyilassy  
Sports Editor

Since its creation in 1995, the University of Calgary Athletic Hall of Fame has welcomed 16 deserving athletes and builders, including three inducted on Mon., Apr. 3. In the athlete category, Michelle Conn and Randy Gingera were inducted while Dr. Roger Jackson was inducted as a builder.

Jackson's impact on campus and Canada-wide has been ginormous. He served as the dean of the faculty of kinesiology for two five-year terms from 1978-88. This put him in position to mastermind many of the great improvements—such as the Jack Simpson Gymnasium and Olympic Oval—the U of C campus saw during this time, especially approaching the 1988 Winter Olympic Games.

Jackson has remained involved with many Olympic initiatives, including being a senior advisor to London's Olympic bid and chief executive officer of Canada's "Own the Podium" initiative aimed at placing Canada at the top of the 2010 medal standings.

In naming him to their hall of fame, the U of C is somewhat behind the times. Jackson has already been recognized by Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame, has received the Canadian Olympic Order and is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

During his terms as dean, Jackson built the U of C's first masters and doctorate programs in kinesiology and founded the Sport Medicine



As the moon descended, Randy Gingera was ready to bump it back into orbit.

Centre, which is still operating at the U of C. The recent expansion built on top of the Sport Medicine Centre, opened July, 2005, was named the Roger Jackson Centre for Health and Wellness Research and his name can easily be seen from the MacEwan Students' Centre north loop.

"It was very special. I had no

idea," Jackson said of his reaction to the centre in his name. "For the university to name a building after you is very extraordinary. For them to do it while you're still around is an incredible honour. I'm very humbled."

Before his time as dean, Jackson was an Olympic athlete himself,

competing in rowing in the 1964, 1968 and 1972 Olympics. He won a gold medal in 1964 in the coxless-pair rowing event.

Jackson's favourite part of his job was working with young people. He enjoyed the new crop of students each year that would learn and grow.

"The university environment is tremendously positive," he explained. "It teaches you to think and work as a team."

One athlete who saw his fair share of teamwork and success was Randy Gingera. He began playing for the Dinos men's volleyball squad right after high school in the 1985-86 season. He saw the Dinos win the bronze at the 1988 Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union Men's Volleyball Championship and the gold in 1989. He was named both U of C Male Athlete of the Year and CIAU Male Volleyball Player of the Year in 1989 and was a CIAU First-Team All-Canadian in 1988 and 1989.

"We were arguably one of the best in North America," Gingera said of the Dinos squad back then.

"We accelerated through American as well as Canadian teams. Being part of that program was very important."

After his time with the Dinos, Gingera continued playing volleyball with the national team for almost 10 years. With games around the world under his belt, Gingera returned to the U of C in 2000 for a fine arts degree. He went on to obtain a masters degree in environmental design. Being inducted to the hall of fame turned out to be different than Gingera had expected.

"When I was coming, I thought it wouldn't be a big deal. But it's huge. It's a big honour," he said. "There are some great Olympic medalists here. Being recognized with them is fantastic."

Michelle Conn started for five years on the Dinos field hockey team from 1981-85. In her final year, she became the first Dino to receive CIAU All-Canadian honours. But Conn's field hockey career didn't end there; the Dinos program opened a window of opportunity for her.

"For me it was a chance to still see HALL OF FAME, page 36

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# The Gauntlet Extra Effort Award

## Brett Thurston

Sean Nyilassy  
Sports Editor

**B**rett Thurston, after just two years with the Dinos men's hockey team, was chosen to lead the team as their captain in his third year. Although his five years of experience in the WHL with the Brandon Wheat Kings made him a stellar player, it is not the primary reason for him being chosen as captain.

He had proven himself a leader with three years as assistant captain on the Wheat Kings and showed improvements through his hard work each year as a Dino. This

year the defenseman had a goal and nine assists during the regular season and two assists during playoffs.

According to Dinos head coach Scott Atkinson, Thurston has the variety of characteristics that are necessary to lead a team. He has provided better leadership than the team has seen in the past.

"The players have a close affinity to him," Atkinson said of Thurston. "They respect him."

This year, Thurston led the men into playoffs to be beaten in the Canada West mountain division final by the University of Alberta

Golden Bears—the same situation as the preceding eight years. Thurston, with two years of eligibility left, will hopefully lead the Dinos beyond the Bears soon.

"Thurston is an example of the values required for success," said Atkinson. "He's the shining example of what so many players on the team have."

Along with being a great leader and player, Thurston always took the time to get back to the *Gauntlet* hockey writer whether he was busy with exams, training or even in the middle of an important series. Now that's dedication, no?

## Deanna Delisle

Sean Nyilassy  
Sports Editor

**A**fter just one year with the Dinos women's volleyball team, Deanna Delisle has already made a mark. She started out on the bottom rung and climbed to the top by the time it really mattered. At the Canadian Interuniversity Sport Women's Volleyball Championship at the University of Calgary in early March, she played an integral part in securing the bronze.

After graduating high school in Holbein, Saskatchewan, Delisle took some time off—from school and volleyball—before commencing

studies at Red Deer College. There, she played two years of volleyball with the Queens, making a name for herself in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference before joining the Dinos.

Her purpose on the Dinos would be to fill the middle position left open when three middles graduated the preceding year. At 25 years old—the oldest team member—and with no provincial or national team experience, no one expected Delisle to become one of the best middles in the conference.

"Her learning curve was vertical," exclaimed Dinos head coach Kevin Boyles without exaggeration.

And none of this came gift-wrapped with a pretty bow. While Delisle did stand out in the ACAC, she lacked a lot of the skills and abilities of some more experienced Dinos when she arrived. However, not one to back down from a challenge, Delisle put forth every effort to improve, helping her to excel by the end of this season.

"She's all about work," explained Boyles. "She works harder than anyone I've ever seen."

It is for this hard work that she deserves the *Gauntlet's* recognition. Hopefully, she will keep it up for her remaining years and help the team bring home another national title.



Kris Kotarski/the Gauntlet



Kris Kotarski/the Gauntlet

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# The one thing the Dinos lack

We've got 22 Dinos teams competing in every CIS sport except for rugby

Gareth Williams  
Gauntlet Rugby

If varsity teams were collectable baseball cards, the University of Calgary would have them all except for one. To complete the set we would have to elevate the Dinos women's rugby club to the Canadian Interuniversity Sport level. That might prove to be as costly as that million-dollar Honus Wagner card from the 1909 Pittsburgh Pirates.

"The only way I'd consider a [varsity] rugby team is if they could raise a minimum \$50,000 a year," said Don Wilson, the director of athletics. He added that because CIS rules limit teams to raising a

maximum of five per cent of their own budget per year, the women's rugby team would need a million dollars to cover their operating costs without help from the athletic department.

CIS tries to encourage Canadian universities to have equal numbers of male and female varsity athletes. With football teams boosting the number of male athletes, women's rugby and field hockey teams help restore the balance. Men's rugby is not a CIS sanctioned sport.

While you might wonder how the Dinos can afford to have a tennis and golf team—sports that the CIS does not sanction—Wilson noted that these teams place no strain on the athletic department's cheque

book because they are self-sufficient, use off-campus facilities and don't require much athletic therapy.

However, the goal of getting varsity status isn't a lost cause in the lady Dinos' eyes.

"We are not convinced that the program would require \$50,000 per year, so there is work to be done," said the rugby club's president Dean Kittleson. He hopes that interest in the club from the Dinos rugby alumni will help raise the money and support necessary to push the ladies to the varsity level.

Even with support from Calgary's rugby community, the dream of a varsity team remains a hard sell for

Wilson, who wants to concentrate the athletic department's efforts on the existing varsity teams

"I'd rather do everything great first, then add," explained Wilson, noting that some Dinos teams—such as women's hockey—struggle every season.

Whichever side of the debate you stand on, the rugby Dinos hope to attract some attention with their fundraiser Mon., Apr. 10 at Shanks in Crowfoot Centre. The event will have a series of activities including a silent auction. If you happen to have one of those Honus Wagners lying around the house, that would be perfect. Email [dkittleson@shaw.ca](mailto:dkittleson@shaw.ca) for tickets and information.

# X-treme

Jeoff Winkleberry  
Sports Editor

Some sports are just totally extreme dude. Downhill running is one of them. The Alberta Provincial Downhill Running Championship was held Sat., Apr. 1 in Kananaskis Country.

In downhill running, contestants are sent barreling down a wooded hill hoping to be the fastest to the bottom. At the APDR Championship, contestants started atop a 2,163 foot hill and picked their own way down to the finish line.

The day was filled with crashes, spills and tree collisions. Evidently, it becomes difficult to stay in control while running down a steep pitch.

While Richard Bergen had the third fastest time of the day with his bail-free run, there were much more exciting ways down. Lee Bogle posted the second-fastest time of the day. He rolled down a full third of the course, miraculously dodging trees for 700 vertical feet before finally connecting with one towards the end of his run. Bogle managed to survive the impact and run the remainder of the course.

However, it was Andrea Poupart who was victorious. She managed to run the course 30 seconds faster than any other competitor. Her secret: insanity. She hurled herself off a 58-foot cliff to secure the win.

While spectators were not sure whether she had intended to put herself atop the cliff or not, she didn't back down from the challenge. Her prize for winning the event was a round-trip to Whitehorse. Sweet.

To get involved in downhill running, drink a 26 of rye while sitting on top of a massive hill.

Statistics

- Number of contestants: 52
- Vertical drop of course: 2,163 feet
- Average number of feet ran by contestants: 1,756 feet
- Average number of feet rolled by contestants: 407
- Number of trees hit: 67
- Number of bones broken: 12
- Number of stretchers used: 7



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# Duo of basketballers say *au revoir*

Sean Nylassy  
Sports Editor

By the time we are done university, most of us are thrilled just to get the hell out. Some students, however, enjoy their experience here so much they wish it wouldn't end. One reason students may actually like being here is to take part in the Dinos athletics program.

Tanya Hautala and Katherine Adams have both spent a full five years with the Dinos women's basketball team and have made huge strides.

"The biggest thing the fifth-year players bring is leadership and maturity," head coach Shawnee Harle explained. "They come in as 17-year-old rookies that are over their heads in every way shape or form and five years later, in many ways, they're ready for the world."

"It's made me the person I am," said Hautala of the Dinos program. "It's changed my life, not just on the basketball court, but with life experiences as well."

Hautala joined the Dinos from Chilliwack, B.C. where she excelled both athletically and academically.

"My favourite part of Tanya's story is that no one recruited her because she was too small," Harle reminisced of the five-foot-four

guard. "She had one dimension: a spot up three-point shot. Now the results speak for themselves. By the end of five years she was the deadliest perimeter player in Canada West. She can kill you with her three-point shot, she can kill you off the dribble and she's impossible to guard."

With the Dinos, Hautala had her best season in her fourth year when she was the third-highest scorer in cw, averaging 18.7 points per game. This year, she scored a career-high 41 points in one game against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies Feb. 25, 2006—the third consecutive year she held the Canada West seasonal record for most points in a single game. She has also led the Dinos in field goals, three-point field goals and free throws made for three straight years and in steals for the last two years.

"This year was probably the most fulfilling of my five," Hautala commented. "It's been the best group of girls."

Hautala graduates with a kinesiology degree and hopes to get into personal training. She also wants to continue playing ball, hoping to play for a team when she travels to Australia in the fall.

Adams came to the Dinos after playing both basketball and volleyball at Sir Winston Churchill High School. She improved steadily over her five years, finishing up with her best season this year, which is the

way she wanted it. She posted career highs in scoring and assists and a career low in turnovers.

Part of being a Dino is growing personally as well as athletically. Adams learned the values of teamwork, commitment and dedication during her years.

"It's pretty much your life for five years," she explained of being a Dino. "It affects you in so many ways. They're your second family."

Next year, Adams will be finishing up her science degree.

The ladies leave a huge hole in the team, but Harle is not worried. She feels Hautala and Adams' leadership has worn off on the rest of the team.

"The two have set such great examples and taught teammates what it is to be great leaders," Harle smiled. "And the team paid attention."

### Bring on the rookies

Hopefully the team has paid attention, as two recruits for next season have already been announced. Ashley Hill of Airdrie and Celeste Clark of Regina have both committed to the Dinos for the 2006-07 season.

Hill is quick up and down the court, gets great penetration and has a solid three-point shot. These traits will make her an essential part of the plug that will fill the scoring void that Hautala used to fill.



Katherine Adams gets ready to take a free throw.

Gauntlet file photo

She scored almost 2,500 points as a starter with the Bert Church High School Chargers including 928 points this season.

Clark, at five-foot-11, will bring some height to the Dinos team. Harle is impressed with the well-rounded skill set Clark will bring to the team. After spending most of her high school days in Regina—and playing on Saskatchewan's gold-medal-win-

ning Canada Summer Games team in August, 2005—Clark attended Dr. E. P. Scarlett High School this year.

Although admittedly large losses, the Dinos lose just two players to eligibility and have a young talented squad who should continue to improve. This season, they won 19 of their last 24 games and were cw central division finalists.

# A quadrafactor of hockeysaurs say goodbye

Crystal Wong  
Gauntlet Sports

Despite not winning a title during their time on the Dinos men's hockey team, this year's graduating players have all enjoyed their stay. Travis George, Mike Lencucha, Wes Reid and Lonny Tetley will take their experience with them while they start their post-Dinos life.

"I had a lot of fun here and made some real good friends," said George, a fifth-year social sciences student. "I managed to accumulate some pretty good stories in my time."

"It was great growing up with these guys," Tetley agreed. "I am proud to have battled with them."

Lencucha, backup to goalie Scott Talbot this year, is working towards an education degree while Reid is a student in the faculty of commu-

nication and culture. The wealth of experience of each player has helped the relatively young Dinos team this season.

More importantly, head coach Scott Atkinson kept the team motivated and, as a result, they worked hard night-in and night-out, giving their opponents everything they had.

"He is the best coach I have ever played for," Tetley said. "I have never seen someone so dedicated to achieving his goals. He puts himself second to team goals. He's a real inspiration."

Although these guys won't be on the team next season, they will still be involved as cheerleaders for the team.

"[The program] was in a transitional phase," George commented. "Constantly bringing in better players over the years will be very rewarding in the future."

George is not sure whether he will go down to the States or over to Europe, but is certain he will be playing hockey somewhere.

"Not winning a championship with the Dinos will probably go down as one of my biggest disappointments in life thus far," said

Tetley, who will continue his studies in the faculty of law. "But I will be extremely happy when the team does win it all."

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# A pair of volleysaurs say *adios*

Sean Nyilassy  
Sports Editor

In recent times, the Dinos women's volleyball team has been one of the most successful varsity teams by any standard. As the season came to a close with the Canadian Interuniversity Sport Championship taking place here at the University of Calgary in early March, the team lost two players who have been around to experience many of the team's richer years. Natalie Schwartz and Neda Boroumand both played their last games as Dinos, winning the bronze-medal match against the Université de Montréal Carabins.

Schwartz was with the team for a full five years, and has therefore been to five CIS championships—winning silver in 2002, fourth in 2003, gold in 2004 and bronze in 2005 and 2006—won two Canada West championships—in 2002 and 2005—and experienced an undefeated regular season in 2004-05. Boroumand joined the team from Mount Royal College for the 2003-04 season. Both players will be sorely missed by their teammates and coaches alike.

"You can't replace people like that," Boyles lamented. "You can replace the positions, but you can't replace the people. I'll miss the people more than the players."

"I've made some of the best relationships of my life here," Schwartz agreed. "Kevin Boyles has been like a father to me and will continue to be a close friend. I've made some of the best friends I'll ever have in these girls."

Schwartz displayed her skills from day one with the Dinos. She was named to the CW and CIS All-Rookie teams and was named U of C Female Rookie Athlete of the Year in 2002. Since then she has been named to CIS All-Canadian teams on multiple occasions and led the Dinos to uncountable victories.

"Nat has driven the team for five years," Boyles commented. "She's provided attitude and aggression and character."

Schwartz has posted the highest number of assists in Canada West for three years straight and this year had the most assists per game in conference play. But she wasn't all business; Schwartz's favourite memories of being a Dino weren't the wins, but the fun—the themed practices, the crazy antics of the team and simply enjoying herself.

"It's been such a big part of who I am and who I'm going to become," Schwartz explained. "It's equipped me for the future."

But "the sky's the limit" for the future according to Schwartz. The communications studies major could end up back in school or playing pro overseas next year. One thing she can see in the near future is getting involved in coaching. Whatever the case, she's left her mark here at the U of C.

"She's leaving as one of the best people I've ever been associated with," said Boyles. "My wife and I often tell her she's the kind of person we want our kids to grow up to be like."

Boroumand played two years with the RDC Queens before focusing on



Neda Boroumand gets ready to make one of her famous digs.

school for a year, then joining the Dinos. With the Queens she was named RDC and Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference Rookie of the Year in 2001 and was a conference all-star both her years there. Since joining the Dinos, Boroumand has played a key role in securing some big wins.

"When Neda came, she stabilized

the team," Boyles explained. "We felt we had lost national titles in previous years because the backcourt was inconsistent. What's indicative of this is the year we won nationals was when she joined the team."

"I entered the program knowing it would be successful," Boroumand said. "I knew that if the team was successful it would help me and if I was successful it would help the team. I was wanting to win and associated the Dinos with winning."

Despite spending just three years with the Dinos rather than five like many other players, Boroumand has still managed to squeeze everything she could out of it. She led CW in digs per game for the last three seasons and has grown off the volleyball court as well.

"You just have to take what you can get," she said of her three-year

reign. "Some things you learn in a short while can mean a lot. I've had enough time for me to get everything I could out of the program."

"In three years here, she's moved beyond being just a volleyball player," agreed Boyles. "She's realized there's a lot more out there."

Boroumand graduates next year with a science degree in geophysics. She hopes to get some field experience this summer. She will take a break from playing volleyball to get her degree finished but will resume playing if she can't let go.

And as the team is forced to let go of both ladies, they will have to look for some solid new players if they hope to repeat this year's successes. The Dinos host the CIS Championship again next season and therefore have a secure spot in the tournament.

## Hall o' fame, cont'd from page 32

be included in school athletics," she explained. "And the university league in field hockey is like junior hockey to the NHL. I got the bug and wanted to be on the national team. The U of C was a great place to train."

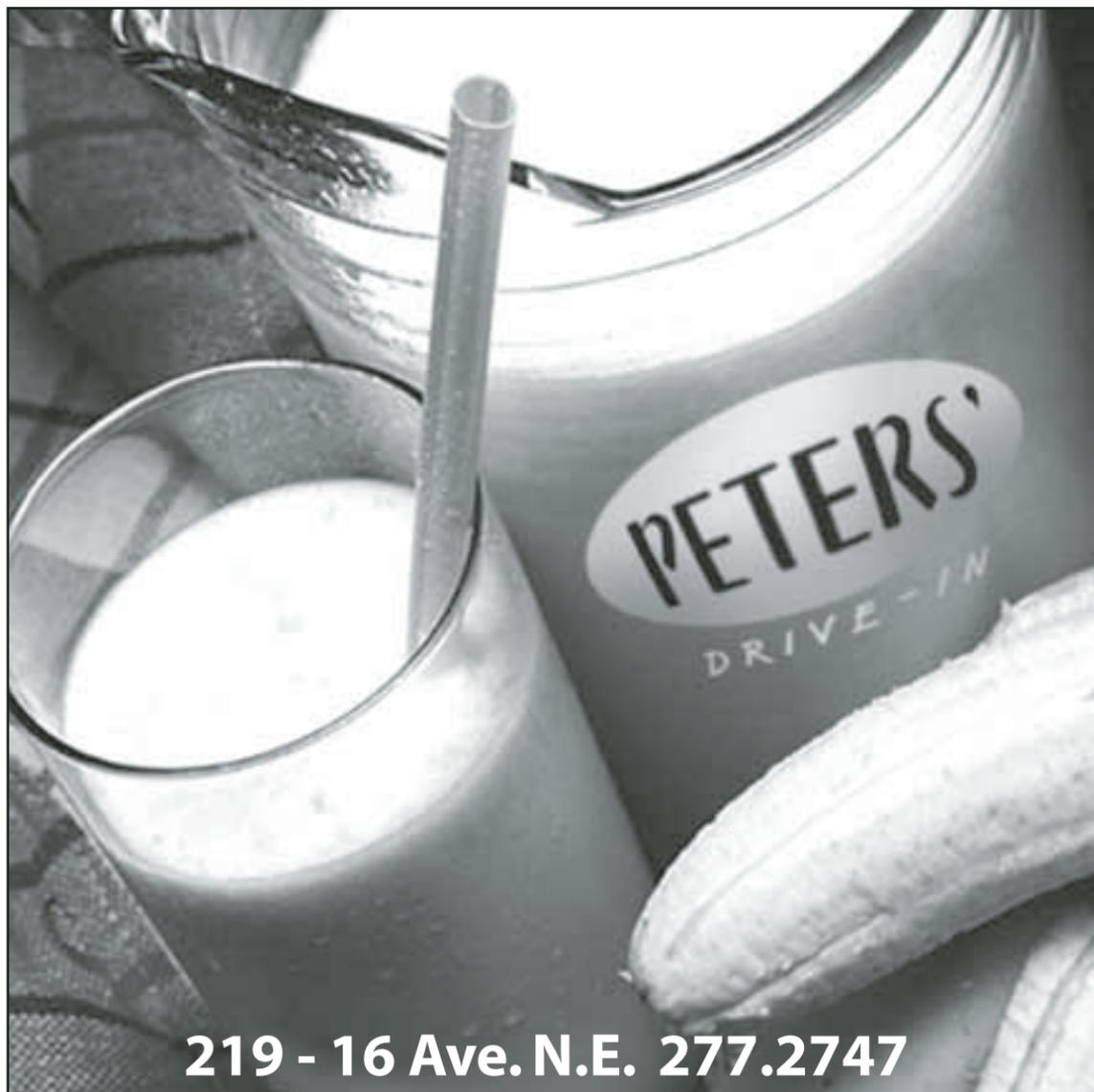
And she remained in control of her own destiny; after playing for the Dinos, Conn was consistently playing on the international stage. There, she conjured up goals as a starter with the 1988 and 1992 Olympic team and alternate on the 1984 team.

She was the co-captain of the national team from 1989-92 and a

member of the 1986 team that won bronze at the World Championship. In 2001 she became the second field-hockey-playing member of the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame.

But Conn was not content with her field hockey successes. After retiring from the national team, she concentrated on marathons and triathlons and now plays golf.

As athletes like these are honoured, more are just breaking out of their moulds in the current Dinos programs. As long as great athletes keep coming to the U of C, there will be many more names added to the Hall of Fame over the years.



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# ESCAPES & PURSUITS

E&P Editor: Chris Courtice  
eandp@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca

## CONCERTS

Check out **Hawksley Workman** at the Knox United Church **Apr. 6**. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$22.50. The show starts at 8 p.m.

**Cuff the Duke** and guests ponder the meaning of music **Apr. 7** at The Gateway. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$15. The doors open at 8 p.m. No minors please.

**Remote Kid** and **Hip City Blues Combo** finish That Empty Space's year off with a bang on **Apr. 7**. Tickets are imaginary as usual, just show up right at 3 p.m. to catch the entire show until 6 p.m.

**Sarah Harmer** and her acoustic band will turn many a head **Apr. 7** and **Apr. 8** at the Knox United Church. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$29.50. The show begins at 8 p.m.

**The Ghost Cried Murder, Alivia, The Riviera Heist** and **Surrender The South** rock some faces **Apr. 7** at the Sunnyside Community Hall. Tickets will be at the doors for \$8. The doors open at 6 p.m. This is an all ages event.

**Richard Humpy Vision** and **Chris Liberator** show some talent **Apr. 7** at The Warehouse. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$15. The doors open at 9 p.m. This is an 18+ show.

**Jello Biafra** talks a bunch and goes crazy **Apr. 10** at MacEwan Hall. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$15. The doors open at 7 p.m. This is an all ages event.

The **U of C Chamber Choir**

and **U of C Women's Choir** will be presenting the Dr. Theodore Rozsa Memorial Concert **Apr. 10** at the Eckhardt-Gramatte Recital Hall. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students and seniors. Tickets are available at the Music Centre or at the door. The event begins at 8 p.m.

**30 Seconds To Mars, Aiden, Keating** and **Retrograde** play a little something **Apr. 11** at The Whiskey. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$19. The doors open at 7 p.m. This is an 18+ show.

**Horrorpops** and **Left Alone** serenade the masses at the Liberty Lounge **Apr. 12**. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$12. The doors open at 8 p.m.

**Uprise!** will be taking place **Apr. 14** and **Apr. 15** at the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Hall. This gigantic show features **36 bands** and **6 DJs** over the two days. Tickets available at Sloth records and Haymarket Books, \$15 per day or an advanced 2-day pass for \$25. For more info visit [www.uprisefest.ca](http://www.uprisefest.ca). The shows start 1 p.m. each day.

## THEATRE

**The Graduate**, presented by Echo 37, begins this week and runs **Apr. 7 to Apr. 22**. You can find them being all thespian at the Engineered Air Theatre. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$25. The shows start at various times, so check out [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca) or [www.echo37.com](http://www.echo37.com) for more information.

Theatre Calgary presents **Guys & Dolls** at the Max Bell Theatre. The show runs from

**Mar. 28-Apr. 22**. For ticket information visit [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca). For other information on the play check out [www.theatrecalgary.com](http://www.theatrecalgary.com).

Alberta Theatre Projects presents **The Clean House**, running from **Mar. 28-Apr. 15** at the Martha Cohen Theatre. For ticket information check out [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca) and for all other inquiries check [www.atplive.com](http://www.atplive.com).

The **U of C** department of art will be conducting an **open house Apr. 12** in the Art Building (sixth and seventh floors of the Art Parkade). The event will take place 12 p.m.-7 p.m. It's free and

open to the public, so go check it out.

## SPORTS

**Calgary Flames** take on the **Minnesota Wild Apr. 7** at the Pengrowth Saddledome. Tickets might be available at Ticketmaster for \$23.50-\$175, but who really knows. The game starts at 7 p.m.

**Calgary Roughnecks** rock the **Arizona Sting Apr. 8** at the Pengrowth Saddledome. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$25.46-\$32.95. The game starts at 7:30 p.m.

**Roughstock featuring Rodeo Royal 2006** takes Calgary by

storm **Apr. 9** at the Stampede Corral. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for \$27-\$30. The fun starts at 1 p.m.

**Calgary Flames** take to the ice against **Anaheim Mighty Ducks Apr. 11** at the Pengrowth Saddledome. The action can be caught around 7 p.m.

## MISC.

**WISE** will be entertaining all interested at their **Women in Science reception Apr. 10**. The event will run from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. in the Cassio Room, and it's also free. Sign up or RSVP [womense@ucalgary.ca](mailto:womense@ucalgary.ca) or in SA120 by Apr. 7.

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In 1833, William Forster Lloyd, then a professor at Oxford University, wrote a book on overpopulation describing the "Tragedy of the Commons," a metaphor where unbridled public access to a resource ultimately dooms that resource to overexploitation. In what's now the classic example of this problem, a group of animal herders let their flocks graze on the same pasture. Each herder realizes that for every extra animal he brings along, he gets an extra full share of profits for himself at the expense of a tiny loss of quality in the pasture. Eventually, the pasture is ruined from overgrazing. By taking the rational steps, our herders have eliminated a critical resource.

What got me thinking about Lloyd's parable is its application to copyright law in Duke University professor James Boyle's paper, "The Second Enclosure Movement." Boyle briefly mentions the Tragedy as the perspective taken by media producers in our culture when considering the public—that if the public consumership were to have free access to media, that media might be steadily devalued to worthlessness, or more clearly, media is the pasture and we are the animals. Even though it was an offhanded comment in a dense, frustrating legal article, the reference struck me as remarkably lucid. Illuminating, even. By exposing the contempt that media holders show toward the consuming public through their overzealous protection of copyrights, Boyle has perfectly captured the character of the media climate in which we live. After some research into Boyle's other work (notably the comic book/pamphlet *Tales from the Public Domain*) I was confronted with some unsettling trends in the interactions of copyright law and the public domain, encompassing the spheres of law, history and the medias.

As a technology-savvy media consumer I've been running up against issues in copyright law for some time, starting with Napster and its derivatives, up until now when copyright holders actively seek to discourage the free consumption of their media through a combination of technology and awareness campaigns. But the debate about piracy is only a small part of the discussion about the tension between fair use and copyright protection. The real meat is far more subtle, and has far more important implications for the future of our culture.

Copyright law exists for two purposes: first, to protect the work of media creators, so that they might receive fair compensation for their effort; and second, to encourage the creation of new works, perhaps using old works as a basis. Right away this sets up a delicate tension, which lawmakers

**Virtually the whole history of human culture consisted of altering, reusing, and copying from the universal public domain in various re-imagined ways.**

must work hard to balance correctly. Our second purpose is perhaps more important in the long-term: throughout history, the most creative societies have had a large base of writing, art and learning to draw upon. Consider that without a healthy public domain there would be no Andy Warhol, Walt Disney, *Pulp Fiction*, Hunter S. Thompson, Black Sabbath, or any number of media pieces and producers who appropriate the ideas and images of the past. Or, as the appropriationist art group Negativland beautifully put it in their essay "Two Relationships to a Cultural Public Domain":

[T]he natural human approach to our own culture

was to participate in it by not only absorbing it as an individual, but also by remaking it—adding to it, removing from it, recombining it with other elements, reshaping it to our own tastes—and then redistributing the adjusted results ourselves. Virtually the whole history of human culture consisted of altering, reusing, and copying from the universal public domain in various re-imagined ways.

The need for a public domain in our media-centric, post-modern society is a given; we live in a time where nothing is new. But the issue of appropriation is at the heart of the public domain debate. Record, film and television companies are empowered by an ever-intensifying set of copyright laws, aggressively pursuing media works which appear to appropri-

ate their intellectual property. Boyle's *Tales from the Public Domain* describes myriad instances of copyright mongering, but two stand out as especially interesting. During the filming of a pivotal scene in the documentary *Mad Hot Ballroom*, a cell phone in the background rang to the tune of the *Rocky* theme song. EMI, the rights-holder of the song, demanded \$10,000 if that scene were to be included in the final cut of the film. In another documentary, *The First Year*, about the first work experiences of public school teachers, a teacher was driving some students to an event when "Stairway to Heaven" came on the car's radio. The teacher turned up the song while the

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kids squirmed and complained. The scene was an especially powerful portrait of the generation gap, but when the filmmaker couldn't afford the rights to use a snippet of the song, the whole thing had to be cut.

In both cases, a documentary—meant to record the facts of its time—is targeted by copyright holders looking for compensation. As well, both cases raise the same question of public domain: if these songs have become so ubiquitous as to be captured incidentally during daily life, don't they, at least in small part, belong to the public?

To fully understand the answer to that question, we'll have to take a look at America's copyright laws—American because that country produces almost all of the media which forms the basis of our North American culture—and try to get a sense of their evolution.

Works produced before 1923, when the copyright has not been renewed, are clearly in the public domain and may be used in any way by anyone (this is why there are so many competing editions of classic books on bookstore shelves). From there, copyrights become much more complicated. Works published from 1923-1963 are copyrighted only if they were originally published with a copyright notice, for a term lasting 95 years after the publication date—if the copyright was not renewed, that work is now in the public domain. Works published from 1964-1977 are copyrighted for a term of 95 years from publication. Works created before 1978, the date of the last major revision to American copyright law, but not published hold copyright for the author's life plus 70 years. Works created before 1978 but published between then and 2003 are copyrighted for the author's life plus 70 years or

until 2047, whichever is greater. Works created before 1978 and published after 2002 are protected for the author's life plus 70 years. Finally, works created from 1978 forward begin their copyright terms when they are published, for a term of the author's life plus 70 years (and in the case of corporate or anonymous authorship, the shorter of 95 years from the date of first publication or 120 years from creation).

As copyright law grows it becomes ever more byzantine. Worse, it is the creator's responsibility to research the media they wish to appropriate and license. If simply finding out

if these songs have become so ubiquitous as to be captured incidentally during daily life, don't they, at least in small part, belong to the public?

whether a work is copyrighted or not is this complicated, the process of contacting the rights holder, licensing the work, and payment for that licensing is infinitely more complex. Copyright holders, then, are insulated from artists who wish to use their work by a system of laws which discourages the use of those appropriations at every turn, and then severely punishes those appropriating artists in cases of what should clearly be fair use. As more work enters the copyrighted sphere and new copyright laws are passed which lengthen the copyright term and shrink the public domain, artists find themselves with fewer "raw materials" on which to base their works; especially true if those works are meant to faithfully represent our media- and corporate-attuned society.

In *Tales from the Public Domain*, Boyle uses the image of an egg to illustrate how copyright law has been perverted.

Diagramming the shell and its insides, a character says, "Traditionally, we had a thin layer of intellectual property protection surrounding a rich and large public domain. [Intellectual Property] didn't cover very much, didn't cover it for very long." He then crushes the egg, explaining that the balance between protecting the original producer and promoting new creative growth has been upset. Again, Boyle has created a simple, powerful image to explain copyrights.

A short survey of copyright law's dangerous trajectory cannot capture the depth or the severity of the problem. If we

are to avoid long-term damage to society's arts, at the very least we can educate ourselves on how to avoid this cultural erosion; at the best, we can go forth and create new art which incorporates new content with old. Again, *Negativland* puts the situation most clearly:

*Observing this now generally culture-wide acceptance of appropriation methodologies, one would think that sympathetic laws of allowance would also emerge to encourage the practice and assure that it is able to proceed legally. But that has not yet happened. What's wrong with this picture?*

This essay was based almost entirely on *Tales From the Public Domain: Bound by Law?* by Keith Aoki, James Boyle and Jennifer Jenkins, retrieved from <http://law.duke.edu/cspd/comics/index.html>; and "Two Relationships to a Cultural Public Domain" by art group *Negativland*, found in *Law and Contemporary Problems* vol 66 issue 1.

# OMBUDSBOARD DIRECTOR

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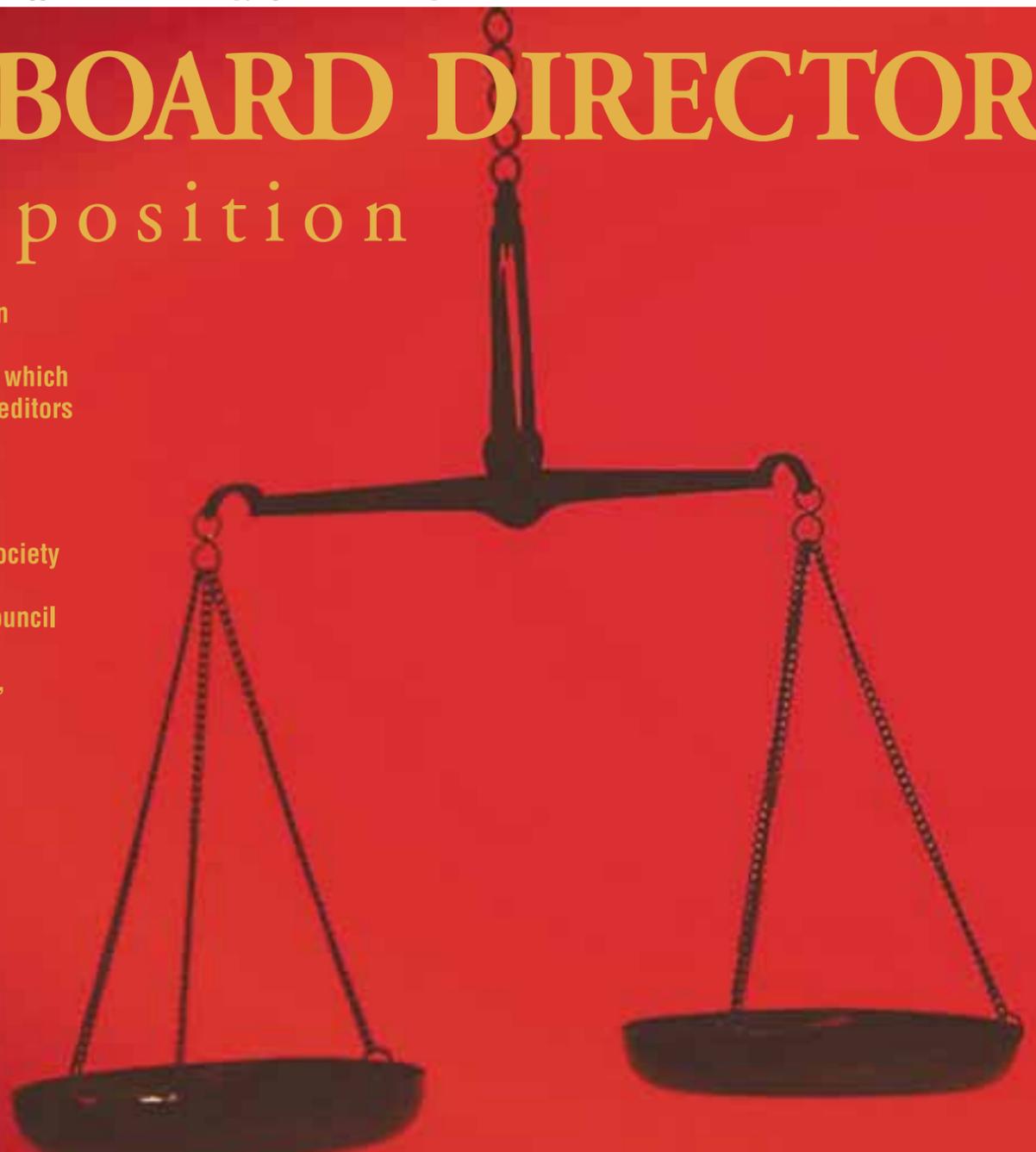
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## JAY CROCKER...



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...matures with style

## MUSICINTERVIEW

Jay Crocker

Rachel Betts-Wilmott

Gauntlet Entertainment

Every day we're getting older. We accept it because we have to, it's as inevitable as it is unpleasant. To make the idea palatable we disguise it as maturing, as if each day makes us wiser. When constantly in a university, the idea of maturing can be hard to believe—we're still surrounded by the slutty girls and greasy-haired boys in baseball caps from high school—luckily there are

people like local singer-songwriter and guitarist Jay Crocker to prove we will get better with age.

Some might know Crocker from his young care-free days with Recipe from a Small Planet, but his *modus operandi* has changed since then. Once a member of a precocious four-piece, Crocker took a year to write *Melodies from the Outskirts*, an album for himself and 10 piece band The Electric Apes.

"It's just different than what I've done before," he says. "I'm older now, using the experiences I've had in music. The ideas are more concise, cemented."

This sentiment comes after a period of personal musical upheaval. Indeed the act of writing itself helped him find a centre.

"Sometimes writing's easy, sometimes it's hard, at times quick or slow, but it's something I really love to do," Crocker explains. "Even if it does take a lot out of me, it's really cathartic and so worth it."

Despite the level musical ground he's found to stand on, Crocker's perception of the world becomes at times a little more fluid. Whether it's a side effect of aging or a reaction to his new-found maturity, we may never know, though it may be

a product of touring for so many years.

"The weirdest thing about touring is everybody gets a bit detached from reality," Crocker reveals. "We'll go in to eat while we're on the road and not understand what other people are saying, we just speak our own weird little language. Everything just seems from a dream."

This is what you can expect from his live show, surreal, fantasy-inducing tunes, with just enough big band horns to keep your feet planted firmly on the ground and little details to keep your mind on the music. It's a precarious balance,

but it's Crocker's goal to walk just such a tightrope.

"The live show is very true to the album," admits Crocker. "But bigger. There are lots different things, little intricacies, to pick up on, that I want people to experience. Really I just want everyone to have a good time then go have sex."

It seems, despite being an old soul, Crocker is still young at heart; channeling at times the age-old storyteller, but also the spirit of teenagers everywhere.

*Melodies From the Outskirts* is available at fine record stores.

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# Givin' up rock 'n roll lifestyle for motherhood

## MUSICINTERVIEW

Nathan

Rachel Betts-Wilmott  
Gauntlet Entertainment

The idea behind rock 'n roll is to fight the establishment and really stick it to the man with a side of drugs, alcohol and sex. But for Nathan's Keri Latimer, the rebellious side of rock 'n roll has been ruled out. Latimer is with child, giving up the usual indulgences of musicians, but still playing the regular bar shows and eagerly awaiting the summer festival circuit.

"We can't complain about playing folk fests," she says. "They treat us well, they feed us well and the audience is there to listen to music, not to get drunk and party."

Nathan's plans for the summer, however, have been put on hold due to the arrival of a new band member, scheduled right around the Edmonton Folk Festival, giving

the band the summer off. Latimer plans to take the time to do some admittedly geeky pre-natal yoga and learn to knit baby booties like all pregnant women should.

"I haven't started to knit yet," she laughs. "But I've thought about it. I'm having some weird nesting issues. Plus, nobody bothers someone with knitting needles in their hands, but mostly we'll be rehearsing."

The band is working on new material, to be debuted on their current tour, before heading to the studio with it.

"We're going to play as much new stuff as we can and hope for the best," says Latimer. "It's really exciting because we'll be working with a new producer, and [accordion and banjo player] Shelley Marshall is writing more."

Motherhood is usually enough to get anyone excited, but Latimer has more on her plate. The soon-to-be-matriarch of Winnipeg's premier country-folk band is soon



Courtesy Nettwerk

Nathan demonstrate the latest and greatest cowpoke fashion.

to be inducted into her Lethbridge high school's hall of fame.

"I don't really know what to make of it," Latimer giggles. "I was an excessive club joiner, a bit of a nerd. But I like being a nerd, I've got no longing to be a jock."

The honour is probably due to her

band's quirky folk music, containing just as much pop and country as it does folk, rather than her extracurricular activities. Despite being on the track team, it's more likely Nathan's laid back and comfortable performance style, earned her the spot.

High school halls of fame aren't the most obvious media for rebellion, and maybe Nathan's left behind the clichés of rock, but Latimer will be the coolest mommy at Mommy and Me.

Nathan plays the Ironwood Stage and Grill Sunday, April 9.

# Never Let Me Go never lets readers go

## BOOKREVIEW

Never Let Me Go

Hoang-Mai Hong  
Gauntlet Entertainment

The book *The Remains of the Day* should ring a few bells for quasi-scholars. We know it's a classic of sorts as the title trips so easily on the tongue, but when pried for any further info on the book, there is a bit of hesitation. In other words, when asked, "Have you read *The Remains of the Day*?" many of us

will respond, "No, but I've heard of it."

If you've read the Man Booker Prize winning novel by Kazuo Ishiguro or if you've seen the Oscar-nominated film with Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson, good on you. If you haven't, it's better late than never, and a good start is to dig into the Japanese-born Englishman's latest novel, *Never Let Me Go*. The book makes you want to read his past work, which for many of us was in its heyday before we could actually read.

*Never Let Me Go* introduces us to Kathy H., a 31-year-old 'carer.' The book takes us through her memories, starting at her days at Hailsham, a boarding school encouraging art and creativity and

discouraging smoking to a point where books with characters who smoke, like Sherlock Holmes, are banned. The kids are sheltered here and are being prepared for what is described to them as a vicious out-

side world. Their repression of any feelings at all is creepy at points, and you get the image of blonde and British *Children of the Corn*, as their teachers, or 'guardians,' cringe see NEVER LET ME GO page 46

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# The suite sounds of Summers

## Calgary hep cat returns home to jubilation

### MUSICINTERVIEW

Johnny Summers

Darren Young

Gauntlet Entertainment

When routine becomes too comfortable and life starts feeling monotonous, boredom is rather inescapable. Some may try to shake-up routine through acts of spontaneity like not going to work, getting evicted, living on the street for a while, *et cetera*. Jazz artist Johnny Summers leaves home to study with professional musicians.

"I find that I need to keep pushing myself and to just keep improving," he claims. "Otherwise I get bored. As an artist, if you get bored you become stagnant. I've gone through periods of that, I'll be honest, so I like doing self directed studies."

Summers' most recent self directed study took him to New York, where he studied with the likes of Wynton Marsalis, Wycliffe Gordon, and Laurie Frink. Now Summers has returned to

Calgary to premier his brand new composition, a religious story known as *Suite Jubilation*.

"[*Suite Jubilation*] is a piece that kind of follows the Biblical story from creation until after the Old Testament, right into the New Testament," explains Summers. "I wrote [the suite] when I was studying in New York. A lot of it was pulled from music that I was influenced by there."

Besides the influence of his New York experience, Summers also cites inspiration from Duke Ellington's sacred concerts and, of course, his religious background. Though his intentions in creating *Suite Jubilation* had a religious purpose, his thoughts are mostly guided towards creating powerful pieces of art to move audiences, whether they're religious or not.

"Most art is for the artistic sake; for the sake of actually moving someone and not just a vanity project," says Summers. "My favourite thing about playing music is touching the audience."

Summers will get his opportunity to captivate an audience on April 7,

when he debuts three movements of *Suite Jubilation*: "The Birth," "I See Him Walking" and "Praises to our God." The movements are stylistically separate from one another and represent their own portion of the story of *Suite Jubilation*.

"The suite itself encompasses all the styles that jazz has to offer," says Summers. "Or maybe not all, but most of them. 'The Birth' is a very gentle movement about the birth of Christ; 'I See Him Walking' is about the people looking on [as Christ carried the cross] and the different emotions and thoughts they had. It's more of a modern type of jazz."

Through experimenting with different styles of jazz, Johnny Summers hopes to move audiences with his *Suite Jubilation*, regardless of their musical background. Sometimes it only takes a bit of boredom to get the inspiration flowing.

Johnny Summers performs *Suite Jubilation* Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8 at the Grace Presbyterian Church. For tickets call 284-5100 ext. 239. Doors open at 7 p.m.



Courtesy Johnny Summers

Johnny Summers takes a break.

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## Get yer head crushed

### BOOKREVIEW

Headcrusher

Jon Roe

Gauntlet Entertainment

Though the Berlin wall fell almost two decades ago, the effects of the Cold War are still felt in Eastern European countries who have yet to make serious strides towards matching their western counterparts' economies. Straight out of Eastern Europe, *Headcrusher* puts readers in the perspective of Vadim, a Latvian bank worker who, disgusted with the system he sees

around him, snaps and goes on a killing spree.

*Headcrusher* is the debut novel for the writing duo of Alexander Garros and Aleksei Evdokimov and like modern classics *American Psycho* and *Fight Club*, the novel excellently mixes dark humour with a critique of capitalism. Where *Headcrusher* differs from the two books-turned-films is the perspective—*American Psycho* and *Fight Club* offer a look at the underside of society from the American side of the Iron Curtain.

In the book, Vadim, a former *see HEADCRUSHER page 46*

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# A veritable horde of Hylozoists

## MUSICINTERVIEW

*The Hylozoists*

Jon Roe

Gauntlet Entertainment

Paul Aucoin has been a busy man the last few years. Besides contributing to or producing such bands as The Old Soul, the Fembots, Cuff the Duke and the Golden Dogs, he somehow found the time to form the Hylozoists. The band's first album, 2002's entirely instrumental *La Nouvelle Gauche*, was mostly performed by Aucoin, but when it was time to form a band to tour in support of the album, Aucoin assembled himself an army of musicians from other bands.

Though some members weren't available for their present tour, which stops in Calgary April 7, including the Weakerthan's Jason Tait and Broken Social Scene's Julie Penner, the list following Aucoin on his first West Coast trip with the Hylozoists is dizzying. Wayne Petti on piano, Paul Lowman on bass, Patrick Conan on vibraphone and Dale Murray on pedal steel and guitar from Cuff the Duke, Dave MacKinnon and Brian Poirier from the Fembots, Taylor Knox on drums from the Golden Dogs and Aucoin's brother, Richard Aucoin also on vibraphone. Because of the size of the band and the nature of its assembly, the Hylozoists have drawn comparisons to indie supergroup Broken Social Scene, a comparison Aucoin doesn't mind. "I think people stop the comparison just on the involvement of many musicians," says Aucoin, who plays vibraphones and drums in the Hylozoists. "They're all our friends too. Julie Penner, our violin player, is off playing with them now. I played with them before. I don't mind the comparisons; they're all our friends."

Though the cross over in members causes some scheduling con-

flicts, such as the current one with Penner, the Hylozoists' violin player, Aucoin isn't bothered. In fact, he enjoys the experience of meeting new musicians.

"Julie Penner has only recently started to miss some shows because of her involvement with Broken Social Scene," he says. "Jason Tait never missed any shows until this tour. Business people say to me, 'oh this is going to be confusing.' You know what? Don't worry about it. Unless you think the band is just worse because of it musically, then tell me something. But otherwise, these are all great people [and] we all like doing it. I like it that way. I really like meeting new musicians. Sometimes it's a bit of a bummer organizing this stuff, but ultimately I get to meet all these great people because of it. Having a set band is nice, [but] so is meeting new people."

Aucoin has been lucky to meet not only great musicians through his bands, but also celebrities of other varieties. A fan of hockey, Aucoin recently got the opportunity to play a show at Phoenix Coyotes member Boyd Devereaux's cottage before the start of the NHL regular season. The show also introduced Aucoin to some comparisons of the varying levels of success dividing musicians and hockey players.

"[The show at his cottage with Cuff the Duke] was a great time," voices Aucoin. "At first, I was a little concerned whether everybody would love it or not, they seemed like they would be into other types of music, but they loved it. It was for all the hockey players he played with through the years, [and hockey players] from Stratford, Ontario, where he's from. It was interesting to see. You know some of your friends

have gold records; you know some of your friends who can't get their records done. When you meet a lot of the hockey players, the same thing sort of happens. You see all the journeymen in the WHL and IHL, they make \$22,000 a year and they're still playing even if they might not make the NHL. [There are] those of us that do it for the love of doing it first, and hope the business end works out. Some of us it works out really well, [and then] some of us have a great time, but you move onto other things."

So far, Aucoin has yet to be forced to move on from music, as he is involved in a multitude of projects. Besides producing and participating in bands, Aucoin has had the opportunity to score films like the com-

posers he draws inspiration from, such as Danny Elfman, Bernard Herrman, and Ennio Morricone. Aucoin hopes his latest creation, the Hylozoist's *La Fin Du Monde*, slated for an early June release, will find some success. The album was already recorded before Aucoin assembled the current version of the band and wanted to re-record it with everyone participating, causing a delay in its release date.

"We really wanted everyone on the record," admits Aucoin. "[*La Nouvelle Gauche*] was mostly me by myself and it was just so nice to have that option this time. Re-recording was a lot of fun. Some of the songs got way better from playing them so much as opposed to the nice but tentative aspect of recording songs when you don't know them. Which most bands do anyway, because they write them, then record them [immediately after.] A year later they're playing them great."

One member currently touring with the band who wasn't featured on *La Fin Du Monde* is Aucoin's brother Richard Aucoin. The Hylozoist concert in Calgary will almost be a family reunion, because, in addition to his brother in the band, Aucoin has a sister who teaches at the University of Calgary and expects his parents to be in the audience for the first time.

"Actually, at the Calgary show my mother and father will finally see the band," says Aucoin. "They're the biggest Hylozoists fans in the world and they've never seen the band live. They're going to see both of their sons head to head on vibraphones and I think they're going to like it."

The Hylozoists play the Gate Friday, April 7 alongside The Fembots and Cuff The Duke.



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# TOP OF THE VOX

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**cjsw**  
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## TOP 20 FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 3.06

\* Denotes Canadian Artist  
\*\* Denotes Local Artist

1. **CALEXICO**  
*Garden Ruin*  
Quarterstick
2. **EAGLES OF DEATH METAL**  
*Death By Sexy*  
Ant Acid Audio
3. **NEKO CASE**  
*Fox Confessor Brings The Flood*  
Mint
4. **DESTROYER\***  
*Destroyer's Rubies*  
Merge
5. **TORTOISE AND BONNIE PRINCE BILLY**  
*The Brave And The Bold*  
Overcoat
6. **ACEYALONE**  
*Magnificent City*  
Project Blowed/Decon
7. **NIKOLA TESLA AND EXCEPT MY LIFE\*\***  
*S/T*  
True
8. **YOUNG AND SEXY\***  
*Panic When You Find It*  
Mint
9. **BOGART!\*\***  
*In A Post Oil World*  
Meter
10. **RAISING THE FAWN\***  
*The Maginot Line*  
Sonic Unyon
11. **NOFX**  
*Never Trust A Hippie*  
Fat Wreck Chords
12. **MAGNETA LANE\***  
*Dancing With Daggers*  
Paper Bag
13. **KESSLER TIDAL\*\***  
*Kessler Tidal*  
Independent
14. **RED CITY ANTHEM\***  
*Red City Anthem*  
Triple Thread
15. **ILLUMINATI\***  
*Illuminati*  
Liquor And Poker
16. **VARIOUS**  
*Downbeat The Ruler: Killer Instrumentals From Studio One*  
Studio One
17. **DILATED PEOPLES**  
*20/20*  
Capitol
18. **SUDDEN INFANT DANCE SYNDROME\*\***  
*S/T 7"*  
Independent
19. **THE ESSEX GREEN**  
*Cannibal Sea*  
Merge
20. **CENTRO-MATIC**  
*Fort Recovery*  
Misra

### JAZZ

1. **BOB MINTZER BIG BAND**  
*Old School: New Lessons*  
MCG
2. **RABNETT 5\***  
*Dan's Party*  
Cellar Live
3. **TOM SCOTT**  
*Bebop United*  
MCG
4. **CHET DOXAS QUARTET\***  
*Sidewalk Etiquette*  
Justin Time
5. **LARRY GOLDINGS**  
*Quartet*  
Palmetto

### HIP HOP

1. **ACEYALONE**  
*Magnificent City*  
Project Blowed/Decon
2. **JEL**  
*Soft Money*  
Anticon
3. **DILATED PEOPLES**  
*20/20*  
Capitol
4. **CADENCE WEAPON\***  
*Breaking Kayfabe*  
Upper Class
5. **EPIC/NOMAD\***  
*Epic/Nomad*  
CHR

# Slevin isn't lucky enough



Courtesy Alliance Atlantis

Oh my God, a rare appearance by Mr. Chuck, also known as Josh Hartnett's left nipple.

## THEATREPREVIEW

### *The Graduate*

Andrew Rininsland  
Gauntlet Entertainment

**L**ucky Number *Slevin*, a crime thriller directed by Paul McGuigan and starring Josh Hartnett, Bruce Willis, Lucy Liu, Morgan Freeman and Ben Kingsley, has everything a good crime movie could want, except, well, character development and a plot.

Slevin (Hartnett) is a man who has had quite the run of bad luck. He not only gets evicted from his apartment, realizes his girlfriend is cheating on him and suffers a broken nose at the hands of a mugger, but two warring crime bosses wrongly believe he owes them a combined debt of \$126,000. This case of mistaken identity leaves Slevin in a difficult place, only made worse considering one of the crime

bosses, known merely as The Boss (Freeman), wants him to kill the son of the other boss, The Rabbi (Kingsley), in order to pay off the majority of his debt.

It's difficult to deny the artistic talent involved with the project. A big-name cast, witty writing, some stylish cinematography, yet the whole thing manages to fall flat due to its utter lack of characterization and how ridiculously convoluted its plot becomes later on. Suffice to say, the last half attempts to be a psychological thriller as well as tie up all loose ends, leaving viewers disgruntled at how pointlessly elaborate and unmotivated it becomes.

By-and-large, the shallowness of the majority of the characters by-and-large accounts for this. Bruce Willis plays—wait for it—an elite hitman named, of all things, Mr. Goodcat. Who could've guessed this incredibly unforeseen example

of type-casting? Bruce Willis? A hitman? Didn't see that coming! It's like casting Adam Sandler as a dumbass! Brilliant! Despite his large amount of screen-time, he's given less lines than Keanu Reeves, creating a character so woefully underdeveloped he almost exists entirely as a *deus-ex-machina*, which is bad given how much of a pivotal role he plays in the progression of the plot.

Freeman's The Boss and Kingsley's The Rabbi don't appear to be crime bosses so much as wankers who sit in tall buildings plotting things. The only elements of their supposedly-vast criminal empires you see are the goons who bring Slevin to them. The only semi-developed characters in the entire story are Slevin—who's likable in the first half but laughable in the second—and Lucy Liu as Lindsey, who, despite being one of the more unique characters—and not type-

cast as some sort of sword-wielding assassin, to the movie's credit—is added solely to introduce a pointless romantic sub-plot.

There's an urge when creating crime dramas for the writer to toss viewers a sudden curve-ball, making the plot appear more psychological than it really is. Sometimes this works, as can be seen in pretty much any episode of *CSI*, but sometimes it fails miserably as in 1998's *Wild Things*. *Lucky Number Slevin* falls into the latter category. The motivation simply isn't there, leaving the story feeling like it was written in two parts, with the former being an enjoyable, nearly humorous take on film noir and the latter feeling like a half-assed attempt at an action movie.

Let's hope Slevin's comment about bad luck coming in threes is untrue so as to spare the misfortune of two sequels to this rather-shoddy bit of storytelling.



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**Tue** NUTV'S LIVE - Nickle and Dime's Dance Montage with SPECTACULO  
**Wed** NUTV'S LIVE - Nickle and Dime's Dance Montage with SPECTACULO  
**Thur** NUTV'S LIVE - Nickle and Dime's Dance Montage with SPECTACULO  
**Fri** NUTV'S LIVE - Nickle and Dime's Dance Montage with SPECTACULO

### THIS WEEK

NUTV'S LIVE TO TAPE CREW CAPTURES  
**NICKLE AND DIME'S**  
**DANCE MONTAGE PERFORMANCE.**

It ran from March 21 - 24 in the Reeve Secondary theatre. The dance incorporates a number of styles, including jazz, break dancing, ballet, and cheese. This was the last show of the year for Nickle & Dime and is one of the most popular shows among fans of the student run organization.

### SPECTACULO

A collection of student works in collaboration with the University of Calgary Fine Arts and EVDS. These projects will also be aired at 12:30 PM Tue, Wed and Thur.

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Get a job, hang in the sun, or going back to school!

# At least someone's graduated

## THEATREPREVIEW

### The Graduate

Ryan Pike

Gauntlet Entertainment

Whether they've actually read the book or seen the film, nearly everybody in the western world knows about *The Graduate*. A renewed interest in the tale has emerged thanks to last year's release of *Rumour Has It*, inspired by the book and film. This thirst is about to be quenched by echo37's Calgary stage premier of *The Graduate*.

Based on the novel by Charles Webb and the film directed by Mike Nichols, *The Graduate* tells the tale of college graduate Benjamin Braddock (Scott Roberts), whose lazy summer is turned upside-down when he gets entangled in an affair with the wife of his father's business partner, Mrs. Robinson (Barb Mitchell).

"[It's about] somebody transitioning from the world of youth into an adult and suddenly being faced with a lot of the adult options that are out there in the world," explains director Iam Coulter. "It is a comedy, but it has a lot of dramatic material."

Coulter comes to the production with a great wealth of experi-

ence adapting well-known works with the Shakespeare Company. She admits adapting something as well-known as *The Graduate* poses a bit of a challenge.

"When I work on Shakespeare, I'm sort of reinventing for the first time," Coulter details. "Whereas with this, people will come and a large degree of the audience will have their own sense of what they expect to see, what they want to see and they'll be looking more specifically to see whether or not those wants have been met. In another production, people come with more of a blank slate and what you give them is what they come to see, as opposed to something they're really there expecting."

*The Graduate* is notable not only because it's the Calgary premier, but also because it features the stage debut of City TV's Barb Mitchell. Mitchell has been delving into acting as of late and Coulter recalls being impressed with her audition.

"I was sitting in the auditions and I see 'Barb Mitchell' [listed] and I'm thinking, 'Oh, okay, Barb Mitchell' and she walked through the door and I was like 'Oh, that Barb Mitchell!'" remembers Coulter. "So I had no idea what to expect and she absolutely blew me away right from the get-go."



Courtesy echo 37

Benjamin Braddock wishes he had some frat boys to high five right now.

Those first impressions are accurate and Coulter doesn't hesitate to lavish praise upon her leading lady.

"She just has so much to offer and so many layers to her personality and character. And she has a

beautiful sense of fun and incredible courage," gushes Coulter. "To do your stage premier and to take on a role like Mrs. Robinson in a town where you are as well-known as she is, that is an extremely courageous thing for her to do and it shows the

kind of character she has. She's not a scaredy-cat. She has taken the bull by the horns and jumped in with both feet."

*The Graduate* runs April 7-22 at the Engineered Air Theatre.

# CJSW on-air guide

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun	
6 am	morning joy	too young to go steady	lush life	cold smoke jazz	pussycat dues	late night continued	late night continued	
6:30						canadian voices	alternative radio	
7 am	BBC WORLD SERVICE NEWS weekday mornings at 6, 7, 8 and 9 am							
7:30								
8 am						bunte welle <small>german</small>	counterspin eritrean radio hvratski radio <small>croatian</small>	
8:30							bagong pagasa <small>filipino</small> buscando america <small>latin america</small>	
9 am	insurgency broadcast	canadian music centre presents	bella musica	airport bison radio	the two and a half hour coffee break	calgary vietnamese radio		
9:30		stick it to the man				helenic melodies <small>greek radio</small>		
10 am							under the influence	
10:30		writer's block	alternative radio	cjsw news	who shakes <small>city calendar</small>			
11 am	canadian voices	red squares <small>sponsored by the drum &amp; monkey</small>	a house fell on my sister	aphasia / pillage the village	punk up the volume	fantastic plastic <small>sponsored by bird dog video</small>	level the vibes	
11:30								
12 pm	el moustacheo							
12:30	mysterio	meow mix <small>sponsored by the coup</small>	nerd beat / strange and beautiful	the audible smile	my allergy to the fans	schultzie / bikeshviks	mental illness	
1 pm								
1:30						caribbean link-up <small>sponsored by fivd weekly</small>		
2 pm	cloud pleaser	jane & tasya's guide to everything <small>sponsored by broken city</small>	full disclosure <small>sponsored by liberty lounge</small>	alternative to what? <small>sponsored by palomino smokehouse</small>	road pops <small>sponsored by fivd weekly</small>		the good word project	
2:30							beyond beads & feathers	
3 pm							desi vibes	
3:30							speaking in tongues <small>world music</small>	
4 pm	welcome to flava country <small>sponsored by the hi fi club</small>		so SU me students' union	mezza l'una	musiquarium <small>everything from jazz to jungle sponsored by giant 45</small>	voice of ethiopia		
4:30			the blues witness <small>with reverend ron sponsored by calgary dollars</small>	folkcetera	full moon funkalicious <small>the latest &amp; greatest in breaks &amp; house</small>	oh africa!		
5 pm			lift the bandstand	film clips	dirty needles <small>the best in funk, soul &amp; hip hop</small>	the nocturntable		
5:30			good character requirement / happy medium	noise <small>experimental music</small>	remote emissions <small>hard hitting jungle &amp; drum 'n bass</small>			
6 pm	french transe en danse	honey, i punk the kids	charlie / funk tank	fat beat diet	dna <small>hardcore techno</small>	megawatt mayhem <small>metal</small>	technicolor jukebox	
6:30		rack power	incidental tracks	post-everything	sound champion showcase		translucent dreams <small>ambient, trance etc.</small>	
6:30	south louisiana gumbo	what would the neighbors think?				the sarcastic triangle / attention surplus disorder	scrum-diddly-umptious	
7 pm	reverb	dead air						
7:30	yeah, what she said <small>women's program</small>	fabergé bacon						
8 pm	tombstone after dark							
8:30	tantrigal workout							
9 pm	workout							
9:30	katharsis							
10 pm								
10:30								
11 pm								
11:30								
12 am	downtime							
12:30								
1 am								
1:30								
2 am	bass backwards							
2:30								
3 am								
3:30								
4:00								
4:30								
5:00								
5:30								

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# Never Let Me Go, cont'd from p. 41

and are uncomfortable around them. Though the suspense of wondering what the hell is going on is ever present, driven by the innocuous terms these kids use, like 'career,' 'donations,' 'completing,' and 'students,' it all takes a backseat to the relationship between the sensible and caring heroine Kathy H. and her friends Ruth, the bossy girl who is committed to fitting in, and Tommy, the angry boy with the good heart. You see them grow up amidst what is gradually revealed as a reality set in a bleak sci-fi future; and the emotions are frighteningly familiar and the outcome heartbreaking.

It's hard to give any solid synopsis of the story without revealing too much, and the full picture isn't revealed to us anyway, as we know just as much as Kathy and her friends gradually uncover. If

there is any literary point of reference you could relate it to, it's Lois Lowry's *The Giver*, but aimed at an adult audience. Everything is uncertain, storylines trail off and there are holes everywhere, much like actual life. The whole thing seems so very seamless, though, as Ishiguro does a magnificent job of reeling you in, making you care, and moving you.

What makes *Never Let Me Go* sort of sci-fi is simply the backdrop, though an interesting one, to what is at the core a love story. Despite its heavy aspects, the focus is on the simple story we can understand and identify with. This story keeps us hooked and, when it is finished, causes the cathartic, satisfactory sigh that comes when you finish a damn good book. *Never Let Me Go* should qualify as another 'classic' for Ishiguro.

# Gender Bender!

Kenzie Love  
Gauntlet Entertainment

The Den's cabarets always have a tough time competing for students' attention this time of year, what with essays due, exams on the horizon, and the ever-popular Bermuda Shorts Day. Organizers of the annual Gender Bender, however, believe it's a challenge they can meet. The structure of the event, sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Academic Students and Staff, will be similar to past years, but longtime GLASS member and current chair Paul Sereda thinks distinctiveness from other cabarets will lure people in.

"[The Gender Bender] is a great chance to see something quite dif-

ferent from the norm for the Den," he says. "Whether one's interest is in participant observation or just partying it up."

Of course, the two go hand-in-hand at the Gender Bender, an event that's difficult to maintain a detached perspective towards. For those who thought Jon Stewart's hosting of the Oscars was edgy, Gender Bender emcees Bruce Lee and Selma Body can be counted on to push the envelope even further. They'll also be giving away some door prizes, including a Swizzle Sticks pedicure, gift baskets from Deva Dave's and Izo Bizo, and an assortment of sex toys. But Sereda hopes Gender Bender goers will take more away from the experience than just dildos and butt plugs.

"The Gender Bender is also about raising awareness and raising the profile of gays and lesbians on campus," he says.

The cabaret is GLASS' major fundraiser of the year and Sereda wants a portion of the profits to go to Act Out! a leadership development initiative for gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans-identified youth, to further its work in support of gay rights.

Sereda acknowledges the Gender Bender is a change from the usual for many who attend, but points out that it will be set in the safe and familiar environment of the Den, an ideal setting for an event encouraging both tolerance and fun, kind of like the university experience itself.

# Headcrusher, cont'd from p. 42

column writer for a newspaper during the Soviet era, finds himself looking for new work after the fall of communism. He ends up working in the mindless press department of a major Latvian bank, where, rather than doing actual work, most of his time is committed to writing rants against his superiors. After a few chapters of setting the scene, the novel really begins when Vadim kills his boss by taking a statue to his head, causing Vadim to follow a path of death and destruction with some Russian mafia involvement and random killings thrown in for flavour.

The book succeeds in every way,

maintaining a certain sense of grim horror while adding in humorous elements throughout. Garros and Evdokimov uphold a breathless pace, using a stream of consciousness style to place the reader in the position of Vadim, rather than merely watching him do all his gruesome work. *Headcrusher* is never boring thanks to the assault of words with furious velocity, with the best parts being the most hectic and action-packed.

Definitely not for the faint of heart, *Headcrusher* contains a high level of detail in every scene, especially when describing the killing and

dismantling of bodies. Garros and Evdokimov keep the same attention to details in the sex scenes, making them on par with what you would read in an erotic novel. Combined, the sex and the violence accentuate an already compelling story, surprising given this is the authors' first work.

*Headcrusher* is an excellent novel for our time and an intriguing look at the other side of the Iron Curtain. Following in the footsteps of contemporaries *American Psycho* and *Fight Club*, the book adds a critique of capitalism and greed to black comedy and shocking violence.

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CLAUDIA PUIG, *USA TODAY*

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# SPUN album reviews

this week • Ghostface Killah, Prince, POD and more

## Ghostface Killah *Fishscale* (Def Jam)



Back in 1993 everyone was going crazy for the Wu-Tang Clan. Their debut album, *Enter The Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)*, shot up both the charts and critics best of lists, ushering in a new wave of hip-hop. A couple years later, members dove into the solo arena, further praise was heaped upon the likes of Raekwon and The GZA while Method Man became a household name. Despite all this success, not every member became a mainstream smash or critical darling on their own.

Dennis Coles, aka Ghostface Killah, has been raging against this fate his entire career, steadily building a solid discography and loyal fanbase. His latest release, *Fishscale*, is further proof he possesses the greatest staying power of any of his colleagues. *Fishscale* is loaded with Ghost's trademarked syllable-spewing, nigh incomprehensible delivery and the soulful beats he has made a living rhyming overtop. On the surface it's nothing new, but the album is infused with an unavoidable desperation. "The Champ" begins with a boxing trainer telling Ghostface he "hasn't been hungry since [2000's] *Supreme Clientele*." A sampled crowd roars, a killer horn section kicks and Coles starts spitting verses, proving without a doubt his hunger is insatiable now. "The Champ" is just one of the standout tracks on *Fishscale*, all of which, except for the few requisite skits, reach near unprecedented heights for a rapper closing in on 40. Though Wu purists may cry foul, one

of the reasons the album hits as hard as it does is the noticeable lack of The RZA, who has held a monopoly over the producer's chair on nearly any Wu-Tang related project. Instead, *Fishscale* boasts a who's who of hot producers like Pete Rock, the late J Dilla, Just Blaze and MF Doom. No producer strays far from Ghostface's niche but they instill their songs with a vibrancy no one can blame The RZA for lacking after all these years.

Whether talking about a surreal undersea adventure, spanking or the album's central theme, cocaine, Ghostface has created a masterpiece. Though *Fishscale* may not get the mainstream attention it deserves, it will go a long way towards finally cementing Ghostface Killah's position at the top of the Wu-Tang Clan.

..Garth Paulson

## POD *Testify* (Atlantic)



Music can create three perceptions: overwhelming joy, undeniable hate or a middle ground where the sounds can be appreciated with time. POD's new album *Testify* sort of falls in the latter.

Widely known for their reggae-rock sound, with *Testify* POD take a different approach while trying to maintain some consistency. For three quarters of the album this holds true but for the other quarter you're left wondering what to think. Songs like "Roots in Stereo" and "This Time" instill old POD ways, while songs like "Teachers" and "Say Hello" struggle to leave any mark. Some would argue these select songs are a way of

exploring creativity but they come across as out of place. Quite simply, *Testify* is a decent album brought down by a few tracks feeling more like filler than anything else. With time you really start to appreciate the work put into most of the album but when it's all said and done, a dry taste produced by inconsistency and laziness lingers.

..Logan Niehaus

## Yeah Yeah Yeahs *Show Your Bones* (Interscope)



Whether it's not getting accepted to your grad program of choice or missing out on the last slice of cheese pizza because you were too slow, disappointments in life are many and varied.

For some fans, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs' sophomore album, *Show Your Bones* will be a disappointment. On their new release, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs lose some of their mystique, instead offering a compilation of tunes following in the footsteps of songs like "Date with a Night." By looking less to fan favourites from their debut *Fever to Tell* like "Maps" and "Modern Romance," the Yeah Yeah Yeahs have produced an album of dancier tracks including the harsh-but-pleasant "Honeybear" and LL Cool J cover "Phenomena."

The songs off *Show Your Bones* may not make you swoon the way the old stuff did, but, in the grand scheme of things, this CD isn't as much of a disappointment as missing the last slice.

..Rachel Betts-Wilmott

## Harland Williams *Har-Larious* (Comedy Central)



After 45 minutes of Harland Williams saying fuck, making annoying noises, verbally harassing audience members and mispronouncing "Al Queda" on *Har-Larious*, listeners will realize a lot of things would be a better use of their time. Here's only a few examples:

- Watching your grandparents have sex.
- Getting hit by a car.
- Getting hit by a car driven by your grandparents having sex.
- Drinking all the chemicals under your sink for fun.
- Starting a fist fight with yourself.
- Setting yourself on fire during a midterm.
- Making your own, better, comedy album.

..Ryan Pike

## Prince *3121* (Universal)



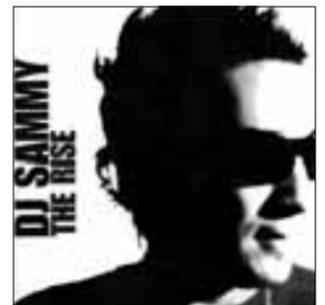
When Prince was popular in the '80s his music was innovative and impressive. The man played most, if not all the instruments

on his records, carving himself a good music career. He then he lost popularity in the '90s and disappeared into near obscurity when he changed his name to a symbol. Now he's back with his old name and a new disc, *3121*.

After two name changes something has been lost. *3121* has some moments of greatness when Prince delves into the funk realm, such as the title track, "Lolita" and "Get on the Boat." Unfortunately, the rest of the disc is uninspired standard R&B fare. Apparently it doesn't matter how many instruments you play if the music you play is boring. Getting name dropped on *The Dave Chapelle Show* has done Lil' Jon's career wonders, but it's doubtful it will have the same affect with Prince. This will prove especially true if he continues to release mediocre offerings such as *3121*.

..Jon Roe

## DJ Sammy *The Rise* (SPG)



*The Rise* takes a slow start before launching into a vicious DJ Sammy circle of electronic music. True to his style, the tunes here consist of the catchy lyrics laced into extremely synthesized music.

The first track, "Rise," takes an extremely long time to start off, making you want to skip to something more exciting, unfortunately most of the songs have the same flaw of starting off slowly instead of shoving the beats in your face. This isn't out of character for DJ Sammy, but may not be your cup of tea. *The Rise* will be better when someone else re-mixes it.

..Joëlle Robichaud

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