

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

gauntlet

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MACLEAN'S DENIED

Emily Senger
News Editor

In 2004 the University of Calgary was ranked dead last out of 46 participating schools in the first *Maclean's* graduate survey. This year won't be a repeat performance, because this time around the U of C isn't participating.

The U of C, along with the University of Alberta, the University of Lethbridge and about half of the 48 other Canadian schools *Maclean's* invited to participate in the graduate survey declined, citing a host of reasons including inaccurate research methods and results that do not reflect the experiences of current undergraduates.

The *Maclean's* University Student issue hits stands Mon., June 19 and focuses solely on the undergraduate experience of students, unlike the larger University Ranking issue,

which comes out in November and focuses on all aspects of the university. The survey asks 1,333 graduates each from 2002, 2003 and 2004 to rate their experiences, for a total of 4,000 students from each university. Questions include rating the quality of instruction and the learning environment.

U of C administration disagrees with the method *Maclean's* uses.

"The data are four years out of date since they were published," said U of C vice-president external relations Roman Cooney. "In the last few years we've put millions of dollars into the undergraduate experience."

Cooney noted new projects such as increased entrance awards and bursaries, student space redevelopments and the \$1.4 million in quality money given to the Students' Union last year will not be reflected in a survey of recent graduates.

see MACLEAN's, page 3

U of C among growing list of universities to abandon grad survey



Ratings? We don't need no stinking ratings!

When the Maclean's university rankings are published each November, a number of things invariably follow. Universities on the lower end of the scale will criticize the process. Most of those coming out on top will be heralding the quality of education at their institutions. Meanwhile, prospective students are left scratching their heads, not sure what to believe.

It's no surprise then that a number of universities, including the University of Calgary, are choosing to back out of the most recent Maclean's project, a graduate survey asking recent alumni to rank their experience. The eight-question survey is admittedly simple, asking recent grads to rank things like 'quality of teaching' and 'entire educational experience' on a scale

with options ranging from 'very good' to 'very poor.'

The schools backing out have criticized the survey as unscientific because of its low response rate and statistical faults. These are fair criticisms for any peer-reviewed scientific study, but for a comparative survey designed for public consumption, they're more like public relations maneuvers. Another criticism is that asking for the opinions of grads doesn't reflect the situation for current students. Fair enough, but anyone involved in the post-secondary system, whether as student, staff or faculty, knows that improvement is slow. No level of investment can turn things around in a year or two.

It's certainly no surprise the U of C has refused to participate; we came in dead last when Maclean's

included graduate data in its annual ranking in 2004.

What is surprising is that nearly half of Canada's publicly-funded universities are not participating in the special June issue, including some that did well last time. Nearly all universities will still be on-board for the full-blown November rankings, however. But the graduate survey isn't that different than Maclean's usual methodology. The difference is in the PR impact.

After all, alumni criticism is the most damning kind an institution can receive. It's easy to refute dissenting opinions when they come from outsiders, but when they come from those you are supposed to serve—students—it's trickier to spin your message with a straight face.

Whether the survey is scientifically sound or not, participating universities are to be ranked on the same criteria. The playing field is level.

If the U of C—or any other dissenting institution—is confident students are happy with the quality of their experience, they would do more than participate, they would actively encourage all alumni to fill out the short survey. Instead they're refusing to pass the survey along, and Maclean's has promised to collect data with or without their participation.

It remains to be seen whether the ploy will cause more harm than good, but prospective students will be scratching their heads more than ever.

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Golden Spatula: Sarah Malik for abstaining from tears when Emily forced her to hack the shit out of her first story.

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Furor Arma Ministrat

The Gauntlet is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire Gauntlet staff. Editorials are chosen by a majority of the editorial board.

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CALENDAR OF CURIOSITIES

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Rankings unfair?

Maclean's cont'd from cover

Cooney said all three Alberta universities do their own student surveys, which he believes are more accurate than the *Maclean's* methods, and better reflect recent investments into post-secondary education.

In March, the U of C joined with the U of A and the U of L to meet with *Maclean's* editorial staff and voice their concerns. During this meeting, Alberta's universities also requested that *Maclean's* survey current undergraduate students, rather than recent graduates. *Maclean's* refused.

"The three Alberta universities talked about it and met with *Maclean's* a couple of months ago," said Cooney. "They were receptive in the sense that they heard our arguments. We think the onus is on *Maclean's* to ensure their data gathering is accurate."

All three schools plan to provide data from their own surveys for publication in the University Student issue, but *Maclean's* managing editor of special projects Tony Keller, said the universities offered to do so only under duress.

"The schools that did not participate said there are other surveys which are more useful to them and we said we would be happy to

publish that material too," said Keller. "Many of them were resistant to release that data."

According to University of Lethbridge President Dr. Bill Cade, *Maclean's* used the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to access the university surveys for publication in the June 19 issue. FOIP allows individuals in Alberta to request any record in the custody or under the control of a public body.

"They've done it through FOIP, but we're happy to make it public," said Cade. "Prior to now [our graduate survey] was used internally by the university. There is so much information out there already, and [the *Maclean's* survey] did not seem to be accurate."

According to Keller, almost all of the approximately 23 schools not participating in the *Maclean's* survey will provide their own student survey data for publication.

Despite this, Keller said he is disappointed so many schools decided not to participate. He hoped the *Maclean's* graduate survey would provide a standardized pan-Canadian survey, which would be more useful to students and potential students than the host of different surveys the schools conduct internally.

"It's really a loss for students, potential students and their parents," said Keller.

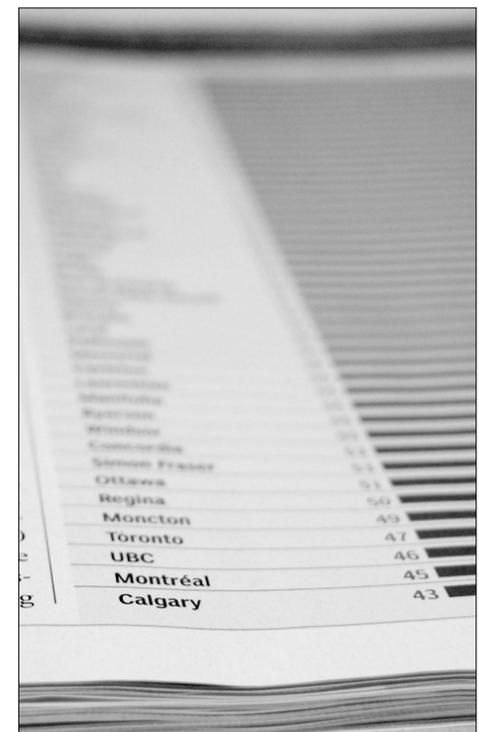
Keller disputes the Alberta universities' claim that the *Maclean's* survey would not reflect current student experience, and added recent grads actually tend to rate their university experience more favourably than current students.

"Recent grads tend to have a slightly different perspective because they can look back at their experience," said Keller. "When you see comparable questions, the scores are generally higher when you're out of university."

U of C Students' Union vice-president academic Shannon O'Connor said the *Maclean's* survey would be convenient for students seeking information, but also needs to be accurate.

"I like it when [survey results] are public in *Maclean's* because it is one central place for students to go that is really easy to access," said O'Connor. "But, it's equally important for them to have accurate information."

Cade said the U of L will participate in the November *Maclean's* University Ranking issue, but Cooney said the U of C has not yet made a decision.



Gauntlet file photo

In 2004 only 43 per cent of U of C grads gave this place a favourable rating. Ouch.

University signs \$40 million deal with Xerox



Christ Tait/the Gauntlet

Maybe the new deal with Xerox will make creating illegal copies easier than ever before.

Rebecca Pfliger
Gauntlet News

The University of Calgary officially privatized another university department last week, dubbed the IMAGinE project.

The U of C signed a \$40 million, seven-year contract with Xerox Canada to revamp all printing, scanning, storage and document creation services on campus. The deal is expected to save the U of C \$13.8 million over the length of the partnership.

Unlike the privatization of Food Services last summer—when 400 positions were terminated—this deal saw university administration working more closely with the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees Local 52, resulting in fewer job losses. Of

the nine affected employees four have taken positions with Xerox Canada, one employee was moved to another job on campus and two positions were abolished without the option to be employed by Xerox.

"The individuals have been looked

after but the collective was bent," said AUPE Local 52 chair Shirley Maki. "We would be happier if all the staff had remained part of the bargaining unit, but this was the decision most of them made."

see XEROX, page 4

CAMPUS QUIPS



"My university experience has not been what I expected. I expected it to be a little bit more fun."
- Danny Fultanov, fourth-year communication and culture



"It's over now and I wish I could have gotten more out of it, but it was all right."
- Heather Imordg, fourth-year psychology



"It's been all right. I transferred here from another school and the other school was better."
- Nichole Stewart, fourth-year communication and culture



"My undergrad experience was relatively good. There were people who really challenged me."
- Daniel Martinez, masters, resources & environment

How has your undergraduate experience been so far?

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Of mice and breasts

Stem cell cloning useful in breast cancer treatment

Sarah Malik
Gauntlet News

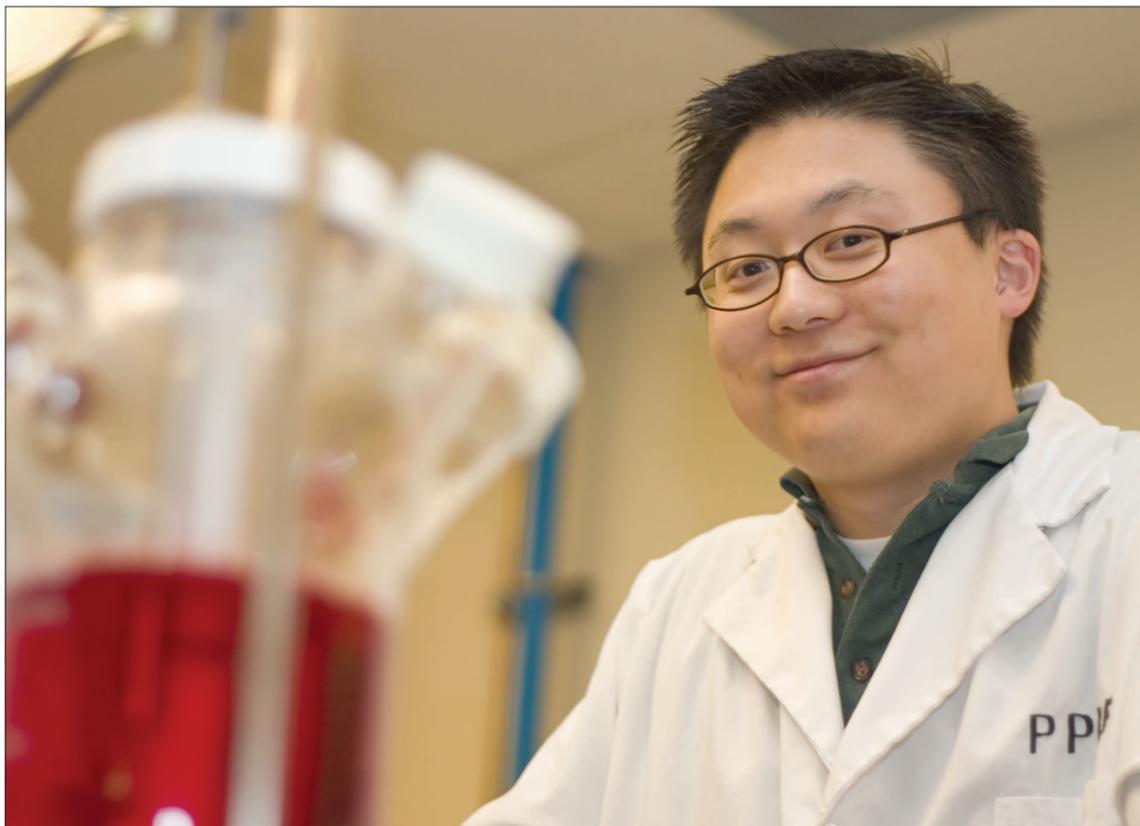
It's difficult not to catch the contagious excitement in Dr. Leo Behie's face and gestures as he explains the revolution in cancer research and the part the University of Calgary is playing in it.

Behie is a member of a U of C research team who have discovered a way to replicate cancer stem cells, which could lead to improvements in breast cancer treatment.

Until recently, scientists thought cancer was caused by cells within the tumour all replicating uncontrollably, and treatments such as chemotherapy were developed to kill off as many tumour cells as possible. Despite these treatments the breast cancer death rate remains the same, killing more than 5,000 Canadian women every year.

Recent research challenges the traditional understanding of cancer, pointing to the existence of cancer stem cells in the tumour, whose self-replicating behaviour might be responsible for the spread of cancer. These stem cells act like seeds, growing new tumours even when other cells have been killed. They are also rare, comprising less than 0.01 per cent of the tumour mass.

U of C researchers Behie, Dr.



Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

Benjamin Youn grins. You'd be smiling too if you just made a cancer breakthrough.

Arindom Sen, and PhD candidate Benjamin Youn have developed a way to produce a virtually inexhaustible supply of these rare breast cancer stem cells, giving researchers ample cells to study.

Previously, breast cancer stem cells were grown in simple labo-

ratory flasks, but the U of C team can produce hundreds in a single bioreactor run.

Bioreactors are large fermentation chambers, providing closely controlled environments where cells can be reproduced. This method has been proven with breast cancer stem cells from mice, who share 95 per cent of their genome with humans.

Behie, director of the pharmaceutical production research facility, said the same methods will further research on human breast cancer stem cells and brain cancer stem cells.

"The cancer stem cell research is definitely not over-hyped," said Behie, adding he doesn't know how

long it will take to change therapeutic interventions.

Youn said ideally, the research will allow a patient to pop a pill, treating the cancer much like a common cold, and killing off the cancer stem cells responsible for the growth of tumours without the harsh side effects of traditional therapies.

"The ability to investigate breast cancer stem cells opens up new areas of research that have not been as exhaustively studied," said Youn. "This promises new and more effective treatment strategies."

Details of the research will be published in the June 2 issue of *Biotechnology Progress*.

Xerox, cont'd from pg. 3

Xerox representative Glyn Davies explained that in situations like this staff are either offered positions within Xerox, or reassigned within the association.

When the U of C started exploring a partnership with Xerox, IMAGInE project director Theresa Mueller stressed there would be no job losses or outsourcing, both of which have proven false.

Maki said administration assured her that no other plans for privatization exist on campus.

"I would certainly like to believe that the university is not giving us misinformation," said Maki.

Xerox will evaluate existing equipment and systems before making any changes.

"We try to maximize on the investment the customer already has," said Davies. "We don't want them to fork out a bunch of money and have us come in and say 'do it all again.' But if something doesn't fit, it will be replaced."

The university plans to create a system to save and send documents electronically. This will reduce the need for actual printing and will save space on campus.

The digital plans raised security concerns earlier in the negotiation process, but Xerox is sure they can maintain security in the system.

"Xerox has a lot of financial customers, so we are well equipped to keep information secure," explained Davies, stressing that integrating a university-wide system is still in the planning stages.

U of C communications director Colleen Turner said students will see benefits from the deal almost immediately.

"There are possibilities of internships with Xerox, and anything that makes things easier for faculty will trickle down to students," she said.

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U of C honours fallen soldier



courtesy Goddard family
Captain Nichola Goddard.

Emily Senger
News Editor

Last week, the war in Afghanistan, thousands of kilometers away, hit closer to home.

Captain Nichola Goddard, daughter of University of Calgary associate dean of education Tim

Goddard, was killed in combat Wed., May 17 about 25 kilometers west of Kandahar.

The 26-year-old soldier also left behind her mother Sally Goddard, her husband Jason Beam and two younger sisters.

The funeral takes place at 11 a.m. Fri., May 26 at Saint Barnabas' Anglican Church, 1407 7th Ave. NW, after which Goddard will be interred at Ottawa's National Military Cemetery of the Canadian Forces.

In hopes of providing closure, the family has decided to make the funeral open to the public and media.

"There have been so many people involved in Nichola's life, and we have been overwhelmed by the messages of support and sympathy we have received from across Canada and, indeed, around the world," said Tim and Sally Goddard in a press release. "It seems to us that not only we, her family, but all Canadians, the nation she died for, need to

bring some closure to this awful story. Therefore, in conversation with her husband, Jason, we have determined that the funeral will be open to the media."

A memorial scholarship will also be established at the U of C in Goddard's name.

"Nichola's husband Jason and her parents really wanted to make it available to students who are from areas Nichola was passionate about," said U of C communications director Colleen Turner. "The scholarship will be potentially for students from three areas: Papua New Guinea, First Nations students and Afghani students."

Nichola was born in Papua New Guinea where her parents were teachers and, as a child, moved to Northern Saskatchewan where she lived with First Nations peoples.

Donations to the Captain Nichola K.S. Goddard Scholarship Fund can be made through the U of C faculty of education.

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Saturday	Hi Balls (until 9pm)	\$3.50

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Dinos star soars to Austria

Jon Roe

Sports Editor

Decorated Dinos track star Jessica Zelinka will be returning to Austria to represent Canada in the Hypo Bank Invitational. This will be Zelinka's second invitation to the annual event held in the city of Gotzis, and only the fourth time for a Canadian woman. Though an experienced athlete, Zelinka admitted there was an intimidation factor the first time she attended in 2005.

"I just came from my sports psychology appointment and we were talking about how last year was my first time there," said Zelinka. "The intimidation stuff was there when I got [to Austria]. I wasn't expecting or ready for it."

In 2005, Zelinka placed 11th in the heptathlon in her first appearance at the Hypo Bank, narrowly missing a top-ten position by nine points with a score of 6,137.

"This year I have more of a plan on how to stay focused on myself," Zelinka stated. "After the World Championships and the Commonwealth Games, I'm more used to these athletes. It won't be new."

The increase in international experience has shown in Zelinka's results at recent competitions. Since last year's Hypo Bank Invitational she has competed in the 2005 World Championships in Helsinki, Finland, placing 11th with 6,097 points, and this year's Commonwealth Games, held in Melbourne, Australia, setting a Canadian record and placing fourth with 6,213 points. Though she didn't earn a medal at Commonwealth, she did accomplish one of her goals.

"My coach [Les Gramantik] sets his goals of what he thinks I can do, then he asks me what I think," Zelinka noted. "We usually end up on the same page. For the Commonwealth Games, the goal



Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

Jessica Zelinka works on her shot-putting skills, which also come in handy for midget tossing

was to get a medal, but also to get a Canadian record. Les' goal was primarily to get a medal, but he was thinking that if I got a Canadian record, I'd get a medal."

With no Olympics or World Championships this year, the title of largest track meet of the year falls squarely on the shoulders of the Hypo Bank Invitational running May 27-28.

The top-ranked women in the heptathlon are expected to lace up the track shoes next to Zelinka, including reigning world cham-

pion Caroline Kluff of Sweden and Commonwealth gold medalist Kelly Sotherton of England. Last year, Zelinka found trying to beat the best of the best was one of her main motivations.

"[Competing against the top athletes] was kind of what drove me last year," admitted Zelinka. "[I thought], 'Oh I'm here, this is where I belong. I've got to prove myself.' But I don't want that to be my motivation, because that can get out of hand easily. You lose control of things because sometimes your

thoughts focus on the external factors. Having [the top athletes] beside me will definitely get me excited, but this time the motivation has to come from the inside."

If Zelinka can put all of her mental and physical training to work, she should have no problem continuing her ascension to the tops of her field and accomplishing her goal of a top six finish at this year's Hypo Bank. With all her credentials at the

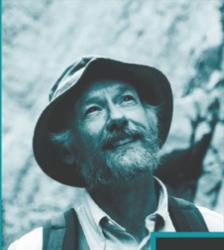
Canadian Interuniversity Sport level, including three Female Track and Field Athlete of the Year awards, a medal at this event will only pad an impressive resumé and go a long way toward assuring Zelinka a spot on the Canadian Olympic squad in Beijing in 2008.

Check next week's *Gauntlet* for a summary of how Jessica Zelinka performed at the 2006 Hypo Bank Invitational.

TIME OUT!

SPEAKERS SERIES

John Dutton Theatre, W.R. Castell Central Library,
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Presenting Ben Gadd
Saturday, May 27th, 2006, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Award winning author of *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies*, Ben Gadd is a well-known expert on the Rocky Mountains. From the summit of Mount Robson to the depths of caves, ravines and ranges, Ben is a recognized authority on the Rocky Mountains, geology and natural history.



Presenting Barry Blanchard
Wednesday, May 31, 2006, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

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off the page



Having the Oilers in the playoffs is a good thing really. (I'm serious!) The games are more interesting when you have someone to cheer against.

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INTERVIEWS — COMMENTARY — ANALYSIS 
Hosted by Chris Beauchamp and Dale Miller. Email:
offthepage@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca or send us some Edmonton blood.



Kyle Francis
Entertainment Editor

In 1963, Stan Lee and Jack Kirby stumbled onto the ultimate nerd cashcrop: a comic book about a group of teen superheroes who were hated and persecuted because no one understood them. Real life angst-ridden teens, pissed off at those who don't understand them, have flocked to comic book stores across the world for their weekly dose of paperback power-fantasy ever since. Since the sixties, the X-Men have spawned innumerable comic lines, action figures, playing cards, over 15 videogames, two television shows and three movies.

The first two X-Men movies, directed by Bryan Singer, were quippily written, fun to watch and generally regarded as two of the better superhero movies available. The third X-film, *X-Men: The Last Stand*, directed by Brett Ratner, is a festering pile of crap.

The plot picks up where *X2: X-Men United* left off, with pretty much everything back to normal at Xavier's school for gifted youngsters. At the end of *X2*, Jean Grey, powerful psychic and principal character, sacrifices herself to get her friends out of a military installation before it floods. At the outset of the film, Scott

Summers, Grey's grieving husband, drives a motorcycle all badass-like up to the flooded military base for no other purpose, it seems, than to yell at the water. After a good spot of yelling, the lake explodes, revealing a very much alive Grey, who is now evil. Nerds will recognize this as a quick, dirty way for the screenwriters to kick-start the popular early-80's "Dark Phoenix" comic book story arc, so the lazy writing is almost reasonable as a sacrifice to the needs of Hollywood brevity. Sadly, every subsequent plot point remains just as contrived.

The laughable plotting and logic the film is built around speaks to its fundamental flaw: writing so awful it's almost offensive. Right from the outset, *The Last Stand* drives its adamantium claws through viewers' eyes with some of the most ham-fisted dialogue in any superhero-genre film—and that's a rough field to be playing on. One scene has Professor X, the patriarch of the X-Men, speaking with his student Storm—whose mutant gift allows her to control the weather—on the changing social perspective of those born with mutant powers.

"You, of all people, should be able to tell when the weather is changing," he says. *Get it?* Because she can control the weather. *Get it!?*

Even the action scenes, which are often the saving grace of superhero films, are found wanting. Comic fans will get tingles up their spine when Colossus throws Wolverine at a giant robot (a staple of the comic books known as the "Fastball Special"), or when Iceman covers himself in a layer of ice-armor (known to nerds as "Icing up"), but average viewers will feel ostracized by the constant geek-references and nauseated by the Schwarzenegger-level one-liners. Even Magneto throwing flaming cars at people—something that should be necessarily awesome—comes across as a tacked-on attention grab.

X-Men: The Last Stand could have been every fan boy's fantasy if it had been left in the hands of a more competent creative team. The buzz surrounding the movie certainly hinted at potential for greatness. It's like being told you were getting a unicorn for Christmas, only to receive an emaciated badger with a cocaine addiction. We could have had a nerd masterpiece. Instead, we're left with the dried husk of a good franchise, heaped upon with uncreative direction and clichéd writing until it choked, sputtered and died.

X-Men: The Last Stand disgraces box offices everywhere Fri., May 26. Save your money for *Superman* next month.

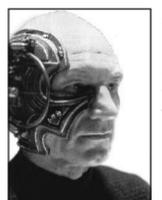
MAJOR CHARACTERS THAT DIE IN THIS MOVIE ★SPOILERS★



Jean Grey. In fairness, you probably saw this coming. She is a phoenix.



Cyclops. Killed off within the first 10 minutes of the crapheap. Boring character. Not missed.



Captain Pic... I mean Professor X. Only heart wrenching because it's Patrick Stewart.

TAKE THAT, BRETT RATNER.

X-PRIMER

WE'RE NERDS SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE

1963: Uncanny X-Men #1 published featuring initial roster of Cyclops, Marvel Girl, Iceman, Angel and a non-furry Beast, led by Professor X, pitted against Magneto.

1970: With sales in the toilet, Uncanny X-Men series reverts to reprinting old X-Men stories with issue #67. Predictably, sales get worse.

1975: Giant-sized X-Men #1 debuts new international X-Men: Colossus, Wolverine, Storm, Thunderbird & Nightcrawler. New stories begin again in Uncanny X-Men #94 after five years of reprints.

1980: Uncanny X-Men #129 begins the Dark Phoenix Saga, regarded by comic nerds as one of the finest X-Men stories ever published.

1980: Jean Grey dies in Uncanny X-Men #137.

1986: Jean Grey returns in *Fantastic Four* #286, found in a cocoon on the ocean floor by the Avengers. Turned out it wasn't really her that died before.

1992: Kickass X-Men animated series debuts on FOX, featuring folks like Cyclops, Jean Grey, Beast, Wolverine, Jubilee and Storm.

1993: X-Men #25, the final chapter of the Fatal Attractions crossover, features Magneto tearing the metal from Wolverine's skeleton. Professor X retaliates by mind-wiping him, beginning tons of bad Wolverine stories and the massive Onslaught crossover spanning 1995 & 1996.

1999: Wolverine gets his metal skeleton back in build-up to another massive crossover. Stories immediately get better. Marvel apologizes for being idiots.

2000: X-Men released in theatres, grossing \$54 million over the opening weekend and nearly \$300 million worldwide.

2000: X-Men: Evolution animated series debuts on The WB featuring a younger set of characters more in-line with the movie cast.

2001: Colossus dies in Uncanny X-Men #390.

2001: Superstar writer Grant Morrison begins run with New X-Men #114, capitalizing on movie buzz with—wait for it—good stories. Afterwards, most writers completely ignore or contradict key story elements (including the deaths of Jean Grey and Magneto). Morrison leaves the company for rival DC Comics, but we're sure that was unrelated.

2002: X2: X-Men United released in theatres, grossing a massive \$85 million over the opening weekend and over \$400 million worldwide.

2004: Jean Grey dies, *again*, in New X-Men #150. She's brought back several months later, only to be killed off *again*.

2004: Astonishing X-Men #1 debuts from Buffy creator Joss Whedon and award-winning artist John Cassaday. The book immediately becomes a huge hit (winning several awards), but is dogged by constant lateness due to Whedon's filming schedule on *Serenity* and Cassaday's super-detailed artwork.

2004: Colossus returns in Astonishing X-Men #5. Turned out it wasn't him that died before.

2005: House of M crossover cuts down mutant population from several million to slightly over 200 by de-powering popular characters like Professor X and Magneto, less popular characters like Iceman, Quicksilver and Jubilee, and dozens of characters nobody cared about.

..Ryan Pike

A smith of sex and words



Courtesy Warner Music

Ron Sexsmith isn't related to Sean Astin in any way *whatsoever*.

Sherri Shergill
Gauntlet Entertainment

By the release of his eighth album, Ron Sexsmith should be used to interviews. But at a press junket for his new album, *Time Being*, Sexsmith looks anything but relaxed as he fidgets with his coffee mug and avoids eye contact. Then again, it could be the

exhaustion from being in six different cities in seven days as part of his promotional tour. Regardless of his fatigue, Sexsmith is as polite as his music is good, which puts him on the level of a 16th-century gentleman.

Born and raised in St. Catharines, Ontario, Sexsmith is well on his way to becoming a Canadian music legend. Speaking softly, he's

down-to-earth and quick to shrug off compliments.

"I'm not like an innovator, I'm not somebody that's changing the face of music," Sexsmith argues. "Even if I was in my own little way, I don't have that kind of following to change what happens in the world or what happens in the music world. But as a songwriter, I'd like to think I'm adding to the evolution of songs."

words

Hopefully I'll leave some behind that people will remember."

Despite his initial shyness, Sexsmith can't stop himself from speaking once the conversation turns to Canadian music.

"It's funny," he says. "It's hip to be from Canada now. I sort of missed the boat on it, though. Now there's Broken Social Scene, Feist and The Arcade Fire who are really great. But I'm not really part of that scene and I sort of wish I was."

As much as Sexsmith denies being part of the new cool-kids club, he's constantly recognized as a landmark on the Canadian scene and sought out for his skill.

"Some of the greatest songwriters of all time have come from Canada and some of the great bands too," Sexsmith exclaims. "I've got a lot of heroes who have raised the bar for me, like Joni [Mitchell] and Leonard [Cohen]. The Canadian music scene has probably never been better. It's very alive."

Time Being proves Ron Sexsmith could be added to this list of great artists, establishing him as one of the most intriguing songwriters in the industry. Sexsmith has collaborated with artists such as Coldplay's Chris Martin, Fountains of Wayne, and Don Kerr throughout his career and has become known for his songwriting above his other talents.

"I enjoy all parts of the music process, but the writing, that's the most important part and the most challenging," Sexsmith explains. "Songwriting's a personal thing. I was kind of a loner as a kid and the thing that I loved most was music. Music was my friend and that's where my loyalty is in life. Everyone could leave me, my family, my friends, but I'll always have music."

Ron Sexsmith's new CD, *Time Being*, is available in music stores everywhere. Talk with other Ron fans, learn to play Ron's songs, or ask Ron if he's related to Sean Astin on his official forum www.ronsexsmith.com.

TOP OF THE VOX

CALGARY 90.9 FM
cjsw
106.9 CABLE

TOP 20 FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 22.06

* Denotes Canadian Artist
** Denotes Local Artist

1. **THE NECKERS****
Love And Infection
Independent
2. **LYNN OLAGUNDOYE****
Africa Violet
Absurd Machine
3. **ISLANDS***
Return To The Sea
Equator
4. **BILLY AND THE LOST BOYS****
Yet Why Not Say What Happened?
Lost
5. **HOWE GELB**
'Sno Angel Like You
Thrill Jockey
6. **PRETTY GIRLS MAKE GRAVES**
Élan Vital
Matador
7. **THE COLLAPSE****
Kills 56
Independent
8. **FIERY FURNACES**
Bitter Tea
Fat Possum
9. **GEOFF FARINA**
Already Told You
Southern
10. **FORT KNOX FIVE**
The New Gold Standard
Fort Knox
11. **GHISLAIN POIRIER***
Rebondir
Rebondir
12. **MECCA NORMAL***
The Observer
Kill Rock Stars
13. **RUN CHICO RUN***
Slow Action
Boomp
14. **AMY MILLAN***
Honey From The Tombs
Arts & Crafts
15. **THE STREETS**
Hardest Way To Make An Easy Living
Vice
16. **THE DOERS***
Whatcha Doin'?
Red Cat
17. **MONO**
You Are There
Temporary Residence
18. **LIARS**
Drum's Not Dead
Mute
19. **WINDOWS '78***
The Window Seat
Submerged
20. **MONEEN***
The Red Tree
Vagrant

JAZZ

1. **UGETSU***
Live At The Cellar
Cellar Live
2. **RICHARD UNDERHILL***
Moment In Time
Stubby
3. **WILLIAM PARKER**
Long Hidden: The Olmec Series
AUM Fidelity
4. **JAKE LANGLEY***
Movin' And Groovin'
Alma
5. **ROBERTO OCCHIPINTI**
Yemaya
Alma

HIP HOP

1. **THE STREETS**
Hardest Way To Make An Easy Living
Vice
2. **THE COUP**
Pick A Bigger Weapon
Epitaph
3. **GHISLAIN POIRIER***
Rebondir
Rebondir
4. **FORT KNOX FIVE**
The New Gold Standard
Fort Knox
5. **COLLECTIVE EFFORTS**
Medicine
ATF



NEW UNIVERSITY TELEVISION



NUTV PRIMETIME GUIDE
CAMPUS COMMUNITY TV
CHANNEL 17 4PM - 6PM
FILMS, DOCS, LECTURES, DINOS SPORTS
AND VOLUME!!!!!!!!!!!!

May 25 - 31

Thur Zilo/Climbing/Brew Ha Ha
Fri Zilo/Climbing/Brew Ha Ha
Mon Zilo/Climbing/Brew Ha Ha
Tue Zilo/Climbing/Brew Ha Ha
Wed Zilo/Climbing/Brew Ha Ha

THIS WEEK

From New York City



2006 Tour de Bloc Climbing Competition Highlights
by Tim Mooney

BREW HA HA

NUTV's version of jackass!

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Mac Hall
Tue, Wed & Thur
12:30 PM

THE SPEAKTANK QUESTION IS:

What are your plans this summer?

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



TIM OKAMURA: GURU OF GRAFFITI

Rebecca Pfliger
Gauntlet Entertainment

The city pays people to cover it up. Most people associate it with gang tags and teenage hoodlums. The intricate curls and vibrant colors of graffiti art still have a stigma attached to them, scoffed at by the upper echelons of society. Over the next three days at the Axis Gallery, ACAD graduate Tim Okamura is giving high society a kick in the ass.

Okamura's colourful art is currently being displayed at the Axis Gallery in downtown Calgary. Just don't call it a comeback. *Urban Portraits and Brooklyn Mythology* is thought provoking and unique, featuring people and scenes from his neighbourhood in Brooklyn. Often featured against walls covered in graffiti, the portraits

express a gritty worldview without being pedantic.

The paintings have not only earned him spots in prestigious galleries, but have been featured in movies like *Prime*, *School of Rock*, and *Jersey Girl*. Okamura has even been short-listed to paint a portrait of Queen Elizabeth.

Despite any hoity-toitiness associated with royal portraiture, Okamura holds life in Brooklyn has been one of the biggest inspirations for his work.

"Tags are kind of like hieroglyphics," says Okamura. "They're a record of people who have passed. By painting a portrait in front of this graffiti it creates past and present at the same time. The people that have been there, and the people interacting with what they've left."



Tim Okamura stands in front of a bunch of paintings.

Photo courtesy Axis Gallery

Okamura is also interested in graffiti as a cross-cultural art form. Apparently not all graffiti has to be vandalism.

"When I visited Spain I saw a lot of fine-art graffiti," he explains. "I'm making vandalism or an eyesore into an artistic outgrowth."

He relates a lot of his artistic expression to hip hop music, and artists like Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson of The Roots have

commissioned Okamura for their private collections.

"Hip hop is old being made new. By sampling unusual, old sounds you make something new," says Okamura.

Like a DJ with a paintbrush instead of turntables, Okamura samples a variety of cultures in his paintings. There are Japanese and Native motifs, and techniques of artists like Picasso make

appearances. Even Sesame Street influences can be found, if you look closely enough.

"I love unexpected icons showing up in graffiti," muses Okamura. "I love the idea that some graffiti kid would be aware enough to put some of Guernica on a wall."

Tim Okamura's *Urban Portraits and Brooklyn Mythology* display can be seen at the Axis Gallery, Art Central main level, 107, 100 7th Ave SW, May 19-28. The Queen will not be in attendance.

CJSW on-air

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

Mixed Block
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Multicultural

guide

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