

# AN EYE ON THE MIDDLE EAST

An interview  
with journalist  
Robert Fisk

**R**obert Fisk has been a British foreign correspondent for over 30 years, currently reporting for *The Independent*. He is among a handful of western journalists to have interviewed Osama bin Laden, speaks Arabic and is known throughout the political spectrum for his equal criticism of the American, Israeli and Arab governments. He hit campus this week for a lecture.

*Interview by Chris Beauchamp*

**Gauntlet:** You've written and spoken about how journalism is increasingly failing to challenge authority...

**Fisk:** I'm not sure we were always very good at doing it ever. I mean during the McCarthy period, sure you have Ed Murrow, famous now for the movie *Good Night and Good Luck*. But apart from him most of the newspapers were buckling under from McCarthy. I don't think, especially in terms of the United States, I don't think journalism has particularly got worse. I think it always was pretty bad. But you can still go back and look at the period of the Pentagon Papers. When was the last time we had a story like

that? It was Watergate. When was the last time we had a Watergate in the *Washington Post*? I think that kind of journalism seems to have faded away a bit and, to have sources now, government sources that are planting leaks, rather than government sources whistleblowing on major stories.

There's a kind of parasitic, osmotic relationship between journalists and power. Journalists like power. They like to be close to power. You look at a presidential press conference on CNN—well, don't watch CNN (laughs)—but I mean, look at the press conference. "Mr. President, Mr. President!" and he says, "Yes, Chris" or "Yes John."

**G:** The first name basis.

**Fisk:** That's the line on how it goes. You see a lot of American correspondents when they turn up in the Middle East, the first thing they do after they check in at the hotel is go to the U.S. embassy for a briefing. Well what the hell is the point of doing that? The relationship with diplomats is far too close, and I also think there's this fear in America. It probably comes from McCarthy-ite days, that to challenge authority, especially when your country is at war, is somehow unpatriotic and thus potentially subversive.

In news rooms in New York now, you don't get many brownie points for challeng-

ing authorities and coming up with tough stories. People don't want controversy.

Look at the Middle East coverage where the Americans keep referring not to the "wall" but to the "fence," not to "occupied territories," but to "disputed territories." Not to "settlements," but to "neighbourhoods." They're constantly de-semanticizing the conflict, so that the Palestinians look idiotic whenever they commit any violent acts. After all, a dispute you can solve in a court or over a cup of tea, can't you? But an occupation is a bit more serious. If you take occupation out of the story, you completely change the nature of the conflict.



# Tuition freeze here to stay

## PSE review recommendations outlined in government report

Emily Senger  
News Editor

The Alberta Government has a new plan for tuition, but student leaders say the recommended tuition policy will continue to break the student bank.

The tuition recommendation is a part of the *A Learning Alberta* report released Tue., Jun. 6 after a year-long review of post-secondary education in Alberta. The report recommends tuition stay at 2004 levels, and future increases be limited to the cost of inflation—around one per cent per year.

Students currently pay 2004/05 rates, since the Alberta government paid for increases in 2005/06 and for the upcoming 2006/07 academic year—which amounts to \$62 per half course. As a result, full-time University of Calgary students currently pay about \$5,100 per year.

U of C Students' Union vice-president external Julie Labonte believes \$5,100 is unmanageable for students. Though she said tying future increases to the consumer price index is fair, Labonte stressed the rollback has to go further if the



Gauntlet file photos

Left to right, SU VP external Julie Labonte, U of C VP finance and services Mike McAdam, and GSA president Christine Johns talk tuition.

government wants to make tuition affordable and accessible for all students.

"We were promised we were going to get the most affordable tuition in Canada and this is nowhere near that," said Labonte. "The general consensus for Alberta institutions is \$3,500 per year for tuition would be a reasonable amount."

Other report recommendations include increasing incentives for under-represented groups to attend PSE, including rural, Aboriginal and disabled students, increasing graduate student scholarships and keeping

government funding equal to inflation so universities don't have to use students to recoup their costs.

There are also recommended changes to the student loan system that would allow students to earn more money and take out more loans.

"It sounds like they're going to be raising the amount of loans, but they're just condemning students to a higher debt load," said Labonte. "We'd like to see more grants, as opposed to more loans. We have to pay [student loans] back, which affects how we can begin our

lives as productive citizens."

Alberta Advanced Education spokesperson Cameron Traynor noted that tuition is only part of the cost of PSE, and said the government will take other factors such as cost of living into account in their new affordability package.

"For many students, tuition is not the concern—it's all the other costs associated, especially for rural students," said Traynor, adding that the entire affordability package will make Alberta the most affordable place to attend PSE.

see PSE REVIEW, page 6

### A Learning Alberta

#### Report at a glance

Recommendations include:

- Roll back tuition to 2004 levels
- Limit future tuition increases to the Consumer Price Index
- Ensure government funding is equal to inflation
- Create incentives for under-represented groups to attend PSE, including rural, Aboriginal and disabled students
- Expand the number of seats at Aboriginal colleges
- Adjust student loans to allow students to receive and earn more money while studying
- Reduce student loan interest rates
- Expand scholarships for graduate students in natural sciences, humanities and social sciences
- Provide incentives for students who are successful in their studies

# Calgary joins in June Pride Month celebrations

Kris Schmidt  
Gauntlet News

Get out the rainbow flags, because Pride Calgary wants Calgarians across the city to show their pride during the month of June.

June is Gay Pride Month in both Canada and the United States, and to celebrate, the Calgary gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer community will combine their annual pride parade and festival, with newly planned family events, in hopes of catering to a more diverse audience.

"Pride festivals are always outrageous, and ours will stay outrageous," said Pride Calgary spokesperson Tawde Clarke.

To draw new demographics like suburban gays, gay parents, and parents of gay youth, the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Association is sponsoring an area for family-appropriate pride.

"The GLSCA will have a family-fun



Johanna Hung/the Gauntlet

Don't be shy. Show a little love during pride month by joining in the Pride Parade.

zone with games suitable for children," said Pride Calgary co-chair Tamrin Hildebrandt.

The pride festival and parade, which began as a protest at city hall, has expanded to a large-scale event

with sponsorship by gay-friendly companies such as CityTV, CJSW radio, and PR Event Services, as

well as a host of Calgary nightclubs and bars.

"This year we're able to go on a bigger scale," said Clarke. "We're moving to more of a central location."

The pride parade begins at 8th avenue and 8th street downtown and will move down Stephen Avenue Walk. The parade culminates in a street festival held at Olympic Plaza starting at noon on Sun., June 11.

"We really hope to see the parade and street festival grow," said Hildebrandt, noting Pride Calgary hopes to use the event to emphasize both pride and increase awareness and acceptance in the community.

"We want to be more inclusive as we want the heterosexual community to be more inclusive," said Hildebrandt. "It's for everyone. Come out and enjoy the festivities. It's not just for the gay and lesbian community."

Check out [www.pridecalgary.ca](http://www.pridecalgary.ca) for more info about Pride Month events in the official Pride Guide.

## CAMPUS QUIPS How do you finance your education?



"My dad, and a part time job."  
— Kayley Johnson, first-year chemistry



"Loans and work during the summer."  
— Yerzhan Madeyev, first-year social sciences



"I work at Blockbuster, which doesn't pay off."  
— Anneke Hobson, first-year English



"I work, but I might have to get a student loan."  
— Mike Borkristl, first-year SAIT architectural technology

# Fisk on the Middle East

Continued from cover

**G:** You're known for approaching your work with an eye for the historical context...

**Fisk:** And opinions too, I put my thoughts into it.

**G:** As one of the few western journalists to have interviewed Osama bin Laden...

**Fisk:** I knew this would come up.

**G:** I'm sure it always does.

**Fisk:** It will live with me all my life.

**G:** His actual demands—they're not something you hear about often in the mainstream media.

**Fisk:** Now, the problem with the bin Laden reporting is that he makes these statements. I've read almost all of them, and they're very boring by the way, I mean, have no illusions about that, they're deadly dull. But, people don't read and listen to what he says. They only respond by saying, "Is it him?" and "How long ago did he make the statement?" Instead of saying, "What is he saying?"

I mean, he keeps referring to historical events in the Middle East. In fact he goes right back to the 15th century and the loss of Andalusia, when the Christians drove the Muslims and the Jews out of Spain. But we don't listen to bin Laden. We hand over the tapes to a computer.

**G:** That lack of context, in your opinion what is the context missing when we talk about the Iraq war?

**Fisk:** The historical background. Britain invaded Iraq in 1917. It issued a proclamation saying it had come to liberate the people from generations of tyranny. An insurgency



Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

Tables are turned as the *Gauntlet* interviews Fisk.

started against the British. We shelled Fallujah. We claimed that terrorists were crossing the border from Syria. This is in 1920. Lloyd George stood up—this is the British Prime Minister in the 1920s—in the House of Commons and said if we leave Iraq there will be civil war. That would have helped us plot out a 2003 invasion, to have a little bit of an idea of what might happen, but we didn't care. We didn't read it.

It isn't a question of just not reading history, it's a question of if you're interested in people. If you really want to give them freedom and democracy—and I don't think we do—maybe you should find out a little bit about them and how they

respond to our wish to give them all these gifts.

I think Arabs in general would like a bit of democracy, after all, the dictators who rule them generally have been supported by us, and they'd like a few packets of human rights from our western supermarket shelves. But I think they also want another kind of freedom, I think they want freedom from us—and that we are not intending to give them.

**G:** That notion of democracy, but only if you vote what we believe is right, isn't that happening in Palestine?

**Fisk:** The Palestinians voted for the wrong people didn't they? Remember [George W.] Bush said

we need new Palestinian leaders, we need elections. So we got elections and new Palestinian leaders, and bingo, they want to bring down the government because it's not the right kind. They tried to do the same in Venezuela—it's not just the Middle East this is happening in. And the European Union is lickspittle going along with this.

You know, I don't like Hamas very much, but the people voted for Hamas, which of course convinces the Arabs that we don't want democracy in the Middle East, and they're right. We don't want democracy in the Middle East. We want local dictators who will do what we want.

**G:** How would you respond to critics who say the Americans pulling out [of Iraq] is going to cause more chaos than them so-called "staying the course."

**Fisk:** That's what Lloyd George said in 1920. Why? Why? What is the theory, that the Iraqis are animals and will all tear each other to pieces if we leave? They didn't do this before we came. Iraq is not a sectarian society, it is a tribal society. Many Iraqis are intermarried. You know we keep printing this bloody map. At the bottom we show Shiites, with Sunnis in the middle and Kurds at the top. It's a very racist thing to do. It doesn't actually represent the way things are in Iraq anyway. Since when do you print maps of Vancouver saying "Chinese area," "Black area." You wouldn't do that.

But to produce these endless maps of the Middle East countries with big arrows pointing Sunnis here, Kurds

here, when most of these people before we arrived didn't think in these terms. We encourage them to recognize their differences. We create governments there that are perfectly worked out on sectarian grounds. We don't do that in our own countries. You don't go around Canada saying we're going to have a Catholic party, we're going to have a Protestant party, we're going to have a Muslim party.

But, once we move ourselves into the Middle East, we play sectarianism with people, and that's this whole line: "If the Americans leave there's going to be civil war." I mean, they've got absolute chaos and anarchy right now, with thousands of Iraqis dying, and they still tell us it's better to stay. Where does this wisdom come from that if we go there will be chaos? We, the civilizing power, will leave the place to the animals, who will tear each other to bits afterwards. I don't believe it.

**G:** How apt is the Vietnam comparison and where do you see it ending?

**Fisk:** Well, everyone's talking about My Lai because of Haditha, aren't they? I don't generally go along with these specific parallels. You can talk about the British in Northern Ireland or in Kenya, or Americans in the Philippines more than a hundred years ago. All guerilla wars are different, but what is in common is that if you go and occupy somebody else's land—especially if they're of a different society, culture, religion—you are going to get really badly thumped. And that's what's happening.

## History students experience wartime in Europe

Sarah Malik  
Gauntlet News

Mikkel Dack will spend his summer vacation visiting battlefields where thousands of Canadian

soldiers were slain in the name of freedom.

Dack, a fourth-year history major, and three other University of Calgary students have joined youth from universities across Canada to visit

the European battlefields where Canadians fought in the first and second world wars. The students are winners of a Canadian Battlefield Foundation bursary, which is awarded to 12 students every year

and has a two-fold aim of education and remembrance.

Selected students had to pick a battle on the route they would be exploring in the tour, learn about it in-depth, and present it to the group

on-site. Prior to their departure to Europe, they also had to research the life of a Canadian volunteer who was killed in Normandy. Standing next to the slain soldier's grave, they will share his life story with their peers.

"The students become very attached to the soldier, calling him "their" soldier," said Shelagh Whitaker, widow of a WWII veteran and CBF spokesperson. "He was someone their age who volunteered to leave his family and home and who died for his country."

Whitaker said the tour is physically and emotionally grueling.

"They will literally be walking where the soldiers walked," said Whitaker. "They will examine the positions where the enemy was and try to put themselves in the position of the commander and analyze what strategy they would have taken."

Tactical exercises and debates in the evenings are designed to teach students the responsibility of leading hundreds into battle, she said.

"The depth of the knowledge that students come out with is close to the knowledge of their professors," said Whitaker, adding that most of the selected students,

SEE BATTLEFIELD, page 6

The delusion that there are thousands of young people about who are capable of benefiting from university training, but have somehow failed to find their way there, is a necessary component of the expansionist case. More will mean worse. —Kingsley Amis, 1922

from the gauntlet

# Meet and greet dual deans

## Faculty of veterinary medicine: more than just puppies and kitties

Rachel Betts-Wilmott  
Gauntlet News

From lovable puppies to tired racehorses and injured owls to boisterous bovine, Dr. Alastair Cribb has dealt with every kind of animal. Cribb's new post as dean of the University of Calgary faculty of veterinary medicine has him preparing for a new kind of wildlife: university students.

"Private practice is challenging in that there's a lot of variety," said Cribb. "Every 15 or 20 minutes there's a different person and animal walking through the door. In a university setting you have an idea of what's going to happen that day, what classes you'll teach."

Cribb is an alumnus of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and the University of Saskatchewan, and has since spent time in academic, research, industry and private practice settings, including time spent at the University of Toronto where he received his PhD in clinical pharmacology.

He began his teaching at the University of Prince Edward Island and was founding director of the P.E.I. Health Research Institute. Cribb has also been a Canada Research Chair in Comparative Pharmacology and Toxicology.

Now Cribb wants to make U of C's vet school a different experience for students. The faculty—still in the midst of being cobbled together—is busy creating an intensive curriculum of only three years and securing plans for new facilities.

Although the faculty base will be located in the Health Sciences Centre



Ryan Link/the Gauntlet

Vet dean Dr. Alastair Cribb doesn't fear cow patties.

for lecture halls and research space, there will also be a lab in the city's northwest at Spy Hill Farms where students will learn clinical skills as early as their first year.

Since most veterinary medicine programs in Canada take four years to complete, the three-year program will be rigorous, and depends on research based learning and short vacations, said Cribb.

"I understand why people get nervous about so much research at universities," explained Cribb. "But there are two faces of research: you can either be squirreled away in a lab, or you can bring research into the undergraduate experience."

Cribb hopes the program can mold vets who can treat animals through evidence-based

medicine, using knowledge of current research to determine the best course of action for an animal or a herd.

But, before any teaching plans and course outlines can be finalized, the vet school is still waiting on clearance from the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council of Education.

After former veterinary medicine dean Dr. Peter Eyre resigned in October 2005 and publicly criticized the school for moving ahead without proper funding, there's been speculation the school would not be ready for a September 2007 opening, despite already being pushed back a year.

"Before we can accept students we need accreditation," said Cribb.

The vet school is expecting a visit from the AVMA at the end of June. This consultation is the first step to a letter of reasonable assurance by Mar. 22, 2007. If these criteria are met, applications for the following fall will be accepted.

"It's not that there were problems [which were causing delays]," said Cribb. "But people were being a little optimistic, the goal was a lofty one and there wasn't then the manpower to do it."

The province and the U of C are now committed to the project, he said. This commitment includes more than \$50 million in government funding, which will support the faculty's operating costs for the first four years.

Animal lovers can rest assured that soon enough there will be a legion of Calgary trained vets getting beloved pets back up to scratch. In no time at all those puppies will be back to eating your homework and the cattle will be making cow patties for you to step in.

## New engg. dean keeps students in mind



Ryan Link/the Gauntlet

New engineering dean Dr. Elizabeth Cannon is happy about her spacious new corner office, and her new post.

Rebecca Pfliger  
Gauntlet News

Engineering students will celebrate more than Canada's birthday this July 1st. The University of Calgary Schulich School of Engineering will also welcome their new dean.

Dr. Elizabeth Cannon has a long history with the U of C—she's received three of her four degrees here.

Currently a professor and head of the geomatics engineering department, Cannon has received dozens of awards for her work. She was inducted into the Canadian Academy of Engineering in 2000, sits on five different boards and was listed as one of Canada's Top 40 under 40. But she says being acknowledged by students is one of her greatest accomplishments.

"When they come in the classroom and you're teaching, they're not really interested in the work you've done before," said Cannon. "They're really interested in you bringing the subject to life and inspiring them."

It's no wonder that with this much personal success Cannon has big

plans for the engineering faculty.

"Calgary and Alberta are centers for engineering right now," she said. "We're in a great position to grow in reputation both nationally and internationally."

Cannon plans to bring the Schulich School of Engineering international success by supporting her students, not only academically but personally as well. She explained that her new leadership role will allow her to mentor both faculty and students.

At the beginning of her career in 1980, less than five per cent of engineering students were women, and she will be the first female dean in the engineering faculty's history.

Cannon said the field has changed a lot since then. The current environment is more positive for both women and men.

"We want to further enhance the experience for students to ensure that we're building the best environment for them," said Cannon. "So from the moment they arrive at school they not only connect with each other but also with the community. I want their experience here to not only be about education but also about personal growth."

## SUMMER PART-TIME HELP WANTED

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The Students' Union Volunteer Services is looking for undergraduate U of C students interested in handling front desk & other basic office duties during lunch hours, meetings, and vacations. Shifts would occur July and August 2006. \$10/hour.

Please apply with cover letter and resume, addressed to Jenna Stephenson, in person to **Volunteer Services, MSC 225** or to the **Students' Union main office, MSC 251**.  
You may also email [stephenj@ucalgary.ca](mailto:stephenj@ucalgary.ca)

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For more information please contact  
Robin Jaska  
The Nickle Arts Museum  
220-7234

# Canadian battlefield cont'd from page 4

such as Dack, plan to teach.

Dack is a German historian who will be starting his masters in Berlin in the fall. The self-identified patriotic Canadian is interested in the psychosocial aspects of war, and said he will add a German perspective to the tour.

"I hope that I get close to feeling what it was like to be a soldier, to fight and die for a country," said Dack. "I want to gain an emo-

tional perspective to this part of history and apply that to my studies."

CBF hopes to train a future "Olympic team" of war historians who will bring a more holistic and sensitive approach to academia.

"It is easy to carry out academic research at home, but in the tour, the young Canadians will be getting a realistic picture of war and they will start thinking hard about

the sacrifices the soldiers made," Whitaker explained.

To commemorate the 62nd anniversary of D-Day, the students will lay wreaths on a monument on Juno Beach built to commemorate the Canadian soldiers who died storming the beach on June 6, 1944.

The next day the students will lay a single maple leaf at the tomb of Canadian soldiers

at the Abbaye d'Ardenne.

Dack said the group will also visit museums to learn about the wars.

The battlefield study bursary was initiated in the mid '90s, with winners chosen on the basis of academic achievement and their interest in history. Though no U of C students won the bursary last year, this year, nearly all of the winners from western Canada come from the U of C.

# PSE report, cont'd from page 3

"Starting right now, we're working on the two main aspects of the report: the tuition policy and student assistance," said Traynor.

U of C administration was pleased with the report.

"We support most of the 37 recommendations whole-heartedly," said U of C VP finance and services Mike McAdam. "It will require a fairly significant investment into PSE, but I think Albertans will support us."

McAdam said he believes the recommended tuition policy is fair, and that current tuition does not provide a barrier to education.

"There should be no economic barriers in place for students who want to attend university in Alberta," said McAdam, noting students can use student loans, scholarships and bursaries to finance their education.

McAdam said recommendations from *A Learning Alberta* can be implemented as soon as next year, but Graduate Students' Association president Christine Johns said she is worried the government will not follow through with the positive aspects of the report.

"Our biggest fear is that we have these recommendations coming forward, but we fear it will just go on the shelf and collect dust," said Johns.

Johns added she was pleased to see the report addressed concerns of graduate students, including dedicated scholarships for graduates work in the social sciences and humanities.

The next round of consultations for a tuition policy and a student assistance package which includes loans, bursaries and scholarships will get underway next week.

Read the full *A Learning Alberta* report at [www.advancededucation.gov.ab.ca/alearningalberta](http://www.advancededucation.gov.ab.ca/alearningalberta).

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Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

# A convergence of talent

Fiona McLay  
Gauntlet Entertainment

**C**on-ver-gence – the process of coming together or the state of having come together toward a common point. Considered mathematically, “convergence” is the property or manner of approaching a limit, such as a point, line, function, or value. Physiologically, it’s the coordinated turning of the eyes inward to focus on an object at close range, and from a biological denotation, it’s the adaptive evolution of superficially similar structures. The process that brought the graduating bachelor of fine arts class toward their common point, limit, or focus, was an adaptive evolution comprised of many endless hours that if added together would surely equal infinitely more than the four years necessary to obtain a degree. This convergence of time and talent is the aptly named Convergence Art Show on display at the Nickle Arts Museum.

The show highlights the work of 27 artists from over the past year in mediums as diverse as the subject

matter. Graduate Shelagh Cherak identified this as one of the show’s main attractions.

“The diversity of the show speaks for itself—there are paintings made from wax and Kool-Aid, sculpture from a pile of dolls and then there is conceptual art about missing children,” she says, adding that her own contributions to the show are large painted cityscapes depicting views from the Calgary Tower. “They are north, south, east and west views, and when you first look at them you see the building up of a city; but at the same time there is also the suggestion of disintegration, for nothing we build will endure forever.”

The duality present in Cherak’s work is energetically integrated through a flurry of loose brushstrokes making it impossible to tell if this is the scene of a thriving city, or one left to seed. Three of the four paintings can be viewed presently in the Nickle. The north view remains in Cherak’s studio awaiting it’s finishing touches.

As showcased by Cherak’s work, there is a concerted effort placed on innovation in the show. Many of

the artists have experimented with new techniques, pushing the known boundaries of their medium. Jonathan Groeneweg has pursued a variation of panoramic photography. He believes an aerial perspective de-objectifies the subject, turning it into an abstract form. His inventive technique has earned Groeneweg an undergraduate research award.

“Instead of the camera remaining in one spot and panning the image, I would stand above and shoot a frame then move forward and shoot another,” says Groeneweg. “Using Photoshop I would finally stitch the images together.”

Then, after more hours than he would care to remember, his pieces finally reach completion. The subject matter of Groeneweg’s works is as fascinating as the process used to capture them.

“I am interested in the natural elements of a subject and how it has also been manipulated by man,” he says. “Organic things can often show man-made traits as well as man-made objects expressing organic behavior.”

Sculpture, photo or traditional paint, every medium has it’s inherent limitations. Sometimes though, the artistry can be in how the limitations are overcome. This was the case for Kaiti Pasqualotto who found that her two-dimensional art was constraining her need for expression. To solve this problem, Pasqualotto teamed up with dance partner Jen Doan to physically express at the gallery reception what was and had been happening in her 2D art. Titled “Looking from the Inside Out,” Pasqualotto and Doan’s performance translated into part autobiographical exorcism and part analysis of the winding and unraveling of identity.

“Personal growth and the process of discovery were what mattered the most,” comments Pasqualotto.

“It was very personal, we had been digging at it since January,” adds Doan.

The space they performed in was directly in front of Pasqualotto’s 2D images and bled into the audience area. Both performers stress the importance of the audience feeling involved in the piece.

“We made sure to go into the audience to break the boundary between viewer and performer,” says Pasqualotto. “The audience should not have to know the story—the performance should evoke something inside them. Performance is not a linear creation but it is up to the performer to align it for the audience, but it was intense to break that barrier.”

While their performance is over, the space remains untouched. A hairclip, a Band-Aid, a few dolls, scattered yarn and some words written on plexi-glass are physical leftovers, but there’s also an energy present in the discarded material allowing anyone who enters to become a part of what was created.

The graduating class now turns toward the community and beyond. Through this last show they have come together and exceeded their common point and limit, converging in more ways than one.

The Convergence art show comes to a point until June 10 at the Nickle Arts Museum.

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**summertime  
gauntlet**

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# TOP OF THE VOX

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## TOP 20 FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 5.06

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

1. **PRESSURE KILL COMMON STYLE\*\***  
*Sad Animal*  
Rectangle
2. **LYNN OLAGUNDOYE\*\***  
*Africa Violet*  
Absurd Machine
3. **FEIST\***  
*Open Season: Remixes And Collabs*  
Arts & Crafts
4. **THE NECKERS\*\***  
*Love And Infection*  
Independent
5. **MONEEN\***  
*The Red Tree*  
Vagrant
6. **AMY MILLAN\***  
*Honey From The Tombs*  
Arts & Crafts
7. **VARIOUS**  
*Bay Area Funk 2: Funk & Soul From San Francisco, Oakland And The Bay*  
Luv N' Haight
8. **FORT KNOX FIVE**  
*The New Gold Standard*  
Fort Knox
9. **NONE MORE BLACK**  
*This Is Satire*  
Fat Wreck Cords
10. **VARIOUS**  
*Rewind! 5*  
Ubiquity
11. **TIGA\***  
*Sexor*  
Turbo
12. **GHISLAIN POIRIER\***  
*Rebondir*  
Rebondir
13. **THE STREETS**  
*Hardest Way To Make An Easy Living*  
Vice
14. **GROOVIE GHOULIES**  
*Berry'd Alive*  
Green Door
15. **ELF POWER**  
*Back To The Web*  
Rykodisc
16. **PHONOTACTIC\*\***  
*Use Your Talent (If You Can)*  
Independent
17. **THE FIELD REGISTER**  
*Tire And Caster*  
Ships At Night
18. **FIERY FURNACES**  
*Bitter Tea*  
Fat Possum
19. **VARIOUS**  
*Panama! Latin, Calypso And Funk On The Isthmus 1969 - 1975*  
Soundway
20. **THE STILLS\***  
*Without Feathers*  
Vice

## INTERNATIONAL

1. **VARIOUS**  
*Full Up: Best Of Studio One Volume Two*  
Heartbeat
2. **VARIOUS**  
*Rough Guide To Urban Latino*  
World Music Network
3. **TANYA TAGAQ\***  
*Sinaa*  
Jericho Beach
4. **BLACK OX ORKESTAR\***  
*Nisht Azoy*  
Constellation
5. **AUTUMN CLOUD\***  
*Journey With Her Pipa*  
Silk Road Music

## HIP HOP

1. **THE STREETS**  
*Hardest Way To Make An Easy Living*  
Vice
2. **THE COUP**  
*Pick A Bigger Weapon*  
Epitaph
3. **COLLECTIVE EFFORTS**  
*Medicine*  
ATF
4. **VARIOUS**  
*Bay Area Funk 2: Funk & Soul From San Francisco, Oakland And The Bay*  
Luv N' Haight
5. **GHISLAIN POIRIER\***  
*Rebondir*  
Rebondir

# Zora's got the blues

## FESTIVALPREVIEW

Zora Young

Jon Roe  
Sports Editor

It's hard to believe blues is dead when so many great artists are still working and recording. Though far removed from its hey-day in the early part of the 19th century and revival during the '60s and '70s, the blues is still alive and full of soul. Living proof is Chicago resident Zora Young, who will be headlining at the upcoming Beltline Blues Festival in Calgary.

Originally born in West Point, Mississippi, Young moved to Chicago at a tender age and became absorbed in the blues culture, catching snippets of artists like Junior Wells and Buddy Guy outside of South Side clubs as she walked home from choir practice. Now, even after 30 years of performing and numerous overseas tours, she has five full-length albums to her name, including 2005's *Tore Up from the Floor Up*. Though she regrets not having more recordings, she acknowledges the importance of luck in the music industry.

"I'd love to record more, I'm very unrecorded," notes the 58-year-young Young. "[It's about being at the] right place at the right time, [and] who knows who. Of course I regret it. I think I'd be a lot farther in my career had I been able to record more. [But], I'm going to record one way or another. I think an artist should record at least every three years."

Young didn't receive a lot of opportunities to record, but she did get many chances to work with blues legends such as B.B. King, Willie Dixon, Mississippi Heat as well as the aforementioned Buddy Guy and Junior Wells. Because of her deep, gravely tones, she admits to having performed a lot of "man songs," while still enjoying the prominent female gospel-singers of the '50s and '60s.



Courtesy Delmark Records

Zora Young smirks at all photographers. It's not really anything she can help.

"I can't be held responsible for the tone quality of my voice," says Young. "But I love the female vocalists. I like Dinah Washington, Mahalia Jackson, and all those girls. I'd love to work with some of the ladies, like Etta James, [or] Koko Taylor. I'd really love to work with Mavis Staples."

When Young is compared to other artists, it's often to James and Taylor. However, she isn't content with just following in the well-tread paths of older blues musicians. Besides including originals on each of her albums, she tries to put a new spin on any covers she performs.

"It's necessary to be original and be creative and do your own stuff,"

emphasizes Young. "Sometimes it's also necessary to do a couple of covers because if people aren't so familiar [with you], quite often, they need to hear a cover. I do covers not for me, but for the audience so they hear something they recognize. Some audiences—if you do all originals—they're bewildered. They don't know what to think."

When Young hits the Beltline Blues Festival Sat., June 24 with local artist Johnny V, she'll be continuing a time-honoured tradition of the blues in Calgary, alive and breathing despite the closure of the legendary blues bar, the King Eddy, where many blues artists played, including Young. Blues bars are becoming a rare sight,

but the music has not yet followed the venues on the path to oblivion.

"It always feels bad to think that your art form will die with you," says Young. "I kind of suspect that the blues will never die. It has never really been pushed; it crawls on its own because it's reality. It's the truth. Whenever you've got that kind of music around, it'll always be around. Maybe not always in such big forms, but it's always around. I think it'll be around long after I'm gone."

Zora Young plays the Beltline Blues Festival Sat., June 24, and bouncers will be checking for soul at the door. Her five albums are available everywhere good blues music is sold. Check out Zora's jams at <http://www.zorayoung.com/samples.html>.



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# A knife in the road

## MUSICINTERVIEW

*Machete Avenue*

Kate Foote

Opinions Editor

Machetes are fucking cool. Originally used as a tool for hacking through thick vegetation, the machete has also been used to hack through thick human limbs, brandished by warring tribes, revolutionaries and otherwise oppressed peoples throughout history. It was even *Friday the 13th* villain Jason Voorhees' preferred weapon due to its utility in decapitation. Graphic? Yes. But that's just the way Chad Michael S. of Machete Avenue likes it.

"I like violence. I'm not too sure why," says Michael S. "Most of the population loves violence—it's just entertaining."

Given the success of television shows like *24* where Jack Bauer punches throats and stabs kidneys weekly, Michael S. couldn't be more right. Keeping with the blood-and-blades vibe of their lyrics, the duo has identified themselves as Machete Avenue, fully aware of the reputation that precedes them.

"Most people think we're a metal band, which is what we wanted," explains Chad. "We want people to be surprised with our music."

As any great warrior knows, the

element of surprise is invaluable. Judging by the strategic selection of Underground Operations Records as their label, Michael S. knows this too. His acoustic duo is an unlikely addition to Underground, whose roster is dominated by politically-charged punk rock and metal bands. Ambushing critics with their unexpected musical style, Machete Avenue have repeatedly fallen victim to unfavourable reviews at the hands of writers wanting something heavier.

"It's actually pretty funny," laughs Michael S. "One reviewer was so choked that it wasn't like [label mates] Hostage Life or Protest the Hero, so he gave us one out of 10. I checked back later and he'd re-done the interview, given us 9 out of 10 and said, 'I listened to it a little more, and after you give it a couple listens it grows on you,' and talked the world of us all-of-a-sudden."

While their sound may be mellow, it's unwise to underestimate Michael S. and Scotty Avenue—the second half of the Avenue. Even without machetes, the boys can hold their own in a scrap. The two noble young warriors found themselves defending the honour of a fair maiden—drunkenly—outside of a 7-11 during their first tour south of the border to play at the infamous Troubador in Hollywood.

"This guy was being really rude to this girl," explains Michael S., "Words were exchanged and then

his friends came, and then we were fighting people, and then these two cops on bikes rolled up. They called in the paddy wagon, threw us in the back, and put us in jail for the night. They were really nice, though. I don't know why—maybe because they were on bikes. One of them reminded me of my mom. I told her that, but she didn't seem to like it very much."

Fortunately, Michael S. and Avenue weren't charged, which could have meant their deportation. Escaping L.A. relatively unscathed, Machete Avenue is now crafting their first full-length album, slated to hit stores in the fall. Unlike their latest E.P., *The First Cuts*, the new album includes various instruments, rather than just guitar. This decision has forced them to consider adding another member to their crew to maintain consistency between live performances and the album.

"We talk about it every day," says Michael S. "We still wanna keep our show raw, but then have the polished CD. But to see us live then would be totally different than the CD experience. We're just not sure yet. The whole idea was to get away from having a bunch of different people to worry about. This way it's just me and my best friend. We hop in our little minivan and go across the country. It's simple, and we like it."

Machete Avenue mellow out in the Mac Hall ballroom Sat., June 17 with Boys Night Out, who will hopefully be featured in next week's issue.



Machete Avenue cut this flower with ordinary scissors.

Courtesy Underground Operations

# CJSW ON AIR GUIDE

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

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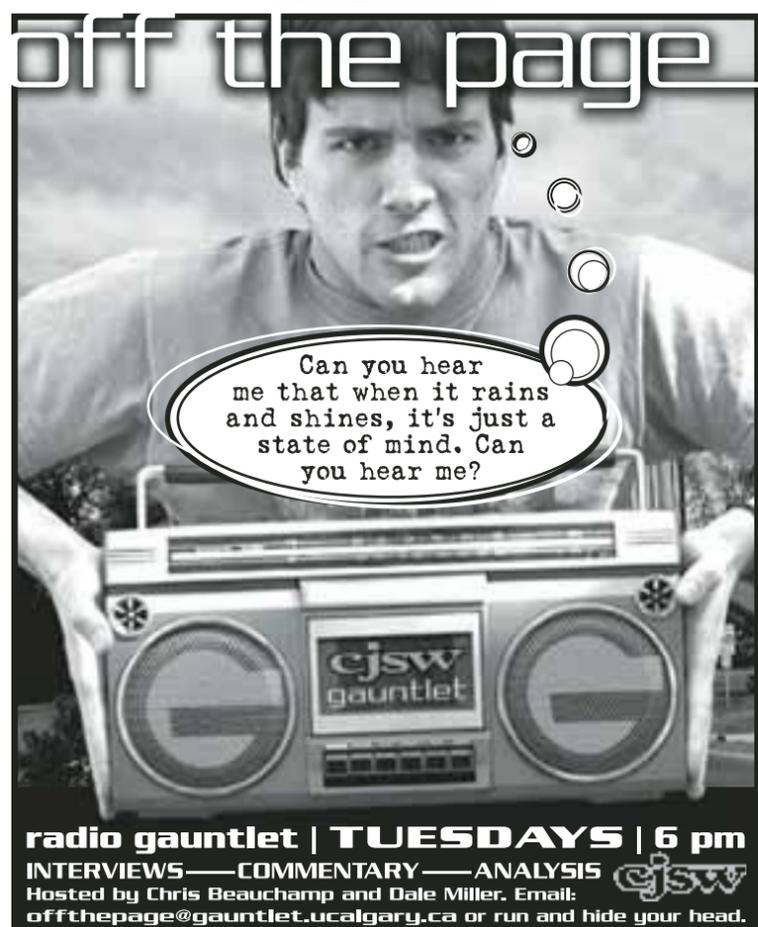
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## off the page



Can you hear me that when it rains and shines, it's just a state of mind. Can you hear me?

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# spun ALBUM REVIEWS



**Black Turtleneck**  
*Musical Chairs*  
 (NRMLS WLCM RCRDS)

Remember your curious fondness for the high school nerd? Not the one who talked about comic books and snorted milk out his nose that one time at the beginning of grade 10. No, *the* nerd. The kid with Rosacea who was always carrying around his pocket bible and magnifying glass, the one whose attire was usually a glow in the dark periodic table of the elements t-shirt? Black Turtleneck are *those* nerds and the Toronto-based duo's debut *Musical Chairs* is what happened when they picked up a Casio.

What the electro-pop duo have produced is a quirky album, similar in its curiosity to The Soft Pink Truth and to Scissor Sisters in its dancibility. Thanks to the surprising mix of early videogame blips and beeps and the inspiration of '90s dance music like Love Inc., *Musical Chairs* is as infectious as it is eccentric.

However, it is only fair to point out *Musical Chairs* is not of the post-punk, indie dance craze on the scene these days. Black Turtleneck is unflinchingly and uncompromisingly electronica, right down to the bored-sounding vocals. Despite fun, bouncy beats, the voice is lackluster and tends to fade into the background. Such an unwillingness to bend to trends is what makes Black Turtleneck the enjoyable nerdy band it is.

*Musical Chairs* is something easily listened to and hard not to dance along with, lacking, if anything, in re-playability. Besides, it's not as if you ever sought out your flushed and nervous high school chum except during chemistry exams.

..Rachel Betts-Wilmott



**The Sounds**  
*Dying To Say This To You*  
 (Telegram)

There's little to be said for The Sounds' sophomore release *Dying To Say This To You*. Quite simply, it's a charming and alluring pop album. The kind of thing you'll unwittingly dance along to, singing into your hairbrush. Any one of a number of catchy tunes will get stuck and stay stuck in your head for ages. It's that kind of album.

But that kind of album isn't all sunshine and lollipops. There are inherent flaws in catchy pop songs, namely trivial lyrics and repetitive themes. And on *Dying To Say This To You* there is an abundance of angry girls and heartbreak. Luckily, the music itself

is surprisingly good, masking the more undesirable traits.

Despite its failings, The Sounds' exuberance is intoxicating and shines through the most on songs like "Running Out of Turbo" and "Queen of Apology." However, in the grand tradition of pop albums—even though you might enjoy listening to it now—in a year's time you'll have forgotten all about it.

..Rachel Betts-Wilmott



**Eddie Turner**  
*The Turner Diaries*  
 (NorthernBlues)

Straight out of the fires of hell comes a smoking new blues recording from American guitarist Eddie 'Devil Boy' Turner. *The Turner Diaries* is his follow up to last year's successful solo album debut, *Rise*.

Turner's latest offering is a spicy brew of blues/rock fusion with a strong emphasis on his voodoo-style guitar prowess. Although his technique is staggering, the focus is on the mood and passion his playing evokes. The disc is ripe with Turner's hypnotic swirling riffs and evil-sounding drones. Nasty guitar chops are juxtaposed with cleaner ethereal passages and some impressive slide work.

It's not traditional blues in any sense. Turner

discards the rule books and plays instinctively from the heart in his own unique style. This modern blues approach is nicely blended with elements reminiscent of Stevie Ray Vaughn and Jimi Hendrix. Turner's vocals also have a ghostly Hendrix quality, complimented by soulful female backing singers.

With the exception of Sonny Thompson's "I'm Tore Down," all of the tracks are penned by Turner and offer a convincing testament to his talents as a songwriter and arranger. Aided by state-of-the-art production, *The Turner Diaries* is hot, cutting-edge blues that simply must be experienced.

..Ken Clarke



**Babyshambles**  
*Down in Albion*  
 (Rough Trade)

Babyshambles' *Down in Albion* is, at first glance, just another Britpop album: it has some really fun tracks, counterbalanced by some moodier moments of mumbling, but doesn't demand too much from listeners. Indeed, if there hadn't been so much hubbub surrounding the never-sober sometimes-boy-friend of Kate Moss, front man Pete Doherty, *Down in Albion* could have slipped by without much notice. This isn't to say Babyshambles doesn't deserve the attention they've received from critics across the pond, though.

It's a good album, but a widely varied one. While one listener might enjoy the reggae-influenced "Sticks & Stones," another might prefer

the soft-rock "Albion." "A'Rebours" is a fast-paced pop song with the perfect combination of the artist's conflict and sunny-day optimism, while "La Belle et la Bête" roots in swing, which will be particularly pleasing to fans of Doherty's earlier band, The Libertines.

The album is a hefty 16 tracks and for each listener there will be a few that could have been kiboshed. Though there will be a few songs that won't get as much attention, *Down in Albion* provides at least a couple tracks for every indie-rockster to bob nonchalantly to.

..Rachel Betts-Wilmott

# Zelinka zaps competitorz

Jon Roe  
Sports Editor

That zany Zelinka has done it again. Only a week after setting a new Canadian record in the heptathlon at the Hypo Bank Invitational in Götzis, Austria, Jessica Zelinka—the Dinos track tyrannosaur—tore up the field at the World Combined Events Challenge in Arles, France.

Zelinka's lucky number must be 6,314 because not only did she use that point total to set the Canuck heptathlon record while placing fourth in Götzis, she also matched it for the win in Arles, June 3-4.

Taking advantage of a 2.5 metres per second tail wind, Zelinka long jumped 6.23 metres, a personal best, topping the mark she set last weekend by 4 centimetres. She also knocked down another personal best in the javelin with a throw of 43.66 metres. There must be something special about hurling projectile weapons on French soil; Zelinka's previous high was 42.88 metres set a year ago at the same competition.

Despite competing in events on back-to-back weekends, fatigue

didn't seem to affect Zelinka as she topped the podium over South Africa's Janice Josephs, who had 6,248 points, and Ukraine's Hanna Melnychenko, who finished with 6,055 points.

Now that she is finished her assault on Europe, Zelinka turns her attention back to home soil and the Canadian championship July 21-23 in Sherbrooke, Quebec.

"I was physically prepared for this meeting just one week after Götzis, but mentally I was tired," said Zelinka, 24, after the competition. "I am very pleased with my [personal bests] in the javelin and the long jump. Without big international championships this summer, the only important competition in the next few weeks is the Canadian championship."

Zelinka returns to Calgary Thu., June 15.

### Zelinka by the Numbers

100m Hurdles	13.10 s
High Jump	1.72 m
Shotput	13.36 m
200m	23.53 s
Long Jump	6.23 m
Javelin	43.66 m
800m	2:15.23



Jessica Zelinka practices shot-putting at Foothills Athletic Park before the World Combined Events Challenge in Arles, France. She shot put 13.36 metres at the competition, a metre off her personal best of 14.32 metres set last weekend.

Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

# Oilers' well dries up without Roloson

## Hurricanes' forwards scan for Jussi rebounds



Jon Roe  
Sports Opinions

Hockey, like most sports, is as much a mind game as it is a physical battle. Teams can win with skill, but even skilled teams can be brought down when faced with a mental disadvantage. When Dwayne Roloson, Edmonton Oilers goaltender, went down with a crippling knee injury in the third period of Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Finals against the Carolina Hurricanes such a mental disadvantage was created.

The Oilers blamed goaltending—though never uttered in the media by coach or player—throughout the regular season for not living up to the expectations brought on by the enormous offseason acquisitions of Mike Peca and Chris Pronger. Outshooting opponents handily, the Oilers were losing winnable games until the trade deadline brought Roloson. It took a while for the team to become acquainted with Roloson's style of play, but they began to live up to their potential as they marched to the finals, knocking

off the Detroit Red Wings, San Jose Sharks and Anaheim Mighty Ducks along the way.

The loss of Roloson goes beyond the loss of a hot goaltender. With backup goaltender and Game 2 starter Jussi Markkanen in net, the team can't play with the same confidence that brought them to the finals. Now they live with the fear of making mistakes or committing penalties leading to easy goals. Instead of just reacting, the players must now contemplate every move and in a fast-paced sport like hockey, even a split-second of hesitation can be costly. Carolina Hurricanes Captain Rod Brind'amour's game winning goal in Game 1 is proof.

The puck went behind the net with less than a minute left to play in Game 1 and Oilers replacement goaltender Ty Conklin went behind to play the puck. He hesitated and chose to throw the puck around the boards. What he didn't realize was Oilers defenseman Jason Smith was right behind him, and the puck bounced off his stick to Brind'amour, who then easily placed the puck into an empty net. Game over.

Further evidence comes from the fallen Calgary Flames. In regular season games started by backup goaltenders Phillippe Sauve and Brian Boucher, the Flames

allowed an average of 3.89 goals per game and scored an average 3.33 goals per game compared to their overall season average of 2.35 goals-against per game and 2.63 goals-for. Though the increased offense should've been a blessing, considering the inefficient scoring ultimately led to the first-round exit of the Flames, it is proof the Flames

were taking more chances in order to offset a lack of confidence in their goaltender. They were hoping the goals-for could offset the few soft goals-against the back-ups would let in.

Even as a hardcore Flames fan and Oilers hater, it's hard not to feel the pain of the Oilers losing their number one goaltender so close to

the Stanley Cup. With Roloson, it would've been plausible, but not enjoyable, that the Oilers would be the first team since the 1993 Montreal Canadiens to bring the Cup back to Canada, but now those hopes are more trashed than White Avenue will be after Brind'amour and his Hurricanes hoist Lord Stanley's prize.



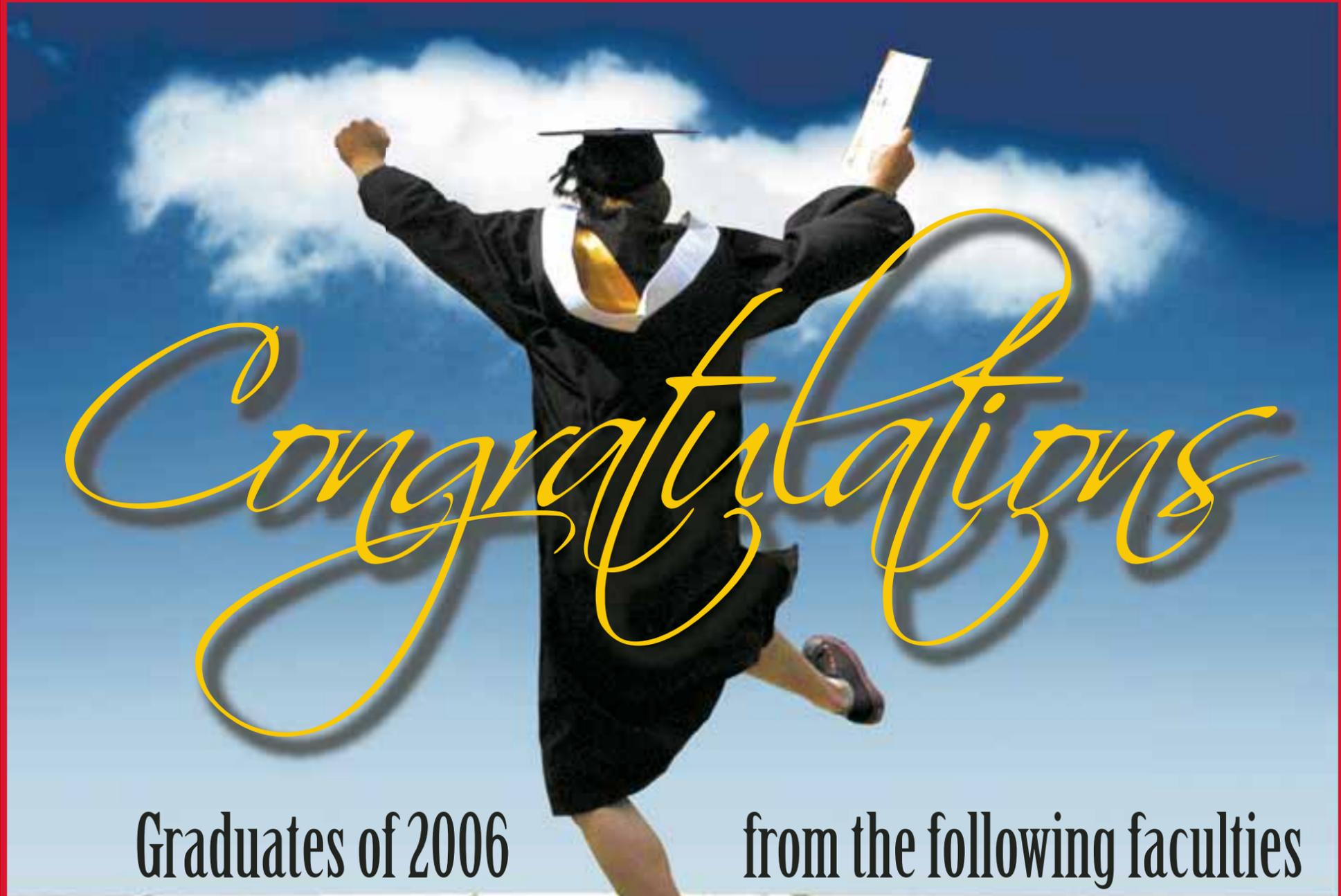
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— Dr. Kathleen Scherf, Dean, on behalf of members of Communication and Culture

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— Dr. William Jordan - Acting Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts

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Congratulations! Please keep in touch with the Faculty, your teachers and colleagues. All good wishes for the future.

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Congratulations to all of our graduates! Your degree offers a world of opportunity for a world in motion and we look forward to hearing about your success stories as alumni. Your aspirations will become inspiration to those who follow in your footsteps. A Kinesiology degree can take you anywhere! We wish you success along the way.

### NURSING

Congratulations and continuing success to our amazing nursing graduates! We are grateful for the contributions you've made to our community and will watch with pride as you bring your education and optimism to the world of health and wellness. Your accomplishments are outstanding and you give us hope for what Nursing can become in the future. Please stay in touch so that we share in your future achievements. — Dr Michael Clinton, Dean

### SCHULICH SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations on behalf of all our faculty and staff to the inaugural Schulich School of Engineering graduating class. You are our greatest asset and we are proud to produce a such a talented crop of FIRST CHOICE graduates. Take pride in what you have achieved. It has been our privilege to have you as students and we look forward to staying connected with you as our newest alumni.

All the very best! — S.C. Wirasinghe, P.Eng., Dean, Schulich School of Engineering

### SCIENCE

Congratulations Science Graduates! Convocating with a science degree is a significant achievement which results from your dedication and hard work. You can be justifiably proud of your accomplishments. With your degree you now enter a new stage in your career; one that will lead to a lifelong process of learning. We hope we can play a continuing role in your lives.

— J.S. Murphree on behalf of all members of the Faculty of Science.

### SOCIAL SCIENCES

The Faculty of Social Sciences extends warmest congratulations to our more than 900 undergraduate and graduate students completing their degrees in 2006. We are proud of your accomplishments and secure in the knowledge that you have the skills necessary to thrive in today's competitive world. — Stephen J. Randall, Dean

### SOCIAL WORK

On behalf of the Faculty of Social Work, I extend warmest congratulations and commendations to our graduates across the province. As you continue on your life journey, I urge you to continue to promote societies that respect human dignity and worth, meet basic human needs, are anti-oppressive, inclusive, and based on principles of social justice. Together we can make a world of difference. — Dr. Gayla Rogers, Dean



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