

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

gauntlet

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in the name of

PRIDE

NEWS pg. 3

Denis drops disappointing dud

The government of Alberta released the final results of a year-long post-secondary education review this month. In true bureaucratic fashion, the much-hyped results of the review conducted by top government officials and stakeholders amounted to a disappointingly vague 26-page report of recommendations.

The report is little more than a list of possibilities, which may or may not be implemented depending on what the government decides. It's a pathetic result for a review that the Alberta government promised would radically change the face of PSE in Alberta.

Premier Ralph Klein promised students the PSE review would make Alberta the most affordable province in which to get an education, and Advanced Education Minister Denis Herard gave the Gauntlet his personal guarantee that students would be "very happy" with the results of the review.

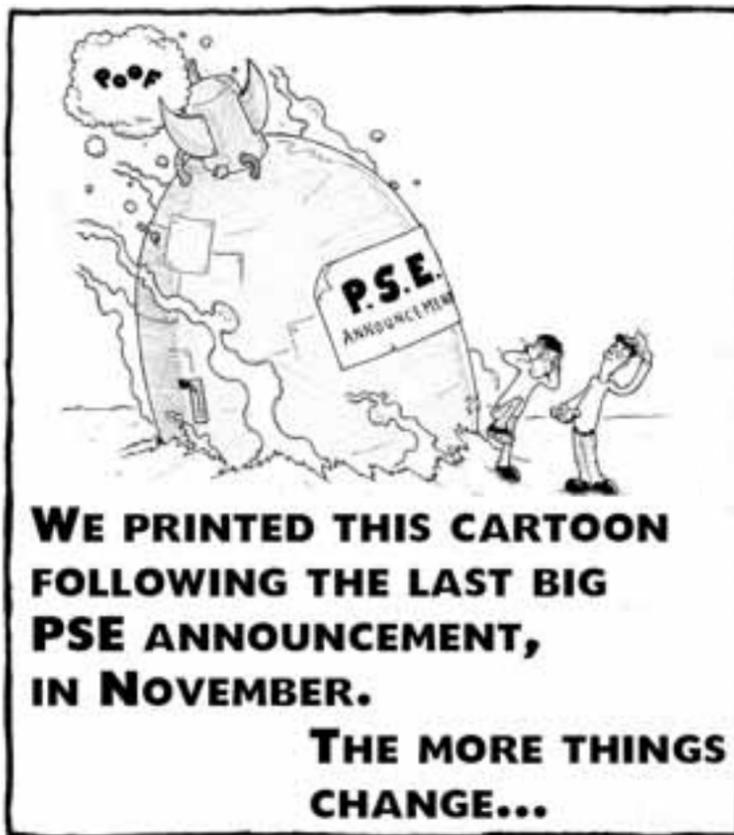
We held our breath as the report was released and let out a collective sigh of disappointment as both Klein and Herard's statements were proven false. Student leaders were not "very happy." The University of Calgary Students' Union condemned the report for ignoring many of their concerns.

As for affordability, at more than \$5,000 per year for tuition alone, PSE in Alberta remains well above many other provinces in Canada, despite our fair province's massive oil revenues.

To add to it all, after their year-long PSE review, in which stakeholders from across the province were consulted and then re-consulted, the government is entering into yet another round of tuition consultations. Asking students what they need is a positive step for the Alberta government, but students have already spoken in the first round of consultations, and consulting students yet again is just more pointless bureaucracy.

In the first round of consultations, Alberta students called for a tuition roll-back to \$3,500 per year and suggested all future tuition increases be tied to the rate of inflation. The government already heard these demands, partially used them, partially ignored them, and came up with their own policy of rolling tuition back to present levels, and tying future increases to the rate of inflation.

Students aren't changing their message, so unless the government wasn't listening the first time—and apparently they weren't—more tuition consult-



ations will be a fruitless endeavor.

The *A Learning Alberta* report is an over-hyped dud. It's not binding, and even if every single recommendation in the report is implemented—which is unlikely—PSE in Alberta will be slightly improved, not revolutionized.

For the richest province in Canada, whose government can afford to spend over \$1.3 billion on rebate checks, a slight improvement in post-secondary education is simply not good enough.

Emily Senger
News Editor

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Red, white and rainbow

Calgarians celebrate diversity at Pride Parade



Rebecca Pfliger
Gauntlet News

The Gay Pride Parade and Festival was an enjoyable, energetic party for the whole family, despite rainy weather and a violent start.

The 16th annual Pride Parade began with a parade participant scuffling with a protester. Two men held up signs that read "No Pride in Sodomy" which caused pride parader Tyson McCann Cormack to react. McCann spat at and knocked over one protester.

Calgary Police Chief Jack Beaton was at the parade to encourage a

more diverse police force, and said Cormack was not entirely to blame as he was provoked.

Conservative attitudes such as those displayed by the anti-pride protesters are a problem plaguing the Calgary gay community, according to Kevin Alderson, assistant psychology professor at the University of Calgary.

"Calgary itself is a very conservative city, and the oil business is conservative," explained Alderson. "Klein has been absolutely unsupportive of the gay and lesbian community since he came into power."

Some politicians are looking to

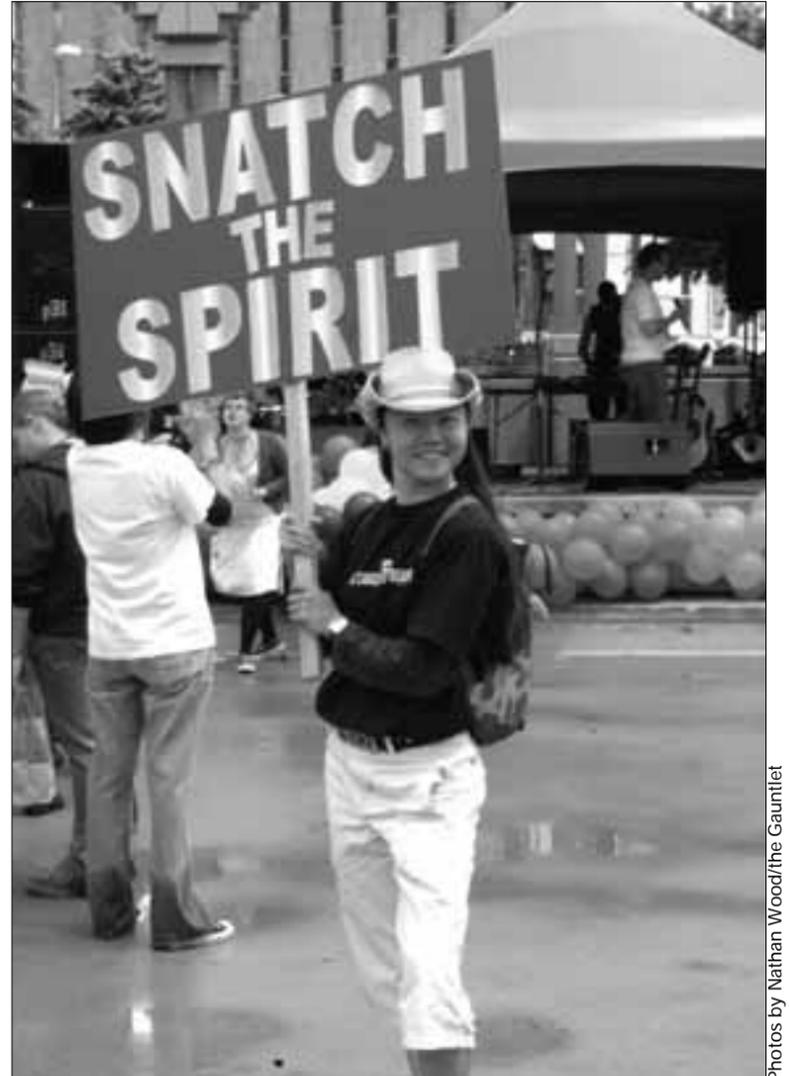
change this pervasive attitude. Three MLAs from the Alberta Liberal Party gave speeches at the festival held in Olympic Plaza wearing shirts that read "Straight not Narrow."

"We're here to show support for you and solidarity with you," said Calgary Varsity MLA Harry Chase.

Calgary Currie MLA Dave Taylor spoke of the current political environment.

"Alberta has been fighting a battle against misunderstanding," he said. Taylor also pledged to keep striving toward a more positive, understanding future.

Calgary Mountain View MLA David Swann admitted it was his first



Photos by Nathan Wood/the Gauntlet

Pride Parade, and his first coming out. He thanked the community for supporting him.

Marching in the parade along with the police chief and MLAs were churches, highschool student groups, CJSW, parent support groups and businesses including Ikea and CityTV. There was also the typical fare of rainbow flags, dogs dyed in rainbow patterns and drag queens.

Pride Calgary also succeeded

in making this year's festival more family oriented. Many families brought their children down to celebrate. There was a family fun zone set up with games suitable for young children.

Despite the serious speeches, the attendees, which numbered over a thousand, managed to take advantage of the fleeting sunshine by dancing, drinking and visiting the various booths set up in Olympic Plaza.

Drunks are stupid: campus security report

Emily Senger
News Editor

"Bad boys, bad boys, whatcha gonna do?"

While the Campus Security Report for the month of May resembles the duller episode of *To Serve and Protect* more closely than *Cops Uncensored*, troublemakers around campus still did strange and wacky things in May, especially after consuming large amounts of alcohol.

Perhaps the best example of liquor overload gone wrong was a concert-goer at the Disturbed metal concert Thu., May 25.

"A non-student at a concert drank two full glasses of vodka, smoked two joints and then fell and hit her head and had to be

transported by EMS," explained Campus Security Manager Lanny Fritz.

Concert goers must have been feeling particularly rowdy, because at the same show Disturbed lead singer David Draiman was hit in the head with a water bottle, but fared better than the girl transported by EMS.

In less violent news, a con-man sold fake \$50 spa packages to unsuspecting women in the Health Sciences building.

"We had a guy who said he was selling spa packages to a particular spa," said Fritz. "Somebody called and it was confirmed that the spa wasn't selling any packages."

Fritz added that students should not buy from anyone unless they have a legitimate business card

and phone numbers for more information. Besides, said Fritz, MacEwan Student Centre is the only place vendors can legally sell anything, so students should think twice when presented with deals elsewhere on campus.

The month also saw an increase in theft, which generally occurs in the summer, according to Fritz.

One man was detained as he attempted to load a U-bike into the back of a truck. The red-and-yellow-striped bikes are meant to provide free transportation to students on campus.

Three Dodge Neons were also jacked from campus by the infamous Dr. Neon, who has been stealing the cute little cars city-wide. Fritz said Campus Security is working with city police to

catch the culprit and reveal his identity.

"Criminals often see the university as a place that they have easy access to and there's lots of movement of vehicles," said Fritz, noting a stolen car was also dumped in lot 20 during May.

While bikes and cars are common targets for theft on campus, another thief had something more unique on his hit list.

"Someone stole a cement mixer from a contractor on campus," said Fritz. "It has not yet been recovered. Maybe it's another contractor. [The cement mixer] is hard to sell at the pool hall and if it was a joke someone would have just pulled it around the corner."

There were also problems with off-campus troublemakers during May,

including a man found passed out in a women's washroom in Biological Sciences.

"He's a homeless person with a mental health condition," said Fritz, noting the man has had past altercations with Campus Security. "He's bipolar and wasn't taking his medication—he had it on him, but unopened. He has this thing about going into women's washrooms, but he hasn't touched anyone."

Fritz said his favourite call of the month was an ironic mishap in the Brewster residence building when a water pipe burst.

"We had water in residence that shorted out a smoke detector which then started a fire and then put itself out," he said, laughing.

NUTV gets NU offices

NUTV moves out of food court and into upstairs location

Rebecca Pfliger
Gauntlet News

After four years spent hidden behind the bank machines in the food court, NUTV is finally moving up.

The new NUTV offices are officially open on the third floor of MacEwan Students' Centre and NUTV staff couldn't be happier.

"We're all very excited about the new space," said NUTV producer and program director Tinu Sinha. "We've been in a temporary space for four years now, and it's nice to finally be here."

The new office space will add visibility and efficiency to the program. All NUTV offices and the editing suites are now in the same location, along with a new studio space that will create more opportunities for



Andrew Rininsland/the Gauntlet

NUTV staff and volunteers leave the lingering aroma of stale Mexi-fries far behind.

the station, according to Sinha.

"We have a large, special open concept studio space for interviews and maybe even a live

studio audience," said Sinha.

Previously NUTV cameras had to go out into the community to interview individuals. Now

they can bring them to campus.

"It's a chance to show off our respectability and visibility," he added.

NUTV is a non-profit society consisting of 120 volunteers, and encourages people to get involved in television production.

During the summer NUTV is working on two major projects: documentary and drama. The University of Calgary drama department is involved in the latter project, which makes students more aware of NUTV, said Sinha.

"We've always been in a unique position at the university since we're not officially part of the university," explained Sinha, noting he hopes the new location will make the station more visible to future volunteers.

"Come September we'll have a space that's nice and tidy," he said. "We're not finished un-packing yet. But that should happen soon."

Pow-wow celebrates First Nations grads

Emily Senger
News Editor

Bells tinkle and a rainbow of sequins glitter as two young dancers chase each other shrieking, black braids and ribbons trailing behind them. Aboriginal drum beats and chanting puts an end to the pursuit, and the girls scoot into their place in line, eager to celebrate the accomplishments of their sister, their cousin and the entire Aboriginal community through dance.

This was the scene as the Native Centre held its 25th annual Aboriginal graduation banquet and pow-wow Sat., June 10. The celebration honoured the more than 80 University of Calgary First Nations graduates through feast, awards, music and dance.

"The celebration is a special rec-

ognition of Aboriginal graduates because they are traditionally under-represented at university," explained Native Centre administrative coordinator Cheryle Chagnon-Greyeyes. "There is a special connection with achievement in the Aboriginal community. It's not just the student, it's the whole community that comes out to support them."

And support them they did. The 460-person dinner had the Red and White club filled to capacity with guests from across Canada.

The main event was a pow-wow, where dancers and drummers joined to celebrate through music and dance.

"Pow-wow is an Algonquin word for 'he who dreams'," explained Chagnon-Greyeyes. "It's a time for people to come together and share their honour and successes."

In addition to the pow-wow 48 students were presented with eagle feathers and Pendelton blankets, tra-



Nathan Wood/the Gauntlet

Members of the Aboriginal community celebrated through dance and drumming.

ditional gifts, which were blessed by elders in a gifting ceremony.

"The eagle feather is a symbol

of achievement," said Chagnon-Greyeyes. "As a test of a warrior's strength and cunning, he had to

sneak up behind the bird and pluck a feather. Now it represents strength and achievement."

Chagnon-Greyeyes explained Métis students were also presented with a sash.

"The Métis sash is kind of like a Scottish tartan—they are family emblems," said Chagnon-Greyeyes. She explained that when the British defeated the Métis, they burned the sashes, because they sensed their connection with Métis history. The sashes have come to represent Métis strength in the face of adversity.

Political science graduate Terry Williston was presented with the George D. Calliou Award for achievement and contribution to the Aboriginal community for his work with the First Nations Students' Association and the Alberta Government's standing committee on Aboriginal affairs.

"Thankyouso much, Iamspeechless for the first time in a long time," said Williston, upon receiving the award.

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Sulphur spring hints at alien life

Emily Senger
News Editor

Rotten eggs don't usually create a pleasant smell, but for one University of Calgary researcher, the odious odour signaled a discovery that may help NASA researchers find life on other planets.

U of C Arctic Institute executive director Dr. Benoit Beauchamp first discovered the source of the noxious odour—a bacteria-containing sulphur spring on Ellesmere Island—in 1999. Beauchamp and a team of researchers are returning to the spring June 21, to spend two weeks researching the unique conditions that allow the bacteria to survive in a sub-zero, pitch-black environment.

Beauchamp explained the unique environmental conditions in the spring caught the interest of NASA.

"It was a true sulphur spring coming out of the ice, but the exciting thing was the bacteria living in the ice," said Beauchamp. "NASA got ahold of our paper. They saw it as an example of what life might be like

on Jupiter's moon Europa."

NASA believes Europa's close proximity to Jupiter may produce



Beauchamp.

a gravitational pull immense enough to create tides under the frozen surface of the moon, which would keep some water from freezing. These underground seas could harbour life. As such, NASA plans to send a probe to Europa, but not before testing their probe at the sulphur site discovered by Beauchamp.

Canadian researchers are equally interested in the sulphur spring. Before NASA moves in, Beauchamp, U of C geologist Dr. Steve Grasby and two graduate students will make the long trek north to study the spring, with funding from the Canadian Space Agency, the Planetary Society and the Polar Continental Shelf Project.

"We'll be spending two weeks in small tents and really wild camp-

ing," said Beauchamp. "We're there to understand the geological system that leads to such a spring and to monitor what the spring is doing. We'd like to get the DNA sequencing of the bacteria."

Beauchamp noted there are about 20 different kinds of bacteria in the spring. While the team would ideally like to map all 20, DNA sequencing is very expensive, so they are limited by funding.

Before the U of C team can begin their research, getting to and working in such a remote location is a task in itself, and transportation alone costs approximately \$5,000 per person. The four-person team will begin their journey by flying from Calgary to Ottawa and then from Ottawa to Resolute Bay, the most northern point in Canada to which commercial planes fly.

"We take a Twin Otter from [Resolute Bay]," explained Beauchamp. "We land about five to 10 kilometres away and there will be a helicopter to take us to the camp site. It's summer so there will be 24 hours of daylight and it's next to a glacier, so it's never warm."



Courtesy Arctic Institute

Dr. Steve Grasby climbs up the sulphur spring. Four U of C researchers will camp close to the spring for two weeks to study it. Brrrr, hopefully they packed long underwear.

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An Australian gunslinger triumph

Courtesy Maple Pictures

filmREVIEW: The Proposition

Kyle Francis
Entertainment Editor

Everyone thinks they're righteous. No one, not corrupt policemen, rapists, nor killers want to believe they're anything but the hero of their own fiction. This facet of human nature is what John Hillcoat and Nick Cave acknowledge—to huge success—in their Aussie-western epic *The Proposition*.

Following the intertwining stories of the lawman, Morris Stanley (Ray Winstone) and the outlaw, Charlie Burns (Guy Pearce), *The Proposition* unflinchingly portrays both men as selfless, brave, cowardly, despicable, and ultimately very human. At the outset of the film, Stanley captures Charlie

Burns and his younger brother Mikey Burns, and offers Charlie a proposition: find and kill his older brother, Arthur, in nine days, or Mikey hangs by the neck until dead. While Stanley is presented as the villain in this expository scene, he's soon given very good reasons for hating the Burns gang, remaining sympathetic and vulnerable even through frequent fire-and-brimstone speeches on civilization and justice.

The moral ambiguity of the conflict is maintained strongly by top-drawer acting from all involved. Pearce's performance as the conflicted outlaw is one of his best since *LA Confidential*, and Ray Winstone presents the intelligent, well-mannered police captain with a subtle dignity on-par with legendary actors like Anthony Hopkins and Patrick Stewart. Even the supporting cast—most

notably Emily Watson playing the role of Morris Stanley's wife, Martha—are superb, powering the screen with emotion and repose, while never taking the attention away from the principal actors.

Hillcoat's mastery of the medium also plays an enormous part in the story's poignant delivery. Every frame is minimally composed with high-key lights and super-saturated colors, accentuating the wasteland setting and physical strain on the people in it. Aside from tweaked lights and colors, the film is presented as gritty realism, handsome actors uglified up without a second thought as their characters are abused and broken. This uncompromising dedication to the script's themes and messages is what elevates it above a standard western genre-film. *The Proposition* isn't just a competent

period piece—it's one of the finest movies of the year.

While the film's questioning of moral absolutism is its uncanny strength, it's also a weakness. The realistic tack taken with the story will be refreshing to film enthusiasts and those looking for something other than a clichéd 'good-versus-evil' Hollywood plotline, but not having anyone to root for may make it inaccessible to casual filmgoers. This can hardly be seen as a real weakness, though it's only fair to say that *The Proposition* is absolutely not feel-good brain candy for the masses. It's dark, it's disturbing, and it's very rewarding if you're able to overcome the urge to cry by the time the credits roll.

Check out the trailer for *The Proposition* at www.theproposition.co.uk. *The Proposition* opens at the Uptown Stage and Screen Fri., June 23. Pistols and dingos will be checked at the door.

TOP OF THE VOX

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TOP 20 FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 12.06

* Denotes Canadian Artist
** Denotes Local Artist

- 1. THE NECKERS****
Love And Infection
Independent
- 2. VARIOUS**
Soul Gospel Volume 2
Soul Jazz
- 3. MATMOS**
The Rose Has Teeth In The Mouth Of The Beast
Matador
- 4. TOKYO POLICE CLUB***
A Lesson In Crime
Paper Bag
- 5. DON CABALLERO**
World Class Listening Problem
Relapse
- 6. GNARLS BARKLEY**
St. Elsewhere
Downtown/Atlantic
- 7. THE SAINTE CATHERINES***
Dancing For Decadence
Fat Wreck Chords
- 8. CAMERA OBSCURA**
Let's Get Out Of This Country
Merge
- 9. THE MARTYR INDEX****
It's Called Rock And Roll
Meter
- 10. FEIST***
Open Season
Arts & Crafts
- 11. MATTHEW SWEET AND SUSANNA HOFFS**
Under The Covers: Volume 1
Shout Factory
- 12. MADLIB**
Beat Konducta Vol. 1-2
Stones Throw
- 13. JUANA MOLINA**
Son
Domino
- 14. BE YOUR OWN PET**
Be Your Own Pet
XL
- 15. MONEEN***
The Red Tree
Vagrant
- 16. FORT KNOX FIVE**
The New Gold Standard
Fort Knox
- 17. THE BLACK HEART PROCESSION**
The Spell
Touch And Go
- 18. ZERO 7**
The Garden
Atlantic
- 19. BLACK TURTLENECK***
Musical Chairs
NRMLS/WL/CM
- 20. NEIL YOUNG***
Living With War
Reprise

JAZZ

- 1. UGETSU***
Live At The Cellar
Cellar Live
- 2. RICHARD UNDERHILL***
Moment In Time
Stubby
- 3. VANGUARD JAZZ ORCHESTRA**
Up From The Skies
Planet Art
- 4. NOMO**
Newtones
Ubiquity
- 5. BEN ALLISON**
Cowboy Justice
Palmetto

FOLK CETERA

- 1. RAY SPOON***
White Hearshe Comes Rolling
Washboard
- 2. STEPHEN FEARING***
Yellow Jacket
High Romance
- 3. FRED J. EAGLESMITH***
Milly's Cafe
Independent
- 4. DAVID WALL***
The Spell I Was Under
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Fri Full Frontal 1999/Full Frontal 0606
Mon Full Frontal 1999/Full Frontal 0606
Tue Full Frontal 1999/Full Frontal 0606
Wed Full Frontal 1999/Full Frontal 0606

THIS WEEK

Full Frontal 1999

Full Frontal NUTV from 1999:

Join us as NUTV goes back in time to the very last Full Frontal episode of the previous millenium, when everyone thought that the world was coming to an end!! It's time to party...like it's 1999!!

Full Frontal NUTV:

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s p u n ALBUM REVIEWS

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The Streets
The hardest way to make an easy living
(Warner)

There's something engaging and sincere in a low-class British accent that makes women swoon and men tremble. It could be the truncated vowel sounds, slurry phonemes or even the rhyming slang found deep in the slums of London. Just like a Guy Ritchie adaptation of Johnny Appleseed, Mike Skinner recognized this cashcrop in his own vocal chords and cultivated it. Rather than attempt to harmonize the mannered electronic tones with his vocalic speech patterns, Skinner talks loosely overtop a bass-thump, letting his captivating voice and faculty for storytelling drive every track.

The Streets' latest opus, *The hardest way to make an easy living*, clears the high-bar set by the 2004 concept album, *A grand don't come for free*, if only just. The previous release broke listeners' hearts with an 11-track story detailing one of the worst days ever to happen to anyone, the funky slowjams carrying it the extra few feet that the grime-and-grease honesty in Skinner's voice couldn't. While *The hardest way to make an easy living* breaks from its predecessor in its lack of an overarching concept and a few tracks that put a new twist on familiar issues (like the incredibly catchy "war of the sexes"), most of the songs still fall a little too neatly into place next to the old ones. The new album is by no means a step backward; it just isn't really a step forward either.

Listening to *hardest way*, it feels like Skinner just couldn't quite get out all he wanted to say with *don't come for free*, so he crammed all the leftovers into a turntable powered microwave and set it to "Hiroshima." No fan of The Streets is going to complain about getting another taste of the 2004 delicacy, but those following Skinner's musical progression might be sad to see him cooking from the same book. Maybe the next CD under the Streets' name will be the album everyone's waiting for: the same five-star cooking with a few new spices.

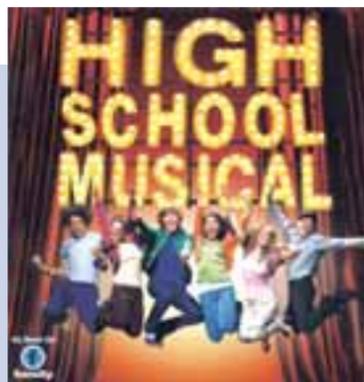
..Kyle Francis

off the page



A black swan figurine lay on all colour lily pads. On a little conglomeration table of pressed black felt. With same colour shadows and what-nots.

radio gauntlet | TUESDAYS | 6 pm
INTERVIEWS—COMMENTARY—ANALYSIS
Hosted by Chris Beauchamp and Dale Miller.
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High School Musical
Bop to the top
(Universal)

Parental advisory warnings adorn albums that contain lyrics not suitable for children. There should also be an inverse system to designate albums for children that are so obnoxious that anyone over the age of 12 would search frantically for a chopstick to pierce their own eardrums. This label would be firmly affixed to the cover of High School Musical.

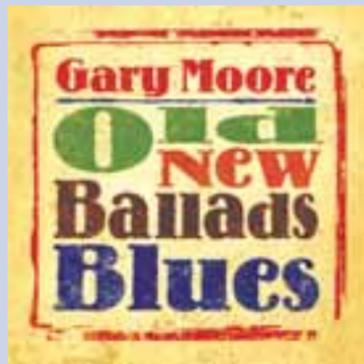
Poignant lyrics such as "Pop like a mop/Scoot around the corner," in *Bop to the Top* leave the listener pondering important questions like "how does one 'pop like a mop'? How can 'scooting around

the corner' improve my life? and Good god Jesus Christ what the fuck?!"

To top it off, both of the female singers sound like the Chipmunks on amphetamines—if they were trapped in *Tron*. It's horrifically grating, and it could quite possibly cause seizures and anal leakage.

It's the album only a masochist could love. If not the additional advisory label, it at least needs one that reads "destroy immediately."

..Kate Foote



Gary Moore
Old New Ballads Blues
(Eagle Records)

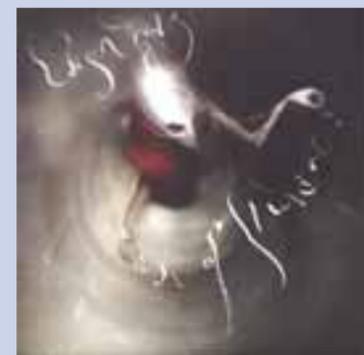
Virtually unknown in North America, Irish guitarist Gary Moore has been honing his chops since the late '60s. His rock and roll roots involved many bands, most notably Skid Row and Thin Lizzy. While being an outstanding rock guitarist, over the years Moore's kept returning to his love of the blues. *Old New Ballads Blues*, just as the title states, and like any Moore recording, is all about his raw, emotive guitar style.

The disc opens with a blistering cover of Elmore James' "Done somebody wrong," with Moore's fiery guitar work breathing new life into the old blues classic. This is immediately followed by a slower paced version of the Wil-

lie Dixon number "You know my love," which features a tastefully arranged brass section. This tune serves as another appropriate vehicle to showcase Moore's guitar craft in an extended blues solo.

While his guitar playing speaks volumes, Moore's vocals have never been his finest asset. This recording would have been stronger if it was called *Old New Blues*, discarding the ballads altogether. Frankly, his guitar playing is more interesting than his love life.

..Ken Clarke



Edison Woods
Nest of Machines
(Violet)

New York-based Edison Woods' third release *Nest of Machines* is exactly the kind of CD that you'd listen to on a rainy day. It's incredibly gloomy, alternating between morose piano and violin, all tied together by Julia Frodahl's haunting voice. While all the death and spiders might turn off casual listeners, given the right mood, it's perfect.

The piano and violin are joined by a gamut of other instruments ranging from various strings and saxophones to synthesizers. It'd be easy to compare them to bands such as Stars, however the style is closer to jazz or post-rock than indie, lacking

its synth-heavy instrumentals. Songs that stand out are the calm-yet-eerie "Letter to the garden," the wistful "The con man's lament" and the mournful "Rose," which has some of the best elements from many of the band's influences.

Nest of Machines is an impressive offering from a group that's definitely worth watching in the future and worth perusing if you want to let out your inner angst-ridden emo kid and have a good cry.

..Andrew Rininsland

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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

APPLICATION DEADLINE - June 23/06



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