

U N I V E R S I T Y   O F   C A L G A R Y

# gauntlet

VOLUME 47 • ISSUE NO. 08 • JULY 27 • 2006

## **LEBANON UNDER FIRE**

**Calgarians protest  
Israeli aggression**

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editorial page 2

Photo by Andrew Rininsland

# Escalation not the answer

Violence only begets further violence.

Perhaps the oldest of human truisms, this sad bit of wisdom seems unknown—or worse, willfully ignored—in Israel's response to Hezbollah attacks across the Israel/Lebanon border. Israel's determination to bomb the entire country of Lebanon back 20 years deserves to be condemned not only for the huge toll the campaign is taking on Lebanon's civilian population, but also because this war will only perpetuate the hatred for Israel present in much of the Arab world. Israeli attacks on civilian centers, regardless of how many warning leaflets are distributed beforehand, will only ensure new generations of Lebanese take up arms in future conflicts.

Israel knows this, but rather than seek conflict resolution or open negotiations for a prisoner exchange—as happened in 2004 after Hezbollah kidnapped an Israeli businessman and killed three soldiers—the Jewish state has opted to exercise its military superiority. The object is to take away Hezbollah's ability to wage any kind of attack or defense, regardless of the civilian toll. The logic is clear, albeit ghastly, and it explains why Israel has abandoned a proportional response to the Hezbollah rocket attacks in favour

of flattening, and likely occupying, southern Lebanon.

Diplomats met in Rome this week to discuss a ceasefire, though with U.S. opposition and a complete lack of representation from Hezbollah, the talks invariably failed.

Some facts bear reminding:

- The damage Israel is inflicting on Lebanon is roughly ten times that caused by Hezbollah. The latest death toll on the Israeli side is around 40 dead, while in Lebanon nearly 400 have been killed. In fact, according to an al-Jazeera report, an Israeli air force commander was quoted on Israeli army radio as saying the standing order is to destroy 10 apartment buildings in Beirut for every rocket fired into Israel.

- Hezbollah openly advocates for the destruction of Israel, has ruthlessly murdered Israeli civilians in the past, and is considered a terrorist organization by the U.S. and Canada among a handful of others, though the U.K. only deems the military wing as a terrorist group. In some ways they may be more correct. Hezbollah performs all the actions a government should in southern Lebanon. They maintain several schools, hospitals and clinics, a social assistance program, a news organization and have been instrumental in the reconstruction process (now set back by Israeli

bombardment) needed after the Lebanese civil war and previous Israeli occupation.

- Both sides are likely guilty of war crimes. Both have attacked United Nations observers. Both have targeted civilians, including children and ambulances.

- Though the impetus for the recent violence is often given as Hezbollah's unprovoked kidnapping of two Israeli soldiers, events cannot be simplified to that degree. The Hezbollah attack was inextricably linked to the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip earlier this month. That, in turn, was in response to a Palestinian raid into Israel, which was based on a rocket attack that killed a Palestinian family of 8 picnicking at a beach. Blame is not easily laid in a region marked with countless conflicts and retaliations, and trying to trace the blame can go on *ad infinitum*, right back to the creation of the state of Israel.

History aside, Israel apologists claim proportionality has nothing to do with this debate, noting it is Hezbollah that bases its operations in civilian centers. While Hezbollah tactics cannot be defended and the group must share blame for civilian deaths, more should be expected of the region's only liberal democratic state. Israel has long enjoyed the support of the West, and more

specifically, unprecedented military support from the U.S. The justification has always been built around the notion that Israel is the lone sane power in a troubled region, a beacon of democratic possibility and western values for the rest of the Middle East.

However, Israel's response has been anything but sane. Visiting retaliation tenfold all over Lebanon for the actions of the military wing of a single political party is not representative of Western values. It is cruel, and arguably illegal.

Now with the diplomatic process stalled in Rome, Israel is predicting weeks of further bombing. Only a ceasefire brokered by the United Nations and upheld by international law can prevent further escalation. But with Canada supporting Israel's actions and the U.S. blocking the ceasefire, Lebanon will be further reduced to rubble, and Israel may move in to reoccupy the south. The rocket attacks on Israel will diminish as Lebanon is devastated, but the violence will continue. More Muslims will flock to the banner of Hezbollah or other groups wishing to retaliate for the destruction in Lebanon. Israel will retaliate, then the Muslims. The violence will continue.

**Chris Beauchamp,**  
Editor-in-Chief



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# Calgarians call for peace

Thousands march the streets, calling for an end to the Israel-Lebanon conflict

Andrew Rininsland  
Gauntlet News

Cries of protest and the drum of four thousand angry feet could be heard Fri., July 21 as Calgary's downtown core was taken over by approximately 2,000 people protesting the recent Israeli attacks on Lebanon and what they perceive as the Canadian government's lethargic response to the violence.

"We're out here to give an opportunity for people affected to have a safe place to voice their objections," said Canada, Democracy and International Law director Julie Hrdlicka, one of the main organizers of the protest. "It's great to see this many people out in Calgary, but there should be even more. This affects us all."

Friday's protest followed a smaller one in front of the American Consulate last Monday, making it the second in a week. Protesters waving Lebanese flags gathered in front of City Hall, brandishing signs and proclaiming "Harper let us down" and "War no more."

At around 4 p.m., the group began marching up MacLeod Trail towards Prince's Island Park, where they turned and headed towards the Harry Hays building, their final destination. Calgary City Police escorted the group and closed down the adjoining streets during the march. The protestors carried



Andrew Rininsland/the Gauntlet

Members of Calgary's Lebanese community demand the return of peace in Lebanon as they march down Calgary streets.

six boxes draped with Canadian flags to represent the family of Canadians killed in the opening days of the conflict.

Once assembled at the federal building, several speakers, including prominent members of the Muslim community, Hrdlicka and

others gave speeches denouncing the violence and calling for peaceful resolution of conflict in the region. Speakers condemned Stephen Harper's statement of Israel's retaliation as a "measured response" and called for Canada to act multilaterally with the United Nations in order to

ensure the safety of civilians.

"Stephen Harper should not be making the statements he is," said Hrdlicka. "Those are statements of aggression."

Protesters were also critical of the perceived US influence on Canadian foreign policy.

"We're here to let Prime Minister Stephen Harper know he was elected to represent Canada and not be a clone of George W. Bush," said Ted Woynillowicz, Council of Canadians Calgary chapter vice-chair. Woynillowicz and others advocated increased multilateral involvement of Canada through the deployment of UN peacekeeping forces to prevent further civilian casualties while a cease fire is negotiated.

"We've done a great job in peace-keeping and we need to be peace-brokers, not co-conspirators," said Woynillowicz.

Calgary-East MLA Moe Amery was also present. His wife and two daughters were visiting Lebanon at the onset of the hostilities and were unable to be evacuated at the time of the protest. Amery encouraged citizens to write their politicians and also delivered a statement from the Government of Alberta announcing \$250,000 in aid to the Red Cross and Red Crescent societies.

"As a community, we have a responsibility," said Amery. "We must strive to pressure our leaders to work towards a common goal."

The protest marked the tenth day of the conflict between the Israeli Defence Forces and the Lebanese Hezbollah party. Already over 400 Lebanese civilians and 40 Israelis are reported dead.

## Mexico's rocky road to democracy

Sarah Malik  
Gauntlet News

Mexicans still don't know who their new president is, almost a month after the presidential election on July 2. Runner-up, Andres Lopez Obredor is demanding a vote recount, citing irregularities, and considering Mexico's long history of electoral fraud, his claim might not be the cries of a sore loser.

The Federal Electoral Institute calculated that Obredor, the leftist candidate, lost to Felipe Calderon of the conservative National Action Party, or PAN, by less than one per

cent. Julia Murphy, a University of Calgary anthropology professor, witnessed the Mexican political drama unfold first-hand as an electoral observer.

According to Mexican law, the Federal Electoral Institute's announcement that Calderon

had more votes does not mean he is the elected president. Only the judicial branch of government can proclaim the next

president, and it has not done so yet.

"Felipe Calderon is acting like he's elected but he's not," Murphy said.

**"Felipe Calderon is acting like he's elected but he's not."**

-Julia Murphy,  
U of C professor and Mexican  
election observer

respect the time and space necessary for a fully constitutional resolution to the election. With Calderon behaving as though he's president-elect,

and by saying Obredor's behaviour is destabilizing the country, it's not helping."

In Mexico, there is a whole rhetoric to describe various types of voter fraud, said Murphy. But the 1988 elections, which were widely believed to be fraudulent, signaled a turning point for Mexican democracy. Many electoral institutes were created after '88, a year Murphy described as a wake up call for the country.

But, Obredor's complaints of electoral fraud warn that Mexico might not have shed its old habits after all.

Murphy was critical of party representatives at polling stations, calling them "intrusive" and their behaviour "inappropriate."

Other examples followed: in the state of Oaxaca, the polling station was inside the town hall where voters could be susceptible to pressure from others while casting their ballots.

In another part of Mexico, her team saw evidence of the use of public security forces in favour of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, which has autocratically ruled Mexico for more than

see ELECTION, page 5

### CAMPUS QUIPS

How are you keeping cool in this heat?



"Go to the swimming pool, or go rafting."  
- Christy Lopez, ESL



"Staying indoors, where it's air conditioned."  
- Jeff Jennens, fifth-year English



"I hide in my office and work all day."  
- Rhiannon MacDonnell, graduate studies psychology



"Rafting on the Bow River."  
- Danielle Antello, fourth-year chemistry

# Women's Centre finds a home

Rebecca Pfliger  
Gauntlet News

In mid-October the University of Calgary will officially have what every other major university in Canada already has: a centre for women.

The Campus Women's Resource Centre steering committee joined forces with Stantec Architecture and the Take Your Place project to build the centre in MacEwan Student Centre.

The Women's Resource Centre has been in the works for a year, with demolition of the existing space—the old multi-faith chaplain's centre—scheduled for the end of the summer.

Funding for the centre was donated in full by a sponsor who wishes to remain anonymous until the grand opening Oct. 18, National Person's Day.

U of C environmental design students Livia Antalikova and Georgia Houston were chosen to bring the space to life through their design.

"We chose to be involved as we felt that the centre was a much needed resource for women at the U of C," said Antalikova. "The Take Your Place project is centered around the idea of students designing for students. We felt that as female students we could contribute our ideas and hopefully represent a female student perspective."

The location of the space is also important, according to steering committee member and special advisor to the president on student life Sheila O'Brien.

"The really key issue for us was



Chris Tait/the Gauntlet

Georgia Houston and Livia Antalikova, two U of C masters students, will help transform the dusty old Chaplain's Centre into a safe gathering place for women on campus.

making sure the women's centre is in Mac Hall," said O'Brien. "That's the center of campus, that's where most people can gather, it's very high profile, and it's not associated with a faculty. It's a neutral space, which is very important for this facility."

The space will incorporate a meeting room, a small kitchenette/bistro and a lounge area for more informal discussions.

"Our biggest challenge so far has probably been keeping our design

within the given budget," said Houston. "Another challenge for us has been working with quite a small space to create the feeling that is both open yet secure, and flexible enough to be comfortable for small, casual, intimate meetings as well as for larger meetings, presentations and workshops."

"We want the women who come to the centre to feel welcome, safe, comfortable and empowered," said Antalikova. "Ideally, we picture the Women's Resource Centre as a place

where all the women on campus can meet and discuss current issues that affect them personally as well as nationally and globally."

The women's centre will offer support services, announcements relating to women, guest speakers and the open lounge space for discussion.

Since the deal was made with the Students' Union last year, current su president Emily Wyatt said this year's su is not involved with the project.

## Women's Centre timeline

### Mid-'70s

The first Women's Centre is housed under Student Services.

### 1988

Student Services moves to MacEwan Student Centre. There is no room for the Women's Centre and it is shut down.

### March 1990

A group of students receives a grant from the Students' Union to start a Women's Collective and Resource Centre.

### 1999

The Women's Collective and Resource Centre is relocated to the basement of Earth Sciences, and eventually closes, due to lack of interest.

### September 2003

Three students decide to reopen a women's centre on campus as part of a class project.

### October 2003

After much debate, the Students' Union votes to support a women's centre.

### December 2003

su vice-president operations and finance Gavin Preston says the su will no longer support the proposed women's centre.

### December 2003-06

The Feminist Initiative Recognizing Equality club continues to lobby and fundraise for a women's centre.

### February 2006

An anonymous private donor offers to fund a women's centre and space is allocated on the third floor of MacEwan Student Centre, in the old Chaplain's Centre.

### April-May 2006

The women's centre committee holds initial consultations with students and staff to plan for the new centre.

### October 2006

U of C Campus Women's Resource Centre is scheduled to open.

## John Raulston Saul talks intellectual property at U of C

Natalie Vacha  
Gauntlet News

Celebrated novelist and philosopher John Ralston Saul is coming to Calgary.

Saul will be the keynote speaker

at the Ethics, Creativity and Copyright Conference, sponsored by the University of Calgary and the Banff Centre.

In his address, entitled, "From Birds of Prey to the Collapse of Globalism," Saul will discuss the

impact of globalism on copyright. Saul is expected to speak on the subject from two different perspectives, both as a working writer, and as a political philosopher who questions the effects of globalism on all aspects of life.

"Saul is a well-known and very good speaker who has two different perspectives on copyright," said Dr. Greg Hagen, faculty of law assistant professor and co-organizer of the conference. "It really encapsulates the debate between users and artists."

The conference itself will focus on contemporary issues in copyright and their causes, such as changes to copyright law and the effect on technological advances and shifting copyright policy.

All of these issues are causing a re-examination of the place of copyright in today's society, said Hagen.

"These issues are influenced by such happenings as the digitization of information and the globalization of copyright policy and intellectual property norms," said Hagen, noting copyright also affects students.

"It might be okay to have a strong copyright in a commercial context, but if you have starving students who can't afford books or other materials for education—which is a value—it impacts the ability of people to afford education."

The Ethics, Creativity and Copyright Conference runs Aug. 3-5. John Ralston Saul will give the opening address at the Red and White Club on Thu., Aug. 3 at 8 p.m. For more info or tickets visit [www.copyrightconference.ca](http://www.copyrightconference.ca).



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## Election, cont'd from pg. 3

70 years. Murphy said police and a helicopter were there as an act of intimidation, calling it collusion between PRI and the state.

"When we showed up, there was some funny business going on," said Murphy.

As people came out of the polling station, PRI representatives gave them 100 pesos and a t-shirt, she explained.

"It's ingrained in the PRI," Murphy said, citing the practice of buying votes and pressuring voters.

There was also concern about the diversion of state funds. Alianza Civica, a non-government organization, carried out a study of the six month period leading up to the election. It found the temporary employment program was used to buy votes and pressure people to vote for the PAN party, the ruling party Calderon represents. AC interviewed the beneficiaries of the programs and found 92 per cent of the sample didn't know where they could make a complaint when they were coerced for votes.

Many say that if Obrador's claims of fraud in the presidential elections are true, his populist politics will be a blow to Mexico's electoral system and the democratizing process, but Murphy is much more cautious.

"Mexico has made huge advancements, especially in the development of electoral institutions," she said, adding that more improvements to the democratic system are still necessary.

Murphy's team is asking for a vote recount. September 6 is the last day to announce the next Mexican president, who will assume power in December.

This was Murphy's first time monitoring an election. She was one of two Canadians part of a 24-member delegation sent by San Francisco's Global Exchange. They joined 13,600 Mexican electoral observers.

## Maclean's rankings flawed

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
[Re: "U of C at bottom of barrel,"  
Emily Senger, June 22, 2006]

I am dismayed that *Maclean's* used a few results from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) in its rankings of Canadian universities. NSSE always eschewed this idea, posting the reasons why on its website (<http://nsse.iub.edu/html/usingst.cfm>). Rankings are inherently flawed because they reduce complex dimensions of university life to a single number. Ranking Canadian institutions is especially problematic because they have different missions, offer different majors, and enroll different mixes of younger and older full-time and part-time students and transfers. These many other features affect student engagement and make it possible for institutions to offer different, yet rich, nuanced and meaningful educational experiences for their students.

Rankings may sell magazines but they do little to help the public understand what makes for a high-quality undergraduate experience. Rankings also have the potential to discourage universities from serious efforts to discover what their students are doing and learning, and then using this information to improve. By forcing universities to release their student engagement results before institutions have had a fair opportunity to understand and use the data to get better may mean some schools will forgo using NSSE or other assessment tools in the future. That outcome would be an ironic tragedy, contrary to the public interest.

Public disclosure is good, and we need more of it. Indeed, NSSE strongly encourages individual institutions to make available their student engagement results so that over time prospective students and others will become better informed about what to look for when choosing a university and the kinds of educational activities that matter to their learning. But

estimates of university quality must be based on more information than rankings based primarily on student satisfaction indicators.

George D. Kuh,  
chancellor's professor and director,  
National Survey of Student Engagement  
Indiana University, Bloomington

## Harper ought to be ashamed

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

I would like to compliment our Prime Minister on lending out his jet for the evacuation of our citizens from the embattled areas of Lebanon, but quite frankly that would be like complimenting a fellow that witnesses a car crash, but rather than aiding the victims of the crash, he starts to clean the roadway of debris so motorists can continue their commute. I am ashamed. I am ashamed as a person who firmly believes in peace, I am ashamed as a Canadian, and I am ashamed as a human being. Many Israelis have been murdered and ten times as many Lebanese. Worse yet they are being killed in war crimes. Both sides are committing these crimes and they need to be stopped.

Stephen Harper, you should be ashamed. We could place pressure on the U.S to reduce their arms shipments to not only the Middle East but the rest of the world. We could follow the example of the incredibly brave Christian Peacemakers and place ourselves in harm's way as human shields to promote peace and help the people of Lebanon and Israel feel that they are not alone and their suffering is being heard. Our Prime Minister should've been on that jet and when they arrived amidst the shells and bombs he should've gotten off and placed himself in harm's way until a ceasefire was initiated. He should be our example—an example for all Canadians to emulate and be proud of. I don't feel that.

Steven Vaivada

## Pike McSucks, McFly McRocks!

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
[Re: "Spun: McFly" Ryan Pike, July 20, 2006]

Tell the fool who wrote that article that he's a complete muppet.

McFly aren't trying to be anything other than a pop band! They say it loud and proud all the time, so before he goes around saying that McFly think they're a rock band, uhm... No they don't.

Muppet.

McFly were approached two years ago to do this film while on their theatre tour. The director chose them to be in the film. They did it so people could see their talents and not just push them to one side. It's a clever way to go about doing it and everyone is proud of them for trying.

The songs on the American *Just My Luck* album are old-school ones which the guys wrote three years ago! Try listening to 'Wonderland' or the B-Sides to their singles and you'll see just how wrong you actually are about them!

They're four talented guys who want to do well. There's nothing wrong with that is there?

All I can say is: jealous much?!

Laura Brough,  
United Kingdom

## Calgary: Be like Toronto

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
[Re: "Students Fear Safety of Urban Campus," Felicia Pacentrilli, July 20, 2006]

I sent an e-mail to Calgary Transit last year regarding my experience on the Toronto Subway. They have an area called the Designated Waiting Area (DWA) on each subway platform.

The area has great signage, is very well lit, has a payphone and panic button to call in case of an emergency and extra security cameras. People can gather

in this area day or night

I suggested that Calgary Transit look at this and possibly implement something like this on our train platforms. I have not heard back from them. The East Village is very scary during the day, but like everything else our city hall does, they won't make the area safe until something disastrous happens to someone.

Brian Rubenstein

## Give us clean air or give us death

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
[Re: "City Hall—Still Smoking the Cigarettes," editorial, July 20, 2006]

I applaud the *Gauntlet's* position on anti-smoking bylaws. Non-smokers should not be subjected to second-hand smoke with its carcinogenic, asthma-inducing [qualities], and other adverse effects on health.

I would like to hear more about your opinion on air pollution in Calgary that is the result of heavy automobile use. In my view, it has the same—if not worse—negative consequences as second-hand smoke.

Ian Burleigh

## Smoking sucks elsewhere, too

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,  
[Re: "City Hall—Still Smoking the Cigarettes," editorial, July 20, 2006]

Well done with your editorial from an Australian living in Sweden where smoking has been banned indoors for more than a year. Oh sweet Scandinavian air! I will not even consider returning to my hometown Melbourne until it falls into line behind Sweden, Norway, Scotland, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, California, New York... the list goes on.

Keep up the fight for fresh air!

James Teasdale

summertime  
**gauntlet**

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Festival passes.  
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time than now.

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# Sunny days, folk music and beer

## Calgary Folk Festival PREVIEW

Rachel Betts-Wilmott  
Gauntlet Entertainment

While students too poor to leave the city for the summer and scenesters in their skinny jeans both yearn for the Calgary Folk Music Festival, musicians are arriving in town and the 1,300 organizers and volunteers are seeing their year's work come to fruition. There are many reasons to be excited for the Calgary Folk Fest. Whether it's your love of music or the prospect of a weekend on Prince's Island as your vacation from summer in the city, this year's festival promises to stand up to the greatness of years past.

With a variety of headlining acts like Ani DiFranco, Kris Kristofferson, Matt Good, Broken Social Scene and Macy Gray, there's not only something to appeal to each demographic, but with nearly 70 artists appearing over the four-day affair, there's sure to be something new for every attendee.

"Diversity is the main guide in choosing the line-up," explains Calgary Folk Music Festival associate producer Kerry Clarke. "The

definition of folk has evolved and we've tried to keep up with it. We recognize a lot of types of music fall under the category of folk."

Jazz, funk, classical, celtic—all have an independent spirit characteristic of folk music. And the styles multiply during the workshops on Saturday and Sunday, which pair unsuspecting artists, creating a veritable sonic cornucopia.

"We're not classically trained," says Mark Sasso of 'death country' band Elliott Brood. "So when someone asks us to play in, say, the key of E flat, it freaks us out, but they're always full of surprises."

Despite what people might say about the importance of music, what distinguishes the folk festival from

other all day music extravaganzas is the audience.

"A festival is a reflection of the city it's in," says Clarke—something first time folkies will understand upon arrival. The Calgary Folk Fest isn't filled with the same kind of dirty hippies one usually finds at music gatherings. Although there's still tie-dye and people dancing with their eyes closed, there are also cowboy hats and shaved armpits, which certainly give a more accurate impression of Calgary.

If you're worried about your own folk cred, forget about it. The audience is really as varied as the music. Families set up their tarps and blankets early in front of the mainstage, the tardy teens try and sneak up to the front when their favourites appear and the greasy-

haired, patchouli-scented vagrants fritter away the evening swaying in the transient section. The theme of the festival is diversity, so embrace it. To be sure folk fest is as enjoyable as possible, though, there are things every attendee should know: Calgary weather changes, so don't be afraid to layer and apply copious amounts of sunscreen; you can bring your own food, but there is an avenue of food vendors providing every kind of fare Calgary has to offer; plan to spend the whole day there—there's a beer garden.

The Calgary Folk Festival starts Thu., July 27 and runs until Sun., July 30. Four-day passes are sold out, but Thu. and Fri. passes are available for \$45 and \$50, respectively. Come on down and be a part of Calgary's folklore.



### YOU KNOW WHO ELSE LIKED THE SUN? AZTECS.

To win two tickets to a screening of Fox Searchlight's **Little Miss Sunshine** on Thursday, August 3, email [entertainment@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca](mailto:entertainment@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca) with the answer to this skill-testing question:

Who was the Aztec (or Mexico) personification of the sun and war?

# cjsw on-air guide

mon tue wed thu fri sat sun

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
6 am	morning joy	working man's jazz show	lush life	cold smoke jazz	pussycat dues	late night continued	late night continued
6:30						democracy now!	alternative radio
7 am							
7:30							
8 am							
8:30							
9 am	tangential workout	canadian music centre presents	bella musica	airport bison radio	the two and a half hour coffee break	bunte welle <i>german</i>	counterspin eritrean radio hvratski radio <i>croatian</i>
9:30							
10 am		stick it to the man				calgary vietnamese radio	bagong pagasa <i>filipino</i>
10:30							buscando america <i>latin america</i>
11 am	democracy now!	writer's block	alternative radio	cjsw news counterspin	who shakes <i>city calendar</i>	helenic melodies <i>greek radio</i>	
11:30							
12 pm	el moustacheo mysterio	red squares <i>sponsored by the drum &amp; monkey</i>	a house fell on my sister	the mutton chop record hop / pillage the village	punk up the volume <i>sponsored by beat route magazine</i>	fantastic plastic <i>sponsored by bird dog video</i>	the good word project
12:30							level the vibes
1 pm							
1:30							
2 pm	cloud pleaser	meow mix <i>sponsored by the coup</i>	nerd beat / strange and beautiful	the audible smile	my allergy to the fans <i>sponsored by tubby dog</i>	bikesheviks <i>sponsored by cadence coffee</i>	mental illness
2:30							
3 pm							
3:30							
4 pm	welcome to flava country <i>sponsored by the hi fi club</i>	jane & tasya's guide to everything <i>sponsored by broken city</i>	full disclosure <i>sponsored by liberty lounge</i>	alternative to what? <i>sponsored by palomino smokehouse</i>	road pops <i>sponsored by fwd weekly</i>	caribbean link-up <i>sponsored by fwd weekly</i>	riddim and weep
4:30							
5 pm							
5:30							
6 pm	french transe en danse	off the page <i>gauntlet artlink</i>	so SU me students' union the blues witness <i>with reverend ron sponsored by calgary dollars</i>	mezza l'una folkcetera	musiquarium <i>everything from jazz to jungle sponsored by giant 45</i>	voice of ethiopia oh africa!	desi vibes
6:30							
7 pm	south louisiana gumbo	tombstone after dark	lift the bandstand	film clips	the nocturntable	speaking in tongues <i>world music</i>	the chit chat
7:30							
8 pm	reverb	honey, i punk the kids	good character requirement / under the influence charlie	noise <i>experimental music</i>	remote emissions <i>hard hitting jungle &amp; drum 'n bass</i>	the chit chat	technicolor jukebox
8:30	yeah, what she said <i>women's programming</i>	rack power	fat beat diet	dirty needles <i>the best in funk, soul &amp; hip hop</i>	dna <i>hardcore techno</i>	the chit chat	translucent dreams <i>ambient, trance etc.</i>
9 pm	aubrey's shindig!	what would the neighbors think?	post-everything	fat beat diet	sound champion showcase	the chit chat	hot dog day
9:30							
10 pm	katharsis						
10:30							
11 pm							
11:30							
12 am	downtime	dead air	incidental tracks	post-everything	sunlight theory	the sarcastic triangle / attention surplus disorder	hot dog day
12:30							
1 am							
1:30							
2 am	bass backwards	31 flavours	pants-free radio	rage cage		mental brain thoughts / the anti-parent culture hour	straight on 'til morning
2:30							
3 am							
3:30							
4:00							
4:30							
5:00							
5:30							

■ Mixed Block ■ Specialty Music ■ News / Spoken Word ■ Multicultural

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# Fighting *Snakes on a Plane*

Just part of the wide and varied career of Agam Darshi

Agam Darshi  
actor interview

Ryan Pike

Gauntlet Entertainment

Acting is one of the finest careers in the world. To become a paid actor is a labour of love, endurance and tenacity—few possess all three. For years, the stereotype of the neophyte actor supporting themselves by working as a server or a barista has endured. Now, that image can be put to rest with the help of University of Calgary alumnus Agam Darshi.

"I was working part-time as a graphic designer," says Darshi. "About a year and a half ago, after acting for about a year, it started getting a lot busier for me and I was lucky enough to be in a position where I didn't need to have a secondary job."

The Vancouver-based actor went west following her U of C graduation in 2002. Utilizing the skills she showcased as a *Gauntlet* photographer and illustrator, Darshi plied her trade as a graphic designer.

"I did study theatre in university," she recalls. "But I also studied art and I thought I was going to pursue that, so I was working at a graphic design company. Then I got an interest [from the right people in the industry], and I just started getting a lot more work."

Darshi's career continued to blossom with appearances on the Gemini-nominated *Renegade*, *press.com*, FOX's *Tru Calling*, *Stargate: Atlantis*, *The L-Word* and *Final Destination 3*. Darshi credits a bit of her success to her experiences appearing on-camera for NUTV.

"It was a step," Darshi remembers. "It wasn't something where now that I've [appeared on-camera] I definitely felt comfortable. But it was definitely



Courtesy Agam Productions

a step, and I think I've grown a lot since then."

Darshi can be seen on YTV's sci-fi live-action/animated series *Zixx: Level Two* as the nefarious Jayda. Though *Zixx* is now only on in re-run form, Darshi speculates that a follow-up to the popular series may be in the works, but may take some time to come to fruition.

"As far as I know, it took them a couple years to make *Zixx: Level Two*," she explains. "So it wouldn't surprise me if *Level Three* takes a few years as well. It was a really fun show. It was a really good group of people to work with, and it was my first time as a villain, so that was a lot of fun."

Darshi is also prominently featured on the CBC series *49th and Main*, which premiered this month. The show chronicles the life of an English doc-

tor who sets up a practice in the titular Vancouver district, renowned for its multicultural composition.

"I play this girl called Rajanpreet Johal," Darshi says. "She's this rebellious girl. She wants to play field hockey and is very smart, but she isn't getting opportunities that she should have because her parents are holding her back. It's a good role and I really like the arc of the character. She's a fighter."

The initial six-episode order for *49th and Main* will be completed later this month, and the series may be extended. If the show manages to make it off the bubble, though, it could be renewed for up to four more seasons.

"We're waiting for CBC to come back to us on that and whether or not it's going to be extended for more

shows," she reveals. "The rumour mill is that it might go for anywhere from 40 to 80 more episodes."

Whether or not *49th and Main* gets a larger order, Darshi will still have her hands full this summer. She appears as an aircraft passenger tormented by snakes alongside Samuel L. Jackson in the summer film *Snakes on a Plane*, playing a character dubbed iPod Girl. She notes that the hype surrounding the project has caught many of the cast and crew off-guard.

"When we were doing the film, I don't think anybody realized that it was going to be as big as it was," she says. "It's just so ridiculous, the premise of it all, and I think they discovered how ridiculous it was in editing, which is why they went back and added even more blood and guts and gore and snakes and all of that. It's just gone to such an extreme and people like that."

With several more upcoming projects—*Under the Sycamore Tree* with director Shane Dean, the holiday flick *All Lit Up* alongside Matthew Broderick and her own short film *Bollywood Beckons*—Darshi is poised for bigger things. Ultimately, Darshi holds that her success will hinge upon one thing: her talent.

"Perhaps I'm just idealistic, but I think that the better you are at your craft, people can't ignore that," she says. "Nowadays, more and more, they're saying that Hollywood's just picking the pretty people and that's it, and I think that there's definitely a bigger emphasis on that now than there was before. But if you're genuinely good at what you do and constantly trying to push yourself and constantly working at your craft, I don't think people can ignore that."

*49th and Main* airs Thu., July 20 and July 25–27 at 2:30 p.m. on CBC. *Zixx: Level Two* airs Fridays at 11:30 p.m., Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 4:30 p.m. on YTV. *Snakes on a Plane* opens August 18 in theatres everywhere.

TOP OF THE  
VOX

CALGARY 90.9 FM  
cjsw  
106.9 CABLE

TOP 20 FOR THE WEEK  
OF JULY 24.06

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

- 1. THE DUDES\*\***  
*Brain Heart Guitar*  
Load Music
- 2. THOM YORKE**  
*The Eraser*  
XL
- 3. RISE AGAINST**  
*The Sufferer And The Witness*  
Dreamworks
- 4. MSTRKRFT\***  
*The Looks*  
Last Gang
- 5. PEACHES\***  
*Impeach My Bush*  
XL
- 6. CAMERA OBSCURA**  
*Let's Get Out Of This Country*  
Merge
- 7. CONNOR**  
*Hello Graphic Missile*  
Sonic Boom
- 8. GREG GRAFFIN**  
*Cold As The Clay*  
Anti
- 9. MIND CONTROLS\***  
*Mind Controls*  
Dirtnap
- 10. PRESSURE KILL**  
**COMMON STYLE\*\***  
*Sad Animal*  
Rectangle
- 11. LAKE HOLIDAY\***  
*The Curse Of Sunshine*  
Debris Miracle Network
- 12. HOSTAGE LIFE\***  
*Walking Papers*  
Underground Operations
- 13. THE BRONX**  
*The Bronx*  
Island
- 14. JURASSIC 5**  
*Feedback*  
Interscope
- 15. VARIOUS\***  
*Ready Or Not 2: Deep Jazz Grooves*  
*From The CBC Radio Archive*  
Do Right
- 16. VARIOUS**  
*Monsieur Gainsbourg Revisited*  
Universal
- 17. LYNN OLAGUNDOYE\*\***  
*Africa Violet*  
Absurd Machine
- 18. THE SAINTE CATHERINES\***  
*Dancing For Decadence*  
Fat Wreck Chords
- 19. WIRE**  
*Pink Flag*  
Pink Flag
- 20. RADIO 4**  
*Enemies Like This*  
Astralwerks

FOLK/ROOTS/BLUES

- 1. RON SEXSMITH\***  
*Time Being*  
Warner
- 2. RAE SPOON AND RODNEY DECROO\***  
*Trucker's Memorial*  
Northern Electric
- 3. FRED J. EAGLESMITH\***  
*Milly's Cafe*  
Independent
- 4. THE WAILIN' JENNY'S\***  
*Firecracker*  
Jericho Beach
- 5. VERN AND RAY**  
*San Francisco 1968*  
Arhoolie

LOUD

- 1. DRAGONFORCE**  
*Inhuman Rampage*  
Roadrunner
- 2. STRAPPING YOUNG LAD\***  
*The New Black*  
Century Media
- 3. SHADOWS FALL**  
*Fallout From The War*  
Century Media
- 4. BURY YOUR DEAD**  
*Beauty And The Breakdown*  
Victory
- 5. CELLADOR**  
*Enter Deception*  
Metal Blade



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\*FULL FRONTAL \*DOC SCHOOL \*LIVE TO TAPE \*DRAMA SCHOOL

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**Mobile**  
*Tomorrow Starts Today*  
(Universal)

The latest trend in indie music has been the blending of punk sensibilities with electronic flourishes, dubbed “dance-punk” by music critics and “music that girls can dance to” by genre forerunners Franz Ferdinand. Canadian bands have joined the fray, with groups like Metric & Hot Hot Heat attempting to carve out a niche in the genre. Joining them are Montreal’s Mobile with their vibrant debut, *Tomorrow Starts Today*.

The five members of Mobile come out swinging, delivering a concoction of sound that is equal parts hypnotic, clever and groove-inducing. While “Out of My Head” and “Montreal Calling” were released as singles prior to the album proper, they don’t represent all that Mobile has to offer. Following a four-pack of frantically energetic songs (including both singles), Mobile slows things down and explores the breadth of their sound before amping things up in the latter parts of the recording.

Too often groups leap into a musical genre with a “Me, too!” mentality, resulting in countless albums that sound exactly the same—as evidenced by the Theory-of-a-Nickle-Creed hodgepodge. Luckily, Mobile avoids this cliché, delivering instead an album that is markedly different and definitely worthwhile.

..Ryan Pike

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**Jurassic 5**  
*Frequency*  
(Interscope)

While there’s actually six members in the crew, Jurassic 5 is living proof making a good rap album has almost no correlation to math skills. Debuting in 1998, J5 hit the hip-hop scene with sweeping melodies, deep lyrics and soulful delivery that had them compared with artists such as Mos Def, the Pharcyde and Blackalicious.

Following up the hugely successful *Power in Numbers*, *Frequency* has been awaited with bated breath by J5 fans for nearly three years. While it’s still recognizably a Jurassic 5 album, *Frequency* is leaning more in the direction of 2000’s *Quality Control*, with its greater emphasis on soft melodies and soul-inspired

lyrics than *Power in Numbers*’ catchy hooks and hard-edged grime sound. While fans of the hard style might be disappointed, the step back in a somber direction doesn’t make it inferior to the crew’s previous work.

Tracks like “FutureSound” and “Baby Please” lend the album its energy, though the slow, even songs like “Work it out” (featuring Dave Matthews Band) and “In the House,” carry through to a satisfying finish. With 15 strong tracks and no real low spots, *Frequency* is an infinitude of competent rap stylings, even without any prime numbers.

..Kyle Francis



**Buckcherry**  
*15*  
(Universal)

Everything old is new again. 15, the third album from L.A.-based rockers Buckcherry (and first since the band’s 2005 reformation), is a tribute to the band’s influences and progenitors in the sleaze-rock genre. Despite the high energy infused into the disc by each of the five members, 15 ultimately doesn’t amount to the sum of its parts.

The music in-and-of itself is mostly good, and occasionally verges on excellent. The deal-breaker is the lyrics, written mainly by frontman Josh Todd. “Crazy Bitch” exemplifies everything wrong with the album. The music is catchy and fun, but the lyrics are either stupid or borderline-offensive,

depending on your stance on women’s lib. Lyrics like “Hey, you’re a crazy bitch, but you fuck so good, I’m on top of it / You’re crazy, but I like the way you fuck me” almost criticize themselves.

The rest of the album is good enough for government work, with inoffensive but bland lyrics that never utilize the energy brought to plate by the band. After the reformation of Buckcherry, 15 represents a new chapter in their story. Perhaps it’s time to close the book and walk away.

..Ryan “Boy Band Destroyer” Pike



**The Salads**  
*The Big Picture*  
(Warner)

In the delightful world of salad dressing there are many magnificent flavours. There’s the scrumptious Italian, the sensational Catalina and the fine French. Then there’s ranch. Ranch doesn’t deserve an adjective like other salad dressings, as it doesn’t reach nearly the same heights, nor does it cause the same flavour explosion as any of its cousins. It goes great with snack food like potato chips and buffalo wings, but as a dressing for salad, ranch leaves something to be desired. The Salads are the ranch of the musical world.

The Salads clearly have a lot of energy behind *The Big Picture*, and would be a perfect flavour for a frat party, but it’s fairly uninteresting

for the average consumer. The songs blend together, and nothing really stands out. The guitars chug along, blending with the high-hat-heavy drumming, jiving with the scratchy vocals until it all congeals into a weak dipping sauce. In the end, *The Big Picture* fails to set the Salads apart from anything currently offered on mainstream rock radio.

Ranch isn’t a disgusting flavor. It just won’t blow your mind.

..Jon Roe

off the page

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