

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

gauntlet

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MAKING ^A SPLASH ^{AT} CIS

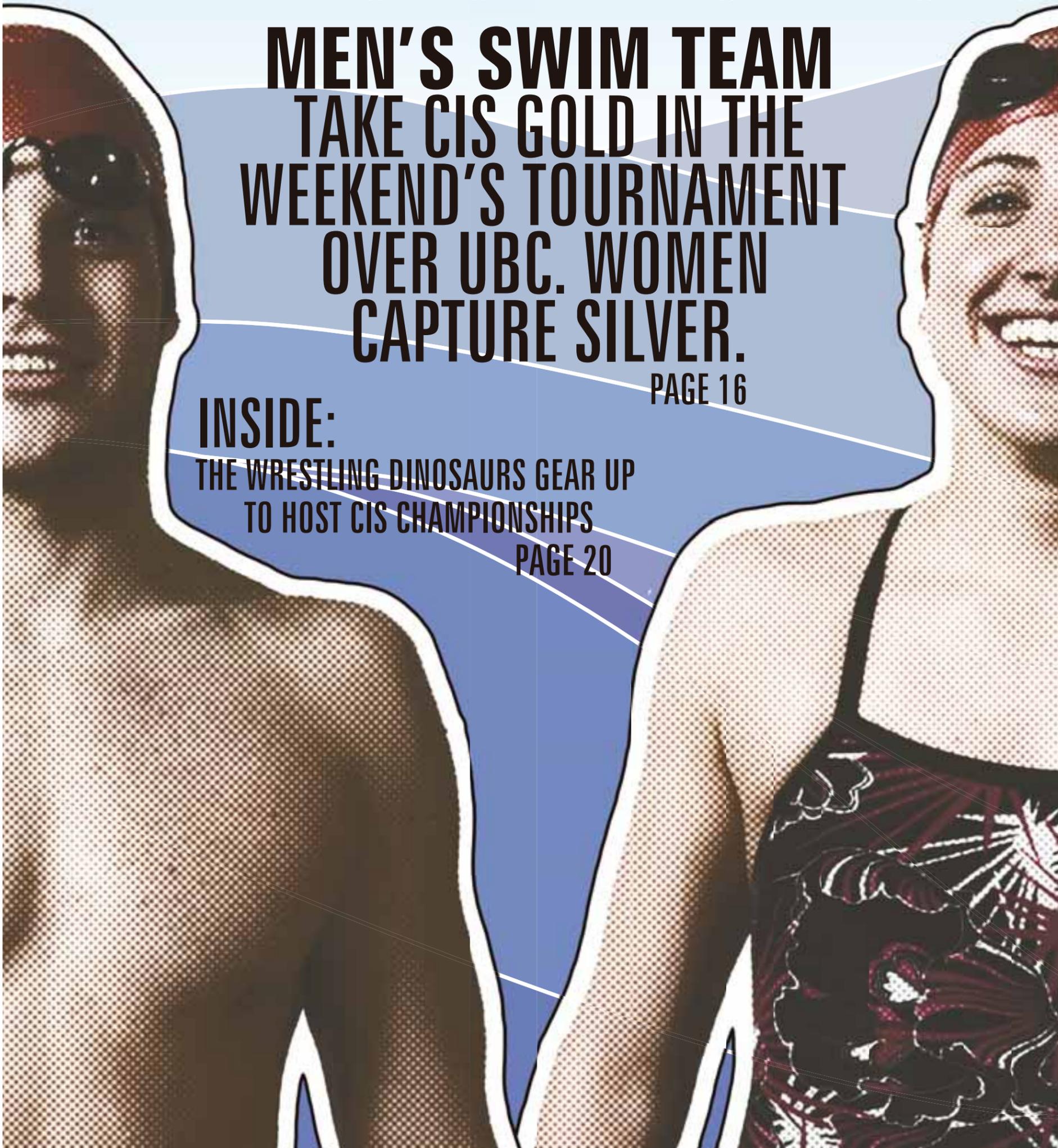
**MEN'S SWIM TEAM
TAKE CIS GOLD IN THE
WEEKEND'S TOURNAMENT
OVER UBC. WOMEN
CAPTURE SILVER.**

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INSIDE:

**THE WRESTLING DINOSAURS GEAR UP
TO HOST CIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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Calendar of Curiosities

www.su.ucalgary.ca



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ACADEMIC COMMISSIONER

Appointed Position

Term: Starts May 2008

Pay: Honoraria of up to \$400/month

The Academic Commissioner is responsible for representing students to SLC, SAA, and the Academic Commission, as well as working on various projects related to their Commission.

Duties include preparing for, attending, and participating in Commission, SAA, and SLC meetings; understanding Students' Union academic policies; working with the student clubs related to their commission; working directly with the VP Academic; working on Academic Commission projects, awareness campaigns; or personal projects related to the position; involvement with SU and University committees requiring student representation; being familiar with SU by-laws and procedures.

FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE (SAA)

Appointed Position

Term: Starts May 2008

Pay: Honoraria of up to \$400/month

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

Duties include preparing for, attending and participating in SAA and General Faculties Council (GFC) meetings; working with the student clubs in their faculty; attending Faculty Promotions Committee (FPC) meetings and acting as the student member on the faculty Student Appeal Committee; attending Faculty

Council (FC) and any sub-committee meetings; and assisting in administering Teaching Excellence Awards in their faculty.

The following Faculty Rep positions are available: Humanities, Social Work, Science, Education and Nursing.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to the attention of

Susan Judd, Coordinator Executive Cabinet, Committees & Elections

Email: scjudd@ucalgary.ca

or in person to SU Main Office, 251 MacEwan Student Centre.

Deadline: 4:30 pm, Friday, March 28.

\$8.95 (5 - close)

All you can eat

PASTA TUESDAYS



GET YOUR TAXES DONE FOR FREE.

The Students' Union Volunteer Services (SUVS) Tax Program is available to all campus students, faculty, and staff and is running this year from March 3 - April 11.



WHY GO WITH THE TAX PROGRAM?

- Drop off (March 3 - 28)
- All our volunteers are CRA trained
- It's completely FREE
- We'll e-file or give you a mailed return

DO YOU QUALIFY?

Restrictions do apply and unfortunately we are unable to accept returns for the following:

- Individual income over \$35,000
- Rental income
- Complex investments & capital gains (will accept interest & dividend income)
- Personal business income
- Foreign income
- Any other returns deemed unacceptable by tax authorities

So come check us out at MSC 202, right by the bank machines in the MSC food court, or visit us online at www.su.ucalgary.ca, email vstax@ucalgary.ca

Make an appointment and don't worry about your taxes this year!



NOMINATE A KICK-ASS PROFESSOR OR TA

FOR A STUDENTS' UNION

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS!

Fill out a form at www.su.ucalgary.ca



A Professor or TA must receive 5 nominations to be considered officially nominated!

Winter Term
Deadline:
Mar 7, 2008



Students' Union Weekly Schedule of Events, March 3 - 8, 2008

Monday, March 3

Tuesday, March 4

Wednesday, March 5

Thursday, March 6

Friday, March 7

Saturday, March 8

CINEMANIA
NEW SHOWS - 6:30 & 8:30 PM - STUDENT DISCOUNT 50%

BEE MOVIE

Clubs Night
15% OFF with your SU Clubs Card (after 5pm)

den

Wings
Just **25¢**

den lounge

Feeling unappreciated?
Every Thursday is Student Appreciation Night

den

MICHAEL BERNARD FITZGERALD
MATT MASTERS

THE EMPTY SPACE

PIVOT CABARET

den

photo to the editor

“Graffiti or something like that”

by Nooshin Esmaeli

No title or description, but the photo has something to do with the Black History Month fun we’ve been having, I think, so maybe something like that. I’d title it “Graffiti” or something like that, ’cause that’s what it is. Diggit?

Anyone can submit an original photo to the editor. Drop off your high-resolution photo along with your name, contact information and a brief description including type of camera (not exceeding 30 words) to room 319 MacEwan Student Centre or e-mail photo@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca



Stelmach talks...to the *Gauntlet!*

news page 5

As well as a one-on-one interview with our province’s main man, this week’s News section looks at Canada’s involvement in Haiti, Albertan student and faculty activism around PSE and the U of C striking oil—really.

Even Castro gets IDed

opinions page 11

Are you one of those annoying people who throws a fit every time they get IDed for smokes? Well, even Castro gets IDed when he shops at *my* house ’cause we ID everybody! That’s right! No underage townies here! So suck it up and read the gosh-durn section after showing your piece of government-approved photo identification ’cause we’re more addicting than crack. Oh, and that’ll be \$10.50, please.

Splish splash, we win!

sports page 16

The men’s swimming team rocked UBC’s butts this weekend and won gold! We’re also gearing up to host the CIS wrestling championships this weekend. See Sports for more!

The Internet is really pretty relevant once you get to know it

web page 26

Your Web takes a giant leap from talking about P2P and Facebook by discussing the idea that it won’t be long before the Internet as a community is targeted as a political demographic.

A veritable cavalcade of awesome

entertainment page 28

Your favourite section is back, this time with interviews with Cadence Weapon and Ladyhawk, as well as more movie and theatre reviews than you can shake a moderately-sized stick at. Please refrain from swinging a bat at the section, though.

A haiku

AP page 34

Ev’ryone is home
And I’m stuck at the office
Goddamn contents page.

HH HELLY HANSEN SURVIVAL WORK SPORT

VISIT OUR STORES:
HELLY HANSEN BRENTWOOD
HELLY HANSEN CHINOOK MALL
HELLY HANSEN BANKERS HALL

Canada needs to recognize Kosovo

On Feb. 17, Kosovo declared itself an independent nation from Serbia.

Some countries, especially those with possible separatist segments of their population, have needlessly gotten themselves worked up over recognizing the newly formed country. Nor should separatist regions in the west be encouraged by Kosovo's declared independence, as their individual situations are distinct almost beyond comparison. The Canadian government has yet to release an official stance on the issue.

Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev—likely the future president of the nation—warned that acknowledgement of Kosovo's sovereignty would set a dangerous precedent for other regions possibly seeking separation. He added that encouraging ethnic groups to separate may provoke them to do so forcefully. The only thing lending power to this concern is the fear that announcements like this have created. The announcement itself runs the risk of becoming the driving force for the separatist groups, which is utterly counter-productive for anti-separatists.

Evidently, based on the conflict in the late 1990s between the predominantly Serb government and Albanian militant groups, the assertion that an independent Kosovo nation will do more to hurt security in the Balkans than its governance by Serbia is moot. Provided Kosovo is able to maintain an acceptable level of security—which the United Nations has been helping them establish—there is no reason their separation should be more bloody than what could have developed into full-blown and prolonged civil war.

The United Nations Office of the Special Envoy for Kosovo has been in direct contact with the Serbian and Kosovar governments for the past few years assessing the situation in the area. The envoy is former Finnish president Martti Ahtisaari.

According to *Report of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Kosovo's future status*, a 2007 document put out by UNOSK, Kosovo has already been in a state of *de facto*, self-governing independence for the past eight and a half years, since the period following the NATO intervention in 1999. The report makes several provisions for what the UN would consider acceptable in gaining independence, including a decentralization of government and acceptance of the region's minorities.

So far, Kosovo's government has adhered to the provisions of the settlement provided by Ahtisaari.

Though Milosevic has long since been deposed, any government that

allows its military to perform atrocities on its own citizenry immediately forfeits its right to control regional separation of that targeted population and needn't scratch its head as to why. Given their government's basis in democracy, it'd be a difficult point to refute.

The Albanian regional ethnic majority is stronger than that of Serbs in the remainder of Serbia, according to 2005 Kosovo in Figures Survey by the Statistical Office of Kosovo. At 92 per cent compared to less than 1 per cent of Albanians in the rest of Serbia, they are a segregated population that had been provoked to retaliate by an intolerant and exclusive Serb government.

Meanwhile, with Serb police suddenly refusing to work for their Kosovar superiors and rallying activists in the proposed country's northern regions, Kosovo's challenge will be to convince the rest of the world they are able to maintain political stability and security in the face of accusations, most vocally Russian, of potential arms and drug smuggling.

By comparison, many of the regions with histories of separatist ideology, while often maintaining a regional level of government, are also often heavily involved in their national politics. For example, the Bloc Québécois represents the interests of a great number of Quebecers in Canadian federal politics. The discourse is therefore taking place and the ethnic concerns are being raised. Though some residents of Quebec may feel they deserve more attention on the national stage, their interests have not been neglected to the point where separation would be an appropriate or beneficial action. After all, they have benefited from provincial transfer payments since their inception in the early 80s. They are able to maintain their language, courts system and distinct cultural elements, while still functioning as a part of the country as a whole.

The Canadian government has a responsibility to accept that the Kosovar separation was conducted democratically and should welcome the new country into the international community.

Chris Tait
Editor-in-Chief



TFDL groundbreaking: For realz this time!

As the self-stylized legend Kanye West once rapped, "Yeah, you know what this is: it's a celebration, bitches! Grab a drink, grab a glass, after that I grab yo ass."

It's a celebration, bitches—construction has finally started on the Taylor Family Digital Library and the University of Calgary has taken some concrete steps towards completing its ambitious capital plan. But let's leave the streamers in storage, put the cake in the freezer for the moment and put a hold on the ass-grabbery. The capital plan still has a few holes in it, even with respect to the TFDL, and there are still major issues.

Students, take a glance south of the MacEwan Student Centre and gather in the sight of the desolate wasteland that will be the future home of Taylor Family Quadrangle. Get used to the brown and fences, because that will likely be the very same view you'll be getting during your belligerent Bermuda Shorts Day celebrations this year. For the moment, it seems the construction is encroaching in on what is typically beer-garden territory, which is strange considering the fencing is surrounding an area outside of the actual footprint of where the building will be.

Also curious is the aggressive lumberjackery inflicted upon every piece of foliage in the quadrangle area. It makes sense to chop down trees directly where you're building a building, but why knock down a tree several metres away from where the building is, in front of the MacKimmie Library? Though, when no progress has been made for so long, maybe doing something irrational is

better than doing nothing.

Admittedly, it's admirable that the university has finally started putting holes in the ground and making forward progress with this lumbering giant of a project, but after so many years of planning, it doesn't make sense that there are still things up in the air. The Mac Hall loading dock issue is still being resolved and the use of the MacKimmie Library after the TFDL is built is a mystery.

But maybe rationality isn't a key element of this project to begin with. The TFDL's interior will be similar to the current library tower. The quadrangle is envisioned as the heart of campus and a foot-traffic only area. But the university already has a foot-traffic greenspace—the Swann Mall. It may not be the heart of campus, but that's the reality of the university's current layout. The centre of life on campus will be the MacEwan Student Centre, regardless of what the university builds. Since the majority students are here on campus during cold months, it is unlikely an outdoor space will ever be the nexus of student activity.

For this generation of students, the TFDL and its quadrangle has little meaning. The majority of students on campus won't be around when it's completed, either because of graduation or attrition. Since we have no choice, let's just revel in its less-than-glorious birth while we can.

"We hit the liquor store, got some cris and some mo and we about to let it floooooow..."

Jon Roe
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Golden Spatula

Will Goehner, for writing a great first story on a really short timeline.

Furor Arma Ministrat

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The *Gauntlet* is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire *Gauntlet* staff. Editorials are chosen by a majority of the editorial board. The *Gauntlet* is a forum open to all U of C students but may refuse any submission judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. We reserve the right to edit for brevity. Grievances regarding the *Gauntlet* follow a three-step process which requires written decisions from the Editor, the GPS Board of Directors, and the Ombudsboard. The complete Grievance Policy is online at: <http://gauntlet.ucalgary.ca>. The *Gauntlet* is printed on recycled paper and uses manateebased ink. We urge you to recycle/drop balls onto the *Gauntlet*.

Letter Policy

Letters must be typed, double-spaced and received by Monday at 4 p.m., and must include the author's name, student ID number, telephone number and signature. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libelous or defamatory material. All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the *Gauntlet*," and be no longer than 300 words. The *Gauntlet* retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the *Gauntlet* office, Room 319 MacEwan Student Centre, or sent by e-mail to gauntlet@ucalgary.ca.

The Cover

photograph and design by Geoff MacIntosh

Talkin' shop with Stelmach

Perhaps the province's busiest man this month, Premier Ed Stelmach was on campus Tue., Feb. 19 to talk with NUTV. Interview by Katy Anderson.



courtesy of the Government of Alberta

Premier Stelmach came to campus to field questions at the NUTV studio.

Gauntlet: This year, here at the U of C, tuition went up by \$230 dollars per year for a full-time student. If elected, the Liberals have said that they would lower tuition by \$1,000 a year. What's the Conservatives' plan to take the rising costs of education off the backs of students?

Stelmach: We announced yesterday we're freezing tuition rates to the rate of inflation, that will be about \$150 million dollars over the next three years. The next [plan] is to reduce interest on loans down to prime, that, in the first year, will be the biggest expenditure. The first year, it will be about \$9 million and then about \$3 million after that. Then we announced additional support for living allowance. Many students have to move from smaller centres to Calgary, Edmonton or Lethbridge and, of course, housing and all the living accommodations increase. The other is with graduate students; increasing bursaries depending on the program, anywhere from \$750 to \$900. That is a long-term commitment because what we'll be announcing today is a comprehensive program in partnership with institutions in commercializing more technology in the province of Alberta.

G: When we're talking about the up-front costs that students have to pay, how will what you announced yesterday change from the tuition freeze that is on right now?

S: It's extending it, we did it for a few years but we're going to continue the freeze. We will have to provide the additional support to universities, obviously on capital and staffing, over and above what the inflation is. Universities are having to find people to teach, deliver the courses and, of course, the maintenance of the buildings have increased dramatically over the last few years. That is a very strong commitment on behalf of the government. We've committed six billion dollars a year to infrastructure and a good portion of that is going to post-secondary institutions.

G: You mentioned affordable housing, an issue that has really been on the minds of students this year. Homelessness has skyrocketed in both Calgary and Edmonton. How will you work with the munic-

ipalities to make housing more affordable?

S: What we did this year was institute a number of programs. First we worked with the Calgary Committee to End Homelessness. We support their goal to end homelessness in ten years—eradicate homelessness. It is a very ambitious agenda, but you have to set ambitious goals. We've implemented a number of policies for homeless plus the support programs. Individuals that find they're homeless usually have addiction issues or perhaps mental illness. We do intervene as government, as a taxpayer you intervene—police, ambulance and emergency—that's about \$150,000 cost per homeless. Let's break that cycle [by] not only providing homeless shelters but, not a shelter, but a home where they feel comfortable and safe. Then, take the next step in breaking the cycle [which] is providing counseling to help them through their own issues. Now, on affordable housing, what we did is originally it was part of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative, the municipal funding, what we did is we took that out as a separate fund, it's \$285 million. Our goal is to increase affordable housing by 11,000 units in five years. Calgary and Edmonton have taken bold steps, what happens is they apply to the fund with a project and we can either support that project through some surplus land that the Alberta government owns or by supporting part of the construction

costs, so we'll reduce the costs of housing. I just visited one brand-new unit on Macleod the other day—all-new construction, all-new concrete, it's the latest energy efficient building technology that you can get and, again, providing homes for families. Eleven thousand units over the next five years is our minimum goal [but] the way we've started out with municipalities I think we're going to more than succeed that. It's really increasing supply to bring down the costs for Calgarians.

G: Switching gears a little, let's talk about the environment. Given the importance of the Albertan oilsands to Albertans, how will your government draw the line between growth and keeping things environmentally sustainable?

S: We will continue to be leaders in the environment for two reasons: one, Albertans deserve it, they also demand it, and also our customers demand it. It's not only oil and gas, but agriculture, forestry, even tourism. The way we deliver tourism in this province people look to us to be environmental leaders. We've taken bold steps as the only jurisdiction in North America to impose limits on greenhouse gas emitters. There are about 100 or so emitters in this province that are about 100,000 tonnes or more, so they pay a \$15 a tonne levy into an emissions fund. From that fund we will not only do more research to increase the technology but we will also put together infrastructure to capture CO2

and sequester it, because that's the quickest way of getting the amount of CO2. Secondly, what we've done in Fort McMurray and also in Fort Saskatchewan; which is the northeast industrial heart land, is we initiated an overall cumulative environmental affect study. This is not only CO2 but it's socks, knocks, water, soil and measuring air quality in both centres and comparing it to other major industrial centres, not only in Canada but in the United States. The other is, what we've initiated is the first of its kind in Canada, it's a biodiversity study this is under sustainable resource development. We're studying animals in their habitat, birds, fish, vegetation and seeing how it is affected by changes in climate. It is a baseline study that we can share with other provinces. Recently with respect to water we're working with B.C. and Saskatchewan because we share rivers, to do studies together. We have a very comprehensive Water For Life strategy but we want to do this together so that we have this larger western Canadian partnership to protect the environment.

G: You've been criticized for giving a wealth of funding announcements in the months preceding the election, how can Albertans, and students in particular, be sure that your support will continue throughout the next four years, if you are elected?

S: Part of the overall plan of my government is to diversify our economy. We have to move to a knowledge-based economy. Oil and gas will always be important to us, at least for my generation and I'm sure for yours. But, we have the most volatile revenue of any jurisdiction in North America. Any issues in the Middle East, weather in the United States all impact our revenue stream and one way of stabilizing it is to move to a knowledge-based economy and we're putting a tremendous effort into increasing the number of post-secondary spaces, training in our technical schools, of course very important and also ensuring that students have a proper education. We have the best, and I'm committed to having the best, loan remission policy in Canada. We'll make sure that happens and supporting students because, again, education is the key to a knowledge-based economy. That is the most significant investment.

To watch the full interview tune into nutv.ca.

Calgary-Varsity hopefuls duke it out in front of students

Sarelle Azuelos
Gauntlet News

With the Alberta provincial election fast approaching, Calgary-Varsity candidates were anxious to meet students and win their support. The Students' Union hosted

a forum for them to do just that Tue., Feb. 26.

"The word 'campaigning' comes from the French word for war," said Dr. David Taras, opening the forum.

Alberta Progressive Conservative candidate Jennifer Diakiw faced plenty of criticism from other can-

didates but did her best to support her position.

"Post-secondary education is very important to me," said Diakiw. "Although I believe the PC government has come a long way, I know we can do more. Change is the theme in this election. The

government of Stelmach is not the Klein government."

Alberta Liberal candidate and incumbent Harry Chase disagreed with the sentiment, stating the Stelmach has been part of the PC party for 15 years. He indicated his 34 years of teaching experience

would allow him further insight into the needs of PSE. He explained that more funding to education would ultimately result in addressing other election issues including health care.

"How do you save money?" said *see FORUM, page 9*

What do you think about Ed Stelmach as a leader?



"He needs to pay more attention to the future, especially oilsands and education."
— Giselle Fonseca, first-year natural science



"Ed Stelmach is a leader?"
— Santi Churphongphun, second-year open studies



"Ed's plan is to fail."
— Brett Rollier, second-year environmental science



"I wish they would do an internal leadership review."
— Daniel McKellar, fifth-year commerce

Students and faculty campaign for PSE

Cam Cotton-O'Brien

TLF Editor

Pretty much the opposite of the one time your little brother ratted you out for forcing him to eat the snow you just peed in, the Students' Union is trying to tell your parents something: use next week's election to make PSE a vibrant institution in Alberta. The University of Calgary Students' Union has teamed up with other post-secondary stakeholders to give a message to your folks.

The Imagine Alberta campaign is an attempt to get the issue of post-secondary education placed near the top of the provincial election agenda. There are five different groups participating, representing approximately 210,000 undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty.

"The idea of the current campaign is to target parents both of current and future students," said U of C SU vice-president external Mike Selnes. "They're a group that votes and has a vested interest in an affordable and high-quality, post-secondary education system."

Council of Alberta University Students executive director Duncan Wojtaszek noted that though parents are the target group, it is hoped that the campaign's message is broad enough that it appeals to all Albertans.

The campaign involves a website, radio and T.V. ads and five billboards across the province. The three key points of Imagine Alberta are accessibility, quality and affordability. Getting people to make PSE an issue and vote is the objective.

"Ultimately all of it comes down to funding and political will," said Wojtaszek. "If politicians see Albertans wanting change, they're going to do it regardless of political stripe."



Cam Cotton-O'Brien/the Gauntlet

Mike Selnes wants to help support students by increasing awareness of post-secondary education.

The campaign is similar to Wise Up, an attempt to raise the importance of PSE during the 2004 election that has been viewed as extremely successful. Following the campaign the three ridings with post-secondary institutions in them that had been traditionally Conservative voted Liberal.

"We ran a similar campaign and we found that we were very successful at making post-secondary education a provincial election issue," said Selnes.

The U of C SU is a key member of CAUS. Selnes mentioned that approximately \$120,000 has gone into the campaign, roughly \$25,000-30,000 coming from the U of C SU.

"That money came from both a quality money application, as well as a provincial election reserve fund," said Selnes. "It was a [now-former] student's idea to create a

\$20,000 provincial election war chest."

Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations executive director John Nicholls noted that PSE was an issue that should have broad appeal, as PSE might be the solution to a number of other problems being felt in the province.

"Post-secondary education in a way is one of those all-embracing issues that can tie up many of the other concerns that voters may have," said Nicholls.

He discussed the potential of PSE, through its training of skilled individuals, to deal with issues like the environment and the shortage of medical professionals.

The SU is also trying to get students to vote. Selnes explained the SU was putting on events all week and that they aimed at providing all the information that student's would need to

vote. He also expressed concern about the new regulations for students voting, noting it may lead to a reduction in student voters. After the election, the SU will work with the new government to make sure that PSE remains an important issue.

"We will look at who wins the election and see what priorities their party had in regards to post-secondary and push to ensure that they implement all the promises they made during the election," said Selnes. "On top of that, we'll continue to advocate for the necessary changes that we see as needed in Alberta's post-secondary system."

The Imagine Alberta website includes a series of five questions that parties were asked. At the time of writing not all parties had responded, but it is a valuable tool to determine their stance on PSE.

Campus Big Brother a true reality show

Daniel Pagan

Gauntlet News

Now students have their own Campus Big Brother, thanks to the University of Calgary Students' Union's Political Action Week.

Three student contestants will stay in the "What SUp Space," located in the MacEwan Student Centre, for three straight days without the ability to leave, except for classes, showers, and to use the bathroom.

Each contestant will represent an important election issue concerning students: affordable housing, tuition, and environment. The contestants are charged with raising awareness about their cause.

The students can then vote for the cause they consider most important, while the participants stress the importance of voting.

SU vice-president external Mike Selnes explained Campus Big Brother is to both entertain and educate the people about the provincial election and affordable housing.

"We wanted to do something fun to raise awareness on campus about the provincial election, and get them



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

These participants are camping out to draw attention to the provincial election.

thinking about voting," said Selnes. "Second, we want to continue raise public awareness about the need for more affordable student housing, and what better way than to have three students live in a tiny space on campus for three straight days?"

Selnes noted the Campus Big Brother is similar to the Big Brother television series in that the students have to live in a cramped room for three days before they can leave—with people watching them.

"Three meals a day will be pro-

vided for the three contestants, along with water, snacks, beds, a couch, a television with a Playstation, and a computer," said Selnes. "The three students brought in their books, homework and music to cope with living in the small box. They are making a sacrifice on behalf of students who are struggling to find a place to live."

Students will be compensated for their sacrifices by a \$200 affordability subsidy for their rent.

Fifth-year development studies

student Mike Nyberg is taking a drastic stand for environment because of his concerns about the student body's general apathetic attitude especially regarding environmental wellbeing.

"For too long, we have seen the environment as a 'separate issue,' but the environment is connected with every aspect of our life," said Nyberg. "In Alberta, if we sacrifice the environment for the sake of economic growth, our whole societal structure will fail."

Third-year geomatics engineering student Dan Grover's personal experiences with tuition led to him advocating lower tuition fees.

"As an engineering student, my workload does not allow me to work during the school year, so every year of school just gets me further into debt," said Grover. "It's not right that people should have to graduate and immediately start working to pay off their student loans."

Second-year social sciences student Tory Wiwchar explained his experience as a Residence Students' Association representative is why he decided to take a stand on affordable housing.

"Being in RSA makes you realize how hard it is actually to find a place to live," said Wiwchar. "Housing is something everyone needs and we need to think of new solutions to make it financially easier."

Despite meeting each other for the first time on Tue. the three roommates feel positive about their stay.

"So far, my roommates seem pretty cool, I just hope they can put up with my habit of sleeping nude!" said Wiwchar. "Just kidding, I'll wear clothes."

Homeless Cowboys still on the range

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet News

If Prince Harry returns to town, he'll have to wait a little longer for his 25-cent draft. The City Planning Commission turned down the Cowboys bar's re-opening bid, based on concerns that the large bar is inappropriate for a residential area.

The Cowboys bar is appealing the decision at the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Thu., Feb. 28, after its bid to re-open at the corner of 5th Street and 4th Avenue s.w. was rejected.

Penny Lane Entertainment Group, the company that runs Cowboys as well as Ceilis and BustLoose.com, launched a campaign to counter the decision.

"After numerous e-mails, letters, phone calls, and blog messages of support, we wanted to offer another avenue for our supporters," said Penny Lane Entertainment Group president Paul Vickers. "It is our way of supporting the citizens of Calgary who made Cowboys famous in the first place."

Vickers explained Cowboys' new location would be important for the



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Vickers thinks Cowboys would be beneficial to local residents.

vitality of downtown Calgary.

"The city study's results stated that for a vibrant downtown, it requires mixed-use, which includes retail, residential, commercial, office towers, *et cetera*," said Vickers.

Vickers explained the majority of businesses and residents offered their support for Cowboys, and efforts were made to assert residents' concerns.

"We went to the residential buildings that said they had a problem, to hold meetings with them," he said. "After we showed our proactive research we had conducted for them, they agreed with us and, in fact, asked how they could get a VIP card."

Vickers pointed out the only letter

of objection came from the Eau Claire Community Association, a group he doesn't consider to be in the area.

Ward 7 Alderman and Planning Commission member Druh Farrell explained the decision was based on concerns about the close proximity of a large bar to the residential area and the Calgary Police *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design* report.

"The report compared the call volumes at Cowboys' original location, [9th Avenue and 5th Street s.w.] during the period prior to its closing, compared to the same amount of time after closure," said Farrell. "That comparison showed

that Cowboys generated significant calls to the Police, compared to zero calls after Cowboys' closure."

Farrell noted many residents were concerned about the potential impacts of a large bar such as Cowboys on their houses, with noise, criminal activity, and intoxication complaints.

"There were many letters from Eau Claire residents who were concerned that the problems they had experienced with Señor Frogs would be repeated with this much larger operation," said Farrell.

Eau Claire Community Association member Cameron Gillies agreed with Farrell's comparison.

"Druh is correct to use Señor Frogs as a precedent example of just how inappropriate a drinking-establishment use can be in a residential area," said Gillies. "These kinds of uses cause grave damage to the residential experience at night, and contribute nothing to the community during the day when they are closed."

Gillies pointed out the Eau Claire community was not against Cowboys and believed that Cowboys would contribute greatly to the vibrancy of Calgary, if properly located.

"We are adamant however, that with such a well-documented record of noise, intoxication, crime and policing problems, a drinking-establishment such as Cowboys would be detrimental to the quality of life of any residency it may be situated near," said Gillies.

Gillies explained the community is optimistic that SDAB will uphold the Planning Commission's decision.

"Otherwise, we would explore every available mechanism to keeping Cowboys away from our homes," said Gillies.

Former Cowboys patron and third-year electrical engineering student Nicole Brown, echoed Gillies' concerns about the potential location.

"Why ruin a perfectly pleasant riverside neighbourhood with a Back Alley-calibre nightclub?" she said.



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Students' Union GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS



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Haitian solidarity

Local group strives to draw attention to Canada's role in the country's grief

Sarelle Azuelos
Gauntlet News

Haitian people have suffered a history of almost constant violence and strife. Four years ago Canadian, French and U.S. forces, with support of the UN, held a military coup against the democratically elected then-leader Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Great debate surrounded the continuing involvement of foreign influences in Haiti's government.

The Canada Haiti Action Network is hosting a solidarity demonstration on Fri., Feb. 29 to raise awareness of Haiti's plight and hopefully encourage the Canadian government to respect the country's sovereignty.

CHAN, founded in 2004 after the coup, is strongly opposed to the current involvement of Canada within Haiti and would like a change in approach. Their goal is to get Canadians to put pressure on the Canadian government because they believe that is where citizens have the most influence.

CHAN Calgary chapter coordinator Nell Thurlow organized the third-annual solidarity demonstration.

"The people of Haiti are a democratic force to be reckoned with," said Thurlow. "In the face of armed invasion from Canada, the U.S., France and the UN, people still continue to come out by the thousands, into the street for a peaceful protest and demonstration even though they are killed and put in



Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

The Canada Haiti Action Network wants to see Canadians take an active stance on Canada's role in Haiti's quality of life.

prison in horrifying numbers."

After the coup of the Aristide government in 2004, Thurlow describes the temporary de facto government established by the UN and supported by Canada as committing countless human rights violations. Aristide was exiled to the Central African Republic and is now teaching in a South African university. Within four days of the coup, roughly 1,000 people were killed in the capital alone and many more across the country in the following months.

Fellow CHAN Calgary chapter coordinator Regan Boychuk explained he doesn't support the reasoning for the coup. He claimed

the U.S. felt antipathy to Aristide's socially progressive policies such as raising minimum wage and increasing public services. Canada played a major part in organizing the coup, hosting a meeting in 2003 to discuss the removal of Aristide.

"Canada was quite involved in the media and government-funded and supported human rights organizations in demonizing the government of Haiti, [which] they were hoping to overthrow,"

said Boychuk. "[They] claimed they had an atrocious human rights record and it was the international

"Canada was quite involved in the media and government-funded and supported human rights organizations in demonizing the government of Haiti, [which] they were trying to overthrow."

- Regan Boychuck,
Canada Haiti Action Network

foreign investors. The socially progressive works of former president have come to an end. According to Randall, Haiti was in a state where even the popular democratically elected Aristide government would face much hardship in trying to rid the nation of organized crime and the growing narcotics industry. Of the last 44 Haitian

community's obligation to step in and protect the people. We know for sure now that a large part of those charges against the Haitian government was simply fabricated."

The University of Calgary's Institute for United States Policy Research director Dr. Stephen Randall noted he believes the situation in Haiti did call for international intervention.

"The issue really was political stability and there was a legitimate reason for UN, Canadian and U.S. forces to go in," said Randall. "We can blame the U.S. for a lot of things but it's hard to blame them for everything in Haiti. This is not Iraq, it does not have huge oil resources. In fact, it has very little that appeals to capitalists on the whole."

The 22-month interim government has since been replaced by democratically elected president Rene Preval, but CHAN members feel foreign nations are using financial aid as a means to influence Preval's leadership. The current government faces vast amounts of debt and is dependent on foreign aid.

"Preval was elected by the people," said Thurlow. "Yet his hands are tied by the continuing occupation and the dependence of Haiti on money from countries that perpetrated the coup."

Boychuk explained that Preval has since begun massive privatization projects of previously public utilities and has passed laws friendly to

presidents, seven were able to serve their full term and only two peaceful transitions took place.

"Haitians exploit Haitians, we have to recognize that," said Randall. "It really does need continued support."

CHAN's mandate seeks support from the Canadian government, but does not believe the current approach is most beneficial to Haitians.

"We want the debt cancelled, respect for Haitian sovereignty, all foreign troops and occupying personnel removed from Haiti immediately and aid given on fair terms, reparations paid for the harm that's been done," said Thurlow.

Randall argued that Canada has a positive role to play in the events unfolding in Haiti—both past and present.

"Canada has an important position in muting the more militaristic approach the U.S. takes," he said. "I prefer a non-military direction and that's where it's going."

He does not believe that CHAN's desire to withdraw from Haiti would succeed in aiding the issue of sovereignty.

Through CHAN, Thurlow has organized a demonstration 4 p.m. Fri., Feb. 29 at the Harry Hays building. Everyone is welcome.

For more info visit canadahaitiaction.ca.

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SU wieners, winners announced

Andrew Rininsland
Opinions Editor

Tears were shed and hugs exchanged as the 2008 Students' Union General Election drew to a close Thu., Feb. 14. Four executive positions were at stake with only nine candidates vying for the top spots.

"I'm extremely pleased with the results and am really excited to start my term and get to work," said SU President-elect Dalmy Baez, who won with 67 per cent of the vote. Baez will be joined next year by incoming vice-president operations and finance Alex Judd, VP events Luke Valentine, VP external Alastair MacKinnon and acclaimed VP academic Pamela Weatherbee.

"Right off the bat, there's going to be a steep learning curve," said MacKinnon, noting none of the people in his commission have been involved with the external portfolio before. MacKinnon will be assisted by present VP external Mike

Selnes and his predecessor, Julie Labonte.

"I'm really excited we got in, we have some high-calibre people, obviously the people interested in the positions," said MacKinnon.

Valentine echoed MacKinnon's enthusiasm.

"I'm in shock, really," said Valentine. "I'm really excited just to start working. I really can't wait to work with the other executives. BSD's going to be wicked, next year's going to be hopefully even better and I plan to work extensively on it with my commissioners."

All candidates interviewed expressed dismay over the low voter turnout, which was down six per cent from last year.

Also significant were the results of the referendum questions. Both NUTV and the fine publication you're reading now asked for an additional \$1 a semester from students in order to continue operations and improve services, with the latter receiving its levy increase and the former not.



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Judd and Baez celebrate their wins. Gauntleteer Ryan Pike, screaming, behind.

Forum cont'd from page 5

Chase in regards to the current PC government. "Close university seats. How do you get more doctors? Open them up."

Chase also encouraged students to vote strategically in order to encourage positive change. Diakiw felt the Conservatives have made recent progress regarding this issue.

"Three thousand seats in four years is a very good step

in the right direction," she said.

New Democratic Party candidate Tim Stock-Bateman addressed the concerns of converting Mount Royal College into a university.

"It takes all kinds of academic institutions to create a vibrant community," he said. "We don't want to increase university spaces by decreasing college spaces."

Green Party candidate Sean

Maw agreed with this sentiment.

"There is a role for colleges that is separate than university," he said. "It isn't just university education that is important, we need to maintain that."

All parties expressed concern over the current issue of affordable housing for students and other residents in the Calgary area.

Diakiw mentioned continuing to

work with current Students' Union projects.

"Inter-institutional housing is one of the creative ways we have to look at this problem," she said.

Alberta Wild Rose Alliance candidate Brennan Lytle focused more on the off-campus housing issues.

"It's my belief that there are a lack of [rental openings] therefore landlords charge what they want

because there are no other places to go," he said.

Lytle explained the Wild Rose Alliance would focus on cutting administration costs and increasing admission to PSE institutions that increasing funding.

All candidates urged students to go out and vote, regardless of their support. The election takes place Mon., Mar. 3.

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Geoscientists discover oil on U of C land

Andrew Barbero
Gauntlet News

The University of Calgary has struck black gold.

Mineral rights to a title of land were gifted to the U of C four years ago from an estate donation. Uncovered in the fall of 2007, professors and students in the geoscience department have been studying the land and their research suggests extractable oil deposits.

"We have two one-by-one mile sections of land, and we own all the mineral rights to all the energy resources except coal," said geophysics professor Dr. Rob Stewart, who is leading the investigation into the land.

The land itself is near the town of Spring Coulee, about 50 kilometres south of Lethbridge. From the beginning, students in the geoscience department have played an integral role in the research.

"Once we saw the area we started

working up the energy potential in our undergrad class," said Stewart. "We gave it out as an exercise. We went down in early January and conducted a very extensive seismic sounding as a university research project."

While drilling for oil remains a future prospect, the educational impact for students involved is immediate.

"This is completely different than what I was doing before," said second-year masters student Lauren Ostridge, who is helping Stewart interpret the data. "It's more relevant to industry at the moment and what I can be doing when I graduate."

Stewart agreed, noting the

hands on benefits for all involved.

"It's exciting for the students to really work on something that has a point," he said. "The better we can train our students, the better chance they'll have later on."

The boon extends not only to Geoscience students, but other disciplines as well. Stewart and the department hope to acquire surface rights to the land and perhaps create a multi-purpose field school and hostel on the site.

"We could use it as an experimental site not just for science students, but for engineering students, for management students, for biology students," said Stewart. "There is lot of

potential as a university test site."

Some worry that exploiting the site for economic gain might hamper the benefit for students, although those involved don't think that will be the case.

"It's definitely more a tool right now for student learning as opposed to revenue," said U of C senior director of communications Colleen Turner.

Both the scientists agreed that, no matter what, the site is a huge gain for students.

"By actually drilling something, we could find out all about the rocks and make it into an even better laboratory," said Stewart.

Ostridge noted that either way it is still a benefit to all those

that have a stake in the discovery.

"It will still be an extremely valuable tool to the university whether we end up drilling or not," she said.

As for the next step, more research is required. For Stewart and his department, the future is bright.

"There's all kinds of possibilities, all the way from making money for the university to developing better practices for more green production," he said.

As for the financial benefit, Stewart said only time will tell.

"It could be anything from interesting research and zero [income] to potentially a lot of money—millions," said Stewart.

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A friendly game of political Roshambo

U.S. trade embargo against Cuba continues after Castro steps down



Cam Cotton-O'Brien
Pidgeon Talk

Giving a hairy middle finger to the surgeon general, Fidel Castro smoked his way through half a century as Cuba's president. His tenure finally ended, Fidel is leaving the country in the hands of his brother, Raul. Now is the time for the United States to drop its inept, 46-year embargo against the little island.

Fidel is 81 years old and temporarily gave up power in 2006 when he required emergency intestinal surgery. Raul has held the reigns of Cuba's communist cigar boat in the meantime. Indeed, Fidel hasn't even been seen in public since then, leading some in the *Gauntlet* office to speculate that he actually died at the time, further suggesting that the Cubans have been led by a ghost-puppet since.

The situation in Cuba is very interesting. Not only does the country provide universal health care to all its citizens, it also hosts a much admired education system. Despite this, the new regime faces the tremendous battle of resuscitating a decrepit economy. It may be a very good thing Raul will be driving the country from now on. It was reportedly his work that prevented the Cuban economy from sinking into the ocean after the collapse of the Soviet Union. As such, with power now totally in his hands and at a time where at least some change will be expected, Cuba may be able to prompt an economic recovery of sorts. Fortunately for Cubans, Raul, though suggesting that there will only be minor economic reforms, seems to have recognized this.

The most important issue facing Cuba, though not directly controlled by Cubans, is the ongoing American

embargo against the island. Since Feb. 7, 1962, the U.S. has conducted no trade or financial transactions with Cuba. It is not difficult to see why this came about, so obvious were tensions between the U.S. and communism at the time. Indeed, the embargo was imposed only a few months after the miscarried Bay of Pigs invasion and preceded the Cuban missile crisis by only slightly more than a half a year. As well, democracy (or rather, the U.S. via the Monroe Doctrine) was gearing up for its insane proxy war with communism in Vietnam at that time. It is, then, no surprise that the embargo was implemented. Its continuation, however, is cruel and entirely unnecessary.

Communism has largely died out as a viable political system in the world. There are only a handful of communist regimes left (Vietnam, incidentally, amongst them) and the largest, China, has spent the last number of years moving steadily closer to a capitalist system. Accordingly, the argument that Cuba must be weakened because its political system represents a threat to the American way of life can surely be discarded. The embargo must now feign legitimacy by asserting its intention to be seeking freedom for all Cubans, including of course, political prisoners. This historically dubious argument is nothing short of dishonest and malicious now.

Clearly the best course of action the U.S. can take to secure liberty for the Cuban people is to open up trade with them. Rather than encouraging the continuation of dictatorship, this will likely lead to further freedoms for the Cuban people. The government, finally trading with the west, would be forced to modernize and expand rights, both economic and political, to the people of Cuba who will otherwise be unable to keep up with the levels of productivity Cuba requires to be successful in its economic resurgence.

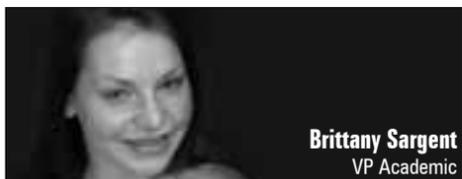


The U.S. is already calling for reform. President Bush recently said "the U.S. will help the people of Cuba realise the blessings of liberty." The question now is whether they have learned their Iraq lesson and will be willing to seek better

ways to bring about change than through violence and sanctions. Fidel's decision to step down from the role of president (be he dead or not) means that now is a good time to try. The U.S. embargo against Cuba has been around for more than

46 years and clearly isn't working. If the U.S. is actually seeking to take the high road and see the Cuban people gain more freedom, they should back off in their game of political Roshambo and allow the change they supposedly desire.

SU View: Nominations now being accepted for teaching excellence



Brittany Sargent
VP Academic

Has a University of Calgary instructor inspired you? Is there a certain class you enjoy because the instructor is so enthusiastic about the material? Has a teacher gone beyond the call of duty to assist you in your academic and career goals? Well, you now have the chance to thank them appropriately.

The Teaching Excellence Awards Committee of the Students' Union is cur-

rently accepting nominations for teaching excellence from students and faculty.

University of Calgary Professors and Teacher Assistants (TAs) require five nominations to be considered officially nominated. You can fill out a nomination form on the Students' Union website. Deadline for nominations is Mar. 7, 2008.

The Students' Union will collect nominations, evaluate the nominees based solely on student evaluations and select a recipient for a Teaching Excellence Award from each undergraduate faculty. Awards will be given out in April at a special ceremony.

Excellent teachers are chosen for their ability to communicate a broad and accurate

knowledge of the subject matter, as well as for their self-confidence and ability to create enthusiasm among students. Other criteria include success at challenging students, ability to cultivate creative thinking on the part of students, availability for consultation outside of class along with fairness and consistency in grading.

Since 1984-85, when Teacher of the Year and Teaching Excellence Awards were first bestowed, the SU has believed that excellence should be recognized. Nomination opportunities with Nov. and Mar. deadlines allow students to nominate their favourite professors, who are honoured at the annual April awards ceremony.

The SU View and its corresponding headline are provided by the Students' Union and published without *Gauntlet* editorial revision.

The balance between information and physical security



Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet Opinion

Alberta Privacy Commissioner Frank Works did the right thing in a Feb. 20 ruling when he ordered the Tantra Nightclub and its parent company, Penny Lane Entertainment, to stop scanning driver licences and to destroy any patrons' information that has been collected on a database. In an age of information theft and privacy assault, it is refreshing to see an official drawing a line in the sand for privacy rights. However, even getting rid of ID scanning programs will still not answer the important issue of information security in bars and nightclubs.

The first problem with the SecureBar and BarLink ID scanning programs is that they scan too much information. By scanning the card, the software collects all of the information on a patron's driver licence, even the patron's driver licence number and his/her weight, for an example. Is it necessary to collect all of the information on the card, even the patron's home address? Does the security really need to know about if a bar patron is a tall, thin man or a rotund dwarf, beyond initial identification? Finally, even with reasonable data encryption, limited access, and other security measures in place, identity theft can still happen. There are vital questions about

SecureBar and BarLink's security, such as their ability to prevent a third party from hacking into their systems, or if SecureBar keep copies of information obtained from the database, or whether a determined criminal (or indeed a group of determined criminals) can access the ID scanner and the database physically. Criminals can get jobs as bouncers at a bar and access the personal data there too. Heavy security measures cannot stop a determined criminal if he is intent on stealing the information.

Identity theft is a big business, with over \$50 billion lost by consumers and businesses in the United States of America since 2002 and with many people losing control of their finances. Many of these thefts were due to criminals using stolen information to impersonate someone else and then drain their accounts. In other cases, a loan is taken out in the victim's name and the victim is left bankrupt. Worse yet is identity cloning, where a criminal acquires a victim's identity and impersonates the victim to perform a crime or avoid detection. That can result in the police issuing an arrest warrant for the victim, even if that person is completely innocent. Damage can be still done even if the offender does not use a victim's personal information for identity theft, such as when a stalker uses the database to track down a woman by looking up her address. Many people's naivety about giving out private information in public space

could lead to such situations.

The Privacy Commissioner's ruling has a broad implication on the bar business such as the Students' Union and its Den/Black Lounge pub business. How would the Students' Union react to this ruling? One can imagine the situation SU VP Operations and Finance, Fraser Stuart is in. The SU can keep the SecureBar ID scanning program and risk the Privacy Commissioner's



wrath (and a possible large fine), or get rid of it, potentially making the Campus Security and Den security unhappy. Campus Security and the Den/Black Lounge security are very confident in the usefulness of SecureBar in keeping the numbers of alcoholic incidents on campus down. Plus there are the initial implementation costs of the system which, according to Penny

Lane president Paul Vickers, are not unsubstantial. In short, the SU finds itself between a hard rock and a frying pan.

Identity theft considerations aside, the ruling does not solve the thorny question of security at bars and nightclubs. The first problem is based in the nature of the bar and nightclub business. Serving alcohol and other intoxicating drinks to hundreds of buzzed,

horny young adults during late nights and early mornings is simultaneously a genius idea with possible millions of dollars in profit and a mad business proposal with heavy security risks. These risks can be bigger when wasted patrons decide to start a riot, requiring a prompt police response. Even better, what about gang members and troublemakers with weapons?

Fights and murders at nightclubs always generate bad news in media, and always spoil the days of everybody involved—including the patrons who have nothing to do with the fights, along with the bar staff and bouncers who have to deal with the consequences. Would

people still risk their personal safety and health by attending a bar where one person got murdered, even years afterwards? Would a nightclub still be popular if a drive-by shooting took out a whole line? Bouncers, for all their preventative work still have to break up fights, while bartenders and bargirls have to deal with harassment from drunk customers who don't take kindly to being cut off.

The question about security is why nightclub owners such as the Vickers will appeal against Frank Work's ruling as hard as possible. It is also why he plans to turn all of his bars into private clubs, where

people would have to fill out forms for membership and show a copy of their driver's licence before being allowed in, and would see a reduction of customers, thanks to all the potential workload. This concern for the safety of patrons and staff is strong enough to overrule privacy worries about the use of an ID-scanning system, with all the privacy and information theft issues associated with them.

However, what bar owners like Paul Vickers fail to recognize is that information security is as important as physical security. Concerns about identity theft are valid and by not addressing these, the owners are doing their own customers a disservice. There are other acceptable security measures, such as metal detectors, scanners, hiring more bouncers and off-duty cops who have more training in dealing with the unruly. Even Tequila Bar & Nightclub manager Jeff Beddoes noted in a Dec. *FFWD* article that more bouncers at the front door are as effective as an ID scanning program.

If bad news about violent fights at a bar weren't bad enough, news about patrons' personal information being hacked off a bar's security database would be a media bombshell. What is needed is a new dialogue on what makes an acceptable replacement for ID scanning programs and a debate on how much personal information is fine to give out to strangers. If you can't trust your best friend with your intimate information, why should you hand it over to a random bouncer at a nightclub?

At least, if Penny Lane's appeal got rejected, he can always make a visit to Israel or Bali to see how they can make metal detector scanners a fashionable nightclub accessory.

Editor, the *Gauntlet*

This is your brain on psychology

Editor, *the Gauntlet*,

We are writing to follow up the letter to the editor that was recently published in the *Gauntlet* ("No problems with Psych program," Feb. 14), which was in turn submitted in response to interview comments attributed to Dr. Donald Kline, a member of the department's faculty, in a *Gauntlet* article by Mr. Christian Loudon ("The struggle between class size and availability," Jan. 31). In that letter, it was stated that the first article "contained a serious error," namely that "Dr. Kline stated that the department of psychology requires its majors to complete Psychology 369, yet it did not provide enough seats for students to register in this course in the winter session of 2008."

After carefully reviewing the article and discussing its content with Dr. Kline, we now realize that he did not state that psychology majors

are required to complete Psychology 369 in meeting their degree requirements, nor did he say that they have experienced any difficulty in gaining entry to courses needed to complete their degree. His concern was and remains the access of students to 300-level psychology courses more generally, whether they seek to complete a degree in psychology or not. As such, we regret any confusion over this issue which the previous statement may have caused.

Again, having discussed this issue with Dr. Kline, it is clear that we all agree that the principal concern remains the delicate balance among class sizes, student access to courses and the quality of the classroom experience.

Dr. Keith Dobson

Department of Psychology Head

Dr. Chris Sears

Director of Undergraduate Studies,

Department of Psychology

wired?

On Wed., March 19, the Gauntlet Publications Society will be holding elections for Tier I positions (Editor-in-Chief and News Editor). All University of Calgary undergraduate students are eligible to run for these positions. Students interested in these positions must declare their candidacy by Wed., March 12 at 5 p.m. For more information, please contact Chief Returning Officer at cro@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca, or Editor-in-Chief at gauntlet@ucalgary.ca



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an interesting and informative newspaper every week, without selling a single kidney. Your one dollar per semester will help us provide better training and better content. Thank you for supporting the Gauntlet levy in the 2008 Students' Union General Election.



G A U N T L E T @ U C A L G A R Y . C A

three lines free

In this week's TLFs I'm running a TLF feature. It is a conversation that supposedly took place, but of which there are many versions and which cannot be absolutely verified. But fuck it, this is the TLFs. Anyway, bring your TLF to MSC 319 or e-mail them to tlfs@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca. All submissions must include your name, I.D. number, phone number and signature. Submissions judged to be sexist, racist, homophobic or attacks of a personal nature will not be printed.

Americans:
Please divert your course 15 degrees to the north to avoid a collision.

Dear cocky bassoonist: orchestral playing is not the be all and end all of music. Creativity will prevail, with or without you (I assume without).
[Crazy musicians. Always pushing the boundaries.]
- RockEd]

Until morale improves, the beatings will continue.
[I believe I may have worked for you...]
- Almost RecoverEd]

The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi will be setting up foosball tables in the north courtyard of MacHall from 12 p.m. Feb. 28 to 12 p.m. Feb. 29 to raise money for arthritis research and juvenile arthritis. Everyone is welcome to come by, enjoy a game of foosball and make a contribution!

- Alpha Omicron Pi
[The only competition for the ladies will be a bunch of little dudes. They are wooden though....]
- KickEd]

To the President of the U of C, to the head of the electrical and computer engineering department, to all the teachers, doctors and all people of Calgary...I thank you deeply.

- Dr. Yousef I. Y. Daradkeh
[A beautiful message.]
DepartEd]

I've seen you around. You have such beautiful eyes. I had a blue shirt on, looking for a job earlier last week. Was at Sam's on Fri. I think you're marvelous.

[Just fucking kill me.]
- PukEd]

To the four girls in anthropology 203-01 at 9:00 a.m., NO ONE fucking cares, shut the hell up.

- The Cool Kids in the Class
[Oooohhhhhhh.]
KookEd and SpookEd]

WANTED: Fully furnished housing to sublet for Jun., Jul., Aug., dates flexible. Professional. couple. No shared accommodations.

- almalibrebooks@hotmail.com
[Is there silver wear...how much is the damage deposit?]
ParolEd]

Canadians:
Recommend you divert your course 15 degrees to the south to avoid a collision.

"Cause my momma's dark and dirty, the girls were rich and pretty. Oh man they couldn't teach me, man they couldn't teach me."

- www.ChrisGheran.com
[Did you have a learning disability?]
- UnlearnEd]

To the guy in KNES with white glasses, you are fabulous and I thought you deserved a TLF that wasn't from some crazy person who may or may not have a uterus.

[So...do you have a uterus?]
ConfusEd]

Islam! Christianity! Judaism! Bizarro alternate ending to the Crusades! Come see Drama Dept's: *Nathan the Wise*. Tue. Feb.19 to Sat. Mar.1, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre.

[Sounds too far-fetched to me...]
- DementEd]

No posters. No oval ice. No worries. dinos women's hockey still takes SAIT in second round. Congrats on all your hard work. Good luck in the CHAMPIONSHIPS!

[Wooooo!!!!]
- WoooEd]

Have something to say about sex? The Women's Writing Collective invites you to explore sexuality through written response. www.ucalgary.ca/women/node/375.

[It's pretty good.]
- OpinEd]

To Big Mouth in GLGY 203: Please, shut up. I speak on behalf of everyone in our class. As much as you would like to express your opinion on anything and everything in our class, we would like to learn and keep up in the curriculum. Thank you.

- Seriously frustrated student
[Quit talking in class. All of you. Especially if you sit behind me. Keep it up and I might be forced to sneeze on you.]
- EnragEd]

A: This is a challenge. It's about time we settle this once and for all. You owe me one race.

- M
[An egg race!!]
- Over-joyEd]

Bon-bon: Happy belated birthday! Enjoy the Vegas!

- 3
[Maybe Bon-bon can get a gig as a lounge singer. "Hmm hmm hmm hmm hmmm, Candies and Sweets. Hmm hmm hmm hmm hmm, they're all that I eats..."]
- CroonEd]

Americans:
This is the captain of a U.S. Navy ship. I say again, divert your course.

Today's Top Trend: Communism. Join the revolution at www.iloveviolentchange.ca.

[The web site is fake.]
- Check it before it's PrintEd]

- 1) I Have Enough.
- 2) Knee.
- 3) New!

[Ummm....]
- ConfusEd]

Join us at the Arusha Info-Active Happy Hour this Fri. Feb. 29 and learn why shopping local makes for better neighbours. Guest speakers: REAP (Respect for the Earth and All Peoples) founder Stephanie Jackman and Kirti Bhadresa of Calgary Dollars. www.reapcalgary.com & www.calgarydollars.ca.

[Political talk. Beer. Better neighbours. Good times.]
- RefreshEd]

Trent: I'm going to tie you to my belt loop so that we can be friends forever.

- BAMF
[What about when he poops?]
StinkEd]

Mother always told me if you don't vote you cannot Bitch. Keep your Bitching options Open, Vote on Mar. 3, 2008. www.electionsalberta.ab.ca or www.electionsalberta.ab.ca.

- Occasional Bitcher, Regular Voter
[You can still bitch if you spoil your ballot.]
- The trend is BuckEd]

My erections are like a Much Music V.J. Their life spans are short and the quality is juvenile at best.

- thdrewwskii
[What happened to Bradford How? Is he in Winnipeg?]
- ?Ed]

Canadians:
No, I say again, divert your course.

Dear Mr. President, I thought after claiming the school was broke, fixing up the garden and re-doing the foyer would be put on the back burner. Way to allocate money.
[And the price of beer in the Den is still eight bucks. Ahhhhhhhh.]
- Again, EnragEd]

We are having a Movies that Matter at the Women's Resource Centre (MSC 318) next Wed. Mar. 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. We are showing *Why We Fight*. Free showing and snacks provided.

[Will there be maltesers? I like maltesers.]
- AdvertisEd]

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Attend Students in Communications' General Meeting Fri. Feb. 29 12 to 1:30 p.m. SS 315. Share ideas, volunteer, eat FREE PIZZA!

*[Unpaid labour!!!
- I'm not PayEd]*

Help raise \$\$ for the Alberta Cancer Foundation and cancer prevention. Join students across the province in the sixth Annual Head Shave! Register or find out more information today at www.shaveyourhead.ca.

*[Be bald for a cause. It's worked for the Eagles. Birds and band.
- SupportEd]*

Did you know that the Senate's Honorary Degrees and Celebration of Excellence Committee solicits nominations of candidates to receive honorary degrees from the University and celebrates excellence both at the University and in the community?

*[Nope.
- EducatEd]*

To the cute Asian girl in the gym MWF always on the stairmaster @ 10 a.m. Should we start talking yet or continue flirting from distance?

*- good-looking Asian guy
[What if she's myopic?
- SightEd?]*

Americans:

This is the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Lincoln, the second-largest ship in the United States Atlantic fleet. We are accompanied by three destroyers, three cruisers and numerous support vessels. I demand that you divert your course 15 degrees north, that's one-five degrees north, or countermeasures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship.

A LINK IS A CHILD'S LIFE Campus UNICEF hosts LinkUP 4 Kids! Mar. 3 to 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mac Hall.

*[Boo.
- HalloweenEd]*

Daaaaamn! My prof's one sexy babe. Only good thing about being back at school again.

*- S&M girl's willy
[And you might get better marks...
- ScrewEd]*

Pad your resume for the summer & get over your fear of public speaking. Join Toastmasters. Check us out Thu. evenings @ 7 p.m. in the council chambers, MacEwan Student Centre.

*[Diapers will be distributed, so you can piss yourself to your hearts content!
- PeEd]*

Happy B-day Danna! How does it feel to be old? Ahaha vee aar laffing atchoo.

*- Steveo
[Gesundheit.
- SneezEd]*

This is where the notes stop.

Canadians:
This is a lighthouse. It's your call.

Susy Creamcheese:

If you want to get laid, go to college. If you want an education, go to the library.

- Frank Zappa

It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession. I have learned that it bears a striking resemblance to the first.

- Ronald Reagan

Art and music event on Thu. Feb. 28 and Fri. Feb. 29 at Untitled Art Society (fourth floor 319 10 Ave. S.W.) Use back alley entrance. Doors 8, show 8:30. \$10 @ door! A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Back Door.

Winnie the Pooh is Edward Bear.

Ransom:
The engineers have the golden spatula. You can put that in the TLFs.

*[I did.
- Give It Back Ed]*

Sorry honey. I misinterpreted the meaning of the term fisting.

Uncle Meat:
The musical guest on Craig Ferguson this Fri. night is ZAPPA PLAYS ZAPPA!. Sometimes the good stuff gets on television by accident, so don't touch that dial...

*- Dweezil
p.s. I'll be rockin around 2:15 a.m.*

GAUNTLET@UCALGARY.CA - 319 MACEWMAN STUDENT CENTRE

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SILVER AND GOLD

SWIMMERS RETURN FROM CIS FINALS WITH A WIN AND SECOND PLACE

Orlagh O'Kelly
Gauntlet Sports

Men's side

The Dinos shifted the balance of power in men's CIS swimming at the University of British Columbia Aquatic Centre on Sat. night. The men's team defeated the UBC Thunderbirds 760–586.5 points to earn the Nelson C. Hart Trophy. Although the Dinos' superbowl win, they were underdogs for a whopping 10 years.

The Dinos pride, though, is surprisingly modest for a team riding an impressive feat. No swimmer can focus on their individual performances without lauding their teammates.

Chad Hankewich, a fifth-year veteran, came home with six gold medals, one silver medal and a CIS championship record in the 100 metre freestyle with 49.12 seconds. He was instrumental in the Dinos' victory, but even Hankewich granted a measure of his success to the team.

"When I first came to Calgary from Saskatoon, we had a good team," he said. "There were gaps [and] there were events that we really could not fill. We have put a lot of work into recruiting, developing our second strokes and finding ways to have men in all 13 events."

Head coach Mike Blondal also credited much of their success to a strategic, long-term plan to build up a strong team.

"Three years ago, we began raising more funds for scholarships in order to recruit the best student-athletes in the country," he said. "On top of that, we have to continually showcase our program as one that produces athletes that can win at home and represent Canada abroad."

Chris Tobin is emblematic of the Dinos' secret to success. Tobin grew up in a small Ontario town with only an outdoor pool, so he did not make the jump from hockey to swimming until he was 15 years old. From late bloomer to third-year Dino, Tobin has improved his times drastically. In Vancouver, he garnered two gold medals and, most surprising for Blondal, he won a silver in the 200 metre breaststroke. But even Tobin had little to say about his individual accomplishments.

"It felt pretty cool," he said about his own events. "To beat UBC, everyone had to swim well. They are a great team. We did what we had to do from the beginning, qualifying four guys for



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

From left to right: Taylor Peterson, Kevyn Peterson, Chad Hankewich, Chris Tobin.

the 200 freestyle final in the first event."

Tobin was not the only swimmer who has made exponential developments with the Dinos swimming program. Kevin Gillepsie and Mike and Willie Derban have seen similar improvements. Gillepsie picked up two medals in the 100 metre and 200 metre freestyle. Thane Kubik, who had a broken leg earlier in the season, was the team's rock, swimming to score points in the more grueling events, including the 200 metre butterfly and 400 metre freestyle.

Clearly this was a team effort. The Dinos won because of their depth. Even their adversary, CIS swimmer of the year and UBC Captain, Callum Ng recognized the Dinos' strength.

"There is no question they've developed well as a team over the years and we have to tip our hats to what they've accomplished," he said. "They deserve to be CIS champions."

The Dinos basked in this championship glory for a moment, drinking out of the trophy, enjoying champagne and ritually tossing their coaches into the pool.

But the Dinos were clear about one thing: they

will not rest content on their laurels. According to Tobin, repeating this year's victory is "not going to be butter," especially with Hankewich graduating.

So the strategic recruiting and the off-season training will continue. They have an arsenal hidden away, including Mike Brown, a world championship medalist, who has committed to representing the Dinos next year. Blondal also admits they will draw from the rich talent pool in Calgary, hoping to regain their rightful position as the dominant team. After all, the Dinos captured 12 titles in the 16 years before the T-Birds started their winning streak in 1998.

Women's side

The lady Dinos came second for the eighth season in a row at the CIS swimming championship last weekend. The women's team—which has never won a CIS banner—had to settle with the honour of being closest to victory. In the end, the UBC Thunderbirds outscored the Dinos with 704–647 points *en route* to their 11th consecutive banner, an unprecedented run in any CIS sport.

The UBC women were just too strong for the Dinos to conquer this year. On the final night, the UBC medley relay capped their championship win with a Canadian record at 4:04:95. The swimmer of the meet, Annamay Pierse, swam national record times that vaulted her into the top 10 in the world. Pierse led a breaststroke brigade that was almost impenetrable by the Dinos. If nothing else, the lady T-Birds' success speaks to the level of excellence in CIS swimming. Although Pierse was ultimately focused on Beijing 2008, she was thrilled with university swimming.

"It was so great to see everyone swim as well as they did and contribute to the win," she said. "It's an honour—and so cool—to be a part of such an amazing team with such a dynasty."

The lady Dinos were not slouches either. Kevyn Peterson had an impressive win in the 800 metre freestyle with 8:38:02 and Katy Murdoch, who was still recovering from mononucleosis, won the 200 metre backstroke, achieving 2:11:71. These two ladies brought home four and three individual medals, respectively. Murdoch

was optimistic but hungry for more.

"Watching the boys win made us eager to win," she said. "We gained a good experience as a team this year."

Peterson's sister, Taylor Peterson, and her training partner, Brianna Hendriks stole the spotlight, though. Taylor dropped an astonishing five seconds in the 200 metre breaststroke scoring 2:26:90 in attempt to catch the T-Birds. She came within six one-hundredths of a second of Pierse in the 50 metre breaststroke, but settled for silver.

Hendriks, a Cochrane native, won CIS rookie of the year for her double-silver-medal performance, although she admitted to some first-time nerves.

"I lost focus, mentally, in the 400 and the 800 metre freestyle, but I was excited about my performances," she said. "The meet was so much fun. It is different than any other meet because you are swimming for the team."

The first-year swimmer was ecstatic about being apart of the Calgary team. She had no regrets about turning down some offers to go south of the 49th on swimming scholarships.

"The team is like another family to me," she said. "Kevyn is not only my training partner, but we've really bonded. It's easier to train having her around. Hania [Kubas] and Katy are inspirational to have around. They've worked to make us a cohesive team."

Making such an impact on the CIS rookie of the year bodes well for the forward-looking Dinos. They do not want to be close next year. They want to win. Co-captain Kubas is adamant about this.

"We were not expecting the Canada West win, but we got it," she said. "It's like the boys last year. They won Canada West, but not CIS. This year they won CIS. We hope we can do the same. We are a young team with so many open doors and opportunities."

Head coach Mike Blondal, agrees. They have a two-fold plan: to continue to develop the current swimmers and to seek new talent to fill the gaps.

By the looks of it, the ladies are following in the tracks of the men's team. If success breeds success, the banner may be theirs in 2009.



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

The swimmers take a well-deserved break with Rex the Dinosaur.

Dinos take Bears after rocky start

Double win weekend leaves team in good position going into CW Final Four

DINOS **90** vs BEARS **66**
men's basketball

Stewart Pallard
Gauntlet Sports

The University of Calgary Dinos men's basketball team moved on to the Canada West final four after sweeping the University of Alberta Golden Bears two games to none in the best-of-three series in front of near capacity crowds at the Jack Simpson Gymnasium last weekend. The Dinos proved in convincing fashion that they were the best team in the central division by winning the first game 87-78 and the second game 90-66.

Rust did play a factor in the first half of the Friday night game. The Dinos earned a first-round playoff bye by finishing in first place in the central division giving them a 13-day layoff. Dino star forward Henry Bekkering looked off his game early on and the Dinos threw away a five-point lead late in the second quarter, which quickly turned into a five-point deficit at the half after the Dinos turned the ball over with just seconds left on the clock. The Bears' C.G. Morrison hit a three-point shot with no time left on the clock to make the score 44-39 for Edmonton.

The Dinos regrouped during the break and tied the game up in the first minute. They pushed 13-3 run which made it 52-45 for the Dinos and never relinquished the lead. With time winding down, Ross Bekkering completed the three-point play to cap a 30-point third quarter for the Dinos, taking a 69-60 lead into the fourth quarter.

With a comfortable lead, Dinos head coach Dan Vanhooren played his bench more in the fourth quarter as the Bears never seriously threatened to retake it. The Dinos led by as much as 14 points, but a 7-2 Bears run late in the game reduced the Dinos lead to nine points. Henry Bekkering finished

the game with a double-double, scoring a game-high 27 points and 10 rebounds. His younger brother Ross posted 16 points, returning from an ankle injury which caused him to miss the final five games of the regular season. Forward Robbie Sihota would also have a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds.

"We wanted to come out strong," said Ross Bekkering. "We had a week off last week and we knew that we would have to be focused and have a good start to the game. I thought we brought a lot of energy and we had good performances from a lot of guys, Jeff [Price] really controlled the game and Henry did his usual scoring output."

Saturday night's game was the best game played by the Dinos so far this season and it was played in front of a near capacity crowd of 2,804. The Dinos came out strong and, for awhile, the Bears were able to match them point-for-point until the Dinos went on a 7-0 run at the end of the first quarter giving them a 23-16 lead. The quarter also witnessed one of the nicest plays of the year. With a minute left in the quarter, Ross Bekkering had a huge block and the rebound went to Dino guard Cody Darrah who went on to find Henry Bekkering for the spectacular alley-oop, bringing the crowd to its feet.

Calgary encountered some foul trouble in the third quarter with six called in the first 3:45 but the Bears didn't take advantage of the opportunity, as they missed foul shot after foul shot. The Dinos bench also played extremely well and extended the lead.

Dino-domination continued into the fourth quarter as Henry Bekkering had two more fantastic dunks and coach Vanhooren had a big enough lead which allowed him to play his bench for the final minutes of the game. Henry would have another double-double with a game high 31 points and 11 rebounds. Sihota rocked 17 points and Ross Bekkering worked a double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds. The Bears' star player Alex Steele as limited to just 12 points on the night.

"We met their physical presence



Katy Anderson/the Gauntlet

Jeff Price (#5) pushes hard against the Bears' Justin Vanloo (#34).

and they came after us pretty physically for the whole first half," said Vanhooren. "And our guys stepped up and met that intensity and that's the difference in the whole game. If they wanted to come and play physical ball we're ready to do that and I'm really proud of our guys for meeting that challenge."

The win is also a big boost of confidence for a young team.

"It's huge," said Sihota on sweeping the Bears. "In the last eight years we haven't swept U of A in a playoff series, so it's

big for our team going in Canada West finals.

The next game for the Dinos is Feb. 29 against UBC in the Canada West semifinals. Game time is 7 p.m. at the Jack Simpson Gymnasium.

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Provincial ELECTION AWARENESS WEEK

FEBRUARY 26 - 29, 2008

WHY TO VOTE:

The public perception of students and elections usually assumes that we don't care about politics and therefore we don't vote. With an incredibly important provincial election coming up, it's our time to change that inaccurate perception. It's our time to get informed and vote.

Regardless of who wins, students must stand up and make our leaders prioritize and fully fund our public post secondary system. Alberta's future depends on it.

What makes this election so interesting? The Progressive Conservative (PC) Party has governed Alberta for 37 years. 'Steady Eddie' Stelmach has garnered mixed reviews and has yet to test his mandate. Calgary had been a PC city for the past two decades, and before the election held 18 of the city's 23 seats. The Alberta Liberals made headlines as they won former Premier Ralph Klein's riding in a by-election last

year. Even more interestingly, the Liberal seats in Calgary bordered or included post secondary institutions. The Liberals, led by Kevin Taft, are anxious to gain more seats in Calgary but have yet to win a majority of seats in the city. The NDP, Green and Wildrose Alliance parties all currently lack a seat in the city, but don't count them out. All three parties will be campaigning hard and looking to change the political fabric. With the few frontrunners in Calgary, many seats could flip, making this likely Alberta's most interesting election in recent history. It's essential that we, as students and citizens, realize our power to shape the future of Alberta. We must make our voices heard and vote.

When deciding for whom to vote you may want to look into each party and candidate's view on post secondary education. Challenges facing students such as massive debt, a lack of affordable dedicated student housing, aging campus buildings, overflowing classrooms and tuition hikes all stem from a lack of adequate government funding. Regardless of who wins, students must stand up and make our leaders prioritize and fully fund our public post secondary system. Alberta's future depends on it.

Monday, March 3rd is your chance to cast your ballot and make your voice heard. But before you vote, get informed. From Tuesday, February 26th to Friday, February 29th the SU will be hosting *Election Awareness Week* where you can find all the resources you need to vote. Come take part in the events, talk to parties/candidates and ask questions. Just imagine how powerful our voice could be if we all decided to vote.

HOW TO VOTE:

- 1) You can vote in the Alberta provincial election IF:
 - you are a Canadian citizen,
 - you are at least eighteen years of age,
 - you are "ordinarily" a resident in Alberta for six months prior to polling day (this usually does not include students living on campus).
- 2) Visit www.voterlink.ab.ca if you need to update your voting information. This speeds up the process but can also be done at your polling station with two pieces of identification.
- 3) Visit www.elections.ab.ca to find out where to vote, either on March 3 or the three other advance voting days.
- 4) Vote!

www.ImagineAlberta.ca



Imagine ALBERTA

STUDENTS' UNION PRESENTS

PARTY PLATFORM REPORT CARDS



On February 19, 2008, the Students' Union created a Report Card which evaluates each party on their platform in relation to Post Secondary Education (PSE). Justin Brown, UofC club executive and former Red Deer College Students' Association President joined representatives from the UofC Students' Union, President Julie Bogle and Vice President External Mike Selnes, to grade our potential provincial representatives.

Alberta Liberal

The Liberals have clearly done their homework and produced a great first draft. While on track for an (A), they're not there yet. Their recent announcement, promising to reduce tuition by an average of \$1000/ student would help alleviate affordability concerns.

The Liberal platform tackles many current PSE needs with realistic plans, though details are lacking on how to implement these plans. They recognize the link between PSE and Alberta's prosperity by using oil and gas revenues to set up substantial endowments for PSE including a specific liberal arts endowment. They plan to restore legislative control over tuition increases, reduce or eliminate property

taxes for on-campus student housing, and recognize regional disparities in allocating student loans. They do lack details on a number of proposals such as Teaching Chair logistics.

A-
3.7



The NDP understands the issues but are still doing their research for sound solutions that address current needs. If they can put their collaborative approach to addressing PSE into action, we may be able to help guide them in the right direction.

The NDP managed to say many positive things for students, while providing very few details about programs or changes.

They do seem to "get it," despite rhetoric and missing out on some of the more foundational problems. They have plans to offer a liberal arts endowment, and the Party would like to move student finance away from loans and toward grants, bursaries and scholarships. They would also drop student loan interest rates to prime and seek reductions in administrative costs.

Like the other parties, however, they do not talk about dedicated funds for deferred maintenance to help ailing campus buildings. Their recommendation to begin creating new facilities, particularly in rural areas, is unfocused, or at least not well argued.

The PSE section includes a mention of "supporting initiatives to build additional student housing." Although the details are vague, a recognition of student housing as an educational issue, as well as a housing issue, is a huge step in the right direction.

B+
3.3



The WRA gets an (A) for creativity, but unfortunately did not follow the project criteria and need to see the students after class to identify current PSE needs.

This platform had a surprisingly extensive section on PSE. It offers all qualified Alberta students a full five-year scholarship to an Alberta institution of their choice. However, details such as how each institution is going to find space for all of these students, or how much it will cost, are missing.

Despite innovative and ambitious proposals, content is out of touch with the needs of students. For example, their plan to double the number of computer science

graduates is out of step with current global needs. There's also an over-reliance on "utilizing technology" as the means to accomplish plans.

This party seems to miss the need for addressing deferred maintenance and fixing our existing student financial aid system. They're going to have to bring more to the table before advocating such wholesale change to our system, especially as it moves so far away from the current framework.

C
2.0



The PC mid-campaign announcement of reducing student loan interest rates by 2.5% to prime is very positive, as is their commitment to affordable student housing and expanding PSE access, but was handed in late. Please see students after class.

The Progressive Conservative platform lacked vision and primarily listed the government's previous accomplishments

With the current slogan of 'Change that Works for Albertans', this platform doesn't introduce changes that meet student needs. More clarity is needed on how funding commitments will be prioritized and PSE infrastructure (which could include deferred maintenance) is muddled with health, education and transportation sectors.

Students' Unions have had a great relationship working with our current government this past year (e.g. Roles and Mandates framework feedback, which provides a long term vision for our PSE system in Alberta; affordable housing discussions). Government as of late has had a positive track record in working with students which triggered high hopes for this platform, which fell short.

C-
1.7



The Greens have focused their platform on issues outside of PSE, and are out of touch with student needs. Although other classes may be a higher priority for the Greens, they need to attend PSE 101 before re-submitting.

Here's a party with great ideas on housing, health care, and transportation, but they need to start stealing ideas from others on PSE.

Despite strong land-use and housing planning sections – such as offering inclusionary zoning and minimum affordable housing requirements – their PSE strategy needs attention.

The only specific recommendation – flexible class times – is nearly irrelevant in light of the other

problems students face. Emphasis is on lifelong learning, with no mention of student housing, infrastructure breakdown, or financial aid.

And while the lowest tuition in Canada is a good goal, they mistakenly suggest we have the highest tuition in Canada, an honour unfortunately held by Nova Scotia.

D-
0.7



The Social Credit Party only chose to address certain parts of the project criteria, and has an incomplete platform. They need to consult their peers as well as students before handing in another draft.

There are some neat ideas from Alberta's Social Credit Party platform, but nothing comprehensively addressing current challenges.

Fixed-term tuition is an interesting idea, though might be disastrous. This former governing party would ensure that once you've enrolled your tuition is frozen until you graduate. We'd be speculating without more details, but this move could be more adverse than positive by reducing transferability or

further crippling institutions' funds.

Their proposal to conduct a long-term post secondary education plan suggests they may have missed the Roles and Mandates Framework the Province completed this fall.

D-
0.7

Wrestling madness!

Will Goehner
Gauntlet Sports

The University of Calgary will host the CIS wrestling championship meet, where teams from across the country will gather to pit themselves against each other to prove which group can boast the toughest wrestlers in Canada this weekend. Although the competition throughout the season has been tough, both the men and women Dinos have high hopes for the upcoming championship. Coach Mitch Ostberg says both teams have been training hard all year and now, as they taper their workouts for this weekend meet, he feels all Dino competitors are ready to peak for this competition.

"[They're building] the mental skills they need, the quality of focus, the emotional control, the same skills they have been building all year to be successful," he said.

In a sport that requires just as much mental training and fortitude as physical strength, the Dinos seem to be on their way to an impressive performance.

Last year, the women's team won first overall at the CIS championship competition. With this year's lady grapplers ranked first in the entire season and with returning champions second-year Gen Haley and fifth-year Andrea Ross and a host of other extremely strong competitors, the lady Dinos stand a good chance of bringing home yet another CIS title.

Competing for the lady Dinos in the 2007-08 CIS championship are Tessa Gallinger (48 KG), Gen Haley (51 KG), Andrea Ross (55 KG), Jazzie Barker (59 KG) and Justine Bouchard (63 KG). With only the 67 KG weight class short a Dinos competitor, this year's team has put forth quite a showing.

Bouchard, the top-ranked 63 KG lady wrestler in Canada, is an experienced athlete with close to 10 years of wrestling experience, the last four of which have been spent wrestling for the U of C. As a fourth-year student,

Bouchard has competed in every national CIS competition she has attended with the University of Calgary. Confident, Bouchard, feels that she is prepared to take on all of her adversaries in this tournament.

"I know I train harder than any of those girls," she said.

Three years the senior to nearly all of her competition, Bouchard undoubtedly has the upper hand when it comes to experience.

Throughout this season, the men's Dinos wrestling team has been ranked seventh in the nation. However, with an impressive showing at the CW meet, the men's team has pulled ahead in the rankings to the fifth-place bracket. With only seven of the 10 weight classes being represented by the Dinos, the men's team is less focused on winning a team award and preparing more for winning their individual titles.

Competing for the men's Dinos in the 2007-08 CIS championship are Ryan Lannan

(57 KG), Adrian Macri (61 KG), Wes Barnert (72 KG), Josh Wagner (76 KG), Alex Burk (82 KG), Rhys Clark (90 KG) and Mark Dewit (130 KG). The men's team is considered to be mostly a younger team, as only three of the athletes have competed at this level before. However, they are still expecting a good performance from themselves. Ostberg feels the same way.

"Training has paid off [and] I think our guys are ready to go," he said.

This was shown at CW by Lannan, who brought home the gold for the western conference. He is seen as a favourite on the Dinos to finish at the front and keep the gold at home.

The Dinos team captain, Barnert, is another one of the University of Calgary's hopeful for CIS gold on the men's side. Placing second at CW, Ostberg believes Barnert will have a much better showing at CIS.

"[Wes] got caught," he said. "He got

beat by a guy I think he should beat and now that guy's ranked number one. He can out wrestle him. He can beat him at CIS, I know it. Wes just has to make better choices tactically during the match. I think he's going to correct that and I think he's going to beat him."

This will be Barnert's first CIS experience of his three years on the Dinos wrestling team, a big moment for any athlete. When asked how he is preparing for the meet, Barnert seemed calm.

"It's the national championship, so I've got to wrestle smart and leave it all out on the mat," he said. "I don't have any superstitions or anything like that, just focus."

With the amount of talent competing at the CIS championship meet this weekend at the University of Calgary, both the guys and gals Dino teams have a hard competition in front of them, but they have all the skill and training to come out on top.

CIS championships hit U of C Feb. 28 to Mar. 1

Pre-tournament top-three standings by weight class

The men

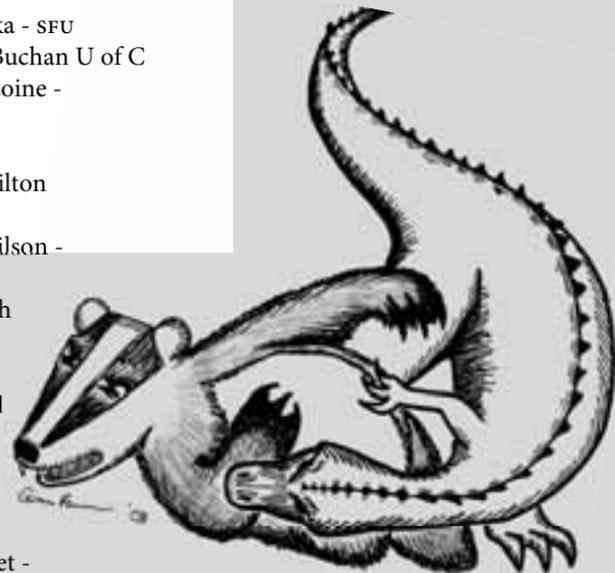
- 54 KG
1. Aaron Fabiano - Brock
2. Mike Asselstine - U of A
3. Huy Nguyen - Lakehead
- 57 KG
1. Vincent Cormier - UNB
2. Ryan Lannan - U of C
3. Alan Moffat - Guelph
- 61 KG
1. C.J. Hudson - Brock
2. Gurveer Talhan - Concordia
3. Corey Horsburgh - U of R
- 65 KG
1. Ryley Walker - U of S
2. Pete Simmons - Brock
3. Bo Gergson - SFU
- 68 KG
1. Mitch Fyria - Lakehead
2. Issac Wing - SFU
3. Eric McKinnon - Brock

- 72 KG
1. Hardeep Aujla - SFU
2. David Rennals - McMaster
3. Wes Barnert - U of C
- 76 KG
1. Tyler Marghetis - Concorida
2. Sheldon Francis - McMaster
3. Dan Olver - U of Saskatoon
- 82 KG
1. Jeff Adamson - Saskatoon
2. Paul Robjohn - Brock
3. Corey Lee - Lakehead
- 90 KG
1. Alex Brown-Therault - Brock
2. Alex Dyas - Concordia
3. Colten Woznow - Lakehead
- 130 KG
1. Jagroop Bhuller - SFU
2. Mike Neufeld - Brock
3. Darren Manion - Lakehead

The women

- 48 KG
1. Alana King - Brock
2. Ashley McKilligan - SFU
3. Krista Betz - UNB
- 51 KG
1. Gen Haley - U of C
2. Rita Pare - SFU
3. Laura Skopelianos - uwo
- 55 KG
1. Jesse Bondy - Brock
2. Miranda Dick - SFU
3. Andrea Ross - U of C
- 59 KG
1. Jazzie Barker - U of C
2. Michelle Fazzari - Brock
3. Amy Dyck - U of S
- 63 KG
1. Justine Bouchard - U of C
2. Ashley Routliffe - Guelph
3. Danette Torgeson - SFU

- 67 KG
1. Stacie Anaka - SFU
2. Stephanie Buchan U of C
3. Nikita Chicoine - Concordia
- 72 KG
1. Meghan Wilton - Guelph
2. Vanessa Wilson - U of C
3. Erin Church - SFU
- 82 KG
1. Ali Bernard - U of R
2. Megan Goldsmith - U of C
3. Rachel Pinet - UNB



Coming home with first and second

Lady tracksaurs take first place in CW finals while men edged out by Bisons

track and field

Men's side

Despite going into the meet 23 points behind the leading University of Manitoba Bisons, the University of Calgary Dinos men's track and field team put in a strong performance and closed the gap to only three points to place second at the Canada West championships in Saskatoon on Feb. 23.

The meet was extremely close, coming down to the final race—the 4x800 metre relay—to decide the victor. Unfortunately for the Dinos, they came second to Victoria with Manitoba placing third. Had they won the race and Manitoba finished third, they would have won the meet.

"Really good [team performance] actually," said head coach Doug Lamont. "We fought hard."

The last event grasp for gold was set up in part by strong performances throughout the competition. Both Sam Effah and Trent Ratzlaf won individual gold, in the 60 metre and 300 metre, and the 600 metre, respectively. Mike Saizew garnered silver in the 600 metre and Geoff Kerr took the bronze in the 3,000 metre. The 4x200 metre relay and the 4x400 metre relay also won gold. The 4x800 metre got silver. Effah was named the Canada West male track athlete of the year.

"It wasn't my best race, but I was happy to win all three titles," said Effah. "It was an improvement over last year. I'm going in [to CIS] as number one in the 60 metre. Last year I went in as seventh, so I am excited."

The Dinos will likely take 24 athletes to compete in the CIS championships in Montreal



Cam Cotton O'Brien/the Gauntlet

Calgary's strong showing at CW finals bodes well for leading the pack in CIS.

Mar. 6-8. They are ranked third entering the competition, the top seed from Canada West.

"The CIS is a different kettle of fish because the points are spread over more schools," said Lamont. "Obviously, we need our top performers to turn in good performances."

..Cam Cotton-O'Brien

Women's side

For the fourth consecutive year, the Dino women's track and field team brought back the gold from the Canada West track and field

championships, held in Saskatoon Feb. 22-23. Led by a trio of triple-gold medallists, the Dinos triumphed over the second-place University of Saskatchewan Huskies by 38.5 points, a greater margin than expected.

Second-year Amonn Nelson,

who earned the title of female track athlete of the year, raced her way to first place in the 60 metre and the 300 metre competitions and scored another gold as a member of the 4x200 metre relay team. Holly Ratzlaff pulled in points for

the team with gold in the 600 metre race and gold again in the 200 and 400 metre relays. Heather Sim, a veteran on the team, placed first in the 1000 metre and 1500 metre individually and was a member of the gold-medallist 4x800 metre relay team.

"I felt confident going into it, but I was pleasantly surprised with my results," says Sim, who has also been training for the upcoming International University Sports Federation world university championships in Paris. "Everyone [on the team] did what they needed to do, they did what they had been doing and many exceeded expectations."

Head coach Doug Lamont, who won the title of women's coach of the year, was pleased with the results.

"Basically, all the girls performed at their best or better," he said. "As for CIS, they don't have to do anything special. They just have to do the same thing as what got them there."

In terms of the depth of the group, Coach Mike Van Tighem was also pleased.

"Any time you get five out of six relay teams winning gold medals, that really builds the energy of the whole team," he said.

The upcoming week for the CIS-bound women involves a program of recovery, light training through the weekend and tapering for the competition in Montreal.

..Laura Bennett

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Dinos take Cougars

Wins put team through to semifinals



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Jeff Weber (#1) prepares to stop the puck while Kyle Annesley (#11) looks on.

DINOS vs COUGARS
4 vs 3
men's hockey

Alyzée Sibtain
Gauntlet Sports

Home was the advantage for the University of Calgary men's hockey team, as they hosted the Canada West quarterfinals Feb. 22-23. The Dinos played a solid game *en route* to a 5-2 victory over the University of Regina Cougars in the opening game, to the delight of fans at the Father David Bauer Arena. The Dinos completed their dominance over the Cougs, holding them off the following night in a scrappy 4-3 win, ending their season.

The Dinos came into the opening game having split their final regular season series with the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns. Having dropped the opening game by a score of 3-4, the Dinos were quick to remind the rest of the Canada West conference, as well as Canadian Interuniversity Sport, of the talent and hard work that resulted in a 14-2 record since late

Nov. The hockeysaurs buried the 'Horns 8-2, and headed into the post-season on a winning note. The Cougs, however, were also riding momentum from a similar series split with the University of Manitoba Bisons the previous weekend. Fresh off respective wins, both the Dinos and the Cougars had some tough games ahead.

Dino Aaron Richards, whose play has been reminiscent of his CW athlete of the week days from last season, scored the series' first goal halfway into the opening frame Fri. night, taking advan-

mind Brant Hilton. Less than 10 seconds later, Dino Reid Jorgensen, who had an impressive series, put some more distance between them and the Cougars as he scored even-strength. Captain Ryan Annesley only had good things to say about the rookie.

"[Jorgensen] was huge for us this weekend," commented Annesley. "He put plays together and found the back of the net for us."

Before the end of the period, Jorgensen continued to make his presence felt on the ice, as he scored his second goal of the night with two and a half minutes left and put the Dinos up 4-1. Richards also assisted both goals. Jorgensen was able to see extra playing time, as he filled in at centre after Jared Aulin was hit by two Regina players in the first period. Aulin didn't return to the

"We'd been taking unnecessary penalties in the last few games. We needed to smarten up, take the better penalties."

- Scott Atkinson,
Dinos men's hockey coach

tage of Coug Kyle Deck's holding penalty. Richards' goal was the only one in the first period and the game took on a back-and-forth tone until halfway through the second period.

Neil Kodman put his team on the board with an even-strength goal, and brought the Cougs even with the Dinos, but only for 20 seconds, as Dino Paul Gentile quickly put the Cougs back in their place with a shot that fooled Regina net-

game, but the Dinos were able to carry on without him.

The third period saw the teams exchange goals, but the Cougs weren't able to match the Dinos' intensity. They chose to assert themselves by playing dirty, as Cougar Tanner Shultz received a five-minute spearing penalty and a match penalty as punishment for retaliating against Richards' slashing penalty. Not only would Shultz not see ice time on Sat.,

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but he eliminated any chance of a Cougar comeback in the last minutes of the third period.

The Dinos barely outshot the Cougars, but more importantly, limited the Cougars opportunities with the man advantage. Discipline on the defensive end has been a concern for head coach Scott Atkinson and he had nothing but praise for his team's growing maturity.

"We'd been taking unnecessary penalties in the last few games," explained Atkinson. "We needed to smarten up, take the better penalties and avoid the bad ones and we were able to do that tonight."

Saturday night didn't see Aulin's return and the Dinos played hard to avenge him. However, the Dinos took three quick penalties in the first and the Cougs outshot the Dinos 11-3 by the end of the final penalty. That being said, it was the Dinos who headed into the second frame up 2-1, despite the whistle-happy refs.

The second period featured a goal by Dino Torrie Wheat exchanged for Coug Clay Thoring's goal, making the score 3-2. Regina brought the pressure throughout the entire game, but netminder Jeff Weber was able to keep their shots out of the net.

"Weber really stepped up, keeping our morale high," commented Annesley. "Everyone stepped up tonight, especially the defence when the pressure was on."

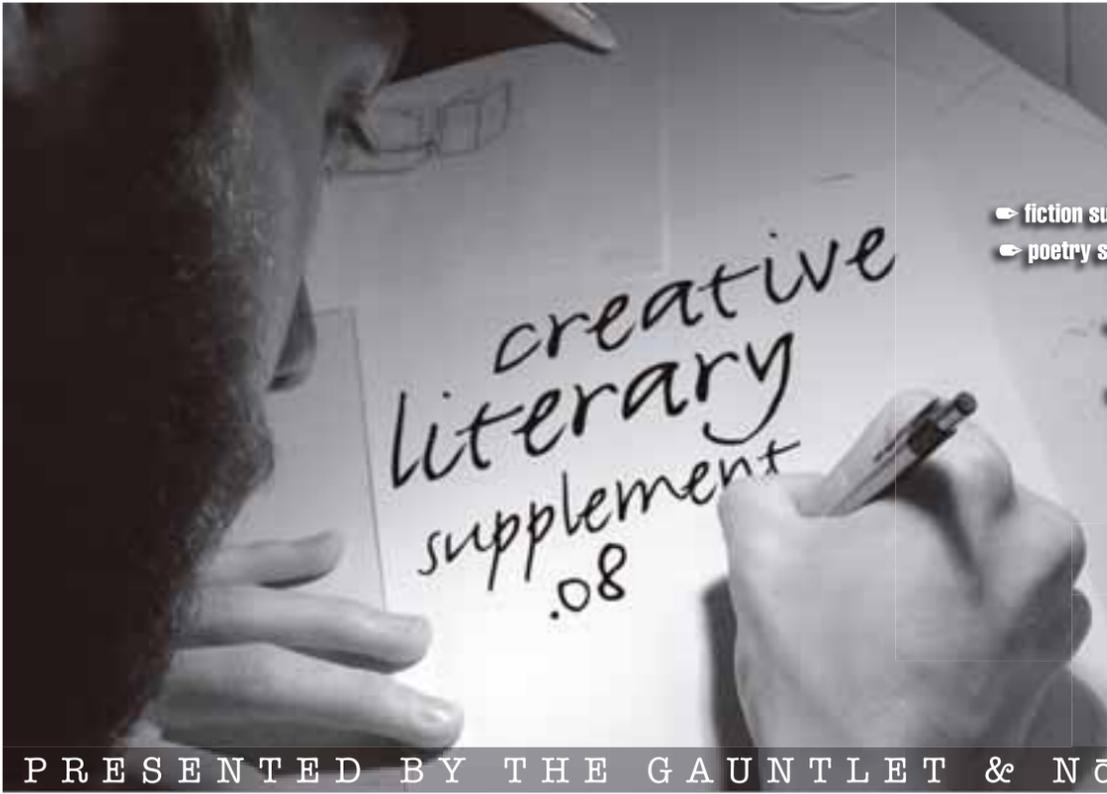
Dino Travis Friedley—who, along with Aulin and Jorgensen was added to the CW all-star team—scored the game-winning goal at the 8:40 mark in the final period. The Cougs brought intense pressure at the end of the game with their goalie pulled, but the Dinos' D stepped up and put an end to any hopes of a third game for the Cougars.

Having sent the Cougs packing, the Dinos can now turn their attention to the CW semifinals, to take place in Saskatoon's Rutherford Arena Feb. 29 to Mar. 2.

The University of Saskatchewan Huskies, who have enjoyed the last two weeks off due to byes, ended the Dinos' rejuvenated season in the same arena in last year's semis. The hockeysaurs will be looking for redemption, as they only won one of their four meetings this season. The Dinos have the potential to capitalize on the rusty Huskies and pound their defence with lots of quality shots.

"They have a tight defence," explained Atkinson. "If we can keep scoring the way we have and match them in defence, we should come out on top."

The Dinos take on the U of S Huskies in the semifinals at Rutherford Arena Feb. 29 to Mar. 2. Game time is 6 p.m.



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Basketball's rockin' rookie makes his mark

Tyler Fidler captures the attention of the Dinos and takes CW rookie of the year

player profile

Stewart Pallard
Gauntlet Sports

Every CIS men's basketball team wants to recruit a stud rookie. He's the guy who can play big minutes, the guy who can hit three-point shot after three-point shot and the guy who can give the opposing coach nightmares with matchup problems. When the University of Calgary Dinos recruited 6'9" guard Tyler Fidler, that's exactly what they received. The guard has had a very strong rookie season and became the first player off the bench for the Dinos while averaging slightly less than ten points and over twenty minutes in playing time per game.

The son of a postal worker and an electrician and the youngest of three siblings, Fidler first started playing basketball when he was five years old in a local community league. He admits that he wasn't that good when he was younger but he stayed with it. He kept practising, going to basketball camps and gradually kept improving over the years. The rookie was also blessed with a tall frame, which is a big asset on the basketball court but is somewhat unusual since his parents are of average height.

In high school, Fidler was a dominant player. He averaged a triple-double in his senior year and he scored 52 points for Western Canada High School in a losing

effort during the quarterfinal for the provincial championship.

'He's special,' said Dino assistant coach Matt Skin. "He was the best player in the province by far and what he can at 6'9" not a lot of players who are 6'4" or under can do. He really just has the complete game."

In Grade 10, he was noticed by the Canadian National Under-17 Program and was invited to Toronto for the tryouts. Fidler was fortunate enough to make the team and they travelled to San Diego to take on some other top teams in a tournament.

"We played against some ridiculous players like Greg Oden, some [of which are] NBA players now," said Fidler. "That's one of the greatest experiences I've ever had."

The Dinos first noticed him when he was in ninth grade and felt he was good enough to make their team when he was in Grade 10 but had to wait until he finished high school.

"We offered him a scholarship in Grade 10," said Dino assistant coach Matt Skin. "We said, 'This is how much we care about you. We think that your going to be a great player for us in the future,' and after that, not only me, Dan [Vanhooren], Henry [Bekkering], Ross [Bekkering and] all these guys sat in a gym and watched him play for two years to establish that relationship with him so he felt that this was his best choice."

They were not the only team that noticed Fidler's basketball talents.



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

Though only in his first year with the Dinos, Fidler can dunk like a pro.

Several NCAA division one schools took notice as well as nearly every CIS team on the west coast, UBC in particular. Even with all of the Dinos' carefully planned recruiting

tactics, such as enrolling Fidler in the Junior Dino program and treating him to a steak dinner—all of which definitely played a role in his decision—his main reason for staying home was quite simple: a matter of geography. If he decided to attend any of these other universities, his family would have to catch a flight to see him play whereas they could see him play every other weekend if he stayed home. He also knew that the Dinos had a very good chance at being one of the top teams in the country with the return of Henry Bekkering from the NCAA.

Being on a top team has meant that that the first-year guard has gone from being the best player on his high school team to a bench player on the basketball team, but that has not discouraged him. Fidler has settled into the Dinos line-up quite well and has had no problems making the adjustment to CIS level basketball.

"I just have to find my way and see where I fit in," said Fidler. "I've

found it and it is coming off the bench bringing energy. I'm fine with it because I have a fifth-year [Cody Darrah] in front of me and I look up to him and he's taught me a lot."

He has also impressed the Dino coaching staff. They now plan some of their offence with his talents in mind and his defensive play has gradually improved over the course of the season. He is starting to become more of a triple-threat and has even attained Canada West rookie of the year.

"He's well deserving," said Vanhooren. "I think he is the best freshman in Canada West. His versatility and what he brings to our team and all the things he can do as a 6'9" guard are helping us become as good as we are or helping us to get to where we want to go and without him, we wouldn't be where we are."

Stay tuned for next week's player profile.



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OT battles push ladysaurs to ACAC final

DINOS
5 vs SAIT
4
women's hockey

Derek Neumeier
Gauntlet Sports

Move over Calgary Flames and Edmonton Oilers, there are two new rival hockey titans with clashes more deserving of the title Battle Of Alberta: the University of Calgary Dinos and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Trojans.

This past weekend, the two adversaries partook in three games of hockey that will go down as one of the most evenly matched, hard-fought, passionate series in Canadian varsity sports history. With a berth in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference finals on the line, the two teams fought with every last breath for every last inch of ice on a series that went down to the wire like never before. At the end of the three-day epic, more than 250 minutes of hockey had been played with the Dinos emerging victorious and earning a well-deserved spot in the finals.

After sweeping the less-than-stellar Northern Alberta Institute of Technology Ooks in the opening round of the ACAC playoffs, the Dinos knew they were in tight against the Trojans, a team that tied for first place during the regular season and were two-time defending ACAC championships. The two teams were bitter rivals going in, but nothing could have prepared them for what transpired. The Dinos won the first game of the series 2-1 on Fri. but were closely edged 1-0 in double-overtime the following night, setting the stage for a Sun. night tiebreaker to determine who'd keep their playoff dreams alive. The match was an emotional roller coaster but the lady hockeysaurs persevered, winning 5-4 in an unheard of triple-overtime and ending SAIT's reign at the top.

"What a series," exhaled head coach Danielle Goyette after the final win. "Our team doesn't quit. We worked until the end and made sure that we didn't give up. After we beat them the first night, I knew we could beat them twice. I couldn't ask for more from the girls. They used everything they had in the tank."

You could taste the playoff atmosphere in the air from the initial drop of the puck in game one. Both squads came out dedicated but conservative, deciding on defensive styles of play that warranted few mistakes. The opening goal of the series wasn't scored until late in the second period when Trojan forward Sheena Smilgelski chipped a rebound past Dinos netminder Katie Urness to give her team the 1-0 edge. SAIT appeared poised to

head into the third protecting the lead, but the Dinos thundered back minutes later. Sparked by a 3-on-2, forward Lianne Legere was rewarded for following through with the play, banging home a rebound off line-mate Cassandra Atkins' shot as she stormed the Trojans net, tying the game at one.

Still tied up midway through the third, the Dinos found themselves going ahead thanks to a great individual effort by centre Danielle Boyce. Boyce, exhausted at the end of a long shift, received a pass at her own blue line and found herself leading the charge of a 2-on-1 as she elected to carry on with the play instead of dumping the puck and going off for a change. The choice paid off as she fired home a hard slap shot. The goal stood as the eventual game-winner, as the Dinos defence shut the door for the remainder of the third to take an early 1-0 series lead.

The girls were unable to make use of their momentum from the night before for game number two, as the defensive mentality of both teams increased tenfold, allowing little in the way of scoring chances. The Dinos were blessed with six power plays in the game but were unable to overcome SAIT's aggressive, blitzing penalty kill. Tied 0-0 at the end of regulation, the game turned into a goaltending duel between Urness and former Dino Natalie Gerstmar, teammates from the 2004-05 season, to see who would be perfect on the night and preserve the shutout. The Dinos came within inches of ending the series late in the first overtime when Legere beat Gerstmar with a hard slapper from the wing, only to have the puck rattle off the far post. It ended up being a costly piece of bad luck for the Dinos when Trojan captain Jaime Teichman broke the scoreless deadlock in the second overtime, keeping her team alive and shifting the series back to SAIT for one last winner-take-all contest. The loss also snapped a five-game winning streak for the Dinos.

Conservatism was left at the door for the start of game three as each team knew that they needed to take more risks to muster enough offence to crack the other's defence. The night couldn't have started better for the Dinos when Legere got her team on the board 13 seconds in, stealing the puck from a Trojan defender down low and beating Gerstmar on the first shot of the game. SAIT tied it up four minutes later, but the Dinos would reclaim their lead before the end of the frame. With the man advantage, the Dinos swarmed the Trojans' net, taking several shots in tight around the net that were robbed by Gerstmar before Boyce was finally able to chip one in with 38 seconds remaining in the period. The Dinos outshot SAIT by a lengthy 15-3 margin after the first twenty minutes.

The lady hockeysaurs added another power play goal in the second to give themselves a com-



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

A scramble ensues against the boards.

fortable 3-1 lead going into what should have been the last period of the series. However, tragedy struck as SAIT did the impossible and scored three unanswered goals within the span of eight minutes to take the lead. Any momentum the Dinos had was squashed by an absurd parade to the penalty box as SAIT scored all three of the goals on 5-on-3 power plays. All hope appeared to be lost as SAIT had the late lead and full control of the momentum over their disheartened counterparts, but the Dinos made one last push to keep their season

away from extinction. With another timely power play at their disposal, the Dinos got the puck down low and used every last ounce of strength to battle through the trenches of Trojan defenders before captain Cait O'Hara banged one home, tying the game at 4-4 with only 2:25 to go.

The late lifesaver revitalized the Dinos but SAIT refused to let their chance at a three-peat go up in smoke, putting the teams into sudden death once again with both seasons on the line. Numerous chances were exchanged but to no avail, leaving

the crowd at SAIT Campus Centre holding its collective breath to see who would be the eventual hero. That hero was Legere. With 5:03 remaining in the third overtime of the night, almost doubling the normal length of the game, Legere wired a wrist from the wing that found the inside of the far post behind Gerstmar, redeeming herself from the night before by successfully scoring the series-winning goal.

"It was an amazing feeling," she remarked. "I was too exhausted to celebrate but it was a huge sense of relief."

Goyette was also proud of the team's efforts.

"The longer the game went, the more confidence we had," she said. "These girls train hard for games like this."

With the SAIT marathon behind them, the lady hockeysaurs now look to their first berth in the ACAC finals since 2004 and their opponents, the Grant MacEwan College Griffins. The Griffins are red hot, coming off playoff upsets over the Red Deer College Queens and Mount Royal College Cougars. However, Goyette is assured of her team's ability, regardless of who stands between the Dinos and their first ever ACAC championship.

"It doesn't matter who we play, we're going to continue to work hard and follow our game plan," she concluded. "They're going to have to adjust to us."

The first ACAC final game kicks off at 7:30 p.m.

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BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN SCIENTISTS AND THE MEDIA




a series of tubes

[Cyber]space, the final frontier

courtesy The Opte Project

A map of the known regions of the Internet. Most of it is porn.



Christian Louden
Production Editor

The Internet has become one of the most popular media of communication in the world, allowing its users to develop, organize and exchange ideas. It has become a community that has its own dialect and etiquette, rules both written and unwritten. Many have come to love the freedom associated with the Internet. Anyone, anywhere at any time can contribute something—whether it is of value is another question. Nowhere else in the world can you find the freedom found on the electronic ether. As more people have begun to use the Internet, smaller communities formed that have gained a great deal of credibility in determining what will be popular in music, film, videogames and even politics. So, it should come as little surprise that the online community is becoming a demographic all on its own to which politicians may soon have

to sell on their platform. So far, this hasn't been the case. Legislation is constantly under debate that has great potential to cripple what makes the Internet a libertarian utopia, but it seems you can only push so hard before people start pushing back.

The spread of information worldwide is easier now than ever before, with websites such as Facebook, YouTube, Wikipedia, MySpace and Slashdot dominating in the way people access information. Facebook has evolved into a political tool as much as a social networking site. Whether it be used as a fansite for musicians and actors, or for the organization of petitions and rallies, it has a clear influence in sorting people into communities, where they can identify with one another on the things that matter to them.

A couple months ago, members of the 4chan subculture declared war on Scientology. While nothing can really be taken seriously from Internet forums that frequently invoke the phrase "tits or get the fuck out,"—which, incidentally, are most Internet forums—the

ability to organize enough people who were loosely affiliated through a website into an anti-religious movement is quite impressive. Closer to my own heart, rights advocates in Canada organized and formed a petition on Facebook in an effort to subvert the Canadian copyright bill Jim Prentice brought to parliament. Protestors ambushed Prentice in a scrum, asking questions about where the bill was coming from and what he hoped to accomplish. The unpopular bill was quickly tabled following the protest.

United States presidential hopeful Ron Paul, a Republican member of the House of Representatives, had immense amounts of popularity within his party despite almost no mainstream coverage. The significance of his popularity on the Internet is evidenced by Internet users who contributed to an independently organized online fundraiser that set the record in U.S. political history, raising \$6 million dollars in 24 hours.

Independent music owes much of its success to the Internet. MySpace has given many talented and untalented people an excellent

opportunity to get their music out to people around the world, while the RIAA is constantly at war with the free exchange of music, under the auspices of protecting the intellectual property of musicians. Websites have sprung up dedicated to reviewing more than just mainstream music and are deciding what will be found on your average indie kid's mp3 player. Independent film that would otherwise be condemned to obscurity also has an excellent opportunity to get out and get noticed. The film *Donnie Darko*, now a huge success, was doomed until it found great popularity within certain circles on the Internet and became an incredibly popular film.

In many ways, this seems to make hardcore online elite the arrogant social elite when it comes to matters on the 'Net. I'd be lying if I claimed not to have on occasion uttered words of disdain for those who I felt were riding on the coattails of nerds—especially when they're blissfully unaware of it. The elite are well informed on the issues and they owe their position of pseudo aristocracy to the

Internet. As our society becomes increasingly connected, various online communities may become a demographic to target social and political policy of the future. P2P file sharing is a big issue among piracy advocates on the Internet, and is under constant attack from lobby groups to stop in its tracks. It's not by divine intervention that P2P file sharing has somehow limped by and continued to remain in a political grey area that makes it so difficult to legislate.

This isn't to say that Internet users are some manner of superior folk compared to the rest of the world. The Internet really isn't any different than any other community, with the exception that there are certainly a much larger number of users who can potentially contribute to it. The reason they seem to have managed to hang on for so long and make a difference and cause an impact is because of the large audience that is so easily reachable. When people care about something, they're going to protect that something. Sooner or later, politicians are going to have to realize a war on the Internet is not a war so easily won.

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This Weapon is based on a true story

Edmonton-based rapper unveils sophomore album

Cadence Weapon music interview

Amanda Hu
Sports Editor

Edmonton's Cadence Weapon (a.k.a. Roland Pemberton) loves to play *Rock Band* with his mom. With the upcoming release of his latest album, *Afterparty Babies*, Tue., Mar. 4, one wonders how he has the time.

The album's title, based on something Cadence Weapon's dad—breakthrough CJSR DJ Teddy Pemberton—once said about the details of his conception. Though the younger Pemberton later found out that his creation was actually planned, he still dedicates the CD to “all the accidents out there” in the opening track, “Do I Miss My Friends?”

Always working to defy definition in the style of reinvention icons Bob Dylan and David Bowie, the rapper puts forth a different feel with this effort, channeling a more dance-oriented sound, which he expects could garner him some raised eyebrows from long-time fans and critics.

“I've been waiting to put this album out forever and I can see a lot of people seeing it as me trend-hopping and I'm trying to be like a banger, electro-pop guy,” he says. “It's a logical step from the last album and it's totally connected to the things I'm listening to and the things I'm interested in. The vibe of the album is about the old tradition of dancing and social interaction. What better way to do that than with a dance record?”

A former music journalist himself, Pemberton has learned the ins and outs of release cycles and how reviews can affect artists, though he says that there is a definite disconnect between creating music and reviewing it.



courtesy Upper Class Recordings

Most people can't wear sneakers with a vest, but most people can't rap either.

“When I was writing a review, it was a completely tactile thing,” he says. “There's a measured process and a certain way of doing it. When I'm making music, it's more organic and it's as it comes to me. I think it's totally different.”

Pemberton has managed to gain a hold on fickle indie kids everywhere with a certain do-it-yourself feel to his efforts, which is quite a feat for any artist—especially one who records hip-hop music. His success even garnered him a recording contract with Epitaph/Anti Records, home to artists that

he himself looked up to as a child, like punk gods Bad Religion and Tom Waits. He cites the label as a place that's provided him with the creative freedom to do what he wants with his music.

As Pemberton works towards introducing his music to the masses, he has always tried to enrich his live shows for his audience, giving more than what one gets from popping in a CD.

“[Performing live offers] more, interacting with people on a personal level,” he says. “When they go to a rap show, they probably

don't expect to have someone jump down into the crowd and like, [be jumping] on them and grabbing them, or someone going off the stage and sitting on the bar and drinking a shot. It's a fun way of doing things. It's important because, why would someone want to pay to see someone dictate albums?”

It's Pemberton's goals of reinvention and producing quality music that seem to be the key to his success. As the music industry fights through the digital age, he believes the way music is distributed will

change, as well as musicians' motivation to keep creating it.

“Radiohead had the best plan,” he says. “They really shifted the paradigm for everyone in the business and everyone has to catch up now. As soon as the money drains out of [the industry], anyone who's in it for the money is just going to start making movies, or something. The age of blingin' out and selling a million records is not going on anymore.”

Afterparty Babies is in stores Tue., Mar. 4.



Cadence Weapon
Afterparty Babies
(Upper Class Recordings)

Cadence Weapon's sophomore album *Afterparty Babies*, is the quickest way to refute anyone who dares call our province's capital Deadmonton. Putting aside sports rivalries, the latest LP from Edmonton-born hip hopper Rollie Pemberton is an electronic explosion of unrelenting beats, exciting rhymes and soon-to-be dancehall standards that will make even the most ardent too-cool-for-school dudes groove.

When lead single “After the Youth Crew” dropped on Pitchfork Media, people began to wonder if Cadence Weapon could make an album that was as good as the single. It's done easily, with only a few minor missteps along the way. Clocking in at just under an hour long, *Afterparty Babies* pounds the listener with song after song. Musically, Weapon samples from numerous different sources to create the kind of beats you'd expect in only the greatest clubs.

This is most exemplified in back-to-back tracks “Getting Dumb” and “House Music.” “Getting Dumb” features the kind of stuttering beats and an instrumentation which sounds like what would happen when some kind of horrible cyborg-cavemen hybrid gets behind the dials in the studio. In follow-up track “House Music” Weapon uses a dark, throbbing, merciless UK grime-influenced bass and drum beat that's in stark contrast

to the previous track. This musical variation moves the album from good to great, as Weapon isn't afraid to mix the sonic qualities of his genre a bit. It's a welcome reprieve and makes the album stand-out amongst other hip-hop artists out there.

If there's one problem, it's that there are some odd choices to intersect the album with the rare, 30-second spoken-word parts. In “After the Youth Crew” a Jamaican woman (ostensibly Pemberton's mother) reveals a funny anecdote about his youth. These are funny little anecdotes, but multiple plays will eventually cause the listener to start skipping these little niceties in favour of the music. It's a minor quibble and doesn't detract from the album's quality at all, though it's something that should be mentioned as the rest of the album is so damn good.

Obviously this isn't the album for the gang-star set. Don't expect anyone to rap about bitches, hos, area codes or the numerous variations of bling-blangeries. This is the kind of album you give to the young men and women out there who sneer at the very mention of hip hop and rap. *Afterparty Babies* is the album to destroy those kind of pretensions.

..Jordyn Marcellus

Vancouver band plays music on the edge

Ladyhawk braves the elements and cameras while cutting new album

L a d y h a w k
m u s i c i n t e r v i e w

Amanda Hu
Sports Editor

“The older you get, the more you realize that society’s ideas of being an adult [are] totally bullshit,” says Duffy Driediger, frontman of the Vancouver-based band Ladyhawk. “It’s still kind of a strong thing because there’s always something in the back of my head that’s like, ‘You know, you’re 30. You’re getting older. It’s time to start thinking about making some money and being more stable.’ But, that’s just shit that people have invented to keep the economy going. I’d rather contribute to society in other ways.”

Driediger’s band is poised to contribute in the form of their sophomore album, *Shots*, which hits record stores Tue., Mar. 4. The group’s album was the product of two weeks of recording in an abandoned farmhouse in their hometown of Kelowna, flavoured by copious amounts of Sangria, using buckets as urinals in the face no running water and Driediger’s preoccupation with mortality. They encountered various snags along the way, including a van roll-over in icy conditions *en route* back to Vancouver to mix the album before setting out on a six-week tour.

Filmmakers Rob Leickner and Mona Mok took the experiences and made them into a documentary, *Let Me Be Fictional*, delving further into Ladyhawk’s thoughts on getting older while being in a rock band and re-defining adulthood.

“It was weird because, when Rob and Mona approached us about doing the film, the other guys were into it and I was kind of against it,” says Driediger. “I just wanted to go



courtesy Jagjaguwar

Ladyhawk initiates new members by making them fight bears, ensuring only the strong survive.

in and record and focus on that but I was kind of outvoted. I never felt fully comfortable, because you’re never really totally candid. Being on edge actually made us more focused on getting what we wanted done. It made us step up our game because we didn’t want to look like complete idiots on film.”

With the album release looming, *Shots* was received very differently by a lot of reviewers, sometimes citing it as somewhat of a purposeful attempt by Ladyhawk to distance themselves from their first album and stand out. Though Driediger

thinks this has to do with the way things are marketed to the public, he’s not discouraged by this misconception.

“I think we didn’t intentionally do it, but our album was perceived by some people as being difficult and wasn’t upbeat,” he says. “It wasn’t as catchy. I would prefer to record an album that comes out and nobody likes it and then someone listens to it and at first they’re like, ‘I don’t really like this album,’ and then they listen to it again three months later and they kind of like the album and then a couple weeks

or months later, they’re like, ‘I love this album.’ All of my favourite albums are like that.”

Driediger also notes that, as flash success becomes more and more common. Take, for example, Peter Bjorn and John’s “Young Folks” that ended up being known to the entire world as “the whistle song.” We face the transition from the dominance of CDs to digital music, people who have to take the attitude of being in the music industry for the right reasons.

“Nowadays, people can get their music for free and most of the time,

people are going to do that, because why spend your money when you don’t have to?” he says, “I’m totally cool with that. I think bands have to realize these days that it’s not about going out and selling records. If you want to make money, I guess that’s how you have to do it, but you’re not going to make much.”

Regardless, Driediger and his Ladyhawk bandmates seem to have the right idea and are taking their success in stride.

Shots is in music stores Tue., Mar. 4.

A twisted tale of life, love and pig noses

P e n e l o p e
f i l m r e v i e w

Hoang-Mai Hong
Gauntlet Entertainment

Penelope is a movie that is hard to place, frankly, because it’s kind of a mess. It is, however, rather charming and has the audience wanting to like it, like the sweet, though cloying kitten of a Tim Burton rom-com. It also has viewers wanting it to be more, questioning, “With a few edits and adjustments—maybe major adjustments—to elements of the plot, could it cross the line

from messy into eclectic?” Alas, as it is, unfortunately it isn’t worth recommending.

The movie is a pastiche of several things story-wise, attempting to mesh both fairytale and contemporary elements along the same lines as *Shrek*, *Edward Scissorhands* and *Big Fish*. This doesn’t work to its advantage however, as it doesn’t succeed in same way as these movies did, especially with its muddled and heavyhanded way of encouraging girls to “be themselves.” It also spreads itself thin by disjunctively trying to please both children and adults, and winds up pleasing no

see PENELOPE, pg. 31



courtesy Seville Pictures

The key to dating a girl with a pig nose is to try not to stare at it. Ever.

TOP OF THE VOX
 CALGARY 90.9 FM
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TOP 20 for the week of **FEB 25.08**

- * Denotes Canadian Artist
 ** Denotes Local Artist
- 1 **BLACK MOUNTAIN***
In The Future (Scratch)
- 2 **THE RAVEONETTES**
Lust Lust Lust (Vice)
- 3 **REMOTE KID****
Don't Make Me Quote Kennedy
 (Cardboard Box)
- 4 **HEALTH**
Perfect Skin 7" (Suicide Squeeze)
- 5 **LAURA BARRETT***
Earth Sciences (Paperbag)
- 6 **BON IVER**
For Emma, Forever Ago (Jagjaguwar)
- 7 **THE KILLS**
U.R.A. Fever 7" (Domino)
- 8 **BEIJA FLOR****
The American (indie)
- 9 **ELECTRIC WIZARD**
Witchcult Today (Candlelight USA)
- 10 **VAMPIRE WEEKEND**
Vampire Weekend (XL)
- 11 **NO KIDS***
Come Into My House (Tomlab)
- 12 **THE SUPERFANTASTICS***
Choose Your Destination (indie)
- 13 **PLANTS AND ANIMALS***
Parc Avenue (Secret City)
- 14 **DANAVA**
Unonou (Kemado)
- 15 **THE FASHION**
The Fashion (Epic)
- 16 **HAYDEN***
In Field & Town (Hardwood)
- 17 **SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE**
Sea From Shore (Thrill Jockey)
- 18 **TIME AGAIN**
Darker Days (Hellcat)
- 19 **THE BIG SLEEP**
Sleep Forever (Frenchkiss)
- 20 **JANE VAIN & THE DARK MATTER****
Love Is Where The Smoke Is
 (Rectangle)

JAZZ

- 1 **STEVE REID ENSEMBLE**
Daxaar (Domino)
- 2 **BILL PROUTEN***
Low-Down, No-Good (Keyano College)
- 3 **ANTIZARIO***
It's Great To Be Fine (indie)
- 4 **VARIOUS**
Jazz From Finland 2008
 (Finnish Music Information Centre)
- 5 **PANTHELION**
Life After 339 (Dvorzak)

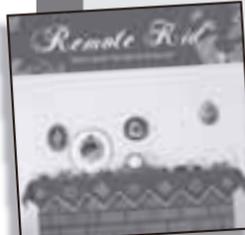
FOLK/ROOTS/BLUES

- 1 **BABY DEE**
Safe Inside The Day (Drag City)
- 2 **THE WHIPSAWS**
60 Watt Avenue (Shut Eye)
- 3 **GRASSTOWNE**
The Road Headin' Home (Pinecastle)
- 4 **OYSTERBAND**
Meet You There (Westpark)
- 5 **BATTLEFIELD BAND**
Dookin' (Temple)

MYKE'S PICKS

- 1 **THE MAE-SHI**
- 2 **LADYHAWK**
- 3 **THE FELICE BROTHERS**
- 4 **THE RUBY SUNS**
- 5 **BORN RUFFIANS**

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY



REMOTE KID
 They decided to call it quits last month, but before they disappear Remote Kid is giving away a free downloadable

EP from Cardboard Box Records. The disc features one track recorded live in the CJSW studios, and a stellar remix by my pal and bandmate Morgan F. Greenwood. Free!!!
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Some are good, some are bad

Comedy showcases teen shrink dishing out drugs

Charlie Bartlett
 f i l m r e v i e w

Ryan Pike
 Entertainment Editor

Life has very few constants. One is death, another is taxes. One more recently discovered constant is that Hollywood will always find ways to both romanticize and demonize the high school experience. Their latest attempt is *Charlie Bartlett*.

Charlie Bartlett (Anton Yelchin) is a wealthy miscreant, fresh from being kicked out of yet another fancy private school for a wacky stunt aimed at garnering popularity. With no other alternative, Charlie's mother (Hope Davis) enrolls him in public school, where he's promptly beaten to a bloody pulp by the resident goonish bully (Tyler Hilton). When he comes home from school bummed-out by this, Charlie's mother summons the family's on-call shrink and Charlie comes up with an idea. With all the misery in high school, why doesn't he provide psychoanalysis and prescription drugs to students? Out of this idea and necessity, a partnership between Charlie and his tormentor is born.

The first directing credit for long-time film editor Jon Poll, *Charlie Bartlett* looks and feels like the pill-popping lovechild of 1990's *Pump Up the Volume* and Wes Anderson's *Rushmore*, updating the old with the attitude of the new. In fact, *Bartlett's* plot outline is roughly the same as *Volume's*: smart teen comes to new school, marvels at misery, attempts to change things (Christian Slater had a pirate radio show, Anton



courtesy Equinoxe Films

Robert Downey Jr. plays against type as a man with a drinking problem in *Charlie Bartlett*.

Yelchin distributes drugs), falls in love and conflict ensues. The film's lack of originality can be forgiven in light of its unabashed style and sense of fun. Despite featuring a cabal of miserable and ornery people, *Bartlett* is full of jokes and clever dialogue.

Of course, all the cleverness in the world would be lost without a capable cast. In his biggest role to date, Anton Yelchin shines as the title character. His chemistry with the rest of the actors is what saves the film when the script drifts off-course. Hope Davis is adorably clueless as Charlie's mother. A mohawked Tyler Hilton steals scenes as the bully who becomes

Charlie's business partner. Kat Dennings, best known to most as Catherine Keener's daughter in *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, takes the under-developed role as Charlie's love interest and injects it with energy. The real star of the show, however, is Robert Downey Jr., playing the principal of Charlie's new school and the father of his love interest. The film's centrepiece scene features Downey drunkenly waving a gun around while engaging in a surprisingly articulate argument with Charlie.

The strangest thing about *Charlie Bartlett*—and ultimately its failing—is it's a film plagued by contradictions. Despite the

clever concept and smart script by Gustin Nash, there are times where the film ventures into teen movie cliché territory or when the story leaps from the logical point A to point C without warning. Even so, there are times where the film seems really, really smart. The entire prescription drug scheme is particularly well-developed. Bolstered by a strong cast and clever concept, *Charlie Bartlett* is largely an enjoyable piece of filmmaking, but could have been even better had the script been more consistent.

Charlie Bartlett is in theatres right now.

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An interview with Premier Ed Stelmach

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B-ballin' it back to the '70s with *Semi-Pro*

S e m i - P r o
f i l m r e v i e w

Derek Neumeier
Gauntlet Entertainment

It is not uncommon for Hollywood film studios to live by the philosophy of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." Companies know that they can take a working formula and put out uninspired, lacklustre follow-ups with minimal changes and get away with it, still raking in the profits. While it doesn't fall under the category of a sequel, New Line Cinema's newest release, *Semi-Pro*, does follow the recent "generic, sports-related comedy starring Will Ferrell" blueprint, with undesirable results.

Following up on the financial successes of *Kicking and Screaming*, *Talladega Nights* and *Blades Of Glory*, Ferrell's newest cinematic foray into the world of sports takes him back to 1976 and the time of the American Basketball Association. Here he plays Jackie Moon, an afro-donning, one-hit-wonder pop star whose hit single "Love Me Sexy" propelled him to fame and fortune. Moon, financially stabilized because of the song, used



courtesy Alliance Films

Nobody really knows why the NBA switched to longer shorts, we're just glad they did.

his wealth to purchase the (fictional) Flint Tropics basketball team, hiring himself as a player and head coach. Despite being the worst club in the league, with games that resemble a circus more than basketball, Moon uses the Tropics to maintain his status in the city and entertain people after his failed music career. Calamity hits when the failing ABA

decides to merge with the NBA and only take the top four teams, leaving Moon with the task of finding a way for his team to both win games and draw the support of more fans before the season ends.

Like any movie about team sports, the squad's situation begins to change for the better when a ringer enters the fold. Cue Ed Monix,

played by Woody Harrelson, an aging former NBA champion who gets traded to the Tropics in exchange for a washing machine. Monix's experience comes in handy as he teaches the team how to actually play basketball while rekindling his passion for both the sport and a love he'd once lost.

While the story is genuinely

intriguing and the era—complete with afros, platform shoes, Cadillacs and disco music—is sure to generate laughs, the writing of the film is its biggest downfall. Ferrell's zany acting ability is perfectly suited for his role and Harrelson is an acclaimed actor, but both performances fall flat due to being written into scenes with drab dialogue and half-hearted hilarity. The film's biggest attempts at humour, such as Moon wrestling a bear or jumping over cheerleaders on roller skates as promotions, are swings and misses, leaving the movie with nothing but unfunny slapstick, which comes too sparingly as is.

Even though *Semi-Pro* as a film is the equivalent of hitting nothing but rim, it's destined to be a huge box office smash, thanks to its surefire winning formula and its tandem ads with Anheuser-Busch that aired during the SuperBowl. Whether it's lacrosse, squash, log-rolling or something even more obscure, the fact remains that *Semi-Pro's* eventual success will surely spawn at least another generic, sports-related comedy starring Will Ferrell: sad news for moviegoers searching for something new.

Semi-Pro is in theatres Fri., Feb. 29. The ABA ruled.

Penelope, cont. from pg. 29

one in particular for the full 80 minutes.

Opening with a whimsical and sweeping account of the Wilhern family and their family curse, *Penelope's* premise sounds and looks delightfully promising. Penelope (Christina Ricci) exposit in this segment that because of her ancestor jilting the poor daughter of a witch, the family was cursed to have a daughter with the face of a pig. Since the line produced only sons for centuries, she became that first-born daughter. Locked up and sheltered by her parents in their rickety mansion, she believes that the only way to undo the curse is to find an "equal," here determined to be class distinction, who will accept and marry her. It is at this point that the flimsy and messy central conflict kicks in: one of her suitors (Simon Woods), who incidentally didn't sign the gag order, runs away and alerts the

press. Much to his dismay, they think he's insane and so he enlists the help of a lowly paparazzo, Lemon (Peter Dinklage), who has his own grudges against the Wilhern family.

From here the plot takes several annoying turns, all of which are confusing character-wise, perhaps because they are drawn so shallowly. Penelope is thrown around listlessly by the story and without Christina Ricci's lovable portrayal, the film could have much worse. What also holds things together is the romance between Penelope and one of her suitors, Max (James McAvoy), who, though he turns out to be a hired goon of Lemon's, predictably falls for her just as she is.

With its stellar cast—Catherine O'Hara plays the horribly wonderful shrieking mother, and Reese Witherspoon also makes an appearance—*Penelope* could

have been so much more. But the experience of seeing these great actors on screen in a lovingly-rendered fantasy London becomes

overshadowed by the disparate elements of the plot. The problems stand out too much to be simply glossed over and keep the film's

charms from shining through.

Penelope is in theatres Fri., Feb. 29.

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This *Train* doesn't go off the rails

T r a i n
t h e a t r e r e v i e w

Amanda Hu
Sports Editor

Premiering at Alberta Theatre Projects' playRites Festival, Maiko Bae Yamamoto's *Train* chugs down a path filled with a mystically-tinged family story, metatextuality and some endearing elements that sometimes border on being a little too cute.

Based in both truth and fiction, a Japanese man—played by Yamamoto's real-life father, Minoru Yamamoto—endlessly waits at a train station for the love who will never come. A noodle girl sits and watches day after day, befriending the man and eventually helping

him to move on with his life. Off in the distance, a mysterious, celestial woman exists in another timeline, which eventually converges with the former.

Train takes this plot through interesting territory, as the father and daughter Yamamoto play off each other, swapping not only characters in the story several times, but also dominant parental roles with submissive child-like ones throughout the 75 minutes. Yamamoto attempts to let the audience in on the family affair, pointing out some members as stars on the celestial plane in hopes of making the story feel more personal to onlookers. The result is perhaps



not a completely familial-feeling one, as it more represents a jarring reality that the audience is watching is also looking back at them.

There are also stabs at cute abstractness, such as both actors breaking into a faux *Dance Dance*

Revolution battle, complete with techno music and flashing lights. While a representation of the Japanese culture that Yamamoto is trying to portray, it seems to jar with the overall sense of the play: not only musically, the techno being a far cry from the play's thematic Japanese flute, but also temporally, as most of the scenes take place in a distant past.

Minimalist set pieces enhanced by strategically-placed lights—not to mention the elder male Yamamoto portraying a noodle girl at some points throughout the act—and scenes that see father and daughter running around in a James Bond-esque style, shooting each

other with finger guns, require the audience to suspend disbelief a little too much throughout. The metatextual interjections, including Yamamoto interviewing her father about his real-life experience at that train platform, sometimes require one to completely switch mindsets, making for a somewhat brain-busting experience.

In the end, though, *Train's* adorable father/daughter moments and the forlorn love story make the production an endearing snapshot into one family's history. While onlookers may not feel like they're part of the Yamamoto family, they can at least feel like they got to know them.

The playRites Festival runs until Sun., Mar. 8.
Full schedule and info at atplive.com.
Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.

Searching for an *Elusive* meaning

T h a t E l u s i v e S p a r k
t h e a t r e r e v i e w

Joshua Goard-Baker
Gauntlet Entertainment

When viewing theatre, one person's masterpiece is another person's flop. When a play leaves an audience searching for answers and questioning the true meaning of it all, sometimes that play can be perceived as a thought-provoking, noteworthy piece of theatrical art. On the other hand, when a play

leaves the audience searching for answers and wondering if the playwright actually knew exactly the direction they themselves were heading, well, that piece of art doesn't perform so well.

That Elusive Spark falls somewhere in the middle, leaving its viewers questioning what the "elusive spark" is and how they go about finding it. The problem is, it was so unclear as to the meaning of the so called "spark" it seems the playwright really may not have been completely sure herself.

Spark tells the story of Helen,

a young psychology professor with major psychological issues herself, including depression, anxiety and low self-esteem. This story is intertwined with the tale of Phineas Gage, who had a horrible accident in 19th century New England when a tamping iron was shot through his cheek and passed through his brain. Gage survived for many years after the accident, even with the incredible damage done to his brain. Helen shares two links to Gage: Helen's grandfather is the physician who cared for Gage after the

accident and she also suffers from many of the same debilitating psychological problems.

The play is part comedy, part romance and part tragedy, but is at its best during its humorous sections. The actors perform admirably, the dialogue is top-notch and had the play ended after the first act or continued along the same track, it probably would have been more satisfying. The second act is where the real confusion begins to creep in. Gage's tragedy completely alters his personality, which affects

his relationships. This is cross-sectioned with a study of mood-altering drugs and a dependency to anti-depressants. Instead of this seeming appropriate, where the audience's confusion mirrors that of the character, it muddies the audience's interaction with the story.

All the while, there is no real definition of what the "spark" is. Maybe it was easy to find, but in this case the play left too many questions unanswered when the lights went down, making the only elusive quality overall satisfaction.



For more information, see page 23

creative
literary supplement.08

presented by the Gauntlet & NOD Magazine



THEATRE

The **Playrites Festival** is in the last throes of the Calgary theatre insurgency. Head on over to www.atplive.com for ticket prices and dates. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.

Theatre Calgary ends its run of **Enchanted April** in the Max Bell Theatre Feb. 28 until Mar. 1. Tickets are \$37.50–\$53.00 at Ticketmaster.

CONCERTS

It's time for the **Cancer Bats** to grow on you. Tickets are \$16 at Megatunes, Sloth and Ticketmaster.

Lyke OMG, **Kalan Porter** is at the Jack Singer Concert Hall Thu., Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$29–\$35 at Ticketmaster.

Loot, a Tool tribute band, plays at the Gateway on SAIT campus. \$7 at the door or at Ticketmaster.

Oh hell yes, **Skid Row** is playing at the Snatch Rock 'n' Roll Lounge Thu., Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. Oh god damn, it's only \$25 at Ticketmaster!

The City Streets and **Kara Keith** play at Broken City Thu., Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. Tickets are at Megatunes and Sloth.

Guitar Mania IX is in Mac Hall Fri., Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 at Ticketmaster. No plastic guitars here.

Wax Romeo, DJ Disoriental and **Teddy Celebration** swarm the Marquee Room Fri., Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets at the door.

Gauntlet bffs **White Cowbell Oklahoma** play in the Gateway on SAIT campus Fri., Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at Ticketmaster.

Folk darlings **the Mohawk Lodge Rocket** and shmucks **Heat Ray** Fri., Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets available at Megatunes and Sloth.

It's a wild west rock show when **the Dirty Roses, the Scorched Banditos** and **Labyrinth of Dreams** take to the Underground's stage Fri., Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets at the door.

Shane Phillip plays in the Liberty Lounge Fri., Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at Ticketmaster.

Gutterawl, One Eleven Archer and **the Pine Tarts** all mosey into the Palomino Fri., Feb. 29 at 9 p.m.

Enemyus whips it out at the Underground Sat., Mar. 1 at 8 p.m. Tickets at the door.

Punk kids rejoice! **The Black Halos** make their triumphant return to Calgary with **the Garter Girls**

Burlesque and **the Nightstalkers** at the HiFi Club Sat., Mar. 1. Tickets available at Megatunes and Sloth.

Crystal Castles have an ATARI 5200 soundboard in their synthesizers. That's awesome. They're in the Warehouse Sun., Mar. 2 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$16 at Megatunes, Sloth and Ticketmaster.

SPORTS

Embrace your inner Albertan with **Monster Jam**. Yes, it's a monster truck rally. With Gravedigger! Tickets are \$15–\$25 at Ticketmaster. Trucks get crushed Feb. 29 until Mar. 1 in the Pengrowth Saddledome, so purchase your tickets now.

With the playoffs in full swing, there are all sorts of **Dinos** events that you can go to. It's a veritable smorgasbord of phantasmagorical sporting excellence. All games are free with student I.D.

It's a two-day **wrestling** extravaganza Feb. 29 and Mar. 1 in the Kinesiology A Red Gym. The event takes place throughout the two days.

It's the ACAC Final when the **lady hockeysaurs** take on **Grant MacEwan** Fri., Feb. 29. Puck drops in the Olympic Oval at 7 p.m.

Our **male basketsaurs** take on and destroy the **University of British Columbia** Fri., Feb. 29 at 7 p.m. in the Jack Simpson Gymnasium. *Ubyssy* sports editor Jordan Chittley honestly believes UBC is going to win. Prove him wrong.

THINGS TO DO

- Sports Playoffs.** Basketball. Women's hockey. Wrestling. You've got a friend in the **Dinos**, so it's an opportunity to go watch the U of C's teams kick all kinds of ass this weekend. There's enough sports for everyone to have some wholesome fun.
- Provincial Election.** Democracy is awesome. If news editor Katy Anderson will tell you anything, it's that.
- Go play outside.** The weather's warming up, so it's time to bust out those shorts, capris, and clamdiggers. They're not just for rez rats anymore.
- Playrites Festival.** All of these plays are newly created darlings. It's not every day you get to see a woman play DDR with her father.

MISC.

Friday Night Dance Party in the Den will be a welcome reprieve from essays, tests, various assignments, and sundry other school-related activities. \$3.50 tallboys of Pilsner will drown out your sorrows as well.

Partake in the SU's **Huge Party cab** in the Den. \$10, with the price of one free drink at the door and \$20 nets you one free drink and a chance to arm wrestle you way to glory.

It's time for some classic cinema as **Lawrence of Arabia** hits up the big screen. The film plays in the Plaza Theatre on Kensington at 3 p.m. Free with a food bank donation.

Mundane Mondays provides you the chance to get a jump on the day with free coffee and newspapers. The free java runs from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in That Empty Space.

With the fervor for democracy in America, why not get your own democracy on? Vote in the **provincial election** Mon., Mar. 3. Polls run from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. all around town. Check out www.elections.ab.ca for more information and where to vote.

Cliche alert! What's the deal with **Bee Movie**? It plays in ST 148 as part of **Cinemaniamon** Mon., Mar. 3. Show times are 6:30 and 9 p.m. and are free with student I.D. Popcorn is only \$2.

cjsw on★air guide

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun	
MORNING JAZZ	6 am	her royal opinion	breaking the tethers	lush life	morning joy	jazz for quantum cats	late night continued	late night continued
	6:30	BBC WORLD SERVICE NEWS weekday mornings at 6, 7, 8 and 9 am					democracy now!	alternative radio
ROOTS MIX	7 am					bunte welle <small>german</small>	counterspin	
	7:30						eritrean radio	
AFTERNOON MIX	8 am	cold smoke jazz	canadian music centre presents	bella musica	the soap box derby	the two and a half hour coffee break	hrvatski radio <small>croatian</small>	
	8:30		cloud pleaser				radio pilipino <small>filipino</small>	
LATE NIGHT MIX	9 am	democracy now!	so SU me <small>students' union</small>	alternative radio	cjsw news	who shakes <small>city calendar</small>	buscando america <small>latin & south america</small>	
	9:30	this side of blue	beet farm <small>sponsored by the drum & monkey</small>	absolute beginners	pillage the village / failed pilot	fantastic plastic <small>sponsored by beat route</small>	let's get baked with mat & dave <small>vegan baking from okdu</small>	
MORNING JAZZ	10 am					audio verse <small>sponsored by bird dog video</small>	level the vibes	
	10:30							
ROOTS MIX	11 am	the banshee beat	electric company <small>sponsored by the inner sleeve</small>	the ok ship lights	the audible smile <small>sponsored by melody records</small>	my allergy to the fans <small>sponsored by tubby dog</small>	mental illness <small>sponsored by the coup</small>	
	11:30							
AFTERNOON MIX	12 pm	pop beats and cigarettes	jane & tasya's guide to everything <small>sponsored by broken city</small>	halfway home <small>sponsored by the liberty lounge</small>	alternative to what? <small>sponsored by kerfmusic.com</small>	road pops <small>sponsored by fwd weekly</small>	caribbean link-up <small>sponsored by fwd weekly</small>	
	12:30							
LATE NIGHT MIX	1 pm	french transe en danse	off the page <small>gauntlet</small> artlink	mezza l'una <small>italian</small>	writer's block	musiquarium <small>everything from jazz to jungle sponsored by giant 45</small>	voice of ethiopia	
	1:30	south louisiana gumbo	tombstone after dark <small>sponsored by the palomino smokehouse & social club</small>	the blues witness <small>with reverend ron sponsored by calgary dollars</small>	folkcetera <small>sponsored by the marquee room</small>	full moon funkalicious <small>the latest & greatest in breaks & house</small>	oh africa!	
MORNING JAZZ	2 pm	reverb	staticland	lift the bandstand	film clips	the nocturntable	speaking in tongues <small>world music</small>	
	2:30	yeah, what she said <small>women's programming</small>	queertopia / urban sex <small>lesbian / bisexual / gay</small>	good character requirement / turing radio	noise <small>experimental music</small>	remote emissions <small>hard hitting jungle & drum 'n' bass</small>	the chit chat	
ROOTS MIX	3 pm	aubrey's shindig!	rack power	don't throw your marmalade	fat beat diet	megawatt mayhem <small>metal</small>	tokyo eye patch	
	3:30	katharsis	what will the neighbors think			the sarcastic triangle / attention surplus disorder	translucent dreams <small>ambient, trance etc.</small>	
AFTERNOON MIX	4 pm	bass ackwards	fuzzbox special	hello pretty city / blue collar bravado	post-everything		international telegram	
	4:30							
LATE NIGHT MIX	5 pm	too late mix tape	twilight banter	make it happen cap'n	rage cage	sound champion showcase	straight on 'til morning	
	5:30					sunlight theory		

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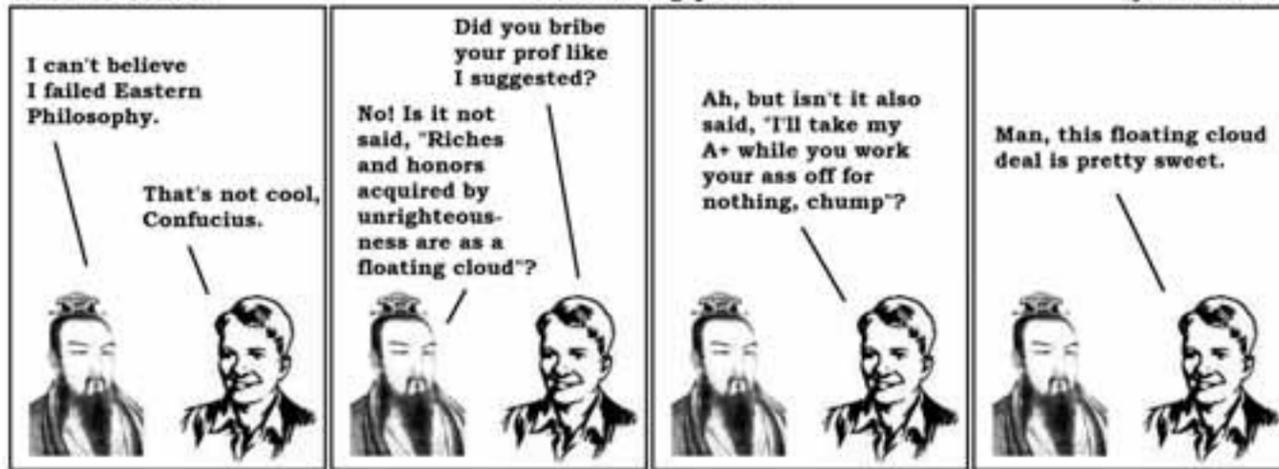
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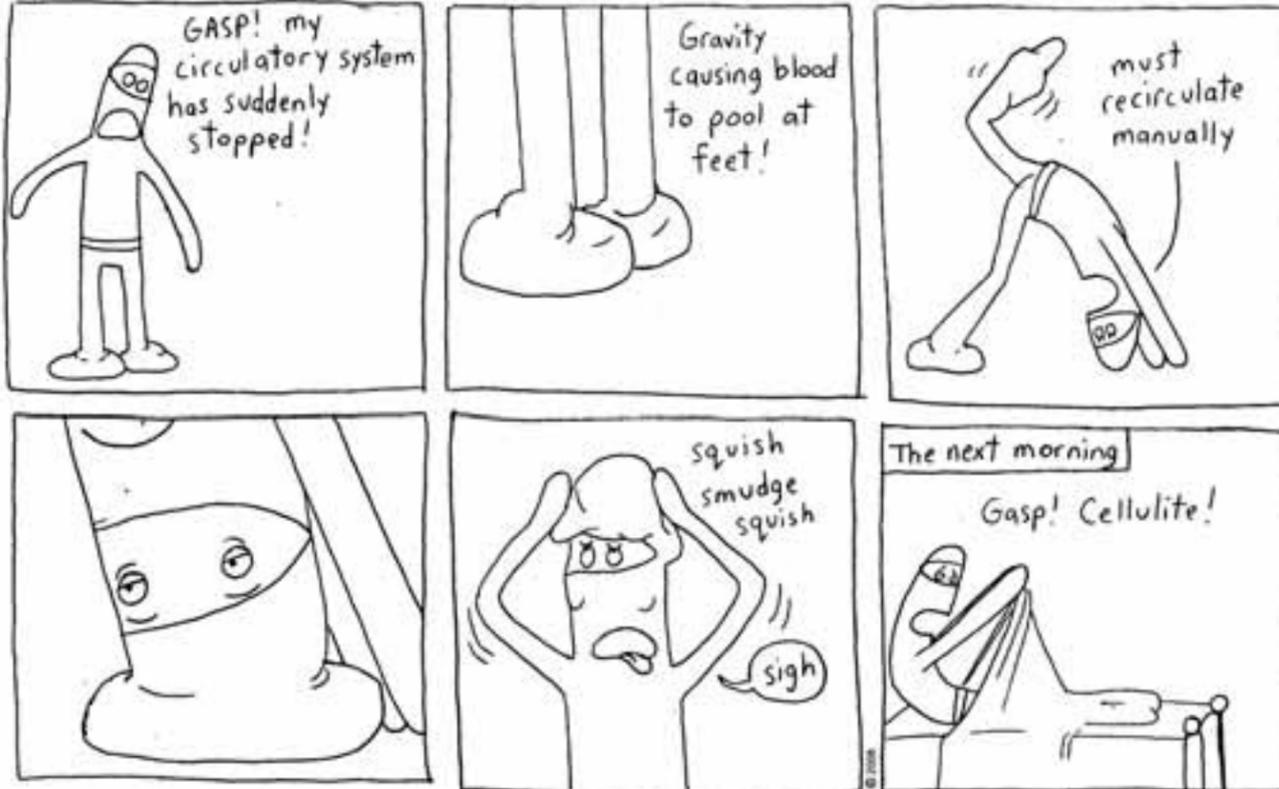
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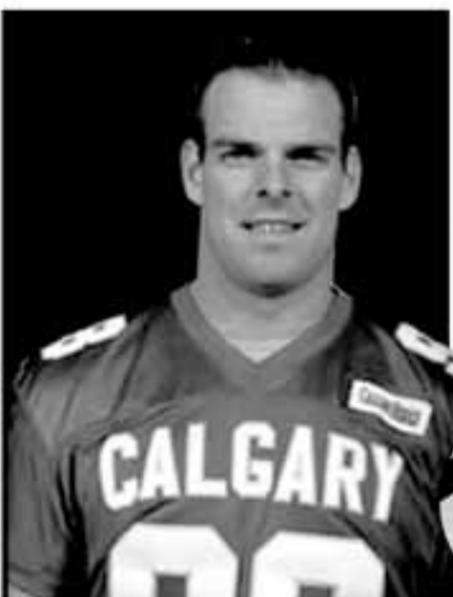
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