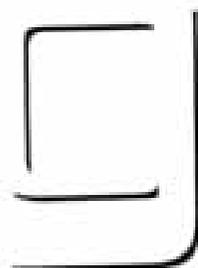


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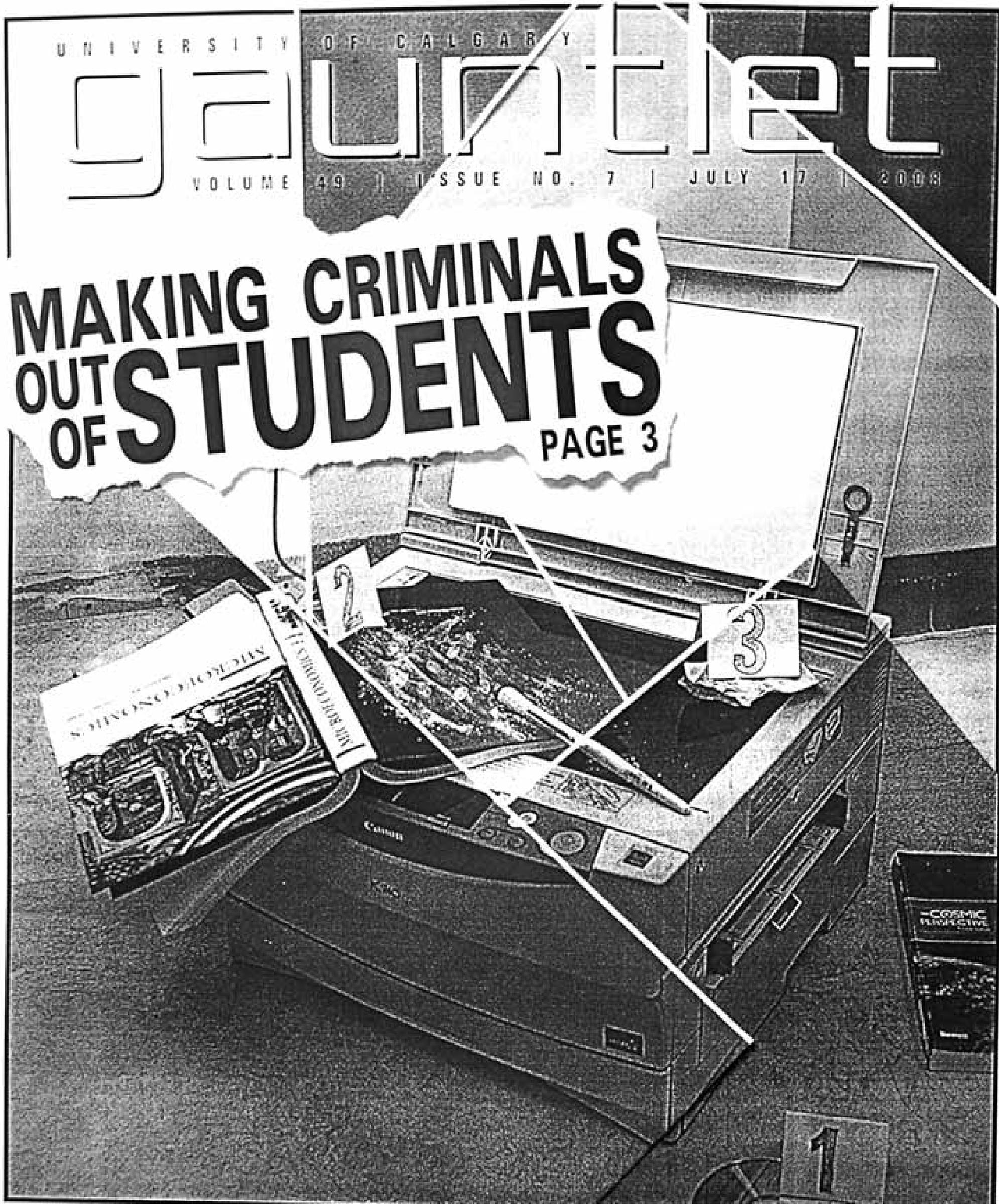
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MAKING CRIMINALS OUT OF STUDENTS

PAGE 3



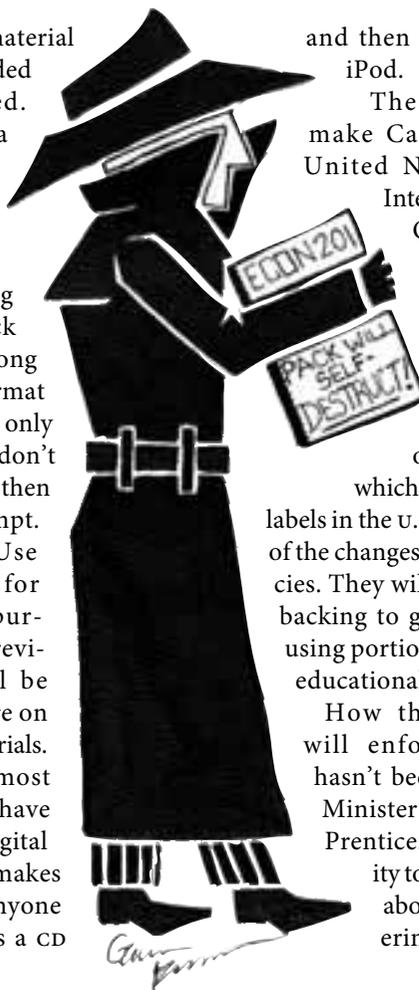
Bill C-61 not the solution

Everyone hates long transit rides. Fortunately, most transit riders can watch their favourite movies or listen to albums ripped off of DVDs and CDs on their MP3 players to help pass the time. But after another step taken in the long journey of pleasing corporate media giants, the ride just got longer.

Bill C-61 has been attracting negative attention from media and online communities alike over the past month. The bill, which is a list of amendments to Canada's copyright law, is being called "The Canadian Digital Millennium Copyright Act" by opponents after the controversial American bill passed in 1998.

Changes to the act would have some benefits. Statutory damages would have a set limit of \$500 and time and format shifting will be clearly legal. But even within these advancements, a basic thought process is lacking. The \$500 per infringement gets bumped up to \$20,000 if a digital lock is present

on whatever material is being recorded or transferred. Acquiring a song illegally online is a \$500 fine, but buying a CD and breaking the digital lock for the same song is \$20,000. Format shifting is legal only if these locks don't exist, and even then DVDs are exempt. Any Fair Use exemptions for educational purposes from previous laws will be void if locks are on the useful materials. Considering most digital media have some sort of digital lock, this law makes criminals of anyone who purchases a CD



and then puts it on their iPod.

The proposal will make Canada meet the United Nations' World Intellectual Property Organization's standards.

Organizations like the Recording Industry Association of America, which represents major labels in the U.S., are supportive of the changes and WIPO's policies. They will now have legal backing to go after students using portions of songs in an educational video.

How the government will enforce Bill C-61 hasn't been addressed by Minister of Industry Jim Prentice. Prentice's ability to dodge questions about the bill is gathering its own online

following. Liberal MP and industry critic Scott Brison claimed the law was "U.S. made" and would push Canada further into a "police state." He and other critics are frustrated with the lack of consultation on the bill. The issue affects almost every Canadian and Industry Canada did very little to find out what they wanted.

Online music stores have massive sales with iTunes topping five billion downloads recently. They are quickly becoming the top method of media distribution and the laws haven't said much about them, not to mention albums released from artists online for free. If recording companies are worried about lost revenue due to illegal downloading and sharing, new laws preventing paid-for materials from being watched won't solve the problem. If anything, it's making more enemies of those already downloading.

Sarelle Azuelos
News Editor

Frozen Cocktails

Raspberry Colada

Malibu rum, chambord and pina colada

Son of a Peach

Peach schnapps, triple sec. and peach slush

Creamsicle

Bacardi O, Bacardi vanilla, orange juice and mango puree

Daiquiris

Premium white rum blended with your choice of flavors.

Ask your server

Margaritas

Tequila and triple sec. blended with your choice of flavors.

Ask your server

Beergarita
Lime margarita
with a corona

Summer Cocktails

Black Lounge Sunset

Premium white rum, orange juice & pineapple juice topped with a dark rum floater

Gin & Tonic Super Sonic

A gin and tonic topped with lime slush

Summer Time Lemonade

Vodka, peach schnapps, cranberry juice and 7up

Incredible Hulk

Vodka, triple sec, melon liquor and 7up



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Copyright changes not all about CDs

Bill C-61 could eliminate all educational copyright exemptions

Sarelle Azuelos

News Editor

A proposed bill that would change the Canadian copyright law will affect students, professors and researchers if passed. Minister of Industry Jim Prentice introduced the controversial Bill C-61 in June.

With the House of Commons summer recess starting two weeks after its introduction, the bill has met little political debate. Other circles, however, have plenty to criticize. The bill focuses on digital music and films, but educational exemptions that were made in previous bills have an Achilles heel this time around.

U of C vice-president external Alastair MacKinnon has mixed feelings on the bill.

“We’re pleased to see that there is discussion around copyright legislation because it does need to be updated,” he said, noting that the lack of public consultation was disconcerting. “Bill C-61 is unnecessarily and excessively restrictive and punitive, particularly for learners and educators. It’s really going to stifle knowledge and innovation sharing in Canada.”

Industry Canada senior media relations advisor Annie Trépanier explained it has been 10 years since the last reforms were made. She said the proposed changes will allow students to make personal backup copies of books they bought also known as format shifting, while lowering the infringement damages from \$20,000 to \$500.

“Libraries will no longer be required to deliver interlibrary loan material in paper form; electronic desktop delivery of materials such as scholarly or scientific journal articles would be permitted,” she said.

Students or researchers using these loans would only be able to keep the electronic copies



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

The U of C Bookstore will have to throw out their leftover course packages, but prices shouldn't go up.

for five days. Libraries would be responsible for ensuring that students only print one paper copy for their own use and delete the electronic copy.

U of C Bookstore director Brent Beatty was frustrated with the new clause that requires the bookstore to destroy any leftover course packages 30 days after the end of the semester.

“If a faculty member creates a course pack and uses it for a course, they’re only able to use it for that course and they have to destroy it at the end of the course,” said Beatty.

Course package costs won't increase due to

tightly controlled inventory. Typically very few packages are leftover, but because many professors use the same materials each semester, they are still useful. Trépanier said this was necessary to ensure a balance between the needs of students and right holders.

“What is it doing for the environment?” Beatty asked. “If a faculty member has the same course pack they’ve used one semester after another, why throw it out?”

MacKinnon is concerned about new provisions regarding digital locks and suspension of rights notices. Breaking through a digital

lock to transfer information to your personal computer, even if you have paid for the locked material, will be illegal.

“The educational exemptions don’t protect you because these anti-circumvention measures allow the owners of copyright to use digital locks and suspension of rights notices to limit the use of any copyrighted material, even for private research or educational purposes,” he said.

Trépanier recognized that there is a need for future changes, but said Industry Canada is confident with its current framework.

see COPYRIGHT, page 4

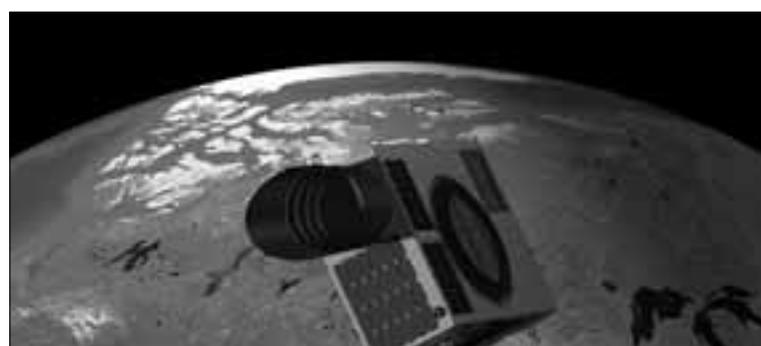
U of C helps defend Earth from space attacks

Daniel Pagan

Gauntlet News

Thanks to a University of Calgary professor’s collaboration with the Canadian Space Agency and Defence Research and Development Canada, a microsatellite may soon defend the Earth from rogue asteroids. Canada’s \$12 million Near Earth Object Surveillance Satellite will be the first space telescope used to observe satellites and asteroids in a near Earth orbit.

Armed with a 15-centimetre telescope, the NEOSat will act as a traffic controller, tracking satellites and collision threats during space missions in Earth’s orbit. The microsatellite’s secondary mission will



courtesy University of Calgary External Relations

NEOSat busy keeping a watchful eye on the skies.

be Near Earth Space Surveillance. Near Earth asteroids will be studied and measured to see if they pose a threat to Earth in the future. U of C geophysics associate professor Dr. Alan Hildebrand plays a role

in the secondary mission.

Hildebrand’s scientific team developed the NESS program for NEOSat and will study asteroid data at the U of C. Hildebrand explained it was his interest in asteroids

which led to his involvement.

“We started at the beginning of 2000 after Kieran Carrol of Dynacon and Phil Somers at the DRDC had a conversation about what the Microvariability and Oscillation of Stars spacecraft technology could do and asteroid searching was suggested,” explained Hildebrand. “Kieran was directed to me, due to my interests in hunting for asteroids.”

The mission brought DRDC and CSA together to fund the Joint Project Office.

Hildebrand added that the NEOSat program has several advantages over ground-based space surveillance methods such as

see MICROSATELLITE, page 4

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Canada's biggest mosque opens in Calgary

Asma Chaudhry

Gauntlet News

The inauguration ceremony of Baitun Nur, Canada's largest mosque, attracted everyone from the head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community to leading Canadian politicians and streams of devotees July 5.

The new building in northeast Calgary includes a steel dome, a tall minaret tower, the 99 names of God inscribed on the outside and a chandelier that is only the second of its kind in the world. The 4,300 square metre mosque, praised by Prime Minister Stephen Harper as an "architectural treasure," also houses two prayer halls, a multi-purpose hall, a gymnasium, a dining hall, a children's centre and many offices.

"I don't suppose I will be the first to observe that it isn't exactly the little mosque on the prairie," said Harper at the inauguration ceremony.

Harper and opposition leader Stephane Dion were among the many dignitaries present at the inauguration ceremony. Harper noted that the Ahmadiyya Muslim community is devoted to peace, social, health and educational initiatives and their faith. Calgary Mayor Dave Bronconnier reminded the audience of the rainy day in June 2005 when the foundation stone was placed and offered his congratulations to the Ahmadiyya Muslim community.

The mosque cost approximately \$15 million to construct, roughly \$8 million of which came from donations from local Calgarians and members of the Calgary Ahmadiyya Muslim community.



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

Inside the Baitun Nur, where all faiths are welcome.

"Everyone knew about it," commented U of C first-year economics student Aisha Zaman. "People who don't even know who Ahmadis are knew that this new mosque was opening. We raised so much money ourselves, which shows how dedicated we are as a community and how united we stand."

Ahmadiyya Muslim community Khalifa Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad was received by Bronconnier and provincial ministers at the Calgary airport July 2. He expressed his joy at the completion of the mosque in his Friday

sermon telecasted across the globe through the 24-hour satellite channel Muslim Television Ahmadiyya. He said the mosque is open to those of all faiths.

"We can see in this mosque the true and benevolent face of Islam and those who worship in its name," said Harper, praising Ahmad as a proponent of religious freedom. "We especially applaud the Khalifa for denouncing those who pervert faith by claiming it as a justification for violence."

The Ahmadiyya Muslims face severe per-

secution around the world for their religious beliefs. In June, 23 medical students studying at Punjab Medical College in Faisalabad, Pakistan were expelled because they were members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community. The community is criticized for believing that Muhammad was not the last Muslim prophet and is considered heretical in Pakistan.

"This community knows first-hand what it is to experience persecution and discrimination based on your religious beliefs," said Harper. "You understand at a profound level that promoting religious freedom is an essential building block for peace and stability here and throughout the world."

The community was established in the late 19th century in India by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, believed to be the promised messiah and reformer of the latter days. Ahmadiyya Women's Association Calgary NW president Shazia Chaudhry, of no relation to the writer, described how the community operates under the leadership of the Khalifa.

"Our success is based on the teachings of Islam which are reinforced through our Khalifa to us," said Chaudhry, describing how women play an important role in the community. "We take an active part in volunteer work both inside and outside of the community. We donate blood for the blood bank, we gather food for food banks and items for shelter homes. Whenever there is need for financial aid—be it for cyclones, hurricanes, earthquakes—the women of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community are the first to contribute."

"Clearly the community is flourishing here in Canada," described Harper. "Ahmadis have embraced Canada and Canada has embraced you."

Microsatellite, continued from page 3

not being subjected to atmospheric fluctuations, weather conditions and the ability to see all wavelengths of light. Additionally, NEOSat will be able to make observations during every orbit and survey areas that are outside the view of ground based surveillance systems.

"The three advantages to having this satellite in space are 24/7 availability, being able to look closer at the sun and having parallax for all interesting objects," said Hildebrand.

He added that Dynacon Inc. developed a system to accurately aim microsatellites, allowing Canada to do the mission cheaply.

CSA communications senior project manager Dr. William Harvey agreed with Hildebrand, noting the project would provide

the Canadian planetary exploration community with a unique opportunity to conduct research on small bodies near Earth.

"This endeavor will be the first effort to catalogue a significant portion of these elusive Aten Class asteroids with diameters greater than one kilometre," said Harvey.

Harvey added the NEOSat program is the first of the CSA microsatellite programs, which aims at reducing overall costs while building up its previous success, such as the highly successful MOST astronomy microsatellite, which was used to study the age of stars.

DRDC scientist Dr. Brad Wallace said the NEOSat program is allowing the CSA and DRDC to show off Canada's technological prowess.

He added the NEOSat will demonstrate technology during its dual missions to convince the Canadian Forces of the benefits of the new microsatellites.

"This is important because microsatellites have several benefits over traditional space programs," said Wallace. "They can be put on orbit on a quicker timescale, use more modern technology and cost less compared to traditional satellites. Even a design fault in one microsatellite can be rectified before the space raft is launched."

Wallace added using microsatellites would free up traditional satellites and other resources so they can be used for more challenging tasks.

Harvey stated the U of C is gaining a positive reputation with the CSA for its past work.

Copyright, cont'd from pg. 3

"The government recognizes that there may be a number of issues of concern to Canadians that are not addressed in the bill, but at one point, action is needed," she said. "Given the complexity of copyright law in an ever-changing digital environment, review and reform must be an ongoing process."

MacKinnon explained any student who took word-for-word notes in class would have to destroy them at the end of the semester.

"Basically this becomes a book burning provision, anything you accumulate or create through your course needs to be destroyed at the end," he said. "Our online exam bank, which we've invested \$92,000 in, will become illegal."

The online exam bank would have collected exams from professors and offered them as a study aid to students, but now sharing the exams will infringe on copyright law. MacKinnon isn't sure how the

su will solve this problem or lobby the government. They are in the process of reading the bill and coming up with a list of recommendations.

Beatty hoped the amendments would address a current law that allows publishers to charge up to 10 per cent more on American textbooks and 15 per cent on European ones. Bill C-61 doesn't address this issue.

"Why should students in Canada pay 10 per cent more than students in the U.S.?" asked Beatty. "It's interesting because Jim Prentice represents Calgary. It seems like there's been no cry from the population of Calgary to do with copyright. The people in Ontario, especially the students and faculty members, have been just really up in arms against the changes to copyright."

He told students to visit University of Ottawa law professor Dr. Michael Geist's website, www.michaelgeist.ca, to learn more.

New environment for writer

Sarelle Azuelos
News Editor

After spending 20 years planting over a million trees across Canada, Charlotte Gill is living in the national oil and gas capital.

Every year the University of Calgary hires a new Markin-Flanagan Canadian Writer-in-Residence to add fresh blood to the English program. This year's writer is ready for her adventure. Gill starts mid-August, but is already making herself comfortable in her new home.

Born in London, England, she moved to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia before settling with her family in Toronto. Not wanting to stay in one place too long, she moved again to British Columbia before coming to Calgary.

"I know Calgary is an oil and gas town, but British Columbia has got logging and mining as well, these things aren't so different," said Gill. "Vancouver may be a beautiful city, but its economic engine is mostly industry. For the most part, I'm pleasantly surprised by Calgary, it's so clean and very spacious. I've only been here for a week, but everyone

looks very healthy and it's definitely not quite the grit that people think of when they think of the oil and gas business."

Gill will be meeting with students for manuscript consultations several times a week and hosting workshops. She will have her first public reading of her most popular work, *Ladykiller*, in September. The novel is composed of seven stories and was written over nearly a decade while Gill completed her masters thesis at the University of British Columbia. Each story presents a protagonist with a different dark but compelling story, including a scuba instructor obsessed with a 16-year-old student and a couple plotting against a neighbour's crying child.

"Every book comes out of its own mental space and time in an author's life and sometimes an author will go on to continue to write about those themes or they'll move on to something completely different," said Gill. "*Ladykiller*, its got fairly dark undertones. It's about self-destructive impulses and how alluring those can be and how damaging those can be, but also, on the other hand, how exciting it can be to go against the grain of what's

expected and conventional. That was my obsession at the time. At the end, I felt like I had said everything I wanted to say on the topic and I wanted to move on."

Gill will continue work on her latest novel *Spade Life*, an autobiographical look at life in the tree planting business. She feels the opportunity to spend 10 months on writing is a gift. In *Spade Life*, she wants to write something lighter and move away from fiction.

"The book is about my experiences planting trees and also the subculture of planting trees, which is really unique and I don't think has been written about in that level of detail."

Gill was warned about the cowboy hats that would greet her in Calgary and planned to attend Stampede for the first time.

"They say that the writer in residence in Calgary ends up staying in Calgary, so I don't want to write it in stone that I'll be moving somewhere else afterwards, we'll just have to wait and see."



Gill.

News for the unnewsed

Ryan Pike
AP Co-Editor

American soldier deported

A soldier that fled the United States to avoid fighting in Iraq has been deported from Canada. The Canada Border Services Agency confirmed to the Canadian Press on Tuesday that American Robin Long has been returned to the U.S. from British Columbia, where he sought refugee status three years ago. In a Federal Court of Canada ruling Monday, Justice Anne Mactavish ruled that Long could not prove he would suffer harm if returned to the U.S. Long will return to his unit in Fort Knox, Kentucky, where his company commander will determine his punishment.

Vancouverites in the dark

A blackout was expected to stretch into its third day Wednesday in parts of downtown Vancouver as BC Hydro officials continued to investigate its cause. A fire in an underground vault Monday shut off electricity for more than 2,000 people, approximately a quarter of Vancouver's downtown. BC Hydro

spokesman Gary Rodford told the Canadian Press on Tuesday that an electrical splice failed and caused the fire, but noted that the cause of the power failure is still uncertain. Only about half of those affected had power back by Tuesday afternoon.

Canadians somewhat concerned, StatsCan

Their neighbourhoods are safe and pleasant, but one in five Canadians is concerned with "social incivility," according to a report released Tuesday by Statistics Canada. The agency reports Canadians across the board are worried about noisy neighbours, drunkenness and homelessness, while 16 per cent of those living in Canada's 12 largest cities find that physical aspects such as litter, abandoned buildings and vandalism are problems. The study was based upon data collected by Statistics Canada during their 2004 General Social Survey.

Bank holds rates steady

The Bank of Canada announced Tuesday it will keep its key interest rate steady at three per cent,

despite fears of rising inflation. In an interview with Bloomberg, CIBC World Markets senior economist Meny Grauman explained inflation is a concern for the Bank of Canada and weak factory sales to the U.S. are expected to lead to the weakest economist growth since 1992. The Canadian dollar briefly rose above par with the American dollar Tuesday before closing at 99.85 cents U.S.

Text messaging becomes costly

Two of Canada's telecommunications giants have announced plans to begin charging customers for incoming text messages. Bell will begin charging 15 cents for incoming texts beginning Aug. 8, and Telus on Aug. 24. The new charges will only affect those customers without existing texting plans. The pending change has caused an upsurge of outrage on blogs and message boards, with many angry over the prospect of paying for "spam" texts sent to them. Rogers spokeswoman Elizabeth Hamilton told the *National Post* that her company has no plans to charge for text messaging.

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Exhibition takes a look at cowboy culture

Prevailing Past art preview

Jordyn Marcellus

Entertainment Assistant

In Calgary, nothing is more emblematic of “cowboy culture” than the white cowboy hat, one of the most vaunted gifts that the city can give to its celebrated guests as a representation of old western values. According to artist Donna White, whose latest work is on a billboard along the Stampede Parade route on Ninth Avenue, the famous white hat has a history almost unrelated to the west.

“If you do the research, people now associate that white hat with Stampede, but that’s not where it started,” explains White. “It started in about 1948 and came out of a trip of aldermen and the mayor to a Grey Cup in Toronto. They wanted to identify and stand out as being from the West, so they took a chuckwagon, Indian dancers, even did the pancake breakfast thing and of course, brought the white hats.”

The work itself is a series of three



courtesy Donna White

She’s throwing down the gauntlet... I mean, the hat!

images, endlessly shifting from one to the others. The one consistent theme in the three are two women standing opposite each other, a pile of paper hats in the middle. White explains that the first image is of the older woman wearing the hat, which then shifts to her taking off her hat as the younger woman on her right grabs one from the pile. With the elder hatless, the younger is now wearing the hat.

Appropriating the idea of the white hat and then putting it in

another gendered context, was an idea based on the male-centric history, says White.

“The city of Calgary clearly states what this white hat is supposed to represent on its website,” she says. “It’s supposed to harken back to the idea of the natural cowboy: obviously male, obviously white, obviously straight—that’s the cowboy. You can also think about the mythic side of the cowboy hat and that includes elements of the Roy Roger and Clint Eastwood version of the West.”

The hats, each with different patterns, are taken from close-up photos of the old Banker’s Hall building and the St. Louis Hotel. Shrunken down to fit on the cut-out pattern of the paper hat, it makes the hat look just like the straw faux-Stetsons commonly seen around town. The paper versions evoke the ubiquitous white cowboy head covering and, White contends, are supposed to help point out the different conceptions of gender.

“There’s this notion that when

you put that white hat on you say, ‘I’m participating in this civic event and its pride,’” says White. “You get the idea of western hospitality and the notion of us all being the same—we both have that hat on, we’re equal. It’s not that easy. Who we are as people and our identities aren’t that easy. When someone has that cowboy hat on, you can still tell their race, you can tell their gender and you can probably tell their class.”

As Calgary begins its slow march to become the mid-west’s gleaming metropolis, there are questions about the normative gender relations that need to be explored. While White’s billboard was shown on CTV three separate times—it is on the parade route after all—and many people will see it daily, there hasn’t been that much discussion about it. The questions about western identity in relation to women will still be kicking around, especially when “The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth” comes around again.

Donna White’s exhibition is on a billboard on Ninth Avenue and Eighth Street SW, with background information and other works at the Stride Gallery.

Calgary Jazz Festival spans the ages with musical variety

Jazz Festival festival review

Courtenay Adams

Gauntlet Entertainment

Audiences experiencing the 2008 Calgary Jazz Festival during June 24–27 gained great insight into the ways in which musicianship evolves. This year’s lineup featured artists of a variety of ages and experiences, from relative youngster Meaghan Smith—whose first full-length album is slotted to drop this year—to veteran Dave Brubeck—who has been in the business the better part of five decades. The rest of the lineup fleshed out the spectrum to make an inarguably successful event.

Smith, a Halifax native, proved that admitted self-consciousness blended with sardonic charm can help an artist relatively inexperienced in performing for big crowds make it through a quick set of folk-cum-jazz ditties, even in the face of technical difficulties and a skeptical audience—whose hearts were inevitably turned by the time she

left the stage. Smith’s quirkiness was an effective strategy in managing a crowd, though contrasted sharply to fellow youngster David Virelles’ near aloofness to onlookers. Widely considered a prodigy in his field, his performance could not have been more different than Smith’s. As the piano-playing leader of an up-and-coming quartet, Virelles’ songs were characterized by complex layering that can only be described as the musical equivalent of sleep talking: the interactions between the instruments didn’t always make sense and yet some part in the back of the brain managed to make the necessary connections. Both performers were awkward, yet successful in their own right.

Pink Martini was perhaps one of the more curious selections cushioned between old and young. Guided by classically trained pianist Thomas Lauderdale, the group seamlessly traipsed through songs with all sorts of beats and rhythms from waltzes to pop tunes to latino-fusion numbers. China Forbes, the wide-ranged, smoky-toned lead vocalist, skillfully negotiated



Jon Roe/the Gauntlet

Dave Brubeck can play piano with his eyes closed.

lyrics in a myriad of languages including, among others, Spanish, French, Japanese and Arabic. The band made for a highly enjoyable evening, highlighted by their performance of the more well-known tune, “Hey Eugene,” a sarcastic swipe at a guy from “that party” that never called, despite all the flirting, making-out and babysitting of his “skinhead friend.”

Of course, despite the strengths of the younger performers, the command of musicianship held

by Brubeck and his quartet was unparalleled. Brubeck, who is nearing 90 years old, seemed intimately comfortable with the situation, bug-eyed glasses and all. Indeed, there were times when he even looked asleep at the piano, and yet there was nothing tired about the way his fingers could move. The playing of his onstage buddies was also nothing to snore at. Saxophonist/flautist Bobby Militello may have somewhat resembled a giant, rotund penguin, but his dexterous

fingers and well-punctuated breath proved again that looks are deceiving. Meanwhile, bassist Michael Moore and drummer Randy Jones seemed to be in constant conversation, their instruments doing most of the talking. Like seasoned runners who have caught their stride, however, even when they did use their mouths to speak, they never missed a beat. Together, they all appeared as old pals gathering together to show the bright-eyed, bushy-tailed youngsters in the biz the true meaning of jazz.

The Dave Brubeck Quartet rightfully earned multiple standing ovations, a traditional white Stetson from a representative of the municipal government and a “That was awesome!” from one of two drunk college guys in the audience. Had the rest of the festival been a miserable failure, this one performance could have saved the whole intergenerational ark from sinking. Fortunately, talent manifested itself in musicians of all ages and levels of experience, sailing this year’s fest successfully into the first skies of summer 2008.

Virgin Fest pops Calgary's cherry

Virgin Fest festival review

Amanda Hu
Entertainment Editor

It seems Virgin Group mogul Richard Branson knows how to throw a party. Fans at the Fort Calgary venue got a taste of Richard's—as all the Virgin staff familiarly referred to him—hospitality at the inaugural Calgary Virgin Music Festival on June 21 and 22. The festival boasted a lineup of bands—apparently chosen by Calgarians themselves through email, snail mail and Facebook messages—with headliners the Stone Temple Pilots and the Tragically Hip touted as the main draw for the weekend's 35,000 patrons.

The Virgin Mobile-branded

affair didn't disappoint in both extravagance and environmentally sustainable initiatives. "Virgin Angels" treated festival-goers to free Freezies, slotted Kanye glasses and free drink tickets for the beer gardens and provided purchasable water mugs to refill and avoid the buildup of empty water bottles.

But the festival left something to be desired in its focus when presenting acts. While there was a great push to provide something for everyone to enjoy, it was noticeably hard for many artists—namely the Flaming Lips, who had the daunting task of playing to a crowd mainly assembled for the Stone Temple Pilots—to entertain an audience that was interested in a different style or genre. Kilbourne's hardcore grrl crashing kicked off the main stage Saturday and segued into the Fratellis and Face to Face's punk

perfectly, but noticeably clashed with x92.9 Xposure contest winners the Fast Romantics' pop-rock and Michael Bernard Fitzgerald's funk throwback tunes on the TD side stage.

The real highlight of day one was the aforementioned Lips who, despite the extremely unappreciative and, likely, confused crowd, did their best to deliver the signature elements of their live show to Calgary, Teletubby dancers and all. Though the show only had three naked people—less than their regular shows and only one of which was completely in the buff—it still was memorable and perked up the apathetic crowd.

Sunday featured an all-Canadian lineup with last minute add-ons Cadence Weapon and Ladyhawk to the side stage. Both were the highlights of the festival's music side while also embodying the affair's odd conglomeration of audio interests. The festival treated Ladyhawk to one of the biggest stages they've probably ever played on, amplifying Duffy Driediger's lamenting voice to a massive volume.

Cadence Weapon verified his famously crazy live shows with his go at the crowd. Walking on in cut-off jeans and a smart short-sleeved button-up shirt with DJ Weasel, the



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

It's a UFO invasion! Watch out, festival-goers!

pair seemed unassuming until the dance-friendly track revved up and Cadence unleashed some endearingly dorky rhymes with marked charisma. His banter was hilarious and unwavering as he started to build his performance, putting himself as close to the audience as possible to get them in on the action.

Weasel added to the spectacle, crawling on top of monitors and cases to swim around in the air. Although he was rapping to a

crowd of Calgary rock music lovers, Cadence had them wrapped around his fingers by the end of his set.

The weekend wrapped up on an odd, anti-climactic note, as festival-goers stood around, confused that it was over. Virgin Fest Calgary likely won't be happening again any time soon so it made sure to treat its patrons to the fullest festival experience. Unfortunately, it was unforgettable mostly due to the spectacle rather than the majority of the music.

Gratuitous green initiatives

Sarelle Azuelos
News Editor

With over 35,000 people filling Fort Calgary for two days, the Calgary Virgin Music Festival and its associates wanted their lasting impact to only be a musical one. Roughly 2,000 kilometres of recycled toilet paper were employed at Calgary's first Virgin Fest and the green affair was packed with other initiatives aimed at reducing its environmental impact.

Motorola let concert-goers charge their phones by biking and Enmax set up a trailer with common household appliances powered by solar panels on the roof.

"It's one of those organizations that generally puts their money where their mouth is so by 2010 our Canadian operations have made a commitment to be carbon neutral," says TD Canada Trust community relations manager Ellen Dungen.

The TD sponsored Green Spot—a small booth set up with computers and an internet connection also run by solar panels—had a biodiesel demonstration with simple ingredients found around the city. The process involved taking leftover grease from fast food restaurants and adding chemicals to make a useful fuel.

"We want to make sure that we're a leading organization in monitoring the regulatory environments around the world," says Dungen. "We're able

to talk about some things with an environmental perspective and really attract the younger generation."

Virgin Eco-Angels sorted through the recycling after giving VIP ticket upgrades to transit riders. A TRASHED tent gave out prizes and smoothies from solar-powered blenders. Trash, compost and recycling bins were supplied by Virgin for fans, although by the end of the weekend, not much can be said for the state of the site. No matter how much effort is put into environmental sustainability, 35,000 fans in a park over two days will leave a mark.

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Sliding over musical moguls

Sled Island's second run wins first place in awesome festivals competition

Sled Island
festival review

Jordyn Marcellus
Entertainment Assistant

Where else but Sled Island could anyone see ginger-haired Santa Claus look-alikes imploring people to dance, toothbrush humping cartoons courtesy of Chad VanGalen and a group of dudes in marching band outfits talking about growing moustaches? While Virgin Festival may have strived for big, epic rock, Sled Island actually brought the musical goods.

The first show of note was the first of the festival, a smaller affair Tuesday with Los Angeles art-punkers No Age at Broken City. Guitarist Randy Randall tried his damndest to do the most epic of moves in the rock repertoire—including attempting a jump off a speaker that looked more like an awkward hop. He was best standing and tearing chords out of his guitar. Drummer Dean Spurt, soaked in sweat, was a living testament to No Age's live show chops.

After the great start to the festival, day two was even better. Grizzly Bear, backed up by Calgary's own Kris Ellestad and Woodpigeon, did a mind blowing performance replete with gob-smacking musicianship—Chad VanGalen later raved about bassist/clarinet player Chris Taylor's talent—ethereal instrumentation and rapturous vocal harmonies. Calgary fans, spoiled as is, weren't prepared for the continued onslaught of fantas-



Amanda Hu/the Gauntlet

Dan Deacon touched your face! Never wash it ever!

tic acts. Two hours later, L.A. noise-punk outfit the Mae Shi took to the Broken City stage. The entire band moving through the crowd melted faces and brought the audience right into their music. With smiles all around, the band cut their set short and implored the audience with one simple request, "Dan Deacon delayed his concert so you guys could see our show. Go over there now, because that's where we're going."

The Mae Shi were spot-on in their assessment: Deacon was one hell of an act. With his trademark strobe light skull-on-a-stick and glitched-out electronica, nothing stopped the portly DJ from ending the most epic night of the festival right. Deacon conducted the audience through acts like dance tunnels and high five marathons—leaving everyone at the show with a big grin and a pair of loudly ringing ears.

Thursday night featured Chad VanGalen in the Telus Science Centre's Discovery Dome, the only way to recharge after the madcap

Wednesday night. With a dose of good humour and his typically shy stage presence, the one man band played some new tunes from his forthcoming album and showed off a DVD of his tripped-out animation in the expansive dome. If the new songs are any indication, another Polaris nomination is not far off for the lanky VanGalen.

The Thursday cooldown was replaced with Friday's main stage extravaganza. Beans, New York's own motor-mouthed rapper, started off the main stage with an incredible show and flow. Later on the indie rock vets Yo La Tengo, Calgary's own Tegan and Sara and Broken Social Scene brought the main stage to a thunderous rapture. While the indie kids owned the main stage, there was definitely an undercurrent of hip-hop flowing through the city. Centre Street was the place to be as local heroes Dragon Fli Empire played in the Palomino while the legend himself, the RZA as Bobby Digital dominated the other side

of Seventh Avenue at the Grand Theatre.

If there ever was an event where hedonism and spectacle reigned supreme, the RZA/Digital show was it. Getting the crowd worked up with statements like, "It's a man's world, but it ain't nothing, nothing, nothing without a woman," and covering them in champagne, the RZA generally proved to everyone why you don't fuck with the Wu-Tang.

Saturday was the most hectic day as everyone rushed to get in all the amazing acts that came to Calgary. Mogwai ruined everyone's hearing with their main stage set and Jonathan Richman—the most surprisingly charming act of the festival—made many boys and girls very happy with his wholesome and quirky display. The two-man force of nature that is the Dodos gave Calgary a small taste of their awesomeness. Later on, even the most crusty and stern-faced hipster attempted to dance when they played the Legion. Bend Sinister and Beija Flor closed out the night at Broken City with suitably epic sets. As the bars and clubs shut their doors for Sled Island, the taxi system got one hell of a workout.

Sled Island proved to be one of the most non-spectacle music-driven festivals that Calgary is ever going to experience. There were bands for everyone and the venues managed to keep everything going without a hitch. If Sled Island can book even more and better acts for next year, the cool kids of Calgary will all be trying to find the latest Brett Hull GT to ride down the awesome audio hills next summer.

VOX

CALGARY 90.9 FM
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TOP 20 for the week of
JULY 7.08

* Denotes Canadian Artist
** Denotes Local Artist

- KING KHAN AND THE SHRINES**
The Supreme Genius Of King Khan And The Shrines (VICE)
- RATATAT LP3** (XL)
- WOLF PARADE*** *At Mount Zoomer* (Sub Pop)
- VARIOUS**** *The Greatest Underground Show On Earth Vol. 2* (Cyclone)
- JOAN OF ARC** *Boo Human* (Polyvinyl)
- OKAY** *Huggable Dust* (Absolutely Kosher)
- DOSH** *Wolves And Wishes* (Anticon)
- THE JOLTS*** *Haute Voltage* (Haute Voltage)
- I HEART HIROSHIMA** *Tuff Teef* (Valve)
- SIGUR RÓS** *Med Sud I Eyrum Vid Spilum Endalaust* (XL)
- VARIOUS*** *The Aargh! Annual: Of Heavens And Small Mercies* (Aaargh!)
- THE CUTE LEPERS**
Can't Stand Modern Music (Blackheart)
- THE WAR ON DRUGS**
Wagonwheel Blues (Secretly Canadian)
- HIGH PLACES** *High Places* (Thrill Jockey)
- FLEET FOXES** *Fleet Foxes* (Sub Pop)
- WOMEN**** *Women* (Flemish Eye)
- GUNSMOKE*** *From Somewhere* (Inside My Brain)
- CLINTON ST. JOHN****
Black Forest Levitation (Indie)
- DAVID KARSTEN DANIELS**
Fear Of Flying (FatCat)
- THE RAMBLIN' AMBASSADORS****
Vista Cruiser Country Squire (Mint)

JAZZ

- COSMOLOGIC** *Eyes In The Back Of My Head* (Cunieforn)
- WADADA LEO SMITH'S GOLDEN QUARTET*** *Tabligh* (Cunieforn)
- ELIZABETH SHEPHERD** *Parkdale* (Do Right!)
- NEW GUITAR SUMMIT** *Shivres* (Stony Plain)
- DAMIAN NISENSEN TRIO + 3**
En Concert (Malesartes)

FOLK/ROOTS/BLUES

- DAVE SPECTER** *Live In Chicago* (Delmark)
- RY COODER I, Flathead** (Nonesuch)
- WATERMELON SLIM & THE WORKERS**
No Paid Holidays (Northern Blues)
- AIMEE MANN** *@#%&! Smilers* (SuperEgo)
- KING DARVES** *The Sun Splits For The Blind Swimmer* (De Stijl)

MYKE'S PICKS

- DUTCHESS AND THE DUKE**
- HERCULES AND THE LOVE AFFAIR**
- WE VERSUS THE SHARK**
- TWINE**
- BRENDAN CANNING**

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY

PIZZA BEATS
Craig Fahner from Sudden Infant Dance Syndrome had a quest: to find the funkier pizza in Calgary. How does someone answer such a complicated and important question? By building a machine that reads the pepperonis on a pizza and turns them into beats. Don't believe me? Check out the youtube video... Amazing!

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