

## COALITION SAVING SINGLE MOTHERS FROM JAIL TIME

The Poverty Reduction Coalition hopes to allow U of C single mothers to avoid jail time for not being able to pay their transit tickets. Previously, mothers would be incarcerated for two days, sometimes sharing rooms with convicted murderers, and have their children taken by Social Services.



# STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

## JANUARY 26 - 31 EVENTS:

### MONDAY

Mundane Mondays, That Empty Space 9 - 11am  
 Cinemania: City of Ember, ICT 102, 6:30 & 9pm  
 SU Election Nomination Days: Jan. 26 - 28

### TUESDAY

Clubs Night at the Den, 5pm - close.  
 SU Election Nomination Days: Jan. 26 - 28

### WEDNESDAY

25¢ Wing Night at the Den, 8pm - close  
 SU Election Nomination Days: Jan. 26 - 28

### THURSDAY

Student Appreciation Night at the Den

### FRIDAY

That Empty Space: Michael Bernard Fitzgerald with  
 Calm Asa Coma, 3 - 6pm MSC

## LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

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The University of Calgary Students' Union will be hosting their first Leadership Summit on January 30th and 31st, 2009, featuring

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JANUARY 22 2009

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#### Golden Spatula

Kiva Ferraro, for getting his piece in five days early.

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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 the individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire *Gauntlet* staff. Editorials are chosen by the 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://thegauntlet.ca>. The *Gauntlet* is printed on recycled paper and uses 14 beer based ink. We urge you to recycle/smarten up 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 Students' Centre, or sent by email to [editor@thegauntlet.ca](mailto:editor@thegauntlet.ca).

#### The Cover

Photo by Geoff MacIntosh, design by Paul Baker



# Taking a look at torture

Roughly a week before Barack Obama's inauguration this week his pick for United States Attorney General, Eric Holder Jr., made headlines declaring unequivocally that water boarding, an anti-terror practice which has been used on a limited basis by the u.s., is torture.

Water boarding is an interrogation technique that is meant to simulate drowning. It has been at the centre of much controversy in the last couple of years as the war on terror has dragged on and u.s. tactics have been more closely scrutinized. The recent condemnation of the practice by the soon-to-be attorney general raises a serious issue facing the u.s.: how are they to deal with the fact that Americans have used this torture method to extract information for the war on terror.

Clearly, if it is torture, which is illegal by the eighth amendment of the u.s. Constitution, then it demands that some sort of justice be sought for the at least three individuals tortured by the u.s. Keeping in line with the various ad-hoc tribunals set up around the world to put war criminals and other bad people on trial, it would seem that the necessary action to take in this case would be to instigate an investigation into who was responsible for ordering and conducting the torture of the three men and then bring them to trial. Some might argue that at the time these measures were taken, the act was not considered illegal. This argument doesn't seem to hold much water. If it did, then malicious leaders would only have to amend laws to be free to abuse people. In the past this has been done, but it has not been recognized as a legitimate defence when they are later brought to

trial. Furthermore, the issue of whether water boarding is torture was treated with immense circumspection by the Bush administration. Both attorney generals who served under George Bush are noted as having evaded questioning about it in senate hearings. Obviously the government was concerned about admitting the practices they were engaged in, which indicated that there was a great deal of uncertainty about the legitimacy of such methods even during Bush's term.

In addition to making the announcement regarding water boarding, Obama and Holder Jr. have indicated that they will seek to move at least some of the detainees from Guantanamo Bay to the u.s. to stand trial. Both of these measures are positive steps, but simply adjusting to reasonable practices now does not seem to be enough. Particularly if the u.s. plans on engaging with other states in a justice-bringing role, they need to regain their moral leadership. And the only way to do this is to seek justice within its own sphere by ensuring that America, too, adheres to the rigorous standards of human rights

and justice which it demands of others.

But this will likely not happen. For a long time now the u.s. has refused to sign on to the international courts for this precise reason — they do not want to expose their soldiers and politicians to possible international criminal charges. The reason for taking such a position is easy to understand, but in such an atrocious case as this, where the most powerful country in the world has stooped to the dirtiest levels of

human conduct, the appropriate action is a fabulous display of cowardice and disdain for the rest of the world. It is clearly not comfortable to expose oneself to such national introspection, but there is no other way to ensure the health of the state. Obama and his incoming administration have taken the first steps in the right direction, but it is a long path to follow.

**Cam Cotton-O'Brien**

Opinions Editor

## Editor, the *Gauntlet*: response from the SU

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

I am writing in response to the piece in last week's *Gauntlet* titled: "The su's woeful tales of tuition [Jon Roe, Jan. 15]." There were a few issues you raised that were valuable and which I take as constructive criticism with hope that our organization can learn from them. I do regret the short amount of time the Students' Legislative Council had with the proposed tuition document and would encourage my successor to budget more time

to allow for amendments. It should be noted, however, that the Council was consulted during the development of the document and that an overwhelming percentage supported our position.

One component of our approach of which I have no regrets is the time we made to sit down with students and ask them what they felt we should bring to the board. You are correct in stating that their concerns included stu-

dent spaces, quality of teaching, the university's budget priorities and its corporate culture. All of these concerns were included in the tuition document and voiced at the Board of Governor's meeting. Yet, in my experience I've seen these issues continue to be unresolved due to fractured institutional governance.

I believe our message to the board this year was clear: the su does not support a tuition increase. We have

taken the rare opportunities we have to trigger a larger conversation that has potential to shift the foundations of this university. We remain committed to seeking out the concerns of students. We will do everything in our power to ensure we present these concerns in the most effective way possible. I can assure you this battle is not over.

**Dalmy Baez**

SU President



# Transit ticket jail sentence ends

## Part-time student mothers with petty fines catch a break

Chris Wanamaker

Gauntlet News

Single moms attending the University of Calgary part-time may no longer have to go to jail if they ride the C-Train without a ticket.

The Poverty Reduction Coalition plans to start a pilot program for 50 women who would otherwise be incarcerated for petty offences and divert them to Social Services, Family Counselling or Diversion Services said Dr. Loreen Gilmour, the coalition's new director.

Until now, the women were automatically incarcerated for two days if they did not pay the \$150 fine for riding the C-Train without a ticket.

"For some women this is a catastrophe," said Gilmour. "They cannot come up with the money."

Part-time U of C students do not qualify for the U of C transit pass.

Approximately 150 women are jailed each year for C-Train violations and other petty offences in Calgary, such as smoking in a public place, petty theft and public disorder, said Gilmour.

Some do not have enough money for child care while in the Remand Centre and Social Services has to take away their children, she explained.

"They then have to try to get their kids back."

Although women who are working will probably not lose their job for being incar-



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

About 150 women are jailed each year for not paying transit tickets.

cerated, some cannot pay the rent at the end of the month when two days of their pay is docked, she added. This can result in eviction and possible homelessness.

The Poverty Reduction Coalition, supported by Calgary's United Way, also develops ways to increase affordable housing, economic well-being, support women and children while raising community engagement and awareness. There are currently 70 volunteers involved.

Occasionally, women fined for petty offences find themselves in the same cell as other women who have committed more serious

crimes, even murder. Some social workers attribute this to fewer female inmates overall and therefore less space.

"They attend crime university," said Gilmour.

On the other hand, men incarcerated for C-Train offences find themselves segregated from hard-core criminals.

Two days of incarceration for one woman costs taxpayers about \$1,400, said Gilmour. Incarceration for petty offences totals \$29 million a year.

The Poverty Reduction Coalition calls such offences "crimes of desperation" and released

a report by the same name last year advocating a change in the way the city and the justice system deals with them.

"We're not saying that people should not be held accountable for their actions, but we should change the system so that we are not making their situation worse," she said.

Gilmour and Poverty Reduction Coalition chairs Jim Dinning and Nancy Laird met with Justice Minister Alison Redford about the issue in the fall.

"The minister recognizes that what they need is social services, not jail time," said Gilmour.

The Poverty Reduction Coalition now wants to test the hypothesis that impoverished women found guilty of petty crimes need addictions or mental health counselling or job training "to give them a hand up." If this hypothesis proves to be true, the project may continue indefinitely.

The coalition plans to hire a social worker, preferably with experience in the field of mental health for the project. The worker will let women know if they or their children qualify for government benefits or services, such as subsidies for rent, child care, prescription drugs or dental care.

According to Statistics Canada, at least 110,000 Calgarians live below the poverty line. United Way is now researching the underlying causes of social problems like poverty. Last year, the organization raised \$40.8 million in Calgary alone for a variety of programs and agencies.

## Injury clinic gets runners back on their feet

Ashad Mukadam

Gauntlet News

Runners will never have to miss another season again thanks to a new injury clinic that opened on campus to treat knee injuries. The clinic is open to the general public and no referral from a physician is

necessary, however, the injury must have happened within the past month.

"This is an innovation in health care delivery," said head supervisor Dr. Nick Mohtadi, an orthopaedic surgeon. "[This clinic] manages and delivers higher standards of care at no cost to the patient."

There are two non-physicians that work at the clinic under the supervision of Mohtadi.

"The non-physicians that we staff are so well-trained that they can identify an injury [very quickly] and determine the appropriate course of action," said kinesiology faculty communications director

Don McSwiney. "For example, when CTV was here, we simulated what an appointment would be like and they were able to identify a knee condition that the volunteer didn't even know they had. The patients have the opportunity to see the same people that treat professional athletes."

Patients must book their appointments online via the Sport Medicine Centre's website and complete a questionnaire, what Mohtadi called "a very highly integrated screening process."

All patients are screened via an online questionnaire before an ap-  
*see NEW CLINIC, page 6*

## campus quips

If you didn't have a U-Pass, would you be able to afford public transit?



"I could afford it, but it would be expensive."  
– Sharmin Bajwan,  
third-year business



"Yes, I would. But it's more affordable."  
– Franco Rizzuti,  
third-year science



"Absolutely not. It's more convenient too."  
– Tolu Ajele,  
second-year engineering



"I wouldn't be able to afford it if it's not in the tuition. It's more affordable."  
– Hannah Yager,  
third-year humanities

# Kicking rocks and offensive hygiene

## A month in the life of Campus Security

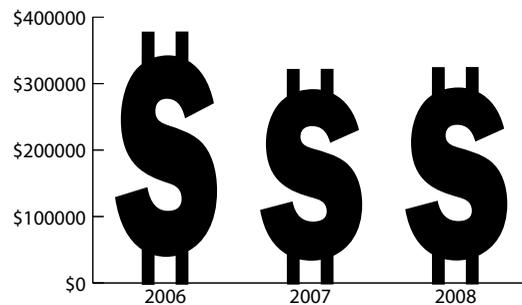
**Cam Cotton-O'Brien**  
Opinions Editor

Of the things to be learned in December's campus security report, perhaps the most useful is that fleeing the scene of a crime is never easy . . . especially when you are driving a bus.

Unfortunately for one Calgary Transit employee, this was a lesson that had to be learned the hard way. The bus in question entered parking lot 12 and attempted to turn around, in the process knocking down a traffic sign.

The bus driver decided not to remain at the lot, but was caught because a witness was able to record the bus and route numbers. Calgary Transit was informed of the incident and it is expected that it will be dealt with by supervisors there.

Campus recreation was the site



Total losses and total incidences for each of the past three years.

of a bizarre incident when an individual in the men's steam room verbally abused other patrons, who had asked him to cease what was described in the monthly report as "offensive hygiene practices."

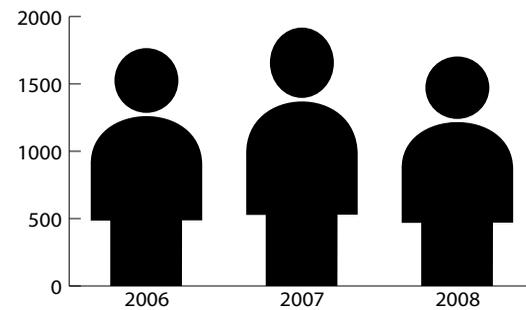
The individual, who was known to campus security, was asked to leave.

In an alarming class room incident, a student in Science A was splashed in the eye with sodium

hydroxide during a lab.

"It was a student in class who was just legitimately carrying on with his program and he just happened to have an accident," said campus security director Lanny Fritz. "Campus security was called, we responded and called EMS and transported the individual to the hospital."

There were a number of problems with theft in December, with



infographics by Ryan May

two separate pairs of individuals caught prowling in secure areas on campus and media equipment was stolen from both the law students' lounge and a nursing class room.

Fritz noted that the winter break is usually a bad time for such activity.

"There's always a little bit of a spike during the holiday season when there are [less] people around," he said.

Fritz also mentioned that students should remain cautious with their belongings, even while studying in the library and that they should make sure all their work is saved in some other location than just their laptop.

"Valuables should always be kept locked and secured," he said. "We do have numerous laptop thefts. [Students] step away for either a washroom break or a coffee break and their valuables are stolen. In some cases they've got several years of research all just sitting on their laptop. It's bad enough to lose your laptop, it's worse to lose your project or your research."

Despite being a short month at the university, there were two males injured while intoxicated on campus: one sustaining a laceration, the other a dislocated knee from kicking a large rock.

## New disability centre will have to wait

**Ryan Pike**  
AP Editor

Changes to plans for the Taylor Family Library may mean more services available to students, according to University of Calgary officials.

"At one point the Taylor Family Digital Library was going to be much larger than it actually is going to be," said U of C vice-provost students Ann Tierney. "At one point there was going to be many more services that were moved into the building, but right now, in terms of university services run by

Student and Enrollment Services, we are developing a student success centre within the Taylor Family Digital Library."

Tierney said that while the original plans called for some offices to be moved entirely into the Taylor Family Library, formerly known as the Taylor Family Digital Library, subsequent revisions reduced the space available for university programs. A future Centre for Student Success, which is still in the early planning stages, will include services from a wide variety of areas including the Disability Resource Centre.

"There will be a coming together of resources and DRC will likely have some space up there so that students can access some of the more academic programs over there, but I have not seen any finalized plan," said DRC director Johanne Tottle.

The revision of the new library plans means that some services originally slated to be in the building will be staying put. Tottle said the DRC will not be moving from its location in MacEwan Student Centre, especially considering the recent boost to health services in

see DISABILITY page 7



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

The University of Calgary officially launched the co-curricular record Jan. 21, allowing students to have their volunteer commitments displayed along side their academic transcript. To register your own activities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ccr](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ccr).

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# Catholic schools under fire again

Joseph Tubb  
Gauntlet News

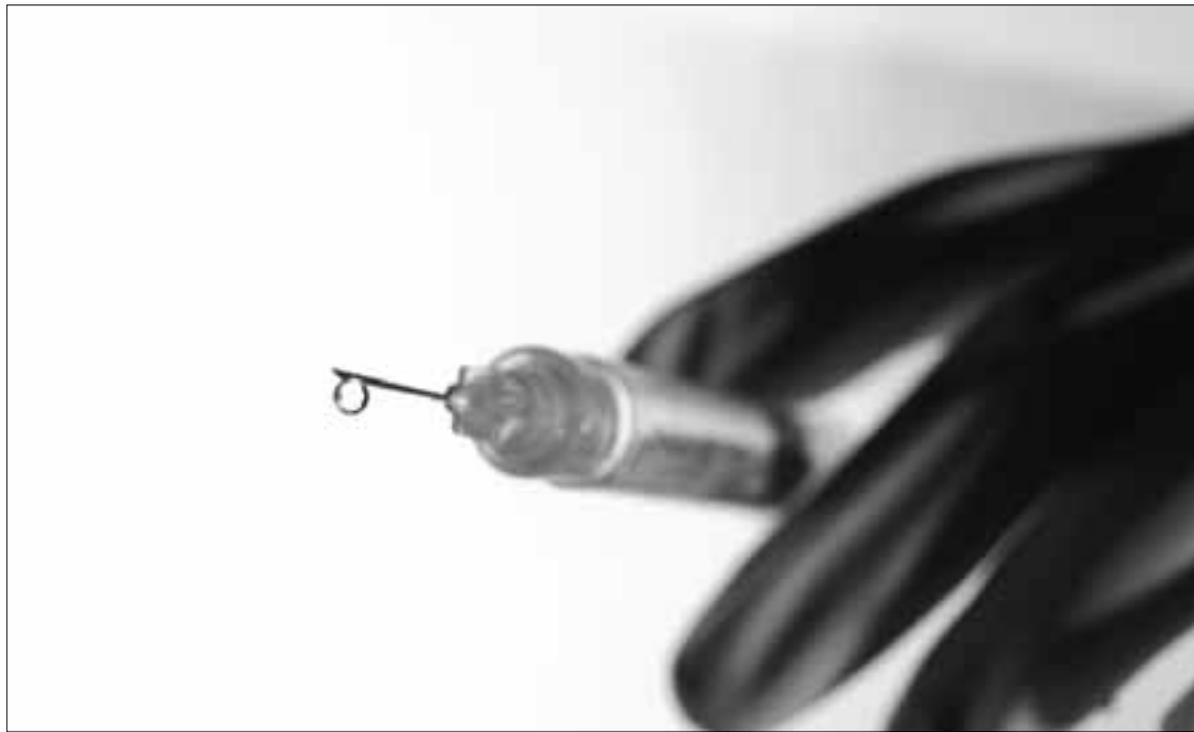
Young girls attending Catholic schools in Calgary may have legal grounds to sue the school board in the future.

A group of researchers including University of Calgary's medical bioethics senior associate Dr. Juliet Guichon and pediatrics and bioethics professor Dr. Ian Mitchell asked the Calgary Catholic School District Trustees to reconsider their in-school ban of the human papilloma-virus vaccine Gardasil on Jan. 9.

Guichon said that there might be a possibility of a lawsuit against the CCSB in the future if an unvaccinated girl were to contract cervical cancer — a disease the occasionally results from HPV.

"I think it's probable there will be an action," Guichon said. "The very thought of being accountable in court as opposed to an ecclesiastical form is an important exercise for the trustees to take part in. That's really why we suggested it; I don't mean in any way to threaten the trustees."

The CCSB Trustees' decision was based on research they conducted as well as counsel from Calgary Bishop Fred Henry who suggested that having the vaccine in schools would condone early sexual activity. Guichon disagreed, citing her



Gauntlet file photo

**Bioethics professors argue not giving the vaccine might get the school board sued in the future.**

own experience as a student in a Catholic school.

"I can't understand the logic of allowing one vaccine and not another," Guichon said. "Rubella is also related to sexual intercourse and that vaccine didn't cause anyone to be promiscuous."

CCSB Trustee Chairperson Margaret Belcourt said the trustees thought it was best to leave the choice to the parents.

"We consider the parents as the primary educators of their children," Belcourt said. "We sent the parents a package with a letter from the bishop and a package of information from regional health regarding the vaccine. We even went one step further and asked regional health if they could have information in other languages so that our immigrant families could get the information in their first language."

Belcourt said although the bishop had a role in the decision as a spiritual and moral guide, they also consulted the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute, the *Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecology Canada* and various health professionals.

Henry was not worried about the possibility of future lawsuits.

"Sorry, but the possibility of lawsuits is simply a non-issue," he said. "There are no grounds."

## HPV Timeline

**1980s** - Research leading to an HPV vaccine is started by Georgetown University Medical Center, the University of Rochester, the University of Queensland in Australia and the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

**June 2002** - Gardasil trials begin.

**June 2006** - Gardasil vaccine approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

**July 2006** - Gardasil vaccine approved by Health Canada.

**Feb. 2007** - National Advisory Committee on Immunization recommends that girls between nine and 13 receive vaccine.

**March 2007** - Finance Minister Jim Flaherty announces \$300 million HPV-vaccination program.

**Sept. 2008** - Calgary Catholic School District trustees vote not to make HPV vaccine available in schools while vaccinations get underway in many districts.

**Jan. 2009** - World Health Organization's Study on Global Ageing and Adult Health endorse HPV vaccines.

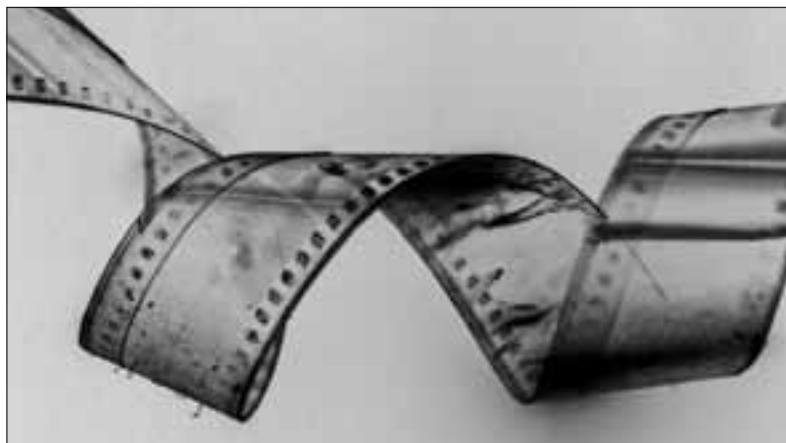
## Film program takes flight

Jordyn Marcellus  
Gauntlet News

Aspiring filmmakers will now have a program to call their own. The University of Calgary has a newly revamped program that will give budding Spielbergs a degree in film studies.

The program, which was a film minor before, accepted students for their first semester in fall 2008. Once the university decided to get the program up and running, the committee that ran the minor had to figure out which faculty was best to handle the budding program.

"Communications and Culture put forth a proposal and got the program in 2007, which was approved," said film studies program co-ordinator George Melnyk. "We put that forth to the government, which approved that December 2007 for September 2008."



Martin Lussier/the Gauntlet

**The film program will include practical application and analysis.**

The degree is atypical of most film studies program because it also focuses on the production aspects of film instead of just analyzing them. The program, still in its infancy, is aiming to grow with the booming Calgary film industry.

"We wanted a program that would help students get into the in-

dustry here in Alberta, Canada and perhaps even internationally," said Melnyk. "We wanted to have a focus on industry, audience and technology. We wanted to eventually compete with other film programs in Canada, such as the ones at Concordia, York and Ryerson."

One of the hallmarks of these

types of programs is an emphasis on practical application in the film industry. Jeanette Burman, a student taking a class with the program, found the emphasis on practical application of film techniques to be beneficial to study.

"The practicum element of the class adds a whole new element to actually carrying out some of the theory, getting some valuable experience and arriving at a place in my studies where I can be focused and directed," she said.

With 48 students already registered in the program in its first year, it seems to be taking off. Melnyk was pleasantly surprised by the reception and was looking forward to the future.

"Even though we are the new kid on the block, we've got some pretty nifty faculty that I think can compete with anyone else in the country," he said.

## New clinic, cont'd from pg. 4

pointment. During the appointment, they are assessed and given a management plan, including surgery or additional tests such as x-rays and MRIs.

"If further investigations are required, we use appropriate and agreed upon standards of care," said Mohtadi. "It's not about the machines, but rather seeing the right patient at the right time."

The clinic does not have set hours of operation, but rather works around the availability of the SMC's facilities.

The research-based clinic is funded by the McCaig Professorship, the University of Calgary's Sport Medicine Centre and a grant from the Canadian Institute for Health Research and works in partnership with the Alberta Bone and Joint Institute.

To visit the clinic, visit [www.sportmed.ucalgary.ca](http://www.sportmed.ucalgary.ca).

# World of Warcraft and tales of love

## Online social interactions come under the microscope

**Katy Anderson**  
Features Editor

Right after World of Warcraft was released, Kelly Bergstrom left her boyfriend at Simon Fraser University while she went to visit her grandma.

The then-undergraduate student returned two weeks later to find her boyfriend where she left him, only greasier from not having shaved, nor showered.

Bergstrom started asking a lot of questions about how to play. A ploy, she said, that was intended to annoy him into paying attention to her — and she's been playing ever since.

Now a PhD student in the University of Calgary's Communication and Culture faculty, Bergstrom is studying how technology changes the way we communicate with each other.



Katy Anderson/the Gauntlet

**Bergstrom.**

"I'm interested in the way that online and offline behaviour gets mapped onto each other," she said. "You can't completely divorce who you are in face-

to-face — or who you decide to be — when you enter one of these virtual worlds."

Focusing her research on massively multiplayer online games, Bergstrom is studying couples who play World of Warcraft together.

She's still in her data collection phase, but Bergstrom has a theory. She cited Ray Oldenburg, an urban sociologist, who writes about the "third place."

"First place and second place are work and home, third place is where you go to socialize," she said. "It's kind of like Cheers 'where everybody knows your name.'"

Oldenburg's research focuses on how the structure of suburbia discourages third places, effectively discouraging social interactions through the design of neighborhoods without common areas.

Oldenburg, explained Bergstrom, said that modern divorce rates are



courtesy Kelly Bergstrom

**Bergstrom interviewing other avatars in WoW.**

so high because there is no third place for husbands and wives to retreat to.

Bergstrom, and other researchers like her, wonder if virtual worlds can effectively become that third place. And if they can, she wonders if couples that game together will stay together.

Bergstrom, who conducts many of her interviews online and in character, has also interviewed people who have had friends move away and use wow as a way to stay in touch, rather than chatting on MSN.

More commonly, it adds a social element for people that would normally just play a console game, she said.

"If Oldenburg is correct and we are increasingly isolated, then

MMOs are an easy way to hang out with people," she said. "You never have to leave your computer room." With 11.5 million monthly

subscribers around the world, Bergstrom noted that although there are many stereotypical basement-dwelling male players, wow competitors come in all stripes and they're all playing together.

"I think that a key thing, with Warcraft especially, is that if you want to go past a certain point, you have to work with different people," says Bergstrom. "If you want to kill a monster, you're going to have to round up 39 of your fellow players and go kill it together. You have to build up a social relationship so they know you're not a jerk, or that you're going to steal their stuff."



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## Disability, cont'd from page 5

the form of the new Wellness Centre.

"The main core of Disability Services will remain here in this office, in the Students' Union [building], because we need to have access to the handibus route which is located right outside our window so we can monitor that," said Tottle. "We work very closely with counselling, health services, the doctors, the psychiatrists, the physicians and all those services are remaining here with the Wellness Centre."

Tottle said that while the services the DRC can offer are constrained by the amount of office space, the addition of the Taylor Family Library's building and resources will add a layer to the services offered.

"Right now we have limited office space," said Tottle. "Bringing on the entire library, not just a



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

**The Taylor Family Library, where the centre was going to move.**

floor that might be dedicated for student success, but bringing on those type of resources will just allow our strategists to expand and offer more services, more time to meet with students."

The DRC has been run by the university for over a decade and currently serves over 700 U of C students. The Taylor Family Library is scheduled for a September 2010 completion.

# Hey grandma! Exercise pays off!

**Morgan Haigler**  
News Assistant

As we age, our youthful appearances fade and our physical strength and memories weaken.

Although all seems lost, University of Calgary physiology and biophysics associate professor Marc Poulin and his team have discovered that older women who regularly exercise enhance their cognitive function.

The findings show that cardiorespiratory fitness stimulates blood flow to the brain which allows women to sharpen their mental abilities. According to Poulin, the study involved measuring a woman's fitness, physiological responses and cognitive outcomes.

"In sophisticated regression analyses, we were able to show that the brain's vascular responses and blood pressure responses were predictors of cognitive function," said Poulin, who also works in the clinical neurosciences department at the U of C. "We believe this to be compelling evidence that aerobic fitness contributes to the maintenance of healthy brain function with aging and our results provide strong scientific basis for future study."

Poulin and his team compared two groups of women with an average age of 65 over a one-month period. They were divided between women who were physically fit and those who did not exercise. Of the 42 women randomly sampled, the



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

Along with better cognitive functioning, exercise decreases chances of dementia in elderly women.

active group had lower blood pressure and improved cognitive function scores.

"On the one hand, it was an opportunity to have a look at these changes in a group that will increase substantially as a portion of the population," said Poulin. "We don't think that the findings will be different with men. The next step is to study both men and women."

The researchers measured cardiovascular mechanisms, resting brain blood flow, the reserve capacity of blood vessels in the brain

and cognitive functions. As Poulin and his team were comparing active and inactive women, they found that sedentary routines increased the chances of women getting stroke or dementia. The new research suggests that exercising regularly may prevent or delay these certain cerebral diseases.

"We think there's increasing evidence that exercise is good for the brain and it can be as little as walking three to five times a week," said Poulin.

The study, called *Effects of Car-*

*diorespiratory Fitness and Cerebral Blood Flow on Cognitive Outcomes in Older Women*, was published last year in Poulin's international journal *Neurobiology of Aging*.

The new research, which offers an incentive for seniors to exercise, is supported by AHFMR, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta, NWT and Nunavut, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Brenda Strafford Foundation.

## Science for the unnewsed

**Kiva Ferraro and Nicole Dionne**  
Gauntlet News

### Study connects migranes and mental disorders

A study at the University of Manitoba suggests that there may be a connection between migraines and mental disorders.

The study found that 11 per cent of participants who suffered from migraines were also diagnosed with another disorder. The variety of disorders investigated in the study included major depression, panic disorders and general anxiety disorder.

### You are what you eat . . . forever

A recent study by U of C Kinesiology Faculty associate professor Dr. Raylene Reimer found a dramatic link between early childhood diet and adult obesity. In the study, Reimer's group fed three groups of young rats a high protein, high fibre or a control diet.

Upon maturation, all three groups were switched to a high sugar, high fat diet reflecting the typical western diet. Rats that were fed the high protein diet when young gained substantially more weight than the high fibre and control groups.

This study supports growing evidence suggesting that early childhood diet influences the activity, or expression levels, of specific genes impacting the way the body handles food in adulthood.

see SCIENCE BRIEFS, page 9

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# Chemistry department under new lead

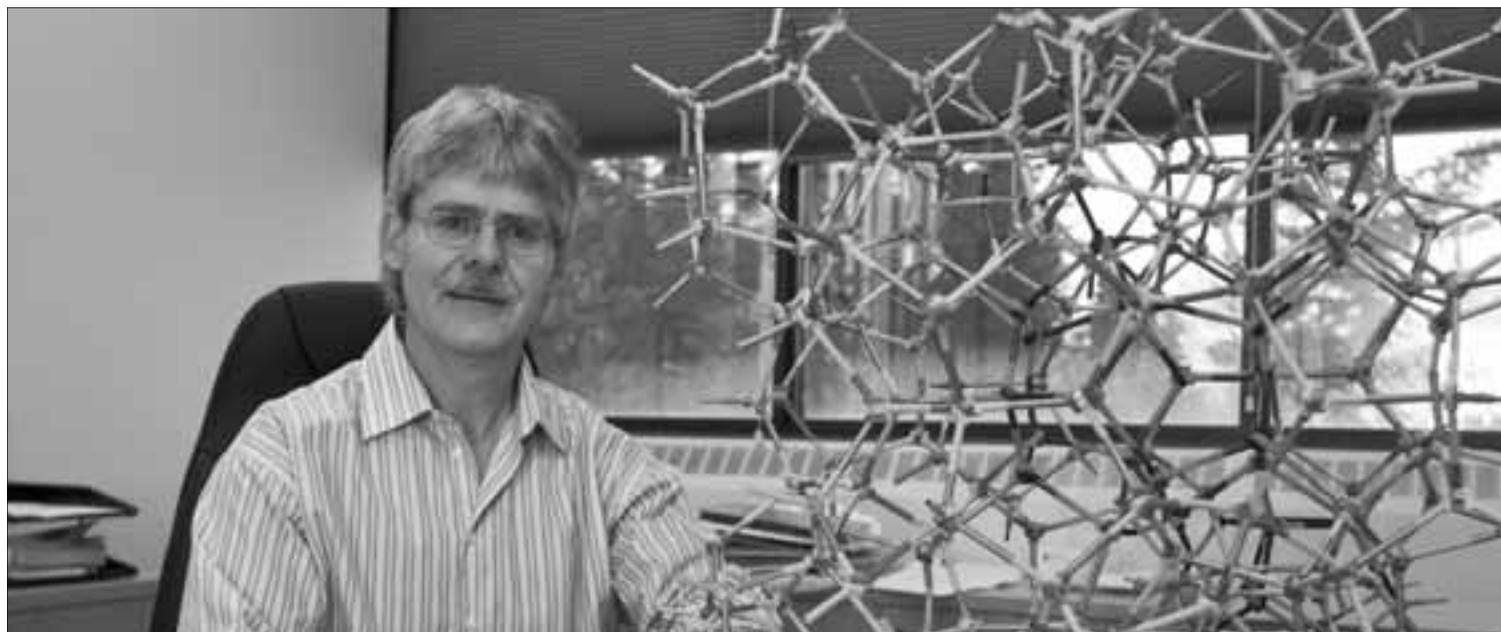
Daniel Pagan  
Gauntlet News

Despite his modest appearance, Dr. Peter Kusalik has a dark secret: he desires to be a mad scientist from a horror movie. Instead, he'll have to settle for being the new University of Calgary chemistry department head.

Kusalik grew up on a farm near Taber and graduated from the University of Lethbridge with a bachelor of science. He left Canada to do his post-doctoral work at the Australian National University Research School of Chemistry, which was an eye-opening experience. When he returned, he accepted a position of assistant professor at Dalhousie University. He became a full professor 16 years later.

"One day, when I was at the Dalhousie University, I was doing a demonstration of what happens when you mix dry ice with water," said Kusalik. "I started dropping dry ice in a beaker, which produced a lot of smoke. A student told me I look like a mad scientist with all the smoke coming out of the beaker."

He moved to the U of C in September 2005 to study theoretical chemistry and how crystals grow at a molecular level. Kusalik's first



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Kusalik plans to make the chemistry department one of the five best teaching departments in Canada.

plan as the new head of the chemistry department is not all smoke and mirrors. He hopes to review and implement the department's five-year plan this winter. Two of the department's short-term goals include the estab-

lishment of a chemistry graduate student society and resolving Chem 201/203 summer course issues for undergraduate students. He believes the five-year plan will make the chemistry department to one of the five best

teaching departments in Canada.

"Researching and teaching are in this relationship where they affect each other, both good and bad, and you just can't have one without another," he said.

## Science briefs, continued from page 8

### McGill University ranks high in patent study

McGill University came out ahead of all other Canadian universities in a study by the Milken Institute concerning the translation of biotechnology research into patents. Ranking 14th in the study, McGill beat out Yale and UCLA. The study measured the total number of biotechnology patents issued and the impact of the patents in the field of biotechnology research.

### Biofilms: looking into the bacterial collective

Organized layers of bacteria, or biofilms, are not restricted to Petri dishes. Most bacterial infections, including 90 per cent of hospital-acquired infections, are the result of biofilms, and there is power in

numbers. Biofilms are more resistant to detergents and antibiotics, making disinfecting surfaces or treating patients with medical implant complications difficult.

Calgary's Biofilm Research Group, headed by biological sciences professor Dr. Howard Ceri, developed the MBEC Assay, to rapidly study biofilms.

Ceri's research focuses on antimicrobial coatings for medical implants and has led to a patent application.

### A new look at carbon capture

The quandary of carbon capture and storage is shared the world over, yet potential solutions are popping up right in our backyard. Dr. Mehran Pooladi-Darvish and Dr. Jocelyn Grozic at the Schulich School of Engineering are devel-

oping a technology to store carbon dioxide in water.

Conventionally, captured carbon is injected into underground depleted oil and gas reservoirs where

it can take centuries to dissolve into ground water or form solids. In a gaseous state, the crafty compound may find an old well bore or natural crack in the earth and escape.

By encasing carbon dioxide in a cage-like structure as a hydrate, the gas essentially becomes a solid, happily resigned to a subterranean existence.

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Application deadline: January 29, 2009.

# Spreading out the core

## The dispersal of Calgary's criminals and homeless and my quest for ignorance

**Elijah Stauth**  
Crude Dialectics



If you ever go into downtown Calgary you've no doubt seen what is often summed up as the homeless problem. Now this problem, quite clearly, is that people, who are just like you and I, have no home, which is to say no toaster to heat their bagels, no place to fold up their pajamas in the morning and no toothbrush holder to ensure the vertical nature of their hygiene products while they are away. And yes, there's more to it than that, it's a problem of predictability. After all, who knows what they're going to do next. And don't worry, it's okay that I call them "they" or "them" or "the homeless" because after all, they share the quite distinct and homogenizing quality of being without homes. That's enough, no?

Anyways, predictability. We all know how we're supposed to act when we're out with friends, when we're going to school or when we're shopping at the mall. We buy things and then we show off what we've bought. If that's not you then I apologize, I've yet to make your acquaintance. But that's what we do, we go around and we buy our shirts and our shoes, our bags and eyeliner, and our soccer balls and electricity. We talk with the other people we know who have their new phones or are working towards their new car or new set of bath towels. "Very nice," we say, and "keep up the good work." But them, "they," that is, well they aren't really working for any of that are they? I don't even know what it is they do. No wait, that's not true, "they" do a couple things, one of which is ask me for money. When I walk out of the bar, or down the street, or by a corner, they ask me for money. The face of that person who is doing the asking, that is

the face I blindly paint across the homeless problem. Their quest for my money is what I have used to write the grand narrative of the homeless in my mind. But that's only half of it.

The other half is their ability to make me uncomfortable as I walk by them on Stephen Ave. Leering, I swear that's what they're doing. They're leering and I don't know what they're going to do next. They're not there to buy anything; they're just there. How am I supposed to know how to deal with that? If I give them money it's to placate them, to avoid the unthinkable. What is that you ask? Well... I haven't really thought about it. I just can't predict them, and that makes me uneasy.

I was once walking down the avenue I just mentioned when a couple

of individuals, a couple of "them," started speaking to me. "Hey man," or "got any change?" "Just ignore them," a friend said. And eureka! Ignorance shone through as the

there, things that were difficult to ignore continued to arrive.

Word is there are problems with crime cropping up in Inglewood now. Their solution is to turn a bottle depot, which has been attracting criminality, in to an art gallery. Splendid! Who can say no to truth and beauty and all that? Well oth-

er than the bottle pickers I suppose, who are probably part of "them," and, as I said, are unpredictable. At any rate, I'm sure that once this new gallery is out of the news these issues will be ignorable once again. Problem solved, no?

I suppose an addendum is in order. It's not that I doubt your ability to detect the facetious tone in my writing, but that I've laced a great deal of my own, quite real, prejudices within them. And, though I'm rather hyperbolic about it in this piece, I do often wish the whole messy situation was avoidable, was ignorable. The fact is, however, that it's quite the contrary. While "cleaning up the core" is a splendid notion, the spreading out of these "problems" seems to be all that is occurring. Pushing criminals or homeless out of the city centre is not a solution, but instead leads to solutions being required in other areas. It does, however, make the situation pleasantly more ignorable. With the criminal per square kilometer lowered in the core, but remaining constant within the city as a whole, it's much easier to turn a blind eye — but it remains equally despicable.

And there are those who work tirelessly towards solutions and who attempt to educate both you and I of our rather vile presumptions. But we're talking about people, not a faceless group, nothing remotely homogeneous, people who want the same things out of life that any of us do. Those without homes, those who break our laws, they aren't the problem, we all are. It's systematic and it requires far more than a quick fix. We need to look for ways to help everyone and a reshuffling of the deck isn't going to cut it.

**Like the weakening state of my physical body or the bleak prospects I have post-graduation, I would ignore the situation and hope it went away.**

beautiful answer. Like the weakening state of my physical body or the bleak prospects I have post-graduation, I would ignore the situation and hope it went away.

So of course I was quite pleased with the city's pledge to clean up the core — get rid of the prostitutes and drug dealers, stop the homeless from sleeping on benches and making me uncomfortable, shut down the Cecil and expel its filth from our streets. But it didn't seem to end



# Reclaiming the random

Brief notes on cavemen and statistics

**Eric Mathison**  
Fighting Words



A common invocation on campus is a claim that something random has occurred. An example may be something like, “Jill, did you hear I got drunk last weekend? It was totally random.”

Let me assuage your fears of sexism and assuming-there-is-a-problem-with-getting-drunk-ism with another, albeit less likely example: “Edward, old chap, I solved the problem of free will! It just came to me — totally random.”

The issue (or the one I’m concerned with here) is that in both cases, the speaker is attempting to express the low probability, or surprise at the high occurrence, of the event occurring. Worst of all, the underlying tone suggests that something incorporeal has taken place, as if acting on the individuals to cause the event. This sort of thing comes across most often when something seemingly rare takes place.

What our drunkard and our free-will solver (I’ll reveal the solution next week) really mean to say is that something arbitrary, unexpected or unlikely has taken place, in that the event happened without knowledge of the causes

that led to it. As the truth is revealed, it’s realized that there were a number of actions that led to both events. Buying that bottle of scotch (why not scotch?) and inviting those people over is a good place to start. For convenience, I will say the same events happened for the philosopher.

What we have here is a common case of something humans are particularly good at. That is, a terrible grasp of complex statistics. It is, of course, not our fault. On the savannahs of Africa when our species was in its infancy, nature did not deem it necessary to evolve a firm grasp on anything more complex than rudimentary mathematics. We have been paying the price ever since.

In his book *The Mind of the Market*, Michael Shermer makes a powerful case against looking at humans as the always rational, always economical species that scholars treated *Homo sapiens* as for much of the 20th century. Instead, we consistently make irrational choices. One illuminating example is that the majority of people in the United States respond that they would rather have less money overall, as long as they had more than the community

average. Similarly, we are much more likely to hold on to investments we already have than get rid of them, even if the evidence indicates we would be better off without them. This tendency is why compulsive gamblers try to win their money back, instead of counting their losses.

Statistics are not our strong suit. Seemingly miraculous

events occur every day to people, but even extraordinary things such as cancer remission and winning the lottery can be assessed for the probability they will occur. If a one in a million chance (you would be right in thinking it very low) presents itself, that still means that 35 people in Canada will, on average, be witness to this event every day.

With this in mind, the so-called soft sciences of meteorology and economics are less reliable only because there are so many more variables involved. Weather will always be difficult to predict and as long as a free market exists, professionals and amateurs alike will continue to fail to see enormous bubbles growing right under their noses.



## How to Sell Yourself... To Future Employers and Application Committees

Pamela Weatherbee, VP Academic

**SU VIEW**



It seems more and more difficult to set ourselves apart from the rest of the masses here at the University of Calgary. We come and go as numbers in our crowded classrooms trying to make it to the end of the day. It also seems that unless you’re applying for professional school or your masters, it’s less important what type of degree you have. But now, thanks to the Quality Money fund and the coordination of the Students’ Union and the Office of the Student Experience, you can now show everyone how committed, passionate and involved you are. The University is formally recognizing your extra-curricular development in the form of a transcript which you will receive at graduation.

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# The birth of the atheist evangelical

Tyler Wolfe

Gauntlet Ramblings



It's Saturday morning and you're feeling great. Not much to do except relax with a good book, or perhaps meet some friends for coffee at your favourite local joint. A knock at the door, however, interrupts your daydream. It is the knock of someone with much experience knocking. You peer through the window and see two men in suits, small black Bibles in hand. "Oh Christ!" you mutter to yourself, probably without pun intended, as you frantically debate how

best to deal with these religious door-to-door salesmen. Ignoring the knock will only delay the inevitable; they will not give up that easily. It's probably best to bite the bullet, answer the door and hopefully have them on their way as soon as possible.

This is a scenario many of us have experienced. Even if you've been fortunate enough to avoid these shameless proselytizers, you have undoubtedly seen their propaganda on signs, billboards, buses and elsewhere. Ranging from humorous to distasteful, they all have one thing in common: they are attempting to tell you what you should believe and how you should live your life.

The British Humanist Organization has had enough. They

raised over \$250,000 CDN for a campaign in which they have placed ads on buses throughout the United Kingdom proclaiming in all caps, "There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life." The campaign has been very successful and has spread to Spain, the United States, Italy and Germany. There is even a group in Toronto hoping to follow suit.

Surely this should be seen as a victory for all non-religious folk. Admittedly, this was my first reaction. Today, however, I humbly type this piece with repentance on my mind, for I have seen the light. I have been saved from the hypocrisy of my past ways. While this ad campaign may be refreshing in its originality, at its base it is no different than the religious advertisements I have already criticized. The atheist campaign, too,

attempts to tell you what to believe and how to live your life. What's next? Atheists coming to your door, Dawkins's latest in an attempt to free you from your religious dogma?

This is a superfluous campaign designed to respond to something atheists find disagreeable, with something religious people will find disagreeable. While these new bus ads are pretty harmless — especially when compared to some of the religious ones which



threaten damnation — and even uplifting, they are mimicking a strategy long criticized by the atheist community. The strategists seem to have adopted the old adage, "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em." Instead, they should follow the adage that says two wrongs do not make a right.

## The bottom of a burst bubble: depravity and the economic turndown

Meagan Meiklejohn

Gauntlet Opinions



While the devastating effects of the worldwide economic crisis sweep across the news and erupt into our worrisome minds, the reality of these stresses become even more magnified as we step outside of our tinted first-world windows and into developing world scrap-metal yards.

Within the last months of 2008 and stretching into the New Year, hundreds of economic refugees fleeing from Myanmar and Bangladesh have reportedly reached the harbours of Thailand only to be tied up and dragged back out to sea in motorless boats with little to no food or water. Suffering from starvation, dehydration and jumping ship, only a fraction of survivors have been found scattered along the Indian Andaman islands and the Indonesian province of Aceh by Indian coast guards. Currently, survivors are being cared for in refugee camps at these locations until they are well enough to return home.

After opening our eyes to yet another tragic story — recalling a similar, though less torturous,

incident last July — Thailand's unimaginative navy habitually chose an inhumane route as their solution to illegal immigration. In light of this event, we can point fingers at the fact that this month Thailand's foreign minister, before taking office, declared that Thailand would pursue a "clean and humane" foreign policy and would adhere to humanitarian principles under any circumstance. However, as the developing country, known for employing illegal immigrants, plunges deeper into recession, panicking officials seem pushed into hastily choosing what limited means they have of disposing of illegal immigrants in an attempt to keep their own citizens employed.

By no means is this to say that binding the hands of refugees and sending them to sea to die can be justified as a way of handling illegal immigration, but under such serious financial difficulties, it is understandable that a country would want to place its own citizens first. A country deciding to employ illegal immigrants, especially one in the developing world, must consider the effect it will have on their own legal inhabitants. Illegal immigrants are willing to work under terrible conditions and for a substantially lower income, making their em-

ployment much more attractive to businesses. This, however, becomes a major problem to the country's residents during an economic crisis because their job opportunities diminish, leading them to an even more unfathomable degree of poverty.

While it is currently illegal for Thailand to send refugees home to a country inflicting persecution or brutality upon its citizens, the United Nations is a source of funding available for help. Yet, in cases concerning economic refugees, hoping to find employment and a better standard of living in another country, there is no specific financial resource available. Such immigrants are at the mercy of the countries they wish to enter. Therefore, the goal should be to develop job opportunities in developing countries so that their residents will both want and be able to live and work in their own countries.

Meanwhile, to prevent such inhumane actions from occurring, a new source of financial aid or quota for the number of economic refugees accepted by developed countries should be introduced. That way, the welfare of economic refugees will not become the burdensome responsibility of alarmed nations, erratically dealing with economic downfalls.

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## Are presidential term limits a good idea?

### Yes

Just over a year after saying no to amending their constitution, Venezuelans are once again being asked to vote. While the 2007 constitutional referendum had its sights on a total of 69 articles concerning a myriad of issues ranging from progressive socialist reforms, to what critics of Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez would cite as a consolidation of power, this upcoming referendum will focus on one central issue: the abolition of term limits for the president and other elected officials. Most presidential republics in the world, where the president is both head of state and government, have term limits for good reason, they function as another check and balance in a system which already tends to concentrate power in the hands of one person. Their removal has no place in a governance purporting itself to be democratic.

Chavez denies the move is a means of installing himself as president for life. Indeed, all that's being called for is an abolition of term limits. Elections would still occur every six years, with a chance for a recall half-way through. Chavez insists that his brand of socialist reforms — what he calls his Bolivarian Revolution — requires him to spend at least another term in office in order to be fully realized. However, in a truly democratic society, such reasons should not even come to play. True democracy, where everyone is equal and has fair chance, can have any successor take the helm, provided of course that they have the same credentials and are as competent and as well versed in the party's programs, platforms and guiding principles. Any self-anointed proclamation of being the one and only leader who can preside over such matters is suggestive of autocracy.

It cannot be denied that the charismatic Chavez has built up an immense following akin to a cult of personality. His ideology and vision, termed Chavismo, would have gained little ground without his unique flair for motivating crowds and attracting the masses. The popularity of his reforms relies heavily on his own immense popularity. And therein lies the risk: the progressive socialist changes that have occurred in Venezuela since the former paratrooper stepped into office are in danger of having no strong foundation to ground itself aside from his own influence and authority. Once Chavez goes, so could all of the reforms that he has so far managed to enact. World history certainly has no shortage of examples of failed statewide reforms, even failed states, which crumbled as soon as the strongmen who championed the cause either passed on or fell out of the public's favour.

To let Chavez run for office for as long as he is able certainly would be in favour of maintaining the momentum of his brand of revolution — provided he keeps on winning. With that, the fundamental issue then arises: instead of investing in the long-term future of his cause, Chavez could very well be fixated on re-election bids. Measures and programs that could impact society far better in the long run could be traded for those that would provide an instantaneous increase in public polls. This certainly is one pitfall of presidential democracies, which the concept of term limits seeks to avoid.

Rinaldi Gulinao

### No

Long-time Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has recently succeeded in passing an amendment in the country's National Assembly that would eliminate presidential term limits. The amendment has to be approved by a national referendum within 30 days to actually take effect which is indicative of the proper democratic process. The amendment also includes all elected officials and would allow them, not to serve indefinitely, but to be constantly eligible for re-election. Evidently, this would allow Chavez to run for re-election as many times as he wants.

Venezuela is not the only country taking this path of constitutional reform. The Russian parliament is attempting almost the exact same thing with their presidential term limits. It is important to remember that these amendments would not allow the heads of state to remain in power without democratic checks and balances. All regular elections would still take place and the only difference would be that there would be no limits as to how many times a candidate could run. And why should there be limits? If a particular head of state, say a president of a democratic nation, is doing an excellent job leading his or her country, why should he or she be limited to a set number of terms?

It is difficult to think of other institutions that employ these same standards. Do CEOs of corporations have limited terms? Would it even make sense to have them? If a CEO is doing a spectacular job by making tons of money for their shareholders they should be allowed to extend their terms for as long as they are able to perform at that level.

A policy such as fixed terms is intrusive and too Big-Brotherish. Western nations make use of them to ensure that no one individual or administration gains too much influence or is given an advantage of any sort. It's like some kind of institutionalized communism. We don't need a state that actively interferes with the election of our leaders. Our votes alone should be responsible for that task.

Real democracies punish poor and irresponsible leaders by ousting them from power with their votes. Yet many democracies, like the U.S., also systematically ensure that good and responsible leaders are only allowed a maximum of two terms in office. Could you imagine outgoing President George W. Bush announcing that he would like to run for a third term as president? For some reason, it seems unlikely that he would be re-elected, but we shouldn't rob him of the right to try. The people's votes would speak for themselves and the most desirable candidate would win.

In any country, a policy that allows heads of government to run for office as many times as they wish would result in a more stable government by allowing popular and effective leaders to remain in power for a longer period of time. Therefore, allowing government leaders to run until they are voted out is a good policy.

Nenad Tomanic



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# The life blood of the Olympics



**Daniel Pagan**  
Gauntlet Opinions

Something is rotten in the city of Vancouver. It's the Olympic Village, which is costing the city over \$875 million with all the cost overruns. Over the last weekend, the City of Vancouver found itself in a pot of boiling water as creditors flexed their leather-gloved fists waiting for their money. Premier Gordon Campbell quickly recalled the British Columbia Legislature to pass a special resolution to allow the city unlimited borrowing power. The money is necessary for the city to complete the Olympic Village on time, sure, but at the cost of a large debt.

The Olympic Village disaster is yet another chapter in the long sordid story of how the Olympic Games can bankrupt a city and steal its soul in the process. In simple terms, the

International Olympic Committee is a group of vampires, locusts and gold-diggers.

Athens, the proud host of the 2004 games found itself in a \$17-billion U.S. debt. In 2006, the Italian government stepped in with \$159.11 U.S. million to help bail out the Turin Winter Games, which was experiencing a \$196 million shortfall. Beijing's bills set a record by posting \$50 billion with its "Bird's Nest" stadium, which already needs new tenants only a few months after the Olympics ended. Starting to see a pattern? When Montreal was selected to host the 1976 Montreal Olympics, Jean Drapeau, Montreal's mayor at the time announced, "the Olympics can no more have a deficit than a man can have a baby." A fateful forecast to be sure. In Dec. 2006, Quebec finally paid off its \$1.5 billion CDN debt from the 1976 Summer Games through the tobacco tax. A great example of the problem of the games is the infamous Montreal Olympics

Stadium. Nicknamed "The Big O," it never had a retractable roof and the construction of its tower wasn't completed until 1980, four years after the games. The construction was plagued by labour strikes, the low value of the Canadian dollar, high prices of steel and maintenance problems, which prevented the retractable roof and tower from being fully completed. Even after all the debts, the stadium had no major tenant and would become useless after the Montreal Expos moved in 2004. The 1976 games were successful without any major problems, but the debt still blackened Montreal's legacy. Could the same await Vancouver's Olympic Village, with hundreds of condos unsold and unwanted?

Only Los Angeles managed to make a profit with its 1984 Summer Olympics — even with the U.S.S.R. and its Warsaw Pact allies boycotting the games. It reaped a \$225-million U.S. profit since it had the infrastructure in place and com-

panies paid for upgrades via advertisements and endorsements. Athens, Turin and Beijing all have to pay off debts and there is no evidence of new economic activities despite all the promises of regeneration.

Anger is rising in Vancouver due to the Vancouver Olympic Committee's habit of breaking promises, like respecting environment regulations, which went downhill after construction of the highway link between Whistler and Vancouver. Despite promises of a solution to the housing crisis, squatters and people under the poverty line are still unable to find cheap housing, even with all



the construction going on.

If Vancouver is hoping to recoup much of its debt, it needs to sell the condo units in the athletes' village as quickly as possible. One thing Vancouver should learn from the Olympic Village debacle is to avoid the IOC next time around, so it isn't stuck with this much hard work. Those guys are vampires.

## Now is the winter of our driving discontent

**Jaya Dixit**  
Gauntlet Opinions

Ask any Calgarian about the city's non-removal of snow on the main streets and you are likely be greeted with an expression of bewilderment and a rebuttal that surely, the snow is removed. However, ask the same question of a non-Calgarian and you may find yourself signing up for the bewilderment club, when you learn, to your amazement, that snow removal in other major Canadian cities not only constitutes a dedicated section of the city budget, but that snow removal actually involves removing snow from the road's surface.

Much to my surprise, not only are the main roads in Calgary simply sanded down (to the chagrin of snow removal scholars worldwide) but residential roads are not subject to even the modest snow "treatment" that main roads receive. If you are lucky enough to make it out of your neighborhood and on to the main roads, then consider yourself among the winter-tire elite, the four-wheel drive bourgeoisie or perhaps it's just that the token few Hummers

in your neighbourhood may have, in an accidentally altruistic act, compacted some of the snow for you.

So here's the scenario: you're late to (if not completely absent from) work or school after several attempts to drive, dig, drive, dig and repeat. Your elevated blood pressure and already expletive-driven opinion of Calgary infrastructure and city planning drive you (since driving as a descriptor is the only driving you can do) to dial 311. This rare act of model citizenry, simply asking for snow removal for the welfare of all, is denied. Calgary Alderman Andre Chabot is calling for a legislative review of the policy that prohibits the city from hiring private contractors to remove residential snow, due to costs. Chabot astutely recognizes that the cost of residential snow removal (or lack thereof) is simply deferred to costs of health and auto insurance claims and taxation resulting from deteriorating roads. My own bespectacled peer noted that the poor city planning and high density of rural suburban expansion only adds to the vol-

see SNOWY STREETS, page 15

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# Bush's new beach career

Roman Auriti  
Reality Check



Tourism Queensland has recently made an outrageous offer. It's been globally advertising for a "tropical caretaker" to live for six months on the Hamilton Island just off the coast of Queensland, Australia. There aren't any specific prerequisites for this particular position — other than one year's relevant experience — and keeping a blog and a video diary of what life is like there. The caretaker would be given a three bedroom villa — complete with swimming

pool — rent free and that individual would be paid \$122,000 CDN to do this for only 12 hours of work per month!

The only way to apply for this position is to send a video to islandreefjob.com and fill out the online form. Competition is tight because there will be thousands of applicants, but only one special person will get the job.

However much I think I'm the perfect person for this job — and yes, I will be submitting an online application soon — there's only one person who I would concede to if they submitted an application. This person would be George Walker Bush.

Who else would deserve this job? Bush just finished his presidency

and he could probably use a nice break from politics. And a tan. He should be on the lookout for a job because, being such a young gun, he isn't ready to retire or stop saying things that no one really understands, like "Those weapons of mass destruction have got to be somewhere!"

Personally, I think that being a tropical caretaker would be a step up in his career, however ironic that sounds. Who wants to be president of the most powerful country on Earth with the responsibility to do everything in your political power to make it a better nation? I, and I think I speak for Bush as well, would much rather laze around with a laptop, a surfboard and unspoiled beaches for six months.



Hopefully Bush does in fact try to land the tropical caretaking job. He wouldn't have to go back to Texas and live on a ranch or travel the world, experiencing it first class because he would already be on an-

other venture that is sure to make history. This time though, he would be on an island with a handful of people who actually care about him because, frankly, he's not very popular anywhere else.

## Snowy streets, continued from page 14

ume and intensity of the problem, and the city's refusal to respond to snow removal rally cries (emergency situations notwithstanding) is a less than adequate solution.

Last winter, as Ottawa experienced record snowfall and the

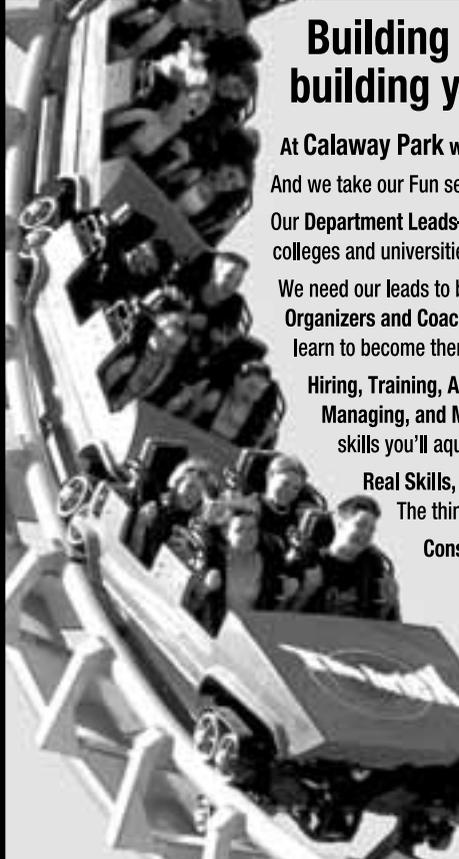
city was overwhelmed by the re-sourcing of snow removal needs, residents were (mostly) satisfied to pay a relatively small stipend on top of regular taxes to cope with the budgetary burden of the unforeseen snow. Heck, the city

of Ottawa was prepared to forego snow clearance of the Rideau Canal, in order to ensure that residential areas received priority servicing. If CEO — pardon, Mayor — Bronconnier could re-

act to this citywide plea for safer, more accessible residential roads similarly, then the city could potentially resource more publicly-owned snow removal machinery, create some job contacts and dem-

onstrate a novel feat of reactive and transparent city management. Perhaps this manner of response could prove appropriate given the environmental as well as the economic climate.

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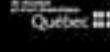
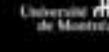
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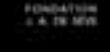
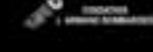
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I am a fancy filler TLF! The real TLFs start in the next column. I love filling space!

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I was so excited to actually have five real, physical TLF forms filled out in my snappy drop box! Yay for real TLFs so I don't have to fill space with guess that quote games. If you like giving me physical things to fill space with, please bring your TLF submission to MSC 319 or send it to [tifs@thegauntlet.ca](mailto:tifs@thegauntlet.ca). All submissions must include your phone number, name, ID number and signature. Submissions judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic or attacks of personal nature will not be tolerated.

Car broken into @ McMahan Jan 13. Dance bag, shoes and CDs were taken. If you find any of these items scattered I would be indebted if you could turn them into Lost and Found or email me at [horse\\_lover@shaw.ca](mailto:horse_lover@shaw.ca).

"Freedom of the press is limited to those who own one."  
- A.E. Leibing

AMNESTY UC: TREATS - GREETINGS - MEETS. Monday Jan 26 PF118 at 5-7:30. Plus powerful movie: Al-Arian. EVERYONE WELCOME!

Interested in studying abroad? Find out how: CISSA's Overseas Options Days Jan 28+29 MSC North Courtyard

Get a room! The Library is not makeout point. What the fuck is this, Grade 7?

- PS. besides, she can do a lot better [bet you're just jealous you weren't allowed in that tongue action...  
- tongue tiEd]

I'm in 6 classes this semester, but I'm predicting that 50% of the time I spend studying or doing homework will go towards zoology 377 by itself. Why are bio courses so ridiculously time extensive?

Find out how to apply to the Bachelor of Social Work program at the UofC: Calgary Information session : Thursday, Feb 26, 2009, noon - 1pm, Professional Faculties Building PF4267. Contact [bswinfo@ucalgary.ca](mailto:bswinfo@ucalgary.ca) for more information.

To the guy who was in the Loft talking about his class on pornography: I think your TLF ideas are brilliant. You should submit them.

- The Girl Who Eavesdrops  
[I was the girl talking to him! I agree with you.  
- friendEd]

Gazans are the last stand. They don't have: the choice to move cities, a 15 second warning b4 bombs drop or basic necessities. Too many people are dying lets worry about them first.  
- Grieved

Jittery German Meat-head in GERM204. Lay off the Cookies and Cream Energy Drinks pal, and the obsessive lip chap application. Its freakin' me out.

- concerned classmate  
[cookies and cream energy drinks?  
- LOLEd]

smART is holding its first ever Professional Critique at the Art Gallery of Calgary on Friday, Jan. 23 from 7-10pm. Guest panelists include Canadian photographers George Webber and Iain Baxter. Free entry, refreshments served, and networking opportunities! Email Emily and Rebecca at [smart.signup@gmail.com](mailto:smart.signup@gmail.com) for more information.

Lost: A set of three keys on a white lanyard, attached to a leather Alberta Beef keychain. Please turn into a Lost and Found ASAP. Contact: [fun\\_cheung\\_wong@hotmail.com](mailto:fun_cheung_wong@hotmail.com)

To everyone who leaves their garbage and half-eaten lunches around on table-tops: STOP IT. I'm tired of not being able to find somewhere to sit with my friends because half the tables in the hall are covered in garbage.  
- a very disgusted student

To the girl in the social science wash-room who answers her phone while doing her business, call them back!  
- from grossed out  
[everyone does that! when you call someone next time, listen for the flush!  
- abrestEd]

International students - Get connected! to campus, peers and the Calgary community. Check out sessions this week and all semester long at Campus Community Connection; [www.ucalgary.ca/cissa/cc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/cissa/cc)

Sol Guy speaks to the Class of '09 on January 28th. Wanna have dinner with him? Enter to win at [graduatingthisyear.com](http://graduatingthisyear.com)

I would like to thank the patch of ice outside of ICT last week for providing an hour of great-fall entertainment over my lunch break. Videos available on request.  
- KD3

Hey MBB#31, I saw you play this weekend. I was wondering if you could teach me how to play... See you in class!  
- Ms. Right

You rock. No, seriously. You deserve an Arch Award. Nominate yourself (or someone equally amazing) by Feb 28 for the first Future Alumni Award and join an amazing family of Arch Award recipients. [www.archawards.com](http://www.archawards.com)

Nervous about the current global economy? Check out [www.whatnowconference.com](http://www.whatnowconference.com) 39th Annual Business Day Conference

There's life after cell phones. I promise.

The Minnows will beat out the Sharks, and Cam Cotton-O'Brien will be the one everyone blames. Just like when he brought on the office epedemic.

Bam! Two stories down, time to head to school for polymorphism, hawks and doves.  
- Katy Anderson

There was a time when I was waiting for a coffee, and I decided if she takes any longer, I will pierce the TLF editor's knees. With a sword.  
- Edward Bear

Bribe! Bribe! Bribe! Bribe! Bribe!

## NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAYS

THE STUDENTS' UNION,  
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Days are Monday, January 26 to Wednesday, January 28, 2009 (and Thursday, January 29 if necessary) and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the Students' Union, MSC 251 between the hours of 8:30 am and 12:00 noon on Nomination Days.

**Offices Available (Number of Vacancies):**

President	[1]	Academic Commissioners	[4]
Vice President Academic	[1]	Events Commissioners	[4]
Vice President Events	[1]	External Commissioners	[4]
Vice President External	[1]	Operations and Finance Commissioners	[4]
Vice President Operations and Finance	[1]	Board of Governors Representative	[1]
		Senate Representatives	[2]

**SAA Faculty Representatives - [1] member for each of the following faculties:**

Communication and Culture	Haskayne School of Business	Medicine	Social Science
Education	Humanities	Nursing	Social Work
Fine Arts	Kinesiology	Schulich School of Engineering	Veterinary Medicine
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**Referendum Question:**

Do you support an increase for the continued growth, maintenance and operations of campus community television, New University Television (NUTV), a non-profit society, in the amount of \$1.00 per student (full time/part time) per semester (fall/winter/summer/spring).

YES  NO

*Alex Sellers*

Chief Returning Officer: Alexandra Sellers  
Students' Union, MSC 251 (220-7771)

Dated at the University of Calgary in the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, this 12th day of January, 2009.



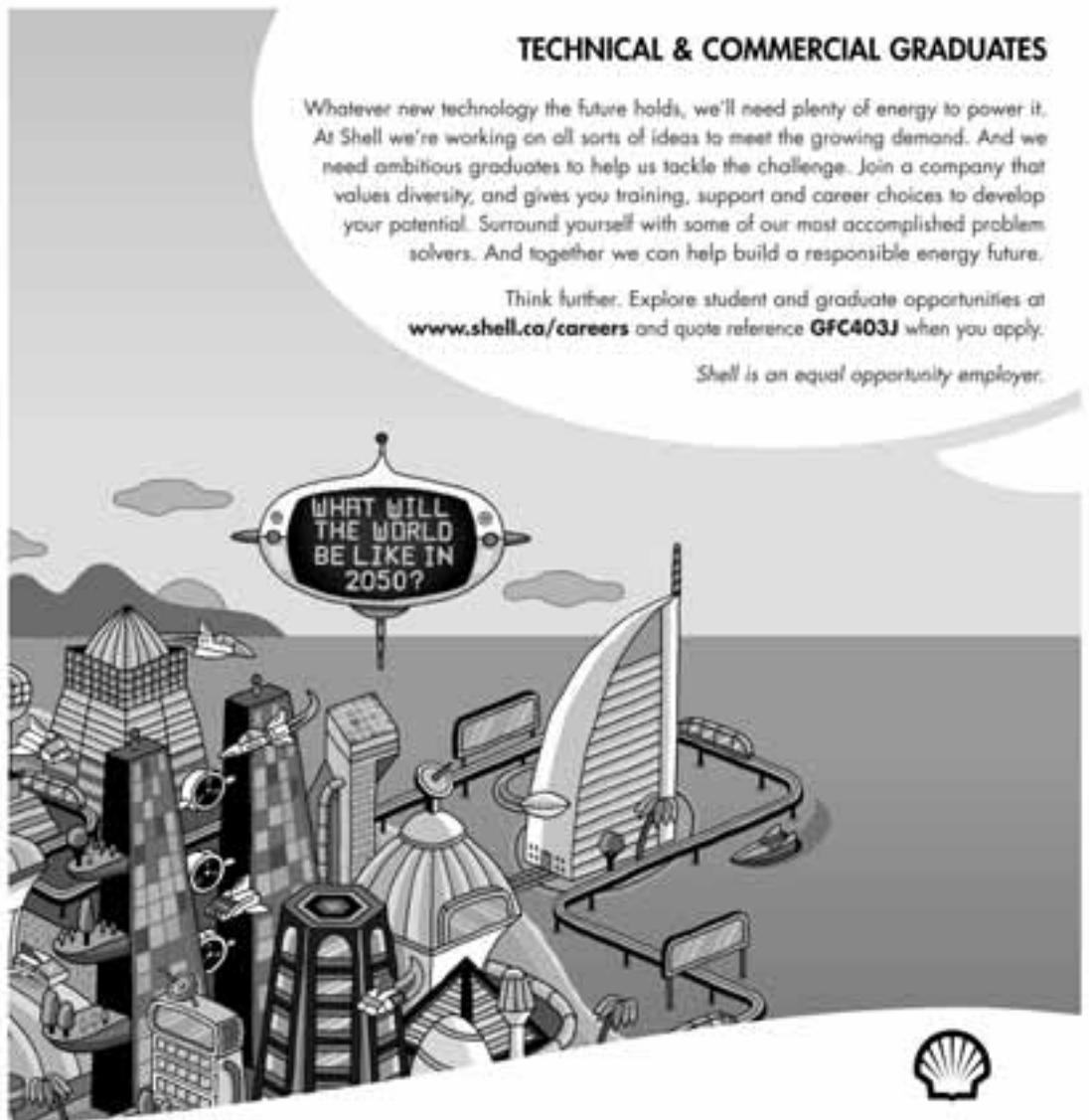
As of January 12, 2009 nomination packages will be available online at [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca) or at the SU main office.

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# Urness claims ACAC shutout record

**Brad Halasz**  
Sports Editor

For the University of Calgary Dinos women's hockey team winning is everything.

At least it has been this year as they have gone 12-2 and look to finish at the top of the Alberta Colleges Athletics Conference league with eight games remaining.

Helping maintain the superior level of domination throughout the year is fourth-year netminder Katie Urness.

And dominant she is. Urness notched her fifth shutout of the season against the Mount Royal Cougars on Jan. 10. The shutout broke an ACAC record.

"I knew it was there, it just started to happen and I said, 'Oh that's kind of cool,'" said Urness of her awareness of the record. "It was something that was there and I wanted to get the shutout."

Admittedly Urness said she didn't have to work very hard to achieve her personal goal — she had her team to back her.

What Urness modestly failed

to mention was that she fended off eight third period shots, many of which came from two-on-one chances.

"I kept on looking at the clock, I knew it was possible to get it," she said. "I think we played strong enough that the end of the third was the most work I had to do in the game. When they only allow 14 or 15 shots a game they're making my job a lot easier."

Stating that the Mount Royal game was "the best the team has played" Urness and the Dinos will look to that night as a model for the remainder of the season and playoffs.

Their more recent efforts against the Red Deer College Queens were not as obvious as the 7-0 Mount Royal beating.

"I don't think it was one of our best games, but we always manage to pull off a win in the last couple seconds," said Urness referring to a goal scored with less than four seconds in regulation to beat the Queens 4-3 on Jan. 15 in Red Deer.

The Queens may prove to be a

problem come playoff time, as the Dinos latest effort was a narrow 2-1 shootout victory.

"We have a good enough team that we always manage to pull it off, but we don't like to err on that side," said Urness of her teams ability to comeback.

With the NAIT Oaks, SAIT Trojans, Mount Royal Cougars and MacEwan College Griffins left to go, the Dinos hope to learn from their laxadaisical play against Red Deer and use that as motivation to give a more unifying effort.

"I think both games we had a decent start then tailed off, so we got to play a full game," said Urness.

The Griffins proved problematic last year as they beat the Dinos in four straight to take the ACAC Championship.

Urness said anything short of being on top is unacceptable.

"We want the championship. Especially how we ended last year, that's what we want to achieve."

The Dinos host the NAIT Oaks Friday Jan. 23 at the Olympic Oval. The game goes at 7 p.m. Admission is free with student ID.



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

Free shot! Katie Urness holds the ACAC season shutout record.

## Defining elite, and also using the word "misnomer"



**Austin Paladeau**  
Sportspinions

If you are a fan of hockey or — at the minimum — a fan of the Calgary Flames, you have by now no doubt heard the story: since a 6-1 beat down by the San Jose Sharks at the HP Pavillion on Nov. 13, the Flames have surged to a remarkable 18-6-3 record.

Counted among those wins are victories over the Rangers, Canucks, Ducks, and two incredibly solid efforts against those same Sharks. To anyone who watches hockey on a consistent basis, there is no denying that the NHL is a class based system. At the bottom exists such proletarian franchises as the New York Islanders, Atlanta Thrashers, and (the surprisingly mediocre) Ottawa Senators.

At the very top, you find the exclusive troika of Boston, San Jose and Detroit. Somewhere in between is every other team in the NHL cir-

cuit. Given the Flames scorching hot mark over their last 27 games, the debate over whether or not Calgary is in the same class as the aforementioned elite has heated up from a slight simmer to rolling boil. After last Thursday's convincing 3-2 win over the Sharks, no less an authority than Don Cherry asserted that the Flames were indeed among the best in the league; this sentiment has been echoed by scores of fans and other talking heads in the media as well.

If the popular media has taught us anything about the NHL playoffs, it's that once you get in, anything can happen. This is a little bit of a misnomer; this does not mean that anything will happen.

The best team usually wins — and although upsets do occur — this maxim usually holds true. The national media framed the 2004 Flames playoff run as some sort of aberration, a heroic David versus Goliath story that played out over the course of two glorious months.

I would disagree.

On paper the Flames "upset" the

Vancouver Canucks in the first round because they were the sixth seed, while Van City was the third by virtue of winning the Northwest Division. But hockey is not played on paper, it is played on the ice, and with the Canucks missing Todd Bertuzzi and their starting goalie Dan Cloutier, the Flames were the better team. Kiprusoff was head and shoulders above any of the three goalies Vancouver threw in the net during that seven game set, and Flames captain Jarome Iginla outplayed Markus Naslund and Brendan Morrison.

When your best players (especially your goaltender) are the best players on the ice, you usually win. The case against Detroit, and admittedly to a lesser extent, San Jose, in 2004 holds true as well. Kiprusoff was better than Curtis Joseph and Evgeny Nabokov in both those series, and coach Darryl Sutter used a system that maximized his team — not just a constellation of talent, as was the case with the Red Wings. The Flames were a better team than those that they faced in the playoffs that year, and that can

be said for most of the victors in a seven game series.

Based upon my above premise, I would argue that the current incarnation of the Calgary Flames would need to be able to consistently beat Boston, San Jose and Detroit to be considered elite in the league.

Elite means being a legitimate contender for the Stanley Cup, and the road to the cup almost surely will pass through at least one of those three cities for any team vying for the top prize. The Flames have demonstrated that they can beat San Jose (the current season series sees the Flames hold a 2-1 edge), but the jury is out on Boston (Calgary lost 3-2 in the 10th game of this season), and Detroit has gone 2-0 so far against the Flames this year.

To me, the Flames reside in the next tier of teams right beneath those three powerhouses. They are more in the class of Chicago, Montreal, Washington and the Rangers: viable contenders, but they would all need the planets to align correctly with injuries and lucky bounces to outlast an elite team over seven games.

So if the Flames are not yet elite, but consider themselves primed to make

an extended spring run, what should they do? Given his past history, we know general manager Darryl Sutter likes to tinker but not overhaul leading up to the trade deadline. It has paid dividends in the past (2004 and the acquisition of Simon, Nieminen, and Nilson), but it has also burnt him (Mike Leclerc, Brian Boucher, Brad Stuart, anyone?).

Logically, one would think that depth on defence and goal would probably be high on the team's list of priorities, with maybe another winger thrown in for good measure.

The Flames have some pieces that could potentially be moved, although the market place for players such as noted prospects Matt Pelech, Kris Chucko or Dan Ryder remains unclear (and this, of course, assumes the Flames would be willing to part with young players).

The Flames may be better off using their farm depth to bolster the energy heading into playoffs, recalling the likes of Jamie Lundmark and Kyle Greentree in the hopes of pushing themselves into the same orbit of the Bruins, Red Wings and Sharks.

# Dinos overcome shaky sets to down Wesmen

DINOS 3 vs T-BIRDS 1  
men's volleyball

Courtenay Adams  
Gauntlet Sports

With three weekends of play left before the post-season, the University of Calgary men's volleyball team entered the Jack Simpson gym last Friday and Saturday with the mandate of maintaining second-place in the Canada West conference.

Despite the intimidating task of taking on the then third-place University of Winnipeg Wesmen, the Dinos overcame bouts of distracted play and miscommunication to achieve a weekend sweep, winning 3-1 on both Friday (22-25, 35-33, 25-21, 25-16) and Saturday (25-22, 14-25, 28-26, 25-14).

Spectators were on the edge of their seats and were treated to nail-biting action both nights.

Friday's match featured an extensive second set that ended in Dino victory (35-33) as a momentum-shifting kill by left side Andrew Tallas and a paramount service ace by middle Oleg Podporin sealed the deal.

Saturday was also intense, as the Dinos fought to redeem themselves in the third set after suffering disappointment in the second.

Numerous substitutions allowed starting line players to mentally recharge while giving well-deserved court time to some pumped-up Dinos who feature in matches less frequently and were looking to prove their skills.

Graham Vigrass pinpointed the substitution of Pierre Rocque into the mix as a main factor in the momentum shift of Saturday night's match.

"When he came in, he brought energy," Vigrass said, adding that the team's unforced errors during the second-set slump were widely due to a lack of focus and vigour.

Podporin also seemed revitalized during Saturday's third set after a brief discussion with the official over a questionable call.

He attacked with renewed enthusiasm, delivering some frightening service aces and kills to the off-guard Wesmen team.

Dinos head coach Rod Durrant noted that the lost sets and struggles the Dinos faced could largely be chalked up to a faltering mental game as the team became "distracted" and "made some bad decisions at the net hitting."

Part of the team's momentary breakdown on Saturday was due to being temporarily overwhelmed by the task at hand.

"The guys [were] trying to do too much," he said. "[Winnipeg's] block was bigger and better. The defence was better. We knew that and they knew that. We were trying to be perfect and hit a really

good shot and a lot of times, that misses."

However — not to suggest the team's play was rough all weekend — Durrant was quick to point out that, for the most part, the Dinos' game was strong.

"There were a lot of spectacular plays too, with the defence and serving and some big blocks," he said. "It was some fun volleyball to watch for the most part. It was pretty entertaining."

Trying not to think about the post-season before the regular season ends (and the tantalizing thought of home court advantage during the playoffs), both Durrant and Vigrass insisted that the team's focus in practice will be on their upcoming matches this weekend in Brandon and not the post-season.

Blocking and defence will be spotlighted during practice this week, as Durrant sees this as important in the drive, "to solidify what we want to do as a team."

Though the Brandon University Bobcats swept last year's weekend series against the Dinos, the reds have already defeated the Bobcats once this academic year during the Dinos' pre-season invitational.

This, coupled with the Dinos' current momentum, will be an asset as January play heats up.

The Dinos travel to Manitoba to take on the University of Brandon Bobcats Friday and Saturday Jan. 23-24 before coming home to finish the regular season against Thompson Rivers University Wolf Pack the following week.



Martin Lussier/the Gauntlet

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# U of C showcases new music masterpieces

Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

## Happening 2009 festival preview

Veronika Lancaster Deliyannakis  
Gauntlet Entertainment

Electro-acoustics, chamber music and international flavours. What more could a modern music festival offer? According to Dr. Dave Eagle, the festival director of the University of Calgary's Happening 2009: New Music Festival, the program has all that and even more. Happening 2009 is a music festival devoted entirely to contemporary music, the earliest compositions dating to the 1950s, and offers a series of four concerts to showcase this style.

"It's a festival that's meant to connect the music scene in Calgary with what's happening internationally in new music and arts," Eagle says. "When new music is played, sometimes I don't think it is in a really good context for it. You hear a new piece with the orchestra and then you have a 50-minute Beethoven symphony. So in a festival like this, you're actually seeing music like this in its contexts."

This festival offers unique advantages to the community. It is the perfect setting for showcasing con-

temporary music from chamber ensembles to cutting-edge performance techniques like encircling an audience with the band. Each show features a Calgarian artist, three of which are graduate students of the U of C music program, but it also has some international big names for optimal variety. Robert Aitken, a renowned flutist and composer, is participating in every concert as a member of the performers or as a composer. His appearances at the festival also include master classes and workshops for young aspiring

"When new music is played, sometimes I don't think it is in a really good context for it."

-Dr. David Eagle

music students. The community gets an amazing concert and the students get to meet a musician who pursued his dreams and made it, a somewhat rare occurrence these days. It also allows an opportunity for aspiring composers at the U of C to show their talents.

"There's orchestral composition on Wednesday by grad students at U of C," Eagle explains. "They wrote three new pieces for the orchestra and the Calgary Philharmonic [orchestra] the following week. For the audience, we really try to highlight innovation.

That means new artistic practices, new compositions of course, new ways of playing the instrument, new sounds."

This concert will be the debut of the Rubbing Stone ensemble — named after the rubbing stone on Nose Hill where buffalo would come to rub their fur off — as well as a piece by Elliot Carter who at the age of 100 is still writing music. The concerts also have some very interesting compositions such as "Fluctuari," a piece for flute and computer and "Temazcal" by the famous Javier Alvarez, which

is a percussion solo for maracas and electro-acoustic sounds.

Though there is so much to see, Eagle notes one highlight he won't miss is Henri Brant's "Ghosts and Gargoyles."

"This composer wrote spacial music," he explains. "This time you will sit down and the musicians will be around the audience. It's a really amazing experience when you're immersed in that kind of a performance."

Happening 2009 runs from Jan. 26-30. Go to [finearts.ucalgary.ca](http://finearts.ucalgary.ca) for more info.

Shelley Marwood is one of three U of C composition graduate students having their work featured at the festival. She talked to the Gauntlet about her piece and the university's music program.

**Gauntlet:** Tell me a little about your piece, "Merge."

**Shelley Marwood:** It was commissioned by New Works Calgary for this concert for the Rubbing Stone ensemble. Because of the nature the Rubbing Stone ensemble is named after, I had the idea in my head to think of landscapes and the diverse landscapes of Alberta, how sometimes an abrupt change merges into another. That's where the name came from as well.

**G:** What does new music mean to you and what kind of creations come out of this genre?

**SM:** It's new music as a new 20th century classical music. So not like pop music, but in the more classical realm. There are lots of different styles in 20th century music, some of which are a lot more accessible than others — which doesn't make it any more valid, but the general public might not pick up on that right away. With a new music festival, it's really great to have a bit of everything and something from all the different kinds [of new music]. It's not really understood very well

by a lot of people and [people] need to be exposed to it [multiple] times, just like visual art. With music, it's very much based in time, so it's a lot harder to grasp.

**G:** It does seem like there is a huge echelon of music in this genre.

**SM:** There are the different branches of 20th century music — it's sometimes very experimental and very atonal — but there is music by people like Philip Glass which is more accessible and [he] writes a lot of film music. I think it's good if people just get out there and keep trying it out.

**G:** How has the U of C graduate composition program helped you and what do you think you'll take away from it?

**SM:** It's been a wonderful experience for me here. I've had a lot of great opportunities with festivals like this one and with the orchestra readings with the CPO and the orchestra concerts. I found the faculty and the department really supportive of emerging composers. Ensembles like the Lands End ensemble works really closely with the university to promote new music. This is great because I've had nearly every piece I've written performed, which is rare for emerging composers.

...Amanda Hu

# VOX

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## TOP 20 for the week of JAN. 12.09

- \* Denotes Canadian Artist  
 \*\* Denotes Local Artist
- 1 **VARIOUS** *55 Years Of Jazz* (Delmark)
  - 2 **MEISHA & THE SPANKS\*\*** *Meisha & The Spanks* (indie)
  - 3 **VARIOUS\*\*** *Nothing On But Your Radio: Live From CJSW 90.9FM* (indie)
  - 4 **FUCKED UP\*** *The Chemistry Of Common Life* (Matador)
  - 5 **THE BICYCLES\*** *Oh No It's Love* (Fuzzy Logic)
  - 6 **THE SOUL JAZZ ORCHESTRA\*** *Manifesto* (Do Right)
  - 7 **MEDESKI MARTIN & WOOD** *Radiolarians I* (Indirecto)
  - 8 **PARTS & LABOR** *Receivers* (Jagjaguar)
  - 9 **JAY REATARD** *Matador Singles '08* (Matador)
  - 10 **ROB MOSHER'S STORYTIME\*** *The Tortoise* (indie)
  - 11 **EXPLODING PIGS\*\*** *Exploding Pigs* (indie)
  - 12 **VARIOUS** *Badd Santa: A Stones Throw Records Xmas* (Stones Throw)
  - 13 **ELECTRIC FRANKENSTEIN / MAXIMUM RNR** *Life In Rewind/Turmoil* (indie)
  - 14 **MENAHAN STREET BAND** *Make The Road By Walking* (Dunham)
  - 15 **GANG GANG DANCE** *Saint Dymphna* (The Social Registry)
  - 16 **THE JOHNNYS\*** *I Like It A Lot* (Slave River)
  - 17 **ISOBEL CAMPBELL & MARK LANEGAN** *Sunday At Devil Dirt* (v2)
  - 18 **VARIOUS\*** *Just West Of Something Big* (indie)
  - 19 **TY SEGALL** *Ty Segall* (Castle Face)
  - 20 **HUSH ARBORS** *Hush Arbors* (Ecstatic Peace)

### JAZZ

- 1 **VARIOUS** *55 Years Of Jazz* (Delmark)
- 2 **MEDESKI MARTIN & WOOD** *Radiolarians I* (Indirecto)
- 3 **ROB MOSHER'S STORYTIME\*** *The Tortoise* (indie)
- 4 **KIERAN HEBDEN & STEVE REID** *NYC* (Domino)
- 5 **THE MATTHEW HERBERT BIG BAND** *There's Me And There's You* (IK7)

### FOLK/ROOTS/BLUES

- 1 **THE TALLEST MAN ON EARTH** *Shallow Grave* (Gravitation)
- 2 **THE SMOKIN' 45'S\*\*** *Live At The Palomino* (indie)
- 3 **HANK III** *Damn Right Rebel Proud* (Sidewalk)
- 4 **ERIN ROSS\*\*** *Sweet Thing* (indie)
- 5 **O'DEATH** *Broken Hymns Limbs And Skin* (Kemado)

### MYKE'S PICKS

- 1 **ARRINGTON DE DIONYSO**
- 2 **MAYER HAWTHORNE & THE COUNTY**
- 3 **WELCOME WAGON**
- 4 **BADD SANTA**
- 5 **JUSTICE**

### SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY



**MIESHA** Louie, former front-woman for Calgary's rockers Bogart, has dropped a hot seven inch on gold vinyl that has

overtaken the airwaves here at CJSW over the holidays. Seriously, the range of shows that were digging on this record around Christmas made her spin count go off the page on my tracking sheets! And to think this is only a seven inch... what's going to happen when this gull drops a full length?

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# Upcoming movies a sea of dull



Hoang-Mai Hong  
 Film Festivites



courtesy Warner Brothers

Alas, it's January, so gird yourselves for the new semester, as well as a month that will offer little in the way of good escapism, new movie-wise. It sounds rather bleak, but take comfort in the fact that there are still plenty of award-nominated and critically-acclaimed films still in theatres. If you still haven't taken in *Slumdog Millionaire*, *Milk*, *Frost/Nixon*, *Revolutionary Road*, *Changeling*, *Gran Torino*, *Doubt*, *The Reader*, *Happy-Go-Lucky*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* or *Rachel Getting Married*, go and do it before classes really start picking up.

As for the more mediocre new releases this month, the list is also long, but hopelessly dull, with a few exceptions. Mickey Rourke's highly-touted performance in *The Wrestler* saw a wider release last week. The movie tells the story of a washed up former pro-wrestler and all-around good guy trying to make amends with his estranged daughter (Evan Rachel Wood) as well as mount a comeback. Rourke is genuine and endearing in this role that has completely revived his career, and it's also good to see director Darren Aronofsky bounce back from his last impenetrably pretentious film, *The Fountain*. Of note as well in last week's releases is *Last Chance Harvey*, an uplifting tale of two lonely middle-aged people who find each other, which earned both Emma Thompson and Dustin

Something tells me I'm just not that into this movie.

Hoffman several award nods. Another small film with an award-worthy performance is *I've Loved You So Long*, a French film starring Kristin Scott Thomas, which will be released this week. Thomas plays a woman just released from prison who begins to open up again with help from her sister's love.

Some easily skippable new releases this week includes *Taken*, a retreat of the *Death Wish* story, with Liam Neeson badly suppressing his Irish accent as the crazed and vengeful vigilante father, and *Outlander*, which answers the question, "What has Jim Caviezel been doing since playing Jesus?" The answer: playing a viking who fights off a Predator-type creature from space. Another second-rate treatment of the supernatural also sees the light of day in *Underworld: Rise of Lycans*, the prequel of the *Underworld* series, which stars Michael Sheen, fresh from his performance as Sir David Frost in *Frost/Nixon*, and the always fun Bill Nighy. Whether this is actually a fairly decent entertainment or a paycheck for these guys will be

decided when the movie hits theatres this week.

January 30 releases are rather generic and anemic-looking things, such as rom-com *New in Town* starring Renée Zellweger and Harry Connick Jr., and *The Uninvited*, which is yet another bland-sounding horror film. The tepid trend continues the following week with another rom-com coming from the *Sex and the City* machine, *He's Just Not That Into You*, with Ben Affleck, Scarlett Johansson and Jennifer Aniston headlining, and *Pink Panther 2* with Steve Martin mercilessly doing another terrible turn as Inspector Clouseau. It finishes with some potentially okay-looking movies like *Fanboys*, about a group of nerds/geeks/dorks/whathaveyou who travel cross-country to attend the premiere of *Episode I* of *Star Wars*, and *Coraline*, a delightfully bizarre and demented looking animated 3D film with the voices of Dakota Fanning and Ian McShane (*Deadwood*).

The romantic comedies keep on coming in the advent of Valentine's Day with the release of *Confessions*

of a *Shopaholic* on Feb. 13 with the appealing Isla Fisher attempting to liven up the cloying character of Becky Bloomwood. Another remake of *Friday the 13th* hits theatres as well. The highlight of this week is the perennial Clive Owen thriller called *The International* which has Owen moonlighting as a far-too-handsome Interpol operative.

Finally, in the realm of wide releases, the brilliant looking adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* apparently will be released on Feb. 20 unless it is once again pushed back. Fingers crossed.

In the world of documentaries, the Plaza Theatre is currently presenting *Antonio Gaudi*, which takes a close look at the famous Catalan architect's fantastical buildings and parks in Spain. Another fascinating looking doc playing at the Plaza is *Zidane: A 21st Century Portrait*, which bills itself as "halfway between a sports documentary and a conceptual art installation" and follows an entire Real Madrid game from the point of view of the French soccer genius.

Lastly, Cinemania at the university from now until reading break will be presenting second-runs of *City of Ember*, an overlooked post-apocalyptic kids flick from Walden Media with luminous child-actor Saoirse Ronan (Oscar-nominated for her performance in *Atonement* last year), Bill Murray and the British *Office*'s Mackenzie Crook, *Quarantine*, a decent *28 Days Later*-type film and *The Secret Life of Bees* which earned Dakota Fanning an unprecedented NAACP Image Award nod.

Check out our the Feb. 5 issue of the *Gauntlet* for Musical Musings.

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# Anberlin knows rock isn't just sex and drugs

**A n b e r l i n**  
m u s i c i n t e r v i e w

**Mike Tofin**

Gauntlet Entertainment

Nate Young is such a nice boy. At the ripe age of 21 he is the drummer for the two-time Billboard top-20 recording artists Anberlin. Despite the band's obvious success, Young and the rest of the group stay grounded and even donate their time to charitable causes.

"I went to Haiti in May of 2006, with Stephen [Christian, lead vocalist]," says Young. "We lived in the mountains with some families in a little place called Manu. We lived there for days and just chilled with the people. We showed them we cared about them and that we loved them. Some of them had never seen white people before, or all they have heard of white people is that we are bad. Since we are Americans they thought that we were coming to destroy their land. However, it was just incredible to just hang out with them. It was super cool."

Anberlin has climbed to a spectacular pedestal in the music industry, but Young maintains there is more to life than the fame and success they are achieving at the moment.

"It's just to show the world that it is not about us and it should never be," says Young. "It should be about people and to show them that we do love them and we do care about them. It is faith-based, because what we believe is that we are supposed to go out in the world, to the widows and to the orphans and show them that we care and, also, as Christians to show them God's love. However, it's beyond that it's just to show that we can be a part of what they are doing and it's not completely about us."

Young says they often fight against the preconceptions of rock music being all about sex and drugs. Faith in tow, he explains, although he lives the Christian lifestyle, he allows for pastimes along with his humanitarian efforts.

"I do enjoy a glass of wine," he laughs. "I actually really like wine a lot, but I set limits for myself and I make sure that I'll only have half a glass and when I do drink it is very rare. I usually only have a beer with a meal. I never drink to the excess, because of my personal beliefs I don't want to get to that point because I feel that any altered state of mind is not what I want to do."

Constantly striking a positive bal-

ance between art and moderation. Young hopes to keep his faith while enjoying life and spreading the enjoyment of Anberlin's music.

Anberlin plays the Warehouse on Jan. 26. Doors open at 8 p.m.



courtesy Universal Music

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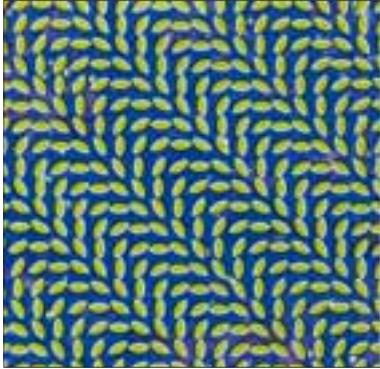
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**Animal Collective**  
*Merriweather Post Pavilion*  
(Domino)

Audiophiles around the world have been waiting with bated breath for Animal Collective's newest LP, *Merriweather Post Pavilion*, and for good reason. Fears of the band losing its ability to create inspired and characteristic music are quickly quashed within the first few minutes of play. Less twitchy and, some might say, harsh than their last full-length, *Strawberry Jam*, the group moves towards a more electro, sampley sound, with treats of unconventional instruments like organ and didjeridoo interjecting.

"My Girl" is a standout track, boasting the most blatant examples of Animal Collective's new sound. Signature ethereal vocals weave in and out through electronic, tinkering arpeggios. They continue on as a groove takes over with toms and slapping noises propagate infectious head-bopping. The group's new direction is clear with the song's overarching melodic qualities. Animal Collective strikes out in a more acoustic-sounding direction, finding a completely satisfying mix of layered vocals, piano and stick hits in "Guys Eyes." It works as a relaxing and refreshing counterpoint to the inorganic sounds felt throughout a lot of the album, while still maintaining cohesiveness to the other tracks with repeating samples driving the vocal and piano sections.

*Merriweather Post Pavilion* proves Avey Tare, Panda Bear, Deakin and Geologist's abilities to revamp their unique brand of musical inventiveness without losing the core of their signature sound.

..Amanda Hu



**Cadence Weapon**  
*Separation Anxiety Mixtape*  
(Upper Class Recordings)

Cadence Weapon's [Rollie Pemberton] last LP *Afterparty Babies* was a rousing success both critically and in the clubs. Follow-up mixtape *Separation Anxiety* doesn't stop the party, but also offers a much more eclectic collection than his previous full-length effort. Up on Weapon's website as a pay-what-you-want deal, the album offers some interesting tunes as well as the typical boring mixtape remixes.

Those looking to shake it should turn to the first three songs. Standout track "Pretty Girls Make Raves" features a bombastic bass beat perfect for sweaty dance floor make-outs as Pemberton warns wide-eyed to, "Beware the pretty ones." Special mention goes to closer "Sex With My Ex" a remix for fellow Edmontonian D.B. Buxton Revue — the song's chirpy synth and driving bass are so good, it makes you want to call up your ex right then and there.

The party dies down in the middle with standout songs "The Morning After" and "Bad Graffiti" oriented for those in the chill-out room. "Morning" sounds like Pemberton imitating Kanye West in the best possible way. Over a sample of a cool and detached electronic piano, Pemberton raps relaxed and unusually melancholic about how he expected his nighttime bedroom visitor "to be gone the morning after." The most fascinating song that isn't part of the Cadence Weapon oeuvre is a live team-up with Final Fantasy covering Chad VanGalen's "Mini TVs." The sheer audacity of VanGalen's undeniably odd psych-pop is converted into Weapon spitting lyrics over filtered synths and an absolutely mind-bending guitar solo. Outside of that though, most of the remixes are dreadfully mediocre.

..Jordyn Marcellus



**Nickel Eye**  
*The Time of the Assassins*  
(Rykodisc)

Rock musicians are facing an ever-growing dilemma: go completely under the radar, please the masses of 14-year-old girls out there or add a refreshing sound to the genre.

New York folk-rock band Nickel Eye seems to subscribe to none of these fates. Instrumentally, the band is capable of churning out great tunes. Vocalist/guitarist Nikolai Fraiture — and bassist for the Strokes — lays down a couple of interesting and catchy riffs that tread between country-rock territory, but his vocals are what inevitably prove to be the downfall of the album. Fraiture's monotone voice gets old really quick. The rhythm section, provided by U.K. band South, isn't anything unique, but gets the job done.

The lyrics are said to be inspired by a U.S. road

trip Fraiture took at 19. The album presents fairly generic folk-influenced lines, although a couple are just downright laughable; the chorus of "Back from Exile" proclaims "Hello Motherfucker, I'm back from exile."

The album is not completely terrible though. Tracks like "This Is The End" and "Where The Cold Wind Blows" (featuring Regina Spekter on piano) actually make use of Fraiture's voice, proving that depressed singing can actually sound great if used in certain contexts.

Nickel Eye shows a lot of potential, but to be recognized in the music world, they must step up their game, or else they will be just another rock band.

..Mohamed Omar



**Fall Out Boy**  
*Folie à Deux*  
(Island)

Here's hoping no one listening to *Folie à Deux* begins to lose their mind. Fall Out Boy's latest effort — the title of which implies a transmission of psychosis from one person to another — may incite madness, but at least it will be a happy madness. Although it has its moments, *Folie à Deux* is nothing more than the latest in contemporary bubblegum pop. The album seems to have an identity crisis as the 13 songs jump around in terms of style from uplifting optimistic alternative, to catchy pop, to try-hard punk. The only constant is lead singer Patrick

Stump, who proves he can sing as well as any other in the era of Auto-Tune.

With all that said and done, *Folie à Deux* is by no means horrible. While the album as a whole lacks an apparent theme, the songs do have a way of being catchy and enjoyable — a feature that is directly attributed to the '80s flair that the band sprinkled in to some of their songs. This is also not to say that the album is great, but it hosts enough redeeming qualities to make for a peppy, upbeat offering.

..Andrew Swan

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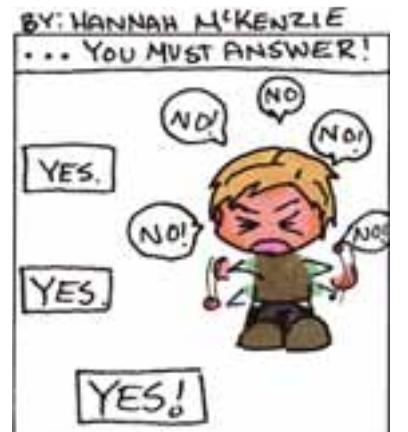
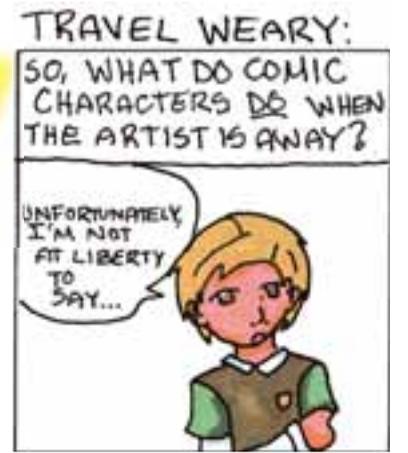
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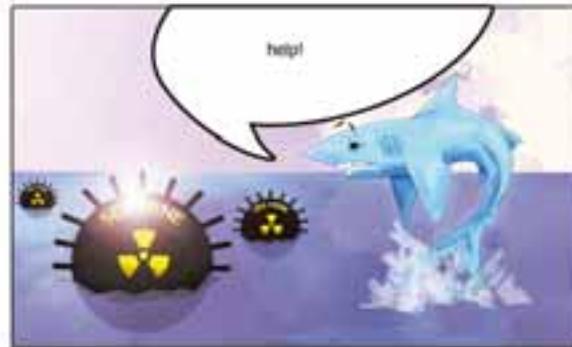
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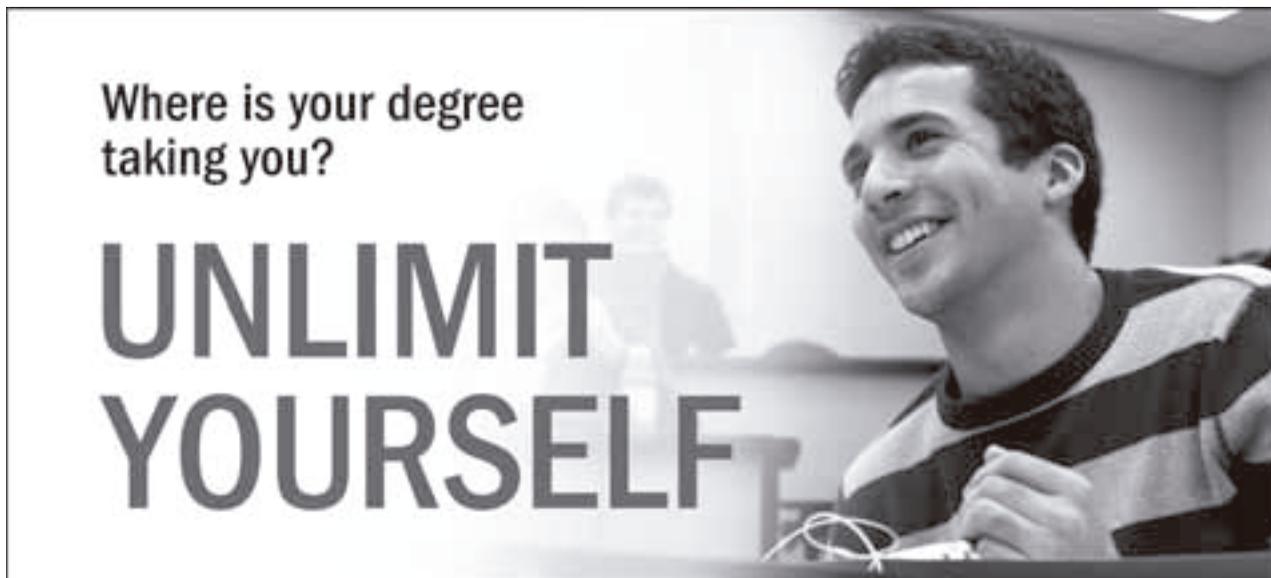
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## in a PICKLE



BY MUSTAALI RAJ



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