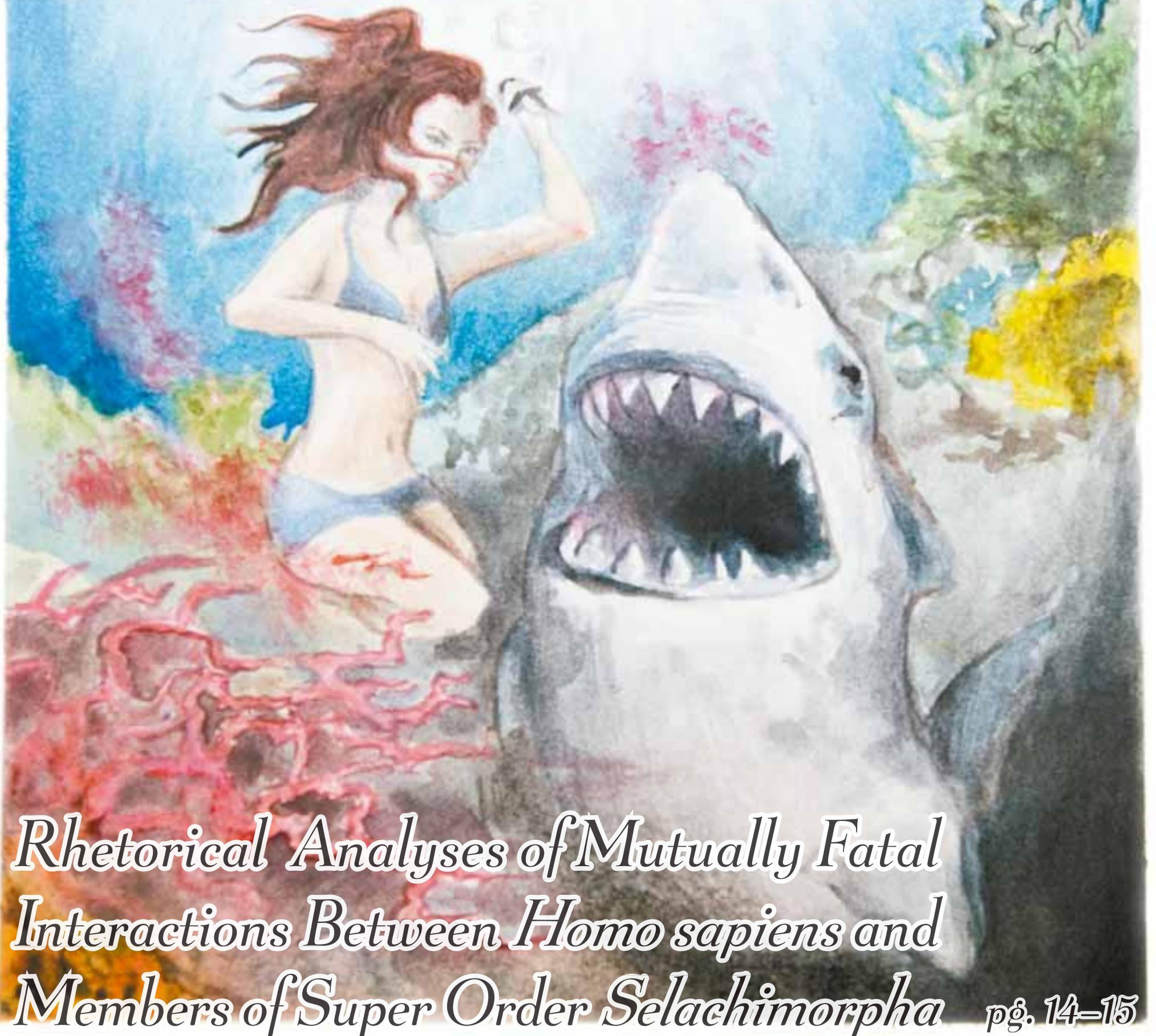


U N I V E R S I T Y O F C A L G A R Y

gauntlet

VOLUME 49 | ISSUE NO. 27 | JANUARY 29 | 2009



Rhetorical Analyses of Mutually Fatal Interactions Between Homo sapiens and Members of Super Order Selachimorpha pg. 14-15



STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

FEBRUARY 2 - 6 EVENTS:

MONDAY

Mundane Mondays, That Empty Space 9 - 11am
 Cinemania: Quarantine, ICT 102, 6:30 & 9pm
 SU Election Forums, South Courtyard Stage, 11:30am and 12:30pm all week long!

TUESDAY

Clubs Night at the Den, 5pm - close

WEDNESDAY

25¢ Wing Night at the Den, 8pm - close

THURSDAY

Student Appreciation Night at the Den

FRIDAY

Governance Review Committee Meeting - every Friday at 11am. Visit www.su.ucalgary.ca/grc
 That Empty Space: Jon and Roy, 3 - 6pm MSC

VOTE



Students' Union General Election

VOTING DAYS:

February 10 - 12

FORUMS

February 2 - 9,
 SU South Courtyard Stage (MSC)

Monday, Feb. 2
Academic Commissioners, 11:30 am
 Vice President, 12:30 pm

Tuesday, Feb. 3
External Commissioners, 11:30 am
 Vice President, 12:30 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 4
Events Commissioners, 11:30 am
 Vice President, 12:30 pm

Thursday, Feb. 5
Operations/Finance Commissioners, 11:30 am
 Vice President, 12:30 pm

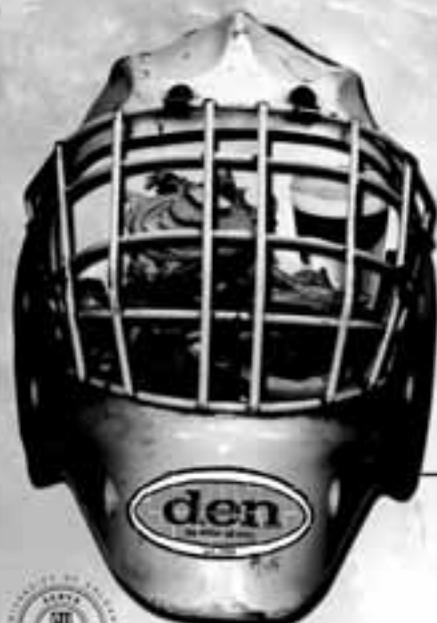
Friday, Feb. 6
President President, 12:30 pm

Monday, Feb. 9
Board of Governors & NUTV Referendum Board of Governors, 11:30 am
 NUTV Referendum, 12:30 pm

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Thursday, February 5th



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JANUARY 29 2009

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Lisa Nguyen for putting intense amounts of effort into her page four blockbuster this week.

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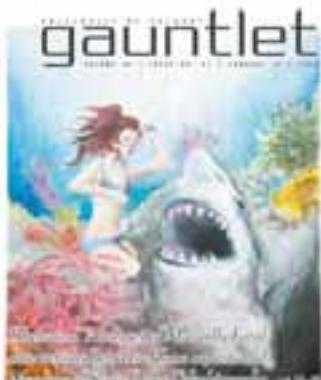
The *Gauntlet* is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university 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 metaphysical horse based ink. We urge you to recycle/fail spectacularly at your doomed-by-Denny's attempts to sleep on the couch at 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.

The Cover

Painting by Kendra Kusick, photo and design by Paul Baker



Child soldiers and the ICC

The struggle for international justice enters the first round

A Congolese warlord is being put on trial at the International Criminal Court for using children as weapons of war.

The case, which started Monday, is the first ever for the Netherlands-based court and lawmakers, and breakers, around the world are watching closely to see how effective it will be.

In 1995, the United Nations created the Ad Hoc Committee for the Establishment of an International Criminal Court in an attempt to develop a place of universal jurisdiction where perpetrators of issues of international concern, namely genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes could be tried. The Rome Statute, the treaty it's based upon, was passed into effect in 2002, signed by 108 countries. Yet many key powers have not signed on, including China, Russia and even the United States

Thomas Lubanga, who pleaded not guilty, has been charged with recruiting and sending children under the age of 15 to fight in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's northeast.

Since 1996, conflict has raged intermittently in the country and with more than five million dead, many have labeled it Africa's World War. Lubanga and his officers are alleged to have recruited as many as 30,000 child soldiers — some thought to be as young as nine — between September 2002 and August 2003, telling many "their gun was father and mother and would feed and clothe them."

The young fighters were used to kill, pillage and rape, while vying for control of the vast mineral wealth of the DRC's eastern Ituri region. Young girls are reported to have been the most vulnerable, being used as sex



slaves after reaching puberty.

According to the United Nations, as many as 250,000 child soldiers are currently fighting in more than a dozen countries, prompting many onlookers to hope the trial will deter future use of children as tools of war.

"This first ICC trial makes it clear that the use of children in armed combat is a war crime that can, and will, be prosecuted at the international level," said Param-Preet Singh, counsel in Human Rights Watch's International Justice Program.

The case also marks the first time

witnesses will be used in a war crimes case. Prosecutors will call several former child soldiers to the stand, representing 93 victims that will be able to apply for reparations.

While Lubanga's trial is a just start, there is a need to look into military leaders from Uganda and Rwanda that backed different Congolese rebel groups in exchange for a share of the country's rich mineral wealth. As well, other warlords — including Bosco Ntaganda, who worked under Lubanga — have been indicted by the ICC, yet remain able to roam free.

Perhaps even more important than the implications this case has for armies that recruit child soldiers, the outcome, and the extent to which decisions made will be implemented, will set a precedent for the international community. But for the court to be successful in prosecuting potential defendants such as Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe and President al-Bashir of Sudan, key players need to show their support by signing on to the Rome Statute.

Katy Anderson
 Features Editor

Editor, the *Gauntlet*: Of unsearching scientists

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

Recently, the prominent scientist Stephen Hawking warned humanity that, "We're acting with reckless indifference to our future on planet earth. It will be difficult to avoid disaster in the next hundred years, let alone the next thousand or million." Some time earlier he said that the "Doomsday Clock advanced to five minutes to

midnight." David Suzuki echoes the same words: "We're sleepwalking into the future."

Why is humanity hell-bent on destroying the world? Hawking admonishes us that "If we are the only intelligent beings in the galaxy, we should make sure to survive and continue." Otherwise who will be left to discover what gravity is and if the Eleven Di-

mensional String Theory is true? He admits he doesn't know how life on Earth first appeared. Yet Hawking states, that "the universe has no creator," but then again he says "the universe created itself spontaneously out of nothing." Wow!

Is the belief in a God any less fantastic? Not the mean and jealous creature in "sacred" literature,

who was invented by our unaware and superstitious ancestors, who didn't know any better, but a Creative Intelligence way beyond human comprehension, which we can appreciate, but may never understand in our "material" life on Earth.

Is it too much of a conjecture to presume that the Big Bang was see UNSEARCHING SCIENTISTS, page 18

Recession leads to campus job losses

Six SU employees told to go home after concerts stop bringing in the dough

Nicole Dionne

Gauntlet News

It was a hard goodbye for six Students' Union staff who won't be coming back anytime soon.

An event operations supervisor, two Den and Black Lounge managers, a kitchen staff member, the Student Union Volunteer Services manager and a loading dock shipper/receiver were let go recently.

SU president Dalmy Baez said that the decision was made early January in response to a lack of revenue.

"Given the economic position, our forecasts are quite off," said Baez. "We're not in any kind of dire financial position right now, but we know that we're going to have to be tighter fiscally. We're being proactive and we took a very strong look at our organization and identified some areas we think we can continue to provide services to students by implementing some kind of restructuring."

According to the SU, both the



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

Student services have a little less help thanks to the suffering economy.

impact of positions cut and the fiscal implications were taken into consideration when making the decision.

"We looked at their salaries [and] we looked at the services that we provide as a Students' Union," said Baez. "We felt that these six positions were the ones

that we would be able to let go without having such an impact on the way we deliver services to students."

The layoffs come in light of the slow economy's impact on SU-run businesses. Conference and events revenue declined because of a lack of clientele and touring bands.

As the businesses generated less revenue used to help fund student services, it was important to make some changes in order to continue providing services to students, Baez said.

"The whole point of the restructuring is to kind of ensure that, as an organization, we survive," she said.

Most of the positions affected by this decision are not in direct contact with students. The only student service to take a loss was Volunteer Services office, which lost its senior executive and will eventually be grouped into the SU clubs.

The transition is proving to be a bit bumpy for some as duties are being redistributed.

"Right now it seems pretty disorganized," said a volunteer with Volunteer Services, who wished to remain anonymous. "All of the organizations, they always bring updates to the manager. At this point nobody really knows [what] people are doing. I could see that it could take a while for things to start running smoothly again."

The SU maintained that while the cuts were unfortunate, they were necessary.

"At the end of the day, we looked at all the numbers and this was the right decision to make," said Baez.

Representatives of the SU businesses affected by the layoffs declined to comment.

Controversial Israel-Palestine speaker visits

Lisa Nguyen

Gauntlet News

Dr. Norman Finkelstein's controversial commentary on the Palestinian-Israeli dispute and his staunch critique of Israeli military actions have made him somewhat notorious.

Last week, he visited the University of Calgary to deliver a pointed commentary of the Gaza conflict, which is deeply rooted in the political power struggle over a partition

of land. Finkelstein believes that Israel's desire to maintain control over the West Bank and Gaza has perpetuated military uprisings from both sides.

The U of C Palestinian-Canadian Students Society hosted this sold-out talk, "Resolving Israel-Palestine: what we can learn from Ghandi," to offer a different viewpoint on the discord in Gaza than what has been presented in the popular media.

Finkelstein, a sympathizer of the Palestinian struggle, argued

that Hamas is wrongfully labelled as a terrorist group. Hamas retaliated against Israel for breaking the ceasefire agreement, explained Finkelstein. He boldly portrayed Israel as a "terrorist state," and criticized their military attacks on civilian areas.

"The Israeli government administered an education of fear by establishing their deterrence capacity by inflicting pain and a heavy death toll on the Hamas and the Gaza population," said Finkelstein.

His outspoken beliefs have resulted in Finkelstein not being allowed into Israel for the next 10 years.

In order to strive for justice, Finkelstein suggested that people must "hold onto the truth," the name of Gandhi's non-violent peace movement.

"We must take up the weapons of truth and justice so that we, the people, can mobilize social justice," said Finkelstein.

U of C political science professor Dr. Michael Keren disagreed

with Finkelstein's stance.

"The way to stop the cycle of violence in the region is to encourage an urgent negotiation process between Israel and a strong and legitimate Palestinian authority aimed at coexistence between two peoples, both of whom have the right to live and flourish," he said.

Finkelstein said Israelis should leave the region of Gaza, however Keren suggested that the desire for a complete evacuation of the Jewish

see ISRAEL, page 6

campus quips



"I'm more assertive about the future now."
– Aleem Tejani,
third-year
development
studies



"It hasn't at all. I'm not out in the field, I don't invest anything."
– Erin Storey,
third-year geology



"I think that it's going to change some of the jobs when I graduate."
– Tammy Schwass,
fourth-year
communication
and culture



"I guess just finding jobs this year is a bit harder than last year."
– Chris Simpson,
second-year
engineering SAIT

Hunters negatively affect the evolution of animals

Cam Cotton-O'Brien

Opinions Editor

Amassing data from the last few decades, Dr. Paul Paquet has found some alarming evolutionary tendencies in animal species that are hunted by humans.

His work has not endeared him to trophy hunters.

The adjunct professor at the University of Calgary and his colleagues conducted a meta-analysis of previous studies looking at the impact of human activity on other species. This type of analysis used previous findings to draw conclusions from the collective data.

“Those studies all looked at the effects human hunting, either commercial or recreational, has on those species,” said Paquet. “When we brought all of those studies together and were able to coalesce them, we were able to assess them simultaneously. What we found was that there was a really profound human influence that shaped the animals that were being exploited, and the plants, too.”

That profound human influence includes a roughly 300 per cent acceleration in the rate of evolution for such species as compared to species that are not hunted. In addition, because of the peculiar place of man as a super-predator in the modern world, the mode of that evolution is strange. Because humans have the technology to target the most robust members of a species, human interference results



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

Human hunting is steering evolution in an unexpected direction.

in smaller and possibly weaker individuals.

“The difference was a bit of a surprise to all of us, how rapidly these changes were occurring,” said Paquet. “Typically human, we are after the biggest and the best, so really what we’re doing is high-grading the population.”

The size of the animals and the speed of evolution were not the only abnormalities observed in such species. The study also found that the animals’ reproductive behaviour had changed, they were reproducing at much younger ages. Paquet argued this behaviour occurs because the prime members of the species are being hunted, which opens up reproductive opportunities to less developed indi-

viduals, and because animals in that situation are more likely to breed before growing to full size, at which point they become targets.

“In cod fisheries, which have been controversial for some time, over time, females began to reproduce at an earlier age than undisturbed populations,” said Paquet. “One of the consequences of that is that they produced fewer eggs — much, much fewer eggs. That ultimately contributed to a population decline.”

Paquet pointed out that these human pressures are not likely beneficial to the animals and may reduce the viability of the species.

“We don’t really understand all of the repercussions, but we do have examples, from fish-

eries primarily, where populations are in jeopardy,” he said. “Nearly all are in trouble.”

Technological innovations in human weaponry have been one of the key reasons for the difficult situation this study has unearthed. Paquet noted that humans have always hunted, but that it is only in the last couple of hundreds of years that they have completely moved away from the traditional predatory behaviour of attacking the weakest members of the species and been able to consistently target the most well-developed individuals.

“I’ve always tried to imagine what do you hunt with a spear or a knife,” said Paquet. “That’s got to be pretty limiting.”

Though there has been considerable negative reaction from hunters since the study was published, Paquet pointed out that the reason for carrying out and publishing the study was to disseminate information, not to criticize. He hopes that the information will help guide humans to adopt more sustainable hunting and gathering strategies, one of which he says is developing more wildlife sanctuaries.

“It’s going to have to happen through regulation,” said Paquet.

The study initially included some 50 species, but was eventually pared down to 30 from around the world for which there was sufficient data. Of these, the majority were fish. Paquet plans to follow up with another study in three or four years.

Gang violence was left to its own devices for too long

Daniel Pagan

Gauntlet News

As the city is still reeling from shock over the gang shootings on New Year’s Day that killed three people, Calgarians are asking if the Calgary Police Service is doing enough to stop the violence.

Former police officer and University of Calgary adjunct anthropology assistant professor

Dr. Catherine Prowse suggested to the *Calgary Herald* that the city failed to take its gang problem seriously in 2003. The CPS was reluctant to admit there were gangs setting up in the city, she said, due to a fear of giving gangs undeserved media attention.

The delay cost police time to gather evidence and make community alliances.

“When the issue of gang is-

sues arise in cities, police agencies generally pursue one of the two avenues,” said Prowse in an e-mail. “Some believe that to acknowledge their presence may be giving them the recognition they crave, which may fuel the problem. The other way is to acknowledge that groups have transitioned to street gang status and proceed in that direction involving the community and media. Regretta-

bly, Calgary opted for the former approach.”

Prowse said the word “gang” came up internally in the police service before 2003, but it was five years later before it was used publicly.

Organized crime operations centre acting staff sergeant Gord Eriksson admitted the service was not paying enough attention to gangs at the time.

However, Eriksson pointed out

that the city did outlaw motorcycle gangs and is conducting investigations on several other gangs.

Currently, the CPS is working on expanding its Gang Enforcement Team and developing community alliances through town halls.

“The Calgary Police Service is co-ordinating efforts with our partners at all levels of government to increase the effectiveness

see GANGS, page 8

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That Empty Space gets bigger, less empty

Morgan Haigler
News Assistant

With an ever growing student population at University of Calgary, the Students' Union plans to transform MacEwan Student Centre's food court into a more spacious and modern-looking area by early September.

According to SU operations and finance vice-president Alex Judd, the space, which is now next to That Empty Space, will include 200 seats, two food vendors and the option of studying during the day. The SU also plans to expand That Empty Space further down MSC into the What's Up Space.



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

That Empty Space could be getting a \$1.1 million makeover by this spring.

"Basically, we're just trying to fulfill what [students] communicated to us, which was a concern for more space to study and to socialize as well as more food court options, ideally healthy ones," said Judd. "We think that opening up the space is just going to make Mac Hall more inviting and continue to be a good space for students to come."

Fourth-year psychology student Lesley Santos is excited about the changes. She believes that creating more space in MSC will allow the U of C to keep up with a growing student population.

"Often times you're trying to walk through when there's so much traffic," said Santos. "It would just be nice to have a quieter area."

Third-year engineering student Kris Rupert said healthy food vendors will give students better options.

"I'm kind of excited to see a couple more food vendors to go in, to be honest," said Rupert. "I have some friends I talk to. We're all in third year so we're kind of tired of Mac Hall on occasion."

SU representative locked out of office

Sarelle Azuelos
News Editor

For the past several months, dissent has been brewing in the Students' Union small and maze-like office on the first floor of the MacEwan Student Centre.

Communication and culture student representative Matt Bladek has lost all access to the office and use of SU resources, including a Den VIP sticker, for what he described as a "personality clash."

SU president Dalmy Baez and vice-president academic Pamela Weatherbee met with Bladek late last semester to discuss his behaviour. They said that Bladek committed to improving his behaviour, but since then they have received more complaints

from students, c&c faculty and other elected officials. Weatherbee and Baez said they were unable to share the nature of these complaints to protect the complainants' privacy.

"We take the concerns of his constituents and the concerns of elected officials very seriously and we felt that it would be appropriate to take further action," said Baez.



Bladek.

Bladek said the lack of access to SU resources makes it difficult to represent his constituents.

"I'm not able to meet with other faculty representatives to discuss projects or anything like that," he

said. "In effect, I'm being constructively dismissed."

He added the initial complaint came from a c&c faculty member who was not satisfied with his informal approach to club meetings. Bladek has since been removed from his position as chair of the c&c Clubs Committee. He argued that his position was to maintain the best interest of undergraduate students and not faculty members.

"The thing that we're the most concerned about is the c&c faculty," said Weatherbee. "I have stepped in to communicate with the club executive and with some of the faculty members that have raised concerns, because if they don't feel comfortable approaching him then they have someone to approach."

He refused to meet with the SU executive because of hostility within the office, according to e-mails with them that Bladek shared with the *Gauntlet*. He feels the current issues are the result of his disagreements with Weatherbee's leadership style, which he described it as a "dictatorship." He also said Student Academic Assembly meetings in November and December were only useful for collecting income.

"I think there's definitely a difference between being constructively critical and being confrontational," said Weatherbee.

Both groups hope the confrontation will be resolved soon. The SU does not have a policy outlining a process to resolve issues with commissioners or faculty representatives.

Israel, cont'd from pg. 4

population in this region is where the real unsettlement lies.

"In indulging in fantasies about the vaporization of Jews from the region, terrorist organizations in the Middle East and their supporters abroad prevent realistic peaceful solutions," said Keren.

The Gaza conflict is entrenched in political, religious and historical complexities, he said.

"Peace requires compromise rather than victory," said Keren.

Both Finkelstein and Keren believe that focus should be placed on future actions towards diplomatic resolutions.

"We must organize, organize, organize and put an end to this lunacy," said Finkelstein.

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Downtown cameras get the okay

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet News

This summer will see 22 new security cameras going up throughout downtown Calgary in response to gang violence and crime.

After long discussions at city council, the cameras are being installed in areas like the Stephen Avenue Mall and near City Hall. The total budget for the camera system is \$50,000.

Chief bylaw officer Bill Bruce said bylaw officers are installing and testing the camera system, but the Calgary Police Service will soon be able to access the data on their vehicle laptops.

The cameras are capable of motion detection and can capture

usable images under most urban lighting situations. Bruce said the cameras themselves are restricted by their pan, tilt and zoom capabilities and masking software to prevent them from looking into private property.

In response to privacy concerns, video data will only be kept for a short period unless part of an investigation.

"Nothing is perfect and unfortunately, surveillance is becoming more of a standard in our world society," said Bruce. "If used properly, there is a place for surveillance technologies, but it must be driven by a need, not a wish."

Bruce acknowledged the possibility of crime moving from areas covered by cameras to ones uncovered, but said causing criminal



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Some are concerned about the 22 cameras violating privacy.

activity to move would result in a measurable reduction overall. The system is wireless, which allows inexpensive relocation of cameras.

The Alberta Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is working with the City of Calgary to assess the cameras' impact. OIPC

director of communications Wayne Wood explained they believe the scope and scale of the camera program needs to be better defined.

"Currently, there are questions that need to be addressed in the report, like if the cameras would be used to identify litterbugs or will it be focused on serious incidents?" asked Wood.

He said there needed to be clear guidelines for who will be able to access the video, if there will be live monitoring and how long the video would be kept before destruction.

The Anarchist Black Cross of Calgary group is skeptical of the usefulness of security cameras. Member Craig Omen said there is very little evidence that the cameras are effective.

He said studies done based on the London model, where they installed cameras over 10 years ago, have concluded that cameras do not lead to a dramatic drop in crime.

Cameras were also taken down in Edmonton and British Columbia because of this. Omen compared the installation of cameras so people can feel safer to a cancer patient getting a Band-Aid.

"The idea that security cameras, watching everyone and everything in its view, would respect privacy is farcical," said Omen. "Why has this proposal received so little news coverage and debate in the public? Why, if this is something that affects us all, have the general population not have any real say in this plan?"

Quitting smoking on campus gets easier

Rhiannon Kirkland
Gauntlet News

Being a smoker on campus has been harder since it became illegal to sell tobacco products at all post-secondary institutions in Alberta on Jan. 1.

Still, smoking remains common on campus, inspiring the University of Calgary and the Canadian Council for Tobacco Control to start a quit smoking campaign.

"People will choose to quit based on different triggers at different times," said CCTC program leader Marino Francispillai.

The council put up posters



Martin Lussier/the Gauntlet

Quitcore now targets students.

around campus encouraging students to quit smoking. They're promoting a province-wide pro-

gram called Quitcore that teaches participants strategies for quitting successfully over eight, 90-minute sessions.

Those in the Quitcore 14-week program have higher quit rates than those who try to go it alone.

"Most people tend to try quitting six to eight times before they succeed, but what we're trying to do is help them make that quit attempt more successful so that they don't have to go through the multiple times," said Francispillai.

The Quitcore program also has a second tier that emphasizes social support. Participants

are given the option of selecting a support person who is trained with support strategies and helps over the course of their attempt to quit.

"Having somebody as a support person that's engaging with them on that quit attempt and getting trained on how to be supportive just enhances their ability to try to quit smoking," said Francispillai.

The latest session of Quitcore started Jan. 20. The program accepts up to 100 participants and is making a waitlist for the next session in September.

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Speed fractures no more

Jon Roe

Editor-in-Chief

In a sport where you're racing five other people around a hockey rink at speeds in excess of 40 kilometres per hour, you better hope that if you fall, whatever is stopping you is soft and forgiving.

This hasn't always been the case in short track speed skating, but a University of Calgary researcher is helping develop improved pads for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

"With foam pads, the basic line is to slow [skaters] down more gradually," said U of C mechanical and manufacturing engineering senior instructor Dr. Clifton Johnston.

Short track speed skating started as a demonstration event at the 1988 games in Calgary, before becoming a full Olympic event in 1992. The skaters would use hockey rinks with only the boards to absorb crashes. Pads gradually were introduced into the sport and the newest systems are used without hockey boards.

Johnston and Mount Royal College engineering instructor Dr. Sean Maw designed pads with multiple types of foam



Jon Roe/the Gauntlet

Dr. Johnston with his foam for speed skating pads.

in metre-thick vinyl cases.

"The pads we've designed for Vancouver are very deliberately designed for the foam [to be] very functional in the pad," said Johnston. "It's soft here; it's harder here to absorb more energy. They're some of the first pads in the world that really have been designed."

U of C third-year kinesiology student Jessica Gregg trains at the Olympic Oval in short track speed skating. She found that pads significantly reduce the amount of injuries.

Gregg skated in World Cup events at Salt Lake City, Utah in back-to-

back seasons. Johnston set up a pad system before this season's event.

"Last year there was a broken leg and two concussions and this year I don't think there were any injuries," said Gregg.

Johnston is in the process of setting up the pads that will be used in Vancouver. They have to work around the different obstacles in the venue and the need for flexibility.

"Any pad system is not going to stop someone from getting hurt," Johnston said. "If they go in the wrong position or hit it head first or hit it feet first [they're going to get hurt]."

Gangs, cont'd from pg. 5

of the judicial system and seek finances to fund our organized crime investigative teams and uniformed members," said Eriksson.

Eriksson warned that dealing with gangs is an ongoing, resource-based challenge.

He explained that the gangs deal in drugs and firearms and do not care about the rest of society. They keep a low profile compared to other cities to avoid identification.

"Toronto's gang situation is very different from Calgary's in that our gangs are not typically territorial," said Eriksson. "Our gangs are very fluid, well-connected, both provincially and inter-provincially, and very sophisticated. Violence that occurred in our downtown core is more attributed to street-level criminals or too much alcohol."

Liberal Member of Legislative Assembly for Calgary Buffalo Kent Hehr stands by the cps.

As the Shadow Minister of Justice, his inspiration to fight gangs is linked to personal experience — he was shot as a bystander in a drive-by shooting in 2002.

Hehr said politicians were too slow reacting to this problem, citing last spring when Alberta funded

only 200 of 400 police officers requested.

He added the police need new legislative tools to hit organized criminal elements in their wallets, such as a bill he proposed, which would allow officers to seize the license of anyone driving around with unregistered weapons and fine them \$20,000. The proceeds would go to victims of gang violence.

"Family and Community Support Services estimates that for every dollar spent on preventative programming, \$6 to \$12 is saved on future spending on policing, justice, family abuse, health care and additional treatment," said Hehr.

Fourth-year nursing student Nicole Brandon agreed with Hehr that preventative programming is necessary. She lived in the downtown core for six and a half years and regularly felt unsafe.

"As long as gangs exist and they are carrying weapons, I think we're all at risk of being stuck in the crossfire," she said. "The police should consider working with other cities that are successful in reducing gang activity and work with professionals that study the psychology behind gangs."

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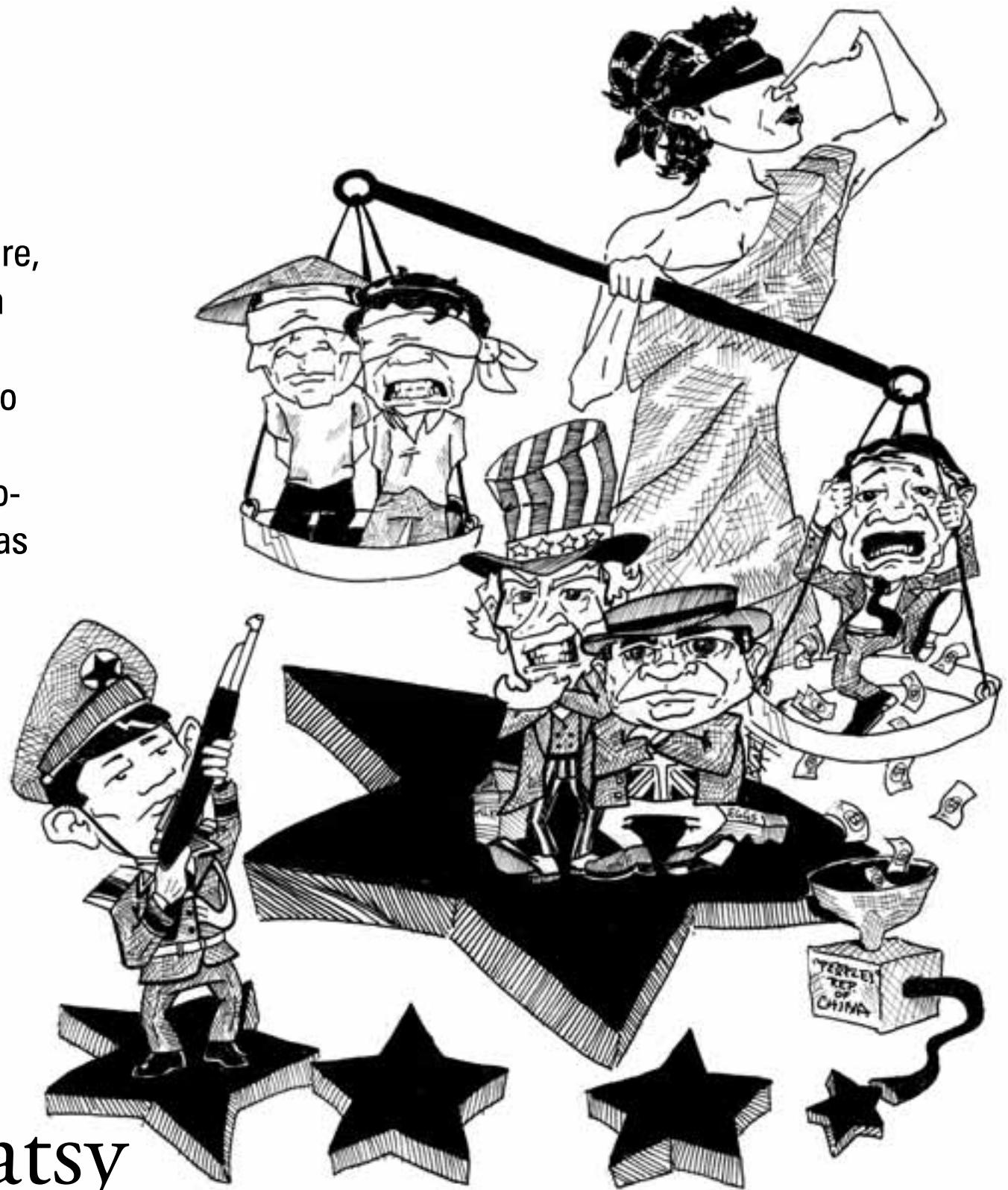
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IT'S ABOUT FAMILY FUN!

People love their pets, sure, but people love their own children a lot more. So, when melamine started to show up again, this time not in pet food, but in people food, the populace was predictably pissed.



Picking a patsy

China puts two heads on the chopping block for the melamine milk scandal



Elijah Stauth
 Crude Dialectics

The undesirable effects of melamine on the human body have become well known to the public ever since the Chinese protein export contaminations, perhaps better known as the Chinese milk scam of 2008 and the pet food recall of 2007. The scandal, which resulted from the addition of melamine to raw milk to make it appear higher in protein, left some 300,000 infants with kidney damage and six babies dead.

As with most cases where we, the people, feel we have been wronged by faceless corporations, we want to see some justice and, if it's quite alright with everyone else, we prefer justice to be as absolute as possible. And no other government on our planet has to worry about delivering justice to as many people as the Chinese.

If it had only been justice that the Chinese government had to deliver then things probably wouldn't have been that bad. First, back in 2007, they were slow to respond when problems showed up with contaminated proteins in pet foods, eventually denying that the contaminated proteins were exported from China at all. Then, having barred foreign

food safety investigators from the country, officials were ultimately forced to admit that the tainted proteins had in fact originated from their nation. To show that China was serious about getting to the bottom of unsettling matters such as toxic food distribution, two managers from two different protein manufacturers were arrested.

People love their pets, sure, but people love their own children a lot more. So, when melamine started to show up again, this time not in pet food, but in people food, the populace was predictably pissed.

It's not just justice anymore; it's the government's integrity on the line. Their corrective actions after the pet food scandal were clearly not cor-

rective enough. China's a nation that is willing to show off its understanding of right and wrong, so clearly this time around arresting a couple of folks is not going to be enough. This time around somebody has got to go down. But still, one life, one death sentence, can't really account for six babies and hundreds of thousands of damaged kidneys. Two, however, seems to do the trick.

Zhang Yujun, a cattle farmer, and Geng Jinping, a milk trader, are going to die for the evils that they have committed, and no doubt the world will be a safer place once they're gone.

And of course others are being arrested too. When the scandal came to light and it was discovered that

the Sanlu Group was well aware that they were selling toxic milk and had shipped over 900 tonnes of it, Tian Wenhua, the chairwoman, was found worthy of a life sentence and a fine of \$2.9 million.

Some Chinese parents are upset that Wenhua be allowed to live. But why kill someone who, alive, will deposit \$3 million into your coffers? It makes sense if you think that people will really believe that a cattle farmer and a milk trader were ultimately and solely responsible for masterminding the international distribution of tainted food products. It also works if you're not too concerned whether or not people believe that you buy into your own system of justice.

¿No hablas Ingles? No assistance, no luck!



Meagan Meiklejohn
Word Playa

With the recent inauguration of Barack Obama lifting the spirits of Americans, minorities have high hopes for diminishing discrimination in the United States. Beyond appearances, language barriers remain a sensitive issue as governments balance the battle against discrimination with properly accommodating immigrants in their country. Currently, the U.S. has not declared an official language at its federal level. However, the ProEnglish advocacy group counts 30 states, including Tennessee, and a dozen, if not more, cities that have already assigned English as their official language.

This past month, Nashville, Tennessee councillor Eric Crafton attempted a referendum, suggesting that Nashville's municipal government confirm English as their official language. Having lost this proposal by nearly 10,000 votes, Nashville's local government dodged a bad reputation, claiming that such a law would discrimi-

nate against an immense portion of their population. Presently, Nashville is home to the largest population of Kurdish Americans in the U.S., a generous amount of Hispanics and immigrants from Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Clouded by the possibility of saving thousands of dollars on translation fees and incorporating the English language into America's melting pot, those in favour of such a change forget that America is not a monolingual country. America is composed of numerous languages from various backgrounds. Each background consists of cultures conveying their own customs and traditions, while each person comprises their own beliefs and values, incorporating the ways of those around them. If America cannot be defined by one religion, one colour or one race, then it certainly cannot be defined by one language.

Had the citizens of Nashville voted in favour of English as their official language, it would not be possible for the municipal government to attend to the needs of many of its citizens. Only those who are able to speak, read and write in English would be eligible to receive support. Local govern-



ment would not be obligated to assist those who fall outside of this narrow category.

Municipalities deal with welfare programs, which, if only conducted in English, would leave countless people without a place to seek help. Papers would not be readable and staff would not be able to communicate with those in need;

it would be the sole responsibility of the customer to find a translator or to learn English if they wanted to receive help.

Unfairly disadvantaging people on the basis of their language is a low attempt at saving money. As a measure of separating legal from illegal immigrants, it is understandable that the language

one is able to speak could be a deciding factor, but it is not a necessary condition for citizenship or to legally live in the U.S. Until English literacy becomes a condition, governments remain in the wrong if the decisions they make exclude any portion of their population from receiving the services they require.

Make Sure YOU Have Your Say!



Dalmy Baez
President

You may have heard that over the next few months the University is looking at reorganizing the arts related faculties. This could possibly lead to the amalgamation of the Communications and Culture, Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts Faculties.

Students can rest assured that they'll be able to continue in their existing programs regardless of any potential reorganization.

According to the University Administration there are a number of reasons why this discussion is taking place.

The four arts-related faculties have the

highest attrition (drop-out) rates among first year students. What's even more concerning is many of the students who are leaving the University have the grades to continue, they're choosing to take up their studies elsewhere or simply leaving school all together. Surveys indicate that arts students are experiencing low course availability and are having difficulty understanding the current structure and navigating the bureaucracy of their faculties. According to the University the existing fragmentation between the arts faculties makes it difficult for students to transition between programs, and prevents students and faculty to engage in multidisciplinary studies between these faculties.

The Students' Union wants to know what you think about this discussion. We do not currently have an official position on the

proposed restructuring of these faculties. Our decision will rest on how the Administration responds to our questions and concerns as well as those raised by students at large. We will be continuing to meet with University Administration to voice your concerns and get your questions answered. It is imperative that this discussion does not overlook any concern students may have.

It's easy to get informed on this issue and make your voice heard. For starters, you can visit the SU website for background information, answers to frequently asked questions, a rundown of who's involved in the process and how you can contact them, along with dates for public consultation opportunities.

The University website (www.ucalgary.ca/president/artsandsocialsciences) is also

full of information about the proposed restructuring, and includes an online forum where you can voice your opinions.

Most importantly you can attend the Open Forum on Friday, January 30 from 3:15 - 5:00pm in Science Theatre 140.

We encourage you to attend this forum, e-mail your questions to our VP Academic suvpaca@ucalgary.ca, or join the discussion in the SU's Facebook group.

We want to ensure the University's final decision takes every detail into account. We need to hear what you have to say.



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The beauty of child labour

Character building and the end of an economic breakdown

Ryan Pike
From the Cheap Seats



Whenever the world is in economic turmoil, visionaries emerge from amidst the chaos to lead society back to prosperity. Programs like the New Deal changed government policies and allowed economies to recover and eventually prosper. In this current economic crisis, the most logical thing governments can do is repeal child labour laws.

Children in society are treated much differently now than they were in past generations. My father grew up on a farm doing chores,

something his parents often told him “built character.” Children nowadays spend their youth playing video games and surfing the Internet — activities that studies indicate make them fat and lazy. Allowing children to work would not only instill in them the same kind of hard-earned heartiness found in previous generations, but it would undoubtedly increase their physical and mental well-being — depending on what kind of work they get.

The effects on the children them-

selves notwithstanding, repealing antiquated child labour regulations would boost the Canadian economy greatly. As of the 2001 census, there

Today's workplace is much less industrial than in the 19th century and so it makes no sense to protect children from the non-existent bogeymen of labour.

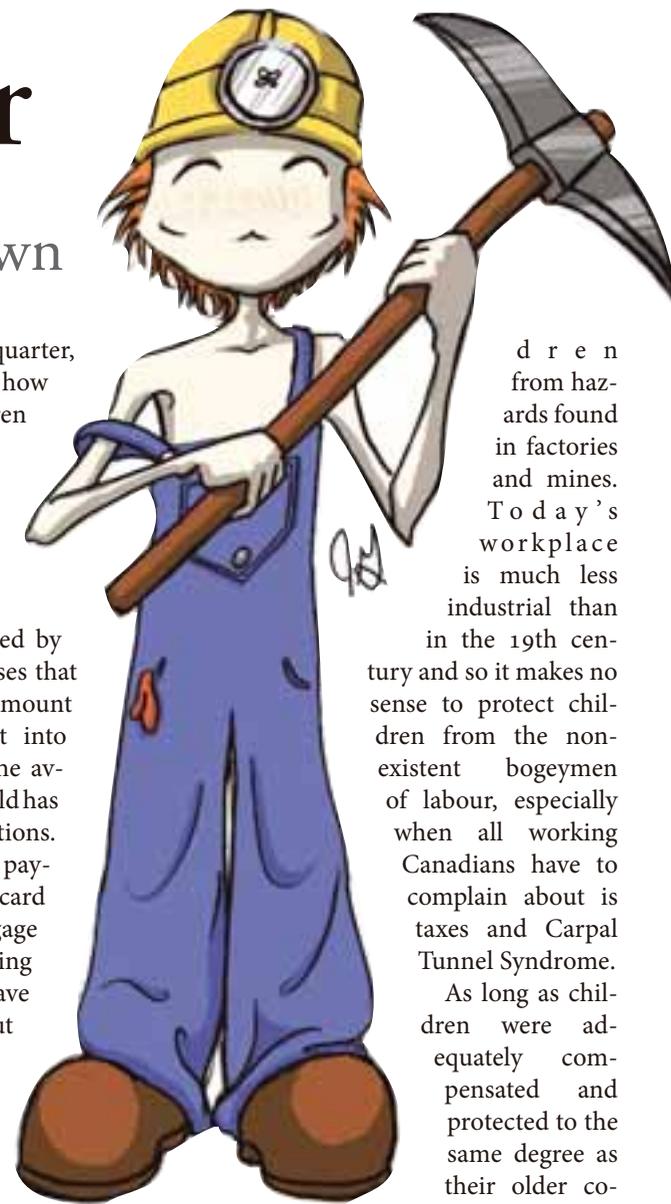
were over five million Canadians under the age of 14. Adding them to the workforce could increase the productive capacity of the econo-

my by nearly a quarter, depending on how hard the children work.

Furthermore, while the average employee in today's working world is besieged by bills and expenses that reduce the amount they can inject into the economy, the average six-year-old has no such limitations. With no car payments, credit card bills or mortgage to pay, a working child would have no choice but to inject their wages into the market through frivolous spending.

The effects of their spending would circulate throughout, providing an extra boost in these trying times, while the added income and sales tax paid to the government would allow it to better fund programs.

The Industrial Revolution was a time of unparalleled economic growth, fueled in part by the hard work of children. Introducing child labour laws served to protect chil-



children from hazards found in factories and mines. Today's workplace is much less industrial than in the 19th century and so it makes no sense to protect children from the non-existent bogeymen of labour, especially when all working Canadians have to complain about is taxes and Carpal Tunnel Syndrome.

As long as children were adequately compensated and protected to the same degree as their older co-workers, excluding them from the

workforce entirely on the basis of their age seems unnecessarily discriminatory. Allowing children to work would build character, improve their physical condition and immeasurably boost the economic well-being of Canada. We shouldn't necessarily force children to get jobs, but they should be allowed the same opportunities as any other Canadian.

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Battle for the streets

Calgary's gang war and how not to deal with it



Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet Opinions

Just now, people in City Hall and the local media are running along like headless chickens and people on fire. Do they finally feel bad about not plowing the snow off residential streets, causing stress for disabled residents, or are they sad about high taxes? No, they are worrying about the killing sprees and innocent people caught in gang crossfire, like the New Year's spree in Calgary, which killed an innocent bystander. In actuality, the situation is manageable compared to Toronto or even Mexico, which is involved in a drug war with gangs. Overreacting to the local gang problem by deporting gang members or by setting up security cameras could worsen the situation. A cool-headed atmosphere and City Hall learning from cities who have successfully managed their gang problems is what is required.

If you look carefully, Calgary's gang problem is different from Toronto's, where there is a gang war between the Bloods, Crips and the Gatorz. In Mexico, the government has been struggling against the three main drug cartels, which have been expanding their influence. In north Mexico, cities like Tijuana are virtually lawless and over 346 people have died since the beginning of the year. Stories coming out of there sound more like horror movies — a drug gangster dissolved around 300 bodies in acid baths for his boss. What about Guatemala and El Salvador? Over 20,000 young people are members of *maras* (Spanish slang for gangs), even more members than the Guatemalan police force has. The

maras are also fuelled by money from drugs and illegal firearms.

Deporting these gang members, as Calgary has done in a few recent cases, poses problems. When the u.s. deported *maras* members from American jails back to El Salvador and Guatemala, it allowed them to start their gangs anew in poverty-stricken conditions with thousands of frustrated youths looking for power and money. And so the drug trade continued on.

Panicking like it's the end of the world and setting up questionable downtown security cameras are also not good ways to combat gangs. Security cameras may look nice on paper, but attempts to use them to combat gangs in the u.k. have been remarkably unsuccessful. It is much better for the police to treat it like an intelligence war with double agents, educate people about the dangers of being a gang member and avoid dangerous racial profiling. Encourage children to play sports, paint or play music to get them off the streets and out of the reach of the gangs. Hit the gangs in their wallets, seize their vehicles and auction them off, take their drug shipments and encourage drug addicts to get help. Don't attack drug addicts, like America did with its failed War on Drugs, but acknowledge they need help and that the gangs are benefiting from their problems.

There will still be gangs in Calgary because it is a big city with a super-charged economy. As long as there's someone who's losing out in the economy or a community that feels left out, people will continue to form gangs. And as long as there is demand for illegal items, there will be gangs who can profit from black markets. Calgary needs to learn how to fight its growing gang problem by looking at how other cities have succeeded and how they have failed.



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A fishy question

A woman goes swimming on a rough day just off the coast of California, in water about 10 feet deep. She is attacked by a shark, which bites her leg. Acting quickly, she stabs the shark in the head with the knife she is carrying. The shark dies, but her leg is caught in the shark and she sinks and dies too.

Illustrations by Kendra Kusick

Shark attack

Shark attacks are often fatal. Sure, over the last 400 years or so only about one person has been killed by a shark each year, but fatal shark attacks are on the rise. One person a year may seem like a dull, unimpressive statistic, but the low number is only due to the limited contact between our ever-warring species. If shark attacks were as common as dog attacks, they would be responsible for nearly one million deaths a year in the United States alone (dog attacks killed about 26 people a year in the last decade in the U.S., despite having attacked an estimated 4.7 million). These staggering numbers suggest that, given the opportunity, sharks would produce similarly high numbers. This is proof that the shark had intent to kill our esteemed swimmer. For what other reason would a shark attack? Our

swimmer was attacked with intent to kill, then died as a direct result of that attack; the shark is clearly responsible for her death. Sharks can kill people; they caused an average of five people a year between 2000 and 2007 to die, which is significantly higher than in the past as we encroach more on their territory. Our victim was clearly a competent swimmer, as she found herself in the ocean and alive prior to the shark attack. Seeing as she is dead and experienced a possibly fatal shark attack shortly before her death, it follows that the shark attack is likely the cause of her death. It could be argued that she drowned, as it was the shark's carcass attached to the woman's leg that dragged her down to her eventual death, but what then would constitute a death by shark attack?

Consider guns in place of our

rare, sharks don't hesitate to try and kill their victims. In attacks where the shark flees after biting, it is only because the shark fears losing upon realizing the size of its would-be pray. The fact remains: a woman died as the direct result of the actions of an aggressive shark. You wouldn't say that a man who was shot is killed by the bullet, you blame the shooter. The autopsy might say our gunshot victim died due to some interrupted necessary biological function, yet it was already established that he was shot. These necessary abstractions allow us to function as a society and blaming the bullet is the same as blaming drowning for the death of our swimmer. If we deny that these abstractions are sometimes necessary, the foundations of our legal system falls apart. Also, this is just common sense.

If the shark were conscious and alive, it would be held accountable for the death of our swimmer. Our swimmer's actions after the attack could not be culpable for her death any more than any other victim's attempt at self defense would be. While attacks are

Isaac Azuelos

Drowning

Although it may seem that the victim of this situation died because of a shark attack, careful analysis shows that it wasn't her actual cause of death. As the individual had no considerable wound resulting in major blood loss or any other prevailing issues that would result in death, the water entering the individual's lungs, suffocating her, was what killed her.

The World Health Organization defines drowning as "the process of experiencing respiratory impairment from submersion/immersion in liquid." When the individual in question sank with the shark, she was submerged in liquid and would have experienced said respiratory impairment. Yes, the shark attack was a precipitating event to the individual's death, but if one was to focus solely on the precipitates of an event to explain its occurrence and subsequent result, it would result in a continual regression and the true cause of death would never be settled upon. The individual's choice to go swimming that day, to carry a knife, even to swim in that specific spot at that specific time would have all contributed

to her unfortunate death. Indeed, all of these are necessary prerequisites to her particular fate. However, that does not change what she died from — drowning.

U.S. reports show that in 2002, over 400,000 people died from drowning worldwide. Further, it is the third leading cause of accidental death in the U.S. Reports on shark attacks from the International Shark Attack File state that fewer than 100 shark attacks occur annually, and of those, very few result in death. It is actually more common to die from a snake bite (60,000 deaths a year) than a shark attack. This woman's unfortunate end falls squarely in line with what these statistics suggest.

The same applies for the concept of the woman stabbing the shark as her true cause of death. It was simply another precipitate to her actual death, which would not be possible to properly argue. Such debates about the precipitates to this incident could even reach as far back as the victim's birth, which could absurdly be argued was the cause of death. These absurd arguments could be stretched so

far as to include what the woman had for breakfast that day and how long it took her to eat it. Even the Big Bang itself could be deemed directly responsible for her death.

Drowning is what killed the woman, proven simply by how fast a person can drown. A human usually loses consciousness in two to three minutes and then dies within five to 10 minutes in a drowning incident. In a typical shark attack, which are named hit and run attacks, the shark will take a single bite, confused about whether the victim is prey or not, and then swim away, leaving the victim alive.

Again, this shows that arguing precipitates will not answer the problem suggested. The final cause of death is not attributed to a precipitate, it is attributed to what stopped the victim from living.

So the shark should not be blamed for its attack on the victim or for her death. The stabbing of the shark should also not be attributed as her actual cause of death. The woman being asphyxiated by water is what truly killed her.

Laura Bardsley

Stabbing

Sharks are said to be the most fearsome creatures that inhabit the ocean. While that is the popular perception, it is more accurate to conclude that humans are far more dangerous, especially in regards to harming themselves in the water. When discussing the situation and placing the blame on the shark for the death of the person swimming in shallow water, it is preposterous to conclude that the victim was killed by any means other than her own hand. If left alone, it is more than likely the shark would have vacated the scene immediately after the initial contact with the human. The action of stabbing the shark, and not the manoeuvres of the shark, played a larger part in the fatality.

Without the actions undertaken by the woman, it is likely the shark would have left the victim alive. The most frequent type of shark attacks are hit and runs. This type of attack is most common in shallow water where there are large groups of people and frothy, wavy water. It involves the shark biting the person and then quickly releasing and swimming away. The shark simply attacks because in the confusion of the shallow waves, the human is mistaken for prey or the shark

feels threatened. This type of attack is non-fatal and usually the person sustains little damage. The majority of shark bites are not serious, as the teeth rarely go deep into the skin or even break the surface. When the shark realizes the human is too big, it will swim away. There are other attacks that place the blame on the shark, but those were not exhibited in this instance.

For the shark to be responsible for the death of the human it would involve another type of attack, characteristics of which are not displayed in the above situation. Fatal shark attacks are lumped into two categories referred to as bump-and-bite attacks and sneak attacks. A bump-and-bite attack should be dismissed from the above situation because this form of attack is seen in deeper water, not the shallow water that the victim was swimming in. It is also evident that in both these types of attacks, the sharks are not threatened as in the hit and run, but see the human as food and continue to pursue the victim until it succumbs. While the classifications of the type of shark attacks propose that the shark is not the cause of death, statistics play a role in determining the human element in

the situation was to blame.

Statistics from the last 429 years show that the majority of shark attacks are non-fatal. According to the International Shark Attack File, there have been 2,199 confirmed shark attacks around the world. Only 471, or 21 per cent, of the attacks have been fatal. When humans are attacked by sharks in a hit and run, it is better they do nothing, as 80 per cent of the time the shark will make an initial strike, realize its mistake and swim off. If the swimmer in the situation had simply not stabbed the shark, statistics tell us that she would more than likely be alive. When you are attacked near shore, it is best to swim calmly towards shore so as to escape the shark. While it is advisable to defend yourself, in shallow water, getting out of the water is the best course of action.

The swimmer is to blame for her death in the shark attack mentioned in the scenario. She was involved in an attack that commonly results in non-fatal outcomes. Sharks are not the great terror of the seas, they are simply defending their territory from invasion by sea-going humans.

Chris Pedersen



How did this woman die?

The importance of politics

Why students should vote in campus elections



Megan Rose
Gauntlet Opinions

With the Students' Union election approaching, many students give no more thought to it than a brief glance at an election poster. Chances are there will be more than a few students who won't vote (last year's turnout was 11 per cent) and too many of those who do attribute little significance to it. Students have the power to put the people of their choice into these positions and in so doing have a great deal of influence over the lives and careers of the candidates. The student leaders, in turn, have a vital effect on the lives and education of the students they represent. From picking up essentials at the Stör to getting a drink at the Den or Black Lounge after class, many services are available to students because they have been asked for and the SU has made them avail-

able. Bound and Copied, too, yields a huge benefit to students by offering cheap textbooks and services. Each student contributes money to the SU at the beginning of the year, but where that money goes often isn't given a second thought.

By definition, the SU is responsible for representing the student body and they do so in many different forms and arenas. My brother, Colin Rose, is a vice-president of SAIT Students' Association and explained, "Students' associations and unions were originally created to provide a strong, unified voice to their respective administrations. Nowadays, the administration looks to the students' associations to provide that crucial student input in a quick and efficient manner. Oftentimes, this is the only time the administration considers the requests of students and therefore we need to have the right people to convey the message."

The SU president even has a vote on the University of Calgary Board of Governors. They also get together with other students' unions and associations across Alberta to lobby the

provincial government, which relies on special interest groups to have things brought to their attention.

"The two main provincial lobby groups are very effective means of communicating to the government and efforts have resulted in great new policies that greatly favor the student movement," Colin said.

A student's experience shapes the citizen they will become and the SU contributes to that.

Students' unions are arguably one of the most underestimated organizations in our society and this is largely because what they do goes unseen. Student government is much more important than we realize. There are over 250,000 post-secondary students in Alberta, which, if it was a city, would be the third largest in the province. The interests of these students are placed almost entirely in the hands of their representatives.

The elected representatives are entrusted with the money (more than \$10 million a year) and voice of the students, so what happens when the wrong person is trusted?



If students aren't voting, or are selecting the candidates based on random selection instead of considering who is best for the job, then a name could just as well be taken out of a hat, removing the power to put representatives in their seats through sheer carelessness.

These positions carry a great deal of responsibility, the kind that most people won't have until much later in their careers. It is up to them to run this organization and to act in the best interests of students. Therefore, it is up to students to choose wisely.

Off the Page
radio gauntlet

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WHAT WILL THE WORLD BE LIKE IN 2050?

The Church and homosexuality: questions from another age



Eric Mathison
Fighting Words

High on the list of unoriginal insults is calling someone or something "gay." It provides a catchphrase for people who really don't know what they mean to say and are too ignorant to realize the hollowness of the insult and the bigotry contained in it.

Only a couple of short weeks before Barack Obama gave his inauguration speech, filled with prom-

ises of justice and equality (he even mentioned non-believers), the Vatican was busy denouncing a UN resolution. The motion, put forth by France and backed by 54 nations, including all 27 states of the European Union, called on governments to decriminalize homosexuality.

By banding together with 85 countries and exhibiting a direct correlation with human rights violations, Pope Benedict has again demonstrated why the "I represent the inerrant word of God" card is, well, errant. Collaborators such as Iran, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan, which all still use death to

punish homosexuals, couldn't rise above their archaic moral teachings. Of course, Benedict should have known that trying to out-extrême the Islamic clerics would only lead to hurt feelings.

The Vatican responded to the criticism, stating that by condoning the resolution, the door would be opened for nations to begin legally recognizing same-sex unions. The philosophy that homosexual acts are unnatural has risen to the fore

again and mendacity can be the only excuse for the Church not admitting that more than 1,500 other

species of God have been documented engaging in homosexual see BIGOTRY page 18



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Shown above is "The Glow of Enlightenment" by Shadi Nasser, Best Overall Winner in the 2007 International Photo Contest

Bigotry, continued from page 17

acts. We can forgive the writers of the Old Testament this misunderstanding of biology. After all, they also failed to ban natural substances like cocaine. What's more confusing is that Jesus never called homosexuality a sin. Nevertheless, modern day religions shall be taken at their word and criticized accordingly.

Is it too much to hope that this is the last gasp of bigotry before it is swallowed by reason? Unfortunately, it seems it is. The invocation of the Obama inauguration was given by Rick Warren, of *Purpose Driven Life* fame. He was also driven to visit Syria and describe it to his mega-church back home as a moderate country. He also public-

ly, and repeatedly, lets every non-born-again Baptist know they're going to hell.

What, then, do the Catholic Church, Islamic clericism and born-again Christians have in common? Namely, the failure to see that the freedom to pursue one's own happiness, insofar as it causes no harm to others, will be

the foundation of the 21st century.

The gay movement was one of the triumphs of the 20th century, which will stand alongside women's suffrage and race equality as an important step forward, and one to be proud of. The circle will continue to expand and as more realize the injustices that are still taking place, more ground will be

forged. Chiefly among them are animal rights and freedom of, and from, religion.

Misery does indeed acquaint a man (and church) with strange bedfellows. As does dogmatism, fanaticism and narrow-mindedness. It is past time that those with a mind of their own think for themselves and decide what is right.

Letter: unsearching scientists, continued from page 3

designed, just like any seed, with the Anthropic Principle and the process of Crea-volution, to produce, in time, exactly what exists today?

I've never heard any scientist ask or explain this fantastic phenomenon: where is the battery or dynamo or the source, that makes the electron orbit the nucleus with some hundred-million-billion circuits every second and makes matter real to us Time-Space-Creatures, without which nothing would exist?

Max Plank, Nobel-Prize-winning father of the Quantum Theory said this: "There is no matter as such. All matter exists by virtue of force. We must assume behind this force the existence of a conscious and intelligent mind."

I'm astonished that a brilliant man like Hawking, who wrestled with complex scientific-mathematical problems all his life, can say, "the universe has no creator."

The same kind of thinking is promoted by Richard Dawkins, who wrote *The God Delusion* [which] may have disputed some credulous beliefs, but has thrown out "the baby with the bathwater."

Regardless of what anybody believes, here is the challenge we face: when will we humans use our evolutionary or designed intelligence to create a compassionate society in which there is no room for war, poverty and a host of related miseries? One human being killed, for whatever reason, or starved to death, is one too many. Instead of getting upset over a puck or ball from thousands of miles away, we should learn to care for each other, and the planet, the sustainer of life, the big ball we're living on.

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[Left] Mike and Brown and Chris Tobin acting tough before practice. Hanna Kubas and Erica Morningstar relax on the pool deck [right].

The Dinos break records, blow minds at Canada West championships

Moira Wolstenholme
Gauntlet Sports

Breanna Hendriks, second-year University of Calgary Dino and all-star middle-distance and distance freestyler, remembers how good it felt to claim both the men's and women's Canada West titles last year, amongst uproarious cheers, high-fives and hugs from all the Dino swimmers and coaching staff.

It was the first time the Dino women had beaten the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds for first place and the second consecutive Canada West win for the Dino men.

"It was so amazing, beating out

UBC and winning the Canada West title in Edmonton," said Hendriks. "Never in my life have I felt so much a part of a team as I did last year at Canada West championships."

Going in to this year's Canada West championships this past weekend in Victoria, the rookies were looking for similar experiences.

"I can speak for all the rookies and say that we're really excited to prove ourselves this weekend," said enthusiastic first-year Dino Jessie Olsen-Heisler. "We all came to the Dinos with a goal in mind and we're ready to race."

If Olsen-Heisler spoke for the rookies, then third-year Dino and backstroker Dan Langlois spoke for the veterans of the team, who are all

well-versed in the ways of going up against the best varsity swimmers in western Canada, namely the UBC Thunderbirds.

"We have a great team, said Langlois. "We are all ready to swim fast and give UBC a scare before the [Canadian Interuniversity Sport] championships."

What followed was a weekend of incredible racing from all teams present, including a total of 27 Canada West record-breaking swims.

On Sunday night, the Dinos did indeed accept their gold medals for both the men's and women's titles, beating rivals UBC for an overall victory the second year in a row and suggesting to Canada not only

that the Dinosaurs are back, but that they are here to stay.

On the women's side, the Dinos dominated the field with an overall score of 924 points, the UBC Thunderbirds placed second with 687 points and the ever-accelerating University of Alberta Pandas placed third with 401 points.

The men's side mirrored the women's, matching the women's team's 924 points, the Thunderbirds came in second with 573 points. The Golden Bears took third with 412 points.

Although the Dinos swept the podium with a total of 49 medals won over the course of the meet, there were standout swims to back them up.

The Dinos' own David Woodman

was awarded with male rookie of the meet after securing a bronze in both the 200-metre freestyle and the 100 metre freestyle, and a gold in the 4x100m metre medley relay and 4x200m freestyle relays. Woodman was enthusiastic about his first Canada West experience.

"I couldn't have envisioned a better finish for the team," said Woodman, who himself is known for — and probably owes his rookie of the meet award to — his strong finishes. "Being a part of the team provided me such a great rush, standing on the blocks during the relay was such a thrill."

Female rookie of the meet was also awarded to a Dino, not surprisingly 2008 Olympic team member

see SWIMMINGLY, page 20

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Canada West meet goes swimmingly, continued from page 19

Erica Morningstar. Morningstar's six gold medals this weekend were unofficially dubbed "Phelps-like." However, as Morningstar is no stranger to winning multiple gold medals on the Canadian scene, it could instead be said she pulled a Morningstar this past weekend, breaking three Canada West records in the 4x100m and 4x200m freestyle relays and 4x100m individual medley relay in the process.

"This was my first university meet, and while I still have room for improvement, I am happy with the results," said Morningstar. "From my experiences on various teams, I've learned what winning teams are alike in and out of the pool, and I truly believe the Dinos are a winning team."

Dinos head coach Mike Blondal expressed pride in his swimmers' performances, crediting their dedication to preparation for their success.

"The team really showed that hard, deliberate practice pays off," said Blondal. "There have not been many opportunities in my coaching career where everyone had fired as well as we did this past weekend."

UBC also posted some noteworthy swims; both the male and female swimmer of the meet awards were awarded to Thunderbirds. For the men it was breastroker and 2004 Olympian Scott Dickens, who won five medals and set four Canada

West records over the course of the weekend.

"This event was a great opportunity to see where the team is at and get ready for the national championships in two weeks," said Dickens. "I was pretty pleased with my times. It was a great meet."

2008 Olympic team member Annamay Pierse was the female swimmer of the meet for the second year in a row, after claiming three gold and three silver medals and breaking three Canada West Records.

"This is a pretty hard competition because there are a lot of races in a short period of time," said Pierse. "There were a lot of records broken and it just shows how awesome the meet was for Canadian swimming."

Blondal is naturally pleased with his swimmers' victory this weekend, but is staying focused on the future.

"The opportunity is there to win our first-ever national women's team title and to also for the first time win both the men's and the women's team title," said Blondal. "This will only be accomplished by the whole team keeping their eye on the target and that target is a strong work ethic up and to the start of the meet."

Blondal's post-Canada West meet tone may appear more subdued than last year's, after winning the overall team title for the first time. However, this is not an indicator of less excitement over the Canada West victory,

but rather higher expectations for this year's CIS championships.

These expectations are especially centred on the women's team, who last year came as close as they ever had to winning the CIS title (a margin of 57 points) and yet were unable to break an 11-year winning streak by the Thunderbird women. Dino women's team captain and fifth-year swimmer Hania Kubas — bittersweet yet confident going into her final CIS championships — is also focused on the task that remains ahead of her team.

"Last year, we were the underdogs," she said. "This year, the expectation was to defend last year's Canada West title on the road to CIS championships. We have accomplished that. This year, we plan on dethroning the UBC Thunderbirds and starting our own 11-year streak, and then some."

The excitement will only continue to build after the swim team's second consecutive Canada West victory, as they put the finishing touches on preparations for what promises to be both an exciting and history-making CIS championships for the Dinos.

"That is where the story of this team will be," said Blondal. "The CIS championships will be the show, the preparation will be the story."

The Dinos will be busy lapping the pool as they prepare for the Canadian Interuniversity Sport championships Feb. 19-21.



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

Mike Brown and Chris Tobin relax before practice.

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Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Dinos Courtney Coyle (#6) and Alex Cole (#9) fight to get the ball. The Dinos defeated Trinity Western 85-63 on the weekend.

Bekkering's basketball jones surfaces yet again

Dinos and Spartans square off with playoff intensity during last home game

DINOS **79** vs SPARTANS **83**
men's basketball

Brad Halasz
Sports Editor

In many team sports, playoffs are the real start to the season and the regular season is just a means of getting there.

We've all heard that tired cliché before. But the sentiment didn't seem to be lost on the University of Calgary men's basketball team when they squared up against the Trinity Western University Spartans at the Jack Simpson Gym on Jan. 24.

Although the Dinos were downed 83-79, the game represents the tenacity and drive of both teams as the "real" season approaches.

The matchup had all the makings of an epic playoff battle.

Perhaps it was the atmosphere of nostalgia as Henry Bekkering was honoured before the start of his final home game as a Dino.

Maybe it was the crowd, who, with

banners and flags in hand, created a feverish pitch to what was a seemingly meaningless game between two teams who had already clinched a playoff spot.

When it was time to get down to playing basketball, the Spartans took an early 23-16 lead that the Dinos never could rebound from.

They came close though.

At the half, there was one point separating the two teams. Bekkering, the man of honour, stepped up — like he has his entire Dino stay — and banked 13 points in the second half for a total of 17.

A graceful exit to what has been an incredible run for Bekkering.

He was named player-of-the-game for his efforts.

At 15-3 with four games remaining, the team will need to exert the same intensity they did against the Spartans in the last leg of the season, even if there isn't a large home crowd, the honouring of a key player or the need to win to make playoffs.

The Dinos will travel to the left coast this weekend to take on the University of Victoria Vikes on Jan. 30 and the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds on Jan. 31 before travelling to Edmonton for a two game series.



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Dinos forward Robbie Sihota (#31) thinks the guy below him is overacting.

Sporty sport shorts

Brad Halasz and Chris Pedersen
Sports Editors

Men's hockey

The University of Calgary Dinos men's hockey team were unable to take a win away from their two-game series in Regina.

They lost their Saturday game 3-0 and then followed that up with a 6-2 loss on Sunday, to bring their winless streak to four.

The men are in last place and face an uphill battle for a playoff position with eight games remaining.

Their next challenge is this weekend when they host a two-game series against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies on Jan. 30-31. Both games are at Father David Bauer Arena and start at 7 p.m.

Women's volleyball

The women's volleyball team split the weekend series with the University of Brandon Bobcats winning Friday's game 3-1 and then losing Saturday's game 3-0. The Dinos sit in second place in the Canada West

division. Their next match is versus Thompson Rivers on Jan. 30-31 at the Jack Simpson Gym.

Men's volleyball

The men's volleyball team faced a tough test this weekend in Brandon and came up short.

They lost their first match 3-0 on Friday night and followed that up with a 3-1 loss on Saturday. The men play Thompson River on Jan. 30-31 at the Jack Simpson Gym.

Women's basketball

The women's basketball team split their weekend series as they were unable to defeat the Simon Fraser Clan, losing 86-52. They avenged this loss with a convincing 85-63 win over Trinity Western on Saturday. The next challenge for the Dinos is against Victoria on Jan. 30 and UBC on Jan. 31.

NHL All-Star game

Montreal hosted the 57th NHL All-Star game. The Eastern Conference defeated the Western Conference 12-11 in a shootout.

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Dinos use tough loss for motivation

Women's hockey rebound from a poor performance and play their best game of season

DINOS vs OOKS
1 vs **2**
 women's hockey

Chris Pedersen
 Sports Editor

It was an evening of despair and frustration for the Dinos women's hockey team as all valiant efforts to score were beaten by NAIT netminder Lauryn Dzioba and they lost their first game of the new year 2-1 to the Ooks at the Olympic Oval on Friday.

The Dinos followed this loss with a commanding 8-1 victory over the Ooks

in Edmonton on Saturday night.

The failure for the Dinos on Friday was their power play, which went 0-2 in the first and 0-8 in the game.

The Dinos controlled play for the majority of the first period, but were unable to solve Dzioba. They peppered her with nine shots while only allowing three against.

The second period was full of tremendous action as all three goals were scored. The Ooks took the early lead when Kendel Jurista hacked away at a loose puck in front of the Dino net, eventually banging it home for the goal.

The Ooks were not done there and only six minutes later they scored their second goal of the game, which turned out to be the game winner.

Dinos goalie Katie Urness made the initial save off of a Chelsea Curzun point shot, but was unable to control the rebound and Lacey Hollington scooped up the puck and put it past Urness.

Three minutes after NAIT's second goal, Shelby Davey took a pass and went in alone on Dzioba. Before she could shoot, she was unceremoniously hauled down and awarded a penalty shot.

Davey got revenge and on the break-away managed to force Dzioba to move to the right before sliding the puck into the left side of the net. This cut the Ooks lead in half, but it was as close as the Dinos would get in the game.

The third period was mundane and neither team was able to score despite plenty of opportunities. The Dinos were given several power plays in the frame, but were unable to convert.

In the final 30 seconds of the period, Calgary was awarded a five-on-three power play, but, again, didn't score.

The Dinos took the loss extremely

hard as was evident by a lack of enthusiasm for post-game interviews. In fact, they allowed none. Instead they held a team meeting, discussing the loss.

The only quote of the day came as a shout from the locker room.

"We are holding a team meeting; there will be no interviews today," yelled an unknown player.

The meeting seemed to be effective and the next evening the Dinos destroyed NAIT 8-1. Seven Dinos scored in the rematch with Elana Lovell leading the way, scoring two goals, and Tiara Schoenroth adding one goal and two assists.

Urness rebounded with a 16-save performance.

The Dinos remain in first place in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference standings with 26 points, four up on second place SAIT.

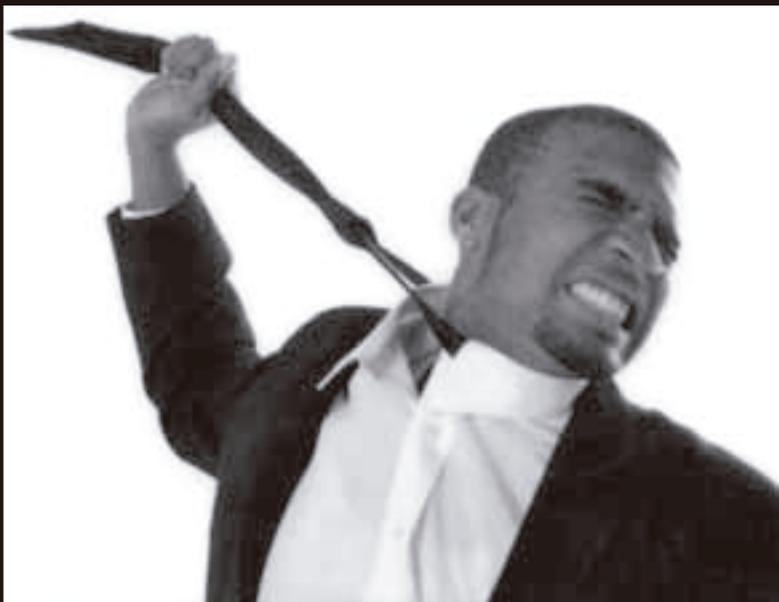


Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

Megan Frohaug (#20)

The Dinos will play an away game at Mount Royal on Jan. 30 and then host Mount Royal at the Olympic Oval on Jan. 31.

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Hey chums! Week three and we're already knee deep in midterms – how awesome! At least there's a lot of lovey dovey cute couples around campus to keep us distracted from tests and such. This way we can focus our academic strengths at hating on them for making out in library towers, or find a mate for ourselves and join in the fun. Whatever floats your boat. Since I know that you want to share your most intimate feelings with everyone, bring your TLF submission to MSC 319 or send them to tlfs@thegauntlet.ca. All submissions must include your name, phone number, ID number and signature. Submissions judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic or attacks of a personal nature will not be tolerated.

To the little guy in the bio labs doing research on lipids: STOP playing the Top Gun theme and dancing around in your lab. We can all see and hear you.
– Bombay (the duck man)

P. Lai, your Top Gun stories make you my maverick.
– Goose

International Photo contest entry deadline Feb 6, 2009. Entry forms in MSC 275.
– CISSA

To all the guys at the gym: please leave me alone, I am in a happy relationship. Don't use those pick up lines on me, especially in the men's locker room.
– Rice Farmer

Patrick. You are now the main dish.
– Side Dishes

Imma kill you all kinds of dead.

Mr.S...HROD 321...ps. nice games.
– Ms. S

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Jakkie B. Good luck with physio school, you're going to be fantastic! And thanks for showing me what I was forgetting. ;-)
– Adequate

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– Mayer Rothchild

"Paper is poverty...it only the ghost of money and not money itself."
– Thomas Jefferson

RedBull 35 style DJ Battle National Calgary final feb 6 @ Snatch. Tickets are \$10 and include party bus ride to and from the Den. Limited tickets. Msg_p_lydiatt@hotmail.com

The flaw of art is that it is confined to its medium.

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When I was quite a bit younger, 12 perhaps, I thought that the funniest joke I had ever come up with was asking people whether they believed that you are what you eat, and then following up the question with 'I guess you eat a lot of fruit and nuts then'. It still is probably the funniest thing I will ever come up with.

Room mate needed to share a duplex that is only a ten minute walk from campus! Rent is \$450 month plus damage deposit. Message Jared at volleyballpower4me@hotmail.com for more information.

"I am the elephant man. I have two great meat clubs for hands. You better shut your face if you're trying to be nice to me."
– www.ChrisGheran.com

To the dude in my german class with the legit moustache: we should get together sometime, have a drink and talk about manly stuff.
– not Tristan

Inaugural winner of the U of C's Future Alumni Award... That looks pretty great on a resume, doesn't it? Get going to Archawards.com

Good try guys, too bad I know the editor.
– not Tristan

hookup thread! asl bbgirl?!?! m/19/tuscany

5'6", brunette, green eyes, looking for a night out. Need some time from boyfriend, call me.
– from K

25 years old, looking for a good time away from the ball and chain. Looking for fun and adventure, tmb.
– from C

He broke my heart!
– heartbroken

Bruce Willis seems still caught up in festus. That sly look in his eyes denotes that there's more to his plan than wearing laurels and looking pensive.

Shout out to my broda from anudda mudda! J.E.F.
– not Tristan

Looking through missed connections on kijiji and craigslist always leads to me wondering if people actually reply to them. Why didn't you just talk to them while you saw them?

Help, I'm alive.

Now its time for the first installment of a brief public service announcement about narwhals!

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TO BE CONTINUED...
– ~ttJournals~

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Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

Calgary band aims to please all ears

Calm Asa Coma
That Empty Space

Amanda Hu
Entertainment Editor

Calm Asa Coma has the potential to be the band for everyone. Playing a mix of pop, rock and indie, they're working to play all different kinds of venues and crowds. In their quest to get their music out to everyone in Calgary, they didn't let lack of funds stop them, opting for some do-it-yourself techniques.

"We used to buy white top [blank CDs] and go get stamps made and stamp them on," singer Jeff Desmeules says. "It would look great on that first night when you do them, but then, a couple months later, when you left them in our car for too long, they would look awful and be all smudged."

The band's come a long way in just a short year and a half from those smudgy self-produced albums, setting up to release their first full-length record at a CD release event next week. The group started with Desmeules and drummer Jarrod

Sterling as an acoustic duo. After enlisting the help of DJ McLelland on bass and Bret Smistad on guitar, their four-piece started formulating their sound, though the lyrics came about somewhat unconventionally.

"When we first started practicing, we didn't have a PA so there were no vocals," Desmeules says. "So then I'd just sing something at a show and start sticking to it. Out of 10 songs, I'd say there are three that

"I think our goal was to not play crappy shows at crappy venues."

—Jarrod Sterling, drummer

are really a band effort, but for most of the lyrics, it's just me alone in a room with a pen."

This mix of collaboration and shut-in work shaped the album, its overall sound and what it represents to the band. Though they didn't plan it, these things became clearer as recording went on.

"We didn't go into it with a theme, but we started off as a Friday night band and gradually we started practicing three or four nights a week,"

Sterling recalls. "I didn't realize this while we were doing it, but after we finished recording, there was a sense of escaping. Everyone's got issues, so it's kind of like we were escaping our issues through these songs and this album and getting away from everything that's getting us down and holding us back. The album is essentially us pushing ourselves."

Though their self-titled LP doesn't hit the streets until next week, the band has had a marked interaction

within the Calgary music scene. They enlisted the help of Calgary funk-rock mainstay Michael Bernard Fitzgerald to work on the album, whose help they're quite grateful for.

"He helped us during the whole recording process, just overseeing the whole project," Desmeules says. "He's a great friend and a mentor."

In addition to Fitzgerald's help, the band also spent a lot of time observing Calgary's music scene

and deciding how to fit in and carve their niche.

"[Calgary's music scene] is getting a lot better," Sterling says. "For a while there was an extreme indie side and an extreme commercial side. We all agreed in the band that to be extreme to any one direction is not what we want to do, so we went in to it knowing that we didn't want to fit any particular mood and we'd just play the songs and who liked them could like them. So we wouldn't play just shows at Broken City and other clubs and we don't only play Cowboys or more popular places. We don't play anywhere for anyone and the response has been really positive."

Above all, they have one overarching wish that has seemed to guide them in a successful direction so far.

"I think our goal was to not play crappy shows at crappy venues," Sterling says. "We like playing rock clubs, so as long as the club is good and there's audience — even a little audience — that's our goal."

Calm Asa Coma plays with Michael Bernard Fitzgerald at That Empty Space on Friday. They'll also rock out at their CD release party at the Gateway on Feb. 7.

Calm Asa Coma's Jarrod Sterling and Jeff Desmeules took some time during some time during the interview with the Gauntlet to do some peppy Q and As. Here's what they said.

Gauntlet: What's your favourite album right now and in general?

Jarrold Sterling: I went and picked up TV on the Radio's [Dear Science] because everyone was talking about it. It was so over-hyped, but it's actually awesome. For an older album, I'd say Fleetwood Mac's *Tusk*.

Jeff Desmeules: The album I'm listening to right now is [Into Your Lungs by] Hey Rosetta. The older album I always love is Queen's *Night at the Opera* or *Day at the Races*.

G: What was the first song you learned how to play on an instrument?

JS: When I was 10, the first song I learned on guitar is by a band called America, "A Horse with No Name." It had two chords.

JD: Mine was an old Saves The Day song. It was in G, C, D over and over again.

G: What's some of your favourite gear?

JS: For me, it's this cymbal I have called Power B. Our guitarist got it for, like, \$5. It's the cheapest cymbal ever made, but we used it all over the album.

JD: I stumbled across this 1968 Fender basement amp beat to hell. We like vintage amps and weird equipment.

G: If you could play a show with any band, who would it be?

JS: If it was back in the day — even though it would be impossible — it would be pretty bad ass to open up for the Beatles on their last concert on the roof.

JD: I'd want to play with Neil Young in his prime. If it were a newer band, I'd say Wintersleep, because they're kind of on the same page as us.

G: What is your favourite show attire?

JD: I have purple Vans, a v-neck and black jeans.

JS: I pretty much look dirty.

JD: No, you look like you rolled off a New York City subway or something.

JS: Our overall rule is no logos.

..Amanda Hu

Being a diva may not be so bad

Divine Brown has fun on tour while balancing her career and personal life

Divine Brown
music interview

Savannah Hall

Gauntlet Entertainment

Despite making sacrifices to advance her career and being a mother of a young daughter, Canadian musical heavy-weight Divine Brown says touring the country to promote her new album is all about having fun,

"The fun part is always getting to hang out with my band because they are stupid," Brown laughs. "[Really,] they are a bunch of silly people and we all have way too much fun. I'd want to go on tour with someone I think I would have fun with, that could be anyone."

Off tour, Brown is still all about her music, getting very involved in the writing and producing her albums.

"I wrote this album, *The Love Chronicles*, and it felt good to me at the time to write it," she says. "Me and song writing go hand in hand."

One of her main frustrations is with radio programmer's tendencies to misinterpret her music. Whether it is failing to understand her as an artist or what should be on the radio, Brown, in true diva fashion, has

no problem laying it on the line.

"An artist never entirely feels that they are completely understood," she explains. "That is one of the things about being an artist here in Canada. The frustration lies in how sometimes radio programmers have a lacking in understanding of what it is they do or the perspective they have. This industry is always changing so it's difficult to put your finger on what is going to work and what isn't going to work. What you think that people are going to dig and what radio programmers are going to go for. Sometimes I don't think I get to see a lot of people taking a chance in music and that's something I'd like to see more."

In addition to the hardships of being a musician, being a mother with a career has come with a lot of sacrifices for the rising star.

"Women can have it all," proclaims Brown. "Yes, with sacrifices, but any of the sacrifices I have made to get to this to this position and knowing that I have a little girl is well worth it."

Brown's perseverance comes through living by a personal motto.

"Never give up," she says. "Don't give up. Persistence is key to make something happen. The more persistent you are the more opportunities are going to open for you."



courtesy Warner Music

Divine is unphased by her first headlining tour.

Brown doesn't deny that she became successful by being a diva, often giving her opinions and challenging the mainstream.

"Yeah, absolutely," she says. "Anytime that any female artist that has had diva attached to her name, they have usually been very good. I take

that as a compliment."

Divine Brown plays at the Grand Theatre on Feb. 5. The show starts at 8 p.m.

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Woodpigeon
Treasure Library Canada LP + Houndstooth Europa EP
 (Boomp Records)

On the inside sleeve of the *Treasure Library Canada LP* is Woodpigeon's defining sentiment: "awesome Calgary awesome." With guest appearances from a wide-range of Calgarian musicians, *Treasure Library Canada* and *Houndstooth Europa* shows the immense amount of promise that is found in our fair city. While both discs suffer from too many songs that sound

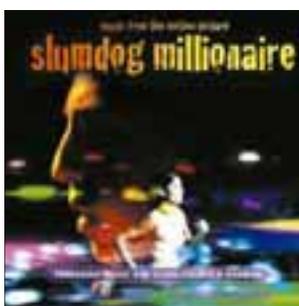
the same, there are also moments of delightful orchestral folk-pop found within.

Opener "Knock Knock" features Calgary's own indie-babies the Neighbourhood Council, their noodling guitars adding to Foon Yap's yawning violin. Calgary boosterism is on display in more songs — Jamie Fooks (Jane Vain and the Dark Matter), Clea Foofat (the Consonant C) and Arran Fisher (the Summerlad) play a part on the album. These appearances, while great for the musicians, don't seem to add much to the tracks as the mix seems to be focused on Hamilton's cooing voice, his guitar and Yap's

violin. For a band with so many members and connections, the orchestration of the songs shouldn't sound so similar to one another.

The *Houndstooth EP* isn't that different from the main album, sadly. A couple of home demos, a remix and a few other studio songs that are perfectly serviceable — if a touch boring — pop songs. While it's a nice touch for those who've already bought the special edition *Treasure LP*, *Houndstooth* doesn't add much special to the Woodpigeon oeuvre.

..Jordyn Marcellus



Slumdog Millionaire
Original Soundtrack
 (N.E.E.T.)

Soundtrack albums are generally mixed bags, containing both the good and the bad of a film's musical range. Even when a film's music is nominated for awards, this adage seems to hold true, as is the case with the Golden Globe-winning and Oscar-nominated music located on the *Slumdog Millionaire* soundtrack.

There are two musical worlds represented on *Slumdog Millionaire*. One is the award-winning score by veteran Indian composer A.R. Rahman. Famous for his work in Bollywood, the film's music is very likely western audiences' first exposure to his compositions. Luckily, the 10 songs he penned on this compilation are uniformly excellent, presenting traditional Indian fare injected with a smattering of western genres. In particular, the two songs nominated

for the Best Original Song Oscar — "O Saya" and "Jai Ho" — bookend the album in an energy-infused manner, with the chorus to the latter begging for the listener to sing along, even with the language gap. On the other hand, the inclusion of two versions of MIA's "Paper Planes" seems superfluous and unnecessary, given the strength of the film's original music. Albums of music from films can be spotty

and uneven, but *Slumdog Millionaire's* soundtrack is anything but. The disc features an astonishing and refreshing degree of musical variety, presenting familiar western sound as complements to energetic Indian music. Fans of the film or of good music should be on the lookout. For those that hate those things, at least there's two different mixes of "Paper Planes."

..Ryan Pike

February is **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun	
6 am	her royal opinion	breaking the tethers	jazz stairs/ lush life	morning joy	jazz for quantum cats/ pound cake jazz	sunlight theory (continued)	mental brain thoughts (continued)	6 am
6:30								6:30
7 am	BBC WORLD SERVICE NEWS weekday mornings at 6, 7, 8 and 9 am							7 am
7:30						democracy now!	alternative radio	7:30
8 am						bunte welle <small>german</small>	counterspin	8 am
8:30							eritrean radio	8:30
9 am	cold smoke jazz	canadian music centre presents	bella musica	the soap box derby	the two and a half hour coffee break		hrvatski radio <small>croatian</small>	9 am
9:30		deconstructing dinner						9:30
10 am						calgary vietnamese radio	radio pilipino <small>filipino</small>	10 am
10:30								10:30
11 am	cjsw news	roundtable	alternative radio	democracy now!	who shakes <small>city calendar</small>	helenic melodies <small>greek radio</small>	buscando america <small>latin & south america</small>	11 am
11:30	counterspin <small>(media watch)</small>	so SU me <small>students' union</small>					let's get baked with mat & dave <small>vegan baking from ckd</small>	11:30
12 pm	sister sister	beet farm <small>sponsored by the drum & monkey</small>	mind grapes	pillage the village / failed pilot	fantastic plastic <small>sponsored by beat route</small>	the double entendre preserves!	level the vibes	12 pm
12:30								12:30
1 pm								1 pm
1:30								1:30
2 pm	the banshee beat	electric company <small>sponsored by the inner sleeve</small>	the ok ship lights	my public shame <small>sponsored by melody records</small>	my allergy to the fans <small>sponsored by tubby dog</small>		mental illness <small>sponsored by the coup</small>	2 pm
2:30						bikesheviks <small>sponsored by cadence coffee</small>		2:30
3 pm								3 pm
3:30								3:30
4 pm	pop beats and cigarettes	jane & tasya's guide to everything <small>sponsored by broken city</small>	halfway home <small>sponsored by the liberty lounge</small>	alternative to what? <small>sponsored by kerfmusic.com</small>	road pops <small>sponsored by fivd weekly</small>	caribbean link-up <small>sponsored by fivd weekly</small>		4 pm
4:30								4:30
5 pm								5 pm
5:30								5:30
6 pm	french transe en danse	off the page <small>gauntlet</small>	mezza l'una <small>italian</small>	writer's block	musiquarium <small>everything from jazz to jungle sponsored by giant 45</small>	voice of ethiopia	breaking techniques	6 pm
6:30		artslink	the blues witness <small>with reverend ron sponsored by calgary dollars</small>	folkcetera <small>sponsored by the marquee room</small>		oh africa!	desi vibes	6:30
7 pm	south louisiana gumbo	tombstone after dark <small>sponsored by the palomino smokehouse & social club</small>	lift the bandstand	film clips	full moon funkalicious <small>the latest & greatest in breaks & house</small>	the nocturntable	speaking in tongues <small>world music</small>	7 pm
7:30	reverb		urban sex <small>lesbian / bisexual / gay</small>	noise <small>experimental music</small>	dirty needles <small>the best in funk, soul & hip hop</small>		the chit chat	7:30
8 pm	yeah, what she said <small>womyn's programming</small>	each one teach one	good character requirement / turing radio	fat beat diet	remote emissions <small>hard hitting jungle & drum 'n bass</small>			8 pm
8:30	aubrey's shindig! <small>sponsored by the marquee room</small>	rack power	am i right?			megawatt mayhem <small>metal</small>	tokyo eye patch	8:30
9 pm		what will the neighbors think						9 pm
9:30								9:30
10 pm	katharsis							10 pm
10:30								10:30
11 pm								11 pm
11:30								11:30
12 am	bass ackwards	twilight banter	radio frankenstine / blue collar bravado	post-everything	dna <small>hardcore techno</small>	the sarcastic triangle / attention surplus disorder	translucent dreams <small>ambient, trance etc.</small>	12 am
12:30								12:30
1 am								1 am
1:30								1:30
2 am	bad dub	late night	pardon me for keeping you up	rage cage	sound champion showcase		sunday night groove school	2 am
2:30								2:30
3 to								3 to
6 am						sunlight theory	straight on 'til morning	6 am

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Esau Mwamwaya and Radioclit are the Very Best
The Very Best
(Online Only Release)

Malawian singer Esau Mwamwaya and British DJs duo Radioclit released their mixtape, *The Very Best* in November 2008 for free online at their MySpace (myspace.com/theverybestmyspace). The Mwamwaya and Radioclit sampling is wide and varied, from MIA's Bengali electro-banger "Paper Planes" to Vampire Weekend's own poppy "Cape Cod Kwassa Kwassa." *The Very Best* re-integrates

some of 2008's greatest tracks and funks them out with a rarely heard afro-pop flavour to create a spicy curry of world music and modern independent standards.

On two separate tracks — "Boyz," which samples from "Boys" and "Tengazko," which takes its backing beat from the wildly-popular "Paper Planes" — Radioclit give MIA some special love. These tracks are perfectly suited to Mwamwaya. His smooth voice and his rhythmic African singing style are perfectly suited to Radioclit's sampling from the tracks. "Cape Cod Kwassa Kwassa"

features the main riff from Vampire Weekend and, when sung by Mwamwaya, leaves no doubt about the African influences in Weekend's music.

The high-energy pop isn't the only thing to play on *The Very Best*. "Kada Manja" starts off with a staccato a capella sing-song that transforms into a beautiful cello piece. "Dinosaur on the Ark" would fit in with any independent release, its mid-tempo instrumentation fitting in with all the navel-gazing tight jeans indie kids this side of New York.

..Jordyn Marcellus



Architects
Hollow Crown
(Distort Entertainment)

Hollow Crown, the third release from UK metalcore band Architects, is a confusing album. The band plays a fairly complex blend of metalcore and math metal, occasionally verging into screamo/emo territory. In fact, they do the latter more on *Hollow Crown* than on any of their previous releases. When Sam Carter stops the

screaming and starts the singing, it's immediately annoying and usually seems to come out of nowhere.

It's possible the success of labelmates Alexisonfire's trademark formula has prompted Architects to attempt it themselves, but they should probably just stick with what they're good at. The strange thing is that they are a decent metalcore band; they're all talented musicians and it shows. The good parts of the songs are reminiscent of Dillinger Escape Plan or Throwdown.

They use stop-start guitars to great effect, but unfortunately don't have the groove of bands like Throwdown, and instead rely on angularity and technical proficiency. When it does hit, like it does on "One of These Days" and "Left With a Last Minute," it hits pretty hard. Still, like their previous two albums, *Hollow Crown* is pretty much a middle-of-the-road metalcore album, albeit one with strange lapses into ill-advised and overproduced attempts at singing.

..Jan Baker



Goblin Cock
Come With Me If You Want To Live
(Robcore Records)

GET TO THA CHOPPPAAA!
Arnold Shwarzenegger jokes aside, Goblin Cock's sophomore album *Come With Me If You Want To Live* is definitely worth a spin. Opening with ambient thunder and dissonant acoustic guitar, things quickly get heavier than a death in the family. Sludgeful down-tuned guitars unleash an onslaught upon your ears

while the clean, penetrating vocals are a bastion of light in contrast to the doom invoked by the music. Those familiar with Pinback should promptly recognize the vocal delivery as that of Rob Crow, performing under the guise of Lord Phallus.

Ranging from metal blatin' enough to make Black Sabbath look like Donny and Marie to smooth melodic musings a la the Deftones, Goblin Cock runs the gamut of loudness. Never taking things too seriously, clever and humorous song titles and lyrics maintain a sur-

prisingly light atmosphere on an album that could otherwise score the young and elderly. "Beneath the Valley of the Island of the Misfit Toys" harkens back to the classic *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* holiday special, while "We Got A Bleeder" offers a humorous look at hurting stuff. All of this helps make *Come With Me If You Want To Live* stand out in a genre that has become more or less stagnant because of the rules of what makes a sludge band sludge.

..Jordan Fritz

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TOP 20 for the week of
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* Denotes Canadian Artist
** Denotes Local Artist

- 1 **ALICE RUSSELL** *Pot Of Gold* (Six Degrees)
- 2 **REMOTE KID**** *Remote Kid* (Cardboard Box)
- 3 **MIESHA & THE SPANKS**** *Miesha & The Spanks* (indie)
- 4 **B.A. JOHNSTON*** *Stairway To Hamilton* (Just Friends)
- 5 **THE BRONX** *Oh No It's Love* (Distort)
- 6 **VARIOUS**** *Nothing On But Your Radio: Live From CJSW 90.9FM* (indie)
- 7 **EXPLODING PIGS**** *Exploding Pigs* (indie)
- 8 **PLUS PERFECT/HERMETIC*** *Split EP* (Plans To Make Plans)
- 9 **THE JOHNNYS*** *I Like It A Lot* (Slave River)
- 10 **THE LIONS**** *Rock N' Roll Lounge* (indie)
- 11 **ELECTRIC FRANKENSTEIN / MAXIMUM RNR** *Life In Rewind/Turmoil* (indie)
- 12 **VALERY*** *Avalanche To Wandering Bear* (Do Right!)
- 13 **DAVILA 666** *Davila 666* (In The Red)
- 14 **BELLE AND SEBASTIAN** *The BBC Sessions* (Matador)
- 15 **THE SOUL JAZZ ORCHESTRA*** *Manifesto* (Do Right!)
- 16 **THE NIX DICKSONS**** *Working On The Weekend* (indie)
- 17 **MT. EERIE, JULIE DOIRON & FRED SQUIRE** *Lost Wisdom* (P.W. Elverum & Sun)
- 18 **SUPERSUCKERS** *Get It Together* (Mid-fi)
- 19 **VARIOUS** *Stuck On Amp: Live From Radio K* (Radio K)
- 20 **GLOBAL CHILLING**** *Climbing The Tower Of Babel* (indie)

METAL

- 1 **BOREALIS*** *World Of Silence* (indie)
- 2 **BEHEMOTH** *Ezkaton* (Metal Blade)
- 3 **EXODUS** *Let There Be Blood* (Zaentz)
- 4 **KREATOR** *Hordes Of Chaos* (Steamhammer)
- 5 **DEADLY APPLES*** *Infected* (indie)

EXPERIMENTAL

- 1 **MARK APPLEBAUM** *Sock Monkey* (Innova)
- 2 **VARIOUS*** *Cult Figures: Electroacoustic Music From Canada* (Centredisc)
- 3 **NICOLE LIZEE*** *This Will Not Be Televised* (Centredisc)
- 4 **THE GORDON GRDINA TRIO*** *If Accident Will* (Plunge)
- 5 **RUTH LAREDO** *My First Recital* (ESS.A.Y)

MYKE'S PICKS

- 1 **MADLIB**
- 2 **ANIMAL COLLECTIVE**
- 3 **PAPER MOON***
- 4 **CIRCLE SQUARE***
- 5 **CACTUS'S**

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY



Yeah, they broke up a long time ago, but the self-titled record by Remote Kid is their final musical ode to the world, and what a

note to end on! Twelve tracks (some recreations of previously released songs, others entirely exclusive to this release), all plodding through the indie-rock-folkness the band pieced together throughout their various incarnations. I can't wait for the new musical endeavours of these super-talented individuals...
www.cardboardboxrecords.com/remotekid

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To be added to the email list, contact Myke Atkinson, Music Director at cjswfm@ucalgary.ca

Easily Distracted

by Vanessa Mastin



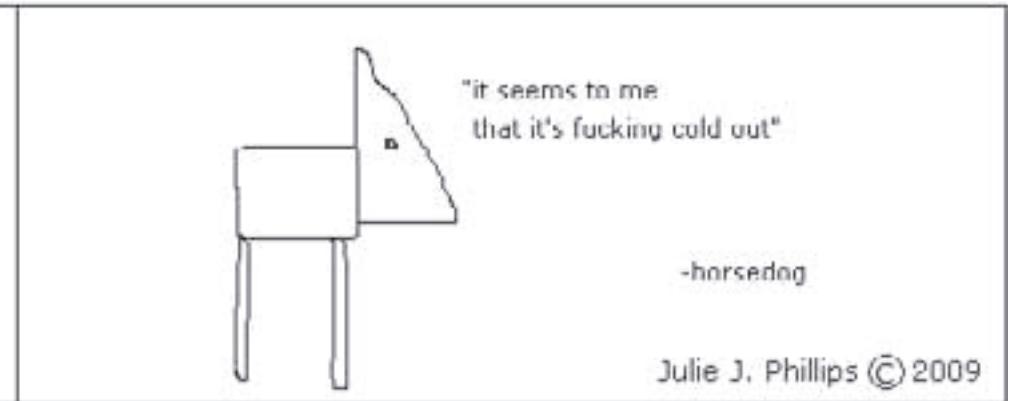
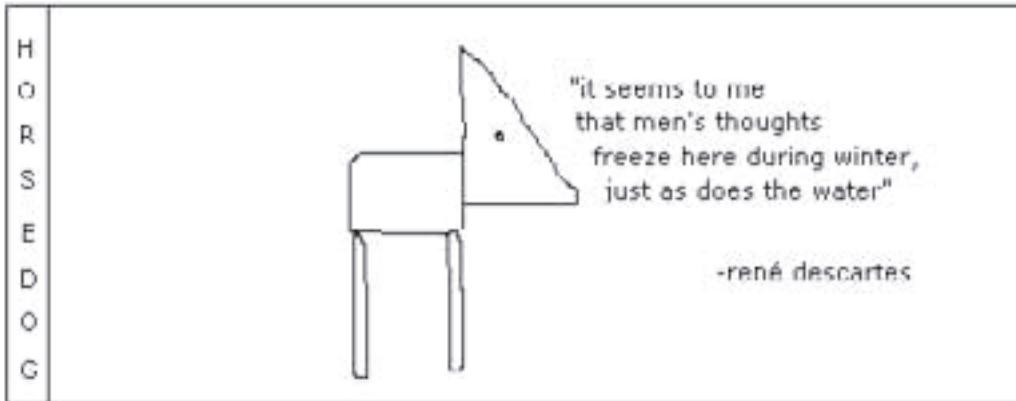
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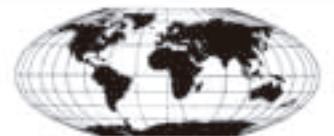
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