

Corrupt Files



Controversial website offers corrupted files so students can buy time to complete assignments

by Rhiannon Kirkland

Most students have been there — fighting to finish a paper at the last minute. A new website's offering students a "solution" to this problem by letting them buy more time through use of corrupted computer files.

Corrupted-Files.com allows students to purchase a corrupted file that they can

submit to professors, all for \$4.95. According to the website, the idea is that a student can gain extra time to finish their assignment before the grader notices the file doesn't work.

When they realize the submitted file won't open, the student can feign surprise about the corruption and submit a new working file that contains the completed assignment.

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Illustration by Jen Grond, Cover by Chris Pedersen (left) and Ken Clarke (right)



Calgary **Folk Fest** Wrap-Up

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British study links tanning beds with cancer

Earlier this week a British medical journal dealt a potentially catastrophic blow to the fashion sense of junior high and high school kids across Prince Edward Island.

Lancet Oncology released a study indicating that artificial tanning beds and sun lamps have a definite carcinogenic effect on humans. This information prompted the World Health Organization to raise the health warning level for these items to the highest possible category — also occupied by such notably damaging carcinogens as tobacco smoke and hepatitis B — which in turn bolstered the P.E.I. branch of the Canadian Cancer Society's efforts to have the government regulate artificial tanning in a similar fashion to smoking: determining that only those 18 years old and above be allowed to use the devices, irrespective of a guardian's consent.

Though clearly impinging the freedom of youths to some degree, this is certainly the right direction to take. Not only should P.E.I.'s government adopt the proposal, but the rest of the country



Jen Grond/the Gauntlet

should embrace it as well.

If artificial tanning shares a direct link to cancer as smoking does — most alarmingly melanoma, in the tanning bed case — it should be dealt with in the same way. Tobacco smoking is regulated as it is because of the harm it does to the individual. The belief is that those

under 18 do not possess the requisite faculties to make appropriate decisions when it comes to certain matters that can harm them. Thus, if one must be 18 to buy cigarettes and if artificial tanning has the potential to harm in the same fashion, then it would be incoherent to leave artificial tanning unreg-

ulated or treat it differently.

Some may contend that minors should be allowed to make their own decisions regarding their own bodies, but this in no way discredits the proposed tanning bed regulation so long as smoking remains controlled as it is. Rather, that argument is brought against the very legitimacy of regulating anything capable of harming an individual in this way. Differential regulation of two causes of the same problem, cancer, is merely arbitrary.

It would be irresponsible, while in possession of the knowledge that tanning beds seriously increase one's risk of cancer, for the government not to act in the interest of its citizens and limit the potential abuse of this aesthetic enhancement technique. Now that tanning beds and artificial sun lamps are known to be carcinogenic, they must be regulated. Otherwise, the interdiction on smoking should be lifted and Canadian youth should be free to puff away at will.

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Website offers students chance to buy time

Corrupt files, cont'd from cover

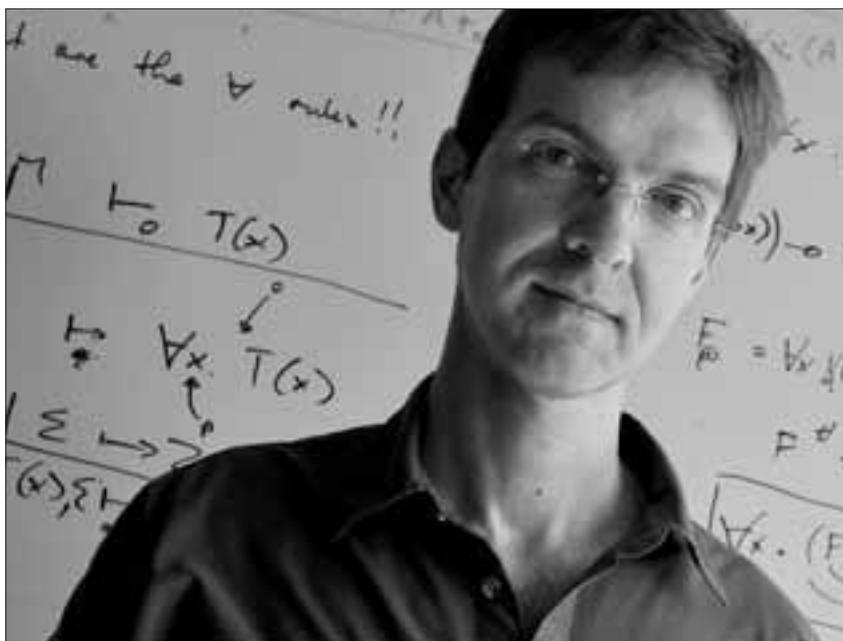
Software bugs, hardware failures or shutting down the computer or removing a USB device while saving can corrupt a file, said Dr. John Aycock, a University of Calgary computer science associate professor.

The website is meant to give students an excuse to get extra time to finish their work. Instead of the run of the mill excuses — “my computer crashed” or “grandma died” — the student can say “it doesn't work, how could that be?”

According to the website, “it's a fine line” between a good excuse and cheating. Corrupted-Files.com encourages students to ask their professors for extensions before buying a file and discourages procrastination.

“It's probably something that I wouldn't recommend students do, because I think it smacks of academic misconduct,” said U of C Student Rights Advisor Robert Clegg.

That said, submitting a file from the website wouldn't be categorized as plagiarism because it doesn't involve taking someone else's work or recycling one's own. The ploy



Angela Larsen/the Gauntlet

The U of C's Dr. John Aycock says the website's files won't fool attentive, tech-savvy profs.

wouldn't technically qualify as cheating, which involves simple things like looking over your shoulder at someone else's test, either, said Clegg.

The penalty for using one of these files would range from an F in the course or on the assignment to expulsion or suspension, said Clegg.

For professors, technology has brought problems by making it easier for students to plagiarize and

cheat. Websites like Corrupted-Files.com may mean that professors have to be even more suspicious of what students are doing.

Most professors require hard copies of students' work alongside digital copies. Dr. Loren Falkenburg, an associate professor at the U of C's Haskayne School of Business, requires assignments be submitted as both a hard and digital copy specifically to avoid problems with cheating.

Falkenburg said that submitting corrupted files might trick professors at first, but that after a couple of times a pattern will appear and it will stop working.

“I can't believe that students would go to that much effort just to turn in their assignments late,” said Falkenburg.

“If you had put half as much work into doing the assignment as you've put into convincing me

why your assignment should've been marked easier or whatever, you would've learned something and you would've had a higher mark.

“After a while you almost don't believe what you're hearing, even if it's true, or you make students jump through more hoops than you would've if you hadn't been lied to over the years.”

The Corrupted-Files.com website says their “files cannot be opened, traced or reverse engineered.” The website also says they change the files periodically so that they “stay fresh.”

“In my experience, when a file is corrupted, some of it is usually salvageable,” said Aycock. “That means that buying corrupted files as an excuse probably wouldn't fly with a tech-savvy prof. who would look at them closely.”

Falkenburg said she appreciates it when students are honest with her instead of using excuses or lying, and that professors can usually tell the difference between an excuse and the truth.

“Part of university and part of meeting deadlines is time management, so my advice to [students] is work on time management skills rather than trickery and deception,” said Clegg.

Conservatives accused of setting up campus front groups

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet News

A series of alarming revelations has student leaders looking over their shoulders in Ontario. An anonymous source posted several audio files, photos and transcripts to the website Wikileaks in mid-March, spilling the beans on an Ontario Progressive Conservative Campus Association's workshop at the University of Waterloo last February.

Conservative MP Peter Braid and his campaign manager Aaron Lee Wudrick attended the event, along with OPCCA members and other students. The training sessions were about getting involved with campus activism, though others have alleged they were teaching students how to push a conservative agenda on their own campuses.

Tactics mentioned on tape included instituting “nonpartisan front clubs” to advocate an agenda — such as a “Campus Coalition for Liberty” — running Conservative party members in student elections,

taking over student governments, targeting the national lobby group Canadian Federation of Students or university radio stations to cut their funding or seizing Ontario Public Interest Research Groups' boards of directors to dismantle them. OPIRGs are campus organizations devoted to addressing social justice issues, human rights and sustainability and are funded by student levies at universities.

CFS spokesperson Hamid Osman explained the organization is concerned that the Conservative Party of Canada and OPCCA were using taxpayers' money to undermine the autonomy of student unions. He mentioned that CFS was concerned about Braid's presence at the meeting.

“It is problematic to see that funding from the Conservative Party of Canada and the OPCCA is being used to undermine the democratic process of students' unions and to target non-partisan organizations such as the Canadian Federation of Students,” said Osman.

One student mentioned on a list

of speakers at the Waterloo session is Kevin Wiener, a former arts and science student senator for The Alma Mater Society of Queen's University. He also served as the secretary-treasurer of the Ontario PC Youth Association in the past. His name was posted on Wikileaks, but he explained he was only there for 20 minutes, visiting friends and briefly sitting in on a session. He said the event was a campus activism training conference instead, recorded by an anonymous campus activist.

“What this conference was about was teaching conservative students

how to get their message out on campus and how to ensure that student fees are used for competent government and clubs rather than to promote a political agenda,” said Wiener. “The only sort of activism conservative students tend to with their student government is to stop student fees from supporting ideological groups. It is patently false, however, to suggest that these students are trying to ‘take over’ student governments so they can take orders from political parties.”

On a Wikileaks audiotape, Wiener addressed the possibility of cutting

OPIRGs' funding by amending student-funding rules.

“So, um, how about instead of necessarily fighting [OPIRGs], we see CLUBS, page 4

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Visa requirements create student stress

New rules for Mexicans, Czechs leave little time for international students

Noah Miller

Gauntlet News

Some international students at the University of Calgary will have to jump one more hurdle in order to attend here.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada announced mid-July that Czech Republic and Mexican nationals must now have visas to travel to Canada. The requirements mean students, who already need a Study Permit, must get a Temporary Resident Visa, a process that can take two to three months, leaving many concerned they won't be able to react in time for September classes.

The new requirements stem from a spike in the two countries' refugee claims. According to CIC, Mexico and the Czech Republic constitute the two largest "source countries" for claims.

"In addition to creating signifi-

cant delays and spiralling new costs in our refugee program, the sheer volume of these claims is undermining our ability to help people fleeing real persecution," said Immigration and Multiculturalism Minister Jason Kenney in a July 13 news release.

"The visa process will allow us to assess who is coming to Canada as a legitimate visitor and who might be trying to use the refugee system to jump the immigration queue. It is not fair for those who have been waiting patiently to come to Canada, sometimes for years, when others succeed in bypassing our immigration system."

As a result of these changes, Mexican and Czech nationals will need to apply for a Temporary Resident Visa in order to visit Canada as well as meet the standard requirements of a temporary, time-specified visit: be in good health, have no crimi-



Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

Mexican and Czech students now require a Study Permit and a Temporary Resident Visa to attend classes at the U of C.

nal record, have enough money to cover their stay and demonstrate that they are not a security risk to Canadians.

Kenney said Canada will "continue to welcome all genuine travellers

to Canada" from these countries.

"The visa requirement I am announcing will give us a greater ability to manage the flow of people into Canada and verify bona fides," said Kenney. "By taking this important step towards reducing the burden on our refugee system, we will be better equipped to process genuine refugee claims faster."

While Kenney focuses on immigration issues, the changes are generating concern for international

students, who must now obtain a TRV in addition to a Study Permit.

"Unfortunately this causes a lot of complications for us when considering vacations outside of Canada or even for a conference trip, as re-entry requires a TRV, which is costly and takes a lot of time to get. It doesn't help that they usually only give a single entry visa, instead of a multiple entry visa," said an international graduate student, who asked not to be named. "I think this has the potential to decrease the cultural diversity seen at the U of C as well as making life more difficult and stressful for existing international students."

The policy alterations have left some students scrambling to meet requirements.

"Although they are understandably necessary in some cases, they shouldn't be announced without a reasonable amount of time to react to the changes," said the student. "The restrictions imposed should not hinder students, academia and business as they are entering for legitimate purposes and, in the case of students, have already obtained a study permit."

City hall goes open source

Daniel Pagan

Gauntlet News

City hall will be more transparent after council passed a notice of motion opening up the city's data to the public last Monday.

The notice instructs city bureaucrats to draft a report on how to make all data collected by the City of Calgary, from traffic statistics to census numbers, more accessible to Calgarians in an open source format, while respecting privacy and security concerns.

DJ Kelly, a member of local activist group CivicCamp, is happy about the notice's passage, explaining it would allow citizens to become more involved with their city.

Currently, obtaining information from the city can be very time consuming. People looking for information have to pay \$25 to submit a Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy request and wait for a month. In theory, open and accessible government should be the default position of every government organization, said Kelly.

"Unfortunately, as government departments have become more complicated the better part of their resources were, rightfully so, spent on fulfilling their actual function rather than making their processes transparent to the public," said Kelly.

"This has inadvertently created a closed system where the public feels out of touch with what their government is doing on their behalf — apathy starts here," he said.

"With a government that is open, it becomes much less labourious for the average citizen to stay on top of what our government is doing on our behalf. Freely accessible data collected by our government is one simple step in this direction."

It would even cut down on the city's use of proprietary software, saving money down the road, said Kelly. Opening up the records in open source format would allow developers to take advantage of the information to create new open source programs that could be used by city officials to save expenses.

"The amount of data housed in city hall's records must be nearly immeasurable," said Kelly.

"For people like coders and academics, this represents a gold mine of possibility. I look forward to seeing what kind of conclusions they may be able to draw. . . . The applications created from this data will no doubt have limitless untold uses."

University of Calgary Environmental Design professor Dr. Tom Keenan said the motion was inevitable, given the trend to develop

new open source programs like Firefox programs or Linux.

"Making data held by the City of Calgary more widely available is a logical evolution," he said.

"We already have citizens using technology tools, for an example, to work out how new developments will impact the view from their condos. So it seems only right that they should, where possible, be working from the same data as the city."

Keenan warned there is still work that needs to be done, such as protecting personal data from data mining and privacy invasions. He pointed out the possibility of gaining individuals' private data by pulling together and analyzing statistics.

"It costs time and sometimes resources to extract the data to ensure that it is releasable without compromising privacy," said Keenan.

The city's report would also look at how to increase city services available over the web and increase online citizen participation. A few amendments, such as asking for feedback from the city's legal department and a risk benefit analysis were added to the motion.

Vancouver passed an open government bill last May, while Washington, D.C., and Toronto are considering enacting similar bills.

Clubs, cont'd from page 3

just get our own non-profit corporation that receives student fees and just have our own student funding to fight them," he said on the recording. "Or the alternative, if you can get student government, which in some places you can, because OPIRG is a non-profit and not a club or a charity, just amending the student funding rules, like, 'in order to receive funding you must be a club or a charity,' and then, bam, they're just not eligible to receive fees."

Wiener said the comments were taken out of context. He said he meant that funding for OPIRGs may be objectionable to many students, due to OPIRGs' political backgrounds and unaccountability, compared to clubs bound by student governments' regulations.

Last March, Wiener narrowly avoided impeachment from his senator position after a motion of removal was voted down. He was falsely accused of trying to present a motion to eliminate funding to staffed organizations such as OPIRGs. However, he explained the motion was for all groups to disclose how much money they spent

on salaries and honouraria.

Accusations also arose over the question of clubs being front groups at Carleton University in Ottawa. Last year, the CU Students' Association launched an investigation into several clubs, including: the Friedrich Nietzsche Club, the Philosophy Club, the Area 51 Club, the Star Trek Club, the Star Wars Appreciation Club, the Civilization Club and the Soviet Studies Club.

Suspicious flared up when an OPCCA member set up the campus clubs. However, the CUSA president Erik Halliwell said there was no evidence of a link between the OPCCA and the clubs.

"In the investigation that we did for the clubs, we only discovered that there were front groups created by one main individual, we did not find any evidence that this money was funneled to Conservative organizations," said Halliwell.

Neither Braid nor OPCCA had replied to multiple requests for comment before press time.

The OPCCA is not affiliated with the Conservative Party of Canada.



Ken Clarke/the Gauntlet



Kate Marlow/the Gauntlet



Kate Marlow/the Gauntlet



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Folk Fest by the numbers

4 days for the Calgary Folk Festival

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64 different musical acts this year

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After legal woes, Steven Page goes solo

Steven Page has been through some big changes over the last couple years. He separated from his wife of 13 years in 2007, dealt with drug charges throughout 2008 and parted ways with the Barenaked Ladies in early 2009. The *Gauntlet's* Ryan Pike sat down with Page in-between performances at the Calgary Folk Music Festival to discuss life, music and life away from the Barenaked Ladies.

Gauntlet: Hi, Steven. How are you doing?

Steven Page: Really good. Happy to be on my own and do my own thing.

G: What's it like being on your own?

SP: A lot of it has to do with how you measure your time. One of the things about making a record, a commitment to a record, with four other guys is that you all have to get together and say "for two years we're gonna make a record and we're gonna be on the road and chase this," and everything else has to fall by the wayside. What I was doing this year was making music for the Stratford Shakespeare Festival and working on my own stuff and realizing life is short. I couldn't keep putting things off and being at the mercy of other peoples' schedules and that's the biggest thing. Now, you still have to make choices about what you can fit into your timeline, but at least they're my choices.

G: How did you get involved with the Folk Festival?

SP: As soon as I split from the band, I called my agent and said "I want to do folk festivals this sum-



Ken Clarke/the Gauntlet

Steven Page enjoying seven minutes of heaven with a plucky boy reporter.

mer. Can you let people [know] that I'm out there and want to do 'em?" because I have fond memories of playing festivals with Barenaked Ladies in the early '90s. It's a great way of connecting with an audience and show[ing] them my face again and start doing things again. I wanted to get out on the road and start working right away. I knew it was a great way to motivate me, and I like the spirit of these places.

G: Given your early experiences with folk festivals, would you say you're getting back to your roots?

SP: I wouldn't say I'm trying to go back to the roots because the roots

were all about being a collaborative ensemble. This is more about staking my own claim now and showing people how the back catalogue and new material are all part of the same canon.

G: Your Saturday afternoon performance alongside Sarah Harmer, Justin Rutledge and the Good Lovelies was met with a massive turnout and audience reaction. How do you feel about how the audience responded to your work?

SP: It's great, and as soon as I was introduced on stage the audience was incredibly enthusiastic. It's a huge relief to me because I really,

frankly, have no idea how people are going to react. But I also know that I have to work really hard to get peoples' approval, I guess in a sense. I don't take for granted that, whatever, I am [a] heritage musician . . . I have a history where some of the other, younger artists don't, it's pretty easy for people to go "well, that guy's over." There's a certain hunger that you have to keep and it was really nice to see the positive reaction I got from people.

G: Do you find, given your recent history, that you have to combat peoples' perceptions of you?

SP: I don't feel like I'm trying to combat anything anymore. In the band, I spent a lot of my time afraid of what people were going to think and how to construct and uphold an image of the group. [It] gets to the point where, "Fuck it, I can't continue to try to maintain an image." The best thing I can do is write the best songs I can do, sing them as well as I can and be myself.

G: Has your writing process changed since leaving the Barenaked Ladies?

SP: I don't know if the process of writing is any different, but I love the fact that when I'm constructing a song now, I don't have to dance around mentally anybody else's feelings. That's part of being in the band is that mutual respect. I'd make a demo and think, "I don't wanna play a bass part in this demo because I don't want Jim [Creegan, Barenaked Ladies bassist] to think I'm

trying to tell him how to play," and whatever else. You really want everybody's contribution. Now that I don't even need to think about that, I can kind of let my mind run wild, which is great.

G: Do you find yourself worrying about what audiences may think of you?

SP: I don't know what people think of me anymore. I think that there was a time where people thought "This guy thinks he has all the answers," but I think everybody knows I don't. That's fine, I don't mind that. I don't know what people think I was trying to do before and what they think I'm trying to do now. It's hard for me to over-think that, really.

G: What approach are you taking for your first solo album? Do you feel like you have something to prove?

SP: There's a temptation to make it a grand statement, but I think every album has to be a grand statement. You know, every record we made as Barenaked Ladies, we worked our asses off and were incredibly proud of at the time, but yet you go back over it and go, "Hmm." I know what made the albums work and what made albums not work. I like the feeling of flying without a net. Maybe this is what I want people to know: I have no idea what the future's gonna hold, but the biggest thing I'm trying to be is fearless. If I can go out there and make music that's challenging to me, I hope it's still palatable.

.. Ryan Pike

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Ambassadors keep ramblin' on and on

Ramblin' Ambassadors

music interview

Ryan Pike

Opinions Editor

The Calgary Folk Music Festival annually features artists from many countries, many languages and many walks of life. While many of the 64 artists fly into Calgary as part of continuing multi-province or multi-country tours, the Ramblin' Ambassadors arrive in a different manner. Like most audience members, they take time off work and head down to Prince's Island for the weekend.

The instrumental four-piece — comprised of former Huevos Rancheros guitarist Brent J. Cooper, Scott Nickless, "Gentleman" Doug Waite and Tyler Pickering — originally came together out of necessity.

"Scott and I jammed on the acoustic guitar a bit at Long and McQuade [Music], and then we got offered a gig," recalls Cooper. "So, we quickly rounded Scott and a drummer up and learned some songs. Then Tyler fell in, then Doug fell in, and it's been like that for many years now. The idea, I think, to form it like that was based more on informality and friendships. Just going for the fun of the experience of playing music, not so



courtesy Mint Records

The Ambassadors themselves, in a rare moment of non-ramblin'.

much 'we're gonna make it big.'"

When they're not rocking out on stage, all four Ambassadors attempt to balance music, families and the daily nine-to-five grind. Cooper and Waite both teach when they're not performing,

while Pickering and Nickless work together at Long and McQuade. Pickering notes that the balancing act can be stressful, but that the enjoyment of their performances is worth it.

"I think it gets us through the

rest of our lives," says Pickering. "I think if we weren't doing this, the daily grind would probably bring us down. But the occasional Sunday night in Red Deer, when we have to drive home at three o'clock in the morning, go to bed at six and get up

at seven and go to work, it's great."

"That and carrying around gear keeps you in shape," adds Waite.

The Ambassadors are a bit of an oddity on the Calgary musical landscape, boasting smooth rhythms and driving guitars — and absolutely no vocals. In the realm of the Calgary Folk Musical Festival, featuring performances from many other countries and languages, the Ambassadors can be enjoyed alongside artists performing in French or Spanish. The band feels that choosing to not have a vocalist enables them to do a multitude of different things with their music.

"Making a decision like that [to have a singer], you're kind of boxing yourself in if you're not doing what you just like to do," says Nickless. "Whatever music you like to play, just play it. If you make a decision, 'We've got to be a different band,' then it comes off contrived because you're trying to do something different than you're actually thinking you should do."

"It's so easy to focus on the words and think about the words," says Pickering. "Whereas with an instrumental band you can tell a story with music and it's a heckuva lot more open-ended and you can take your own meaning from it."

For more information, check out myspace.com/ramblinambassadors.

A lil' bit of Nancy White

G: You had your daughter on stage playing piano for you. What is being part of a mother-daughter team like?

NW: My daughter's name is Suzy Wilde. She's been singing backup for me for quite awhile; both of my daughters did when they were younger, but she hasn't been my piano player before. We did the mariposa festival just a few weeks ago and it's been just these two gigs so it's kind of a new thing. She has a music degree, so she's a really serious musician. It's fun on stage, but I know that living together, well, I annoy her. I'm a little cranky and sometimes rude to people. I get annoyed at things and it's embarrassing to her but we have a good relationship. We always have. I adore her as a musician. Her new CD is just out. It's very gorgeous. Her writing is much more sophisticated than mine, but it doesn't have as many jokes.

G: Is the comedy in your own

music important to you as an artist?

NW: It's not what I listen to and I do write straight stuff too of course, but if you can do the comedy everyone likes to laugh. I don't know if it's a gift or a curse but there it is. Some of my comedic music is a little dated now. I wrote a song called "And I Copied It" about people copying music and I don't even do it anymore because it's beyond everything and copying music is a fact of life. People at this festival are supportive of the artists and really love music. I like to see the set list w— it's very interesting.

I like to see how people organize the music. But my record company Borealis says that people are still buying CDs but I don't know how long that will last. I wouldn't want to be a young musician starting out now; it's really hard for them. It's all about the merch now.

— Kate Marlow

Check out the full interview with Nancy White, Friday July 31 at thegauntlet.ca

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403-292-4001

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Centre Service Canada pour jeunes de Calgary
510, avenue 12th SW, bureau 217
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TOP 20 for the week of JULY 20 .09

- * Denotes Canadian Artist
 ** Denotes Local Artist
- 1 **PTERODACTYL** *Worldwild* (Brah)
 - 2 **OHBIJOU*** *Beacons* (Last Gang)
 - 3 **WILCO** *(The Album)* (Nonesuch)
 - 4 **BIBIO** *Ambivalence Avenue* (Warp)
 - 5 **VARIOUS** *PDX Pop Now!* (PDX Pow)
 - 6 **SONIC YOUTH** *The Eternal* (Matador)
 - 7 **YOUNG FRESH FELLOWS** *I Think This Is* (Yep Roc)
 - 8 **DEERHUNTER** *Rainwater Cassette Exchange* (Kranky)
 - 9 **VARIOUS*** *Vancouver's Punk As Fuck! Vol 2* (Self-Released)
 - 10 **DIRTY PROJECTORS** *Bitte Orca* (Domino)
 - 11 **THE PHENOMENAL HANDCLAP BAND** *The Phenomenal Handclap Band* (Friendly Fire)
 - 12 **BROCK GEIGER**** *Invitation* (Self-Released)
 - 13 **KNOTS**** *The Blistering Sun, The Pale Moon, HaHaHaHa* (Self-Released)
 - 14 **ANIMAL NAMES*** *Oh Yes You Better Do* (Self-Released)
 - 15 **EXTRA HAPPY GHOST!***** *How The Beach Boys Sound To Those With No Feelings* (Saved By Radio)
 - 16 **HERMIT THRUSHES** *Slight Fountain* (Joyful Noise)
 - 17 **MAGIC MAGIC** *Magic Magic LP* (TPR)
 - 18 **SIMON FISK TRIO**** *Unless* (Plunge)
 - 19 **TORTOISE** *Beacons Of Ancestralship* (Thrill Jockey)
 - 20 **GRUESOMES*** *Hey!* (Ricochet)

WORLD

- 1 **ANDY NARELL & RELATOR** *University Of Calypso* (Heads Up)
- 2 **REGGAE REMEDY**** *Reggae Remedy* (Self-Released)
- 3 **BOMBA** *Cuatro Caminos* (Bomba)
- 4 **NOVALIMA** *Cobacoba Remixed* (Cumbancha)
- 5 **ZIGGY MARLEY** *Family Time* (Tuff Gong)

JAZZ

- 1 **BILL BANFIELD BAND** *Spring Forward* (Innova)
- 2 **SIMON FISK TRIO**** *Unless* (Plunge)
- 3 **JOB MILLER QUARTET*** *Orchidology* (Self-Released)
- 4 **ETIENNE CHARLES** *Folklore* (Self-Released)
- 5 **STEUART LIEBIG/THE MENTONES** *Angel City Dust* (pfMentum)

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY



Calgary's own Saved By Radio has given birth to the new project of Matt Swann (bassist from Hot Little Rocket). Playing under the moniker "Extra Happy Ghost!!!" Swann has released an EP

of lo-fi pop gems under the (almost too-amazing) title *How The Beach Boys Sound To Those With No Feelings*. Some might think that the exclamation points at the end of the name are to show how happy the ghost is, but the truth is they are there to scream at you just how awesome Calgary's latest offering is.

www.myspace.com/extrahappyghost

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Serendipity greets Justin Rutledge

The Canadian music circuit can, on occasion, be a small world after all. For Justin Rutledge, attending this year's Folk Fest was a weird full-circle for him. Rutledge sat down with *Gauntlet* writer Kate Marlow and explained his past with singer-songwriter-activist Sarah Harmer, his experience at the festival and the new record he has on the go.

.. Jordyn Marcellus

JR: I wrote for the paper in university. It's funny, my first interview was with Sarah Harmer's old band, the Weeping Tile, and I was about 18 and it was my first year of university and I got to interview Sarah. It was their first show at this place called Lee's Palace in Toronto. I think it was the first time they played there and I think it was sold out and when I said to her, 'Hey, I interviewed you in 1998 when you guys played at Lee's Palace.' I think she said she remembered it. I wouldn't have.

G: What do you think of the Calgary Folk Festival this year?

JR: It's great to play the 30th anniversary. It's a pretty special year; the people who are playing here are hand-picked. Being chosen to be among one of the lucky few who get to play it is a real highlight, a real treat.

G: Is there anyone at the festival that you're interested in working with?

JR: I did a workshop yesterday with Sarah Harmer and Steven Page and The Good Lovelies and it was great, and I just did one with the Tom Fun Orchestra which was great too. And later on I'm doing a workshop with Carolyn Mark and it's always good playing with her because you never know what's going to happen with Carolyn; it's amazing. I love Alejandro Escovedo. I'm not on any workshops with him but I'm a big fan. It was great seeing Glen Campbell last night and Sarah Harmer. And I'm excited to see Mavis Staples tonight.

G: Do you prefer the festival atmo-



Ken Clarke/the Gauntlet

Justin Rutledge on stage at Folk Fest. Look at those dreamy blue eyes.

sphere over performing at shows?

JR: In the summer it's the festival circuit. Festivals and shows are such different beasts — I really enjoy festivals. I also really enjoy shows. I mean, you're closer to the audience when you're doing

the festival circuit. You really get to know people. You get to meet a lot of people. I've met many, many musicians doing festivals the past few years that I otherwise wouldn't have met just on the road. Some lasting relationships are forged.

We're starting our next record next month so I've been trying out a few new tunes here. The workshop stages are meant for that, you know? It's good too because the audiences are pretty forgiving.

..Kate Marlow

off the page

(((radio gauntlet))) interviews - commentary - analysis
 hosted by jon roe and kathy anderson
offthepage@thegauntlet.ca



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