

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

gauntlet

VOLUME 50 | ISSUE NO. 25 | JANUARY 14 | 2010



of



campus changes
2000 – 2010
see story page 4



STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

JANUARY 18 - 22 EVENTS:

MONDAY

Cinemanía: Inglorious Basterds, ST148, 6:30 & 9pm
Clubs Week! North and South Courtyards, MSC

TUESDAY

Clubs Night at the Den: 15% off with your Club Card, 5pm - close

WEDNESDAY

Yoga in That Empty Space: 12 - 1pm
25¢ Wing Night at the Den, 8pm - close

THURSDAY

Student Appreciation Night at the Den

FRIDAY

That Empty Space: Maurice and Matt Blais, 3 - 6pm

THE SU VOLUNTEER TAX PROGRAM IS LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS



Each successful applicant must commit to 4 hours per week for 6 weeks.

Mandatory CRA Training
Feb. 6 (9am-3pm), MacEwan Ballroom

Apply before January 18. Space is limited.

for more information or to apply online visit www.su.ucalgary.ca/vs or in person at the SU Volunteer Services office, room 225 in MSC (east end).



Looking for a new hive?



Check out
SU Clubs Week,
January 18 - 22
in MacEwan Student
Centre.

There are over 200 clubs on campus that bring together people who share similar passions. Whether you're into anime or snowboarding, burning up the dance floor or fighting social injustice, chances are there is a club for you!

The Students' Union offers a number of services for clubs such as funding for events and club office space. Club members also enjoy discounts at the Den and Bound & Copied.

Get involved! Check out SU Clubs Week January 18 - 22 in MacEwan Student Centre.



MONDAY: CINEMANIA "Blades of Glory" ST 148, 6:30 and 9 pm
TUESDAY: WHITE OUT BINGO The Den, 3:30 - 5:30 pm Winter-Themed Prizes!
WEDNESDAY: YOGA IN THE SPACE That Empty Space, 12:00 pm
THURSDAY: BO'S FOR LUNCH "Risby Business" That Empty Space, 12:00 pm

FRIDAY, 3 - 6 pm
THAT EMPTY SPACE

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Students' Union
University of Calgary

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Harper's going (pro)rogue

Tories suspend Parliament until March

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has garnered a massive response from Canadians after announcing parliament would be prorogued until March 3. Instead of returning to work at the end of January as was originally planned, Harper said his party would devote the extra time to assembling a new agenda and budget.

However, the break's timing raised suspicion from the Opposition due to recent allegations of Afghani detainee abuse and public outcry quickly gained momentum. Prorogation halted all committee work including the inquiry into the torture allegations. It isn't hard to see how the well-timed prorogue would bury negative attention from Canada's abusive behaviour — an especially embarrassing position to be in while hosting the Olympics.

Yet, while the anger rages on, it seems not as much notice is given to the vast number of government bills that were scrapped as part of the prorogation.

Three dozen bills were terminated in December, two of which awaited only royal assent to be made law. The first was an anti-crime legislation bill which was a major part of Harper's platform.



The bill would have ended “volume discounts” for serial murders — instead of remaining ineligible for parole for 25 years in total, it would be raised to 25 years per murder. Bills like these were well supported within the Conservative party, which felt that it was already taking too long to go through the regular debate process. Now, the debate process will have to start from the very beginning.

Others include Bill C-6 on Consumer Product Safety and Bill C-15, which introduced minimum penalties for serious drug crimes. The majority of these bills faced minimal opposition and the Conservatives have little to gain by cutting them. Prorogation is going to successfully achieve a handful of Harper's goals, including temporarily distracting Canadians from the Afghani detainee torture

allegations and handing Conservatives a clear-cut majority in the Senate, but it is useless when it comes to furthering possibly significant laws.

Private member's bills receive some special treatment and are not affected by the extended break. The bills introduced by back-benchers will continue the debate process from where they left off. Private member's bills include everything from Tory Candice Hoepfner's bid to end the gun registry to automated banking machine charges and “An Act respecting Louis Riel.” These bills rarely lead to substantial changes for ordinary Canadians and yet won't experience the same delays as more important legislation. The rules of prorogation are beyond Harper's control, but it seems like he got caught up in the benefits and forgot to consider the resulting setbacks.

Not only is Harper delaying constructive parliamentary debate for an unnecessary five weeks, the amount of time that will be spent looking at the same legislation yet again is expensive and wasteful.

Sarelle Azuelos
Features Editor

contents

news

Kick off the 2010s in style with the *Gauntlet's* review of some developments of the past decade. Join new News Editors Brent Constantin and Noah Miller on **page 4** for all the fun.

opinions

What's the deal with Yemen? Un-informed about lube? Really got a hate-on for mainstream music? Opinions! Plus, proroguing, **page 4**.

entertainment

Opera, a young piano virtuoso, crime capers and Calgary's own Woodpigeon. Entertainment, yo, **page 14**. Go to thegauntlet.ca for info on a new music venue in Calgary.

sports

Sports Editor Jon Roe unveils a preview of the basketball Dinos' next home games, **page 18**. Check 'em out!

ski supplement

The Gauntlet Ski (and Snowboard) squad hits the slopes to give you the straight dope about the best hills. Do people still say that? Straight dope? Pull-out begins after **page 10**.

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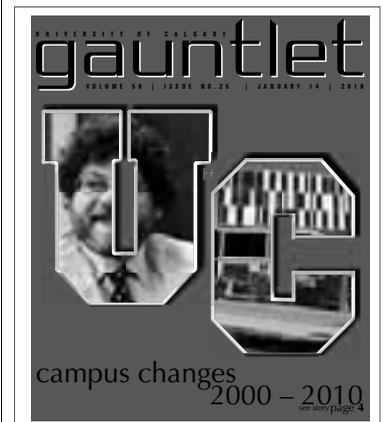
Golden Spatula(s)
Kristy Kalin rang in 2010 with a swell interview, while Allison Cully made us giggle with her awesome editorial cartoon. Huzzah!

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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 Team Conan-based ink. We urge you to recycle/get screwed by NBC with 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
Photos by Chris Pedersen & Paul Baker
Design by Chris Pedersen



The *Gauntlet* looks back at the last ten

Noah Miller
News Editor

Over the last decade a number of events have significantly changed the university into the one we know and occasionally love today.

While campus was relatively quiet during the summer of 2000, construction crews laboured on over 600 renovation and construction projects. Among these projects were the Stör, relocated clubs space and the clubs' business space above the University of Calgary bookstore in MacEwan Student Centre, delivering snack food and extra curricular activity space to the student masses. Alongside these projects was the ground breaking of the east-side expansion of MacHall, which now includes the concert-packed Ballroom.

More prominently on students' early-decade radars, however, was the temporary disappearance of the Den when it was taken over from university administration by the Students' Union in August of 2000.

"It's a piece of history, it's a piece of my school career lost," Social Anthropology graduate and former Den employee Jason Corall told the *Gauntlet* in 2000.

The SU did its best to keep the Den much the way it was. Despite students' initial disappointment regarding the takeover, the bar kept its name and remains the campus watering hole today, especially during ever popular Thurs-Dens.

Further disappointment was displayed by students after university administration quashed SU plans to hold a MacHall-wide rave known as "recess" on the last day of classes in December.

In the year that followed, with the Den still closed, the only remaining licensed undergraduate establishment, Max Cafe and Bar, also closed its doors, leaving campus without a place to drown its sorrows in copious quantities of liquor.

Continued renovations to MacEwan Hall in 2001 relocated many campus services to where they are today. The ICT building was completed in 2001, at approximately 17,000 square meters in size and with five lecture theaters on the main floor, along with links to both the earth sciences building and the engineering complex.

The most significant event of 2001, and arguably the decade, for the U of C was the election of a new president, Harvey Weingarten. Weingarten came highly regarded by students and professors who had worked closely with him in the previous 21 years at McMaster for his promotion of a holistic university experience and the integration of both research and academics.

After many years with Weingarten at the helm many of his peers still maintain his effectiveness as president and the number of positive changes he incurred at the University of Calgary.

"All over campus there is evidence of new facilities that serve the needs of students and researchers," said provost and vice-president academic Alan Harrison. Harrison also noted the significant growth in the student body over the decade, which has increased by about one third from 21,000 to 28,000, but remained confident that quality of education has only improved focusing on student success.

While Harrison admitted that the university's achievements of the last decade were not accomplished by Weingarten alone, he held

that Weingarten's leadership and tutelage were very important to its success.

Such success includes: a higher proportion of graduate students, a dramatically improved research ranking and incorporation into the G13, a group of research intensive Canadian universities.

Public Relations work led to the renaming of the business school to the Haskayne School of Business in 2002 following a significant contribution from Richard Haskayne. The Engineering School was also renamed the Schulich School of Engineering in 2006. Weingarten's tenure was directly influential in establishing the first new vet school in Canada in over a decade along with vast expansions to the U of C's medical facilities.

During the early '00s the U-Pass was also established. Originally a mandatory \$50 per semester in 2002, the U-Pass saw students receive unrestricted access to city transit during the fall and winter semesters. 2002 was also the year that Information Technologies launched a pilot program that boasted a new wireless network allowing students to access the campus network and the internet with laptops. Better known as AirUC, the project originally offered connection points in ICT, information commons and the fourth floor of Scurfield hall, but now covers the entire campus.

2005 marked the outsourcing of campus Food Services to international food services giant Chartwells who brought, among other things, the incredibly busy and now duplicated Tim Horton's — integral to the average red-eyed, caffeinated student.

Newer students may be more familiar with International House — now attached to the dining center. As a student residence it houses



Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

The Taylor Family Digital Library is one of the many projects the university has seen over the last 10 years.

more than 100 international and domestic students. In 2009 another part of the building was opened, known as Hotel Alma. It offers hotel-like accommodations, conference rooms and a training ground for Haskayne students in the hospitality field.

Even more recently the site of the as yet uncompleted Taylor Family Digital Library has stood next to the MacKimmie Library since 2008. According to the U of C website it is "designed for the 21st-century scholar" and will be a "resource rich" facility that will "facilitate learning, research, study and collaborative work." Older students may remember the former greenspace that existed where the MacKimmie Library now stands. Planned along with this building is the Taylor Quadrangle, a new central greenspace for students to meet in the new decade.

Stelmach's cabinet shuffle promises focus on jobs

Brent Constantin
News Editor

After two members of his own party defected to the Wildrose Alliance and public support of the provincial Conservatives dropped to an all time low, Premier Ed Stelmach named his new cabinet team Wednesday afternoon.

The shuffle brings three new Tories into the inner sanctum while demoting three former ministers to the backbenches.

Highlights include Edmonton-Mill Creek MLA Gene Zwozdesky, formerly Minister of Aboriginal Relations, taking on Health; Ted Morton of Foothills-Rocky View moving from Sustainable Re-

source Development to Finance; and Calgary-West's Ron Liepert changing from Health to Energy.

Current Advanced Education and Technology Minister Doug Horner has been appointed deputy premier by Stelmach, replacing Ron Stevens who resigned in May to become a judge.

"My new team will tackle Al-

berta's fiscal challenges with determination," said Stelmach in a prepared statement. "I have promised Albertans that we will be back in the black in three years and I have not wavered from that commitment."

Premier Stelmach said his new cabinet will be focused on bringing Alberta out of the recession,

creating jobs, improving infrastructure and creating the best performing public health care system in the country.

"Alberta's future is bright, and our best days are yet to come," said Stelmach, who left the country following the announcement on a 10-day trade mission to the Middle East.

What do you think the biggest change has been at the University since you've been here?

campus quips



"Introducing a sustainability director has done a bit of good."
— **Brett Collier,**
fourth-year
C&C, focusing in
Geography



"Less attractive profs."
— **Nikita Chloky,**
third-year
Chemistry



"The construction going on in Engg."
— **Juliana Langen,**
second-year
Mechanical
Engineering



"Peoplesoft yeilds more frustration; there's no progress being made."
— **Sam Uhlich,**
second-year C&C

ACAD re-evaluates its CFS membership

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet News

A 14th school could join the long list lining up to leave the Canadian Federation of Students if an Alberta College of Art and Design Students' Association referendum is successful.

A member since 2002, ACADSA is re-evaluating its CFS membership after a review of the association's budget and bylaws last year. The association pays around \$10,000 annually to the national student lobby group and is one of only two CFS affiliates in Alberta, along with the University of Calgary's Graduate Students' Association.

ACADSA communications vice-president Graham Krenz explained ACADSA circulated a petition among its 1,200 students this fall on whether or not they should hold a referendum reevaluating membership.

"It is a very neutral referendum," explained Krenz. "We're interested in learning what position our students have on CFS membership and to do that, we have to abide by [CFS] by-laws."

Krenz noted the petition's strong turnout demonstrated that this is a controversial issue for students. ACADSA will now move to a referendum on whether or not to stay in CFS. If the student body votes against CFS membership, ACADSA would then enter the de-federation process.

"To ACADSA, this is business and we will operate professionally," said Krenz. "We're lucky to be in Alberta in this case, when you're in Ontario, CFS is much more active which, I think, causes a bit more tension."

Last October the Quebec branch of CFS proposed a reform package, aimed at reforming the group and keeping schools in the federation, to be considered at its annual general meeting held in November. The package called for disclosure of executives' salary, financial reforms, creation of a judicial board, the sale of the CFS-Services and the end of all lawsuits. After unveiling the reforms CFS-Q received a letter from the CFS' lawyer asking CFS-Q to stop using the CFS name and to stop collecting student fees because they were "damaging the organization."

Last November at the AGM in Gatineau, three motions from the reform packages were amended and passed, while the others were rejected or ruled out of order.

Chairperson Katherine Giroux-Bougard said the national executive refused to consider a few motions, such as the minimum wage for the national executives, since it would violate labour agreements.

ACADSA was one of the CFS members that backed the CFS-Q reforms, along with the U of C GSA, McGill Post-Graduate Students' Association and others.

Krenz explained that ACADSA

backed the reform package out of a desire to make CFS a strong group again. Krenz said there were some positive motions in the reform package, such as the sale of CFS-Services and CFS ceasing legal actions against other student associations.

"I would like to see CFS focus its time on more direct lobbying rather than running such a large enterprise," said Krenz. CFS-Services owns several businesses such as Travel Cuts, the National Student Health Network and a handbook producing service.

CFS-Q head Gregory Johansson echoed Krenz's sentiments on reforming CFS.

"We endorsed the reforms for two main reasons: first, because they would ensure that the practices of the CFS were consistent with basic democratic principles," he said. "Second, we saw the reforms as being a way to re-enfranchise members of the organization and hopefully discourage the exodus that is potentially underway."

Johansson added that CFS-Q and the national executive is still in court, arguing if the national executive has the right to declare the Quebec wing illegitimate or if the Quebec member schools had the right to make decisions over CFS-Q.

"It is our view that the CFS-Quebec Inc. is now and always was the legitimate arm of the CFS in Quebec," said Johansson. "The national executive



Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

ACADSA vice-president external Graham Krenz says the school's referendum on if they should leave the lobby organization is "neutral."

does not agree. We are looking at all ways of moving forward, but our efforts at an amicable resolution are being impeded."

The national executives' response is a shock to many students, including Dean Tester, president of Carleton University's CFS de-federation group. Tester said he supported the idea of a national student lobby group, but thinks that serious reforms are necessary to make CFS work again.

"I find it disturbing that the national executive is attempting to dis-enfranchise the entire province of Quebec. Students are trying to exercise their democratic rights, and the CFS has responded by taking away those rights," said Tester.

Tester is also alarmed about a motion recently brought forward by the Carleton University Graduate Students' Association at CFS' AGM.

The motion seeks to limit associations, so they could only hold a de-federation referendum once every five years.

It would also allow for only two associations to hold a vote on de-federation in any three-months. Finally, to initiate a referendum, the number of signatures required would be doubled to 20 per cent of the entire student body. The motion passed with 44 votes, with 19 schools in opposition.

Tester shared a warning with ACAD students, pointing out that de-federation could be costly.

"I would suggest you have to be prepared to fight for what you believe in," warned Tester. "The CFS will not give up without a fight."

CFS' national executive acknowledged they have received membership review petitions from ACADSA and the U of C GSA.

Conservative MLAs defect, join Wildrose Party

James Jeffrey
Gauntlet News

It seems 2010 will be an even worse year than last for Alberta's Progressive Conservatives, as two of their Calgary-area MLAs defected

to the Wildrose Alliance Jan. 4.

Calgary-Fish Creek MLA Heather Forsyth and Airdrie-Chestermere MLA Rob Anderson announced they could no longer be part of a "dysfunctional" and "undemocratic" party.

"To watch what has happened is nothing more than wrong . . . It's time to do the right thing on behalf of my constituents," Forsyth, now in her fifth term, told reporters.

Anderson spelled out what he thought were the deficiencies of

the Stelmach government, citing a flawed royalty review, behind closed-door salary increases and the awarding of untendered transmission line contracts worth billions of dollars.

"Defending poor public policy

that has been developed by a small band of out-of-touch government appointees and insiders would be a poor investment of my life," reasoned Anderson, who was elected in March 2008.

see TORX, page 8

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New software allows for 3-D medical imaging on the go

Richard Lam
Gauntlet News

New medical imaging software developed by the University of Calgary faculty of medicine's Dr. Ross Mitchell may significantly assist patients with acute diseases, strokes, heart attacks or trauma.

"In acute disease, timeliness is of essence," said Dr. Mitchell in *U of C Innovators*. "You want to be able to provide a diagnosis and faster treatment as soon as possible, and through many trials, this software has been proven to enhance patient outcomes and reduce health care delivery costs."

Sponsored by Calgary Scientific and iCore, Resolution MD allows high-quality, interactive 3-D visualizations of medical images. While this imaging technology is typically very

expensive and hard to gain access to, Mitchell's team has found a solution.

"Not having ubiquitous access is a problem . . . if you solve a clinical problem in a hospital, there is commercial potential in that technology, especially with the [state of the] health care industry today," said Dr. Mitchell.

This software is being utilized with Calgary Scientific's PureWeb virtual platform, which allows doctors to quickly access complex images on any internet browser or wireless device.

"We think that this technology could potentially represent a significant step forward in how we take care of our patients," said neuro-oncologist Dr. Jacob Easaw to *Inside Business*. "We can use this technology when we're on call. In the middle of the night, if I get a phone call from

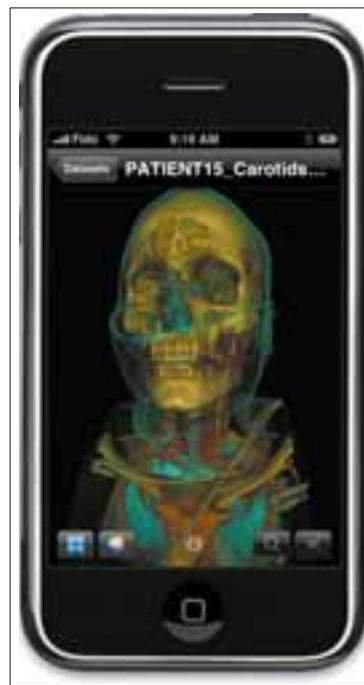
the hospital, I can quickly look at the image on the iPhone, and look at the MRI scan and make a treatment decision."

For the first time technology will also allow patients to see these images in 3-D, rather than 2-D cross-sections. This will make it easier for the patient to understand what is going on in their bodies, as a rotatable three-dimensional image is much clearer.

"We think that in the clinic we're going to be able to show our patients these images very easily in their room. The long-term goal would be that these programs can help teach our patients," said Easaw.

3-D imaging makes it easier to find pathology and make diagnoses. It is an important, multibillion dollar business, but the process is often bottlenecked due to its expense and technological demands.

Dr. Michael Hill, director of the stroke unit at Foothills Medical Centre, provided another example to *Inside Business* of how this technology can be used: "If a patient shows up in



The software utilized on an iPhone.

a rural setting, many kilometres away . . . if I can see their imaging, on an iPhone, on a mobile or on a desktop system, I can help that doctor in that

remote location treat the patient."

Resolution MD has recently been FDA-approved, and is currently in use. A clinical trial is being developed for the first quarter of 2010, likely to last a year. The trial will attempt to measure both physicians' preferences towards the technology, as well as how helpful patients find it.

At this year's Radiological Society of North America convention the technology garnered interest from multinational giants AGFA Healthcare and Siemens Healthcare and is now working with Calgary Scientific to develop a business plan.

"It's cool knowing that these big multi-national corporations couldn't develop it but a small Alberta company could," said Dr. Mitchell.

Dr. Mitchell's team and Calgary Scientific have been developing this technology for over five years, and it is finally starting to get the attention it deserves. Dr. Mitchell recalled a conversation where Calgary Scientific's vice president of sales stated: "This year I know it's real, and it's huge."

University of Alberta Students' Union president resigns from office

The University of Alberta's Students' Union is now one executive lighter after president Kory Mathewson suddenly resigned his position effective January 11.

Citing personal reasons for the decision, Mathewson leaves the SU midway through his first term in office after winning 53 per cent of the vote last March.

The SU now has the option of appointing an interim president, or running a by-election in February to locate a replacement before the regularly scheduled executive elections in March. During his term Mathewson made efforts to increase student involvement on campus and stated that while he regretted the resignation, he was "especially pleased with the

Students' Union's increased involvement and engagement of the campus community," according to an open letter to the Speaker of the University of Alberta Students' Union Council.

Mathewson's former responsibilities will now be divided among the four remaining executives.

..Brent Constantin

Engg week parades into the new year

Emily Ask
News Assistant

Drinking competitions, playing hockey and building snow sculptures may sound like nice winter break activities, but it's how engineering students kick-off the second semester of school.

Not to mention singing loudly and parading across campus, walking in and out of classrooms until they ultimately end up in the Haskayne School of Business.

If you're thinking about writing a complaint, counting your blessings might be a better idea. About 20 years ago the Engg Week parade included a naked woman riding a horse. The image corresponds with Godiva's Hymn, the engineering theme song.

"Obviously societal views have changed since then," John McDonald, vice-president external for the Engineering Students' Society, explained. "Obviously some traditions can't be held. There's been talk of a 'fair' Godiva coming back, so if there's a girl out on the course there has to be a guy as well. But that is [yet] to be seen."

While those days are over — for now, anyways — Engg Week is still deeply rooted in tradition. Universities across North America have been celebrating engineering pride for the past 40 years, says McDonald.

Currently, the emphasis of Engg Week at the University of Calgary is department pride. Departments dec-



Gauntlet file photo

The 1987 Engineer class carry out the tradition of Godiva.

orate their halls, dress up and make movies based on different themes.

The five themes this year are Civil Night Live (Civil), Combust a Move (Chemical), the Geostice League (Geomatics), Mechiana Jones (Mechanical) and Zoo Trek (Electrical).

"We're the only faculty on campus that really feels like a family," McDonald said. "When I first came to engineering . . . I knew people from second, third and fourth year within my first week. I felt so welcome during Frosh Week and it was even more solidified during Engg Week."

Engg Week is not easily forgotten among students who participate. An event called "No Event," which has no affiliation with the university, is organized completely by Schulich alumni. Contestants must race to various pubs, performing tasks before being allowed to move to the next destination.

"There was a portion of the evening where I ended up tie-wrapped

to another man with my face painted as a cat," said Bryan Leedham, vice-president of events for the Geomatics department. He recalled last year "running through Kensington to buy condoms from a Safeway and coming back to a pub within a time limit . . . only to drink tequila out of those condoms."

Leedham said that it is no small effort to keep engineering traditions alive. Good communication is essential to let students know what exactly Engg Week is about and when the events are.

"People have been doing Engg Week for years and years . . . but it's still hard to get people interested sometimes. You usually get a small group of people who are willing to have some fun, raise some money for charity and act a bit silly [but] the hard part is getting more than just the few people who really are interested involved."

Individual departments are re-

sponsible for organizing teams to compete in events like Key Clue, as well as decorate halls and make the movies with each event worth points.

Key Clue is an extravagant hunt for the key that unlocks the Engg Week trophy (conveniently a beer bong). It involves finding clues hidden around the city by Keymasters who start working on the event almost a year in advance. The clues must be discovered, deciphered and kept absolutely secret to avoid being revealed to other teams.

Seven judges, who are selected months before, handle the logistics of Engg Week. There are five judges from each department, one judge that represents first and second year students and a head judge.

"The disadvantages [of being a judge] are very small," said Daniel El-

lis, this year's head judge. "It's a small time commitment as long as you . . . don't leave everything to the last minute. Also, you miss all your classes for the first week of second semester."

"It's been a lot of planning, but it'll be worth it in the end," he said.

Despite the non-academic atmosphere, Ellis said most professors are understanding and even participate in some of the events. The Iron Chef event will often have a couple professors lending a hand in the kitchen, and around 15 professors attend the Charity Ball at the end of the week.

"But make no mistake," said Ellis. "Engg Week remains mostly for the students. There's a couple events [professors] can be involved with, but for the most part there's some outrageous events I don't think they'd want to be involved or associated with."

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WHAT WILL THE WORLD BE LIKE IN 2030?

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University staff honoured in top-40 list

Rabiya Mansoor
Gauntlet News

Avenue Calgary recently crowned a new class of Top 40 Under 40 Calgarians. The University of Calgary's influence was prevalent throughout the entire ceremony — from assistant dean Lara Cooke to Women's Resource Centre executive director Stephanie Garrett.

"Avenue's Top 40 Under 40 is a celebration of the city's young, bright leaders," said Avenue editor Käthe Lemon. "The Top 40 Under 40 are the city's future and present movers and shakers. They are the people who will be improving the city in the years to come."

Lemon does not find the connection between the University of Calgary and many of Avenue Calgary's

picks surprising.

"There has always been a strong connection between the university and the Top 40 list," said Lemon. "It's a natural cross-over."

"I think it's also reflective of the strength of this community that people who go to school in Calgary are able to find jobs in the local market — and not just in oil and gas but across many sectors," said Lemon.

While the university is proving to have substantial influence within the city, Lemon believes it will increase in the future.

"The fact that they are so young also speaks volumes about the quality of the university in years to come."

Lara Cooke

Dr. Lara Cooke has worked as a balloon girl in Canada's wonderland

and as a bartender. She has now settled into her positions as the University of Calgary's office of faculty development's associate dean and department of neurosciences' assistant professor.

Even with multiple teaching awards under her belt, the recognition she received by Avenue Calgary has humbly taken her aback.

Dr. Cooke, who doesn't "want to do a lousy job," is no newbie to motivation. Her inspiration comes from the wheelchair athlete, Rick Hansen, who injured his spinal cord.

"When I was in high school in Toronto, I was able to listen to Rick Hansen speak. He inspired me to pursue neurology as a career."

Dr. Cooke thus began her journey into medicine and became a leader along the way. She describes her leadership style as "consultative — I want [to] know what others think before I make a final decision."

Elise Fear

What began as a PhD project for Elise Fear has transformed into a third generation prototype that uses canola oil and microwaves to detect breast cancer.

"I didn't want to invent something that no one would see, I wanted to create something useful that could actually be used in clinics," said Fear.

While the Tissue Sensing Adaptive Radar system Fear created is in its third generation, she says there are always improvements to be made and will likely be many more prototypes.

"While working as a leader, I see my style as being inclusive," said Fear. "I want other people to develop their strengths so the team as a whole improves from one person's development."

"I am lucky to have the opportunity to be part of a great team that works extremely hard and inspires me to be better."

Stephanie Garrett

"It's great and strange," Stephanie Garrett said about her recognition by Avenue Calgary. "I know so many people who are accomplished so I wonder, what makes me special?"

While Garrett now works as the Women's Resource Centre's executive director, she wanted to be a professional dancer in her preteens and hopes to one day own a bistro in Europe or Argentina.

While pursuing her undergraduate degree at the University of Calgary, the Women's Resource Center ceased to exist. Through involvement with an initiative to reopen the center, Garrett was able to hone her skills as a leader.

"There are many emerging leaders here at the Women's Resource Center. I see some of them being on the Top 40 list in years to come. But ultimately, being a leader isn't about being on a list."

Tory, continued from page 5

According to Anderson, elected MLAs, save the premier and a small group of cabinet ministers, are allowed little, if any, real input into decisions affecting their constituents.

On this issue, Liberal leader David Swann echoed Anderson's sentiment, saying the PCs have ideologically-driven, authoritarian values.

"There is a lot of incompetence and corruption in this government," said Swann. "It's rule by edict; rule by the cabinet."

Jonathan Denis, PC MLA for Cal-

gary-Egmont, said the opinions expressed by Anderson and Forsyth are not indicative when it comes to the PC's remaining 68 MLAs.

"I don't know of one situation where [Anderson] wasn't allowed to speak," said Denis. "And I've never felt any fear in talking out."

Opposing parties are questioning if constituents in the respective ridings support the move. According to the Wildrose Alliance, there is adequate support; all other parties favour a byelection to demonstrate this.

With the Wildrose set to introduce a private member's bill allowing citizens to recall their MLA if one-third of their riding signs a petition, the move has been considered hypocritical.

"There's an inconsistency in the Wildrose's views," said Swann, who feels that because Anderson and Forsyth were elected as PCs, they are obligated to run in a byelection under their new banner.

But the Wildrose Alliance has held firm, calling a byelection costly and unnecessary.

The party now holds three seats in the legislature, with four being required for official party status. Though because an exception was made for the New Democrats (they were granted party status, holding only two seats), it is likely the Wildrose will soon hold official status.

According to Swann, the emergence of a new right-wing party could be ad-

vantageous for the Liberals by opening up what he calls the "sensible centre," and will also "make people sit up and pay attention" to provincial politics.

However, Swann said he prefers to stay out of "domestic disputes," and will focus on his agenda, which includes becoming a debt-free party by the spring.

Anderson rejects the role of Wildrose "pit bull" given to him by Calgary Herald columnist Don Braid, noting that due to a lack of debate within government any dissonance is deemed nasty nowadays.

"I'm just trying to shine a light on the issues," he said.

A decline in Tory popularity was confirmed in a recent Angus Reid poll, which found the Wildrose would form the next provincial government if an election were held.

"We have work to do," admitted Denis, who maintains confidence in Premier Stelmach and believes the defections could actually improve unity among his caucus.

According to Denis, the PCs have three focuses that should improve their popularity: an upcoming cabinet shuffle, the oil and gas sector competitiveness review and an improved budget.

In the legislature, the PCs now hold 68 seats, the Liberals nine, Wildrose Alliance three and New Democrats two, with one independent.



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Prorogation protests postponed

Social media group gains thousands of angry members

By Maxwell Hammer

Head Fake News Correspondent

Prorogation rallies across the country have been “put on hold” with less than a week to go according to Christopher White, creator of the Facebook group that spawned the protests against Stephen Harper’s request to dissolve government until March.

White posted a message to the over 100,000 member social network group earlier this week.

“It is with great apathy that I regret to inform this group that the Prorogation Protests have been officially put on hold until after the Vancouver 2010 Olympics.”

While there was no official reason given for the postponements TMZ is reporting White was spotted with Harper leaving a Roots store

with two large bags of Vancouver 2010 merchandise before entering a travel agency to book last-minute flights to Vancouver.

While it’s too early to draw conclusions, many are disgusted with the parallels between the reasons White and Harper are trying to postpone their pursuits — namely the Vancouver Olympics.

“I went to Staples and bought cardboard and magic markers, and a stencil for my protest sign, and thought about a clever slogan only

to get home to find the protests have been put on hold,” said angry group member Harold Baker. “This really puts me in a tight spot.”

Activist Jim Weatherford echoed Baker’s remarks, stating his entire yearly small-arms budget was spent in hopes of a good time at the protests. “And now they’re cancelled,” said Weatherford. “What am I supposed to do with all this tear gas?”

The number of people joining White’s group has leveled off in re-

cent days, while another Facebook group titled Canadians Against Proroguing Protests Postponement has seen thousands of new members in its two days of existence. The majority of members are “maybe attending” the Proroguing Protests Postponement Protests slated for January 23, the original date of the proroguing protests.

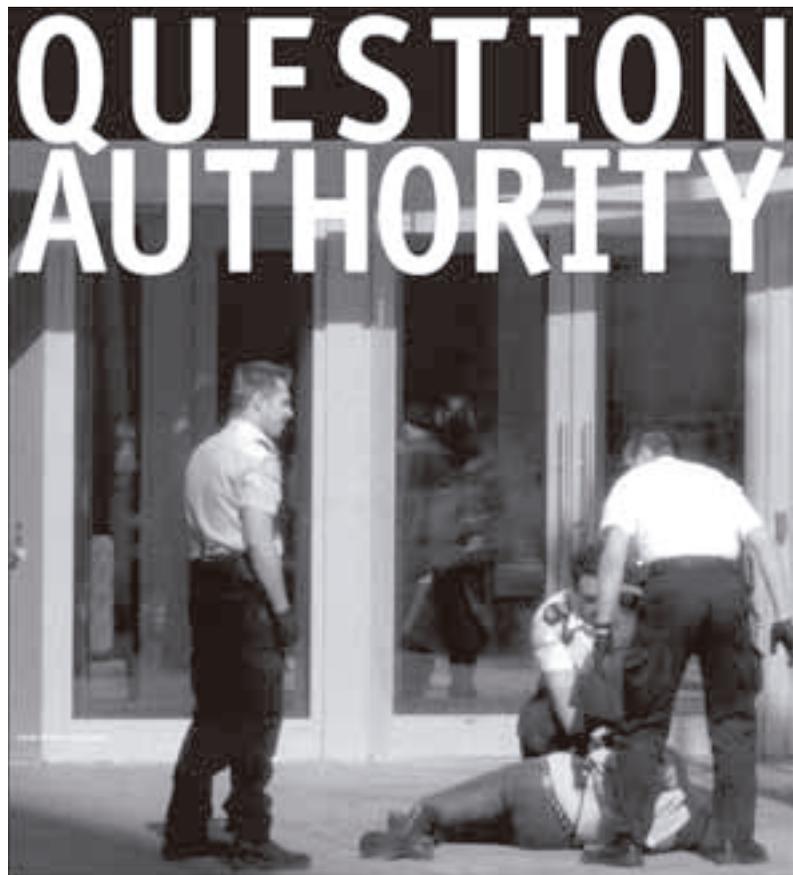


Photo: Stolen

Grandma’s latest concoction: Prorogues.

“What am I supposed to do with all this tear gas?”

Jim Weatherford,
Activist



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UOEC • THIS IS NOW

Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the future! 2010 is upon us, and I don't know about you, but I've already got a school headache. I know that this year you're going to do all your required readings, go to every class, eat better, excersize more, be a better person... not to be a cynic, but I give it two weeks. While I wish you the best of luck in your struggle to maintain your New Year's resolutions, I would personally suggest giving up now and just enjoying yourself until reading break. Perhaps you could direct the energy that would have been used to better yourself towards writing a TLF. If you're angry or happy or feeling particularly creative (haiku's anyone?) tell us about it! Bring your TLF to MSC 319 or e-mail them to tfs@thegauntlet.ca. All submissions must include your name, ID number, phone number and signature. Submissions judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic or attacks of a personal nature will not be tolerated.

Random guy with bling on his back pockets (gross): "You're sexy as frick" Don't ever use that as a pick up line: "uh thanks." best and awkward moment in a girls life. Thank you men from Williamsburg, Kentucky.
 -Don't ever use that as a pick up line
 [reject-ed]

Tree Beard,
 Your beard is glorious. Please use your beard powers to pwn those moustache growing trendster.
 - Fan of the Facial Hair

I am the Bad Wolf, I create myself, I take the words, I scatter them...in time and space. A message to lead myself here.
 - A wee naked timorous beastie

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Dear person with the face in the seat in the class. I've never spoken to you but I'm madly in love with you.
 Too Soon?
 - not Tristan

Yes I have influence and sometimes I use that for evil, but mostly I use it to get the girls. This one's for you JM.
 - not Tristan

Wandering scholar
 In search of a comfy chair
 My coffee's gone cold.
 -Goyo

Tom,
 Your sisters are hot. Let me date them.
 - not Tristan

Dear Mobbers
 CAW
 That is all.
 -Stage Mangalment

Dear Mother Nature,
 It's winter. I cannot ski on concrete. Please stop killing my snow pack.
 - Lonely Skis
 [melt-ed]

"One of the few good things about modern times: If you die horribly on television, you will not have died in vain. You will have entertained us."
 - Vonnegut

Editor's Bookshelf 2010
 ~Epileptic- David B.
 This graphic novel was originally published in French. The story follows David through the memories of his childhood, growing up with his epileptic brother. Carefully documenting his family's struggle and the trials of growing up under the shadow of his brother's disease. The stark, simple illustrations complement the darkness of the story. David crafts a deeply personal and moving narrative. Readers may also enjoy: Persepolis- Marjane Satrapi.

Monday is a day
 for listening to techno
 it's techno Mondays!
 - D. Levy

"If you're losing your soul and you know it, then you've still got a soul left to lose."
 - Bukowski

three lines free

Earn some p/t easy cash -Accounting students for help with my homework until Feb 2010.
knhansra@hotmail.com

Fact-o' the Week:
 The longest word used in a work of Shakespeare is honorificabilitudinitatibus, found in Act V, Scene 1 of "Love's Labour Lost." It translates to "the state of being able to achieve honors."

Oh, they may be playing football, and the crowd is yelling "Kill the referee!" But no matter what the score, when the clock strikes four. Everything stops for tea.
 - Jack Buchanan
 [tea stain-ed]

Chicos y chicas, lets hook up...cafe, cerveza, algo?
knhansra@hotmail.com

Happy Birthday my darling sister. One more year and you can party with the big kids.
 [under ag-ed?]

To the sexy czech geography 381 prof. Thanks for making climate and population trends a good time.

A folk song for your day:
 For he goes birling down, a-down the white water.
 That's where the log driver learns to step lightly.
 It's birling down, a-down white water,
 A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.
 [Duly not-ed]



Welcome to the FUTURE... Home to "vision-phones", flying cars and efficiency! 2010 by Geoffrey Hoyle was published in 1972. If Hoyle had his way, we'd have three day work weeks, no transit fees, and wear practical jumpsuits. He pretty much nailed the internet though...

Never in my life have I been happier to get socks for Christmas. Ahh poverty.
 [gift-ed]

WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS
 WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS WRITE TLFS

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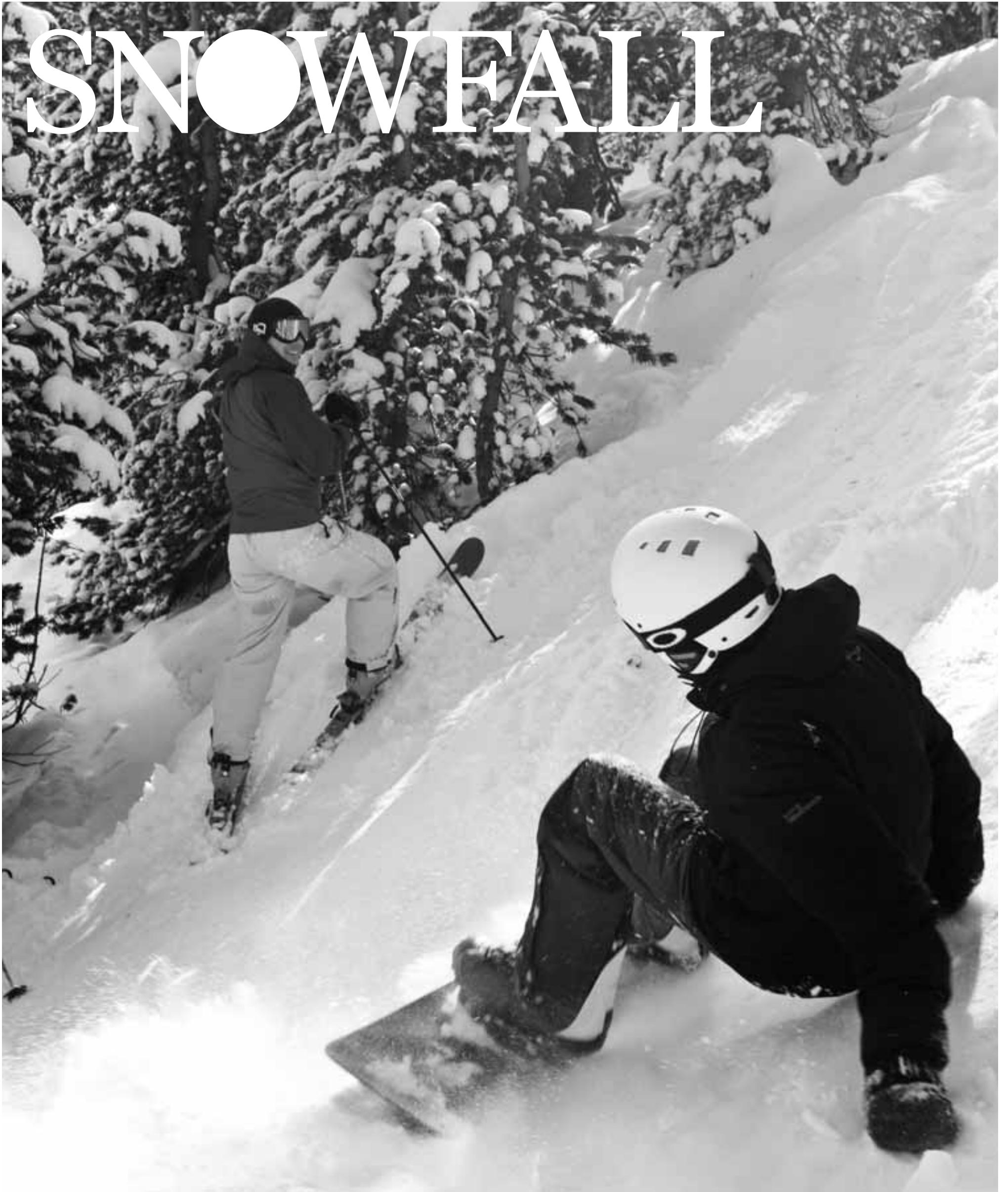
But seriously. The Dinos play every sport you enjoy and I would love to have your help covering them. Meet coaches, players and attend games. Get inside locker room access to the hottest teams on campus. Or something.

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Come up to the *Gauntlet* office, room 319, MacHall, at the top of the stairs by the Den and ask for Jon.

— Jon Roe,
 Sports Editor
sports@thegauntlet.ca

SNOWFALL



SNOWFALL

2010 GAUNTLET SKI AND SNOWBOARD SUPPLEMENT

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EDITORS' NOTES

Growing up in Red Deer left me with two options when it came to skiing. I could either hike the small hill in the park behind my house

I grew up in Newfoundland. Despite the amazing amounts of snow it receives, Newfoundland is not exactly renowned for its ski and snowboard hills.



SYDNEY STOKOE

or beg and plead with my parents to drive just out of town to Canyon ski hill.

Featuring two creaky chairlifts and two t-bars, Canyon claims the title of Central Alberta's largest non-mountain resort. My sister and I took the first of many ski lessons just outside of town on the aging, ice-ridden hill.

Despite the facility's continued dereliction, it's still a hot spot for local kids. Anyone with skis or a snowboard in the Red Deer area has called Canyon home at one point or other. From the dank lodge to the creaky chairs and occasional wooden t-bar, Canyon was our hill.

It's been a long journey, from snowplowing the bunny hill in Red Deer to dropping into Tayton bowl at Panorama, but I still hold fond memories of days spent stunting on the Canyon t-bar.

The wonderful thing about skiing is that no matter what your background, there is always the opportunity to get out and enjoy yourself. Back country paradise or back park sledding hill, go carve some turns.



ANDY WILLIAMS

My first two winters of snowboarding consisted of walking up and riding down a 15 degree slope on a golf course. Ending up in the water hazard was always a possibility.

The first "real" ski hill I visited was White Hills. Hill statistics include: 750 feet of elevation, 55 skiable acres and one triple-seater chairlift.

I loved every second of it:

"What do you mean I don't have to walk up the hill?"

"What do you mean there's more than one way to go down?"

"What do you mean I have to pay?"

Now imagine how I felt the first time I snowboarded at Kicking Horse. 4,133 feet from top to bottom, five lifts including a high speed gondola and a mind blowing 2,750 skiable acres.

Calgarians are extremely lucky. There are countless mountains within driving distance from Calgary. Hopefully this ski supplement inspires you to check some of them out.

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LEONARD C. TAIT



TRISTAN TAYLOR

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photos by ken clarke

Panorama-rama



story by **Amy Badry**
photo by **Chris Pedersen**

Four thirty in the morning and I was snug in my bed; while visions of powder danced in my head. Then outside the door arose such a clatter; I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter. Towards the door I flew like a flash; and found Sydney with skis ready to dash. I grabbed my gear so as not to be late; and joined 20 students on a bus waiting for Tait.

Panorama Mountain Village is three and a half hours from Calgary, just west of Invermere, B.C. With 120 runs and 2,647 skiable acres, there is a lot of space to test your ski and snowboard skills. The trails and bowls at Panorama have a good mix of green and blue runs for beginner and intermediate skiers. The beautiful thing about the hill is the overwhelming number of blacks and double blacks for experts. The resort sports two terrain parks and night skiing for the adventurous.

When organizing ski trips it can be difficult to find a mountain that suits the needs of a variety of skill levels, but Panorama has something for everyone.

First run of day one, we jump on the Mile 1 Quad that carries us up the mountain. Looking down at the seemingly more experienced skiers and borders as they zig and zag down the slope, I think I should've taken a practice run on the bunny hill. My fears es-

calate as I strap on my board, but I manage to make it down the hill with the help of my friends. By the end of the day I can take on some blue runs.

Four O'clock the hill shuts down and we head to the hot tubs to soak our bruised and beaten bodies. Panorama boasts a large hot tub and sauna for all the guests to use; certain lodges also have private hot tubs. Perfect after a day of pounding powder.

Once we can no longer stand the heat from the sauna, we make the cold dash back to the condos to get

ready for Panorama's nightlife.

The T-Bar and Grill hosts a live DJ and themed parties where buffoonery and balderdash take place. The pub is not large and fills up quickly, so get there early. A word of advice: the bouncers do not take kindly to folks jumping the fence to avoid the lineup. Tried, tested, failed.

After a night of hoopla, the mountain air was refreshing. But I didn't make it more than a few runs. Maybe it was too much firewater the night before, but I am going to blame it on the icy conditions — although the veteran skiers in our

group didn't seem to have trouble navigating the hill.

When not hitting the slopes, the Great Hall in Panorama is a good place to hang out, warm up and drink a hot chocolate. The prices are a bit steep but the food is good. There are a few other restaurants around the resort such as Wild Fire Grill and Jack Pine Pub, which serve a variety of foods, but all are priced a little beyond a student budget. Most accommodations are equipped with kitchenettes, so bringing frozen pizzas to pop in the oven

for a quick and satisfying meal is a good idea.

After three hella-awesome days of snow and sun our ski trip came to an end. No bones were broken despite the fact that a few tree branches were. We load the bus again, sleepy eyed. With trails blazed and new memories made we head back down the mountain roads towards Calgary.

Ski trips, although sometimes a headache to plan, are always a blast. Shredding the slopes and sipping beers, what better way to spend a few days with friends?

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KICKING HORSE

story by **Andy Williams**
photo by **Andy Williams**

Before moving to Alberta three years ago, my only ski hill experience was at a place called White Hills in Eastern Newfoundland. The hill — definitely a hill, not a mountain — boasts 750 feet, one lift and 55 skiable acres. Growing up, it was the shit.

After moving to Alberta, I found myself in Golden B.C. visiting friends for a few days. The only other mountain resort I had visited at that point was Sunshine Village. Based on friends' recommendation, I decided to check out Kicking Horse.

Kicking Horse has an eight-person gondola that travels from the village to the second highest point in the resort in 12 minutes. Stepping out of the gondola and taking in my surrounding prompted a brief internal debate: should I listen to my ego and risk my body — possibly my life — by strapping myself to a piece of fiberglass and trying to make it down the hill alive? Or should I do the reasonable thing, and climb in the gondola for the ride of shame back down the mountain?

Obviously, my ego won. Before I knew it I was traversing the precarious road leading to Crystal Bowl, the easiest of Kicking Horse's three bowls.

The top of the bowl is wide open and treeless. There are no defined trails or runs, and there are multiple locations to enter depending on what kind of challenge you are looking for. The lack of structure is definitely an asset, and you'll see people descending the side of the bowl from many different places.

About a quarter of the way down, trees and identifiable trails start to emerge. Several green and blue runs are complimented by a smattering of black diamonds. You can find powder and some gnarly chutes in Crystal Bowl if you look for them. The

trails "Bubbly" and "Euphoria" were stand outs for me.

Those looking for more of an intense ride can break left after stepping out of the gondola, and head into Bowl Over. A few black diamonds run down the side of the bowl, terminating in a blue trail that traverses the base of the bowl. The blue is the quickest and easiest way out of the bowl and back down the mountain. Not that I would know.

People with absolutely no value for their own well-being can take the Stairway to Heaven chair and head up to Re-

demption Ridge, which has trails running into the Crystal Bowl and also into the Fuez Bowl.

Kicking Horse has something for everyone, but the mountain definitely seems geared towards advanced and expert skiers. If you get bored there is always the grizzly bear kept in the refuge near the village.





Telemarking at Tee Pee Town

by **Chris Pedersen**
photo by **Leonard C. Tait**

Telemark, also known as free heel skiing, was born in the frozen, mountainous hinterlands of Norway, and is a difficult method of descent. It was designed as much for going up as for down. Skiers needed a way to efficiently ski up a hill, an impossibility with a locked heel. With the heel free, a new style of descent had to be invented. That is how the bending motion of telemarking came to exist. Today it has been brought to the mainstream by old-school skiers and newbie's looking to move away from downhill skiing. It is a type of skiing that takes years to perfect, but when you do, your smooth flowing style stands out on the slopes. It's not uncommon to glimpse these free heel maniacs carving the slopes at resorts all over Western Canada.

I belong to this category of new skiers looking to branch away from regular downhill skiing. I learned on a pair of decrepit, non parabolic skis in high school and have since evolved to plastic boots and fat, shaped skis. It was my love for telemarking that brought me

to Sunshine Village. The Ski Resort is blessed with an abundance of chutes — often populated by downhill skiers and snowboarders — not free hill frolickers. The chutes, located under the Tee Pee Town chairlift, have received large amounts of fluffy powder this year, and every trip to the hill has been rewarded with the pleasure of carving untouched powder. Because of the fantastic quality and quantity of snow this season, every day I have skied sunshine, I have telemarked.

To get to the chutes I had to ride the Angel Express Chair up the mountain. Once off the departure ramp, I head right, skiing down the long, flat corridor until reaching the South Divide Run. Skiing through small moguls, carrying the remains of powder from previous days, I cut far right to reach the beginning of the chutes under Tee Pee Town. Moguls can be hell for a telemarker, to achieve such a tight turning radius you have to have strong legs and quick movements. Navigating this terrain can be hazardous; a friend of mine took a two-inch portion out of his sidewall. The chutes were filled with enough snow to bury a skier up to the waist. The first couple of runs I cut smooth lines through untouched snow,

making my mark on the mountain. With every bend my knees went into the snow and I remembered why I love telemarking. I feel closer to the mountain than I do on downhill skis, and the work to produce every turn is more rewarding. We stayed on these chutes for the rest of the day, finding cliffs to jump and trees to ski through. Every run was a search for new powder to ski. No two runs were the same on that day, due to the abundance of snow. As darkness descended on the hill and we took the gondola down, my legs were burning, I was ready to head to Canmore and grab a pint and pizza. I feel like I have done more work after a day of tele than any other activity — my quads burn and my knees cry for a hot tub soak.

For those interested in freeing yourself from the shackles of downhill boots and bindings, I recommend selling your skis, buying kneepads, telemark boots, bindings and skis and taking four or so years to learn the art of tele. Everyone is fascinated when they see somebody telemarking at a resort, and it truly releases you from the bondage of following the crowds. As a ski patroller at Panorama once told me “Free the heel, free the mind.”

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story by **Sydney Stokoe**
photo by **Chris Pedersen**

I've only ever driven into Nelson in the middle of snowstorms. They're the kind of storms where the snow is coming down so hard that the windshield wipers can't keep up and our driver is squinting through the darkness, trying desperately just to stay on the winding road. All I can do is smile. If it's coming down this hard on the highway, I can just imagine what it's like up at the hill. A decade of trips into interior British Columbia have taught me one thing: Alberta doesn't know what snow is.

Skiers at Whitewater Winter Resort, a half hour outside of Nelson B.C, have their own secret slice of paradise. Despite the fact that the hill gets a dependable 13 meters of snow each season, there are rarely ever lines to get up the mountain. Whitewater is a powder hound's paradise, brimming with glades and fairly steep terrain.

The hill holds dear to the laid back vibe of the Nelson area. It can never hope to compete with the giants like Sunshine Village, but being secure in its own identity, Whitewater is able to offer its best to the loyal locals.

It's a throwback. Serviced entirely by a pair of aging double chairs, it's easy to slow down to just enjoy the view and the people around you.

Whitewater's location lends itself to favourable conditions. Between the loads of snow and the fact that the temperature rarely dips below -10 degrees Celsius, it's a haven for backcountry enthusiasts and anyone seeking easily accessible powder.

It's easy to get away from the maintained trails. With a bit of hiking, and the proper equipment, skiers can get over to the backside of the mountain, which is an unmaintained backcountry paradise. Be warned, however, that any rescues outside of the ski area boundary will cost upwards of \$500.

Even skiers without the gear or the backcountry knowledge can have their desire for powder quenched by inbounds skiing. Around half of the patrolled area is steep, treed terrain so there are loads of choices for skiers of moderate to high skill level.

I've been skiing Whitewater for years, but I am still finding hidden places. It seems that every time you turn around, there is another secret pocket, or a gully leading somewhere unexplored.

Not all of the accessible terrain is serviced by chairlifts; many of the inbound runs end up on the road leading towards the hill. As a result, hitchhikers are a common sight along the road towards the resort.

"It's nice that this place hasn't gone overboard," one hitchhiker said. "The owners know they can never compete with the big resorts, but they don't seem to want to change that."

Whitewater certainly has a different mindset than the bigger hills: it's a chilled out environment. One skier equated it to physical location.

"Sunshine and Louise are closer to the city, so they get more of the rushed city feel. Whitewater is just about being outside and enjoying yourself."

If the crowds and hustle of the ski giants ever get you down, take the time to drive to Nelson and get a feel for what skiing used to be like. Between the snow and atmosphere, it's well worth the trip.

Lake Louise

WORTH THE EARLY MORNING

story by **Roman Auriti**
photo by **Leo Tait**

My cellphone alarm goes off at 5:30 a.m. I turn to my friend 10 feet away from me. He stirs, I call his name. Gurgling noises. I try again and he slowly wakes up. The room spins a little as I turn the lights on and we head upstairs.

During the Christmas holidays students find different ways to spend their time. Some sleep, some work and some stay up devilishly late before driving to Lake Louise early in the morning.

We grab breakfast and shots of espresso for the drive out. By the time we're on the road it is already 6:15 and both of us are still in zombie-mode. We barely got three hours of sleep. The lines on the highway

blur together as my eyes glaze over and taillights on the westward traffic become beacons of hope as the headlights on our own jalopy are too dirty to see the road.

It's alright though. We have known each other for years and it's going to take more than a bad morning to ruin this day. I've just finished my last exam as a science major so we are going to shred Lake Louise to celebrate. We have skis, food, Them Crooked Vultures and Foo Fighters albums and nothing's going to stop us.

Lake Louise. Glorious, glorious! Finally we've arrived! We grab our tickets and head out to the hill. I got a sweet rental deal for my buddy before we headed out skiing but I have some reservations about what kind of skill he can ski at. Taking things slowly we ride up the gondola and leisurely slide down Eagle Meadows. A typical front side run at Louise, skied-out and icy. No falls, no problems. Next up, the Glacier Express and the Top of the World chair lifts, bringing us to the top of the front side. We opt to take Home Run down next to look for some more excitement. The top of this run has always been a personal favorite. Coming right off the Top of the World chair I steer my unsuspecting

friend down the more difficult and exciting route.

The run narrows and angles downward into a plethora of moguls. My lips curl into a smile as I let gravity do its job and pick up speed, accelerating between numerous small rocks in shallow snow on my left and a disastrous fence propped about 10 feet above where the real slope begins. There is no more wind; the elements no longer exist; there is only my need to ski this terrain. My legs begin to burn as they pump my weight over and through bumps of a size that would otherwise make me pause and consider the value of my life.

Adrenaline takes over against my better judgment and I maximize my speed to take off over the last bump. A shout of glee and excitement escapes my throat and my mind returns to normal as I skid over the icy snow to stop. I turn around and my friend is snow-plowing down behind me. Little did he know, he has just undertaken his first black-diamond. The expression on his face is priceless, wide-eyed, red-faced and grinning as if there was no tomorrow — it's like he just learned to ride a bike. He stops by my side and we don't exchange words to each other except "We're going this way."

Then we head off the beaten path to try some glades near the top of the mountain. Shooting off to the far left we shimmy through the trees for a while before deciding on a spot to head down. The slope is nearly 40 degrees. With a quick nod to my friend, I push off and work my way down the hill.

This is where good snow is. This is where Lake Louise makes its name. All the way down to the main runs we encounter only four other skiers, and with the number of glades to choose from, it's almost impossible for this area to get skied out. Even without much overnight snow, there is still a comfortable layer of powder on top of the base. With a grin returning to my face, I start shortening the lateral movement on each turn, I stop and look back to my friend. He's not behind me, so I wait.

It can be difficult for groups of varied skill level to stick together, especially considering the quality of Louise's more difficult terrain. But we aren't here to experience the best skiing Louise has to offer, I quickly remind myself. I came here with my best friend to have some fun on the slopes. So I adjust his DIN accordingly and we make sure to take routes both of us can enjoy.



MARK WAHLBERG RACHEL WEISZ SUSAN SARANDON STANLEY TUCCI MICHAEL IMPERIOLI SAOIRSE RONAN

WRITTEN BY PETER JACKSON

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IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FRIDAY, JANUARY 15th

Nakiska: nice, not gnarly

story by **Emily Ask**
photo by **Chris Pedersen**

If you haven't learned how to ski it's never too late to start. Last year I spent a day teaching my boyfriend how to ski at Kananaskis' Nakiska ski hill — and what an entertaining day it was.

Nakiska is a good hill for beginners, considering its close proximity to Calgary and the high quality of grooming on easy to moderate runs.

The hill was mostly vacant, which was nice considering there were no lines for the chairlift. This also meant that only three other people had to avoid running over my boy-

friend as he lay sprawled out in the middle of the hill. If we had gone on a busier day, I'm not sure he would have survived.

Soon enough he got the hang of it and there was nothing left to do but have a good time coasting down the slopes and enjoy the scenery — not to mention obligatory make-outs on the chairlift.

This year, we returned to Nakiska and I sat down with Stephanie Bunbury, the hill's seasonal coordinator. She said the resort has gone through many changes since opening for the 1988 Olympics, including three major developments this past summer.

The slow and rickety Gold Chairlift has been replaced with the new high-speed Gold Chair Express, enabling one to get to the top of the mountain in five minutes instead of 10. If you're a Nakiska regular, you'll know that sometimes riding all the way to the top of the hill felt more perilous than skiing down it. Never fear, the new chairlift is speedy, stable and, most importantly, cushioned.

Nakiska has also opened 13 more trails and widened some of their older ones, adding 70 extra acres, for a grand total of 1,021 acres. Most of these trails are newly developed gladed areas, bringing some more challenging terrain to a hill whose fame comes from its world class grooming.

Finally, thanks to their investment in new snow machines, Nakiska now has the largest snowmaking sys-

tem in Alberta. Bunbury said the extra snow machines have allowed the resort to open many trails ahead of schedule.

After talking with Bunbury, I told my boyfriend that we should try the new Gold Chair Express. Unfortunately, he spotted several large signs saying "No easy way down" which tempered his enthusiasm for the endeavour.

Needless to say, I went solo, but wish he had come with me. After all the times I witnessed him crash and fall, he deserved to see my epic cartwheeling down the hill, skis flying through the air like shrapnel exploding from a major car wreckage.

I like skiing. You need to sacrifice all the pride you have in order to succeed. That's perhaps the most important rule to remember, but don't worry, it's not hard to forget.

C.O.P. kicks it with the locals

story by **Tristan Taylor**

Within Calgary city limits awaits a small yet memorable ski hill, Canada Olympic Park. Once used for the 1988 Winter Olympics, C.O.P. is decked out with all the necessities to train Olympians. There are a variety of facilities ranging from a bobsled track to old and aging ski jumps — landmarks familiar to most Calgarians.

The aggressive terrain park to which almost half the hill is dedicated is the only reason to ski or snowboard C.O.P. Riding through the park you will encounter rails, tables and a series of jumps to push you to your limits. With many sizes of obstacles and even some objects that you may not understand (the giant mushroom), there is something for everyone.

The park holds several options including a long tube, a small jump and a spine. The best part of starting off here is watching what everyone can do, if they can get enough speed to do anything. The park then branches into three sections: the large kickers, the super pipe and the jib park.

Depending on your style you may want to hit the kickers and see just how high you can get. Just don't fall short, as landing on a flat can be unforgiving.

The super pipe is a challenge for even the most extreme riders. You could park a semi-truck in the middle and the pipe would still be taller.

The park's best part, though, has to be the jib section. Here, there are rails after boxes and even a few small jumps thrown in for fun. Ranging

from small flat boxes to double kink up down rails, this section will challenge even the most experienced rider, but is accessible enough to allow anyone to try the obstacles out.

Powder junkies are better off sticking to the mountains as the aggressive terrain park is the only real reason to go to C.O.P. The hill is terrible — icy, short, with way too many little kids — but the smooth riding of the park makes it all worth it. So go shred the gnar and pull off your biggest stunts!



The trouble with aiding Yemen

Foreign aid and why the West's approach won't work



Eric Mathison
Fighting Words

Yemen keeps a low profile. It's rarely mentioned in the news, few can find it on a map and most of the international community has had little reason to pay it any mind. Things are changing, however. The terrorist who attempted to blow up an airliner bound for Detroit on Christmas Day came from Yemen, and so the country is receiving more attention. The question of how best to direct the West's anti-terrorism strategy is broadening in scope as countries, like Yemen, take on a sometimes unwilling role in the spread of terrorism.

Most of Yemen's problems — like being the poorest state in the Arab world — aren't new. But the attention the country has received recently is due to the impact of actors within it toward the outside world. Specifically, al-Qaeda and other jihadist groups are using it as a launch point for terrorist attacks, like in the case of the Christmas Day attempt. As terrorist cells are pushed out of their traditional locales like Afghanistan and Pakistan, the number of safe havens available to them dwindles. Also, new groups are arising in these different areas, increasing the number of places the

intelligence community has to keep watch of.

In one respect Yemen is similar to Pakistan: Ali Abdullah Salah, Yemen's president, has done little to get rid of terrorist cells within the country, and by many accounts provides significant aid to them. Coalition forces in Afghanistan have had a similar problem in Pakistan, with which Afghanistan shares a border. Efforts by the Pakistani government to seriously aid in the Afghanistan war have been intermittent, and when they do occur they lack the effort a determined response should have.

The problem for developed countries, the United States in particular, is that money is not a complete solution. In fact, it's likely that any money America does provide to Yemen will do a better job of padding Salah's coffers than helping the fight against terrorism. This is because, at least for now, Salah has a greater interest in supporting al-Qaeda fighters, who are an important part of Salah's strategy against the independence fighters in Yemen known as the Houthi. The Houthi have caused unrest in the north-western portion of Yemen for many years

and Salah sees them as a major hindrance to peace.

The international community must choose its response carefully. Yemen lacks the oil much of the rest of the Middle East possesses, so compared to states like Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran, it's without a dependable source of wealth. It's also likely that Sanaa, Yemen's capital, will be the first capital city in the

world to run out of water. Once political unrest is added, along with a corrupt government, the possibility of Yemen becoming a failed state is high. This is the most undesirable outcome, as what little control the developed world has in Yemen's future will be lost if the state collapses.

Of all the pragmatic options available, the best choice is to use diplomatic pressure to convince

Salah to reform. Alternatively, outside countries could make a concerted effort to see a fair election take place. This isn't likely, however, because the corruption is too widespread for a new leadership to fix the problems single-handedly. By diplomatic pressure I don't mean sanctions: Yemen is too impoverished for sanctions to do any good, and the example of Iraq showed the potential for leaders to dig in their heels when pressed too far. Using sanctions is valuable when the general population has control over the circumstances; an absence of electoral choice is not such a case. In addition, the Yemeni population has endured enough harm.

Despite its long term appeal, few countries are willing to invest in another Afghanistan, or worse, Iraq. The stakes are high if they don't, though. So long as al-Qaeda and its affiliates are using Yemen as a training ground, the value of reforming the state is great. After all, its geographical location means that there is potential for development, even without the natural resources other Arab countries possess. Next to doing nothing at all, the worst solution is to simply send money.



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Entering the era of Gaga

Jordyn Marcellus
Opinions



Music industry bigwigs are complete misogynists. This isn't a new sentiment. Label heads and A&R representatives are always looking for the next big thing by looking backward to past trends and this time they're looking for ladies to rule the charts.

With Lady Gaga's incredible breakthrough,

as well as Susan Boyle and Taylor Swift capturing the hearts of millions this year, it appears that the labels have made their choice: women are the key to financial success in 2010. In a recent *Reuters* article with *Q Magazine*, editor Paul Rees said that, "If you look at all the things that are being teed up by the major labels, most of them are solo female artists."

It's disgustingly condescending to say that artists like Boyle, Swift and Lady Gaga are famous because they're female. It's even worse that industry execs believe that, through the transitive properties of their sex, a bunch of new female artists will satisfy the bottom-line. Many of the young up-and-coming artists

promoted due to their gender have worked hard to get to the place, and being picked up by a record label because they have breasts is incredibly depressing.

This isn't really surprising, though. For years, the pop music industry has been focused on women in music as sexual objects. Everyone from the pop-tart years of the early aughts to modern artists like Rihanna and Beyonce are hypersexualized. Even squeaky-clean artists like Miley Cyrus have a faint, childish edge of sexuality to them. The modern recording industry is, and has been for the past decade, focused more on their artists' genitals than their musical talent. This recent



move is a more bald-faced method of the music industry trying to promote women not by their talent, but by their gender.

Splish, splash... Learning all about lube!



**Ayla Musial and
Rob Siewert**
Campus Coitus

vours, lubes that warm, lubes that cool and even lubes that double as massage oil. The downside of all these choices is that it can be difficult to decide which lube is right for you and your partner.

The first thing to keep in mind is that lubes are typically water-, silicone- or oil-based. Water-based lubes are the most common and versatile, they absorb into the skin and evaporate during use so residue left behind is comparable to non-lubricated sex. The potential downside of this is that water based lubricants may need reapplication during the deed, which can be a mood killer depending on your comfort level with that

sort of thing. Water based lubricants are also safe for use with condoms and sex toys and are the most likely to be safe for oral play as well.

Silicone lubes don't contain water so they do not require reapplication and last for a long time, and some find that they are less irritating on the skin than water based lubricants. If you plan on having sex in water, silicone lubricants are the way to go as they will stay where they are put instead of rinsing away like water-based lubes, so they are your best bet for the shower. But, silicone-based lubes cannot be used with silicone sex toys, as they will de-

grade the silicone of the toy, causing it to become sticky and then disintegrate. Silicone lubes are

perfectly acceptable for use with latex condoms though!

see LUBE, page 12

It's the New Year and even if your new professors are incredibly dry, we are here to make sure that your love life isn't. Make your New Year's resolution to be wetter and better! Personal lubricants of all kinds have been available for years but are often misunderstood and under-utilized in the average person's sex life. There are dozens of brands of lube available. You can get lubes in tropical fruit fla-

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Miss Saigon not a typical opera

Miss Saigon
theatre interview

Kristy Kalin

Gauntlet Entertainment

With prostitutes, marines and a war torn tropical climate, some may be shocked that *Miss Saigon* is an opera. Opening on January 14, *Miss Saigon* has a cast of both students and community members concerned with promoting the classic art form.

“The Calgary Operetta company is part of the University of Calgary music department, just like the

wind ensemble or the symphonic band,” says artistic director Colleen Whidden. “The unique thing about this company is that we really embrace the community members as well. It brings a real depth to the company to have the university students and the community members

“I think even though it’s about Vietnam in the 1970s it’s still really relevant to not just the young people you’ll see on stage but also to the audience members. — Marie Whidden

working side by side.”

It is this sense of community that

Whidden believes will enrich the lives of not just the cast and crew, but the university as well. Bryan Smith — who plays Chris, the young American soldier in love with a Vietnamese prostitute — agrees.

“It’s a great show and everyone has been really fantastic to work with so

I’m very excited,” says Smith. “It’s nice to know the U of C is supportive with shows like this, knowing that it’s such a huge undertaking.”

Miss Saigon was created by Claude-Michel Schönberg and Alain Boublil, and is the 10th longest running musical on Broadway. While its roots are in the opera *Madame Butterfly* by Giacomo Puccini, the conflict and setting are in a more modern context.

The opera is about a tragic love story between Chris and Kim, a young prostitute at a Vietnamese club. Chris is enamoured with her innocence and they spend a night together but are soon separated as the American army pulls out of Vietnam.

Separated by a mob, Chris is taken away by helicopter while Kim is left behind. Years later, Chris learns that he fathered Kim’s child and must decide between his American wife, Ellen, or Kim and his son.

“I think that it’s the classic love story, in the sense that there is the



Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

Miss Saigon is the tenth-longest running Broadway play.

love and the romance but there’s all this turmoil and trouble,” says Selina Wong, who plays Kim. “Anyone can reach out and touch the story.”

When asked about the cast and crew, Whidden was extremely complimentary.

“Selina Wong has been wonderful to work with — wonderful singer, wonderful actress, she’ll do anything I ask, as well as Bryan Smith. He brings a real professionalism to the cast. All the supporting actors are just as passionate and just as involved in the story.”

While *Miss Saigon* may seem to be a far away drama, it can still relate to our present day life. Whidden asserts that the themes of love, war and prejudice resonate in 2010.

“We still live with love, we still live with war, we still live with prejudice, so I think even though it’s about Vietnam in the 1970s it’s still really relevant to not just the young people you’ll see on stage but also to the audience members.”

Miss Saigon runs in the University Theatre January 14, 15 and 21 – 23 at 7 p.m.

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Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

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Calgary virtuoso teen headed to Carnegie Hall

17-year-old finds success tinkling ivories after placing third in piano competition

T i e D a n Y a o
m u s i c i n t e r v i e w

Meaghan Carrier

Gauntlet Entertainment

Every few years a truly amazing young musician comes along to steal the spotlight in the classical piano world. In 2010 17-year-old TieDan Yao has become one of these fresh and fabulous artists. Beginning his piano career in Sweden at the age of five, Yao credits his mother with introducing him to a beautiful instrument, the piano.

Upon moving to Calgary, Yao became a student of the Mount Royal Conservatory, entering into the well-respected Academy program where he studied for many years.

Eventually, Yao became a private student of Charles Foreman. The student-teacher relationship that exists between individuals at such an advanced level of classical piano is important. It allows a student to bridge the gap between being a good musician, turning good pianists into exceptional ones.

"I have learned a lot from him over the past few years," says Yao. "I consider him to be my friend, as well as my instructor."

As a classical piano student, Yao's repertoire includes the works of many famous composers: Beethoven, Mozart, Liszt, Schubert, Bach, Chopin and countless others. Yet he also chooses to play more

modern music, not favouring one type over the other.

"Each year I try to play pieces from different timelines or different time periods," says Yao. "I have played a lot of Beethoven, but I like them all. I also like to include more contemporary composers like Samuel Barber (1910 - 1981)."

As a third place winner in the Louisiana International Piano Competition, Yao will play Carnegie Hall at the end of the month. The young musician will perform the Barber Sonata and Schumann Carnival in the prestigious concert hall.

"I am very excited to play at Carnegie Hall," says Yao. "I think it's going to be a great experience. I have been preparing long and hard for this honour."

Yao's passion and musical talent have taken him to amazing places, which can only be attained through true love of one's musical instrument. His devotion to the piano has led to many prestigious awards, including beating out 23 other competitors to win the Eastman Young Artist International Piano Competition in 2008, at a youthful 16.

"I enjoy playing music and I want to share it with others," says Yao. "I want to become a concert pianist because I love performing. I think it's a very adventurous life, with its many opportunities to travel and see the world."

TieDan Yao plays a benefit concert in the First Baptist Church Sun., Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.



courtesy Tokie Brideau

TieDan Yao, who wants to be a concert pianist because he "think[s] it's a very adventurous life" will be playing a benefit concert at First Baptist Church Sunday, January 17 at 7 p.m.

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High Life clichéd but fun crime caper

High Life
film review

Richard Lam

Gauntlet Entertainment

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courtesy Terry Wowchuk

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Crime stories are not necessarily about the plot, as every scenario has been done before. What is important is the characters, their traits

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With his sharp features, he has been unconvincingly typecast as a go-to villain in films like *Live Free or Die Hard* and *Hitman*. However, he has never been entirely successful in these performances, producing much more believable characters in quieter roles in *Go* and *Deadwood*. The film's tensest moments are not the shootouts or chase sequences, but the close-ups on Dick's face, stricken by a confused mess of indecision.

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High Life opens in Calgary Jan. 15. For more information check out highlifethemovie.com



25
YEARS
ON THE
FM DIAL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

25 YEARS ★ 25 ACTS ★ 25 BUCKS

FEATURING

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CHAD VANGALEN • DIFFERENCE ENGINE
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CJSW 90.9 FM

Woodpigeon plays *Muzikanten*

W o o d p i g e o n
m u s i c i n t e r v i e w

Rhiannon Kirkland
Gauntlet Entertainment

Woodpigeon have always been a huge proponent of Calgary's culture and music scene. With track titles like "Our Love Is As Tall As The Calgary Tower" it's surprising their third album *Die Stadt Muzikanten* is inspired by a place far across the Atlantic Ocean.

The band's lyrics have often centered on the life and thoughts of lead singer and main lyricist Mark Hamilton. On their new album, Hamilton turns to his Austrian ancestors for inspiration.

"I was thinking about how their journey took them from Europe to Canada and my journey keeps moving me from Canada to Europe, like we're going in opposite directions," says Hamilton. "I never really thought that they were ready to leave Europe. I mean the entire time that I knew them they often talked about how important Austria was to them."

Hamilton began writing *Die Stadt Muzikanten* while living and working in Berlin. There, he thought about his family's history.

"[I was] thinking a lot about the people in my family that were from there. It was incredibly inspiring thinking a lot about all those things," says Hamilton. "You can't go to Germany without thinking about history because it is all around you."



courtesy Lindsay Baker

Mark Hamilton is a Film Studies student at the University of Calgary who manages to find time to study while on tour. *Die Stadt Muzikanten* was released Tuesday, January 12.

Many of *Die Stadt's* lyrics concern leaving home. Ships are a constant theme on the album, mostly because they were the typical way people crossed to Canada from Europe, explains Hamilton, noting he would like to take an extended boat trip sometime.

"The other records that I've made have been about the painful idea of leaving somewhere, but I think that there's really a romantic idea about leaving somewhere and being a person who doesn't really have a set destination," says Hamilton.

Hamilton is also taking a film

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"Two of us are full-time students and we bring our books with us and kind of keep each other on time, so while everybody else is kind of going out and doing whatever it is people do after shows, which I don't know, I'm usually in the hotel or whatever reading a book or writing an essay," he says.

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Die Stadt Muzikanten is out now. Woodpigeon's CD release party is Jan. 22 at Broken City.

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★ 25 YEARS ★
★ 25 ACTS ★
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SAT. JAN. 23 ★ 7 PM

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Dinos take on Pandas to start six-game homestand



Gauntlet file photo

Jon Roe
Sports Editor

With a record of 6-5 and with a team comprised of mostly first- and second-years, Dinos women's basketball head coach Shawnee Harle is having the most fun she's had in years.

"They have something special and it's those intangible, you probably can't put it into words," she says. "But when you've coached for a long time, you can feel it."

So far, this team is ahead of where Harle thought they would be at this time of year. Through the first half of the season, the Dinos are in the middle of a logjam of teams with six wins in the Prairie Division of the Canada West conference, despite holding only two players with more than two years of experience, Megan Lang, a third-year, and Ashley Hill, a fourth, and running into injury troubles. Esther Graff, who had a solid rookie season coming off the bench, was lost early with a torn ACL, and two other players entering their second year, Ashley Ashman and Alex Cole, have also missed time due to knee injuries. The Dinos started the winter semester season with a game in Lethbridge, where they were only able to dress eight players. They lost, but by a narrow 90-83 margin.

"One thing that eight players gives you is it gives kids who typically would not play, a lot of minutes," Harle says. "We have two kids starting that was certainly never the plan. We have kids, first player off the bench — that was never part of the plan. The good part of that is they're gaining experience you can't get any other way."

It's been a learning season for many Dinos, including rookie guard Tamara Jarrett. After half a season of intense, physical Canadian Interuniversity Sport basketball, she was pretty happy to have the winter break to recover. However,

the leap from high school to university is as much about the mental as it is about the physical.

"It's hard to deal with playing smarter basketball, pretty much," Jarrett says. "In high school you can get away with a lot of stuff. In CIS, you have to know what you're doing and play smart."

"A lot of it is just balancing school with practice every day, weights, everything like that," adds rookie point guard Tilly Ettinger. "Also, it's such a different game, as a point guard, there are so many more things I have to think about and be accountable

for compared to high school."

The Dinos are about to get another lesson in the form of the arch rival University of Alberta Pandas, who come to town for back-to-back games to start a six-game homestand. The Pandas sit just one game ahead of the Dinos with a 7-5 record.

"I go in knowing exactly that it's going to be a bloodbath, pretty much," Jarrett says. "They're going to be out for blood. Prepare for physical, physical, physical. I haven't really thought about the mental part on how to prepare, but I just know that

it's going to be a hard game."

With the way her young players are playing, Harle is excited for the rest of the season and for the potential of what this team can achieve much further down the road.

"This team has some qualities [that] could very well allow us to overachieve down the stretch here and what excites me even more is when I look at year two and year three and year four, and then year five, our best is yet to come," says Harle. "And I'm really looking forward to have this team take me along for the ride."

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Home, sweet home

Dinos happy to be at the Jack after travel headaches

Jon Roe
Sports Editor

Leaving Calgary for a Christmas vacation trip to San Diego, the men's basketball team must have had it pretty sweet over the winter break. Sun. Beaches. A bit of basketball. Sounds like a great time. Then somebody decided to try and blow up a plane on Christmas Day.

The Dinos went to the airport to try and check-in at 9 a.m. and didn't get through security until 6:30 p.m.

"We stood in line for that length of time, it was ridiculous," says Dinos head coach Dan Vanhooren.

Their travel worries didn't end there. They faced a six-hour bus ride from San Diego to L.A. and arrived at their game only 35 minutes before the jump ball. And then they were delayed leaving the U.S. But what better an experience to bond a team over than collective travel

headaches? And it's easily a better winter tournament experience than they're used to.

"It was like a cap stone trip for our senior guys," says point guard Jamie Macleod. "For the most part, I think every single Christmas tournament has been spent in Winnipeg. So it was nice to get into San Diego and get in to the sun."

They did get to see the San Diego Zoo and go to the beach. So it wasn't all bad.

"It was a good simulation of what nationals will be like," says Macleod. "A little bit of a longer trip, three straight games, back-to-back days, and you're in this whole new environment that's pretty exciting that you kind of treat like a vacation."

With the winter break and half the season behind them, the Dinos now have to focus on a six-game homestand, starting with the University of Alberta Golden Bears

for back-to-back games this weekend. The Bears are in a transition year after 26 years under the yoke of head coach Don Horwood. Horwood retired after last year and was replaced with Greg Francis, who is guiding a team that lost their three top scorers from last season.

"It's a little bit different this year, they've got a bunch of new players," says Macleod. "It's not as much of a rival in terms of the person but the school. They're still a division rival, and it's two huge games."

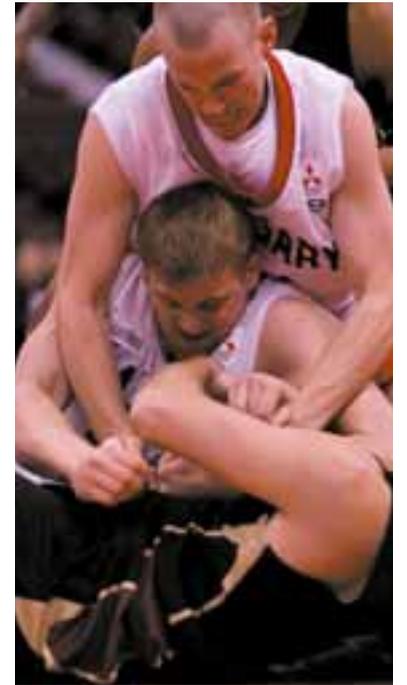
The Dinos sit pretty on top of the Prairie Division with a 9-2 record, and have a date with the currently undefeated University of British Columbia Thunderbirds looming on the horizon, so you'd think it'd be easy to overlook the 5-7 Bears who limp into town having lost seven of the last eight. But Vanhooren says the team is focused on this weekend and a team that have played them hard over the last few years, regard-

less of where they've been in the standings.

"We're not going to look past the Bears," says Vanhooren. "They're our arch rivals. It's the Duke-North Carolina weekend for us."

A couple of games against arch rivals are not a bad way to begin a three-week homestand. The players, for one, are going to enjoy being around their friends and family, and playing in front of the home fans. Macleod, who was recently engaged to his girlfriend of seven years, says he'll enjoy spending the time in Calgary without getting too comfortable and keeping focused on winning these important basketball games.

"My fiancé is definitely going to enjoy having me around for the weekends now," he says.



Gauntlet file photo

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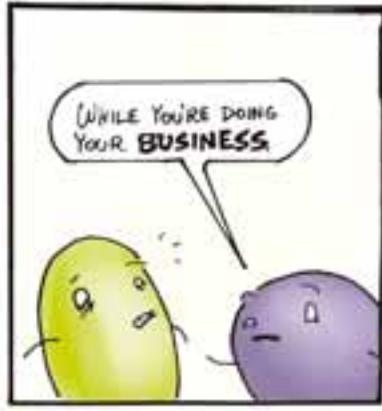
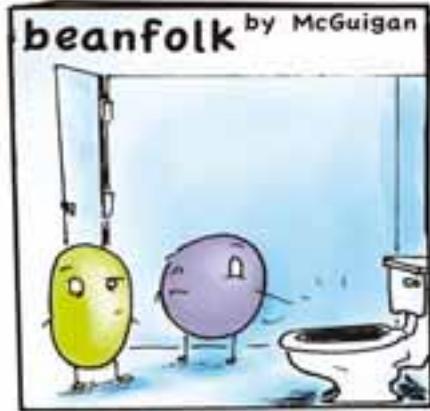
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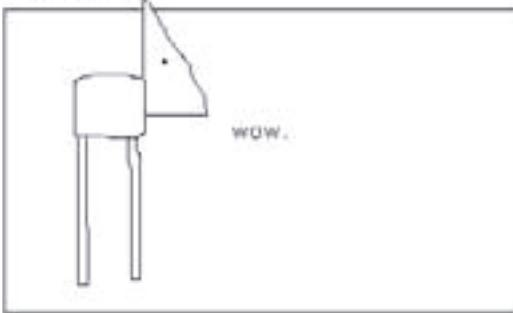
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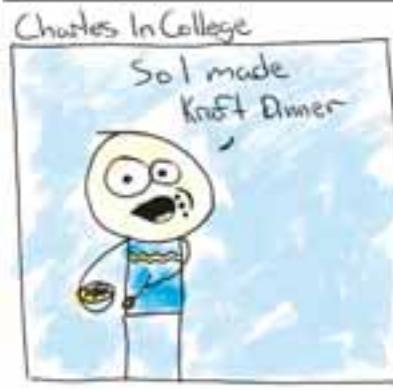
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Also, carrots are NOT a suitable Valentine's day gift, even for rabbits. Boys, take note.

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optic nerve by ev delgado and jv read

Unlimited Dream Company by Owen Thelwall & Ivan Reese

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