

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

gauntlet

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BSDRY

LIQUOR LICENCE COMPLICATIONS RUIN ANNUAL EVENT

see editorial, pg. 3



STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

Students' Union SURVEY

The Students' Union values your feedback!

Let us know how we are doing in serving and representing you by filling out a quick online survey!

The survey takes approximately five minutes and your feedback will assist the SU in the continuation and development of programs and services to best meet the needs of undergrads at the UofC.

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The first 100 respondents may enter into a prize draw for one of five \$100 cash prizes and all respondents may enter a prize draw for one of two \$250 cash prizes. To be eligible for prizes, the survey must be completed! This survey is open to all current undergraduate students at the UofC.

How to access

Visit <http://ca.studentvoice.com/calgary/studentsunion2010> or link directly from the SU web site (www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Survey runs from March 31 - April 14



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BERMUDA SHORTS DAY:
APRIL 16, 2010

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COME SEE HOW THE SU SPENDS YOUR MONEY

APRIL 5TH | 6:30 - 7:30 | ESCALUS
REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

In the spirit of transparency and responsible representation the SU will be hosting a **Report to the Community on April 5th** in the Escalus Conference Room, located in the MacEwan Conference Center on the 2nd floor of the MacEwan Student Center (MSC).

This is an opportunity for students to get informed about important changes in services and to get updates on major SU initiatives over the last year. If you've ever wondered how the SU invests your money then this is an opportunity to find out.

Please RSVP SU President Charlotte Kingston at
president@su.ucalgary.ca if you wish to attend.



Bermuda Shorts Day runs dry

Annual event in peril after late liquor license application

After last year's difficulties finding a location for the vaunted event, it seems like immense effort would have gone into planning this year's Bermuda Shorts Day. Sadly, that isn't the case.

On Wednesday afternoon, the *Gauntlet* learned that a significant oversight within the BSD planning committee resulted in a failure to submit a liquor license application before the March 7 deadline. Last minute scrambling was subsequently unable to ameliorate the situation and so BSD will be dry this year.

As the most far-reaching student-focused event of the academic year, it is ridiculous that such an oversight could have occurred. The misstep is significant indication that those responsible for raising and maintaining campus spirit don't give a damn about campus spirit.

One source close to the planning committee speculated the error might have been at the behest of someone within the committee who "frowned upon" students behaving in typical BSD fashion. But the *Gauntlet* has since come to understand that this particular source, whom we are unable to

name, was likely the catalyst behind this calamity.

Whatever the actual details behind the bungle, it remains the case that this is the single biggest error to take place this school year.

Attempting to rectify the craven situation, the planning committee is rushing to arrange programming students can enjoy even absent liquor. A number of high-profile bands have been suggested, as has setting up a large projector to air the entire sixth season of *Entourage*. But while these may seem to be good ways to deal with a tough situation, there is considerable difficulty in their implementation.

Because most of the money used to run BSD comes from beer sales, this year's event faces tremendous financial trouble. In fact, in order to run the alternative plans, the planning committee would be forced to either charge for entry to the event — which seems a particularly stupid way of attracting people to a parking lot — or return to the quality money well.

Interestingly, some of the criticism directed against the original accessing of quality money for BSD would fail to apply this time around. Many had problems justifying



tuition dollars being used to subsidize an event some students were uncomfortable attending, but now that BSD will be dry, there should be no problem with this sort of exclusion. That said, student money should not be tapped for this masquerade. It was only when BSD was the properly manicled celebration of the end of another hard year that it was capable of drawing students together. Sad

as it will be, the best plan is for the planning committee to stick with its original scheme, and leave the rest up to students — don't forget your "water bottle."*

Cam Cotton-O'Brien
Editor-in-Chief

*The *Gauntlet* apologizes to all who read this article after noon on April 1.

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In honour of April Fools Day, check out a guide to pranking, **page 24**.

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sports

Sam Effah is a fast man. How fast? Really fast. Learn all about it, **page 16**.

entertainment

The sixth annual Taking Flight festival of student plays lifts off, **page 18**.

CORRECTIONS: Last week's editorial reported that the University of Alberta budget meeting had been postponed. The *Gauntlet* has since been informed by U of A administration that this was not the case and the meeting went forward, as originally scheduled, on Fri., March 26. The U of A approved a \$290 Common Student Space, Sustainability and Services fee, a reduction from the previously-proposed \$550 fee. In addition, last week's story "Tuition protest moves to the capital" incorrectly referred to CAUS chair Beverly Eastham as Beverly Easton. The *Gauntlet* apologizes for any confusion these errors may have caused.

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Golden Spatula

Sydney Stokoe did awesome stuff last week, for which we salute her. Also, Rhiannon Kirkland wrote about composting. Woo!

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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 \$2 Bible-based ink. We urge you to recycle/worship 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

Photo and design by Chris Pedersen



Wildrose Alliance club hosts party leader

Annalise Klingbeil

News Assistant

Danielle Smith, leader of the Wildrose Alliance Party of Alberta, spoke to students at the University of Calgary March 2 about her party and Alberta politics.

The event was the first and last of the school year for the recently launched Wildrose Alliance Club, which only voted in their executive roughly a month ago.

“We thought the year’s almost over so we might as well plan for one event and what better event to have than have Danielle Smith, the leader of the party, come,” said James Jeffrey, president of the campus club.

Approximately 70 people attended Smith’s talk, where she focused on post-secondary issues and answered audience questions on a range of topics including prostitution, health care and voter apathy.

Smith, who has degrees in both English and Economics from the U of C and has worked as a journalist and Calgary Board of Education Trustee, spoke to students about her time on campus and challenged audience members to become involved with her party’s policy proposals.

“I think that we’re on the cusp of one of these seismic political shifts that happen in this province from time to time,” she told the audience.

Smith said she believes citizens are looking for a change.

“I think for the first time in a number of years people are finally getting engaged and talking about policy again and talking about what can we be as Albertans and what kind of leadership role can Alberta play, not only in Canada, but also internationally. I think that’s the kind of thing that’s capturing the imagination of Albertans.”

While answering audience questions, Smith identified a widespread

voter turnout problem and noted she feels it’s up to politicians and political parties to make politics interesting.

“I don’t blame people for their apathy. When I look at this province the fact that we have a party that’s in power for 39 years and there are many, many ridings where that party would win with 65, 70 per cent of the vote, I can understand why people say, ‘what’s the point of me going out?’” said Smith.

“I hope if nothing else what the emergence of our party has done is created a little more competitive tension.”

Trent Charles, a first-year communications student, was impressed by Smith’s speech and her strong economics background.

“It was a lot better than I expected,” said Charles. “Few politicians truly understand the economics behind the decisions that they make... You need the economic basis to truly understand what you’re doing and how you’re affecting the people you are trying to represent.”

Charles said he sees the Wildrose Alliance Party as the only option in Alberta dedicated to limited government intervention. Charles plans on starting up or joining a student Wildrose club when he transfers to Grant MacEwan University in the fall.

Following a 15-minute speech, over 45-minutes of audience questions and more than half an hour of one-on-one discussions with a line up of interested students, Smith said seeing a Wildrose club on campus was “fantastic.”

“I was a bit surprised to see it, as I think it’s the first Wildrose campus club of any of the universities or colleges. To me, student politics is so important, that’s where I got my start in being interested in politics,” said Smith, who served as president of the Progressive Conservative club as a U of C student in 1992.

Smith said the addition of a club



Sydney Stokoe/the Gauntlet

Wildrose Alliance party leader Danielle Smith speaks to the media after her speech on campus.

on campus is positive for the Wildrose Alliance party.

“I think having a strong youth presence is important from a policy setting point of view and it’s also important from a volunteer point of view.”

Smith said the audience did not disappoint and brought forward challenging questions that “show they really care.”

“It’s always tough when you come to a university campus because the people who come to your sessions are a lot more knowledgeable about the areas that they’re asking you about than you are,” said Smith.

“You’ve got a lot of young people who are spending all of their time immersed in the field of economics, or history, or politics or environmental sciences. So I always find that the toughest questions have been at the university campuses.”

Smith said what she saw on the U of C campus is typical of what she sees when she visits post-secondary institutions across the province.

“There is a whole range of issues that young people feel passionately about and I just think that they haven’t had an avenue to be able to express those views and see it implemented in policy for a party and, ultimately,

form policy for a government.”

Before Smith took the stage the club asked audience members for voluntary donations to cover the cost of the event and stated they will not accept money from the Students’ Union.

Jeffrey explained that the club declined to accept an SU grant of \$100, which all new clubs receive, on a matter of principle.

“The Wildrose Alliance is a party of fiscal conservatives and we said we shouldn’t accept that \$100 grant because it’s coming from people like Liberals, NDP-ers, *et cetera* that aren’t actually choosing to donate money to us,” said Jeffrey.

Would you likely support the Wild Rose Alliance in the next provincial election?

campus quips



“I’m leaving the province thank God.”
– Jenn Olson,
fourth-year history



“Whatever party allows me to eat wild rabbit.”
– Tristan Bonnecent, third-year engineering



“I don’t really know.”
– Jeremy Langlois,
first-year biological science



“I have no idea.”
– Selam Bekele,
second-year biological science

Second language training helps newcomers

U of C celebrates 10 years of academic English teaching for immigrants

Richard Lam
Gauntlet News

According to recent projections from Statistics Canada, within the next 15 years 50 per cent of Canadians will be visible minorities and by 2031, one-third of Calgarians will be foreign born. Many will need more than basic English-as-a-Second-Language training to succeed academically and professionally.

For this reason, the University of Calgary's English for Academic Purposes program has been working for 10 years to prepare students for their post-secondary and professional careers. EAP celebrated its 10th anniversary last week, where past program students were recognized and future directions discussed.

"[It] needs to be common knowledge for all Canadians to understand that language ability has nothing to do with intellectual ability, at all," said Anuradha Sengupta, director of the EAP program.

"We get brilliant people: Canadians, international, scientists, mathematicians, writers, poets, all of these types of students come to us and the only thing they really need assistance with is their English language proficiency," said Sengupta.

EAP differs from ESL programs as it does not focus on the building blocks of English. Instead

it focuses on supporting and teaching non-native speakers how to function competitively and scholastically within a post-secondary environment. This includes advanced academic writing and comprehension, oral capabilities, advanced vocabulary development, higher-level listening strategies and even idiomatic humour.

Approximately 20 per cent of U of C students are immigrants or non-native English speakers, and they must compete directly with the rest of the English-proficient student body.

"That's what our program strives to do, is to put them as close as possible to an equal footing when it comes to their English language proficiency, making them better writers, better speakers and with greater reading comprehension skills so that they can survive in university," said Sengupta.

The program typically runs for a full year, but is split into three-tiers, where students are placed based on a proficiency assessment. They can take the program before their studies begin or simultaneously, both of which have had equally successful results.

"It's really demanding," said Aminata Sagno, an EAP student currently finishing her final EAP component before starting her studies. Sagno immigrated to Canada in 2006 and was placed in the second-tier of the EAP pro-



Richard Lam/the Gauntlet

Students sit in during an English for Academic Purposes program presentation at the U of C.

gram in fall 2009. She credits the program with bringing her up to academic competency.

"I think I wouldn't be successful at university and my English wouldn't be at this level," Sagno said.

Looking ahead, Sengupta feels the program needs to increase focus on the speaking and listening aspect of English learning. As English is mandatory in many overseas high schools, today's students are coming with above-

basic grammatical skills.

"They are able to have really good structure in classic composition, so they're able to write. But what is still missing are the verbal skills and the listening skills that are really key to interactive learning," said Sengupta. "And that can only happen when you're in a setting like this, talking to other people who are also trying to learn listening skills."

EAP students attend various lectures during the semester, see-

ing what it's like to take notes and to determine if they can follow along with the rest of the class, said Sengupta.

Sagno, about to begin her undergraduate degree in nursing, joked about this exercise.

"I found it easy, like I could understand everything they said," Sagno said. "But my last lecture was with a professor from geosciences. That lecture I didn't understand. So it depends on the topic."

GSA president resigns from office

Brent Constantin
News Editor

On March 24, shortly after passing a referendum to leave the Canadian Federation of Students federal lobby group, Graduate Students' Association president Veronique Dorais-Ram submitted her resignation to the General Representative Council.

GSA vice-president academic Dan Bidulock will serve as interim president until May 1, when the incoming president, James Lange, takes office.

In a prepared statement emailed to graduate students Bidulock said he understands

that some might want answers but as Dorais-Ram tendered her resignation during a closed session of GRC, it remains confidential.

"I am not at liberty to disclose any specific details," Bidulock said in the email. "All that can be said is this: the GSA's Executive Board voted on a motion put forward by Veronique. As a result of that vote, Veronique felt that she could no longer serve in the position of president."

The contents of that motion are now a point of contention within the GSA, with the interim president stating that the contents of Dorais-Ram's report are

"controversial" and currently under investigation.

"Steps are being taken by the GSA to investigate the matters alleged in [Dorais-Ram's] report, and in particular the GSA is arranging for an audit of its financial records," Bidulock said in a later email to graduate students, dated Mar. 29. "At this time, there does not appear to be any reason for concern but the GSA Executive is determined to make the proper inquiry into whether there has been any wrongdoing."

All parties involved declined further comment until the matter was resolved, citing liability concerns.

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Opium research yields synthetic painkillers

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet News

University of Calgary researchers are one step closer to producing synthetic morphine and codeine, after unlocking the genes that allow the opium poppy to produce these two drugs.

In the online edition of *Nature Chemical Biology*, U of C biochemist Peter Facchini explained the isolation of these genes allows for production of synthetic painkillers in a lab, bypassing the plant altogether. Codeine is one of the most widely used painkillers and can be extracted directly from the poppy and converted to morphine through an enzyme in the liver.

Facchini is excited about the discovery, after working on the opium poppy's biochemistry for the past 18 years.

"It's always inspiring to think that humans have been using [the] opium poppy for thousands of years and investigating the plant for hundreds of years," said Facchini. "We are contributing pieces to the scientific puzzle that will remain part of the story long into the future."

He pointed out the enzymes encod-

ed by two genes have eluded scientists for 50 years, because others made the mistake of searching for a similar enzyme that converted codeine to morphine in human livers. However, the enzyme Facchini discovered belonged to a different family.

"The enzymes occur in the plant at relatively low abundance, so it would be difficult to detect them even if you knew what you were looking for," said Facchini.

Researcher Jillian Hagel explained the process was a matter of elimination, as she and Facchini used a custom-made DNA microarray "which examine[d] the expression of 23,000 genes at once."

They also used viral-induced gene silencing and observed the effects on metabolism. One single gene appeared "off" in the mutant poppy, compared with morphine-accumulating poppies. Upon close examination, it turned out to be the first of the two missing genes needed for morphine production.

"We started off with a mutant of opium poppy that appeared 'blocked' for morphine metabolism [that is, it couldn't make morphine or codeine]," explained Hagel. "We

compared the gene expression in this mutant to other morphine-accumulating varieties using a DNA microarray."

Facchini warned the research is still in its early stages. He explained the next step is to use the new codeine gene to produce the medicine via yeast or bacteria.

"Basically, it's a matter of putting all the genes from the plant that participate in morphine metabolism into yeast," said Facchini. "That's the science. After that the engineers work on optimizing production. We're after three or four more key genes from the plant to complete the pathway."

Hagel explained the team faced challenges, such as a lack of tools available to study poppies, so they had to develop their own.

"For example, I had to build the microarray used in this study, instead of just flipping through a catalogue to buy one," said Hagel.

After the setbacks and obstacles, Hagel is excited about the big discovery and its implications for the drug trade.

"I feel . . . definitely excited to have been part of the process



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Facchini and Hagel are close to producing synthetic painkillers.

leading to this discovery," said Hagel. "A key reason for my desire to work on [the] opium poppy was its importance not only in the field of plant biochemistry, but in

social and political arenas."

Canada is among the world's top consumers of codeine, spending \$100 million every year on the painkillers.

Margaret MacMillan discusses the challenges of writing history

Annie Wang
Gauntlet News

Hundreds gathered in the MacEwan Ballroom to hear Margaret MacMillan, one of the most respected historians of our time, examine the challenges of writing

about history and share insights into her own writing March 23.

MacMillan, this year's Markin-Flanagan Distinguished Visiting Writer, is a Professor of International History at the University of Oxford. Her gift for bringing history to life is hailed by readers and

critics, especially in *Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World*, her landmark book about the peace process following the First World War.

"We historians are, in a way, great gossips," said MacMillan. "We love details of the past and we have a passion about humanity. We find history highly entertaining. And that is what I try to deliver to my readers."

MacMillan explained that history reminds us that very clever people have in the past been very wrong. According to MacMillan this pushes us to question our own convictions and treat them with humility.

"History is the key to understand-

ing ourselves and others, said MacMillan. "It gives important warnings: if we behave in a certain way, we must brace ourselves to expect certain consequences. Most importantly, it reminds us that values we hold dear right now are not fixed."

MacMillan pointed out that it is not easy for history to find its place today. People's sheer indifference towards history begins in school, where students discover that too much history, too many dates and too many events, can be oppressive. We must find a way to remember without having grievances.

"Yes, people in the past are very different from us. Yes, they lived in an entirely different world. What

we must remember is that they are still very much human."

By taking her audience through a historic journey, MacMillan demonstrates that in addition to history forcing us to examine our own views and our own identities, it teaches us how to think through difficult situations. It warns us that there are always alternatives and gives some indications of the future.

MacMillan said her reason for writing about history is that it entertains.

"As a child I simply liked listening to the stories, reading the historic novels. Then as I became older, I liked telling stories," said MacMillan. "Later on, when I became a teacher, I realized that in order to grab the attention of my students, I had to interest them, I had to entertain them."

The Markin-Flanagan Distinguished Writers Program, which made MacMillan's visit possible, is housed in the Faculty of Humanities at the U of C. It aims to help advance the careers of Calgary writers and enrich the local writing community through extended residency programs.

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Coulter's campus visit draws a crowd

Emily Ask
News Assistant

Ann Coulter, controversial author and conservative pundit, made her final Canadian tour stop in Calgary last Thursday. Originally scheduled to take place in Science Theatre 140 at the University of Calgary, organizers relocated her speech to a larger venue, the Red And White Club at McMahon Stadium.

About 900 people showed up, including approximately 20 protesters. Some protesters were part of Anti-Racist Action Calgary, while others came independently. Many were offended that Coulter told a Muslim student at the University of Western Ontario to take a flying carpet or ride a camel instead of an airplane.

Coulter defended her remark as a joke, but protesters were not impressed.

"A racist joke is a racist joke!" they chanted, and "Free speech not hate speech!"

Signs featured slogans like, "Yankee bigot go home!" "Canadians say go home u racist pig!" and "Jesus is a socialist."

Many who weren't protesting still had mixed feelings about Coulter, including Geoff Brisbin, a first-year law student at the U of C.

"I'm here to see Ann Coulter and hear what kinds of things she might say so later on I can say, 'I was there when Ann Coulter said that,'" he said. "I'm not necessarily a fan of her. Some of her opinions I disagree with, but I like her free speech stance. I think it's something we can all get behind."

Some students showed up at the Red and White Club for the entertainment value.

"I think if she ever wasn't a political pundit she could be a stand up comedian," said Nick Nolin, a third-year political science student. "I just want to stand around and see if . . . anything exciting goes down."

Farah Malik, a fourth-year international relations major, expressed frustration over Coulter's statements about Muslims.

"I did a lot of research before coming here today . . . and I disagree with many of her views," she said. "A lot of them I find are completely factless; she just throws random opinions out there without any factual basis. I want to see her, see if what she has to say is any different than what I've read about her."

Malik also addressed Coulter's controversial "flying carpet" comment.

"She can say that it's all like satire all she wants but when put in context with all the other stuff she's said, it doesn't seem like it's meant to be funny at all — it seems like she's very serious."

Wearing a blue top, black skirt and tall black boots, Coulter entered to a standing ovation after an enthusiastic introduction by U of C alumnus and former *Western Standard* publisher Ezra Levant.

Coulter kept pace by constantly delivering punch lines that, for the most

part, had the audience laughing.

She spoke about political correctness and double standards, attacking liberal heavyweights such as Ted Kennedy, Harry Reid and Gloria Steinem.

"Political correctness has nothing to do with sparing people's feelings," she said. "It's all about power."

The American media does not hold liberals to the same standards as conservatives, Coulter argued. She further claimed that when Barack Obama became president, the media's attitude towards the government changed significantly.

"The mainstream media . . . overnight went from being the people's watchdogs to government guard dogs — with the exception of the *New York Times* who became . . . government lapdogs," she said.

Coulter did not disappoint those expecting controversial statements.

Perhaps the most unpopular comment of the night was when she said that diversity was like cancer — not desirable, but something that the United States had learned to live with.

She also said she would like to see Alberta become the 51st state, a comment that drew a mixed response of boos, laughter and applause.

At one point during her speech protesters could be heard outside banging on the doors.

"This is one popular speech," Coulter remarked. "I'm sorry we



Photo courtesy of Evangeline Winfield, Alerize Photography

Ann Coulter spoke to an audience of around 900 in Calgary last week.

just don't have room for everyone!"

It was later discovered that one of the protesters outside cracked a window.

A 40-minute question and answer session followed Coulter's 20-minute speech. She answered a wide array of questions about health care, homosexuals in the military and her previous statements about Muslims and women's suffrage.

"I said the camel was a joke, the flying carpet was a joke. Women not voting? Totally serious."

Coulter claims if women weren't allowed to vote, the U.S. would have

never voted in any Democratic presidents.

At least 10 people walked out during the event.

"The speaking itself part was very good," said Matthew Johnston, a U of C first-year film studies student. "But the question and answer part was very dodgy. She maybe answered half the questions."

"I thought it was hilarious," said Steven Pridgen, a third-year criminal justice student at Mount Royal University. "It's nice to hear her opinion no matter how jaded it may be."

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Better urban design will help Calgarians

Colin Minor
Gauntlet News

Cities are complicated, exciting, living, breathing and evolving places. Each city in its development must face and react to a distinct set of pressures and challenges, and it is through these relations that the histories of cities are written. Marc Boutin, a Calgary architect and Environmental Design associate professor of at the University of Calgary, has considerable interest in the history of cities — enough to complete a Masters of Arts in Architectural History and to convince a committee of his peers to award him the Prix de Rome in 2002.

While working in Rome after receiving the award, Boutin focused on water infrastructure — “aqueducts, fountains and related public space” — through which he explored the transformation of Rome’s architecture and social history. Boutin also spent considerable time studying public spaces in Barcelona.

By studying and comparing the differences between space utilization in various cities, Boutin can now better understand and help contribute positively to the challenges facing Calgary. “Calgary’s characteristics mostly

struck me . . . when I came back from Barcelona and Rome, particularly in Barcelona where everything is so dense and so tight and space is so precious. It is so well designed to maximize efficiency. Here in Calgary you will drive out Deerfoot, and there’s just so much space: it’s kind of like a crime,” said Boutin.

Boutin noted Calgarians have a desire to drive the most efficient route possible when travelling the city and discussed the implications of removing communities from the view of everyday commuters with large concrete walls.

“People will look back at Calgary and they will say, ‘What is the value set of these people?’ Clearly it’s about movement and the individual and separation as opposed to city, society and culture. That’s interesting,” said Boutin. “I think we are slightly more into individualism than other cities in Canada and the U.S. Certainly more so than Toronto and Montreal . . . In Toronto there has been a lot of talk, top down and bottom up, about communities, and it’s an older city, so it has had more time to understand itself a little bit, to come to terms with itself. Whereas Calgary, people come here



courtesy Marc Boutin Architectural Collaborative

Marc Boutin says Calgary faces unique challenges in its design, especially the city’s spaciousness.

to make money, they’ll leave here after they make money and there is not a lot of community building that is left in that kind of paradigm.”

Boutin presented some of his work as part of the Big Rock University lecture series, an ongoing event which brings people from the U of C to the brewery to speak on a variety of topics.

Boutin showed the audience images of Calgary developments at Eau Claire Market and Olympic Plaza — which are approved but will not break ground in the immediate future — and the already-under-construction

rededication of Memorial drive, which includes Memorial Poppy Plaza near the 10th street bridge and two other memorial nodes along the pathway.

The Memorial Poppy Plaza aims to commemorate the sacrifices made by all Canadians during the war effort. Sections of wall will be etched with quotes from affected mothers, children, grandfathers and notable Canadian soldiers like Sir Arthur Currie. Across the river from the site two large illuminated sentinels “representing a conceptual ‘space apart’ and ‘space of desire’ often associated with the separation of loved ones during wartime, will be constructed,” according to the Marc Boutin Architectural Collaborative.

“We hope by doing that the commemoration and the memorial will be more timeless and more inclusive for

the citizens of Calgary,” said Boutin.

Through creating exciting and engaging public spaces like Memorial Plaza, Boutin hopes to get momentum moving towards making Calgary a more integrated and vibrant city, a place ready to collaborate on its own unique set of challenges as it matures.

Boutin said the problem with Calgary is that for an average suburb dweller working downtown, they will leave their garage, drive to work, park underground and take the elevator to the office without interacting once with another human being.

“My feeling is that over time we’re going to continue to develop a culture appreciating what surrounds us as opposed to avoiding what surrounds us,” said Boutin. “Hopefully these kinds of public spaces will start to change that.”

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Spring makeup class

The *Gauntlet* takes a look at some of the more interesting classes offered on campus

Olivia Brooks
Gauntlet News

If ever a student dreamed of leaving their spring classes during a breezy afternoon with a beard, the spring session makeup class taught by Douglas McCullough could fulfill their wishes of neck fuzz and more. DRAM 372 — Make-up Techniques I, offers basic makeup as well as specialized make-up and prosthetics.

The class was traditionally taught during the regular academic term, however, as a result of downturns, the class was moved to the spring session.

"I had in the past, probably before the dinosaurs died, taught makeup as an undergraduate and used those things that I had learned also to make money during my undergraduate years," joked McCullough.

Students who participate in this small class, which is usually capped at 18 students, can expect to learn enough basic skills to work for high school drama departments and, if one cultivates their training enough, potentially move on to semi-professional theatre companies within Calgary.

Even though the course itself is geared towards Fine Arts students, especially drama majors, others are

welcome to take the class.

Marcia Liber, a fourth-year drama major who took the makeup class last spring, believes that the class "is a creative outlet" for non-theatre students.

"It would be like taking a painting class where you get to go and create for a while," said Liber. "There is a lot of work inside the class and an average amount outside of the class, but what you get out of it is definitely worth it."

According to McCullough, the skills learned are essential for anyone entering the theatre industry. However, if a person is looking to take advanced training in theatre or film makeup the best places to apply are on the west coast, like the Blanche MacDonald Centre in Vancouver.

"We have had a couple of people go on out to the west coast and take one or two of those courses with hope of breaking into movies," said McCullough.

Unfortunately, this is McCullough's last year teaching at the U of C, but he believes that the university will hire someone to take over the course after he is gone.

"It's one of those skills without which you can't do any shows of any quality."

This spring's class is filling quickly, with only a few spots left.



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Entrepreneurial student offers expert advice

Brent Constantin
News Editor

Ask any student about the difficulty of going to school full-time and you'll hear similar stories. Everyday thousands of students have to choose between their rent, school related expenses and food on limited budgets. But one student has discovered an ingenious way to not only save money on food this spring, but also help to control the pest population at the University of Calgary.

Third-year engineering student Tristan Bonnccent said he had just finished his last tub of ramen noodles and was worried he wouldn't be able to eat for the rest of the week when he solved the problem.

"I was totally cleaned out," said Bonnccent. "I was walking around the school looking for dropped change in the grass when I got the idea."

Bonnccent says he looked up to see a group of rabbits in front of him and the bright student thought of an idea.

"At that point I was basically starving," Bonnccent said. "I saw the bunnies and how fat they were and thought 'these aren't pets, they're wild animals. Nobody is going to miss them.'"

The rabbits are a well-known sight on campus but typically ignored by students and staff, something that Bonnccent said helped him initially.

"At first you could get so close to them, they weren't afraid of people because everyone just doesn't bother them," Bonnccent explained. "I would

be able to walk right up and catch them, sometimes the other [rabbits] wouldn't even notice."

But as time went on Bonnccent says that the rabbits became trickier to catch.

"A couple of months in they knew who I was," he said. "They would hop away pretty fast and I had to find a new way to get them."

U of C biology instructor Robert Jandins says this is a natural reaction for a group of animals that have traditionally had no predators.

"Animals aren't stupid," Jandins said. "They'll adapt and change based on the circumstances. This population of rabbits on campus grew to eventually not see humans as a threat to their survival and ignored us. They didn't have to worry about anything wanting to eat them and so they multiplied and multiplied exponentially. But now Tristan wants to eat them and things have changed."

Bonnccent attributes his quick reaction with a spear and net to his success as a "rabbit hunter." The student estimates he's eaten more than 40 rabbits so far and saved over \$500 in grocery expenses.

"It's great," Bonnccent admits. "Some people are a little worried about the taste, but a few minutes in the MacHall microwaves and it's the best."

Campus wildlife director Mandel



Chris Pedersen & Sydney Stokoe/the Gauntlet

Tristan Bonnccent has discovered the secret to lower grocery bills.

Reguly welcomes Bonnccent's ingenuity and hopes other students will follow suit.

"These things were horrible to deal with before," Reguly said. "Before [Bonnccent] it was a pain having the team focus on this. He's taken a lot off of our plate and literally put it on to his own. It lets us do our jobs more effectively. I think that students . . . need to all do their part."

With the winter semester almost over and warmer weather on the way Bonnccent looks forward to the remaining rabbits breeding and replenishing their numbers.

"It's been a bit slim lately," Bonnccent said, absently chewing on a long, floppy ear. "I hope the numbers go back up, I don't want to have start paying for food. I need that money for beer."

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The failure of the federal family plan

Kim Nursall

My Mom Says I'm a Bigot



The term “family planning” has come under a lot of scrutiny lately, with the Conservative government announcing that maternal health will be Canada’s “signature” initiative at the G8 summit in Huntsville, Ontario this June.

What exactly this initiative will entail has yet to be formalized, but controversy has already arisen over the proposal’s intended methods of “family planning” and whether it will extend to providing abortions. The debate is unnecessarily descending into polarizing moral issues, which does not bode well for the hundreds of thousands of women and children that die each year in pregnancy and childbirth — tragedies that could be avoided if family planning initiatives were implemented and maintained.

Over 10 million women have died in pregnancy and childbirth worldwide since 1990, and three-quarters of those deaths were preventable. Millions of other women have been

left with crippling injuries or illnesses. Even more horrific is that four million infants die every year within a month of being born. Relatively speaking, the cost of saving these lives is low. A new study released by the United Nations Population Fund and the Guttmacher Institute estimates that 70 per cent of the world’s maternal deaths could be prevented if an additional \$13 billion was spent annually on health care and family planning services.

The Conservative government’s initiative could provide for some of these funds. Unfortunately, the term “family planning” is widely misunderstood and the issue of abortion has entered into the debate. The World Health Organization’s description of family planning does not even contain the term abortion and defines it instead as the practice of allowing individuals and couples to (a) anticipate and attain their desired number of children and (b) determine the spacing and timing of childbirths. It is achieved through the voluntary use of contraceptive methods and the treatment of involuntary infertility.

A woman’s ability to space and limit her pregnancies has a direct impact on her health and well-being, as well as on the outcome of each pregnancy. Studies have shown that family planning practices prevent approximately



one-third of pregnancy-related deaths, as well as 44 per cent of neonatal deaths. This is because timing and spacing of pregnancies is needed to prevent adverse pregnancy outcomes, including high rates of prematu-

ity, malnutrition and stunting in children. If nothing else, the capacity to determine whether to become pregnant and how many children to have has long been recognized as a human right.

Family planning is the best place to begin if we want to better the lives of women and children the world over. Yet despite widespread agreement concerning the positive impacts of family planning, the current debate in Canada has become unnecessarily divisive. A G8 initiative advocating family planning should not be put forth for ideological or political reasons — it should be raised for the simple, practical reason that such initiatives have proven conclusively to save the lives of women and children. But this evidence counts for nothing against “morally right” proposals and the conflation of the terms “family planning” and “abortion” will hinder any initiative’s ability to actually provide for maternal health. By making family planning a moral issue, the G8 program will necessarily be handcuffed by ideological concessions, the very same concessions that have been causing women and children the world over to suffer from preventable trauma and death.

How ironic that what is claimed to be morally right is allowing for something so wrong.

Trying to curb the NHL’s hit parade

Rhiannon Kirkland

Gauntlet Opinions



If you were to say blindsided most people would think of the movie starring Sandra Bullock in her Oscar winning performance, but in hockey the word has a much different meaning. All too often this season talk of blindsided head hits has

dominated the sport. The National Hockey League has finally decided to take action about this.

The two main victims were Boston Bruins forward Marc Savard and Florida Panthers forward David Booth. Booth was knocked unconscious by a March 3 hit from Montreal’s Jaroslav Spacek. Savard was hit by Pittsburgh forward Matt Cooke on March 7. Both were wheeled off the ice on stretchers after hits to the head from behind and both ended up out

for the rest of the season.

On Thursday, March 25 the NHL enacted a new rule allowing review of head hits and extra penalties when necessary. The NHL Players’ Association approved the new rule for the rest of the season and the playoffs. The new rule doesn’t cover penalties to be called on the ice. The NHL and NHLPA will try to work out a permanent solution for next season. Players will still be able to execute head hits so long as their target sees them coming.

The new rule will force players to reconsider the potentially dangerous actions. Players don’t generally want to intentionally hurt one another, but sometimes reckless hits happen. Both the hits to Savard and Booth were easily avoidable and, thus, so were their injuries. The rule will act as a reminder to players that what they do can hurt other players and that there are risks involved.

Hockey is a physical game and hits happen, but they need to be

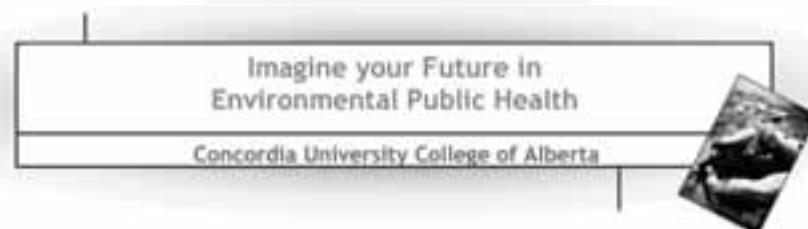
safe. If hits are ending players’ seasons and shortening careers, then the game is better off without them. The NHL and NHLPA are doing the right thing by trying to protect players. The new rule is in the interest of the players because it means that they and their teammates won’t be on the receiving end of a head hit. It will also mean that guys won’t be out with injuries as often. As a player, it sucks to be out injured and it is even worse when the injury is easily preventable.



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The cure for the common e-reader? Espresso!

Espresso Book Machine solves many electronic dilemmas

Eric Mathison
Fighting Words



Last August, I wrote an article discussing the imminent fall of the book. The e-reader, I suggested, was going to overrun the market just as soon as people realized what a great idea it was for many of the uses that the traditional book fills. Few agreed with me. There is something important about the physical book, they said. I agree: lacking a television in my apartment, the books that my partner and I have collected are something like a status symbol. Even though I haven't ready the majority of novels she has — as a masters student in English, she has quite a few — their presence inspires me to write.

A book is tangible; you can hold it in your hands. E-readers, as they are now, don't seem

to be a good replacement because all of the reasons for collecting books — like having bookshelves with lots of books on them — are rendered unnecessary. When the iPad was announced, hopes rose. Perhaps Steve Jobs and his armada of geeky-cool workers would be able to make the e-reader fashionable. But the iPad isn't the panacea some were expecting. Its screen is similar to a computer, so reading on it for long periods of time is arduous. It really isn't a replacement for many of the things we carry around (it can't take pictures, for instance, or make phone calls). Instead, it's more like another thing to add to all the others.

Other e-readers haven't filled the bill either. For the most part they are expensive enough to make people weary of the investment and for ones like the Kindle, which require purchasing from one site, the possibility of losing the rights to that purchase long-term are cause for reconsideration. Publishers, long lamenting the demise of the printed word, have tried other options to make progress back into

the market. But the problem still stands: with so many books, it's a big risk for a publisher to print physical copies without the assurance that they will sell. Estimates for stores like Chapters put the amount of books being sent back to the publishers above 15 per cent. That's a lot of waste.

Hope is on the horizon. The Espresso Book Machine may be a solution for those desiring physical books. The machine prints, binds and trims books on demand, within 10 minutes for a 300-page book. Some bookstores in major cities have already acquired them, and are happy with the results.

Consider a situation: I am a student in university who demands physical books. The topic I am studying — say, the manner in which whales catch fish — isn't a popular area of inquiry. Yet, there's one seminal work on the topic. I desire a copy of *The History of Modern Arctic Whale Fishing*, but the publisher is out of copies and isn't willing to print more because of the risk of having a bunch of books

sitting in a warehouse. But with the EBM, the publisher can print the book on demand. Or, even better, I go into my local bookstore and they print it for me while I wait.

The University of Alberta has already acquired such a machine, and publishers of some repute (such as Oxford and Cambridge) use them to print books that have low demand. Seemingly, this device solves the publisher's worries, while providing the product that the customer wants. Without the risk of losing money on printing more books than will sell, publishers will be able to take on more authors.

I still think e-readers are going to catch on. If Apple does for books what iTunes did for music, soon people will be willing to buy electronic copies of books more often. The fact that most electronic editions of textbooks are around half the price should encourage more students to choose them over paper copies. For those who still aren't sure, devices like the EBM are the answer.

Letters: Eric Mathison sounds like a commie

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

I am a strong proponent of public schools, however I was embarrassed at Mathison's attempt to defend public schooling. The reasons he cites for public schools without allowances for alternative school systems are ignorant and make the reader wonder if he also was "indoctrinated" — but by the institution rather than caring parents? He insinu-

ates that teaching values is a form of "indoctrination" and against the Charter of Human Rights, but gives space for the state to do so. (Sound like communism, anyone?) He likens teaching evolution to sexual and drug-related behaviour, and seems to believe that children should be exposed to all three. (He does realize that his esteemed state does have laws against recreational drug use, as

well as minimum ages for sexual intercourse?)

This article is too reminiscent of horror stories about life in communist countries: it is the state's duty to teach religion, instill values, take responsibility for special medical or learning disabilities. The worst of it is, he's trying to defend a good thing, but making it sound awful! Canada has a fantastic school system, and

there are reasons to applaud and get involved in public schooling — what we don't need are articles like this one that even make public school supporters like myself think that maybe home-schooling is a better option after all!

Kirsten Kroeker

Editor's note: Only two more issues left to send us letters! Send 'em!



True or False: USRIs make a difference?

Meg Martin
VP Academic



Hey Students-at-large! Let's play a little game of course evaluation true-or-false. I'll give you some statements, and then some important (and timely) information. Sounds like fun, doesn't it? Here goes...

True: Your feedback on your instructors given through the Undergraduate Student Rating Instrument (USRI) has a concrete impact on their careers. Students filling out their USRIs at levels that make the results statistically valid could mean the difference between your favourite instructor being promoted or not.

False: Your USRI results are traceable, and

your instructors can access them, making it possible to "punish" you for negative feedback. Actually, the student id number requested on your USRI form is only used to verify that the evaluation filled out is by a student who is registered in your class. Your instructor never sees your form — they are all processed and given to instructors and department heads as a block.

True: Student ratings are the primary mechanism through which teaching is assessed at the UofC. When professors and instructors go through the promotions process, they are assessed on three categories: teaching, service and research. USRI results and faculty-level evaluations are very important in determining teaching effectiveness.

False: *Ratemyprofessor.com* is a more effective way of evaluating teaching than your USRIs. While it might feel good to vent on web

sites like *Ratemyprofessor*, your comments on these sites have no tangible impact on the improvement of teaching and learning on campus.

True: If you don't fill out course evaluations, there is a good chance that good teachers won't be rewarded and that teachers that need improvement won't have a good indication of this.

True: If you fill out your USRI evaluation incorrectly, it becomes totally invalid. Be careful when filling out your scantron sheet, and be sure to fill your information out accurately. There is a huge issue with students using fake id numbers, or not following directions that is negatively affecting the USRI process to a huge degree.

It's that time again — the time when your brain is buzzing, you're getting a bit exhausted, and you are treading water amidst

preparation for your finals while scrambling for a summer job and dreaming of sunshine and time off. It's pretty easy to check out at this point during the year, but it's important to stay invested in your education, and in providing feedback that will improve it for you as well as your fellow students. Don't give in to the inclination to skip class when your USRIs come around. It'll take you less than five minutes, and it's definitely worth it.

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The never-ending cycle of Flames failure

Ryan Pike

From the Cheap Seats



Each and every spring, fervent hockey fans face a troubling dilemma. On one hand, the weather is getting warmer and loved ones are enticing them to join them on decks, patios and other outdoor areas. On the other hand, the National Hockey League post-season is soon to begin, and the primary way a hockey fan enjoys the majesty of the Stanley Cup playoffs is by parking themselves in front of a television screen for months on end.

Unless they are a Calgary Flames fan.

Spring is a different season for Flames fans than it is for other hockey fans. While spring presents hope and renewal for 16 teams, the season represents impending disappointment and frustration for Flames fans — even if the team makes the playoffs. For the past 20 seasons, the Flames have suffered disappointment in their quest to win the Stanley Cup. For most of those seasons, the team has been reasonably competitive. As a result, the crippling disappointment of not being champions has been delayed.

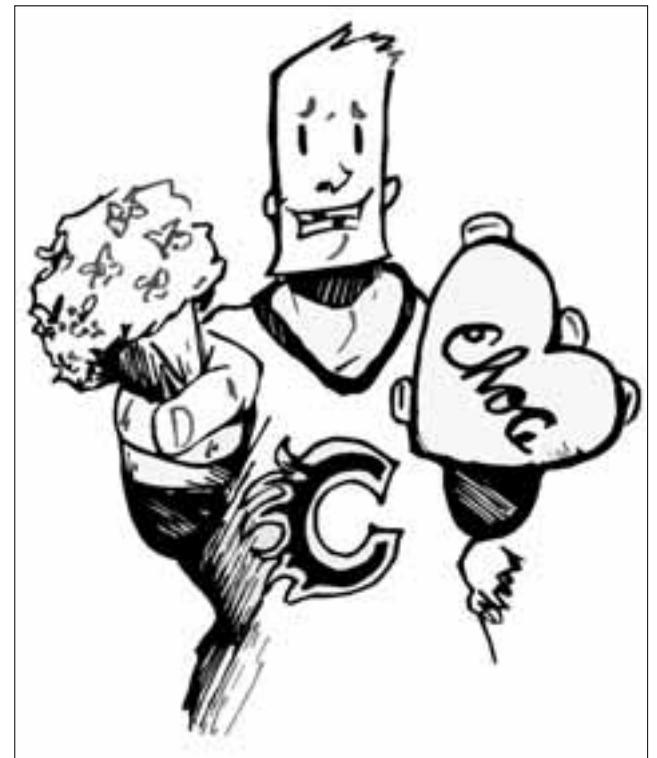
Rather than admitting defeat in March, the Flames postpone the agony until April and bow out in the first round of the playoffs instead. Seen in this light, the 2004 Stanley Cup Finals run was merely the Flames extending their fans' torment a bit longer.

Every year, the Calgary Flames attempt to warm fans up with promises that this season will be different than all the others. They've learned hard lessons from the past year and they're ready to make changes that will bring Calgary a Stanley Cup championship. Here's a new coach, some free agent signings and a couple big trades to dazzle fandom into giving the Flames another chance. For a few months, things look promising again as the team puts together a few wins and shows it can give fans what they want. Key team members like Jarome Iginla and Miikka Kiprusoff will go to the Olympics and come back with medals. But eventually things go south and fans are left disappointed with the team for letting them down and themselves for allowing themselves to cheer for the team for another season.

But just like the past 20 soul-crushing disappointments they've put their fans through, this one will be followed by empty promises and more false hope. The Flames can replace management, fire coaches or

trade away the core of the team, but all those moves will be bland superficialities compared to the true heart of the matter. The Flames and their fans are stuck in a never-ending cycle, fueled by both sides' symbiotic need of the other. The team needs the fans to fill the arena, to buy merchandise and make the players feel important. The fans need the Flames to live vicariously through, to fill the sporting void in the city and provide something to do during the frightfully cold and dull November-to-February period. An early playoff elimination won't end the cycle, it'll merely give both sides a short break from it.

The Flames being eliminated from the playoffs this early, the earliest in the Sutter Era, gives fans a respite. Fans can re-connect with loved ones they haven't spoken to in months, try to comprehend *Lost* and maybe go outside. The disappointment will soon fade and they'll get back on their feet feeling good about the future. Soon September



will arrive and the Flames will come a-calling' once more, telling fans it'll be different next year. And like fools, we'll believe them, and the cycle will begin anew.

And we'll have nobody to blame but ourselves.

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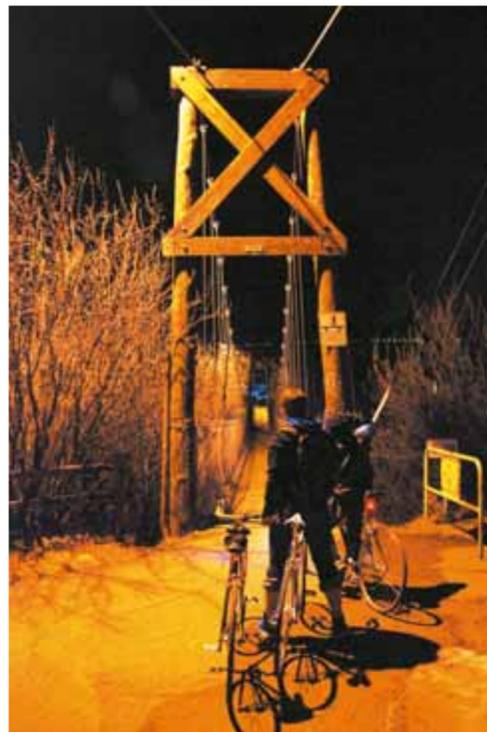
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Photos by Sydney Stokoe and Chris Pedersen



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courtesy Pete Yee/the Gateway

Record-breaking Effah fastest man in CIS history

Jon Roe
Sports Editor

Sam Effah is not only one of the most decorated athletes competing for the University of Calgary. He's also the fastest man in Canadian Interuniversity Sport history.

"That's kind of a cool label to have," says Effah. "That means a lot, knowing that somebody from Calgary has that. Short sprints are definitely centred in Ontario. They have a lot of really good guys, but for us to have a record out here shows that CanWest has great competitors and we've been doing well."

He broke the CIS record in the 60-metres in a qualifying heat at

the CIS championships two weeks ago and won the gold medal in that and the 300-metres. Effah has won three straight gold in the 60-metres event and two in three years in the 300-metres — all pretty impressive for someone who just started taking track seriously in his first year of university.

While in high school at Sir Winston Churchill in Calgary, Effah played rugby and football. Track was an afterthought; he would enter at the end of the year because you

got to miss a day of school.

"I always felt I was pretty fast," he says.

His coach secured him a spot in the junior nationals and a chance to run against the best sprinters in the

/// That's kind of a cool label to have. That means a lot, knowing that somebody from Calgary has that.

— Sam Effah, Dinos track athlete

country. It was only his fifth or sixth race, but he posted a time of 10.7 seconds in the 100-metres, placing him fifth.

"That was a big shock to a lot of

people," he says. ". . . Once I ran that I felt like this definitely could be something I could be good at. It was something I didn't really take serious and I was actually throwing down somewhat legitimate times."

So he began training, and narrowly missed out on an opportunity to go to Beijing for the 2008 Summer Olympics. He was unable to get funded because he finished just out of the top three in the 200-metres at the national meet and didn't qualify for the finals in the 100.

"It hurt definitely, but at the time I was 19," Effah explains. "Being in the sport for two years at the time, being 19, it wasn't a huge blow to my self-esteem."

He would finish fourth in the 200-metres at the next nationals and earned a chance to run against Usain Bolt in the world championships in Berlin.

Now the fourth-year marketing student has his sight set on 2012 and the next Olympics in London.

"People have dreams to go to the NFL, the CFL, pro soccer," says Effah. "This is my dream. For me to do that and have family, friends, the University of Calgary behind me, would be just huge. Because people would look up to me."

Men's volleyball goes from worst to first

Curtis Taylor
Gauntlet Sports

Four years ago, the Dinos were the bottom feeders of the CanWest Conference. Today, they are the Canadian Interuniversity Sport national champions. So what happened? How did this

team make such a drastic turnaround in such a short period of time? It all starts with the head coaching position. Rod Durrant took over from Greg Ryan in 2006, the latter of whom had coached the Dinos for the past 21 years. With the team's last national title coming in 1993, it was

time for a change. Durrant was ecstatic to get the opportunity to coach the Dinos.

"I was very excited," he said. "There was a lot of emotion there. It was a great honour, and I was looking forward to the challenge to get [the program] back
see MEN'S VOLLEYBALL RECAP, page 17

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Men's volleyball recap, continued from page 16



courtesy Pete Yee/the Gateway

Dinos captain David Egan.

to where it was in '93 and '89."

In Durrant, the Dinos gained instant credibility. His resume speaks for itself. From 1995–1999, Durrant served as head coach of the Mount Royal College men's volleyball program, capturing three consecutive Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference titles from 1997–1999. He was named ACAC coach of the year in 1998, and Canadian Colleges Athletic Association coach of the year in 1999. He also coached the Canadian Men's Standing Disabled team to three consecutive World Championship titles in 2002, 2004 and 2006. In 2002, Durrant was inducted into the Canadian Volleyball Hall of Fame.

Durrant was thrown into the fire his first year in charge, as he

didn't have the time to pursue top recruits throughout the province. The team struggled in his first season, posting a 4–14 record and missing out on the playoffs.

Current Dinos captain David Egan is the only player who was a part of the 2006 team, and he ad-

mitted to a high profile program such as University of Alberta, but said he wanted to be a part of something special at the U of C.

"I didn't want to go to a team that has won for the last five years and just join in. I wanted to start something, and be able to play in

Among those recruits were Omar Langford, Ciaran McGovern, Don MacNeill, Pierre Rocque, A.J. Halverson and Graham Vigrass (who was MVP of this year's CIS tournament).

"To see us all grow to where we are today is amazing," said Dur-

// We struggled our first year. It was a bit of a learning curve . . . to stick with it and turn it around to become successful means everything to me. It's the best feeling in the world.

— David Egan, Dinos men's volleyball captain

mits at times he wasn't sure if he made the right decision to come play for the Dinos.

Being a top-level prospect, Egan easily could have commit-

a starting role."

Luckily for Egan, a full off-season of recruitment was just what Durrant and the Dinos program needed to reverse their fortune.

rant. "That's what all the time committed and the extra hours are for. To get to that pinnacle and to finish it off by winning a national championship is the ultimate goal. For us to do it in that three year span is very remarkable and very satisfying for everyone involved."

Over the past four years, this Dinos team has been taken on an emotional roller coaster ride. They have experienced the ultimate low in finishing at the very bottom of the standings four years ago, and the ultimate high this year in winning the CIS national championship.

"We struggled our first year," said Egan. "It was a bit of a learning curve and it hadn't come together yet. To be the second worst team in the league, the moment at the end of the year was very tough. To stick with it and turn it around to become successful means everything to me. It is the best feeling in the world."

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U of C drama students spread their wings

Sixth-annual Taking Flight festival fetes drama department's developing talent

Jordyn Marcellus

Entertainment Editor

For the last six years, Taking Flight has given University of Calgary drama department students an outlet to show their burgeoning talent.

These young actors, playwrights and directors perform works they produced with little assistance from departmental instructors. Student designers create the costumes, with lighting and sound crafted by student technicians. The poor harried student stage managers try to balance school and the intensely stressful job of making everything work.

The beauty of Taking Flight is in its mission to show the U of C's budding theatre artists before they break out and work beyond campus boundaries. With the Calgary theatre community growing bigger and more artistically relevant every day, the drama department is a feeder for many future productions.

Artistic director Valerie Campbell says that the festival is the premiere way to see dramatists who will entertain audiences for years to come, and Taking Flight is one of their first opportunities to take the reins and produce work solely for themselves.

"In the rest of the season, there's MFA and faculty-directed productions," she says. "The process of soliciting is very inclusive, as long as they're in [a drama] class."

What Campbell finds is that U of C students don't attend the works that their fellow students produce. Tickets for non-

students are five dollars a show and 15 for a festival pass, it's a good deal in town. With the Claim Your Seats quality money initiative, students get in for free. Which is why it's sometimes frustrating to fill seats with an audience that isn't composed only of friends and family, but student peers as well.

"In general, for whatever reason, we kind of remain invisible to students," says Campbell. "It's hard for new students to get their bearings, so it's understandable. That's why we have to get the word out."

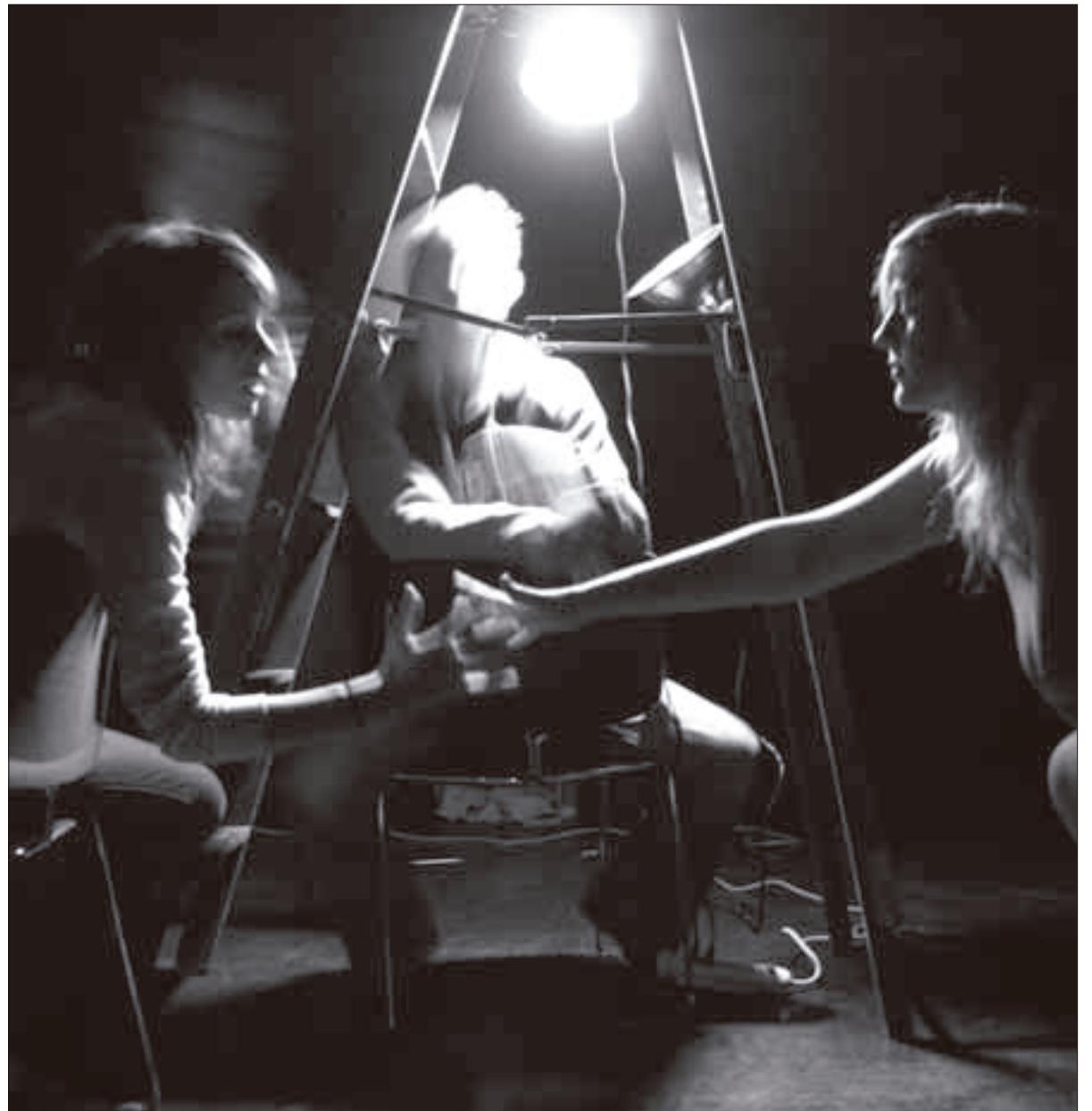
It's not just that university students are skipping out on the drama department's shows. In Campbell's experience attending shows in Calgary, the audience skews significantly older.

"I think about how many of them go to theatre," she says. "It looks like you don't see anyone outside of our [drama department] students — you only see them when they get older."

Campbell explains that with the recent proposal by the Alberta government to reduce time for secondary fine arts courses during their recent curriculum review, the idea of exposure to drama, music and art is on the minds of many in the department.

This inspired some students to perform a piece about the idea of art in relation to money. This led to the creation of *The Finer Things In Life*, running Wed., April 7 and Thur., April 8 in the Reeve Primary Theatre.

"The drama education class has taken [the current controversy] as



courtesy Eric Moschopedis

Coming Fragmented, performed by students in Drama 360, is one of the pieces created for Taking Flight.

inspiration," says Campbell.

Taking Flight celebrates the students crafting drama, and the ability of art to influence the

young minds — whether they're

in high school or post-secondary. It's an exciting chance to see the artists who will take over stage

and screen.

Taking Flight runs Apr. 6 – 17 in the Reeve Primary Theatre. Check out next week's issue for more.



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The upcoming Hollywood dreck

Ben Rowe

Gauntlet Entertainment

In the next 12 months, 114 films are scheduled for wide release. Of those, 69 will be remakes, reboots, re-imaginings, sequels, prequels and adaptations of all variety of source material. In other words, wholly unoriginal cinematic re-hashes, asking you for a good 20 bucks to watch a story you already know.

Most of them, thanks to *Avatar*, will be in 3D. It's the Gauntlet's obligation to warn students of the worst of the upcoming threat as the school year ends — before students' money is wasted.

A Nightmare on Elm Street (April 30)

Directed by music video director Sam Bayer and starring Jackie Earle Haley (Rorschach from *Watchmen*), this is the first *Nightmare* film since 2003's *Freddy vs. Jason*. This is the ninth film in the franchise, of which the only good ones have been written and directed by Wes Craven.

To think, we got this remake and a *Friday the 13th* remake instead of *Freddy vs. Jason vs. Ash*.

Robin Hood (May 14)

It's a Ridley Scott film so right off the bat it's only worth getting the Director's Cut DVD. Originally, Russell Crowe was going to play

the Sheriff of Nottingham, but the 45-year-old, over-the-hill, egocentric Crowe demanded to play the swashbuckling hero. Really, Robin Hood needed a gritty reboot? Even when Kevin Costner already did one?

Ridley Scott has better things to be doing. Like that *Brave New World* adaptation.

Shrek Forever After (May 21)

Please stop Micheal Meyers. And the entire DreamWorks Animation Studio. Please.

Marmaduke (June 4)

It's entirely possible that many of you haven't heard of Marmaduke, or if you have, it's only as an ironic statement on a 50-year-old conservative comic about a dog which hasn't been funny for about 40 years. So of course it's the perfect CGI/live action-hybrid for 20th Century Fox to market to the kids.

The A-Team (June 11)

No. Just no. If you don't have Mr. T, you don't have the A-Team. Unfortunatley 20th Century Fox thinks otherwise.

The Sorcerer's Apprentice (July 16)

Key to identifying a bad movie post-2002: is Nicholas Cage in it? Yes? It's going to be bad.

Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (July 30)

What is this? The original movie



courtesy Warner Bros

RELEASE THE KRAKEN. AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, THE TERRIBLE FILMS.

came out nine years ago and wasn't even vaguely successful. This is a bad idea.

Red Dawn (November 24)

The original film was a bad '80s action movie about the Soviet Union invading the United States. This seems like someone just scrolled through IMDB and picked a random movie to remake.

Yogi Bear (December 17)

This adaptation of the 1960s cartoon show will be in 3D CGI animation and star the voice of Justin Timberlake. Because, y'know, enough of our childhoods haven't been ruined already.

Gulliver's Travels (December 22).

An adaptation of an 18th-century satire known for its subtle

humour, brought to you by Jack Black and 20th Century Fox. So it will be completely terrible.

DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA

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TOP 20

* canadian artist ** local artist
for the week of march 22 - 2010

- 1 **PAVEMENT** *Quarantine The Past* (Matador)
- 2 **CLOGS** *The Creatures In The Garden Of Lady Walton* (Brassland)
- 3 **PINE TARTS**** *Two Moons* (Self Released)
- 4 **THE BESNARD LAKES*** *The Besnard Lakes Are The Roaring Night* (Jagjaguwar/Outside Music)
- 5 **FOUR TET** *There Is Love In You* (Domino)
- 6 **JEFF THE BROTHERHOOD** *Heavy Days* (Infinity Cat)
- 7 **VAMPIRE WEEKEND** *Contra* (XL)
- 8 **TED LEO AND THE PHARMACISTS** *The Brutalist Bricks* (Matador)
- 9 **TITUS ANDRONICUS** *The Monitor* (XL)
- 10 **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** *Happy Birthday* (Sub Pop)
- 11 **THE SPLINTERS** *Kick* (Double Negative)
- 12 **AARKTICA** *In Sea Remixes* (Silber)
- 13 **VARIOUS**** *Megatunes 21st Anniversary Compilation* (Self Released)
- 14 **NOMORESHAPES**** *Creesus Crisis* (Drip Audio)
- 15 **JASON COLLETT*** *Rat A Tat Tat* (Arts And Crafts)
- 16 **JOANNA NEWSOM** *Have One On Me* (Drag City)
- 17 **GORILLAZ** *Plastic Beach* (Virgin)
- 18 **THE SUMMERLAD**** *Blue Skinned* (Happy Apple)
- 19 **GHOSTKEEPER**** *Ghostkeeper* (Flemish Eye)
- 20 **VAPID*** *Practically Dead* (Nominal)

METAL

- 1 **HIGH ON FIRE** *Snakes For The Divine* (E1)
- 2 **ACRASSICAUDA** *Only The Dead See The End Of The Year* (Vice)
- 3 **ARKAIK** *Reflections Within Dissonance* (Unique Leader)
- 4 **IMPERIUM**** *Imperium* (Self Released)
- 5 **ORPHANED LAND** *The Never Ending Way Of ORwarriOR* (Century Media)

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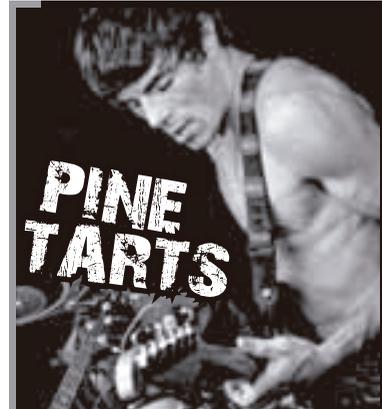
- 1 **ELUVIUM** *Similes* (Temporary Residence)
- 2 **DRAGON TURTLE** *Almanac* (La Société Expéditionnaire)
- 3 **AIDAN BAKER*** *Liminoid/Lifeforms* (Alien8)
- 4 **MARK TEMPLETON*** *Sea Point* (Anticipate)
- 5 **JESSICA PAVONE** *Songs Of Synastry And Solitude* (Tzadik)

KAT'S PICKS

- 1 **BARR-NEVAI**
- 2 **BLACK TAMBOURINE**
- 3 **EDDY CURRENT SUPPRESSION RING**
- 4 **OH MY DARLING***
- 5 **VIOLENT SOHO**

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY

PINE TARTS



The Pine Tarts know how to rock and roll! Their shows are great, their albums are golden and their shirtless antics are well established in the Calgary scene at large. I hear a lot of accolades for this group, headed by Mr. Jesse Powell, and they are right deserving of all the adulation. I'm excited for their upcoming show with Chris Gheran at his CD release show on April 9th at Blind Beggar's Pub.
www.myspace.com/pinetarts

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25

Greg MacPherson is *Mr. Invitation*

Rhiannon Kirkland
Gauntlet Entertainment

Greg MacPherson has made a name for himself as an elegant and thoughtful lyricist, drawing comparisons to the likes of Joe Strummer, Bob Dylan and David Byrne, who he grew up listening to. His lyrics are imaginative and to him are one of the most important parts of a song.

"I felt like you can't have a good song with bad lyrics so I've always tried really hard to focus on what I'm saying and how," says MacPherson.

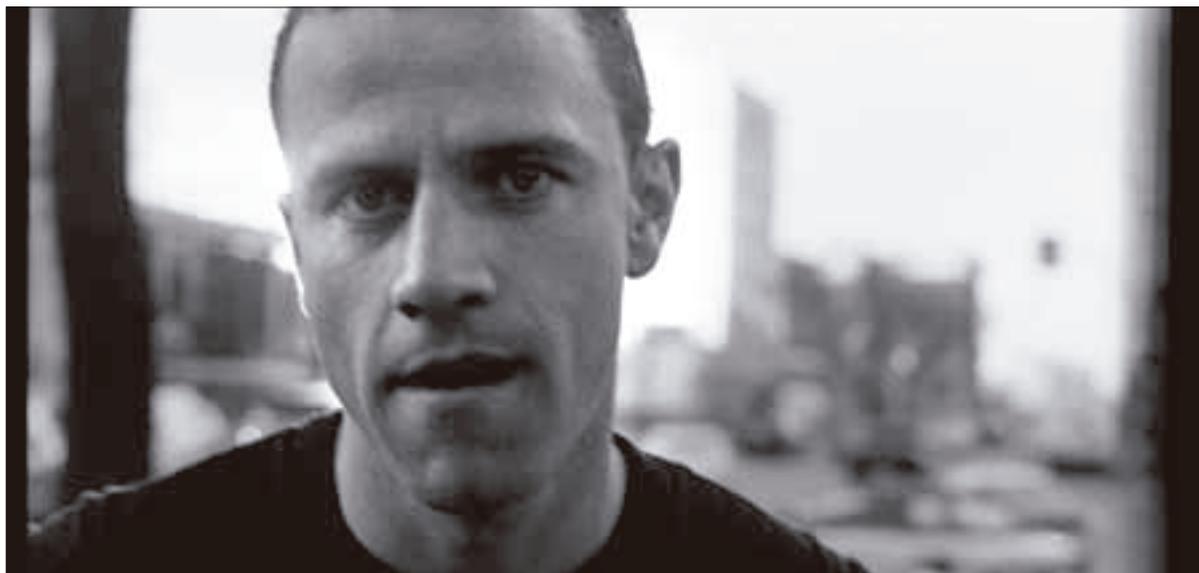
MacPherson's new album *Mr. Invitation* flows from soft and subtle tunes to busy rock songs, a blend he intentionally created.

"I get really excited about spacious post-rock, weird angular guitar noise," he says. "Rock music, I find, in general is really exciting and dangerous and has lots of possibility in it. I think that's what appeals most as a performer to me too. Live it's nice to just make a lot of noise. Make it dynamic, bring it back up and bring it back down."

MacPherson started working on *Mr. Invitation* last February, finishing at the end of the summer.

"It was really a nice process. In the past I've always sort of pushed to get things done quickly and this time I just took my time and I think the results are much better in retrospect."

MacPherson says this was his best studio experience to date. In the past, he found recording frustrating because he didn't have a great deal of knowledge of how the process worked.



courtesy Smallman Records

Mr. Invitation, Greg MacPherson's latest record, is out now.

"[This time] it was absolutely positive and fun and really I think more than anything else my intent going in was completely matched by the result, which was something that I had struggled with in the past on recording," says MacPherson. "I grew up with two older brothers and they were both pretty into singer-songwriter music, particularly Nick Cave and Leonard Cohen, Paul Simon, the Talking Heads, David Byrne, Bob Dylan was always being spun in the house and I guess that was always a foundation for me."

MacPherson loves performing and is excited to tour in support of the new album. When writing songs for the new disc, he tried to find a balance that would be exciting to play live.

"The nice thing about my band is that we're all close friends and it

gives us an opportunity to spend time together and listen to music. I mean, we'll just be travelling for hours at a time listening to records and we'll all bring our own stack of CDs," says MacPherson. "It's nice, we get to learn more about what everyone's listening to, actually get into some details about our lives that our schedules often don't leave room for."

Growing up, his father was in the army so he moved around a lot — 37 times, living in seven or eight different provinces. This has made him aware of the differences between cities, groups and cultures. He now makes his home in Winnipeg.

"I love it and hate it at the same time. It's a strange city," says MacPherson. "On the one hand it's got this tortured soul of a town, sort of living embodiment of coloniza-

tion and segregation and class war but it's not something that's talked about lots. Every city is like a big pot of stew and there's lots of ingredients that make it taste a certain way and Winnipeg just has this very strange kind of flavour that's not like anywhere else I've ever lived."

MacPherson, received a degree in labour studies and history back in the 1990s. He now has a day job at a community center in Winnipeg.

"It's been too long. I wish I could go back to school, I think I would be a much better student now after being removed for the last 15 years," says MacPherson. "I've never really been focused on going to school for a job. I think . . . you'll find work if you need it."

Mr. Invitation is out now. Check out gregmacpherson.com for more info

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*actual results may vary

THEATRE

Theatre: the second most pretentious of the performance arts after 30-minute guitar solos. There's a few new things to plug since the last time I did this, not to mention several productions still on-going that have already been plugged.

Theatre Calgary is performing Harold Pinter's **Betrayal**. It's about sleeping around and being a jerk. Seems right up my alley, and by extension, yours. Runs until April 11th with evening shows daily and matinees on the weekend. Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.ca.

On Saturday night at 11:30 pm you can head over to the Plaza in Kensington to partake in the unconventionally transvestite-ful fun of **Rocky Horror Picture Show**. I'm gonna be wearing cut-off shorts and make-up. You probably should too.

There's also the delightfully awkward sounding **My First Time** being presented by **Ground Zero Theatre** at The Studio in the Calgary Tower. People, including the audience, share stories of their first sexual experiences. Could get weird. More info and tickets available at www.GZT.ca

From April 6 – 10 you can catch **The Maids** at the Reeve Theatre here on campus. It's about revenge and betrayal and may have hot nurses. Tickets are available through the campus ticket centre or at the door. Free for students with their student ID.

CONCERTS

Lots of shit going on this week, especially if you like the punk.

On Thursday you can check out the **SAVK** (that's Stephen van Kampen from Beija Flor) CD release show

at Broken City. I guess it's just him, his guitar and some foot-stomping percussion. Opening is **Magnetic North**, which is other ex-members of Beija Flor. Sounds pretty damn fun. Starts around 9 or 10 pm.

The Marquee Room has a pretty great show on Thursday night, too. **The Jake Ian Band** is gonna play some music, then **The Devil Makes Three** is going to play their own drummer-less brand of roots country and folk. Doors open at 9 pm and cover is 10 bucks.

If you wanna hear rock n' roll on Friday night, head down to Broken City. Vancouver's **Rich Hope** play with local heroes **The Ramblin' Ambassadors**. Hoot and holler your lungs out. Probably starts around 10.

Or you can spend the night at Comrad Sound for the book launch of **Jared Larsen's Centrism**. It's really just an excuse to watch **In Vacuo** and **Hanajibu**. Starts at 6 pm. I think cover is 5 bucks.

On Saturday at Comrad Sound (14th Street and 15th Ave SW, suckas!) you can come watch the **Bart Records Showcase**. Vancouver's **Taxes**, Edmonton's **Gyre Spire & Spindle**, as well as Calgary's own **Stalwart Sons** and **Grown-Ups**. It's an all ages show,

THINGS TO DO

- Go to the Rocky Horror Picture Show.** I can't stress this enough. Steal some of your sister's clothing and hang out with a bunch of freaks and goths in a theatre.
- Draw on sidewalks with chalk.** You can write profanity, and it doesn't matter. Next time it rains, all the pain and swearing are washed away.
- Befriend an invisible minority.** It's never too late to have a friend who really likes the smell of burning hair or writing swears on the sidewalk with chalk.
- Polish your chain-wallet chain.** Depending on the material of your chain, use either brass or silver polish. Soap leaves spots.

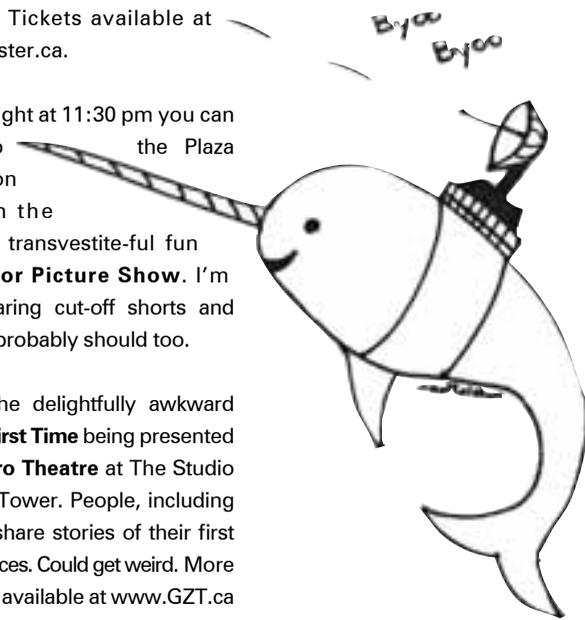
so if you don't like teens stay away. Starts at 6 pm sharp, since all ages shows can only go until 10 pm.

Directly after this, you can rock on over to Tubby Dog for a free show. **Dirty Dudes!** from Edmonton with **Man Leg** and **Taxes** starting the night off. Starts at 10 sharp, apparently, so they're calling this the official after party for the Comrade sound show. Hot dogs, live music and beer.

The other option is to go see some folk music at the Marquee room. **Old Man**

Luedecke with Heart Failure Research Unit. I haven't heard either of them, but apparently **Old Man Luedecke** is comparable to Woody Guthrie or Peter Seeger. Sounds like you'll need to have a few drinks. Starts at 9 pm and cover will probably be 10 bucks.

Next Monday, April 5th you can head over to 1505 6th Street SW to see **The Rough Sea, Ghost Factory, David Proctor** and **Sonki Sonki Sharar**. Should be a great mix of punk, folk and electronic. Yes it's a house show. Starts at 7 pm. Bring your own beer.



CJSW ON-AIR GUIDE

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	
6 am	BBC WORLD SERVICE NEWS					pitch shift (continued)	bringing it all back home (continued)	6 am
6:30	coming soon							6:30
7 am	the get up	the chit chat	the morning after	soap box derby / cold smoke	the house blend sponsored by milk tiger lounge	deconstructing dinner	canadian voices	7 am
7:30	NEW MORNING MIX							7:30
8 am						bunte welle german	counterspin	8 am
8:30							eritrean radio	8:30
9 am							hrvatski radio croatian	9 am
9:30								9:30
10 am	breaking the tethers	between the lines sponsored by the canadian music centre	instant gratification: revoked	daydream dance party	double me on cjsw	calgary vietnamese radio	radio pillipino filipino	10 am
10:30		deconstructing dinner	alternative radio	democracy now		hellenic melodies greek radio	buscando america latin & south america	10:30
11 am						democracy now!	alternative radio	11 am
11:30								11:30
12 pm	her royal opinion sponsored by local 510	who let me on the radio?	mind grapes sponsored by republik	failed pilot / pillage the village	fantastic plastic sponsored by beatroute	the double entendre preserves!	the via lactea caboose	12 pm
12:30								12:30
1 pm						bikesheviks	the 2 and 2 ain't 5 show	1 pm
1:30								1:30
2 pm	the new classics	electric company	off duty trip	my public shame	my allergy to the fans sponsored by tubby dog	fancy that	knotted roots	2 pm
2:30								2:30
3 pm								3 pm
3:30								3:30
4 pm	aubrey's shindig sponsored by the drum & monkey	tasya & adele reinvent the wheel sponsored by broken city	halfway home sponsored by local 522	alternative to what?	road pops sponsored by fivd weekly	level the vibes	mental illness	4 pm
4:30								4:30
5 pm								5 pm
5:30								5:30
6 pm	french transe en danse	desi vibes	mezza l'una italian	caribbean link-up sponsored by fivd weekly	musiquarium everything from jazz to jungle sponsored by giant 45	voice of ethiopia	breaking techniques	6 pm
6:30						radio oromia		6:30
7 pm	south louisiana gumbo	tombstone after dark	the blues witness sponsored by calgary dollars	folkcetera	the dubble bounce	oh africa!	william tell	7 pm
7:30								7:30
8 pm	yeah, what she said / so su me	writer's block	artslink	cjsw presents...	full moon funkacious	nocturntable	katharsis	8 pm
8:30								8:30
9 pm	the jazz baby	jazz focus	lift the bandstand	noise	dirty needles the best in funk, soul & hip hop			9 pm
9:30								9:30
10 pm	funk senden	radio boys in the shortwave mystery	good character requirement	fat beat diet	what will the neighbors think?	megawatt mayhem metal	downtime	10 pm
10:30								10:30
11 pm	each one teach one	urban sex	am i right?? comedy	the twisted brain wrong	remote emissions jungle & drum 'n bass			11 pm
11:30								11:30
12 am	post everything	twilight banter	blue collar bravado	bass ackwards metal	dna hardcore techno	electric ladyland	translucent dreams ambient, trance etc.	12 am
12:30								12:30
1 am					sound champion showcase	attention surplus disorder	sunday night groove school	1 am
1:30								1:30
2 am	white lodge / black lodge	late nite	graveyard riot	rage cage metal				2 am
2:30								2:30
3 to								3 to
6 am					pitch shift	bringing it all back home	straight on 'til morning	6 am

OUR PROGRAM SCHEDULE

has a number of new programs, and some of your old favourites may have switched times. Have some thoughts on the exciting changes? Give us your feedback.

- STATION MANAGER: chad saunders
- PROGRAM DIRECTOR: mark shields
- INTERIM MUSIC DIRECTOR: kat cardiff
- OFFICE COORDINATOR: katie duhamel
- LISTEN ONLINE: cjsw.com
- ph: 403.220.3902
- fax: 403.289.8212
- 24 hour request line: 403.220.3991
- email: cjswfm@ucalgary.ca
- VARGAS BLUES BAND photo: ken clarke



MUSIC MIX | BEATS | NEWS / SPOKEN WORD | JAZZ | MULTICULTURAL

COMPOSTING: AN INTRICATE TALE OF ROT

RHIANNON KIRKLAND
GAUNTLET FEATURES

It's lunchtime in MacHall and hundreds of students are eating. When they are done, they will dump their leftover food into the garbage. From there it will go to the dump. As this process repeats itself day after day, meal after meal, thousands of tonnes of organic food waste ends up in landfills, but it doesn't have to — it could be composted.

The City of Calgary doesn't offer a curbside organics collection program. It does, however, offer seasonal composting programs for leaves and pumpkins during the fall and for Christmas trees during the winter. This year, Christmas tree collection was offered both by depot and curbside pickup. Christmas trees are brought to composting facilities at city landfills, said Paula Magdich, program development leader with City of Calgary Waste and Recycling Services.

"With the Christmas trees, we did see about an 11 per cent increase over last year, so it's hard to say, but you can make that assumption that it does make it easier for folks," said Magdich.

The City of Calgary also subsidizes backyard composters which can be purchased through the Green Calgary Association for about \$25. The association offers workshops on how to use a backyard composter for those who want to start but don't know how, said Magdich.

Backyard composters work throughout the year, even during the winter, said Pat Smith-Allen from Worms at Work, a Calgary-based vermicomposting company.

"If you don't really know what you're doing, then you may not get the results you want to see," said Magdich. "You just have to make sure that you balance the material that you put in, that you turn it regularly and, especially in Calgary where it's so dry, you have to make sure there's enough moisture, so you have to add water to it and get it going."

Interest in composting in Calgary has grown recently. Green Calgary sold 1,000 backyard composters in 2006 and jumped to 2,200 in 2008, said Sarah Begg, Green Calgary Commercial Environmental Services manager.



"If you look after the worms, you never have to buy them again."

- Pat Smith-Allen

Rhiannon Kirkland/the Gauntlet

"Interest has definitely increased since the City of Calgary Blue Cart program started. People are more aware of their waste and organic waste is more obvious than ever, so composting is a great solution," said Magdich.

Vermicomposting, or composting with worms, is one option available in Calgary. According to Smith-Allen, all you need to get started with vermicomposting is plastic storage bins and worms.

"If you look after the worms, you never have to buy them again," said Smith-Allen. "The advantage of worm composting is that you can do it all year round. You can do it in an apartment or a condo, you don't have to have a house to do this."

Most people start with either a \$35 half-pound of worms or a full-pound of worms, depending on how many fruit and vegetables they want to compost. It takes about four to five months for the composting process to be completed, said Smith-Allen.

"In 2004-2005, there was a one year pilot project where we [the City of Calgary] did curbside collection of recyclables and organics from about a thousand or so homes and it was very successful, but at that time after the pilot

went to Council, the direction that we received was for now to focus on the recycling component," said Magdich.

The City of Edmonton began its composting program in 2000 with a large indoor composting facility for both municipal solid waste and sewage bio-solids. Organics and garbage are collected together from residents' houses and then sorted. Garbage goes to the dump and organics are composted, said Garry Spotowski, who coordinates education programs for City of Edmonton Waste Management.

The Edmonton program currently only serves households. They hope to expand the program to serve businesses soon with the construction of a new composting facility, said Spotowski. Residents pay a monthly fee for all their waste management services.

Toronto employs a similar program where organics and garbage are collected separately, said Pat Barrett, a City of Toronto spokesperson. Toronto started the program to divert waste from landfills.

Most cities use slightly different collection and processing methods, which affects the program cost.

"People want to do the right thing but ulti-

mately it should be easy and it should be convenient," said Barrett.

Curbside programs tend to be more expensive than depot, backyard or vermicomposting.

"Disadvantages would be the added transportation and associated greenhouse gases produced to drive around and pick up the compost. Also, individuals would not be able to benefit from the finished compost product for their gardens," said Magdich.

It can also be difficult to locate composting facilities due to odour concerns. The Edmonton facility was designed to have special odour control measures like biofilters and negative air pressure to ensure nearby residential areas wouldn't be affected, said Spotowski.

"They are contained within buildings. To look at the structure, I'm sure you wouldn't think that it is any different than any other small business or manufacturing building. The smell is inside the building and the digester tank is fully enclosed," said Barrett.

One of the advantages of backyard and vermicomposting is that residents get to keep their compost and use it. There is less individual effort involved in curbside programs, but residents have less access to the final product.

"[Composters] feel good about it and it's kind of ingrained in their routine. They can produce compost when they want it right on their own property, therefore it can be available whenever they want to use it," said Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning coordinator with the City of Halifax.

Cities like Edmonton and Toronto that have curbside organics programs sell compost or give it back to residents.

In landfills, all the nutrients in organic waste are lost and can't be used for soil reclamation or gardening.

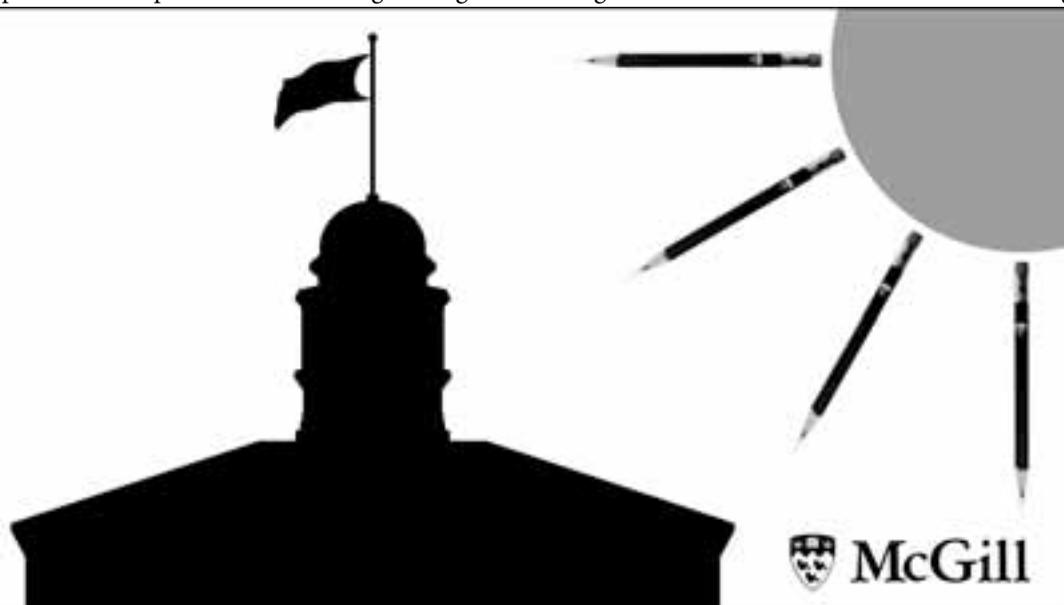
"There's more of a demand for it than we can even fulfill. It's used for turf management by landscapers, for erosion control in agriculture and some is marketed to residential gardeners," said Spotowski. "It took a while to build those markets up, but once they've been established, they're very strong."

Organics make up about 30 per cent of household waste, so composting allows for a great deal of diversion from landfills. Having

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Sydney Stokoe/the Gauntlet

less material going into landfills means they last longer.

"Ironically, it's biodegradable materials that can cause some of the problems in a landfill," said Spotowski. "When organic waste like grass clipping *et cetera* are poured into a landfill by the tonne and then covered up with dirt as they are, they decompose in the absence of oxygen and that creates something called landfill gas, which is half methane and half carbon dioxide, both im-

portant greenhouse gases."

The University of Calgary has two sets of organic collections programs. The first is for kitchens and the second is for post-consumer food. The kitchen program has organics placed into separate bins that are taken to East Calgary Composting. Staff and students can place leftover food into organic waste bins located near food services in MacEwan Student Centre, ICT, Education and elsewhere, said Doug Wilson from

U of C Facilities Management.

"Right now, in MacEwan Student Centre we've got a compost bin set up so if you didn't eat all of your lunch, you can go to that compost bin and scrape your plate or whatever it is in the garbage," said Wilson.

The post-consumer food is then composted on campus in a sealed vessel composter. The program started near the end of 2009 and will hopefully be expanded outside in the next 18 months, said Wilson.

Spotowski thinks we are in a second wave of waste diversion and environmental consciousness. The first wave took place during the late 1980s and early 1990s due to concerns about acid rain and other environmental issues.

"That's when recycling programs really began to be introduced throughout North America," said Spotowski. "People saw the amount of say, newspapers and tin cans they were throwing out that could easily be recycled and that was sort of the start."

According to Spotowski, the second stage of waste diversion that

most cities develop is an organics collection program. Recycling only diverts about 20 per cent of residential waste while organics usually comprise a majority.

"Recycling is a kind of doorway, you might say, towards other waste diversion programs," said Spotowski. "It's something that people can relate to very easily and very quickly and once they begin that, they begin to look at other ways they can really deal with their waste."

Spotowski says that programs exist in hundreds of cities throughout North America and the world and have changed the way people perceive waste.

In school, students are taught about the three Rs — reduce, reuse and recycle — but recycling gets the most attention.

Recycling is often promoted first because people can see the results.

"If you reduce, it's not generated at all, and then you don't have to

find something to do with it," said Begg. "We definitely promote reduce and reuse as much as possible, from hav[ing] little to no packaging on the products we sell in our EcoStore to discussing smart shopping habits — buy in bulk, buy quality products that won't break, ask yourself if you really need this item or if you have something at home already that will work just as well."

Recently there has been a trend towards reusable groceries bags, coffee mugs and other products focused on reducing and reusing. Recycling is still a good idea and for some in Calgary, composting is the next step.

"We're trying to raise the consciousness, that you think a little bit more about what you generate as a household. You know what your footprint is on this earth beyond, 'I'm going to put something at the end of my driveway and I don't care what happens to it, just get it out of my sight,'" said Barrett.

CASH REWARD



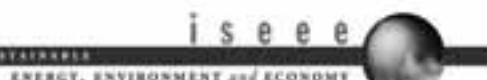
for undergrads

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How has the recession affected you?

Participate in an SU focus group in April!

The Students' Union (SU) has partnered with The Alberta Global Forum, The Calgary Foundation, The Sheldon Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership, and several other important community leaders to conduct a study on the effect of the recession on students. Last year this partner group put out a well-received study entitled "Dashed Dreams, New Realities: Calgarians Talk Frankly About the Impact of the Economic Downturn".

The SU is looking for student volunteers to take part in focus groups as part of this study. We are especially interested in the unique experiences of female and immigrant students. The total time commitment is one hour and in return you will receive a \$30 honouraria.

All group sessions take place in MacEwan Conference and Events meeting rooms (Mac Hall). The times and dates of the focus groups are:

- April 6th, noon - 2pm
- April 7th, noon - 2pm
- April 12th, 7 - 9pm
- April 13th, noon - 2pm

If you are interested in participating please RSVP the Students' Union at rsvp+focus@su.ucalgary.ca. Be sure to include "focus group" in the subject line and indicate for which date and time you confirming.

Spaces are limited, RSVP today!



The Gauntlet's guide to April Fool's gags you should avoid

AP Poop Alliance

With files from the bathroom wall

Every day is April Fool's day here in the Academic Probation section. Everyday except for April 1st. Counter intuitive to our innate immaturity, juvenile crassness and knack for not getting it quite right, the AP section treats April Fool's Day with more respect than our patron saint Rodney Dangerfield.

It is our pleasure — Nay, obligation — to, on this holy day of pranking, share with readers our timeless knowledge of gags gone wrong.

The following cases are meant to serve as a warning to anyone who thinks they have the prank to end all pranks. It is this amateur naïvety that will turn your joke from legendary to well, not very legendary at all.

Saran Wrap Shitter

The prank: Cover toilet with shrink wrap

Why you think it should work: This classic April Fool's Day prank theoretically leaves all your roommates (aka your parents) poop-

stained when they try and drop a funny on the offending morning.

Why it won't: You will probably forget what you did in your daily morning whisky haze and that will leave the wrong legs brown.

Psychedelic Souperstar

The prank: Spike parent's soup with LSD

Why you think it should work: Think of the dirt you will have on your parents after you punch up that shitty sludge they try and force on you every dinner time and they let slip tales of their glory days.

Why it won't: Like they've never tripped before . . . You'll be stuck trying to explain where you got the goods. Stupid.

Dead and Alone

The prank: Fake your own death

Why you think it will work: Simple, elegant, brilliant really. This is the stuff of epic fiction

Why it won't: Nobody cares about you and your ridiculous "life." The only person who'll be remotely shocked or sad over this turn of events will be you. Dogs will pee on your grave and laugh to themselves about it.

Steampunk Makeover

The prank: Redecorate girlfriend's room with Steampunk theme

Why you think it will work: More effort translates into more reward, right? And steampunk is nothing if not a meticulous aesthetic, and one that should leave the target profoundly confused and amazed.

Get ready for a wacky steam-powered hummer.

Why it won't: Steampunk? Really? Get ready to end up not only humiliated, but also girlfriendless.

The Long and Jort of it

The prank: Cut everyone's jeans into jean shorts (jorts)

Why you think it will work: I've been meaning to tell you, you have an unhealthy obsession with terrible clothing, man.

Why it won't: Seriously, jorts are awful. And how about that scarf you love so much? I mean, what are you thinking?

In the Army Now

The prank: Ironically enlist in the army

Why you think it will work: Ain't nobody gonna see that one coming, you rail-thin dandy.

Why it won't: Technically pretty shocking for the first five minutes, but more shell-shocking for the next five years, if you make it that long.

The Muddy Milkshake

The prank: Poop in your friend's milkshake

Why you think it will work: Poop! In a milkshake! POOP!

Why it won't: He'll probably like it too much. Just look at him. Look at the lust in his eyes.

GaGa Curlies

The prank: Shave picture of Lady GaGa in to your pubes

Why you think it will work: Nothing confuses the issue of sex quite like the visage of a post-sexual icon sneering out over your coital zone.

Why it won't: Face it, your girlfriend probably has a crush on Lady GaGa, because everyone does.

You don't want your pubes to be the star of the genital show.



BS BSD

The prank: Tell students that the Students' Union applied too late for a liquor license and BSD is dry

Why you think it will work: Because you are a narcissistic student journalist whose fitful delusions have you convinced that your finger is on the pulse and people are gonna freak about this shit.

Why it won't: Nobody reads anymore. What is this, 1735?

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Happy April! The sun is shining, the birds are singing and I am sitting inside looking out the window working on my computer monitor tan. Oh, the sun, the sun, how I have missed you. I can't wait for those summer days when I can frolic through the parks of Calgary without a care in the world. Lalalala. . . sigh. I suppose in the mean time I can hang out and people watch by the prairie chicken (y'know, when I'm not busy studying.) Two more weeks until BSD! Anyway, I know you all have things to say, so how about you send me a note. It's better for everyone. . . I don't have to fill space by publishing doodles, and you don't have to look at my doodles. So. . . what's going on? I can almost guarantee that anything you have to say is more entertaining than what I'm putting in here. You brought this on yourselves. Send in a TLF and vent/complain/profess your love for a stranger, whatever you want. Bring your TLF to MSC 319 or e-mail them to tlfs@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.

To my M&M,
I am so glad that I got to know you for the last few months. You REALLY take my breath away. Please let me take you out on a dinner again. Good luck on your exams, and do not stress too much.
– KHC

Thank you everyone for coming to my Australian Shivoo and don't forget to check out Tourism Australia and Working Holiday Visa.
– Kerstyn Yates

Poetry, part 3

by Richard Lam

Sometimes
they rhyme.
but not
All of the time.

To Lindsay squared,
STFU. . . and come have drinks with us and play some twister. No jokes, we are being cereal.

– The Golden Boys
[What kind of cereal? Cocoa puffs or some sort of granola thing?]
– Digest-Ed]

A robin's song
Pierces winter's slumber
Hooray for spring!

– Goyo

Dear Concerned Citizen:
Your practicality is both intriguing and frightening. I thought the idea of sending in a silly ad like mine was so that I could feel better about myself without actually doing anything substantial. Besides, God forbid I actually get put in an uncomfortable situation. Damn, I wish I had some guts. Maybe I'll actually talk to her this week eh?

– Stats 217 guy
[This week, next week, you're running out of weeks dude.]
– Tim-Ed]

Too tired to write
this weeks TLF for you.
Just write it yourself.

– Pseudo Andy

8,156 km between Copenhagen and Edmonton. I'll miss you!!

– JTE

What's up with all the bathroom graffiti? It's like the janitorial staff can't be bothered to remove some of the racist scrawls in the stalls, but as soon as I write one poem in human feces they treat it like their number one priority. Double standard!

Ann Coulter is a refreshing take on modern politics and is a force to be reckoned with. Ann Coulter 2012!

– notTristan

Fear o' the week: Hellenologophobia-
Fear of Greek terms or complex scientific terminology. (No wonder I failed Bio 231. . .)

[The irony is so ripe I can smell it from here.]
–Frighten-Ed]

To the guy who asks ridiculous questions in ZOOL 377, I think you are socially broken. You should fix that.

[You should also get to class on time. Thanks.]
– Annoy-Ed]

Courtney Love is back bitches! EAT IT!

three lines free

I like redheads. Their mouths are like a drop of strawberry jam in a glass of milk.
– Roger Sterling, Red in The Face

The Calgary Daytime Hockey League is now open for early registration (2010/2011 season)! Teams or individuals may sign up. Games will be played during weekdays between 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Father David Bauer Arena. Every game will have a referee with scores and standings updated daily. For more information visit: <http://cdhl.teamopolis.com/> or e-mail: daytimehockey@gmail.com

This is absurd but if you are Lee Bogle or knew this person and lost a sealed envelope in 2001, please email me at friendofsteve@gmail.com. It was in a Harry Callahan photography book.

[This is so cool... it makes me want to leave things in library books and see what happens.]
– Plant-Ed]

Buy Jordan's fucking bread . . . or cookies. Email for details (or yell my name loudly) jordanfritz@gmail.com
[Seriously. . . It's really good bread. You should probably buy some.]
–Purchas-Ed]



NINJASAUROUS LIKES SUMMER! HE LIKES SUMMER MORE THAN COOKIES. WELL, MAYBE NOT. NINJASAUROUS LOVES COOKIES.



JOSÉ SARAMAGO

Editors bookshelf:

Blindness – Jose Saramago
What if the next pandemic is blindness? Saramago's tale follows the lives of the blind who are confined to an abandoned mental hospital, cut off from the outside world. Exploring the depths of humanity as the blind start their new lives behind the walls of their new world. (Or if you're lame, there is a movie version as well).

LIVE @ the HIVE (MSC279). Come out and audition for your chance to be the UC Idol 2010 winner! Final live auditions are Monday, April 5 (12 – 4 p.m.) and Wednesday, April 7 (1:30 – 4:00 p.m.) Application deadline is Friday, May 2. Visit ucidol.tk for more information.

Always do sober what you said you'd do drunk. That will teach you to keep your mouth shut.

– Hemmingway

"I'm in the power zone brah. . ."

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

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You must have completed one session of studies at U of C. Preference will be given to those with experience in student, civic, provincial, or federal election.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to the attention of

Susan Judd, Coordinator Executive Cabinet, Committees & Elections

Email: sejudd@ucalgary.ca or in person at the SU Main Office,
251 MacEwan Student Centre.

Deadline: 4:30 pm, Friday, April 16.



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with DJ Heebz

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