

gauntlet

VOLUME 51 | ISSUE NO. 29 | FEBRUARY 10 | 2011

too nervous to
talk to you
— anonymous

when you smile,
get weak
in the knees
— anonymous

flirting anonymously on the internet
news page four





STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

FEBRUARY 14 - 18 EVENTS:

MONDAY

- Cinemania: *Due Date* at 6:30 and 9:00pm, That Empty Space
- SU General Election Nomination Days, Feb. 14 - 16

TUESDAY

- Clubs Night at the Den: 15% off with your Club Card, 5pm - close
- SU General Election Nomination Days, Feb. 14 - 16

WEDNESDAY

- Yoga in The Space, That Empty Space
- 25¢ Wing Night at the Den, 8pm - close
- *Cradle of Filth* with guests at MacEwan Hall
- SU General Election Nomination Days, Feb. 14 - 16

THURSDAY

- Student Appreciation Night at the Den

STUDENTS' UNION GENERAL ELECTION: MARCH 8 - 10, 2011

Are You Next?

Picture yourself as a Students' Union Elected Official: influencing university policy, connecting with your faculty and student organizations while gaining professional experience.

Nomination packages are available as of January 31 at the Students' Union office or online. Campaign funding is available. Visit www.su.ucalgary.ca for details.

NOMINATION DAYS: FEBRUARY 14 - 16, 2011

NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAYS

THE STUDENTS' UNION, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Days are Monday, February 14 to Wednesday, February 16, 2011 (and Thursday, February 17 if necessary) and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the Students' Union, MSC 251 between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm on Nomination Days.

Offices Available	Number of Vacancies:
President	1
Vice President Academic	1
Vice President External	1
Vice President Operations and Finance	1
Vice President Student Life	1
Faculty Representatives, Arts	4
Faculty Representative, Education	1
Faculty Representatives, Haskayne School of Business	2
Faculty Representative, Kinesiology	1
Faculty Representative, Law	1
Faculty Representative, Medicine	1
Faculty Representative, Nursing	1
Faculty Representatives, Schulich School of Engineering	2
Faculty Representatives, Science	3
Faculty Representative, Social Work	1
Faculty Representative, Veterinary Medicine	1
Board of Governors Student at Large Representative	1
Senate Student at Large Representative	2

Chief Returning Officer: Sabrina Grover
Students' Union, MSC 251 (cro@su.ucalgary.ca)

Dated at the University of Calgary in the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, this 31st day of January, 2011.



As of January 31, 2011, nomination packages will be available online at www.su.ucalgary.ca or at the SU main office. Visit www.su.ucalgary.ca for more information.

Do You Live in a Basement Suite?

If You Have Safety Concerns We Want to Hear Your Story

Help the Students' Union Campaign for Safe & Affordable Secondary Suites

Contact Hardave Birk, VP External
(403) 220-3910
suvpext@ucalgary.ca

GET YOUR TAXES DONE FOR FREE.

The Students' Union Volunteer Services (SUVS) Tax Program is available to all campus students, faculty, and staff and is running this year from February 14th - April 6th. *closed during Reading Week*

WHY GO WITH THE TAX PROGRAM?

- Drop off (February 14 - April 6)
- All our volunteers are CRA trained
- It's completely FREE
- We'll e-file or give you a mailable return

DO YOU QUALIFY?

Restrictions do apply and unfortunately, we are UNABLE to accept returns for the following:

- Individual income over \$30,000
- Rental income
- Complex investments & capital gains (will accept interest & dividend income)
- Personal business income
- Foreign income
- Any other returns deemed unsuitable by our supervisors

Come check us out in the new Clubs space, visit us online at www.su.ucalgary.ca, phone 210.8504 or email vstax@ucalgary.ca
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am - 6:30pm / Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Make an appointment and don't worry about your taxes this year!

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Golden Spatula

Morgan Shandro came in on her birthday to do illustrations. That's awesome.

Furor Arma Ministrat

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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 bullion-based ink. We urge you to recycle/run with the bulls 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 Geoff MacIntosh



Nenshi tunnels his way to a campaign promise

If there's one thing that will politically motivate the public as much as exorbitant charges to watch cat videos online, it's the possibility that their morning commute might take a little longer. Only five short months ago, many students flooded their Facebook and Twitter accounts with purple mania in support of mayoral candidate Naheed Nenshi. While many were surprised that he was able to grasp the attention of young voters — students have never been known to typically care much for municipal politics — the most difficult challenges were still to come. The culmination point of one of the most controversial issues, the north east airport underpass, has finally come to a head.

On Monday night (or more accurately early Tuesday morning) city council voted 8-7 in favour of building the \$295 million tunnel. The price tag is undeniably enormous and will constitute the vast majority of infrastructure spending for the foreseeable future, but the project is necessary. The situation ultimately boils down to whether Calgarians must spend a lot now, or even more in the future. Any delay would only result in severely impeding growth in the north east while calling for more expensive rerouting through McKnight Boulevard, Country Hills and Metis Trail. Barlow Trail will soon close and the 30,000 vehicles that pass through it daily need another option.

Calgary is a major city in western



Canada with an impressive airport that serves as a hub for many international flights. Without a doubt, the Calgary International Airport is the largest airport in the prairies. And yet today, there is only one public transit route that reaches it. After a ride on the McKnight line to Whitehorn station, the lucky, luggage-laden travelers can wait 20 minutes for the 57 bus which will then take them on a scenic tour through industrial parks before heading towards the airport. Compared to the transportation options at other major Canadian

airports, this is an embarrassment.

Several aldermen have come forward with concerns about funding construction on land owned by the Calgary Airport Authority, who recently cited their own "complicated and critical" issues with the plan. Yet the airport tunnel will be in the best interest of both the public and private groups. While the tunnel does not directly alleviate public transport issues, it will allow for future light rail transit access. The \$295 million expense will prevent immediate extensive transit development, but the city is

looking at more cost effective alternatives where possible — such as buying and refurbishing Edmonton's LRT vehicles instead of buying 50 new ones and potentially charging \$3 for access to the airport tunnel.

Somewhat surprisingly, there has yet to be major backlash to this proposed fee. After the short-lived \$3 park-and-ride fee that was rightfully overturned by public condemnation, one might think that a similar toll fee would face more criticism. The silence goes to prove that Calgarians realize the necessity of this project and are willing to make minor sacrifices for the sake of long-term gain. Mind you, the \$3 fee is expected to bring in \$5.5 million each year, which means it would take over 50 years to break even.

Calgary is prone to the issues that come with growing out instead of up. But before we can challenge this mindset and change the way the city expands, we have to have a functional foundation. Once we are able to make our way around the Calgary that is, then we can attempt to stave off further excessive outward development and focus improving other types of infrastructure. The airport tunnel is expensive, but ignoring the issue will not make it disappear. City council has made the right decision and it is now up to them and the airport to work together amicably.

.. Gauntlet Editorial Board

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LikeALittle is liked a lot

Erin Shumlich

Gauntlet News

The popularity of new social media site LikeALittle has skyrocketed in the last few months at the University of Calgary after popping onto the scene last October. The site, which encourages users to “flirt anonymously with students on your campus,” has gained critics who question what is becoming of the social media world.

The site embodies the offspring of Twitter’s short messages and Craigslist’s anonymous “Missed Connections.” It is also campus-specific and allows anyone to instantly and anonymously reach out to that cute girl or guy in anthropology they haven’t had the nerve to talk to all year.

“I had a friend who hooked up with someone they met on the site,” said fourth-year U of C international development studies student Katelyn Yaremko. “They met in his dorm room — the rest is history, I guess.”

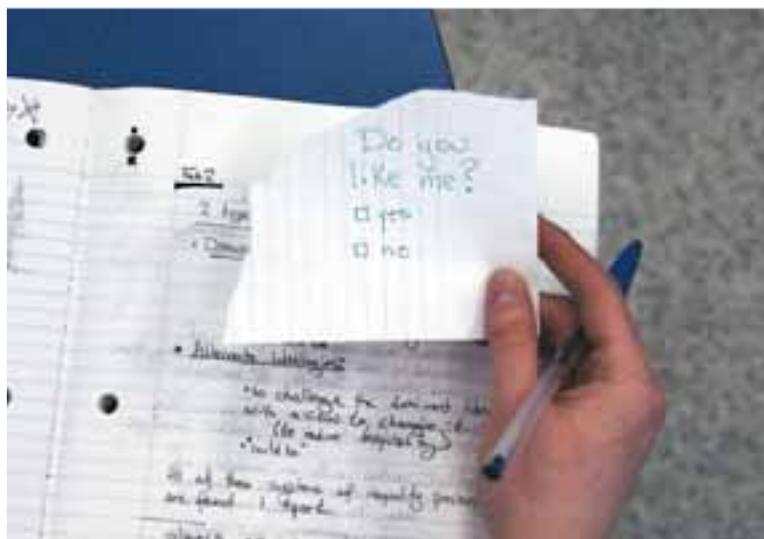
LikeALittle’s first Canadian intern and part-time *Gauntlet* contributor Andrea Rojas said promiscuity is an unfortunate by-product of a site aimed to be light-hearted and fun. She hopes more people will get involved to monitor comments in order to prevent derogatory remarks.

“I really like the site and I wanted to be a part of something like that,” she said. “It’s so much more than just flirting, it’s about making a community — finding new friends, borrowing items, learning about new profs.”

Although some students use the site to find casual sex partners, this wasn’t the founder’s original intent. Evan Reas, who created LikeALittle in one day with friends, said he wanted to come up with an interesting way to connect with others.

The site boasts help for anyone with a “lack of game with women” and was made to allow people to “compliment and chat about potential crushes you see around you.”

“My two friends noticed that it



Sydney Stokoe/the Gauntlet

Thanks to the internet, harassing others has never been easier.

was difficult to communicate with people around them, whether it be a cute person in a café, a neighbour in the same apartment complex or a student around campus,” said Reas. “It is difficult and awkward to make that first move and we knew that first-hand from seeing girls and neighbours around us and just being too shy to say, ‘Hello.’”

Rojas said she thinks the site’s focus on specific campuses is its strong point.

“U of C in particular is a commuter-based university, so we don’t have the community that rez students do,” Rojas said. “People need to understand the intent of the site is to facilitate relationships that wouldn’t be manifested in person.”

U of C psychology associate professor Susan Boon said anonymity would likely be the biggest appeal of sites like this.

“The target of the flirt would have an esteem boost, but I don’t think there would be any value,” Boon explained.

Reas, however, thinks the site allows people to be more open to connecting with others.

“In college you see a lot of the same people,” he said. “They are often wanting to date or get to know their classmates, but it is a tough

situation because it can be very awkward. You know everybody and see them often to people often don’t make any moves. Being anonymous helps them do that easily with no big downside. Rejection is anonymous and there’s no reason not to post how you feel about somebody because there is a chance they will see it and talk to you.”

Boon said there has not been much research that looks into the subject.

“I only have my personal opinions,” she said. “I don’t think we know enough about how social media affects relationships.”

Psychology PhD student Eddie Sheppard said social media create an entire world of open communication.

“A lot of people think Facebook or LikeALittle is a weaker form of communication,” he said. “But people are more willing to express themselves with less of a fear of rejection. They don’t feel as if they are judged, or see the other person’s reaction and are therefore more open.”

Research published last September in the *Communications Research* academic journal looked at relationship closeness in the Facebook community. A team of American researchers found that the number of media used to communicate

should be considered when looking at personal closeness. People who are less socially apt are more likely to use social media because there is less of a risk factor than communicating in person.

A 2002 study entitled *Relationship Formation on the Internet: What’s the Big Attraction?* claimed high Internet use correlates directly with a lack of social competence.

“Logically, those individuals . . . who have the social skills needed to communicate themselves well and effectively have little need to express their true selves or ‘Real Me’ over the Internet,” said the study.

Sheppard noted that when you talk to someone in person, there are a lot of societal norms that must be followed that don’t exist through other social media.

“When you interact with people in person there are rules, but this isn’t the case for things like LikeALittle,” Sheppard said. “If you just meet someone face-to-face you tend to judge someone based on only looks. But with Facebook you can get a good judge of someone’s character by their photos, what they like, what groups they join and there is a lot less social pressure of behaving a certain way.”

Many relationships are based on similarities and Sheppard said social media help make these available. A whole section on LikeALittle is devoted to testimonials — many individuals share how they met their loved ones through the site.

Reas said he has big plans for the future of LikeALittle.

“We just want to keep improving the product and add more features that we hope people will enjoy,” he said. “We have started to roll out a chat feature which allows people to anonymously chat with people around them.”

Although many individuals, including Boon, are skeptical of sites such as this one, their popularity is growing throughout the student body.

A brief foray into LikeALittle

I posted on LikeALittle to see if anyone had actually met a significant other or had hooked-up through the site. This only led to inquiries of whether I wanted to do a little “investigative journalism” of my own with them in a secret area—I politely declined.

Although I refused the offer, others seemed to have taken up similar suggestions. Reading some of the posts, it becomes clear certain people are a lot more open to express how they feel.

Some LikeALittle U of C messages

Bringing some heat to the library:
“At TFDL: Female, Brown hair. nice breasts i would like to grab them”

Looking for a certain type of person:
“At UofC: Male, Blonde hair. I just want to rail a guy in a chain and turtle-neck sweater. Anyone out there want to be that guy??”

Maybe you just need a quick favour:
“At I am a: Female, Brown hair. DOES ANYONE IN TFDL HAVE A USB KEY that i can borrow for like 5 min??!”

A few of the posts seem genuine:
“At C-Train: Female, Redhead-You sat across from me on the train this morning, you were laughing while reading your book (super cute!). Our eyes met once or twice! Hope to see you again!”

Ranking the quality:

At TFDL: Male, Brunette
Dear boy, You were studying in a work room this evening on the second floor. You were wearing glasses and a red Helly Hansen jacket. I think you are easily one of the top five cutest boys at school. Maybe even top three. :)

Easy pickin’s:

At U of C: Female, Blonde
Who wants to meet up and make out for a bit. Anyone ?

What impact, if any, do you think social media has on relationships?



“It allows people to keep closer tabs on their partners. It’s a new relationship standard.”
– Corey Keller, fourth-year business



“A relationship isn’t official anymore if its not on Facebook.”
– Heather Laurie, second-year communications



“It makes it a little less real. Everything is over the computer or text instead of in real life.”
– Lise Winzosici, third-year political science



“It makes it more superficial and diluted. There are roles that say how we should behave.”
– Pierre Girard, third-year psychology

Global Village still trying to meet goals

Amy Badry
News Assistant

In January 2010, with construction finalized, Global Village and Hotel Alma officially opened their doors to students and visitors. One year later, initial goals of the facility have yet to be accomplished.

The University of Calgary Haskayne School of Business' hotel and resort management program planned to partner with Hotel Alma to develop an experiential learning component. This has not yet happened.

"At this point, the hotel is not directly utilized for training our students," said tourism program coordinator Vincent Tung.

Tung sees great value in partnering with Hotel Alma, but details on how to best utilize the facility are still being worked out.

"It is still a go from our end," said hotel operations associate director Ted Gaisford. "The largest part of the planning process comes from Haskayne. They are the ones who have to fit it into their curriculum."

The Haskayne hotel and resort management program is working to provide a hands-on experience for students.

"One idea was to extend existing course material to encompass



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

Flooding forced eight students from Global Village to relocate.

various tourism and hospitality components of the hotel," said Tung. "This could include directed-learning experiences based on projects and case studies of the hotel so that students can learn from real-world examples and interact with industry experts."

Global Village has 125 two-bedroom apartments. The goal of the program is to have an international and Canadian student live together.

Global Village has experienced

success in integrating international and Canadian students in their Living Learning Communities program.

"The original goal of the program was to get every resident living with someone with a radically different viewpoint, culture and experience so they could learn from them," said residence life coordinator Jason Bowers.

However, the program has not reached its goal to have an equal number of international and Cana-

dian students living in residence.

"It is much more Canadian," said Bowers. "It is going to fluctuate back and forth. Ideally in the next few years we will get it at that level."

Last year, Global Village's first, 60 per cent of residents were domestic students.

Second-year film studies student Evan Kirby likes living in the diverse, international community.

"You get to learn about the other person's culture and meet their friends," said Kirby. "It is a good idea."

Global Village is also experiencing problems with frozen pipes, flooding twice since January.

"Every year we get them when the pipes fluctuate temperature when people leave their windows open," said Bowers. "It is really unfortunate, but it happens every year."

Eight students from Global Village were relocated to different rooms or buildings this year because of the floods.

"It seems though, that since this is a new building, that they would have somewhat better

pipe systems," said Kirby.

Bowers said he realizes repairs and displacements have been tough for those living in the buildings but is trying to make the transition as easy as possible.

"It was certainly an inconvenience at first when there was construction workers on my floor all the time making noise," said Kirby.

Residence services does not reimburse tenants for damaged property.

"We do encourage students to purchase tenants' insurance," said Bowers. "It is up to them if they do."

If a student is moved out of Global Village due to damages and into another residence building, a rate adjustment may be allowed.

"If we have someone who moved to another residence building and it is going to be two months then what we would do is to adjust the rate accordingly," said Bowers. "It doesn't make sense to pay the same amount for less amenities."

Rates for an eight-month stay at Global Village are \$6,480 for a two-bedroom. Norquay, Brewster and Castle residences cost \$5,150 for the same space.

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Recruiting Research Participants

Recruiting *undergraduate* students as participants for a research study into reading comprehension. The main task will involve reading a text and writing a short summary. The study should take approximately 1 to 1.5 hours and will be conducted at the MacEwan Conference and Events Centre (MacEwan Hall). **You will be compensated \$20 for your time. Data collection will take place between February 16 - 18, 2011.**

To inquire about the study or schedule a time please email research.chiarella@gmail.com and a research assistant will reply to your message.

If you have any questions about the study please contact the Principal Researcher: Andrew Chiarella, Assistant Professor, Centre for Psychology, Athabasca University at andrewc@athabascau.ca

Students' Union backs mayor's proposal for secondary suites

Susan Anderson
News Assistant

The Students' Union is working with Mayor Naheed Nenshi to relax regulations regarding secondary suites. Nenshi is proposing secondary suites be legalized in all Calgary neighbourhoods, but that they should be subject to three conditions — the suite must meet all health and safety codes; the landlord must provide a parking spot, though this will be waived if the property is within 500 metres of an LRT station; and the owner must live on the property.

On Feb. 16 the SU will present before the Land Use Planning Committee, along with other stakeholders, to discuss the regulations of secondary suites. If Ne-

\$951.00

Average cost per month for a one bedroom apartment in Calgary in 2009.

nenshi's proposed secondary suite regulations pass through the committee, they will go on the council agenda in early March.

"We've heard a number of stories from students about the living situation they face in secondary suites," said SU vice-president external Hardave Birk. "It's not to say that every illegal suite is bad, many times illegal suites are just unnecessarily illegal because the process to make them legal is too convoluted and costs too much."

Birk said illegal suites in the city

0.9%

Vacancy rate for rental units in the \$600 range.

Source: Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation

are affecting a number of students every day.

"There's the possibility that a number of secondary suites don't have safety restrictions, which means that students are constantly put in danger every single day when they go home," said Birk. "Changing these regulations would make it a lot easier for people to build legal secondary suites in the city and therefore increase the amount of safe and affordable suites in the city."

There are an estimated 10,000–40,000 illegal suites in the city currently.

"If we were to actively enforce the law, right now it's just enforced on a complaint basis, we'd throw thousands of Calgarians onto the streets," said the mayor's chief-of-staff, Chima Nkemdirim. "There's nowhere for them to go. Right now, all tenants who live in secondary suites have no rights, so if your suite is illegal and the landlord is not maintaining the property, you can't do anything because the city's only remedy is to take out the stove and shut the suite down."



Gauntlet file photo

Secondary suites are seen as a solution to affordable housing.

In the current system, if homeowners want to legalize a suite, they have to spend \$4,000–\$5,000 to bring their application before city council.

"The biggest problem with the current system is that it puts unnecessary barriers in the way of anyone who wants to build a secondary suite and disincentivizes actually building a legal suite," said Birk.

Arguments against secondary suites include suites changing the character of communities, lowering property values and becoming a parking concern.

Ward One alderman Dale Hodges, who represents Brentwood and other near-by communities, has been a vocal opponent of secondary suites for years. He

was unavailable for comment.

There has been contention about Nenshi's third requirement, which states the homeowner has to live on the property, because of issues around enforceability and appropriateness.

"It's a reasonable compromise with the idea of giving some assurances to some of the people who are concerned about this policy, that the homeowner will be on site and responsible for maintaining the property," said Nkemdirim.

"It's about time we do what every other major city has already done and if you compare us to Vancouver, Edmonton, Lethbridge or Montreal, we have by far the most stringent rules, and there's no rational for us to have those rules," said Birk.



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Study looks at nutrition and child development

Nicole Dionne
Gauntlet News

You are what you eat, or potentially what your mother ate, says a new study.

The Alberta Pregnancy Outcomes and Nutrition study is being conducted at the behavioural research facility at the Alberta Children's Hospital. The study follows mothers throughout their pregnancies and investigates possible links between nutrition, maternal mental health and infant development.

"There's very little research that has looked directly at the impact of maternal nutrition during pregnancy and maternal mental health," said a research director Deborah Dewey. "Also, there is little research that is specifically focused on how what the mother eats during pregnancy impacts the child's neuro-development, especially in the developing world."

APRON monitors the mother's diet, activity and mental and physical health during pregnancy, breast feeding and after weaning.

The team also analyzes the mother's medical history, blood and urine samples, breast milk and the child's neuro-cognitive assessment at age three.

There are currently over 1,400 mothers participating in Calgary and Edmonton, with 610 babies born so far.

"It's no harm to me and if it can help others, why not?" asked Mary Ann Penney, a participant in the study since her first trimester.

APRON received \$5 million from the Alberta government to study the children until the age of three.

Researchers foresee the results of APRON having far reaching effects.

"It's not only going to impact government and public policy, but it's also going effect nutritional research and recommendations," said APRON research assistant supervisor Dayna-Lynn Dymianiw.

APRON is a large study with opportunities for students to get involved. Students from both the Universities of Calgary and Alberta are currently analyzing some



Geoff MacIntosh/the Gauntlet

Kasia Nastalska works as a research assistant on APRON.

of the data through undergraduate research programs

"Because of the massive amounts of data we are collecting, there are so many different angles you can take," said Dymianiw. "We have a wealth of information we're establishing which could be unique for students looking for research projects."

"They're looking at social science stuff and biological stuff,"

said Emily Macphail, a second-year Health Science student who has worked with APRON since May 2010. "There's going to be so much data to use, no matter what area you're interested in."

APRON has grown since it started recruiting in 2009 and two satellite locations recently opened to accommodate more participants. Researchers are hoping to receive additional funding which would

allow them to follow participants longer and gain additional data during other important developmental stages.

"We would be able to see if maternal nutrition is associated with the development of various neuro-developmental disorders that tend to be diagnosed at school age, such as ADHD and learning disabilities, as well as how it may relate to the development of mental health disorders such as depression and anxiety which have a higher prevalence as children move into adolescence," said Dewey. "The importance of longitudinal research like this is that you can start looking at what are the early factors that may be impacting our risk for developing conditions or chronic illness as we get older."

Penney had no reservations about her 12-week-old son continuing to participate in APRON if the program were to be extended.

"They have been very accommodating," said Penney. "It takes very little time out of my life and will benefit others."

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Observatory looks for alien life at open house

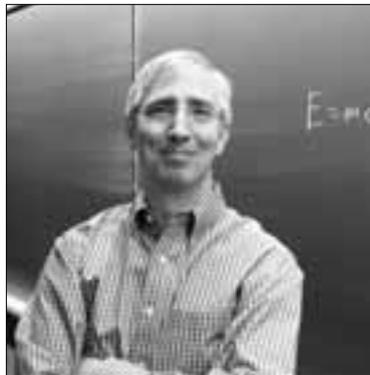
Andrew Stahl
Gauntlet News

The sheer vastness of our universe makes it hard to imagine that there isn't life somewhere out there.

For an opportunity to hear from someone on the front lines of the search for extraterrestrial life visit the Rothney Astronomical Observatory's open house Saturday, Feb. 12. Phil Langill, from the U of C's department of Physics

and Astronomy, will speak about strategies currently being used to find planets outside of our solar system.

"It is always an exciting time for anyone who is in the search for extra-terrestrial life," said Langill. "Now we have the technology and the ability to identify planets outside our solar system. No one has ever been able to see planets outside our solar system until about 10 years ago. . . With the development of new technol-



Morgan Shandro/the Gauntlet

Langill.

ogy we can now see, classify and compare other solar systems to ours."

Langill will also discuss the characteristics these planets might need to harbour life and how the recent discovery of microbes using arsenic-based DNA for some of their basic chemical processes widens the possibility of finding life in space.

"We thought we understood all of the processes that give rise to

life," said Langill. "Now we have to start looking in other places and we have got to be broader in our search because we don't understand completely."

Weather permitting, the observatory will set up telescopes and stargazers will have the opportunity to watch the tempestuous gas giant Jupiter lumber through the southern sky.

For more information about this and future events visit ucalgary.ca/rao/.

\$295 million airport tunnel narrowly approved by city council

Brent Constantin
News Editor

The City of Calgary council extended a Feb. 7 meeting past midnight to approve the long debated

airport tunnel, at a cost of \$295 million.

A lengthy closed-door discussion ended with a narrow 8-7 vote and a council divided over the issue.

The tunnel aims to eventually

provide access lost by the closure of Barlow Trail between 48 Ave. and Airport Road NE on Apr. 3 when the airport begins construction on a new 4,270 metre runway.

The runway is part of a massive Calgary International Airport expansion, with an estimated completion date of 2015, which aldermen in favour of the tunnel argued necessitated increased road access.

Though previous councils rejected the tunnel, this approval will, instead of taking funds from current city projects, look to other sources of funding. Council will explore the possibility of creating a toll road and requesting more money from the provincial and federal governments.

About \$173 million worth of provincial money earmarked for Calgary infrastructure in 2018 will be

directed solely into the project.

The city hopes to discuss the tunnel deal with the airport authority in next few days so it can be incorporated into runway construction and have the tunnel open sometime in 2014. Aldermen, however, state the council decision is not the final word on the project and the financial and logistical issues will determine its outcome.

Capture an Unsustainable Activity on Campus

Capture a Sustainable Activity on Campus

And You Can Win Cash!

The Students' Union and the SU Sustainability Board are offering a \$250 1st Prize and a \$100 Second Prize for great photos in each of the above categories.

Submit your photos (maximum of three) to trashtalk@su.ucalgary.ca by the Friday, March 18 deadline with your name and contact information and be sure to include a few lines explaining your shots. Make sure you submit your photos no smaller than 5mb and no larger than 8mb with no .jpeg compression.

Winning photos will be displayed at the Trash Talk event happening the week of April 4 in the MacEwan Student Centre Courtyard.

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Bookstores and the case for community

Anneke Hobson

Gauntlet Opinions

Let's agree that reading is a solitary activity. Aside from the exciting and emotional journeys we take with our favourite fictional characters, reading is best experienced alone (preferably during a quiet evening with a glass of wine or a cup of tea). That said, the connections we make with other readers of shared texts are often the most enjoyable. Lively participation in a reading community is a significant loss as the downfall of the bookstore — and the replacement with its online equivalent — becomes increasingly apparent. The convenience of online stores is hard to discredit, but I can't help feeling disappointed in gradually losing the civility and intellectual vibrancy that the bookstore offers.

Perhaps it's just Calgary. Winnipeg, for instance, still supports a McNally Robinson Booksellers and an anarchist bookstore (slash vegan café) among others, and Seattle has a bookstore dedicated entirely to poetry. While Pages has been in business in Kensington for over 10 years now, and Shelf-Life Books is a promising new option, they remain the

only independent exceptions to the Chapters-Indigo-Coles chain for new books. It's not that you can't have an excellent discussion there — they just target a different market. Chain bookstores tend to sell board games, yoga equipment and linens, broadening their appeal with big coffee-table books and gift sets. Their selection is dependent on a corporate board in another city and the staff usually has a high turn-over rate. Independent stores, though, determine their own selection, employ long-term, knowledgeable workers and almost never carry merchandise other than books, magazines and newspapers. As one of my first English professors insisted, the quality of the bookstore is easily gauged by its poetry section.

The University Bookstore is great for textbooks, but its fiction section is sparse and the store has a dependable source of student-customers. While Calgary's surprisingly good used bookstores come close to a substitute, they are limited in material to whatever books are brought in by their patrons. Sometimes you find something interesting, but often you don't. The public library is an environmentally-friendly and very cheap method of attaining texts, but like



the used bookstore, they can't hold the same number of contemporary novels or amount of poetry that the independent bookstore can. Their selection is decided primarily by circulation numbers. I understand the limitations in the bookstore business model: it's too expensive to house all those books (especially the un-sought-after titles that I have in mind) while making a profit. I'm simply calling for new ideas to make this kind of reading community possible.

E-texts and online bookstores are helpful — there's no reason to bemoan their appearance — but they are probably not a complete solution. If we are to continue enjoying and encouraging literary pursuits to their full potential, we still need physical places in which they are promoted and shared. Of course, online communities are on the rise too, just as in-person community activities are generally declining. I won't examine the different types of communities here, but in my experience, in-person discussions (particularly with a group of participants) are usually more fruitful than those over the Internet.

The move away from a physical location holding books and toward Amazon.com does seem to be a general trend and I don't

want to stereotype Calgarians as non-literary types. The reading population in North America has actually increased (though only marginally) in the last 20 years. Most publishers, however, attribute the statistics to young adult super-series such as *Harry Potter* and *Twilight*. I don't mean to disregard this kind of reading: any fiction is probably better than none. But with the help of a reading community, we are pushed to try new texts or old ones that we wouldn't typically consider, and in the process, we uncover more of our own imaginations.

Maybe *Harry Potter* readers will turn on their own to classical giants such as Homer, Virgil and Ovid (J.K. Rowling certainly points us in the right direction); maybe *Twilight* will lead its fans to Jane Austen. I'm not discounting it, but part of the appeal *Potter* has is its fandom — its global community of readers encourages others to join in. When a text lacks such a communal force, however, the bookstore should stand as the best place to find inspiration — to motivate you to tackle, say, the copy of *Moby Dick* that's been sitting on your shelf since first year. I know I need an enthusiastic nudge once in a while.

Nationalism gets in the way of supporting good causes

Jocelyn Hunt

Hunting for Reason



Think of how you describe yourself. Likely your country of origin and current citizenship are on the list. But why do those define us when the geographic location of our birth is quite arbitrary? When there is a political demonstration or natural disaster nationality shouldn't matter, and yet a sense of nationalistic pride or sorrow tends to arise if you have ties to the region. Look at the groups organizing demonstrations in support of Egyptian protesters — many are Egyptian-based. But whether or not we care should not be answered by our loyalties to a nation. They are a group of people who need our support, one way or another.

Nationalism has many forms and has been a significant part of shaping the borders in Europe, especially in the last century. There has been radical nationalism under fascist regimes such as Nazi Germany where leaders attempted to ensure their ethnic group

dominated the region. In contrast, other nationalities hoped only to distinguish themselves as a group with a common culture and language, as was seen in Poland, the Czech Republic and many other European countries. Nationalism is loyalty to a state or ethnic group, no matter how big or small. But the geographic location of our birth should not define who we do or do not care about in moments of joy or sorrow.

Consider when natural disasters occur, the media draws in the attention of its readers by appealing to their nationality. In the *Montreal Gazette*, one headline read "One Canadian Dead in Haiti Quake." One. Over 25 paragraphs later the journalist felt it was important to inform the readers that 100,000–250,000 Haitians had died. This headline reads like many others because that is the sad low our media has to go to to get the attention of readers. Does one Canadian, of over 34 million, really matter more than potentially a quarter of a million people? In all likelihood you do not know that individual so it should not make the disaster matter more. The only real connection I have with that person is we have a common Canadian

citizenship. In reality, I could probably connect more with a person from Montana than with someone from across the country because of our common rural upbringing. To think I should care more about a death because that person was born or lives within the same borders as me is wrong.

We need to consider why we lend support to others. Individuals with ethnic ties to Egypt are more likely to care about the current turmoil because they have family and friends there, which is understandable. Realistically, the protests in Egypt will not directly affect the majority of Canadians, but that is not a sufficient reason to look away. Our nationalistic ties automatically draw us to care or ignore a situation — we need to end this. The political turmoil in Egypt and many other countries in the region matter because the people are struggling for freedoms which we take for granted. The Egyptians do not want to reform their country into the image of Canada, but they are fighting for democracy. In Canada, that is a basic right. Support for Egyptians should be because of the plight of the people, not because of a nationalistic attachment or lack thereof.

The international news section in the newspaper is not irrelevant. People should disconnect themselves from the arbitrary notions of loyalty to an ethnic group or state. If they know people directly involved, of course it will matter more. But they shouldn't let their Canadian nationalism keep them separate from those in need or celebrating success. Instead, they should care because the natural disaster or political demonstration is affecting the lives of other human beings, no matter their citizenship.

Correction

In last week's article "A growing vice," by Eric Mathison, we mistakenly spelt "Columbia" as "Columbia." Because the *Gauntlet* doesn't believe in doing anything half-heartedly, we made the mistake 13 times. We're sorry for any confusion this caused, especially toward British Columbians, Columbia Sportswear, Columbia University, Columbia Records and the town of Columbia, South Carolina.

Canada should reform its electoral system

Dominik Matusik
The Final Stanzas of
the Internationale



Based on recent media reports and the rhetoric adopted by the three federal parties, election season is here again. Despite all the “Canadians don’t want an election” talk and complaints about the cost, if you’re anything like me, you’ll find this election entertaining.

While waiting for ours, I amused myself by watching the British, Australian and American elections. One interesting thing to notice when observing elections in different countries is the simple difference in values: a word like “coalition” — which has become a dirty obscenity in Canada — is used as a compliment in most of Europe. While it is automatically assumed that a minority is some sort of “deadlock” in Canada, a single-party majority government would be more remarkable elsewhere. It’s a given that different political cultures have different norms and values. We can learn from countries that have influenced our electoral process, namely Britain which, incidentally, had an election less than a year ago.

Britain also uses a first-past-the-post single riding plurality system. Like Canada, the U.K. is not used to minority governments

and the 2010 election commentators always spoke of a “hung” parliament as some sort of an unstable entity that would plunge the country into chaos. Perhaps this was justified, seeing as how the country suffered a great deal of turmoil during their last minority government in 1974. The last U.K. election, however, demonstrated that an issue like electoral reform can be pushed for and implemented even when times are tough economically. The coalition of the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats forced compromise. All that was needed was for a party to take up the issue and generate some voter interest. The Liberal Democrats are now in a position to demand reform because they’re being hurt most by the first-past-the-post system. Theirs is not much different from the NDP’s situation in Canada.

Provincially, some progress has been made regarding the liberalization of our political system. Certain provinces hold fixed election dates now, for example. However, every time significant reforms were proposed to change the first-past-the-post system, they failed. British Columbia and Ontario each had referenda on the subject in the last 10 years. It failed to pass in either province.

Generally, this is attributed to voter ignorance and apathy. However, the single transferable vote system proposed in B.C. might have been a tad too complex. In

Federal election results (2008)

Party	Seats won	% of seats won	% of vote
Bloc Québécois	49	15.9	9.98
Conservatives	143	46.4	37.65
Green Party	0	0	6.78
Liberal Party	77	25	26.26
NDP	37	12	18.18

source: Elections Canada

the STV system, voters choose a candidate by ranking their top picks instead of choosing a party. If a candidate meets the quota, her votes are then transferred to the candidate who is ranked second by the voter. The system is attractive because it eliminates wasted votes.

Complexity, however, is only part of the issue. A lot could be accomplished for election reform if there was only a single political party that would tackle the issue. Neither B.C.’s nor Ontario’s major parties officially supported the reforms. Federally, the issue has been kept very quiet. We heard a little bit about parliament reform after Prime Minister Stephen Harper prorogued the second time, but that was overshadowed by the right’s accusations of a Liberal-NDP coup and the left’s accusation of autocracy. We also hear about senate reform on occasion. On reform to the voting system, almost never.

So why have the major parties kept so quiet and eager to retain the status quo? Who benefits

from the first-past-the-post system? Clearly the Tories and the Liberals do and, since coalition governments don’t tend to happen in Canada, those have been the only parties in power. In addition, the system benefits the Bloc.

On the other hand, the Greens and NDP have a lot to gain from establishing proportional representation. If change is going to come, it will have to be from these two parties.

The problems we face with this electoral system are starting to become evident. This current minority setup allows Canadians to suffer all the negative elements of minority parliaments without benefiting from the potentially positive ones. That is, the Conservatives are running the government the only way the two big parties know how: as if they had a majority.

Canada is one of the most mature democracies in the world. It has simply outgrown a two party system. The rise of regional interest parties (the Bloc, Reform), class-conscious movements

(NDP) and parties borne out of single-issue lobby groups (Green) is evidence of this. The current system simply cannot accommodate that without being incredibly biased towards the established parties. Minority and coalition situations foster an environment for cooperation. If Britain got over its coalition phobia, so can Canada.

There are several other voter systems for Canada to choose from. Europe seems to be having some success with mixed-member proportional systems. Under this system, a party is allowed to win seats by running candidates in a riding, thereby retaining the benefit of regional representation. The popular vote is then considered and free MPs (not associated with a district) are added from a list to make the number of seats almost perfectly proportional. This system is, in my opinion, the most effective and fair compromise between a single district, list-based proportional representation system and a single district plurality system as we have now.

Electoral reform is plausible and it could even happen within the period of one election. Canadians are by their nature conservative about their institutions. However, with the proper political will to demonstrate how disadvantageous and obsolete our system is, electoral reform could be accomplished quite easily.

Taxes and Trash

James Delaney
VP Operations & Finance



Not that these topics are mutually exclusive, but the Students’ Union is offering a couple of opportunities to save a little money and make a little money.

Tax season is upon us and as an annual tradition your Students’ Union is offering its popular Volunteer Tax Program. With the generous support of some great firms like Deloitte, CGA, PWC, KPMG and Ernst &

Young, the program provides free tax filing services to qualifying members of the campus community. The program is open to all campus students, faculty and staff.

The Tax Program is run by volunteers who are all CRA trained and can e-file or provide a mail-in tax return to clients. This year the program runs from February 14th - April 6th.

Headquarters for the program are located in the new Clubs space, MH130 in the MacEwan Student Centre and will be open Monday through Thursday from 9:00am - 6:30pm and on Fridays from 9:00am

- 4:00pm (closed during Reading Week).

There are qualifiers, so make sure you check the SU website under Volunteer Services (su.ucalgary.ca) to see if you are eligible for this free service.

This year in support of sustainability awareness and action on campus, the SU Sustainability Board and the SU are planning an awareness and action event happening the week of April 4 in the MacEwan Student Centre Courtyard.

To get you involved we are launching a Sustainability Photo Contest, where you have a chance to win cash

prizes for your photographs of both sustainable and unsustainable activities on Campus.

We are offering a \$250 First Prize and a \$100 Second Prize for great photos in each of these categories. There’s a max of three photos per entrant.

Check out the details on the SU website at su.ucalgary.ca. Winning photos will be displayed at the event in April.

Just so you know, at the MacEwan Student Centre alone we collectively generate more than a ton of trash a day. Get involved by recycling, re-using and reducing waste and watch for details of the coming event.



Alberta politics, out with the old

Brandon Beasley
Gauntlet Opinions



Recently, politics in Alberta has seen a series of events occur in short succession which could have great importance for the future of our province.

First was the announcement that Liberal-turned-Independent MLA Dave Taylor joined the new Alberta Party, an upstart centrist group. Then came the announcement that Premier Ed Stelmach intends to resign in September. Shortly after this, Finance Minister Ted Morton resigned his post in order to run for the Conservative leadership, and

Alberta Liberal leader David Swann said he will call it quits after the legislature's spring session. With the Alberta Party planning a leadership election for May, three of the province's political parties will be electing new leaders — and one of them, of course, will in the process elect a new premier.

This only adds to the already politically vibrant atmosphere created by the recent rise to prominence of the Wildrose Alliance, whose poll numbers are challenging those of the Tories. The Wildrose benefited from a surprise by-election win in 2009, floor-crossings by several ex-PC MLAs, and an impressive leader in Danielle Smith, all of which has gained the party much notoriety in the past two years. These exciting

developments point us towards a possible dramatic reorganization of party politics in this province, which I think would be to the benefit of our political situation. The focus of this reorganization are the two main parties since 1971, the Progressive Conservatives and the Liberals.

The PCs are a coalition of moderate "red Tories" with social and fiscal conservatives. The rise of the Wildrose Alliance has of course drawn many conservatives away from the governing party, though some, like Ted Morton and his supporters, remain committed to the PC ranks. But after 40 years in government, they are a tired, confused, corrupt and inept party with a legacy of poor decisions, and it is no wonder the rise of a new conservative party

has drawn so much attention.

The Liberals, for their part, are not so much tired and corrupt as forever mired in failure. With a name that, for better or worse, still ignites the fury of many Albertans (thanks to the NEP), and a succession of thoroughly underwhelming and uninspiring leaders (however intelligent and public-spirited they were), the Liberals have not had any real success since 1993 when they won 32 seats under Laurence Decore. They have failed in every way to provide a credible alternative to Albertans and this is something that cannot be explained simply because "Albertans don't vote for Liberals." The party's failure to articulate a coherent vision for the province and failure to elect an inspiring leader with

the aura of a premier-in-waiting has provided Albertans with a sometimes-effective official opposition, but not a credible alternative to the Tories.

And so, at last, I come to my point: for the betterment of politics in Alberta, we ought to wish for the demise of both the Progressive Conservative and the Liberal parties. Each party has provided us with some worthy politicians, but so has each party provided us with ineptitude and failure to succeed. Perhaps worst of all, neither party is doing anything to reinvigorate politics in a province where only 40 per cent of eligible voters cast a ballot in the previous provincial election. We would be better off without them.

Then what? As I see it, the political re-alignment would be rather simple. Let the Wildrose Alliance take the social conservatives and libertarians, and those who felt that the PCs were not conservative enough. The red Tories and former Liberals could join up (as some already have) with the Alberta Party, who could cover the territory in the centre. Those on the left who feel they aren't centrist enough to belong to the Alberta Party can take refuge with the New Democrats.

In this way politics in Alberta would be reinvigorated, with two vibrant new parties articulating their visions for the province and creating an excitement for democracy that we have not seen for too long. Both the Wildrose Alliance and the Alberta Party have stated that they are committed to rehabilitating the fundamentals of democracy in this province, whether through populist policies or a commitment to citizen engagement.

The most exciting thing to me about the Alberta Party has been its ability to attract people not only from diverse ideological backgrounds, but those who have never been involved in politics — but of course, these are early days for this fledgling, if determined, party. And whether or not the Wildrose can get beyond the sense that it is a conservative protest party (not to mention effectively manage its coalition of libertarians and social conservatives, a rather unwieldy mix) remains to be seen. We and our democracy would be best served by these two parties coming to dominate Alberta's political stage. The curtain is falling on the old guard; or, perhaps, the hook is being extended from the wings.

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Scrapped city projects *the Gauntlet* is upset about



City council approved an underpass beneath the airport's new runway at a cost of \$295 million. To pay for construction, Calgary will tap funds designated for future projects. Below are some of those projects we'll now never see.

Brent Constantin
I wrote Refugee

1. White hat ceremonies for gopher population
2. Leather upholstery of Saddle Dome exterior
3. Replacement of Olympic Ski Jump with world's longest Slip & Slide
4. South East transit corridor serviced by rickshaw
5. Papier-mâché repairs for Calaway Park
6. New robotic body for the brain of Dale Hodges
7. Improved weaponry for Forest Lawn border guard
8. Completion of the Peace Bridge
9. Yarn clean-up for Kensington area
10. Production of collectible Nenshi ceramic plates
11. Free dental service to counteract effects of fluoride removal
12. Non-cancelled Jazz Fest
13. Stab-proof vests for Vinyl patrons
14. Calgary news blog featured pet increased to bi-weekly
15. More authentic Calgary Zoo dinosaur exhibit with licensing of Flintstones characters
16. Addition of period-authentic venereal diseases to Fort Calgary
17. Declaration of Ric McIver's moustache as city landmark

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Tommy Wiseau's nonsensical romantic drama comes to Calgary

Brent Constantin
News Editor

After spawning a clothing line, video game tribute, page after page of online discussion and a legion of fans, Tommy Wiseau's cult favourite *The Room* finally makes its way to the Uptown Theatre on Feb. 12.

Considered by many to be one of the worst films ever produced, bad movie fans who have somehow overlooked this 2003 gem owe it to themselves to grab some spoons and say "hai" to Wiseau's masterpiece.

The film has a bizarre plot and even more bizarre production history — it was somehow produced, written, directed and starred in by Wiseau at an astronomical cost of \$6 million.

Though the goblin-faced creator has

mumbled in his unintelligible, proto-English to interviewers that he raised the funds importing leather jackets from Korea, it's ultimately irrelevant as any sane person watching the movie will be hard-pressed to fathom more than \$1,000 being spent on its creation. (Though in his defense, Wiseau has stated his entire crew quit on him twice and had to be replaced. He also legendarily rented a billboard in Los Angeles for five years after *The Room's* release).

Clearly the product of a deranged mind, *The Room* is Wiseau's attempt to exorcise the demons of a previous relationship.

Wiseau "plays" Johnny, an inexplicably well-liked, 40-something banker who enjoys tossing footballs on roofs, wearing oversized blazer and cargo pant ensembles and croaking out what the audience is expected to

believe is a laugh at every inopportune moment.

The movie focuses on him and his "future wife" Lisa, a chubby temptress who appears to be in her late teens. She is equally inexplicable and is committed to both cheating on Johnny whenever possible, while simultaneously being upset when someone is unable to come to the fabulous birthday party she's throwing for him.

The Room is bevy with impossibilities which promise to draw out either profound amusement or, in a small minority, bitter frustration.

Seemingly important plot points, such as Lisa's mother's casual discovery of breast cancer, are raised and dropped as often as you see Wiseau's own chiseled, lizard-like buttocks in the movie's frequent and uncom-

fortably long sex scenes. Characters are also introduced and then ignored willy-nilly, further convoluting the scattered plot.

One could go on for days describing more of the absurdity — like Wiseau's blatant re-dubbing of his own voice with dialogue that remains almost unintelligible — but you're best to survive it yourself.

The Uptown screening is part of a phenomenon that's seen the movie turn into a *Rocky Horror*-type of free-for-all across North America, which prompted Wiseau to insist that he always intended the film to be a comedy — a claim that's about as convincing as his chicken impression ("peep peep peee-ahhh...")

The Room plays at the uptown Feb. 12 at 11:15 p.m. For more information visit theuptown.ca.

Lauchie, Liza and Rory, sibling rivalry at its finest

Andy Williams
Entertainment Editor

One would assume that a play called *Lauchie, Liza and Rory* would have at least three actors performing three characters. It doesn't. The play only has two, and those two actors — Christian Murray and Natasha McLellan — are responsible for 10 different parts.

The play focuses on the story

of twins in a small Cape Breton mining town — Rory and Lauchie — and their competitive and complicated relationship with love interest Liza.

"It's a story of a family and it spans 20 years," says director Mary-Colin Chisholm. "It's funny and occasionally it touches home. I think the audience enjoy the story . . . but they also enjoy the theatrical solutions that we arrived

at — just dealing with two actors and 10 characters and twins and the length of time."

The play is an adaptation of a short story written by revered Cape Breton author Sheldon Currie. Currie was approached by a group interested in translating the 10-page short story into a play. He subsequently collaborated with the group to produce a script.

"The original short story was

about 10 pages long, but he wrote another 80 pages," says Chisholm. "He's the least complicated writer I know because he just goes, 'Oh, okay,' and he writes up another scene. He's remarkable that way . . . He's got this really wry style. In the same way the Coen brothers have a unique voice when they make a movie, Sheldon Currie has a unique voice when he writes a story."

Chisholm is well-versed in the

intricacies and details of the play — she belonged to the original group that worked with Currie to bring the story to the stage and has been working with the project ever since.

"It's very close to my heart — I've been living with this story for about 15 years," says Chisholm. "We did it very quickly and it was a very rough version, but we see LAUCHIE, LIZA AND RORY, page 15

Another Year, another British film success

Mike Leigh provides a portrait of a year in the life of two normal people

Chad Utke

Gauntlet Entertainment

Mike Leigh has been a stalwart in the British film industry for years, combining his penchant for writing and directing to deliver powerful cinema. Relying on an entourage of recognizable Brits who seem to continually crop up in his films, Leigh has brought to life some of the most beautiful characters and stories to grace the silver screen in recent history.

His latest project, *Another Year*, highlights a perfectly happy couple's normal existence amongst the extreme difficulties faced by those closest to them. This movie is nothing less than one would expect from a man with Leigh's talent, yet it stands out in the best way possible.

Tom and Gerri are a married couple living out their blissful marriage on the outskirts of London. The movie opens on Gerri (Ruth Sheen), a counselor, trying to help

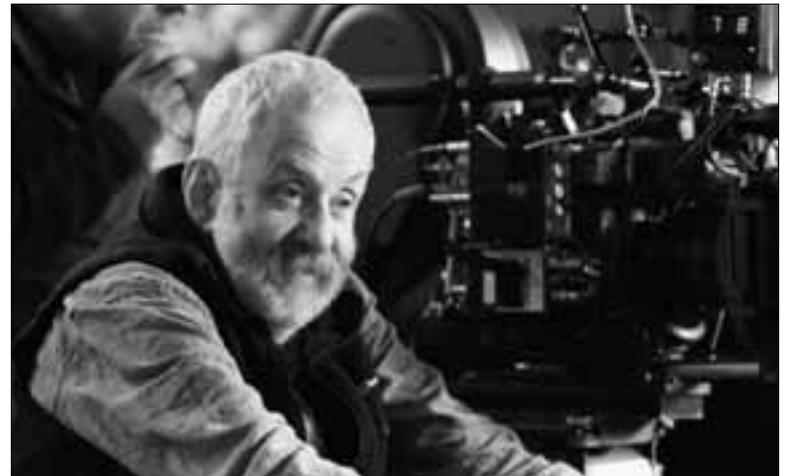
a distressed woman through the perils of her sleeplessness. So easily does Leigh broach the subject matter of emotional frailty in the first scene that you hardly blink an eye, almost missing the foreshadowing. Gerri seems to have all the answers to the woman's problems, not in a condescending, judgmental way, but rather in a loving, looking-out-for-the-good-of-everyone kind of way. Gerri's husband Tom (Jim Broadbent) is much the same — a lighthearted man who offers support to anyone he knows who needs it.

On the opposite end of the spectrum are Gerri's friend Mary (Lesley Manville), Tom's friend Ken (Peter Wight) and brother Ronnie (David Bradley). Representing an aging portion of society, these three struggle with loneliness and cling to Tom and Gerri as a stabilizing force. A lot of the emotional despair centers on Mary, who meanders through life with the clear understanding that her best years

are behind her. No amount of wine, boy chasing (namely Tom and Gerri's son Joe) or tears are able to help her deal with the depression that has set itself upon her. Nowhere is this seen more than when Mary is told that Joe has a girlfriend; a close-up by Leigh and a stirring effort by Manville capture the breaking of Mary's spirit — a truly sad yet beautiful scene.

Another Year doesn't focus on one story arc, it seeks to impress upon the viewer the importance found in character's interactions by giving mundane, everyday conversations and occurrences a depth and weight that affects the very essence of a person.

From the outset, Leigh displays his talent at mirroring reality in film. His incredibly sharp script writing makes each character introduction a seamless venture as they've all been properly introduced before they show up on screen. The breakneck pace of the dialogue (reminiscent of a *Gilm-*



courtesy Sony Picture Classics

Leigh should direct, write and star in a Christmas movie. Just sayin'.

ore Girls episode) only serves to heighten the emotional connection felt by the contrasting painful silences. Despite the focus on dialogue, it is Leigh's wonderful directing, catching the subtleties in each character's facial expressions and reactions, that truly sells this story. Coupling a wonderfully executed film with nearly flawless

ensemble performances from some of Britain's best actors and actresses — especially Manville — Leigh has produced a movie with a message that is almost sure to connect with you on the deepest kind of emotional level.

Another Year is playing at the Uptown. For more information, visit www.theuptown.com.

Lauchie, Liza and Rory, continued from page 14

could tell immediately from the response that it was working. So then we've refined it, and over the years it just keeps coming up. People still find it interesting."

The play is now in its second generation of actors and the story has been adapted to fit different stages across Canada and as far

away as New Zealand.

"It started out with Burgundy Code and Mike Peterson," says Chisholm. "Then, my partner Christian [Murray] took over, and he took over during this time when the play was being considerably lengthened and elaborated. Burgundy couldn't do it and

so Natasha MacLellan stepped in."

The second-generation cast contributes to the play's character. Its longevity helps set it apart from most theatre productions and pushes it into the same category as other remarkable, long-running Canadian plays like *Billy*

Bishop Goes to War and *Albertine en Cinq Temps*.

"It's a very unusual thing in theatre," concludes Chisholm. "Usually, you get a play, you do three weeks, you do the run and that's it. This is something I've lived with 15 years. It's a story that keeps finding another audi-

ence. It's the kind of little play that theatre professionals and the regular audience can agree on. It's a good yarn with good characters."

Lauchie, Liza and Rory is playing at Lunchbox Theatre until Feb. 26. For more information, visit www.lunchboxtheatre.com.

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CJSW Profile: *Halfway Home*



Andy Williams/the Gauntlet

Walter Porochnuk has been an active part in the Calgary music scene for a while now. He's played at clubs and pubs across Calgary as DJ Wah, including a stint DJing ThursDen. He's also been involved with CJSW for decades in various capacities, and is currently hosting *Halfway Home*.

Gauntlet: How did you get involved with CJSW?

Walter Porochnuk: Randomly. I was in the first half of my first year of university and I walked in the door and discovered the place.

G: And then you just ended up

with a show? How did it happen?

WP: Not right away. I was just hanging out like some geeky 17-year-old and I eventually was asked by the program director, "Are you going to do something or what?" and then I was given a show.

G: What's the theme of *Halfway Home*?

WP: Well, I don't know. I sort of live in the arcane. I entertain what seems to be an awful lot of calls, so it's listener supported, which is great. If people want to hear something I'll try and help them out and play it.

The show is sort of in a driving slot,

a lot of people are in their cars and other people are still in their offices. It's just a really good slot.

G: What are your favourites right now? What are you listening to?

WP: I wish I could give you something, but the coolest music right now to listen to is the music that the 18-year-old on the bus is listening to. I'm really happy to live off the suggestions of other people. The best part is talking to young people and young volunteers here, because they pick things up.

When I first started, I knew almost nothing of what you would call alter-

native music. My musical knowledge was severely restricted to what was on AM radio in the late-seventies. You weren't here but, Calgary AM radio in the late '70s wasn't exactly what you'd call adventurous.

G: So you just listen to what other people are into to broaden your horizons?

WP: Yah, that too. I've also spent some time downtown, because I've also been a working DJ for quite a while. As far as it goes for people saying, "Have you heard the new this or the new that?" That's just a great way for me to figure out what people want to listen to. It helps that our playlist system here is really good and our program department is really good. They bring in hundreds of CDs.

G: Do you find there is more freedom doing a radio show than being downtown?

WP: Half and half — it depends who you are working for. When you are getting paid, you are beholden to who you are working for. But I've always been pretty lucky in that wherever I've been working, it's been up to me to play the kind of music I like. And with the radio, we are kind of bound by various government regulations and things like that — it's not as wild as you might imagine — but

it can be equally rewarding to have 800 people going nuts in club. At the same time, having someone phone in and say, "I haven't heard this in 10 years, this is fantastic," pretty much gives you the same buzz.

Halfway Home airs on Wednesdays from 4-6 p.m. You can tune in to 90.9 FM or listen on www.CJSW.com.



James Blake
James Blake
(R & S Records)

James Blake was a remarkable success story last year. The Brit stormed the Internet with the release of two critically acclaimed EPs and managed to place as the runner-up in the BBC's *Sound of England* poll that highlights up-and-coming English musicians.

That means the pressure was on for his recently released self-titled debut LP and, thankfully, Blake provided. From the soothing opening seconds of "Unluck" to the soulful concluding piece "Measurements," Blake creates an entirely unique musical experience.

A standout is the Feist cover of "Limit To Your Love." The song is more of a total reimagining than a cover. Blake strips it down to the bare minimum and then slowly rebuilds with buzzing bass, haunting vocals and tantalizing piano. Another strong point is "Wilhelm Scream," an atmospheric song filled with uncertainty and regret. Blake again uses the elements which worked so well on "Limit To Your Love," but the result is entirely unique.

Though these songs are definitely high points, it doesn't mean that the rest of the album is inherently inferior. James Blake has created a collection of remarkable songs and he finds success over and over and over again.

Andy Williams



The Go! Team
Rolling Blackouts
(Memphis Industries)

The Go! Team's latest album, *Rolling Blackouts*, feels most at home during a Saturday night on the town — ladies in cute little skirts, boys in near spandex-like jeans, a stiff shot of tequila and maybe a smattering of E. Unfortunately, just as not every night can (or should) be like a high-energy Saturday night, and how tiny skirts or hyper-tight pants don't quite work on a day-to-day basis, and how tequila and E really are only fun when consumed occasionally, so too is The Go! Team. That is, it's recommended that one listen in moderation. You can't spend everyday at the circus, and on that note, The Go! Team should reconsider spending everyday sounding like a circus.

The album isn't without merit. *Rolling Blackouts* is an audacious attempt at creating a high-flying and empowered aural aesthetic, which can be heard clearly in tracks such as "Apollo Throwdown" or "Bust-Out Brigade." What keeps the album from attaining the heights for which it reaches is The Go! Team's attachment to their formula, creating a lack of diversity in their sound.

All said, come Saturday, it's Go! time — but you'll have to find something else to jam to from Monday to Friday.

Remi Watts



The Decemberists
The King is Dead
(Capitol Records)

The Decemberists have a penchant for instruments usually found in polka bands, churches and orchestras. Among this musical diversity, their new album *The King is Dead* somehow finds peace, tolerance and a middle ground. Their lyrics are a Pandora's box of the musical world — sometimes morbid and yet sometimes hopeful too.

"Don't Carry It All" draws you in and gets the excitement flowing, while "This is Why We Fight" has the most vibrant sound perfect for draining your energy before the album's conclusion. The "Calamity Song," with its guitar picking and "ah ooh" chorus is by far their best of the 10 songs, despite its morbidity.

Compared to their earlier work, *The King is Dead* is clearly influenced by American country, blues and folk, rather than their earlier works that were steeped in British revival.

Overall, the album has a great sound and it's refreshing to see the band try a non-concept album, but they struggle with their lyricism. The meaning of each song is harder to decipher than it should be. It's a good effort, but it's not perfect.

Josh Rose

VOX

CALGARY 90.9 FM
cjsw
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top 20

* canadian artist ** local artist
for the week of february 7, 2011

- DESTROYER*** *Kaputt* (Merge)
- IRON & WINE** *Kiss Each Other Clean* (Warner)
- FERGUS AND GERONIMO** *Unlearn* (Hardly Art)
- BLOOD RED SHOES** *Fire Like This* (Nice Music Group)
- BLANK DOGS** *Land And Fixed* (Captured Tracks)
- GANG OF FOUR** *Content* (Yep Roc)
- THE DECEMBERISTS** *The King Is Dead* (Capitol)
- ESBEN AND THE WITCH** *Violet Cries* (Matador)
- THREE MILE PILOT** *The Inevitable Past Is The Future Forgotten* (Temporary Residence)
- MIDLAKE** *Fortune* (Bella Union)
- THE RURAL ALBERTA ADVANTAGE*** *Departing* (Paperbag)
- DUCKTAILS** *Arcade Dynamics* (Woodsist)
- BARDO POND** *Bardo Pond* (Fire)
- WANDA JACKSON** *The Party Ain't Over* (Thirdman/Nonesuch)
- BRAIDS*** *Native Speaker* (Flemish Eye)
- AULD BEAK*** *4 Songs* (Bart)
- K.C. ACCIDENTAL*** *Captured Anthems For An Empty Bathub + Anthems For The Could've Bin Pills* (Arts And Crafts)
- MASERATI** *Pyramid Of The Sun* (Temporary Residence)
- TIM CHAD AND SHERRY** *Baby We Can Work It Out* (Self-Released)
- ANNA BULLAND** *Split Heart* (Pox World Empire)

EXPERIMENTAL

- FAMILY STUDIES*** *Sexy Creeper* (Unit Structure Sound)
- DAY OF THE MANIAC** *Day Of The Maniac* (Little Whore)
- PHILIPPE PETIT** *Scored Henry: The Iron Man* (Beta-Jactam Ring)
- PAN-AMERICAN** *For Waiting, For Chasing* (Kranky)
- FRED FRITH** *Live In Japan* (ReR)

ELECTRONIC

- FUJIYA & MIYAGI** *Ventriloquizing* (Yep Roc)
- OHAMA**** *Earth History Multiambient* (Ohama)
- HUMANS*** *Avec Mes Mec EP* (Self-Released)
- ESKMO** *Eskmo* (Ninja Tune)
- VARIOUS** *Experimental Dance Breaks 36* (Plastic Sound Supply)

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günther

If you have not heard this sincerely amazing math-rock group then turn your radio up, it's seriously intense, fast and dark instrumental music. They didn't talk this 7" up too much but I'd recommend getting your hands on it.
myspace.com/gunther

KAT'S PICKS

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- JAY CROCKER****
- WHITE SEA**
- THE FORMS**
- ALICIA HANSEN***

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THEATRE

Before your brain explodes from pre-reading break stress, check out the **Kaboom... Hooray! Comedy!** show. The show detonates at 8 p.m. on Feb. 18. Admission to the Birds and Stone Theatre bomb shelter is \$5 for students. You can purchase tickets online or at the door.

The University of Calgary Drama Department presents Shakespeare's **King Lear**, running Feb. 15–26 in the University Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free for students, so you have no excuse to not go and gain some culture.

Alberta Theatre Projects and the Epcor Centre hosts the **Enbridge playRites Festival World Premiere Productions**, featuring the four plays **Heartbreaker**, **The Romeo Initiative**, **Nisei Blue** and **300 Tapes**. The plays run throughout February until March 6. Tickets vary between \$38.75–\$59.75 based on seat location. While it may seem high class in cost, if you grab a group of eight and see two productions, you'll get 15 per cent off! Discounts are a student's way of life. See atplive.com for dates and times.

CONCERTS

X92.9 and FFWD present local entertainer **Michael Bernard Fitzgerald** on Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. Joining him are groups **Calm ASA Coma** and **Calvin Locke** at the MacEwan Ballroom. Have no fear, for tickets are still available at \$20.75 at primboxoffice.com. It's good to splurge on some fun.

Don't worry about personal hygiene for the next week, because **Cradle of Filth** plays MacEwan Hall on Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. As a bonus it's an all ages' show, if you feel like bringing a baby to the Cradle. With tickets at \$39.75, try to save up enough money by not showering for the week prior to the show; you'll fit right in!

The Gig club hosts a **Battle of the Bands** at the Marquee Room, with the second round on Feb. 16 and the finals on Feb. 19. Tickets are \$5 for students. There are eight bands in the pre-lims, come see who will be most triumphant at 8 p.m.

SPORTS

Who doesn't enjoy free Dinos games? If you bring your UCID, you can afford food *and* entertainment!

The **women's volleyball team** faces a multiple offensive from the Alberta Pandas on Feb. 11 & 12. Both games start at 6 p.m. at the Jack Simpson gym. The ball is in our court, Dinos, let's push these Pandas back to the Butterdome.

The undefeated **men's volleyball team** takes on the Alberta Golden Bears following the women's games on Feb. 11 & 12 at 8 p.m. at the Jack Simpson gym. Sources say if the Dinos win both games and go undefeated for the season, our mascot will be changed to King Tyrannosaurus Rex.

This coming weekend, the Olympic Oval welcomes the **Essent ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championship** on Feb. 12 & 13. Single event day tickets for students with ID are \$15 and both events start at 12 p.m. To buy tickets or for more information, check out speedsk8.ca. Over 14 nations are competing, but we're the only one with a giant ice rink for a country.

MISC.

The Spoken Word festival presents **The Central 2nd Saturday SLAM!** youth series at the downtown

THINGS TO DO

1. **Wear themed colours.** Matching outfits with holidays is the in thing to do nowadays.
2. **Bring up awkward questions.** Valentine's Day is the perfect time to bring up the "next step." It's a good sign if they back away, but better if they run.
3. **Become buddies with parents.** They'll keep you occupied during a depressing Valentine's, unless even they have more exciting plans.
4. **Photoshop.** Make fake pictures of what your future babies will look like. It's the most romantic a computer can get.

John Dutton Theatre in the central public library on Feb. 12. The free workshop starts at 1 p.m. but it's recommended to arrive early. For more information, check out calgaryspokenwordfestival.com. No youths were harmed in the planning of this SLAM! workshop.

This Saturday, make space your final frontier. The Rothney Observatory hosts an open house featuring **Alien life forms and the latest finds in extraterrestrial research** on Feb. 12 from 8–11 p.m. Re-enact the end of Rebel Without A Cause and see speaker Phil Langill from the university's department of Physics and Astronomy. Admission is \$20 per car

or \$10 per person and all proceeds go towards the Observatory's educational programs.

The March21/Stop Racism committee screens **Something the Lord Made** on Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m. Make a Black History month themed Valentine's Day and head to Craigie Hall C 105. With free admission, it will be the most affordable date in history.

Cinemania hosts its own inexpensive Valentine's Day plans with screenings of **Due Date** on Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. It's free at That Empty Space. And if you'd rather forget about your Valentine's Day, head over to the Den afterwards.

THIS IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH



	mon	tue	wed	thur	fri	sat	sun	
6 am	BBC WORLD SERVICE NEWS					tea time with annie (continued)	radiosaurus (radiosaurus)	6 am
6:30						democracy now!	alternative radio	6:30
7 am	breaking the tethers	a.m. mix tape	the morning after	soap box derby (sponsored by arusha centre)	the house blend			7 am
7:30	NEW MORNING MIX							7:30
8 am						bunte welle (german)	counterspin	8 am
8:30								8:30
9 am						calgary vietnamese radio	hrvatski radio (croatian)	9 am
9:30								9:30
10 am	her royal opinion (sponsored by local 510)	outside the lines	instant gratification: revoked	mind folk'd	up for it	hellenic melodies (greek radio)	radio pilipino (filipino)	10 am
10:30								10:30
11 am						narrowcasted news	buscando america (latin & south america)	11 am
11:30	so sue me	deconstructing dinner	alternative radio	democracy now			11:30	
12 pm	roger that	daydream dance party	mind grapes (sponsored by republik)	failed pilot / pillage the village	electric ladyland (sponsored by beatroute)	speaking in tongues	precious dynamite	12 pm
12:30						double entendre preserves!	behind the scenes	12:30
1 pm								1 pm
1:30						bikesheviks	the 2 and 2 ain't 5 show	1:30
2 pm	the new classics	white lodge/black lodge	off duty trip	my public shame/contramandatum	my allergy to the fans (sponsored by tubby dog)	music to my ears	knotted roots	2 pm
2:30								2:30
3 pm								3 pm
3:30						level the vibes	mental illness	3:30
4 pm	aubrey's shindig (sponsored by the drum & monkey)	electric company (sponsored by broken city)	halfway home (sponsored by local 522)	alternative to what? (sponsored by the ship & anchor)	road pops (sponsored by fivd weekly)			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)	that's so gay!	musiquarium (everything from jazz to jungle)	voice of ethiopia	breaking techniques	6 pm
6:30						radio oromia	william tell	6:30
7 pm	south louisiana gumbo	tombstone after dark	the blues witness	folkcetera	the dubble bounce	oh africa!	katharsis	7 pm
7:30								7:30
8 pm	yeah, what she said	writer's block	artslink	noise				8 pm
8:30						full moon funkalcious	that's classical?	8:30
9 pm	cjsw presents...	jazz focus	lift the bandstand			dirty needles (the best in funk, soul & hip hop)		9 pm
9:30						what will the neighbors think?	megawatt mayhem (metal)	9:30
10 pm	funk senden	radio boys in the shortwave mystery	good character requirement/estate sale	fat beat diet	remote emissions (jungle & drum 'n bass)	attention surplus disorder	translucent dreams (ambient, trance etc.)	10 pm
10:30								10:30
11 pm	each one teach one	urban sex	am i right?? (comedy)	the twisted brain wrong			11 pm	
11:30								11:30
12 am	sweet chin music	twilight banter	blue collar bravado	bass ackwards (metal)	dna (hardcore techno)			12 am
12:30								12:30
1 am						the mix up	sunday night groove school	1 am
1:30								1:30
2 am	up all night	the freak show	graveyard riot	rage cage (metal)			2 am	
2:30								2:30
3 to 6 am						tea time with annie	radiosaurus	3 to 6 am
6 am								6 am

CJSW is proud to be bringing our listeners great Black History related programming all month long.

Visit cjsw.com/blackhistorymonth to hear some of our tributes to civil-rights leaders, activists, Black Canadian historical figures and musicians of note. We will be updating the site with events and new segments all of February so make sure to check back throughout the month.

- ▶ STATION MANAGER: chad saunders
- ▶ PROGRAM DIRECTOR: joe burima
- ▶ MUSIC DIRECTOR: kat cardiff
- ▶ ph: 403.220.3902 ▶ fax: 403.289.8212
- ▶ 24 hour request line: 403.220.3991
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MUSIC MIX BEATS NEWS / SPOKEN WORD JAZZ MULTICULTURAL

C J S W . C O M / B L A C K H I S T O R Y M O N T H

How to survive midterm season

Bikram hot yoga encourages stressed students to cool off

Savannah Hall
Gauntlet Features

Take yoga, add a lot of heat and you've got the perfect answer to long hours at school and bitter winter winds. That is, if you can deal with a slamin' physique and a more relaxed state of mind as a result.

Hot yoga is basically regular yoga, but in a hot, humid room for 90 minutes. The heat allows your muscles to stretch more easily so even beginners can feel like a rubber band.

Obviously perspiration is bound to happen when exercising in a heated room, but this is natural detoxification — just remember to drink lots of water before, during and after the session.

"The instant thing that people feel is the calming of the central nervous system due to breath and being in savasana," says Cheryl

Miller, an instructor at Bikram Yoga Calgary North.

Savasana is the "corpse pose" and often a favourite. It is the time either in-between or after practice where the body recuperates and processes the exercise that just happened. After each hard pose the class goes into savasana, where students lay on their backs and concentrate on breathing. Not to be confused with nap time, savasana gives the body a chance to rejuvenate and prepare for the next position.

Bikram, however, is a particular kind of hot yoga. Yes, there are different kinds and yes, it does matter.

"In bikram we do every pose twice to give the body a second chance to be able to go deeper and to be able to absorb twice the amount of benefits," says Miller.

An important aspect of bikram is the dialogue — the instructor talks during the entire session. Miller

speaks to the body and guides it through the practice. Instead of trying to fill the silence, the mind is able to tune out and concentrate solely on the task at hand.

Walls of mirrors aid the visual aspect of yoga, so you can check yourself before you wreck yourself.

"Your attention is 100 per cent on you," Miller explains. "Reflection is teaching you proper alignment in the body. You learn to love that reflection."

Mirrors can also be used to check out your neighbour, figure out what you're doing wrong or give you a new goal.

If there isn't time to make it to the studio, students can practice breathing exercises at home.

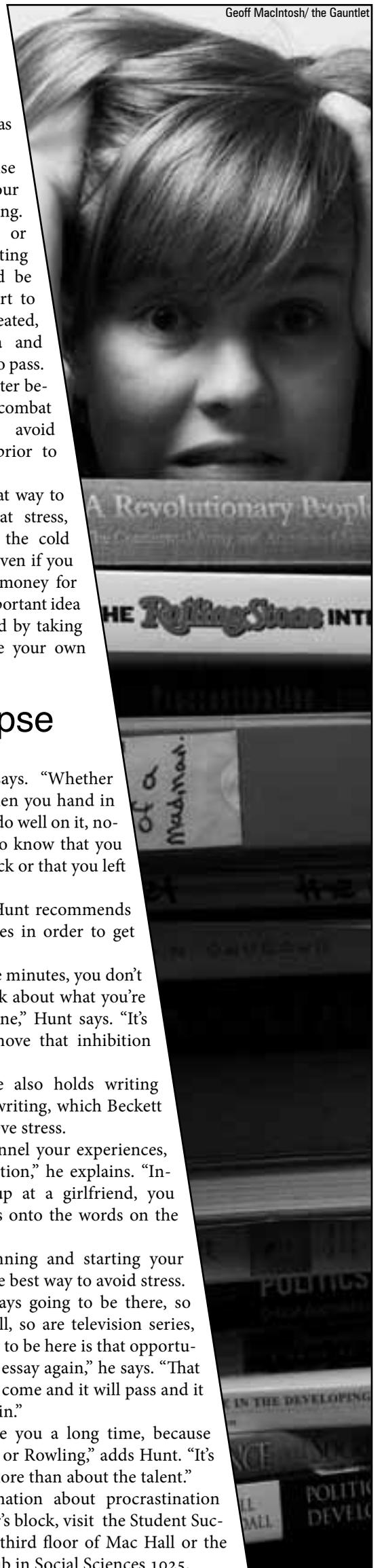
"When you are stressed, you usually breathe really shallow," says Miller. "By increasing the lung capacity and slowing the breathing down, it will slow the emotional

sensations down as well."

As with any exercise regime, contact your doctor before starting. Those who smoke or prone to overheating and fainting should be cautious. If you start to feel dizzy or nauseated, return to savasana and wait for the feeling to pass. Drinking a lot of water before and after helps combat dehydration. Also avoid eating two hours prior to practice.

Hot yoga is a great way to exercise and combat stress, mental illness and the cold weather blues. But even if you can't fork over the money for classes, the most important idea can still be practiced by taking a moment to create your own savasana.

Geoff MacIntosh/ the Gauntlet



Despite common belief, writer's block will not cause apocalypse

Sarah Dorchak
Gauntlet Features

It's almost that time of the year again: the last push before Reading Week. Unless you're a robot built by engineering students, chances are your stress has steadily risen since the first week of January, most of which comes from procrastinating on assignments. Don't kid yourself, friends, I know you all would prefer to do anything other than those pressing essays. That's why you're reading this article instead of studying, isn't it? I thought so.

Sole responsibility for stress does not always lie with procrastination alone, however. That infamous writer's block always hits you at the worst possible times. Fear not, for there are many resources the University of Calgary offers, from clubs to the Student Success Centre, to help remedy this dilemma.

Brenda McDermott from Writing Support Services is an eager and helpful aid.

"We're not all grammar and spelling," she says about the writing centre. "Sometimes we can help you with one or two tweaks to the way you approach writing, the way you do your assignments, that can save you a lot of time, or

at least make the time you have more effective."

McDermott believes the main problems facing students are lack of prioritizing and scheduling. Though sometimes, she adds, the problems are ones that students create themselves.

For example, you don't always need a large chunk of time to study or read. Working in small increments of time throughout the day helps ease that last minute panic before an assignment is due.

"You spend 15 minutes thinking about your thesis statement, you can do that waiting for the bus or CTrain. That can be really productive time towards your paper because then it's in your head and you haven't forgotten about it."

McDermott acknowledges that some students draw a blank when it comes to the writing portion of assignments. She recommends moving through the struggle in sections.

"If your writer's block is because of that daunting first sentence of the introduction, you don't have to start with the introduction. If you have a sense of a thesis statement or what your target goal is, start writing what is easiest to write about at the moment."

Her best advice, however, is to

not leave everything to the last minute.

"Not the old adage of starting things earlier," McDermott clarifies, "just thinking about them earlier. I want people to work smarter not harder."

"Whatever kind of work that you can do before crunch time, even just cognitive work, it can be a relief to your brain so you're not all of a sudden thinking through four or five papers all at once."

McDermott and the Student Success Centre offer writing, time management and procrastination seminars all semester long.

Another on-campus option is the Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club, headed by president Michael Beckett and vice-president Ken Hunt. Scribe and Muse offers not just social events for writers, but a peer-revising program for students of all faculties.

For students looking to improve their writing skills, the club will pair them with students who have displayed exceptional reading and writing abilities to mentor and encourage those who struggle.

A club full of aspiring authors, Scribe and Muse has copious amounts of advice for writers, especially regarding writer's block.

"The biggest thing with writer's block, to combat it, is to just start

writing," Beckett says. "Whether it's good or bad, when you hand in your essay and you do well on it, nobody else is going to know that you had this writer's block or that you left something out."

On the flipside, Hunt recommends free writing exercises in order to get the ball rolling.

"You write for five minutes, you don't stop, you don't think about what you're writing until it's done," Hunt says. "It's a great way to remove that inhibition about writing."

Scribe and Muse also holds writing circles for creative writing, which Beckett says could help relieve stress.

"It helps you channel your experiences, channel anger, emotion," he explains. "Instead of blowing up at a girlfriend, you channel the feelings onto the words on the paper."

Beckett says planning and starting your work early is still the best way to avoid stress.

"Facebook is always going to be there, so is the shopping mall, so are television series, but what's not going to be here is that opportunity to hand in that essay again," he says. "That deadline is going to come and it will pass and it will never come again."

"It's going to take you a long time, because you are not Tolkien or Rowling," adds Hunt. "It's about the process more than about the talent."

For more information about procrastination and that darn writer's block, visit the Student Success Center on the third floor of Mac Hall or the Scribe and Muse club in Social Sciences 1025.

Dinos move into third with pair of wins

Rhiannon Kirkland

Sports Editor

Competition for CW men's hockey playoff spots is going to be tight down the stretch with six teams vying for just four spots. The Dinos are one step closer after sweeping the Manitoba Bisons this weekend, picking up some all-important points in the process.

The Dinos went into the weekend series ranked fourth behind the third-place Bisons. They are now ranked third in CW with five games remaining in the season.

"It's important that you continue to beat teams in front of you that are in the playoff race," said men's hockey head coach Mark Howell. "You want to build confidence by winning important games. Our guys have had a pretty good three week stretch here. We've beat Alberta and Manitoba and got eight of 12 points."

Calgary came out strong during Friday's game with defenseman Cory Pritz scoring one minute into the game. The Dinos would add another goal with under a minute remaining in the first period to take a 2-0 lead into the locker room.

"Any time you get a quick lead in a game just statistically you've got a better chance to win," said Howell. "I think it gives you confidence moving forward to generate quickly and gives your team a chance to play with comfort and not panic. You can relax and just simply play the game."

Manitoba drew first blood in the second period when captain Mike Hellyer scored to make it



Nathaneal Darrell/the Gauntlet

The men's hockey team are ranked third in CW with five games left to play in the season.

2-1. The Dinos would regain their two point lead three minutes later when forward Aaron Richards scored with assists from forward Walker Wintoneak and Reid Jorgensen. The Bisons would draw within one again with a power play goal by forward Blair Macaulay to make it 3-2.

"We were playing fine," said Howell. "They had too many power plays and eventually they're going to get the opportunities. Our guys were extremely confident on the bench and continued to move forward."

Power plays would then prove to be kind to the Dinos. They closed

out the second period with a power play goal from Jorgensen and opened the third period in similar fashion. Forward Teegan Moore would add a last power play goal 16:45 into the third to give the Dinos a decisive 6-2 win.

"Manitoba — they're a team that attacks quickly after turnovers so we wanted to make sure we kept it simple and didn't turnover the puck, kept it deep in their zone, generated opportunities through our work ethic and where we were putting the puck," said Howell. "I thought we did a good job of that."

Despite the Dinos greater scoring, both teams were even in shots

on goal at 25 overall. Manitoba took 11 penalties in the game with the Dinos scoring on three. In comparison, the Dinos took six penalties allowing one power play goal.

"Our penalty kill was exceptional and power play managed to be really good as well," said Howell. "We scored the three power play goals that helped separate us when it was a close game. We took advantage of some bad penalties by them and managed to score."

Saturday's game would prove to be lower scoring, but the Dinos would still carry another important win.

The Dinos had plenty of chances

in the first period, outshooting the Bisons 17-7, but were unable to score until the Dinos found themselves short-handed. Wintoneak and forward Torrie Wheat broke off on a two-on-one at 17:05 and Wheat put it in the net. A goal by Moore at 6:53 in the second doubled the Dinos lead.

"We ended up with a bunch of power plays to start the game and took advantage of it," said Howell. "We didn't score, but we generated lots of opportunities. I think when you do that you wear the other team down. It came right after our power play, they got a power play. Their defensemen were tired and made a mistake and our forwards took advantage of it and created an odd man rush and managed to make a nice play. Torrie Wheat one timed it into the back of the net."

The Dinos then fell into penalty trouble. Manitoba scored two power play goals in quick succession to even the game up at 2-2. However, the Dinos kept their cool and were unphased by the comeback. Forward Colton Grant beat Bisons goalie Steven Christie with a wrist shot at 12:15 in the third. This lead would hold and the Dinos would go on to win it 3-2.

"They came out in the third and played with lots of speed and lots of momentum and we got caught standing around a bit," said Howell. "Took some penalties and lost momentum. After they made it 2-2 we relaxed and calmed down and started to play. From that point on we controlled the rest of the period and managed to find the game winning goal part way through."

Hill leads women's basketball team in pair of wins

Rhiannon Kirkland

Sports Editor

The women's basketball team picked up two big wins against the Manitoba Bisons in large part thanks to two huge performances by the team's only fifth-year player, forward Ashley Hill.

Hill chipped in 38 points on Friday night — a career best — and another 34 on Saturday. She now sits just 65 points behind Meagan Koch for second place on the all time Dinos scoring list.

On Friday night guard Tamara Jarrett would also step up and score 24 points during the Dinos

93-79 win over the Bisons.

The Dinos turned over the ball 21 times during the second half, keeping the game close despite Jarrett and Hill's offensive dominance.

Bison scoring was led by Mubo Ilelaboye with 19 points, Kayla Klassen with 13 points and Lauren Mortier with 12 points.

Saturday's game proved to be much closer and came right down to the end.

The Dinos led by 15 points at the end of the first quarter and then 10 points at the half. The Bisons came out fighting in the third quarter and came back to within one point.

The fourth quarter was a tight

one possession contest. The Dinos ended up winning 75-73.

Alex Cole and Jarrett scored 11 and eight points respectively during the game.

Hill was ten for 12 on free throws with the rest of the Dinos struggling from the line and making only 24 of 40 free throws.

Asia Rhines-Malone led the Bisons offence with 18 points and Klassen chipped in 15.

Calgary have now won six in a row and are 10-10 with four games remaining in the season.

The Dinos are currently ranked seventh in CW with the top eight teams making the playoffs.



Sydney Stokoe/the Gauntlet

Ashley Hill scored 38 points on Feb. 4 and 34 on Feb. 5.

Calgarians get a taste of slopestyle

Douglas Long
Gauntlet Sports

The third Annual Burton Canadian Open — a rare megacontest for all snowboarders — was in full swing this past weekend at Canada Olympic Park. Since the competition has an open style format, any snowboarder can enter the competition, but must make it through various preliminary rounds. Only professionals are given a bye to the finals.

This is the largest competition in Canada with a total of \$50,000 purse prize for the winning riders. The only comparison to this type of event would be the X Games.

Not only was last weekend a snowboarder's dream, but was also the place to be for high-class, free entertainment. Mix Master Mike from the Beastie Boys was at the awards ceremony. Terry and Dean from *Fubar* hosted the beer tent on Friday night, giving out autographs and sharing laughs with the crowds.

The Burton Open also consists of slopestyle and halfpipe events. Halfpipe was introduced as an

Olympic sport for the first time in 1998. The newest emerging winter sport is the slopestyle event, where riders go through a course with jumps, gaps, rails and boxes. Slopestyle is currently not recognized as an Olympic sport, but it may be recognized as one soon. It was recently inducted along with Big Air to FIS Snowboarding World Cup.

"Slopestyle is a part of snowboarding that many people who don't snowboard really have no clue about," said local snowboarder Dave Greenstone. "Many people prefer watching the slopestyle event."

Last weekend lots of riders lit up the course (with a few bails along with them). The halfpipe championships went down on Friday Night with Kelly Clark of USA finishing first, followed by Cilka Sadar of Slovenia in second and Canadian rider Mercedes Nicoll finishing in third. Nova Scotia native Sarah Conrad finished sixth place. As for the men's final, no Canadians cracked the top ten. Kohei Kudo of Japan finished first, Scotty James of Australia finished second



Gauntlet file photo

and Christian Haller of Switzerland finished in third place. Canadian snowboarder Justin Lamoureux, who finished seventh place at the 2010 Olympics, finished eleventh place in the qualifying round, missing the finals by just one spot.

Each year many Canadians enter the Open for the chance to be recognized on a global scale.

"This is a great opportunity for local riders to get noticed on a large scale," said Burton designer Josh Kaplan. "When you look at the

main sponsors of this event, they include some of the top brands of the world, let alone just North America. This is an ultimate experience for a local rider or someone less known to do well and eventually progress to sponsorship."

This weekend saw just that, as Ontario native Zak Stone finished second place in the men's slopestyle and Francis Bourgeois of Quebec finished in third place. On the women's side, no Canadians managed to get into the final

round. Local Calgarian Breanna Stangeland finished in eighth place followed by Brooke Voight from Fort McMurray, Alberta.

The warm weather allowed for a successful and well attended event.

"There is definitely way more people here than last year, I think a lot more people are curious how the sport is progressing," said Greenstone.

Looking for more slopestyle and halfpipe events? Head to the LG Snowboard World Cup being held at Canada Olympic Park Feb. 21-27.

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Hockeysaurs split with Bisons

Tanya Morgan nets shootout winner twice in one night

Rhiannon Kirkland
Sports Editor

The Dinos women's hockey team and University of Manitoba Bisons began Friday's game with some unfinished business. In a somewhat odd and unique situation, the two teams completed a disputed Nov. 14 shootout before playing their regular game. The shootout was originally won by the Bisons, but the Dinos challenged the shootout winner saying it should not have been allowed. Oddly enough, Friday's game would also go onto a shootout.

"Our goalie poke-checked the puck, but the player kept playing and shot the puck in the net and the ref allowed the goal saying, 'It doesn't matter if the goalie touched the puck, the puck kept going in the same direction forward,'" said women's hockey head coach Danielle Goyette of the challenge.

Goyette protested the goal and argued that when the goalie touched the puck the play was over.

It was not until the sixth shooter that the makeup shootout was decided. Dino Tanya Morgan stepped up and put one past Bisons goalie Tara Lacquette. The Bisons were unable to answer giving the Dinos the shootout victory.

"By winning the shootout, it gives more motivation on your bench for the game you play right after," said Goyette.



Gauntlet file photo

The women's hockey team finished the season with a 16-6-2 conference record.

Both goals of the game came on the power play. Calgary's Rebecca Niehaus scored during a Dinos power play 13:12 into the first with assists from Elana Lovell and Morgan. Bison defenseman Caitlin MacDonald would find an equalizer with under a minute left in the second period. Calgary took 14 penalties during the game to Manitoba's four.

The game remained 1-1 at the end of regulation time. Overtime produced no goals, so another shootout was needed. Morgan scored to win a shootout for the second time that night for the Dinos.

"That's the funny thing, we had two shootouts in one night," said

Goyette. "You're not gonna see that. It might never happen again. Because we won the first shootout the girls were pretty positive, the goalie felt really good."

Penalty trouble would prove to be a problem for the Dinos on Saturday as the Bisons opened up the game with a power play goal 8:16 into the first. The Bisons would add another goal at 8:38 in the third, shortly after a Dinos penalty had expired to win 2-0.

"We only had three lines that game and I think we ran out of juice," said Goyette. "If we had maybe four lines and be able to rotate more players in the first game I think we would've been okay."

Calgary scoring leader Hailey Wick-enheiser was out injured for both games.

The Dinos were satisfied with their performance overall, but disappointed to miss out on the extra two points that would have secured them home ice for the first round of the playoffs said Goyette.

They must now wait for the results of the two Bisons games next weekend against UBC. The Bisons currently sit three points behind the Dinos. If the Bisons win both games they will beat out the Dinos for second place in CW. The Dinos have a bye this week and finish the regular season with a 16-6-2 conference record.

Volleyball

Men remain undefeated, women gain playoff spot

Douglas Long
Gauntlet Sports

This past weekend, the undefeated University of Calgary men's volleyball team slammed the University of Manitoba Bisons during a pair of weekend games. The Dinos now lead CW with a 16-0 record and are ranked third in CIS.

The Dinos' last two games of the season are against the University of Alberta Golden Bears in what will be an Alberta showdown. The Golden Bears, currently ranked second in CW and CIS, are sitting with a 15-1 record, riding an 11 win streak.

This could perhaps be the biggest game of the season because if Calgary wins both games they will finish first place and host the CW men's volleyball championship. If the Golden Bears win both games, Alberta will finish first.

The women's volleyball team managed to squeeze out a win over a tough Manitoba Bison team and clinch a post-season spot.

The women's team is currently in sixth place in CW and will play third-place U of A Golden Pandas this weekend on Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m. in the Jack Simpson Gym followed by the men's games at 8 p.m.

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Editor: Ellen Lloyd—tifs@thegauntlet.ca

Hurrah! This week I didn't have to make up a single TLF to fill the section! Keep it up; I really do enjoy getting home before midnight. We also have an expected increase in flirtatious TLFs this week. Unfortunately, any TLFs sent in from now on won't make it into a paper before Valentine's Day. But just because you missed V-Day doesn't mean you should pass up the chance to talk to that cutie you've been eyeing during a tedious lecture or boring lab. Send in a flirtatious TLF and see if they notice — what have you got it lose? Deliver submissions to tifs@thegauntlet.ca or the TLF box in MSC 319 before Tuesday at midnight. Submissions that are racist, sexist, homophobic, or attacks of a personal nature will not be tolerated.

Heather darling,
I do believe it's your turn to do the dishes again.

— S

Cool guy in need of friends;
Losers need not apply.

— wait a moment...

You know I'm born to lose and gambling's for fools. But that's the way I like it baby, I don't wanna live forever. And don't forget the joker!

— Lemmy

Spotted: Soci Boy from last semester refilling his canteen in the Social Sciences building. Nice to finally see you again.

— Soci Girl

A friend in need is a friend indeed; a friend with weed is better. A friend with Dex and all the rest gets me through stormy weather.

— Midterms approaching

Stop by the NUTV Super Sweet Super Cheap Bake Sale on Wed., Feb. 16 in SS Foyer. Student-friendly pricing with tasty treats from \$0.25. Enter to win Flames tickets too!

"Most people would rather be certain they're miserable than risk being happy." — Robert Anthony
— guy who'll be taking that risk on Friday

Watch "INTO ETERNITY" Movies That Matter Doc Wed., Feb. 16 @ 6 p.m. in That Empty Space. Free for students & free popcorn... nom, nom.

D, Let's move to tropical NYC and never BRB. Hearts,

— E

Attention swashbucklers and pirate cults: the Calgary Fencing Club offers adult beginner classes and is located close to campus! www.calgaryfencingclub.ca

To the student who thanked the DRC, we are happy to help! Now come get some chocolate!

Dear Calgary Transit,
When I am standing at Anderson station when it is -30 at 8 a.m., please send more than one train every 30 minutes. (Out-Of-Service trains do not count.) Sincerely,

— The Management

Greta Christina speaks about Ethics, Politics and Sex @ 3:30 p.m., Mar. 12 in ES162.

— Things Worth Thinking About

"We live only to discover beauty. All else is a form of waiting." — Kahlil Gibran

— _virus_

Hey class of '11,
Check out www.graduatingthisyear.com. Enter our What Not to Wear to Work contest and you could win a head-to-toe makeover!

Where: Science Theatres lobby
When: During class changes
What: The spectacle that is people crashing into other people because they can't text and walk.

Help shed light on refugee girls' education by attending the Valentine's Day Bake Sale by Science Theatres on Friday, Feb. 11 and Monday, Feb. 14 organized by WUSC (UofC).

Mr. K-C,
I love you and I hate that I love you. But most of all, I hate that you don't love me too.

— Miss P

A bottle of wine begs to be shared; I have never met a miserly wine lover.

— Let's FAWC!

Headphones Boy —
We can study for next week's mid-term if you would like... the dinner part depends on where you'll be taking me. It's almost Valentine's Day; I'll leave it up to you to charm me before then.

— girl in 359

Strongbow, England's dry cider.

— A True Fan

Come bust a move with the C.U.S. this V-Day at Lloyd's Roller Rink! Find the Haskayne Commerce Undergraduate Society on Facebook for more details!

NUTV is looking for enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers who have a passion for the arts and the environment. Earn CCR credit! Email greenlite@nutv.ca for more info.

SIT AND STUDY: This stunt is performed by experts under controlled conditions. Don't try this at home or anywhere.

THE BRAINTEASER

As you can probably tell from the large number of stars gracing the TLF section this week, we had quite a number of successful TLFers answer last week's puzzle. Thank you all for participating! The answer was:

"No one lives forever."

This week's brainteaser is a substitution cipher; that is, each letter below consistently corresponds to another letter of the alphabet. Can you decode it?

"Ybir vf yvvr na ubhetyfff,
jvgu gur urneg svyyvat hc
nf gur oenva rzcgvrf."

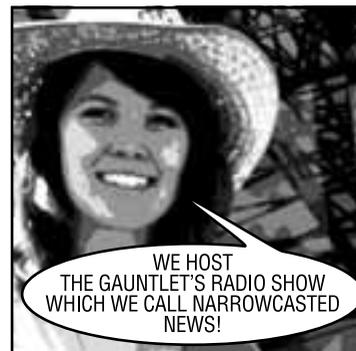
— Whyrf Eraneq

Any intelligent cryptographers who solve the puzzle before midnight on **Tuesday, February 15** should send their solutions to tifs@thegauntlet.ca or to the TLF box in room MSC 319. Remember to include your name, phone number and UCID with your answer! We also need you write a TLF so you can actually get, yunno, recognized. :)

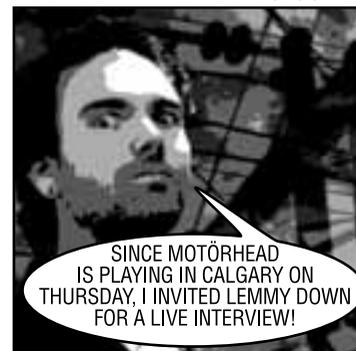
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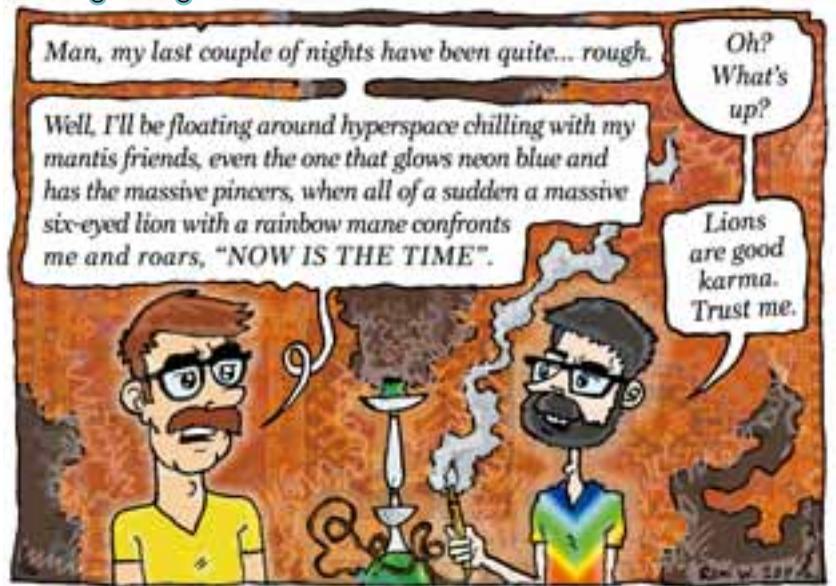
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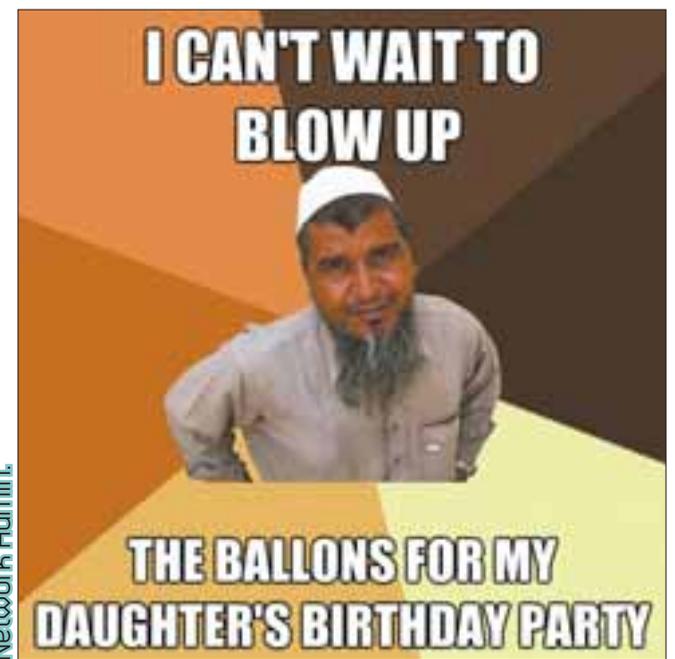
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Hans: Swedish Superstar. E. P. Zygmunt L.K. Hedlund



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On Wed., March 9, the Gauntlet Publications Society will be holding elections for Tier 1 positions (Editor-in-Chief and News Editor).

All University of Calgary undergraduate students are eligible to run for these positions. Students interested in running must declare their candidacy by Wed., March 2 at 5 p.m.

Applicants must be available for a one hour editing test Thurs., March 3 or Fri., March 4 and a forum Fri., March 4.

For more information, please contact the Chief Returning Officer at cro@thegauntlet.ca or Editor-in-Chief at eic@thegauntlet.ca.

