

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

# gauntlet

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## Dinos versus Cougars

INTRA-CITY COMPETITION WILL HAVE FANS FIGHTING OVER MORE THAN THEIR FAVOURITE TEDDY BEAR

**Erin Shumlich**  
Sports Editor

**C**ougars and Dinos can now claw and roar at each other for the top spot in the city this upcoming year as the University of Calgary welcome their newest rivals. The Mount Royal University Cougars will provide stiff intra-city competition, become the 15th member of Canada West Universities Athletic Association after gaining university status last year. As the newest member of the most decorated conference in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport, the Cougars have been granted probationary membership starting in September.

Admission to the league is based on a diverse assortment of qualifications from facilities, day-to-day operations, scholarships and funding. MRU has been focused on bringing more coaches onto campus full time.

The decision was finalized May 4 during Canada West's

annual meeting in Saskatoon, with more than the required 75 per cent membership approval needed for acceptance into the league.

Canada West president Sandy Slavin said that since MRU is now a member of CWUAA they can make an application to become a part of CIS. CIS consists of 51 universities across Canada, over 10,000 athletes and 21 championships in 12 different sports.

"At the end of three years, there is a vote where they again need to meet 75 per cent approval where they can become full members without probationary."

She said it is a huge step for MRU to move on from the Canada College league.

"Now that they have a university title, they wanted to compete in an athletic league of the same level," she said. "One major advantage is that they can compete for a national championship."

Although MRU is still waiting for approval from CIS, Mount Royal media relations coordinator Kyle Henry said

he doesn't know of an instance when a school has been accepted on conference level and not by CIS.

"It's more just a formality," said Henry. "Our application will be reviewed at the CIS conference in June. We are obviously very excited and don't see any issues."

The Cougars men's and women's basketball, volleyball, hockey and soccer teams will join the biggest amateur sports league in Canada next season.

"Becoming a member of the CWUAA is a separate process from gaining university status," said Henry. "There was been a lot of behind the scenes work for everyone on campus and it is the end of all our hard work. This has been on the radar for our athletics department for many years now. It's a landmark day for our student athletes — somewhere they can really showcase their skills."

Although it will take time to build up their level of competition, Henry said the athletes are really excited for a great rivalry with the U of C.

See COMPETITION IN CALGARY RISES, pg 5



# Pay it forward?

On May 2, 2011, Canadians voted in a majority Conservative government for the first time in 23 years. When the Liberals were in power, an allowance for each vote cast was introduced, resulting in about \$2 per vote going to each party. The subsidy occurs if a political party is supported by 2 per cent of the popular vote, or 5 per cent of the votes in ridings hosting a candidate of theirs. Instead of having to rely solely on fundraising, political parties in Canada benefit financially from supporting ballots. Harper's government is proposing to do away with this allowance.

The Conservatives proposed to get rid of the subsidy in 2008, but they were only a minority then. During the recent election campaign, Harper promised to abolish per-vote subsidies if the Conservatives won a majority.

Harper believes that each party

should be financed through fundraising alone. The dollar amounts garnered from vote subsidies are significant. Two weeks ago, the Conservative party made over \$11.6 million in subsidies. \$9 million went to the NDP, \$5.5 million for the Liberals, and \$1.7 for the Bloc. Without vote subsidies, political parties will have to increase fundraising efforts.

There's merit to the idea. Unable to rely on cheques after every election, parties would be forced to reach out to voters with the hope of encouraging them to donate — a strategy that may increase voter participation. Another bonus is that parties would be discouraged from hurrying into elections. While the major parties spend far more than the subsidies provide, they would be forced to be more cautious, knowing that the money would need to be fundraised.

Former Bloc leader Gilles Du-

ceppe criticized the idea before the election, claiming it would hurt smaller parties such as the Greens. It's unclear if this is true, however. It's true that the Conservatives — with connections to big business — may benefit more than other parties. But grassroots funding of the type seen during Barack Obama's 2008 campaign is possible with any party.

So long as appropriate limits on donations are in place (which, of course, are not guaranteed),

abandoning the per-vote subsidy is a good change.

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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 timeliness based ink. We urge you to recycle/finish the Gauntlet.

**The Cover**

Photo and design by Aly Gulamhusein

## STUDENTS' UNION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### Chief Returning Officer (CRO)

**Term: Part-time, from August 2011 to March 2012**

**Pay: Honoraria of up to \$2,000 for the by-election and up to \$3,000 for the general election.**

The Chief Returning Officer (CRO) is a contract position responsible for ensuring fair and equal elections for the Student Union (SU). The CRO will be the chief administrator of all Elections and Referenda of the Student Union and will ensure a fair democratic process exists and is upheld. The Chief Returning Officer key responsibilities:

- Administer the SU Nomination and Campaign events;
- Enforce election and referenda rules;
- Organize public forums and moderating debates;
- Training polling station clerks;
- Oversee the functionality of polling stations;
- Deliver election and referenda results.

Your work will be concentrated in September – October and January – March. Applicants must be current undergraduates attending the University of Calgary and cannot sit on any SU Committees. Preference will be given to those with experience in student, civic, provincial, or federal elections.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to the attention of Susan Judd, Council Liaison Officer  
Email: scjudd@ucalgary.ca or in person at the SU Main Office, 251 MacEwan Student Centre.

**Deadline: Friday, June 3, 2011.**



## STUDENTS' UNION OPPORTUNITY

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The SU requires five logical and sensitive student members to sit on its judicial body - the Review Board. Duties may include:

- Reviewing applications
- Examining evidence
- Reviewing and interpreting bylaws
- Ruling on grounds for hearing
- Participating in hearings
- Rendering decisions

Please submit a letter of interest and a resume to the Council Liaison Officer:

1. Drop off at MSC 251, or;
2. Email: scjudd@ucalgary.ca, or;
3. Fax: 403-284-1653.

If you have any further questions contact Susan Judd, Council Liaison Officer at 403-220-6693.



# Student issues addressed in election

**Amy Badry**  
News Editor

“Students Vote” was the cheer heard across campus during the University of Calgary’s vote mob. But did the red and white wearing students get out and vote? The election resulted in a conservative majority and Rob Anders, MP for Calgary West, has identified post-secondary issues in need of attention in the coming years.

Voter turnout in the 2008 general election was 58 per cent. Only 38 per cent of those aged 18–24, however, turned out to cast their vote — 20 per cent less than the population at large.

Elections Canada spokesperson John Enright was hopeful about increased youth voter turnout for this election.

“We don’t have results from this election yet, but we are encouraged because youth seemed to be more engaged this election,” said Enright. “There were a lot more vocalization among youth about voting.”

Enright cited vote mobs and rallies as a positive way for youth to engage.

“But whether or not those trans-

lated to actual votes, I don’t know,” he said.

Elections Canada does not have data on youth voter turnout for the most recent election. Overall voter turnout, however, increased 3.5 per cent.

U of C students conducted a vote mob on April 13. Students’ Union president Dylan Jones said approximately 100 students turned out for the rally.

“Vote mob was really exciting,” said Jones. “You don’t see a lot of rallies at the University of Calgary.”

Jones believes students care and realize it is important to vote.

Elections Canada is currently trying to determine what keeps young people away from the ballot box.

“Youth are telling us they lead busy lives, they don’t have time, they don’t understand the process, it means nothing to them, it has no relevancy to them,” said Enright.

In order to make voting more accessible for youth, Elections Canada is focusing their efforts on kids under the age of 18.

“We just launched a program in Ontario where we are putting a module on democracy and elections into the curriculum,” said Enright.



Gauntlet file photo

Students show they care at the University of Calgary vote mob.

Currently Alberta does not have this program but the Ontario teacher kits are available to any teacher in the country.

Conservative MP Rob Anders was re-elected for a sixth term in Cal-

gary West, the U of C’s riding.

With 39,996 votes Anders beat his next competitor by more than 28,000 votes.

“Obviously Calgary West wanted to see us carry on with a low tax

plan to grow the economy and create jobs,” said Anders.

Anders said he understands what students want when they leave university. “They come out, they want to get a job, they want to pay down their student loans.”

Anders plans to work with the government to make textbooks tax deductible as well as introduce tax-free scholarships and bursaries.

“The Conservative government is also working at enhancing the Canada student loan program for part-time students,” said Anders. “If you are somebody who is looking to go back to school but is still doing part time work because you have bills to pay you can access Canada student loans, whereas years past, it was more difficult.”

The su is working with the Canadian Alliance of Students Association to lobby the government to eliminate parental contribution expectations when applying for student loans.

Jones said the government has taken interest in the CASA policy and has hopes for its success.

“It is kind of exciting that we have such a strong presence of Calgary in Ottawa now. We are really excited to make this happen,” said Jones.

## Solar cars race across Alberta in preparation for Australia

**Andréa Rojas**  
Entertainment Editor

If you happen to see an ultra-modern-looking vehicle making its way down Alberta’s highways this week, it won’t be stopping for gas. This car is powered completely by the energy of the sun.

Last Friday, the University of Calgary Solar Team took their Schulich Axiom solar car for an eight-day province-wide tour —

the Schulich Axiom Alberta Tour.

Thirty engineering students from the U of C built the car in fall 2010 and started on repairs and improvements Jan. 2011.

SAAT is being conducted partly in anticipation of the World Solar Challenge in October.

“[wsc] is basically a 3,000 km race across the Australian outback from Darwin to Adelaide over the period of a week,” said wsc engineering manager and project co-

chair Jeff Wickenheiser. “From the engineering side, [SAAT] is about testing the car and testing the drivers, as well making sure they are ready to handle basically anything so we can keep running as fast as possible.”

Forty teams from around the world will compete in wsc.

Solar Team Faculty advisor Dr. Lynne Cowe-Falls explained the significance of having drivers ready to compete in the grueling

Australian race.

“It’s very different to be in the race than to try to plan for the race. That routine, that grind of getting up early every morning, having to charge the car, always being on your game — getting used to that will prepare the team for what they will have in Australia.”

“The big difference is that in Australia it’s one straight road across the country and there’s not

a lot of little communities [on the way], so they’re going to have to be a lot more resourceful,” said Cowe-Falls.

Ensuring driver readiness for the Australian race isn’t the only mandate of SAAT.

“[SAAT] has a couple different purposes,” said Wickenheiser. “It’s also a very educational tour. We have lots of plans to stop in at schools in rural Alberta.”

see SOLAR CARS, page 4

### Did you vote in the federal election. Why or why not?



“No, I did not vote because I am not a Canadian citizen.”  
– **Zheng Zong**, fourth-year economics



“No, because I could not provide a verification of my address.”  
– **Ricky Hon**, fourth-year philosophy



“Yes, because I thought I could make a difference.”  
– **Harjot Khakh**, second-year psychology



“Yes, because my dad told me to.”  
– **Aala Faraj**, second-year biology

## campus quips

# Excellent teachers given awards

**Amy Badry**  
News Editor

On April 26 the University of Calgary campus community gathered to acknowledge professors with outstanding accomplishments in the teaching arena.

Sixteen faculty members along with two teaching assistants received a Teaching Excellence Award. Seven faculty members were inducted into the Hall of Fame, which recognizes professors who have won the award multiple times.

The award is for professors who have made a significant impression on students' academic and personal growth. A committee containing Students' Union vice-president academic, faculty representatives, staff members and students at large is conceived annually to look at professors nominated and decide the winners.

Quality of teaching, enthusiasm and knowledge of the subject matter are considered.

Professors need at least five nominations from their class to be considered for the award.

Shane Halasz, a TA for General Studies 300, was one of the two TAs to be awarded a Teaching Ex-



Courtesy the Students' Union

Teaching Assistant Theron Davis was awarded an honorable mention at the annual SU Teaching Excellence Award ceremony.

cellence Award.

"It was a very humbling experience," said Halasz, who was nominated previously but did not win. "I think I require of my students to give as much as they can to create a positive class experience."

Halasz, who admitted he always hated school before he came to university, said he considers himself more a guide than a teacher.

"I think that I sort of allow students to bring out of themselves what is already there and needs to

be fostered rather than imposing my own viewpoint and interpretation," said Halasz.

Halasz said a successful classroom experience relies on students. "If the discussion starts rolling and the magic starts happening that is more than me."

VP academic Ola Mohajer said Teaching Excellence Awards are important for both students and professors.

"Students will be able to see which of their professors are excelling beyond the norm and for professors it definitely matters when it comes to their promotions," said Mohajer.

Teaching Excellence Awards have been conducted by the SU for 27 years. Award winners receive a \$500 personal prize and a \$1000 donation on the winner's behalf to the University of Calgary Library or Teaching and Learning Centre.

Additional criteria for the Teaching Excellence Awards include professors who challenge and motivate students, support learning beyond the classroom, passionate professors who employ innovative and exceptional teaching practices and professors who inspires curiosity and critical thinking in students.

## Teaching Excellence Award Winners

### Faculty of Arts

Raymond Gunter  
Aritha van Herk  
William Laing  
Shawn Marshall

### Faculty of Science

Yousry Elsabrouty  
Robert Barclay

### Schulich School of Engineering

Norman Bartley  
Steven Kyle Boyd

### Haskayne School of Business

Teri Bryant  
Robert Schulz

### Faculty of Education

Marianne Burgess

### Faculty of Nursing

Tracey Clancy

### Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Emma Read

### Faculty of Medicine

Mayi Arcellana-Panlilio

### Faculty of Social Work

Mishka Lysack

### Faculty of Kinesiology

Brad Kilb

### Teaching Assistant

Michelle Stan

Shane Halasz

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## Solar cars, cont'd from page 3

Education and outreach is one mandate of the Solar Team.

"By going to all these elementary and junior high schools, we want to inspire in them an interest in science and technology, and of course the U of C," said Wickenheiser. "We're all about sustainability."

Increasing youth interest in sustainability through SAAT could also have implications for the future of the U of C.

"We would rather have the top students in the province go to the University of Calgary instead of the University of Alberta, so it's also a big recruitment thing," said Cowe-Falls. "We're in the energy capital of Canada, and we're promoting a sustainable technology. Taking the next step into the next realm of sustainability when we're in the heart of oil and gas is what we're about academically."

It's clear that one of the strengths

of the Solar Team is its promotion of inter-faculty cooperation.

"The engineering team is responsible for building a functioning solar car, and the business team is essentially responsible for everything else, from budgeting [and] accounting [to] making sure that we're getting out in the community enough and that we have the right amount of exposure at the right times," explained events manager and Haskayne student Brigitte Sullivan.

"It's real-world experiential learning," said Cowe-Falls. "This is not in the textbooks. For the engineers, it's the construction of this car; for the business team, it's the actual management of a \$650,000 project. It's real-world application of their knowledge."

For Sullivan, the autonomy given to the entirely student-run Solar Team is what encourages its members to expand their techni-

cal and professional skills.

"We are allowed to make our own mistakes and learn from those mistakes," said Sullivan. "I think that's what the whole project comes down to — experiential learning by doing. I think that Schulich has done a really good job in understanding that."

It is clear that the Solar Team would not be in existence without student initiative.

"We do year-round recruiting, so if anyone is interested in joining the team, we're always open to letting new people come in," said Sullivan. "If they're willing to learn, then we're definitely willing to teach. Even just coming out and supporting us wherever we are is always a great help too."

Tour progress can be tracked at [www.calgarysolarteam.ca](http://www.calgarysolarteam.ca). All inquiries can be directed toward [publicrelations@calgarysolarteam.ca](mailto:publicrelations@calgarysolarteam.ca).

Competition in Calgary rises, cont'd from cover

The three-year probationary period allows the Cougars an opportunity to hone their skills. The Dinos have faced off against the Cougars in exhibition games, but Mike Boyles, U of C athletics associate director, said two teams in the same league, both competing in Calgary, is a big step to get a wider range of supporters.

“Obviously with the Dinos as a strong competition, it opens up a natural rivalry,” said Boyles. “Having two universities in the same league can look at greater recognition within the city. Mount Royal has pretty good support right now from the college league, but by joining Canada West this will naturally increase.”

The University of British Columbia Okanagan was also granted probationary membership to CWUAA for their basketball and volleyball teams starting this fall. A decision to grant the University of Northern British Columbia membership was deferred until June after further information was requested.

# Dino puts dream on hold

Erin Shumlich  
Sports Editor

After a tough road getting there, running back Matt Walker is ecstatic with the recent CFL draft results that give him a bright future to look forward to.

Unlike five peers who were drafted beside him, he decided to defer his play in the pros after long deliberation. Last Wednesday he announced to the *Calgary Herald* his intentions of going back to school to finish his degree and see through his football eligibility at the university level before going to the big leagues.

“It was a really tough decision, definitely really stressful,” said Walker. “Especially right before the draft, knowing there was a good chance I wouldn’t be drafted because of [the decision]. I had a few moments after announcing it that I felt a lot of regret and nervous about my future.”

In a press release, Dinos head coach Blake Nill said he supports

Walker’s decision.

“Matt will play in the CFL if he wants to. I’m sure of that.”

While Walker is unsure if his teammates will return to finish their degrees, they are definitely taking the fall semester off to play in the CFL.

“Unfortunately, in my case I have to complete my courses in succession so I wouldn’t be able to take the semester off. I would have to take them in the fall or withdraw from the program so that’s what had me in a bind.”

The room of players anxiously awaiting to hear their name called on draft night slowly turned into a room of cheer after all six players on the board were drafted. Teammate wide receiver Anthony Parker was drafted third overall and wide receiver Nathan Coehoorn fifth to the Calgary Stampeders and Edmonton Eskimos respectively. Three Dinos, all offensive linemen, were drafted in round four: Paul Swiston to the Blue Bombers, Alexander Krausnick-Groh to the Roughriders and Reed

Alexander to the Alouettes.

Walker was drafted in the fifth round, 34th overall.

“It’s pretty huge,” said Walker. “I did drop a few rounds in the draft, which is fine but the main point is that I came out a draftee. It honestly couldn’t have worked out better, I am just extremely happy. Basically it was the perfect scenario for me, with Calgary drafting me and how they view me on their team and as a future prospect, so being able to take that year is huge for me and I am glad they were willing to do it that way.”

A huge part of Walker’s decision came because of the inflexibility of his degree in petroleum land management.

“Originally, I wanted to go into geology because my brother did it,” he said. “I ended up realizing geology wasn’t the most feasible option with playing ball so I switched into business. I could stay in oil and gas and have the geology part as well which worked out really nice.”

Walker will be joining Parker for the Stampeders camp in June and



David Moll/Dino Athletics

Matt Walker was drafted to the CFL.

playing pro for the 2012 season after he finishes school.

“I am going to play ball as long as my body or skills allow me to. I will definitely go back to working in the oil and gas industry,” Walker said.

## opinions

### Sun News: five white bigots and a set of tits



Remi Watts  
Opinions Editor

Resulting from our proximity and shared language, American culture unceasingly disseminates into Canada; the hyper-sensationalist orgiastic model of American media is no exception. The Sun News Network is the latest instantiation of the noisy, polarized news media that has taken foot in our nation, mimicking the monstrous Fox News Channel. Canadians from all walks of life should be outraged that such a visibly negative force such as the Sun News Network operates as easily as it does north of the 49th parallel. Due to their utter disregard for journalistic accuracy and integrity, gross sexism, blatant right-wing agenda and their affinity for fear mongering, the Sun News Network should be considered Canada’s current,

crowning embarrassment.

Having been rightly denied a Category One license from the CRTC (which would have made the channel mandatory on cable and satellite across Canada as CTV News Channel and CBC News Network are), following a slew of controversy including allegations that Prime Minister Stephen Harper had attempted to intimidate CRTC management into fast-tracking the new channel’s licence, the Sun News Network was granted a Category Two specialty license in November. The channel, brandishing the slogan “We’re On Your Side,” was launched on April 18th, 2011 to the sound of “O Canada,” followed by an introduction by Krista Erickson and her breasts, which coincided with her appearance in the *Calgary Sun*’s depraved ‘sunshine girl’ section for that same day, and then a few hours featuring a loud buzzing sound emanating from a hot-air balloon that looked suspiciously like the hyper-right-wing

pundit Ezra Levant.

Shortly following their launch, the Sun News Network promptly and thoroughly discredited themselves as being trustworthy sources of news by engaging in smear campaigns of politicians Jack Layton and Michael Ignatieff, occurring during the final critical week of the 2011 federal election. They fallaciously and maliciously accused Jack Layton of having been caught by police in a brothel in 1996. They fallaciously and maliciously accused Michael Ignatieff of having a role in the 2003 American invasion of Iraq, showing a photo of someone close in appearance to Ignatieff posing with American soldiers in Kuwait.

Following in the footsteps of their American foil Fox News Channel, the Sun News Network misrepresents Canadians with a primetime line-up of five of the most bitter and blinkered middle-aged white males that money can buy: David Akin, Brian Lilley, Charles Adler, Theo Caldwell

and Ezra Levant. These five angry white men, who have all been long-time right-wing commentators or important members, or both, of the Conservative Party of Canada, are ‘balanced’ with the blonde miss Krista Erickson, who, according to her ‘sunshine girl’ write-up is, “rarin’ to go . . . unapologetically patriotic and not afraid to call it like it is.” While it could certainly be argued that Canada is in need of a few fresh faces — after all, Peter Mansbridge of the CBC and Lloyd Robertson of the CTV are both rather tiresome

— the Sun News Network fails to provide anything close to this. Their hosts are, at best, washed-up noise-makers willing to spew “hard news and straight talk” for a quick buck.

The Sun News Network’s deliberate presentation of false or misleading information, their boys room prime-time line-up, their skewed understanding of the word ‘patriotism,’ their openly right-wing prejudices and their American-media-commentary style fear-mongering should deeply trouble the hearts of Canadians.



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# FALL CITY FALL



courtesy Reuben Krabbe

Thrash-inducing metalcore sounder than metropolitan infrastructure

**Andréa Rojas**  
Entertainment Editor

**T**hey play Super Nintendo, go to hip-hop shows on the weekends and their lead singer also plays the ukulele. All the characteristics of your quirky next-door neighbour kid are, interestingly enough, the eclectic elements that come together to form the endearingly aggressive metalcore act Fall City Fall.

To the untrained ear, it might seem as if metalcore, a delightfully belligerent fusion of metal and hardcore, does little more than channel pubescent angst into spastic snare lines. However, Fall City Fall's purposeful appropriation of distortion makes their riffs as elegant as the algebra they did in high school, and this type of irony is the kind with fangs. Having commenced a nationwide tour this past Friday (which includes 12 shows in cities as far away as Montreal, with a stop in Saskatoon for the travelling hardcore festival MazzFest), Fall City Fall is preparing to sink their teeth into Canada while promoting their first full-length album, *1629*.

The Calgary sextet, consisting of vocalists Keenan Pylychaty and Nathan Zorn, guitarists Scott Olyphant and Jordan Storey, bassist Rick Griffiths and drummer Andrew Higgins, has collected over 2,000 fans on

**// I can't really classify metalcore; it's just music from the heart to me. That's what really pulled me into [metalcore]. You can just feel it.**

Facebook, many of them in their early-to-mid-teens. When speaking of what draws a predominantly adolescent crowd to their sound, Pylychaty considers their subgenre an emotional outlet.

"I can't really classify metalcore; it's just music from the heart to me," he says. "Personally, I got really involved in music because it took the stress right off. I got into a little bit of trouble when I was a kid [and] this music just helped me stay focused. I could . . . go to a show [and] forget everything that

was wrong. You can lose yourself in it. That's what really pulled me into [metalcore]. You can just feel it."

Fall City Fall favour the inclusiveness of the metalcore subgenre to the exclusivity that

— Keenan Pylychaty, vocalist

has characterized the two genres to which it owes its existence.

"I think a lot of people are turned off by metal and hardcore," explains Zorn. "It doesn't matter what you listen to, what you like, [or] who you are . . . no one's here to judge you. I think a lot of people in hardcore are very judgmental so that [turns] a lot of people away, but the people who come [to our shows] have a good time."

This is further reflected in the band's own name. "[Fall City Fall] is just a group of peo-

ple coming together to face a common evil, like 'we'll tear this city apart, we'll do whatever, we'll stand together as one,'" explains Pylychaty.

Interestingly, their barely-into-their-twenties aggression seems to add a certain lightness to their heavy sound, although this hardly detracts from its substance. It's more of an indication that it's impossible for them to go anywhere but forward, musically.

"Even in our scene we're pretty different because we're not a monotonous fret-one-chug breakdown band," says Zorn. "A lot of stuff in our genre is really generic and overdone and boring, so I think we try to set ourselves apart from that."

And although that neighbour kid might be trying to beat *Super Mario World* while serenading you on his ukulele, he has a singleness of purpose.

"If you're having fun, [the] kids will be having fun too," says Griffiths.

Listen to tracks from Fall City Fall's album *1629* at [myspace.com/fallcityfall](http://myspace.com/fallcityfall).

# Steel, stone and bone

Cochrane sculptor Luke Lukasewich brings eclectic collection to Calgary

**Andréa Rojas**  
Entertainment Editor

Scientific knowledge and childlike wonder aren't mutually exclusive, especially when they're combined by artist Luke Lukasewich into the pieces that will comprise his upcoming gallery exhibition, the aptly titled "Renewal."

The collection, to be unveiled at Calgary's Axis Contemporary Art gallery this week, is characterized by eclecticism and experimentation, incorporating diverse pieces everywhere from metal sculptures of feathers to robots made from discarded light fixtures.

"I've always experimented. Since I was very young, I always experimented with material.

"My expression is always changing. It's just working out ideas in different materials."

The Alberta College of Art and Design-educated sculptor describes his most recent collection as reminiscent of the Art Nouveau and the later Art Deco movements, with an interesting twist — all of his creations are made from recycled materials.

"I'm using the prefix 're-' — renew, recycle, re-paint, rejuvenate — all these processes I go through," says Lukasewich of the title of his forthcoming exhibition.

The longtime Alberta resident operates out of a studio named "Steel, Stone and Bone" (after his three preferred media) near downtown Cochrane, which also happens to be nestled next to the

source of the physical material for his creations.

"The store next door is a recycle store, and I get all the old lamps, brass and metal, and I'm saving them to make stuff. It's called Reno Heaven, and you donate stuff you don't want that you're recycling from renovation, and then other people come in and buy it at a discount, and the money goes to Habitat for Humanity."

"These are made from lamps, overhead fans and chandeliers," says Lukasewich of his creations.

Lukasewich's work primarily derives its inspiration from a number of diverse elements from the artist's own personal history.

"When I was younger I was studying geometry and working with line and illusion," says Lukasewich. "For years I built dinosaur skeletons, [but] two million bones and twenty years later, I was done with dinosaurs. So about a year and a half ago, I started to go away from geometric line and get inspiration from nature and science fiction and just make some stuff [and] have fun."

Lukasewich finds artistic freedom in no longer having to create sculptures true to a specific predetermined form. The artistic works in Lukasewich's diverse collection now transform the symmetry of human-made objects into representations of nature and whimsical inventions alike, primarily using the elements of line and space.

"[I'm] using existing material to make a structure, to make a 3-D



courtesy Erin Devenny

Lukasewich's "Light Speed" is made of discarded lamp parts.

form. It's just drawing — I'm drawing in space. I built houses for 15 years and I loved the structure [and] the skeletal framing of a house, and that's what all this is — it's framing."

Despite its eclecticism, however, the sculptor's most recent collection is far from miscellaneous. Lukasewich views the creation of his art as a problem-solving process as opposed to a pursuit of the aesthetically pleasing.

"I set up a project or a problem for myself. [The collection's focal piece] is a tricycle and it's recumbent. I call [it] my 'rest cycle' or 'Light Speed' because I'm using lamp parts. I lay down and pedal. And that was my problem to solve. For [another piece], it was to make a cycle for two people. I set a problem and go in a direction to solve it," explains Lukasewich.

"Mixed media is just what I want

to express or a problem I want to solve."

With future projects ranging from transforming an abandoned wheelchair into a Roman chariot to experimenting with coloured glass, the strength of Lukasewich's art is in its freedom of form and lack of commitment to any particular artistic style.

"Using the things people cast off and making new things — it's great, it's an inspiration."

When asked if his work weaves together any common creative theme, Lukasewich says "No. It's just all new stuff, a new direction. Each piece leads into the next one . . . it's a creative process."

"The key word is 'fun.'"

Renewal is showing at Axis Contemporary Art from May 14 to June 2. Visit [axisart.ca](http://axisart.ca) for more details.

## Film review:

### *The Conspirator*

**Morgan Shandro**  
Illustrations Editor

Most people know of the historic assassination of Abraham Lincoln by John Wilkes Booth in 1865. For those of us not studying American history, however, our knowledge of the event may stop there. This is often the case with history, where the main players are usually the ones most remembered, and the people on the sidelines are more easily forgotten. *The Conspirator* is an American film based on a true story that seeks to bring some of these

people into the light. It focuses on the trial of Mary Surratt, the mother of Booth's right-hand man. Even though the evidence against Mary is minimal, she is forced to stand in front of a military tribunal instead of going through a civilian trial, the former of which is more harshly judged and more lenient regarding evidence. Frederick Aiken, a soldier for the North during the Civil War who becomes a lawyer, reluctantly agrees to defend her. He soon realizes that her trial is being manipulated in order to try and convict her, and all the evidence against her is

see CONSPIRATOR, page 8

# VOX

CALGARY 90.9 FM  
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## TOP 20

\* canadian artist \*\* local artist  
for the week of may 2, 2011

- 1 **LAB COAST\*\*** *Pictures On The Wall* (Transit)
- 2 **TIMES NEW VIKING** *Dancer Equired* (Merge)
- 3 **FLEET FOXES** *Helplessness Blues* (Sub Pop)
- 4 **BILL CALLAHAN** *Apocalypse* (Drag City)
- 5 **SHANNON AND THE CLAMS** *Sleep Talk* (1-2-3-4 Go!)
- 6 **TIMBER TIMBRE\*** *Creep On Creepin' On* (Arts & Crafts)
- 7 **EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY** *Take Care, Take Care, Take Care* (Temporary Residence)
- 8 **BASS DRUM OF DEATH** *GB City* (Fat Possum)
- 9 **GIRLS NAMES** *Dead To Me* (Slumberland)
- 10 **THE DONKEYS** *Born With Stripes* (Dead Oceans)
- 11 **THE KILLS** *Blood Pressures* (Domino)
- 12 **THE BURNING HELL\*** *Flux Capacitor* (Weawerk)
- 13 **METAL MOTHER** *Bonfire Diaries* (Post Primal)
- 14 **TITLE TRACKS** *In Blank* (Ernest Jennings)
- 15 **YOUNG WIDOWS** *In And Out Of Youth And Lightness* (Temporary Residence)
- 16 **JENNIFER CASTLE\*** *Castlemusic* (Flemish Eye)
- 17 **JONNY** *Jonny* (Merge)
- 18 **LITTLE SCREAM\*** *The Golden Record* (Secretly Canadian)
- 19 **VIVIAN GIRLS** *Share The Joy* (Polyvinyl)
- 20 **BONNIE 'PRINCE' BILLY & THE CAIRO GANG** *Island Brothers/New Wonder* (Drag City)

### JAZZ

- 1 **AARON LEANEY & CHRIS DADGE\*\*** *Continuity* (Bug Incision)
- 2 **WILLIE NELSON & WYNTON MARSALIS** *FEATURING NORAH JONES* *Here We Go Again: Celebrating The Genius Of Ray Charles* (Bluenote)
- 3 **BANN** *As You Like* (Jazz Eyes)
- 4 **JAMIE RUBEN\*** *Groove O Ly O Scene* (Self-Released)
- 5 **BERNOIT DELBEQO TRIO** *The Sixth Jump* (Songlines)

### FOLK/ROOTS/BLUES

- 1 **DANIEL ROMANO\*** *Sleep Beneath The Willow* (You've Changed)
- 2 **KATE MAKI\*** *Moonshine* (Confusion Unlimited)
- 3 **FISH & BIRD** *Every Whisper Is A Shout Across The Void* (Fiddle Head)
- 4 **RAY HARRIS\*** *East End West End North End South End* (Self-Released)
- 5 **MAGES** *Magestic* (Self-Released)

### SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY

## LAB COAST

This four piece is hot stuff right now with their lo-fi love songs. I can't wait 'til they come on **CJsw** in a couple weeks!  
<http://labcoast.tumblr.com/>

### LIVE BANDS ON-AIR

**SWINDLER:** Fri. May 13  
11:00 pm on *Remote Emissions*

**WYRD III:** Sat. May 14  
3:20 pm (interview) on *Music To My Ears*

**RALEIGH:** Thurs. May 26  
9:15 am on *Soapbox Derby*

**LAUREN MANN:** Thurs. June 9  
9:30 am (interview) on *Soapbox Derby*

**ELEVATOR MUSIC:**  
Fri. June 10 - 11:30 am

### RADTASTIC!

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# Choch: If “The Situation” explored his inner self

## Calgary indie filmmaker delves into paradox of stereotype and reality

Andy Williams  
Gauntlet Vagrant

MTV's *Jersey Shore* has served as a lightning rod for social commentary on the rise of the bar-frequenting, working-class Italian-American male commonly known as the guido. Critics regularly lampoon the show, complaining that it promotes a litany of unbecoming behaviours such as belligerence, binge drinking and belligerent binge drinking. Despite the words of naysayers, the guido stereotype, as well as that of the “choch,” its not-so-distant cousin, have recently enjoyed increased scrutiny and have been both emulated and disparaged as

their popularity has grown.

Brendan Prost, a Calgarian studying film and communications at Simon Fraser University, explores these aforementioned stereotypes in a new film quite simply titled *Choch*. The movie follows a central character, Zack White, who is torn between the violent, womanizing persona he presents on a regular basis and his calmer, more reflective inner self.

“The film is a character portrait of what seems to be a very stereotypical ‘choch’ character from *Jersey Shore* and [the viral YouTube video] ‘My New Haircut’ — the chauvinistic, self-obsessed, macho sexist jerk that you see at the bar,” says Prost. “But it’s kind of a breaking down of that stereo-

type. It’s a suggestion that the way we perceive people is not actually indicative of who they are on the inside.”

The discrepancy between who you are and who people think you are is one of the key motifs of the film, and Prost perceives this as an inherently problematic subject. Though his work is titled *Choch*, and Prost deals with the ideas that surround that particular stereotype, the film is broader in its aim.

“I was really interested in the idea of someone being perceived as an ugly person,” says Prost. “That notion that all anyone ever knows about you is what you communicate to them. There’s an inner person that is mostly good

in everyone, and so how does anyone ever become a nasty, ugly person? Often, it’s just a general error in communication.”

The film is built around the character of the ‘choch’ as he is presented with the choice to take one of two distinctly different life courses.

“It’s using this personality type that we’re all familiar with to explore what it’s like to be dishonest or to have fallen into a kind of personality that you don’t feel accurately represents who you are,” says Prost. “Eventually, he’s confronted by this choice between his fears and anxieties of being by himself and losing the people around him he finds acceptance in, and the unknown of doing



something new and potentially feeling better about himself, but losing what he once had.”

Prost’s character-driven film will provide much for its audience to mull over — regardless of which camp they fall into on the subject of *Jersey Shore*.

*Choch* opens at the Uptown Stage and Screen May 14.

## Conspirator, cont’d from page 7

only circumstantial. In addition, he suspects that she is being tried in an attempt to have her son, John Surratt, turn himself in to save her.

The movie largely focuses on these injustices and Aiken’s reactions towards them. Problems are presented, but no solution to them is given. Aiken argues with others about the inequalities occur-

ring and tries to convince them to fix the situation, but his words just continue falling on deaf ears.

While it is clear that the filmmakers have made a good effort to keep the film’s plot development historically accurate, they concentrate so much on the minute details and intricacies of the trial that they overlook other aspects of the aftermath of Lincoln’s assas-

sination that might have provided moviegoers with some more excitement.

This movie might have worked better as a documentary, given its subject matter, instead of the filmmakers’ attempt to turn it into a drama. Developments such as the romance between Aiken and his girlfriend, who seems to disappear once he starts being looked

down upon for defending Mary Surratt and is never mentioned again, are touched upon but do not provide enough side plot to be entertaining or relevant. They end up simply distracting the viewer from the movie’s main message, which is simply a long, drawn-out explanation of the way certain people were willing to turn a blind eye to the justice system to avenge

Abraham Lincoln’s assassination.

Overall, *The Conspirator* may be worth a watch if the field of American history is in your personal or academic interest. Otherwise, skip it and go for a movie that is very historically accurate and full of explosions. Like *Pirates of the Caribbean*, perhaps.

*The Conspirator* opens at the Globe Cinema May 13.

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