

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

gauntlet

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**A LONG WALK TO EDUCATION
STUDENT REFUGEE PROGRAM PG. 3**

All the hits and too many tits

Amp 90.3 is a radio station that knows what women want: sultry come-grab-me breasts. This summer, hundreds of women will participate in the radio station's contest "breast summer ever," in order for the chance to win a \$10,000 breast augmentation — follow up surgery, treatment and any extra costs must be covered by the contest winner. To honour this occasion, the *Gauntlet* awards Amp radio our inaugural Outstanding Enforcer of the Patriarchy Award.

Amp contestants will send in a picture of themselves, where judges will deliberate — obviously intensely and fairly — to decide on who is most deserving of this vehement prize. Ten finalists will be chosen and their pictures will be posted so that listeners can rate which candidate they want to have the biggest (or most

shapely) knockers, considering all factors of course.

Women and men undergo plastic surgery all of the time; since 2000 cosmetic procedures have increased 49 per cent, according to the American Association of Plastic Surgeons. After an individual has thought long and hard about what is a life-changing decision, it is their prerogative to fix what they deem to be a major adverse affliction. What Amp radio is doing with this contest, however, is thrusting young women into a surgery that should not be taken lightly.

Amp is telling women that they are not good enough the way they are and suggest other women follow in the winner's footsteps.

According to the National Institute of Medicine, 25 to 40 percent of individuals who get breast implants need correction surgery to fix something wrong

with the first one. That is at least one of four women who are put at risk because of a 'beautification' surgery.

Why, then, do over 250,000 women get breast implants in America alone? The obvious answer is pressure from media that show us what the 'ideal' woman is supposed to look like. Calgarians have to face a much more monstrous feat — Amp radio does not portray fake women, but they encourage local women to go under a knife because the opportunity presents itself. Misogynistic contests like Amp's "breast summer ever" tell women to look for faults where none exist.

Worst of all is how this competition caters to the 16–24 male audience. There is no better way to reach out to hormone raging males than to bolster them to objectify women. Amp radio is blatantly encouraging a rise

in patriarchy that has no place in our society.

Such contests are, unfortunately, common. Reality shows like Fox's *The Swan* took women they deemed "ugly" and changed them, through various cosmetic surgeries, into what five judges thought to be "beautiful." Journalist Jennifer Pozner was probably right when she said the series was "the most sadistic reality series in a decade," although we don't like to pick winners.

To be sure, we are constantly bombarded by advertisements encouraging us to change our image — either through a new car, cologne, clothing or, yes, breasts. Using attractive people to sell products is nothing new. Amp's contest, however, preys on the insecure to make it particularly worthy of censure. So stay classy Amp radio.

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The Cover

Photo and design by Remi "the shits" Watts

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 17, 2011.



Join the SU Team!

The Students' Union (SU) at the University of Calgary is looking for enthusiastic individuals who enjoy a diverse, exciting and rewarding workplace. The SU has full and part-time openings for:

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- Full Time Banquet Server
- Part Time Cooks
- Full Time Cooks
- Policy Analyst (Full time, salaried)
- Systems Administrator (Full time, salaried)
- Senior Event Manager (Full time, salaried)



If you're interested in joining us at the U of C, please submit a cover letter and résumé to resumes@su.ucalgary.ca.

Student Refugee Program expands

Two refugees will arrive in August to study at the University of Calgary

Amy Badry
News Editor

“Without the program I wouldn’t have come to Canada. I really appreciate it,” said Tuyisenge Celestin in a *Gauntlet* interview last year.

Celestin arrived in Canada last fall thanks to sponsorship by the Student Refugee Program — a collaboration between the University of Calgary and Students’ Union club World University Services of Canada.

“Sometimes I miss home and the food I am used to but I am making new friends and I am adapting to the environment,” he told the *Gauntlet* in September 2010.

The Student Refugee Program has been functioning at the U of C campus since 1988. Since then it has sponsored 21 students.

This fall, the U of C will give two more refugees the opportunity to study.

“This is an amazing accomplishment,” said SU President Dylan Jones. “It is something that the U of C can be proud of.”

In a 2010 referendum, U of C students voted to increase the SRP levy from \$1 to \$2.25 per semester for full-time students. The increased funds enabled the U of C to sponsor two student refugees.

“There is no other place you can put this amount of money into something for such a big impact,” said Jones.

The SRP will also be sponsoring a female student this year, the second female refugee student to come to Calgary. The first female refugee was sponsored in 2003.



Aly Gulamhusein/the Gauntlet

Jones is excited to welcome two new refugee students to the University of Calgary in the fall.

“This year we are going to be sponsoring one male student and one female student,” said Jones. “Living in a refugee camp, it is often the case that it is very difficult for a female to make it this far in their education.”

Jones said females are often responsible for household duties, whereas the males are more often given the opportunity to finish school.

“If you have to pick between a boy and girl to go to school, oftentimes it is going to be the boy,” he said. “We believe we should equally sponsor men and women and give equal opportunity.”

However, due to living conditions it is difficult for females to reach the level of education needed for university admission.

The SRP has partnerships with

100

per cent of money collected that goes directly to support the refugee student.

97

per cent of all WUSC sponsored students across Canada who have graduated.

9

number of people who sit on the Student Refugee Board.

23

number of refugee students the U of C has sponsored.

three refugee camps in Africa — two in Kenya and one in Malawi.

The two student refugees will arrive in Calgary in August. The male is Sudanese coming

from a camp in Kenya and the female is coming from a camp in Malawi.

wusc ensures there is adequate social support for the refugees.

The club’s role is to provide social support.

“As a club, we support them and put on social events for them to get to know the club and get to know Calgary,” said wusc co-chair Amanda Floreani.

The su is in contact with the wusc head office to arrange funds and other administrative processes.

“The su helps students sign up for their classes, arrange their schedule, talk to program advisors and go over their budgets with them,” said Jones.

Co-chair of wusc Carol Chu said it is inspiring to hear what each refugee has accomplished, despite their difficult circumstance.

“The program is beneficial to refugee students because it is their only chance of being able to continue their education after high school,” she said. “The Student Refugee Program allows them to get an education so that they can then go back and help the country that they come from.”

Chu said the program is beneficial for students at the U of C as well.

“It allows people to see that donated money can actually have a positive effect,” said Chu. “While people may get to see a breakdown of how money is spent, it is rare that they get to see the actual results.”

Floreani agrees all university students benefit from the program.

“You have the opportunity to learn about other cultures and what people go through in their lives outside of Canada.”

What do you think about the Student Refugee Program?



“I’m all for it if it’s such a small amount.”
– **Josh Stanley,**
fourth-year
education



“It puts into perspective how such a small amount can change a life.”
– **Sandra Christensen,**
French literature,
masters



“It can provide an education for someone, and what else can you buy for \$2.25?”
– **Richie Aujla,**
third-year law and
society



“I think it is a great idea if it works.”
– **Ana Daniali,**
second-year
architecture

No UPass for students this summer

Amy Badry
News Editor

Commuting to the university is costly. The cheapest all-day parking is \$5 and a round trip bus ride costs \$5.50. Daily commutes can break a student budget.

Fall and winter students receive discounted transit fees through the UPass, but spring and summer undergraduate students do not have that luxury.

For the past couple of years, the university discussed the possibility of a UPass for the spring 2011 semester.

A *Gauntlet* article printed in February 2010 quoted associate vice-provost of residence and auxiliary services Voula Cocolakis saying “We are still finalizing the negotiation but they should be done in the next month.”

However, “due to administrative and operational issues,” the UPass will not be available until May 2012, according to the University of Calgary website.

“The go-ahead was given to make it available for summer stu-



Nathanael Darrell/the Gauntlet

Spring and summer students have to pay \$2.75 to ride this bus.

dents this year,” said vice-president external Matt McMillan. “Unfortunately it did not go to the Board of Governors in the fee approval and it did not go into the fee schedule.”

All fees need to be approved by the Board of Governors — the senior governing body of the university — before being administered.

“It was overlooked or some-

thing,” said McMillan regarding why BOG did not approve the fees.

However, Cocolakis said it was because Calgary Transit did not return the amending agreement in time for it to be approved by BOG.

“We should be getting the amending agreement shortly and it will be approved by BOG and we will have a spring and sum-

mer UPass for undergraduate students for next year,” said Cocolakis.

Last year, spring students were surveyed to see if there was interest for a UPass in the spring and summer terms.

“The results showed there was a 51 per cent interest in having a spring/summer UPass for undergraduate students,” said Cocolakis.

The university received the results of the survey in June and then went back to amend the UPass agreement with Calgary Transit to include a spring/summer UPass.

“In November, we still had not received the amended agreement from Calgary Transit,” said Cocolakis. “Those type of mandatory fees have to be approved by the Board of Governors.”

Because of Calgary Transit’s delay to amend the agreement, the fees could not be approved by BOG before the spring semester.

The UPass has been available for fall and winter students since 2002. Graduate students have been able to access a spring and summer UPass since 2005.

“I think it is ridiculous that we don’t get the UPass in the spring and summer,” said fourth-year international relations student Steph Penkala. “I have to buy bus tickets and I am here everyday.”

McMillan said not having the UPass in the summer is difficult for students who depend on the discounts. “It is very disappointing to your budget.”

academic probation

Editor: Sarah Dorchak—feature@thegauntlet.ca

Taking a nod from AMP Radio, we at the *Gauntlet* felt the need to host our own breast augmentation contest. Here are some of our submissions for why we deserve breast enlargement, or just breasts in general.

Do you think you have better, more important reasons for getting a bigger rack, all the while exploiting yourself by supporting a corporation’s advertising campaign? Email tittes@thegauntlet.ca with a picture and your reason for bigger titties! We’ll send the picture into AMP Radio so you too can participate in sexploitation!



“I don’t really want them, but hey, if they’re free . . .”
– Eric Mathison,
editor-in-chief



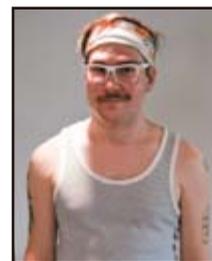
“My breasts are already perfect. I just want to help out a corporation’s marketing campaign.”
– Amy Badry, news editor



“Because then maybe Jimmy from 2 p.m. history will let me grind on him at the next Summer Den. He’s so dreamy.”
– Andréa Rojas, entertainment editor



“My ex dumped me because of my small breast size. Boob implants would sure show him. But, I just love cats. So much.”
– Erin Shumlich, sports editor



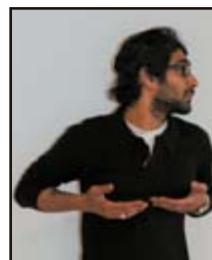
“Cause I fucking love breasts! If I had some to play with all the time, it’d be great.”
– Remi Watts, opinions editor



“I’ve always wanted a third boob, like that prostitute from *Total Recall*. Now that’s entertainment!”
– Sarah Dorchak, features editor



“Being smart is boring. Larger breasts will distract people from caring what comes out of my mouth.”
– Nicole Dionne, production editor



“Circumcision irrevocably destroyed a piece of me, and I hope this gives my life meaning again.”
– Aly Gulamhusein, photo editor



“I need bigger breasts for storage. I want to be able to stuff my phone, wallet, keys and everything else in there!”
– Morgan Shandro, illustrations editor



“Because I’m shy and I’ve always wanted something to distract people from my face.”
– Scagwald, Provost, *Gauntlet* intern/sex kitten

Women's softball pitches in Calgary

Erin Shumlich
Sports Editor

Calgary will host some of the fastest, strongest and most elite women softball players in the world for a three game series this August. The NPF Diamonds will face off against the USSA Pride in a showcase of skill the league hopes will reach out to a broad audience.

The women's National Pro Fastpitch league consists of four teams, one of which has no home base. The Diamonds is a travelling team that plays games across America and, for the first time, will be sliding into Canada. The other three teams are based in Illinois, Ohio and Florida.

"We decided to play on the road all the time," said NPF commissioner Cheri Kempf. "We play mostly at minor league venues

across the country."

Kempf said she thinks the stop in Calgary is essential for the expansion of the sport.

"We are thrilled," she said. "Expansion is a priority for us and we are continually looking for future markets."

The games will feature many star players from the American and Canadian Olympic teams.

"There are several Canadian players on the teams and this is a real chance to introduce National Pro Fastpitch to an educated audience. You are going to see a lot of talent in these three days," said Kempf.

Canadian Danielle Lawrie was named the U.S.A. Softball National Collegiate Player of the Year for two consecutive years in '09 and '10. She joined the Pride this season and will be with her team in Calgary.

Along with the three game se-

ries, which is part of the regular season, the Calgary Vipers are taking the opportunity to run a skills clinic and lunch banquet for up-and-comers in the sport.

"This is going to be a bit of an experiment for us," said Vipers President John Conrad in a May 24 press conference.

The goal of the NPF is to "entertain and provide positive role models for young people," but lack of funds, high travel costs and inadequate facilities have proved a tough obstacle for the league in the past. Kempf said that despite these challenges, the league has pulled through multiple setbacks and continues to be prestigious.

"It is a popular and captivating sport," said Kempf. "Softball will be all over the place and there is only one reason: it reads well."

She said the three-day event will

be exciting for anyone who even remotely understands softball.

"I have a lot of confidence in Canada because fastpitch softball is popular here. It's a great place for this event to take place," said Kempf.

Stephanie Shellenberg, who has played softball her whole life, said there is a large community of players in Calgary.

"It's a very popular sport, so it's a shame there are not more opportunities out there, especially for women."

Shellenberg said the NPF coming to Calgary is an opportunity for players to realize the magnitude of opportunities in the sport and hopes it encourages more young people to get out and play ball.



Aly Gulamhusein/the Gauntlet

The Gauntlet softball team practices come rain or shine.

Muggles hop on their brooms

Erin Shumlich
Sports Editor

The simple command of "Up!" should be enough for any witch or wizard to acquire a broom and take to the skies. Flying with the owls and leaving the muggle world behind is a natural occurrence for these magical folk, but for one boy wizard, his broom is a necessity to seek out a small and ghostly golden ball. Quidditch is a sport not for the faint of heart; one must be agile, fearless, gritty and, of course, magical.

Anyone who has grown up with Harry Potter since he was a boy of 11 has dreamed of fighting with the most elite flyers for the greatest honour of all, the Quidditch Cup.

This dream was unattainable until a few extraordinary folk recently decided to test the water with their very own take on the popular wizarding game.

Adapted from J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* novels, "Muggle Quidditch" began in 2005 as an intramural league at Middlebury College in Vermont.

The International Quidditch Association now has over 400 post-secondary teams around the world, from India to Brazil.

Since 2005, a World Cup tournament has taken place every year. In November this year, it will take place in New York City.

Harry Potter fans are not hard to find at the University of Calgary and were quick to join the trend. Paul Hamnett, founder of the U of C Quidditch club, said that although they have not participated in a World Cup, it is definitely something the club wants to do in the future.

"We are a relatively new club," said Hamnett. "We started in No-

"Look at Star Wars," he said. "The movies are over, but there is still such a culture surrounding it. Quidditch will ensure Harry Potter's survival."

Quidditch will be the vein for Potter fans to suckle as the movies come to a close.

"We are all big HP fans," said Tsering Asha Leba, vice-president of the club. "The end of the mov-



courtesy Andrew Midwinter

The U of C Quidditch team gets ready to battle for the Quaffle.

ember, but so far the response has been excellent. People are really excited about it."

The rise of the 'sport' has been tied to the popularity of the Harry Potter movie series. With the last movie due out on July 15, can Quidditch outlive its source?

According to Hamnett, Quidditch is far from being over.

ies will make us want to play more and keep it up, but we are not just about Harry Potter. Teams at other schools are athletes and really competitive — we are hoping to work towards that."

For now, the team is focused on fundraisers in order to purchase better material and to raise money for charities.

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STRFKR

American indie
electronica
drops vowels,
picks up
Sled
Island

Courtesy Sarah Cass

Andréa Rojas
Entertainment Editor

Don't be put off by the abrasive moniker. STRFKR might roughen up your sense of vernacular propriety, but they'll smooth out the ripples in your eardrums. The American quartet is "Starfucker" to your friends and "STRFKR" to your mom, and it's clear that they don't need the vowels to round out their distinctive blend of indie-pop and electronica. Although their affinity for consonants hardly disguises thinly-veiled references to interstellar coitus, STRFKR is a rocket ship fuelled by galactic glitter and champagne, and it's headed straight for the Sled Island music festival next weekend.

In Earth terms, STRFKR is a perpetual house party where looped samples mingle with everything from synth to classical guitar, and the *Gauntlet* happened to snag a coveted invite. We conversed with multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Joshua Hodges, whose astral journey will have traversed one solo project, two cities and three name changes in order to arrive at the doorstep of the Hifi Club at midnight on June 22.

The *Gauntlet*: So, Joshua, you're originally from Portland, Oregon?

Joshua: Yes, born and raised in Portland. I moved to New York [from 2000 to 2005] and recorded stuff out there under the name Sexton Blake, and then a Portland label put out my first two albums under that name. Then I got bored with that and started STRFKR.

G: What prompted the change?

J: Sexton Blake is mellower. It wasn't really that fun to play live. And it wasn't really something I intended on releasing, it was just kind of like a journal. Making that album was like a tool for me to keep myself sane. I didn't plan to put it out into the world to be judged. Starfucker is intentionally more fun. It started as something that I did in my basement — [eventually] I was like, "This is kind of good, I should do this at parties and stuff," so that's what it was for a while. [It's] like [one] big house party in Portland. And then we started touring, which I never thought we would.

G: You transitioned out of your solo project, but called it "PYRAMID" and then "Pyramidd" before finally settling on "Starfucker." Why?

J: There [are] a lot of problems with the name. There are like three bands with that name. People check us out and say, "You fucking suck," but then others say, "No, [you're thinking of] another band." That's

part of it. Another part is that there are labels that were recording us at the time and . . . they weren't interested [because of our name] and wanted us to change [it]. We're pretty much set on the name now.

G: How has touring been for your second album, *Reptilians*, the 2011 follow-up to your 2008 self-titled debut album?

J: It's been good. This is by far our best tour as far as how much fun we had and how well it did. The shows are all well-attended. We get back from [a one-date tour to] Mexico City, and we have a couple weeks and then go to Sled Island for a week and then get back and then have another festival in California called Outside Lands.

G: What prompted the move to focus on playing festivals and isolated concert dates until the fall instead of going on the standard summer tour?

J: We can't really tour all the time. For one, it makes us want to kill each other and ourselves. It's a lot of time to spend with five other dudes in a tiny space. Also, we can't just keep touring around the U.S. We can't play these cities every couple [of] months. I think the next thing is going to Europe [in the fall] and we're going to try to go to Australia. I'd definitely like that. I love travelling.

G: Is STRFKR a full-time job for you and the rest of the band? Do you have any side gigs?

J: I have [the musical side project] Skeletron. Do you mean boring work? No, no one does any more. This job is kind of like being in a minimum wage job. That's kind of how it goes for now. We want to get a little bit more comfortable. I think before our last tour, a couple of people were still working. [Drummer] Kiel [Corcoran] does web design stuff. He used to work when we were on the road. That got to be too much.

G: So, you say you "want to get a little bit more comfortable" with STRFKR. What are your plans for the future, then?

J: Who knows. I never know. I'm working on the next album and try[ing] to put on good shows.

G: Speaking of good shows, which artist or band are you most excited to play with at Sled Island?

J: I'm most excited to play with Blonde Redhead, who we're actually sharing the stage with. It's doubly exciting for me that I get to see them and that we're playing one or two bands before them on the same stage. They were my favourite band when I was younger. I'm really excited about them. There [are] a whole bunch of cool bands playing [this year].

Two Bicycles

Calgary solo artist rides into *The Ocean* in search of ambient sound stories

Victoria Nguyen
Gauntlet Entertainment

Think back to your favourite story. What made it so great? The nail-biting plot? The swoon-worthy hero?

But what if all the words were removed? Most would say that you would be left with a blank page and no story. For one musician, however, this presents the opportunity to tell a story through another, less tangible medium: music.

Under the pseudonym Teen Daze, Jamison, who declines to make his last name public knowledge, has been recognized for his chill-wave electronic mixes which have garnered viral acclaim within the online indie music world.

In contrast, Two Bicycles is a name that many Teen Daze followers might not immediately recognize. Through the past release of a few EPs under this second moniker, Jamison has explored a vast array of different sounds and kept the project as a source of alternative experimentation.

"I've been writing Two Bicycles stuff before I started Teen Daze, actually, but [Two Bicycles has] become more of a side project. It started out with a more folk sound . . . but over time it's progressed into something a little more spacious and ambient."

The crafting of stories told through ambient and relatively lyric-free sounds based on nature is a primary characteristic of

Jamison's work. Two Bicycles's last EP, *The Holy Forest*, recounts the tale of a forest that was a source of personal inspiration and comfort to Jamison until it was cut down.

In a similar way, Two Bicycles's most recent EP, *The Ocean*, is a testament to Jamison's interest in ambient music and connection to nature. Composed and recorded

Courtesy Paulina Wiebe



in his home situated at the base of Mount Cheam in B.C., the EP creates a mesmerizing soundscape which engulfs the listener in an atmospheric space of no words — only sounds.

Despite the lack of lyrics, the music's message is surprisingly clear. Appropriating the narrative arc of a cinematic story, the tracks tell of spending a day by the

ocean. Two Bicycles encourages the listener to go on an emotional journey, which metaphorically compares the ocean to a transformative body, recalling how humans themselves are subject to complex emotional transitions. As the story continues, the shift from major to minor musical keys signifies the transformation of the

ocean from warm and welcoming to dark and chaotic.

"I've always enjoyed writing and telling stories," explains Jamison. "I used to write fiction back in school as a way for me to synthesize thoughts. Every day you're being bombarded with new information. Through story writing, I was able to take that information and make it accessible . . . so it kind of

makes sense that writing has been such a big influence in my musical output. Using story references in my music has been a way for me to take reality and translate it musically."

Despite his attachment of importance to the concept of stories and his use of narrative plot lines, Jamison is hesitant to label himself as a storyteller, at least in the conventional sense.

"You can always tell if a person is a good storyteller because the ideas are clear. I like to present my concepts more vaguely."

In that sense, his style can be considered more impressionistic than realistic and can present certain challenges for the listener in terms of musical understanding. Jamison feels that although his music might appeal to a more limited audience, the emotion conveyed through it will still resonate with that audience.

"I try to capture an experience and explore, on a musical level, what it would really feel like to be in that moment . . . and hopefully someone else will be able to connect and meet you at the same level."

Jamison is performing at Sled Island on June 23 at Emmedia as both Teen Daze and Two Bicycles, and will be introduced by experimental musician Julianna Barwick. For him, it's an exciting experience which will add another chapter to his musical and personal stories alike.



- TOP 20** *Canadian artist
**Local artist ▶ June 6/11
- 1 BLACK LIPS** *Arabia Mountain* (Vice)
 - 2 FLEET FOXES** *Helplessness Blues* (Sub Pop)
 - 3 JOEL PLASKETT*** *Emergencys, False Alarms, Shipwrecks, Castaways, Fragile Creatures, Special Features, Demons & Demonstrations: 1999-2010* (New Scotland)
 - 4 THE WHITE WIRES*** *II* (Dirtnap)
 - 5 TONSTARTSSBANDHT*** *Now I Am Become* (Arbutus)
 - 6 THE COATHANGERS** *Larceny & Old Lace* (Suicide Squeeze)
 - 7 CHAD VANGAALEN**** *Diaper Island* (Flemish Eye/Sub Pop)
 - 8 TIMES NEW VIKING** *Dancer Equired* (Merge)
 - 9 FINE CANADIAN FORCES*** *Hebrew Lessons* (Self-Released)
 - 10 CATHERINE RINGER** *Ring N' Roll* (Six Sari)
 - 11 MY MORNING JACKET** *Circuital* (ATO)
 - 12 FUCKED UP*** *David Comes To Life* (Matador)
 - 13 SLAM DUNK*** *The Shivers* (Fan Club Music Club)
 - 14 PASSWORDS*** *Passwords* (Mercy)
 - 15 GANG GANG DANCE** *Eye Contact* (4AD)
 - 16 C'MON*** *Beyond The Pale Horse* (Blown Speaker)
 - 17 RUM RUNNER**** *Tonight! Tonight! Tonight! & Icewagon* (Longshot/Contra)
 - 18 LITTLE FOOT LONG FOOT*** *Oh, Hell* (Self-Released)
 - 19 DALE EARNHARDT JR. JR.** *It's A Corporate World* (Warner Bros.)
 - 20 LET'S WRESTLE** *Nursing Home* (Merge)

- EXPERIMENTAL**
- 1 JOHANN JOHANSSON** *The Miners' Hymns* (Fatcat)
 - 2 VARIOUS*** *Deep Wireless 8: Radio Art Compilation* (Self-Released)
 - 3 DANIEL JANKÉ** *Cinco Puntos Cardinales* (Centrediscs)
 - 4 DUNDAS**** *Explorer Series Vol. 1* (Unit Structure Sound)
 - 5 IAN BODDY & PARALLEL WORLDS** *Exit Strategy* (DIN)

- ELECTRONIC**
- 1 THE BEEKEEPERS** *Apiculture* (Jalapeno)
 - 2 PICTORA** *Countdown* (Self-Released)
 - 3 DELHI 2 DUBLIN*** *Planet: Electrified Remixes* (Self-Released)
 - 4 GORILLAZ** *The Fall* (EMI)
 - 5 AMON TOBIN** *ISAM* (Ninja Tune)

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY



CHAD VANGAALEN
photo by Ken Clarke
Chad's newest album deserves all the attention it's getting — a unique & fine balance of noisy rock to gentle indie-pop. He's playing Sled Island & getting introduced by Mayor Nenshi (Calgary's sexiest).
myspace.com/chadvangaalen

LIVE BANDS ON-AIR

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SIMON SAID: Sat June 18—11:30 am
SHOTGUN DOLLS: Fri June 24—11:30 am
FELONIOUS FUNK ▶ JAY SMYLSKI
DJ SEGUE: Sat June 25—1:00 am
THE NIX DICKONS: Sat July 2—2 pm
TRASH ISLAND: Fri July 15—11:30 am
MINOTAURS: Fri July 22—4:00 pm

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Courtesy Jessica Hunter

Young Ones put on their big boy pants for Sled Island, round two

Laura Wan
Gauntlet Entertainment

Although they get their name from the title of an underground British sitcom, the sound of Young Ones is far from scripted. A group of four friends with diverse musical backgrounds, this Calgary band melds their varying tastes to create a sound that's as harmonic and mellow as it is punk-rock.

In recent months, the indie outfit was invited to play the Sled Island festival for the second time, but their story started much before that. Young Ones has progressed steadily upward

since its inception, from opening for acts like Tokyo Police Club and Ladyhawk to finishing a Taco Bell-fueled recording of their self-titled EP.

The formation of the band took place when vocalist Brett Sandford found himself out of commission — and bored — due to a knee injury. After a call to drummer Cory Brown and a conversation with friend Logan Juke, who happened to play bass, the project was well underway. Joel Learoyd, already a member of another indie-rock band titled The Grim Beat, was invited by Cory to jam and, after playing a few riffs, sealed the deal with

Young Ones.

“He basically started playing our first song,” says Sandford of that first jam session.

Since evolving from playing Descendents covers, the boys of Young Ones have embraced Calgary's music scene head-on — but they're still a bit wary of it.

“There's a lot of division — niches, small groups doing their individual thing,” says Learoyd. “Most of the artists that end up getting outside of Calgary . . . are the ones that were never really part of the smaller communities to begin with. They always had their own thing going.”

It is with this autonomous

spirit in mind that Young Ones has positioned itself on that very track. Its unique, hard-to-describe sound dovetails with a common post-punk influence, but as the band grows, so does their music.

“We didn't start off [aiming] to be a big band,” explains Brown. “We just wanted to see what we could do.”

As the members of Young Ones continue to write new songs, they are willing to experiment and try different styles to further develop their music. Their indie, punk and hardcore backgrounds are still a foundation to their original sound, but the influence of artists like Raphael Saadiq and Mystery Jets has since added some depth to Young Ones songs.

And along with valuing solid studio recordings, Young Ones promise sound live performances as well.

“We'll never [record] anything that is over and above what we can do live,” says Brown.

But if you find yourself at a Young Ones show, don't expect a purely technical and rote performance, either. The band reminisces about some wild shows, a confrontational sound guy and a “strict” three-beer limit on pre-show drinking, and ironically,

their worst show has still managed to be one of the most fun shows they've played.

And thankfully their “wild shows” are far from over.

“[Sled Island] is especially supporting local bands now . . . they're really showcasing what Calgary has to offer,” says Learoyd.

The band believes that this is due to the efforts of the festival's new director.

“[Lindsay Shedden has] really brought together a group of Calgary musicians that are worth showing,” says Juke.

The guys count local bands Miesha and the Spanks, Double Fuzz, and No River among their festival recommendations.

However, if after the Sled Island beer taps have gone dry you find yourself more drawn to Young Ones, their self-titled EP is set for release this July on 10” vinyl and CD formats.

Until then, get your melodic post-punk fix by making your way to the doors of Vern's Tavern on June 25 at 8:30 p.m., where Young Ones will be playing with Cheeseburger, Bare Wires, and Camp Radio.

Follow @gauntainment from June 22–25 for live updates from Sled Island, and make sure to check out thegauntlet.ca in the days after the festival for show reviews and concert photos.

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