

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

gauntlet

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Students & Mental Health

Mental health at the U of C, Pg. 4
Depression in sports, Pg. 20



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

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Golden Spatula

— Emily MacPhail —
"I just really love cats. I want to hug all of them, but I can't"

First, to all of you who wrote in last week: no, the Golden Spatula award is *not* a print version of the online matchmaker site *eharmony.com*, even though the rewardees are quite often extremely eligible folk, if you know what I mean... Rather, the Spatula is an opportunity for us to recognize journalistic rascalness. This week we would like to thank *Emily MacPhail* for all the vigilant, hard work she does for us. Emily likes long walks on the beach, trips to the cabin, cats and...

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 a linoleum based ink. We urge you to recycle/excycle 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.

Tough on crime, waste of money

This week's issue of the *Gauntlet* covers two stories pertaining to the issue of mental health (see News pg. 4 and Sports pg. 20). If there's a lesson to learn from these stories and the multitude of others like them, it is that our mental health is far more fragile and complicated than we let on, that each and every one of us can face psychological difficulties and that empathy is a powerful tool for understanding and healing.

With this in mind, it is incredibly alarming to discover that our present Conservative government hopes to exponentially expand and 'Americanize' the criminal justice system of Canada, costing taxpayers, according to one estimate, an extra three billion dollars over the next five years and further victimizing peoples of low income status, aboriginals, minorities, previous offenders, those with learning disabilities, drug abusers and — of course — those with mental health issues.

The Conservatives, knowing full well that Canada's crime rate has significantly dropped over the past 20 years, have brought forth Bill C-10, dubbed the "Safe Streets and Communities Act," as a bloated bureaucratic fear-for-all. Minister of Justice and professional windbag Rob Nicholson tabled the bill on September 20, following the Harper campaign promise to pass "tough-on-crime" legislation within 100 days of the 41st parliament's seating on June 6. C-10 passed its first reading in parliament on September 27. Believing that they speak for the majority of Canadians, whereas the election showed they do not

even speak for half of us (only 40.3 per cent of Canadians voted Conservative in the previous federal election), the Conservative government has gathered up nine smaller crime bills that previously failed in the House during the Conservative minority. Now, having confused the term 'majority government' with the phrase 'moral high-ground,' the Conservatives have combined the nine bills into the 'omnibus' of

Evan Solomon, wherein Nicholson touted a handful of empty one-liners like "crime is very costly to Canadians," that we need "better protection" and must "move forward." Nicholson's party-line rhetoric offered nothing to the thousands upon thousands of ulterior Canadians that will possibly soon serve harsher and longer jail sentences rather than receiving adequate support or rehabilitation.



legislation that is Bill C-10. Socially detrimental, absurdly expensive and upsettingly reactionary and draconian in its nature, Bill C-10 ought to cause a great deal of worry in the hearts of any Canadian.

Additionally, there is the irony of a supposedly anti-bureaucratic and fiscally conservative government introducing mammothly expensive, Kafkaesque crime legislation. The only justification so far given for this absurdity came from Nicholson in an interview with the CBC's

The Harper approach to crime, dubbed "vengeance culture" by *Canadian Dimension* writers James Patterson and Ashley Titterton, is highly reminiscent of the backwards, bloated and broken penal system south of the border in the United States. Statistics from 2006 suggest that some 56.2 per cent of American inmates (1.25 million people) have mental health issues, causing Jamie Fellner, Director of the U.S. Program of Human Rights Watch, to remark that "pris-

ons are woefully ill-equipped for their current role as the nation's primary mental health facilities." Here in Canada they estimate that 35 per cent of inmates in federal penitentiaries have mental health issues. Those with mental health issues are extremely over-represented in the prison population, a number bound only to increase if the Conservative's "tough-on-crime" attack plan is allowed to continue. Coupling the facts on mental health with the disturbing legacy of racism that surrounds our justice system (current estimates suggest that 70 per cent of Canadian inmates are aboriginal) presents a harsh picture where the Conservatives appear to be recasting the horrifying classic binary of the "Us versus Them" paradigm.

The Conservative "vengeance culture," hiding behind the sick facade of 'responsible' justice and using fear as a weapon, do not have the best interests of Canadians at heart. Ignoring reasonable discourse and serious statistics that show that restorative justice, as opposed to Conservative-brand punitive/retributive justice is far more effective at reducing incarceration and its negative cycle, the Conservative government have blatantly and disturbingly declared that Canadians of low income status, aboriginals, minorities, previous offenders, those with learning disabilities, drug abusers and those with mental health issues are all a threat to society, rather than fellow citizens who are in need of understanding and support.

Gauntlet Editorial Board

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Corrections: The article "Changes to academic programs [Sept. 15] mistakenly stated that all master's programs in Kinesiology were suspended. The article "Below Zero" [Sept. 22] stated that Signe Olynyk was the director. In fact, she was the writer and producer of *BELOW ZERO*. The director is Justin Ostensen. Sorry.

UNDER DISCUSSION: CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE

HJ Hornbeck
Gauntlet Opinions



In a debate both sides are given a fair hearing, and expected to bring forward their best evidence.

What if one side doesn't have evidence, though? Without the supporting structure of facts, that side is little more than a fake house on a movie set, projecting a pretty face in front of empty space. This is more than just harmless entertainment — we humans are attracted to pretty faces, sometimes to the point of ignoring what's underneath. A full commitment to the facts by both parties is necessary for a debate, otherwise it's just an exchange of hot air.

By that metric, climate skepticism could launch a dirigible.

"But the Earth has been warmer before," I hear you shout. Scientists thought the Earth was cooling down! They're in the pocket of environmentalists, anyway! The "hockey stick" is based on flawed statistical methods! CO2 lags behind temperature change! There's been no significant warming in the past 15 years! Besides, it's too late to adjust, and any changes would devastate our economy!

Bull. Shit.

I can make a great argument for shifting from oil to renewable resources without once invoking climate science. Only the craziest crackpots claim our oil reserves are infinite; the vast majority of experts agree we'll have a tougher and tougher time extracting the lifeblood of our civilization in future, and most think we're already

there. Switching energy sources is inevitable.

Oil also has the inconvenient habit of pooling into one place. Should that place be in hot political water, or smashed down by some hurricane, our supply will get cut off. In contrast, every part of the globe is drenched in sunlight and tickled by the wind for some portion of the year. A switch to them will improve availability, and likely reduce the cost from trivial to insignificant.

And yet our renewable sources aren't up to snuff yet. There's a ridiculous amount of oppor-

tunity there, which has some venture capital firms drooling. It's a vast, poorly-tapped market, and businesses here and around the globe are racing to be the Ford Motors of solar panels or wave power.

When I add the science back in, the argument goes from great to iron-clad.

We have so much data to show increasing global temperatures, ranging from precise thermometer readings to shifting treelines, that most skeptics have given up arguing the Earth isn't warming. They have instead started dragging out straw-men, such as warmer past temperatures (the rate of change is more important, and completely unprecedented), or flawed sta-

see HORNBECK CLIMATE, page 19

A. Louis Joubert
Gauntlet Opinions



Global warming is one of the most debated scientific topics of our generation. Instead of just being a climate phenomenon, it has become an unimaginably powerful force in politics and in the media. It is the subject of political protests resembling the

past cries against the Vietnam War, and the voices keep getting more and more apocalyptic. But before I start voicing a few queries about this scientifically mysterious phenomenon, a few words on environmentalism in general. I think we can all agree that dumping a load of hazard-

ous waste into wetlands, or releasing gallon upon gallon of oil into the oceans, causing the destruction of wildlife, is morally reprehensible. Efforts of conservation and discouraging water pollution are admirable and noble. There are several excellent reasons why air pollution should also be discouraged, but not for the reason that the world's going to end. These issues seem to be a long shot from the extremism usu-

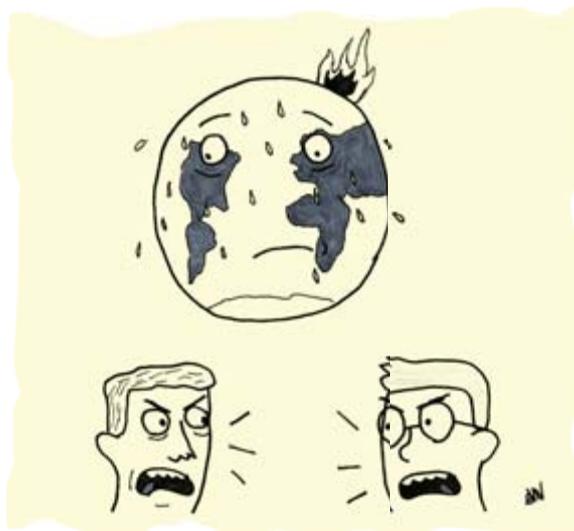
ally surrounding the global warming debate.

Climate fluctuations have been occurring throughout human history. Lawrence Solomon, a prominent environmentalist and activist, published in his 1990 book, *The Deniers*, a graph which showed a time during the middle-ages in which it was very warm, warmer than today (the Medieval Warm Period). This was long before the Al Gore famous hockey-stick graph of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. After this warmer period, humanity descended into what came to be known as the "Little Ice Age." But, of course, Michael Mann came in with the hockey stick graph, which showed the climate becoming hotter over the past few decades, claiming to eliminate the pre-hockey-stick graph.

However, Edward Wegman, an expert in statistical issues (past chairman of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics, board member of the American Statistical Association, and past president of the International Association of Statistical Computing) concluded, after being asked by the American Congress to assess the graph, that the "paucity of data in the more remote past makes the hottest-in-a-millennium claim essentially unverifiable." After this the hockey stick graph disappeared.

There is also a period further back in human history that is known to climatologists as the "Holocene Maximum," in which, for more than three millennia, the Earth was much warmer than it is today. Europe's and America's sudden, proper winter in the beginning of 2011 is, I suppose, a small-scale example of natural climate fluctuation.

see JOUBERT CLIMATE, page 19



Let the Wars Begin!

Students' Union Launches the First of Four Faculty Wars for This Year



Matt Diteljan
VP Student Life



Gather the troops, loosen up that arm, get together your ridiculous costumes, and prepare to represent your faculty/club/floor with pride! The rules are simple, the objective is clear, and the atmosphere is electric. You play for bragging rights and thousands of dollars in prizes.

The Students' Union is pleased to introduce the first of four Faculty Wars dodgeball tournaments for 2011

– the initial battle to take place Friday October 14 in the Jack Simpson Gym. This is a great opportunity to show what your faculty is made of. A night of friendly competition, ridiculous costumes, tons of unreal awards and prizes and an incredible evening you will never forget.

Faculty Wars presents an opportunity for all UofC students to let off some steam, build friendships and just have a great time. This event has a successful history with hundreds of students joining in. Now we're taking the event to another level with four events that will culminate in the grand competition

at the end of the school year.

Plans are underway and team captains are being established in all faculties.

“friendly competition, ridiculous costumes, tons of unreal awards and prizes...”

It's easy to get on board and you don't have to be a star athlete to be part of your team. Just register to participate on-line at www.facultywars.com and your team captain will be in touch. If

you're still not sure check out the photo and video section of the web site – you definitely don't want to miss this!

Our commitment at the SU is to make sure you get the most out of student life at the UofC. Sure, school is pretty serious, but we all need to have a release from studying – and what better way than to hit someone in the face with a dodgeball from a rival faculty?

Make sure you register early – the tournaments have sold out early in the past, and will definitely sell out again!

Registration Deadline – Friday October 7.

Letter: a reply to *anal-fisting*

Alastair Pollock

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

I read through Remi Watts's article ["Anal-fisting," Sept. 15] a number of times, and wanted to share my reaction. I found the piece undeniably bold, and I am pleased to see the *Gauntlet* continuing to publish edgy material (and with a great illustration to boot), but I have some particular points of contention with what Mr. Watts wrote.

In calling anal-fisting the 'fullest manifestation of the sexual act,' Watts not just implicitly, but overtly suggests that anyone not practicing anal fisting in their sex lives is doing something wrong. Sex (and pleasure in general) is such a personal affair that I can't accept the idea that a lone

sexual act has claim to greater enjoyment, deeper expression and even stronger or more plentiful orgasms for all people than other acts. Watts is very clear on this point, writing:

"Anal-fisting is the culmination not of just unquantifiable personal sexual orgasmic experiences, which commonly limits discussions of sexual pleasure, but rather it is the fullest manifestation of the sexual act as it relates to sexual ability, limits, pleasure, expression and symbolic relations and power."

What confuses me in particular about this is that he acknowledges orgasmic pleasure to be 'unquantifiable,' but then dismisses this variable of personal preference as a limitation to discussion. On the contrary, I would argue that the non-arbitrary nature of pleasure and enjoyment

is what creates discourse in the first place — as they pertain to all manner of subjects. I enjoy the music of Chromeo more than Metric, and I enjoy the sensation of a handjob more than having my nipples played with. These experiences — these opinions — are conversation starters, not silencers.

clogging her shower, but I don't think that this alone should determine how chores are done.

Finally, I find the idea that the difficulty of anal-fisting should somehow determine its worth to be puzzling. Skill level as a measure of an activity's merit is dubious to me overall, but even still, 'passively recieved' anal

guilty about the way they experience pleasure. I hope everyone who enjoys anal pleasure of all kinds engages proudly in it, but I also think a guy should be able to blow a load all over his partner's face — provided they both consent and take pleasure from it — without feeling guilty for perpetuating patriarchal norms. Similarly, a woman who enjoys all manner of vaginal and clitoral stimulation, but finds anal-fisting does nothing for her should not feel like her desires are subservient to others. This brings me to one last point.

Watts writes that anal-fisting has the ability to disrupt patterns of patriarchal dominance, but to my mind, ranking sexual pleasure and deciding on a 'best' sexual act is, in itself, very patriarchal. Doing so has the effect of 'flattening' sexuality — everything can be measured by the same standards (ability, limits, pleasure) — and personal experience yields to universal decree. Proclaiming a single sexual behaviour to be the 'fullest manifestation of the sex act' is to tell one group of people that the sex they are having is objectively inferior to the sex that another group enjoys. At the very least, this strikes me as pretty authoritarian. I don't think that enjoying or advocating for anal-fisting should involve the diminishment of sexual interests, agency or pleasure in those who choose not to partake.

In calling anal-fisting the 'fullest manifestation of the sexual act,' Watts not just implicitly, but overtly suggests that anyone not practicing anal fisting in their sex lives is doing something wrong."

Watts (and Žižek) also make the argument that anal fisting has an ethical leg-up on other sexual acts. He notes that anal-fisting is not bound to particular groupings of biology, gender or sexual orientation, but neither is kissing or erotic touch of many kinds. Anal-fisting certainly does subvert standards of heteronormativity, but I don't think 'subversive' should be conflated with 'universally better.' My doing the dishes at my girlfriend's house is more subversive to traditional gender roles than un-

fisting hardly comes out atop the difficulty roster when compared with many of the grand-scale sex acts on display at Kink.com. In these terms, I can't see how the challenge of anal-fisting finds it superior to all other sex acts.

The crux of this first contention is that I simply don't believe there is cause or argument to call one sex act better or more of a culmination of anything than another — and I worry that doing so leads to people being made to feel inadequate or

THE STUDENTS' UNION, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAYS

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Days are Monday, October 3 to Wednesday, October 5, 2011 (and Thursday, October 6 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

Nursing Faculty Representative

Number of Vacancies:

1

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

Women's Resource Centre (WRC) Referendum Women's Resource Centre Levy Cancellation

Background: In February 2007 the Union Membership approved through Referendum a WRC levy of \$1.00 to be charged in fall and winter, and a fee of \$0.50 for part-time students to be charged in the fall, winter, spring, and summer semesters resulting in a total fund of approximately \$39,000 in 2007 that has grown to approximately \$45,000 in 2010. The WRC fee is administered by the Union.

In April 2010 the University Of Calgary Board Of Governors approved the creation of a Student Services General Non-Program Fee (GNPF), designed to provide fund contributions to nine (9) University of Calgary administered programs, one of them being the Women's Resource Centre. Due to the inception of the GNPF the Students' Legislative Council resolved to approve a referendum question that would eliminate the now redundant WRC levy.

Question: Are you in favor of eliminating the Women's Resource Centre Levy of \$1.00 for full-time students and \$0.50 for part-time students?

Yes

No

If a Yes vote wins The Students' Union will direct the Office of the Registrar to remove the WRC charge at its earliest possible opportunity, which will likely be implemented by the start of Spring semester.

Chief Returning Officer: Rabiya Mansoor
Students' Union, MSC 251 (403-464-4053)

Dated at the University of Calgary in the City of Calgary,
Province of Alberta, this 19th day of September, 2011.




As of September 19, 2011 nomination packages will be available online at www.su.ucalgary.ca or at the SU main office.

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Express is one of the largest specialty retail apparel brands in the United States. We have more than 16,000 Associates in offices in Ohio and New York, and in almost 600 retail stores across the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada. We are opening six Canadian stores by the end of 2011, including three stores in Toronto (Fairview Mall, Lime Ridge Mall and Square One), and three stores in Calgary (Market Mall, Southcentre, and Chinook Centre).

Climate Hornbeck, continued from page 17



tistics (which didn't change the conclusion, after they were corrected for, and may not have been wrong in the first place), or historical trends (previous CO2 rises were due to increased solar radiation, not cars), or sensational media reports (the work of a few scientists who detected cooling was blown out of proportion, and has since been discredited). Half-truths

are trotted out as wise sayings. Yes, it's true that there's no significant warming in the past fifteen years, because you need another year or two to reach statistical significance!

Climate skeptics have long criticized Al Gore for being little more than a celebrity cheerleader, using his fame to push an agenda. Now I see their community has responded

by pushing their own celebrity cheerleader, Rex Murphy.

One of the disturbing practices revealed by the great cache of emails out of the University of East Anglia — the so-called Climategate emails — was the attempted shortcutting or corruption of the oh-so precious peer-review process. The emails contained clear declarations of how the grand viziers of climate science would lean on journals and reporters to make sure certain critics did not get the validation, the laying on of peer-reviewed hands, so critical to full participation in the great climate debate. This was most succinctly expressed by the beautiful quotation from Phil Jones of East Anglia that "We will keep them out somehow — even if we have to redefine what peer-review literature is."

Penn State University's inquiry into climate scientist Michael Mann's conduct surrounding the emails stolen from the Climate Research Unit

at East Anglia University concluded there is no evidence to substantiate the claims made by the right-wing media against Mann.

The Penn State panel cleared Mann of any wrongdoing in three of the four areas it probed, recommending only that a separate panel of faculty members pursue a follow-up investigation into the allegation that Mann "engaged in, directly or indirectly, any actions that seriously deviated from accepted practices within the academic community for proposing, conducting or reporting research or other scholarly activities."

Pete Altman over at NRDC's Switchboard blog notes "That's about as close to a silver bullet as you are going to find in terms of shooting down the conspiracy theorists who are touting their 'climategate' nonsense."

Altman notes that Mann "has been the victim of an extended vicious and unfounded smear campaign."

Over a year after the first indepen-

dent inquiry ruled Climategate was a manufactured controversy, and despite two more inquiries reaching the same conclusion, Rex Murphy is still wailing about Climategate.

I noted he's bringing his hot air to campus. I suggest you attend. After all, there's a slim chance that a political commentator has accidentally stumbled on some data that discredits decades of climate research gathered by professional scientists. If not, then you can enjoy bursting his bubble during the Q&A. In this era of smartphones, any claim can be Googled and verified within minutes, and there's no shortage of web sites dedicated to deflating climate skeptics.

Look, I know it's sexy to oppose the experts, to think a consensus is a conspiracy. But when your opposition requires you to employ the same tactics as creationist dinosaurs, it might be a hint that you've floated into crackpot territory.

Climate Joubert, continued from page 17



I mentioned the book, *The Deniers*, in which Solomon describes the distinguished scientists who deny the reality and significance of global warming. Among these scientists are Duncan Wingham, a physicist, who was appointed chair of the Department of Space and Climate Physics and head of the Department of Earth Sciences in 2005. Recent happenings in the area of scientists and global warming include an incident with Ivan Giaever, winner of the 1973 Nobel Prize in physics, who resigned from the American Physical Society because of its "incontrovertible" stance on global warming.

Another scientist who resigned from APS for its stance on global warming is Harold Lewis, emeritus professor of physics at the University of California and former department chairman. In his resignation letter he refers to the climategate scandal, which shows evidence of climatologists in favor of global warming manipulating data. Why, you ask, would they do this? The amount of dollars that are constantly connected with the term "climate change" or "global warming" are sky high. A recent indication of this is the green jobs that the Obama government is throwing money at (\$500 million, to be precise). Another surprising scientist who has voiced his dissidence with global warming is Antonino Zichichi, professor of Advanced Physics at the University of Bologna, president of the Enrico Fermi Center, Rome, and president of the World Federation of Scientists (with 10,000 scientists from 115 countries). Zichichi has received awards and honorary degrees from universities in Italy, Argentina, China, Germany, Poland and the United States.

Many of the scientists in *The De-*

niers have as impressive resumes as Zichichi. So, I decided to give a fuller profile of him to illustrate the caliber of scientist who thinks that global warming is untrue. Zichichi is past president of the Italian National Institute for Nuclear and Subnuclear Physics and president of the NATO Science Committee for Disarmament Technology. The published scientific papers (exceeding 800) and the 10 books he has written have shed light on new opportunities for research in subnuclear physics.

Al Gore admonishes us to accept the argument from authority concerning global warming and accept the word of the scientists who endorse it, but what are we to make of these deniers? What are scientists like Antonino Zuchichi and Edward Wegman doing on the side that Al Gore compared to flat-earthers? I was astounded, taking a course in physical anthropology, that when the text-book writers turned to global warming, how the footnotes suddenly ran dry. Were they the victim of an abrupt bout of lethargy or is something else going on?

To the extent that global warming has increased awareness of the environment and encouraged respect for our planet, it is definitely good, but I do not believe it right to create unnecessary fear. To contend that there is a scientific consensus on global warming is outright deception. To confirm this visit petitionproject.org, which claims that 31,478 American scientists have signed a petition that strongly conveys their dissonance with Global Warming. However, I might well be wrong. So, in the event that I am misguided, get ready! Watch and tremble in fear. The end draws near, the apocalypse is here!

CASH REWARD

for undergrads



The Shell Experiential Energy Learning (SEEL) Program provides funding to U of C undergraduates in all disciplines for field trips, conferences, special projects and other activities focused on sustainable energy, environment and economy.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: OCTOBER 15, 2011

For more info and an application form, visit: <http://www.iseee.ca/for-students/undergraduate-initiatives/>

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New mental health program at U of C

Community Helpers program provides mental health training

Emily Macphail

Gauntlet News

Alberta Health Services has recently rolled out a new program aimed at improving the mental health of youth through the use of pre-existing support in the community. The Community Helpers program — based on a similar program in Seattle, Washington and developed in Edmonton — is currently being tested at 14 pilot sites across Alberta, one of which is the University of Calgary Wellness Centre.

The program has funding from Alberta Health Services for two years, with the hope that individual sites will then become self-sufficient.

A 2003 survey found that while 1 per cent of males and 1.8 per cent of females talk to professionals about mental health concerns, an overwhelming number — 44.7 per cent and 59.5 per cent of males and females respectively — talk to friends, family, or other adults when they are struggling.

The Community Helpers program is a unique model for supporting those with mental health concerns, as its focus is not on creating volunteers and supports, but rather on empowering those “natural helpers” who are already in situations where they are resources for youth.

The program aims to increase the ability of a community to identify and address health issues regarding promotion of youth mental health, reduce mental illness stigma, improve interventions for those at risk of suicide, and bridge the gap between formal and informal support.

The program is designed to find natural helpers through an anonymous survey distributed to youth aged 17–28. The survey asks youth to identify two peers and two com-



Kaye Coholan/the Gauntlet

1

Per cent of males who talk to a health care professional about mental health concerns.

1.8

Per cent of females who talk to a health care professional about mental health concerns.

munity members to whom they reach out for support. If a community member is identified by at least two youth, they are contacted and offered the opportunity to participate in a training session to increase their support skills and knowledge about mental health.

The response from university staff who have learned about the program has been very positive and many requested training prior to knowing if they'd been nominated as a helper.

The initial 14-module training

3000

Approximate number of students who visited the Wellness Centre last academic year.

20

per cent of adults who will personally experience mental illness in their lifetime.

session was held September 21–23 and consisted of teaching on topics ranging from relationships and stress to substance abuse and suicide prevention. Other modules advised on ethics, resources and dealing with crisis situations.

Jason Bowers and Sean Ryan, both residence life coordinators at the U of C residence buildings, were two of the training session attendees. Bowers said that in the past only two students have directly approached him about mental health difficulties — having to approach

a student when concerns arise is much more common. He signed up for the training “to learn different strategies” and because he wanted to be up-to-date on what students need for crisis intervention and the resources offered in the broader Calgary community.

He states that the program “intrigued me because it was a government initiative and that was really different.”

Ryan has also dealt with multiple student health concerns before. He highly recommends the training to those offered the opportunity, calling it “phenomenal.” Referring to the role-playing work around approaching students, Ryan said “that practice is invaluable in learning to deal with the program in a real context.”

According to the U of C Community Helpers program coordinator Adriana Tulissi counsellors and staff at the Wellness Centre deal with complex issues every day, and see COMMUNITY HELPERS, page 7

Quick facts about mental illness

- The most common mental health disorders are stress, depression, mania disorder, panic, social phobias, anxiety, substance dependence, eating disorders, violence, ADD/ADHD and self-injury.

- One of every 10 Canadians over the age of 15 have some form of mental disorder or substance abuse problem.

- According to the World Health Organization, five of the 10 leading causes of disability are related to mental disorders.

- Health Canada estimates that in 1998 mental disorders were the third highest source of direct health care costs at \$4.7 billion.

- Only 37 per cent of people suffering from some form of mental disorder sought out help from a health care professional, family member or community member.

- The economic cost of mental illnesses in Canada for the health care system was estimated to be at least \$7.9 billion in 1998 — \$4.7 billion in care, and \$3.2 billion in disability and early death.

- An additional \$6.3 billion was spent on uninsured mental health services and time off work for depression and distress that was not treated by the health care system.

- According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, mental illness indirectly affects all Canadians at some time through a family member, friend or colleague.

- 20 per cent of Canadians will personally experience a mental illness in their lifetime.

- Mental illness affects people of all ages, educational and income levels, and cultures.

- Approximately 8 per cent of adults will experience depression.

Compiled by Michael Grondin

How do you deal with stress?



“A good walk, some fresh air and effective time management.”
– Samira Raess, second-year kinesiology



“I like to play video games.”
– Patrick Okeakpu, fourth-year economics



“I go to the weir and paddle.”
– Karina Lamy, environmental design graduate student



“Exercise!”
– Leo Chou, first-year kinesiology

campus quips

Delayed bicycle shelters still a go

Kaleem Khan
Gauntlet News

As sustainability and bicycle culture become more prevalent in the city, bicycle shelters may become an incentive for students to use more sustainable means of transport around the city and campus.

Students can expect to see construction on bicycle shelters on the University of Calgary campus in the spring of 2012. Construction of the shelters was originally planned to start fall 2011, but has been pushed back because of changes to the design. They are set to be complete by fall 2012.

A variety of people were included in the plans, including a design review committee, where the finishing touches were completed. The design review committee is comprised of internal and external design professionals — architects, engineers and planners.

The design concept was developed by environmental design students from the U of C with the supervision of associate professor Barry Wylant.

There are three proposed locations where the shelters will house between 30 and 60 bicycles. The shelters require that users bring their own locks.

"I know a few people who worked on it and I know they did take longer than expected just because they are being more open toward listening to people and their opinions on how things should be done," said



Kaye Coholan/the Gauntlet

New bike shelters will provide bike storage on campus.

Bike Root volunteer Michael Godwin. "In that respect, it sounds very positive because they're not going to hire some engineer and be done with it."

Currently, the primary locations proposed are directly across from the main entrance of the Energy Environment and Experiential Learning building, across from Hotel Alma and the third will be beside the Olympic Oval. These locations should give a few central locations for locking bikes. The shelters will be enclosed and well-lit to discourage theft.

"I guess it says something about

our university as an environmentally conscious institution," said first-year medicine student Ali Bagg. "It contributes to our idea of a sustainable campus."

Initially, discussions regarding dismount zones on campus were proposed along with the shelters, though they currently have been halted.

"We haven't gotten into that at all yet. It's a bit of a minefield once

of people on bikes who can be fairly reckless, so in a lot of ways I agree with it. Still, when I'm on campus and I have my bike with me and I want to get to the other side, I'll hop on my bike and take it slow — but not everybody's going to do that, so

/// You have to have places where there are dismount areas and places you have to walk. I almost got run over the other day.

— Bob Ellard, VP facilities management and development

we get into that. It's certainly one we will have to get into at some point. It's something that goes hand in hand with having bike storage areas. You have to have places where there are dismount areas and places you have to walk," said Bob Ellard, VP facilities management and development. "I almost got run over the other day."

Though a safety precaution, dismount zones may be discouraging for responsible cyclists on campus.

"As a pedestrian, you do get a lot

it's hard to say," said Godwin.

Though construction has been pushed back a few months, the shelters are now on track and were met with enthusiasm by U of C staff and students.

Campus sustainability has been an important aspect of the university's image and administration has done well to cater to the idea. The expected outcome is to move forward in terms of a more sustainable campus and to continue to implement eco-friendly infrastructure.

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Ancient wisdom in today's world

Eric Mathison
Editor-in-Chief

Why ancient wisdom matters in the modern world was discussed last Friday by National Geographic explorer-in-residence Wade Davis at the University of Calgary. The event was hosted by the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation.

Davis's talk focused on the role cultural diversity plays in understanding our place in the world. This diversity is under threat from many directions. "Half of the approximately 7,000 languages being spoken today are not being taught to children," said Davis in an interview before his talk. "Within a generation or two, we're losing half of humanity's linguistic — but also social, spiritual, ecological and psychological — knowledge. This doesn't have to happen," he said.

Davis explored two major themes in his lecture. The first is that "ethnocide," the term he uses to describe the destruction of culture, negatively affects the people living those experiences. The other major theme is that collecting as much human wisdom as possible is important for the problems the world is facing today. Davis said studying different cultures is "not just [out of] nostalgia or romanticism or intrigue. It's that the spirit of cultural myopia is just something that we cannot indulge anymore in a multicultural, interconnected world.

"It's not trivial, and part of the lessons of anthropology are not lessons to suggest that cultures go backwards to some pre-industrial past, or that any people be kept from the benefits of modernity, but rather to ask the question 'what kind of world [do] we want to go forward to?' So that all peoples have a chance to be

part of a dialogue that helps us to determine which way we're going to move."

For Davis, a significant step toward addressing these issues is to recognize our own particular cultural biases. The importance of the stories that can be told led Davis to educate the general public about other cultures, rather than strictly researching in an academic setting.

"I really felt that the issues of both the demise of biological diversity and the erosion of cultural diversity were just simply too important to be familiar only to a handful of scholars," he said.

The problems surrounding ethnocide are different than protecting biological diversity, which is a much more common topic in popular discussion. "In the realm of biological diversity you can make a protected area, but you can't make a protected rainforest of the mind, or a protected area of the imagination, or of a culture," said Davis.

The problem is exacerbated because while biological protection is a popular theme, stopping the destruction of cultures is not some-



Remi Watts/the Gauntlet

thing governments feel a need to address, according to Davis.

Through his use of storytelling and vivid description, Davis is adept at describing the incredible achievements of humanity. When describing how Polynesians were able to navigate over thousands of kilometres of ocean in open boats, he describes their achievement as an indication of the same genius it took

to land a man on the moon.

Davis has two new books coming out this fall. *Into the Silence*, is an account of British soldiers who fought in the First World War and then went to Everest in the 1920s. The second book is a collection of photographs called *The Sacred Headwaters*, detailing the northern British Columbia land under threat from methane extraction development.

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Kaye Coholan/the Gauntlet

Bike Root is back in business

Members talk cycling at the grand opening of Bike Root on Sept. 23. Bike Root, the university's volunteer-run community bike shop, will be open during the week from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in its new location at 2248 Uxbridge Drive Northwest. The Bike Root website warns to "never ever ring the doorbell at this location." The shop is located in the garage area of the residence. For the price of \$10 a year Bike Root offers its members access to tools and parts to fix or tune their own bicycles. Anyone in the community is welcomed to join. For more information visit bikeroot.ca.

Styrofoam gets the boot

Michael Grondin
Gauntlet News

MacHall will officially be Styrofoam free by the end of September.

A poll taken in 2009 showed that 93.4 per cent of students were willing to give Styrofoam the boot and look for a more eco-friendly solution.

According to Students' Union vice-president operations and finance Patrick Straw, the process to abolish the Styrofoam food containers has taken two years, in which the Students' Union is currently working with the vendors in MacHall to finalize the deal.

"In this past year we've gone out, we've worked really hard with all the vendors to try to make sure that we find a solution that works," said Straw. "We thought because it was something the students wanted and it was something we could easily give them, it would be a great thing to do," said Straw.

Alexandra Pulwicky, president of the Eco Club, said the move away from Styrofoam will be beneficial for the students as well as the environment.

"Styrofoam is incredibly bad for the environment and the people who use it," said Pulwicky. "It never

decomposes, it takes a lot of chemicals and a lot of resources to make it which aren't natural, and as soon as you put something like that into the garbage it's going to be there forever."

Avoiding non-decomposable products like Styrofoam is the best choice, said Pulwicky, adding that when the students asked to get rid of it, they could not be turned down.

"We need to be living in a sustainable manner so that we can continue to leave this earth for our future generations," said Pulwicky. "It will be leaving a mark on the land that will never go away, and when the students were willing to get rid of Styrofoam, we had to listen."

Straw said a move like this shows that the students' voice has a lot of power, and if they want to see a change, they can make it happen.

"I think it's important because it shows the progressive nature of our organization, it shows that we listen to students' needs and wants and that we can maintain sustainable practices," he said. "Students can be involved in the consultation process and change can happen when students get involved. When students bring their voices together, big changes can happen."

Community Helpers cont'd from page 4

"more help is needed upstream," and this is where the new program comes in.

The Canadian Mental Health Association reports that around 20 per cent of adults will experience some form of mental illness throughout their lifetime — with over 28,000 students, this means that more than 5,600 students at the U of C will deal with a mental health problem at some point.

Despite these high numbers, however, students are unlikely to seek out help for their troubles.

At the U of C roughly 3,000 students visited the Wellness Centre last academic year.

The Wellness Centre offers individual and couples counselling to students dealing with academic, career, relationship, personal and other concerns. Under the Students' Union health plan, all counselling is free to undergraduate students.

According to the associate director of the U of C Wellness Centre Ann Laverty, the most

common concerns that students present to the centre include anxiety and stress, depression and relationship concerns.

"Programs like the Community Helpers program will make a big difference because a lot of what helps promote mental health are things that any member of our campus or community can do. So much of it is reaching out to people with compassion and civility and care and showing them that they make a difference. A big thing is reducing stigma . . . and encouraging people to talk about it," said Tulissi.

Two of the major barriers to accessing treatment for mental health issues reported by students include the stigma still surrounding mental illness and worries that their problems are not serious enough to warrant help or concern.

Although the myth is that successful students don't need counselling, Laverty said "no one is immune to [mental health problems] and we all need some support and strategies along the way."

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Walking on the streets of Marda Loop along 33 Avenue, a pleasant surprise appears in the form of irises painted like stained glass on an otherwise unremarkable utility box. The art appears again further down the street, but this time the box displays poppies. Earlier this week, another box painted with tulips popped up.

Those who have frequented Marda Loop this month have probably been lucky enough to catch a sight of local artist Kathy Lycka painting these beautiful flowers (inspired by Tiffany's stained glass pieces) on 14th, 20th and 22nd Streets, as part of the community's campaign to deter graffiti.

Lycka was approached by the Marda Loop Business Revitalization Zone, a shopping district, about the utility box project following an exhibition she had organized at the community's Marda Gras Street Festival in August of 2011.

Although Lycka was already familiar with the City of Calgary Road Department's version of the project, the BMZ offered an opportunity that the city could not.

"The City of Calgary had a priority list, and whatever boxes were getting graffiti'd the most, they were getting those ones painted first . . . the ones in Marda Loop weren't a priority."

Lycka was intrigued by the project, started at the beginning of the month, not only because of the concept, but also by the area in which her work would be displayed.

"It's so modern and trendy, and it's so well-known in Calgary . . . It felt like a perfect fit for me, so I jumped on the idea."

As an artist accustomed to working comfortably indoors on flat canvas, painting on utility boxes on the side of the street forced Lycka to take a completely different approach towards the project than she does with her own pieces. Lycka explains that because of the structure and position of the utility boxes, the steps she usually takes to complete a piece had to be "completely opposite" in this particular situation. Even the size of the boxes posed mild inconveniences, especially since Lycka is used to painting pieces no bigger than three by 60 inches.

"It's such a huge canvas, so I've got to stand on a stool and lay down on the ground for part of it. It has been very physical."

Lycka has to manoeuvre her way around the panels of each box for hours, all the while keeping in mind that the eyes of just about every passerby will pause in interest to watch her progress. Pedestrians and motorists alike have stopped to ask Lycka about the project, occasionally even taking pictures as she worked.

"People would stop their car and walk a block back just to come see what I was doing," she laughs. "I have a big banner up with my name as well as my website, just so people know who I am. Little kids are like, 'Kathy, we love your work!'"

It is clear that the public has embraced this project enthusiastically and with a genuine

appreciation for its effect on the streets of Marda Loop, whether in person or in more indirect ways.

"Everybody's been really positive and really supportive and they seem to really love the concept and the artwork . . . even the response on Facebook has been out of control."



Lycka has painted three utility boxes inspired by stained glass as part of a pro-community effort in southwest Calgary.

"It's just overwhelming, but in such a good way."

Lycka's hopes for what the project will achieve are similar to the City's: to bring a bit of colour and brightness to the area while keeping it free of graffiti. Lycka did make it clear, however, that her views on graffiti art-

ists are not completely negative.

"I totally respect some graffiti artists because they're fantastic, they're very very talented, and if they go and put 20 hours into a piece, then I think they should be allowed to do that. But the fact of the matter is that most of them don't. [What they do] is not well-designed, it's not thought out."

The long hours and challenging work efforts being put into the project by Lycka are benefiting the community and the artist herself. Displaying her artwork so publicly, and on a much larger canvas than her usual pieces, has given Lycka the confidence to continue painting bigger pieces.

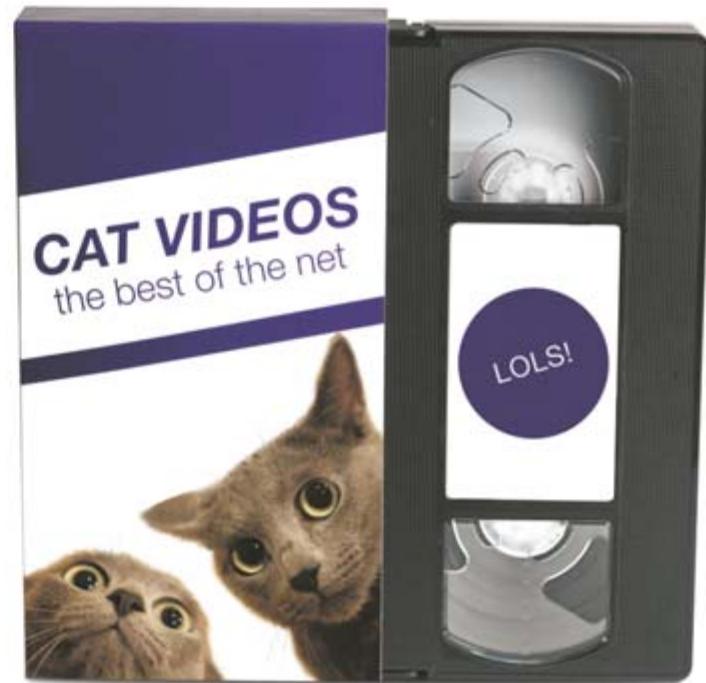
"I was intimidated at first," she admits, "just because of the scope of it, that it's such a big project. But it has just been so rewarding."

Lycka hopes others will be able to take just as much from the project when they walk or drive past the painted flowers. More than brightening someone's day, there's always a chance that the artwork could influence a future generation of artists, something Lycka can relate to personally.

"I remember when I was little, I used to always look at murals . . . Now [my work is] like the murals that I was admiring when I was a little kid. I'm hoping that little kids can look at my work and be inspired and maybe follow the route of an artist."

To find out more about Kathy Lycka's artwork, visit kathylycka.com. Better yet, take a stroll down 33 Avenue and check out the beautiful, newly-painted utility boxes as they were meant to be seen.

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courtesy Chris Graham/Alex Cairncross

Rhiannon Kirkland
Gauntlet Entertainment

Canada has several cities that are famous for churning out reputable indie music. Regina is not one of them. Library Voices, however, are doing their best to put their city on the map.

"I don't think it's ever really gotten the credit it deserves as far as an arts and music scene," says synth player and lyricist Michael Dawson of his hometown. "They just announced that the Juno Awards are coming there next year, and little things like that that will help put it back on the map."

It was through this community that the different members of Library Voices — there are seven in all — met and decided to join forces. "It sort of made sense to start

a band with people we knew we'd get along with really well," remarks Dawson. "I've been in much smaller bands that are much harder to work with."

Library Voices have been together for two-and-a-half years and have released two albums in that time — their most recent being this August's *Summer of Lust* — in addition to an EP and a 7-inch.

"With [full-length] *Denim on Denim*, we got lost a little bit in technology and in having free reign over a studio and having a pretty strong voice in what we did, and we sort of ended up working on it forever, going back and making changes and writing a lot of it in the studio," shares Dawson.

The band found that the songs didn't translate from the record to

live shows well, something they kept in mind while making *Summer of Lust*.

"We were very conscious [of the fact] that we just wanted to . . . go into the studio and more or less just try and capture that excitement, that energy when we play live onto a record," said Dawson.

Library Voices wrote *Summer of Lust* in Kronau, a small town of 250 people outside of Regina.

In May 2010 their rehearsal space in Regina flooded, destroying their equipment and leaving them in need of a new space. They were unable to find somewhere in Regina but found a creative home in Kronau instead.

"I think that it was awesome in that it was just very isolated," says Dawson. "We didn't have cell service or internet, just the seven of us ham-

mering out these songs and a gentleman who ran a gas station around the corner [who] we'd go and see to get coffee a couple of times a day."

The band has developed a reputation for being well-read which, according to Dawson, may be related to their name.

"There have been a number of occasions where librarians have come out to see our band," laughs Dawson.

"You read what you love, but then at the other end of the spectrum you have all these other people who know more about literature than you ever could quizzing you and picking your brains a little bit," said Dawson.

Dawson said he likes to read contemporary fiction, including that of authors like Douglas Coupland.

"There are standard [books] that

I've read and I've loved for sure. I do try to stay on top of it and it's something that I really do enjoy," said Dawson.

But Library Voices are more than bookworms with a penchant for indie music, as their name suggests, and even further from men with less-than-honourable intentions, as their most recent album name implies.

"We played a lot of bocce ball this summer, that's sort of a weakness for sure," explains Dawson. "The name of our album may be a little misleading in how we spend our recreational time. More crosswords and bocce ball than anything too lusty."

Library Voices are at The Gateway with We Are The City, The Provincial Archive, and Rockets and Dinosaurs Sept. 30.

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Film review: 50/50

What are the chances that your best friend being diagnosed with cancer could be... funny?

Schmandy Williams

Gauntlet Entertainment

This must be a casting director's worst nightmare — the film's lead actor drops out of the project after principal filming starts, and they're left scrambling to find a replacement.

That's exactly what happened with *50/50*. The critically-acclaimed Scottish actor James McAvoy backed out of the project for what have only been described as personal reasons.

As a result, Joseph Gordon-Levitt stars in this new film — a narrative constructed around a 27-year-old radio producer from Seattle who lives a somewhat insulated life, free of any health-adverse vices. His world is rattled when persistent lower back pain turns out to be more serious than he could have ever imagined — a malignant, cancerous tumor is growing in his spi-

nal column. His chances of living or dying are, predictably, 50/50.

The movie centres itself around Adam (Gordon-Levitt), his treatment and his journey to coming to terms with the reality of his mortality.

As the story unwinds, the rest of the cast is introduced: Seth Rogen plays Kyle, Adam's comedic foil who has a bit of a self-centred streak. Anna Kendrick appears as Adam's therapist and love interest, Katherine.

It's not easy to make a movie focused around someone's cancer treatment funny — this is definitely precarious territory and deserves sensitive treatment.

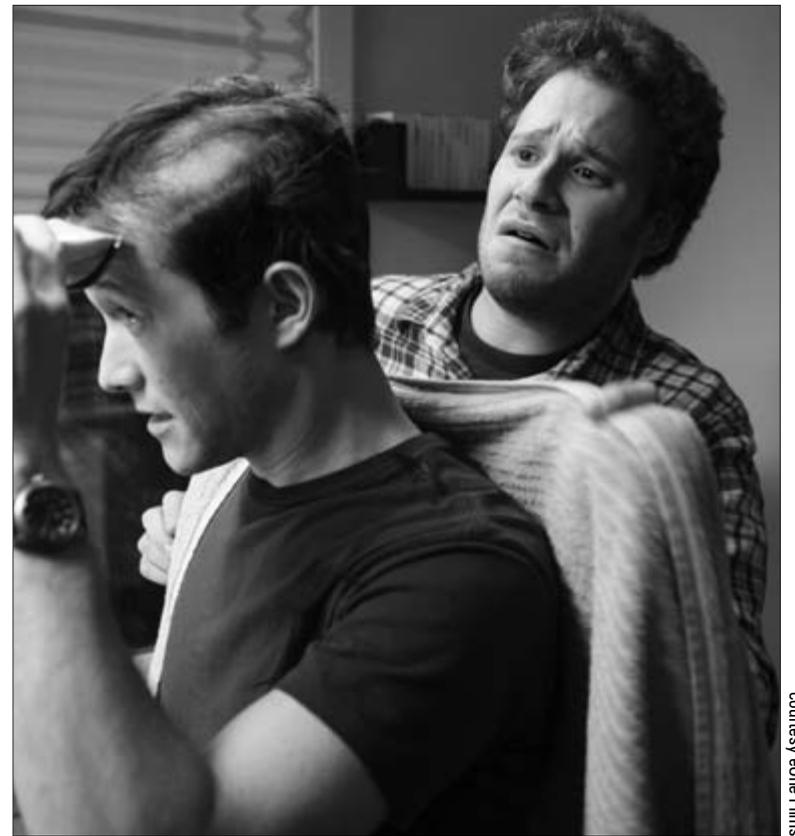
That being said, writer Will Reiser, who is a cancer survivor, manages to weave together a semi-autobiographical narrative that seamlessly swings from the dark, sinking reality of the situation to moments of outright

levity and hilarity.

Gordon-Levitt deftly navigates these tonal shifts without missing a beat. He is aided by Rogen, who, though playing the same character we've seen from him in other celluloid endeavours, does an admirable job supporting Gordon-Levitt.

Kendrick's portrayal of Katherine is the movie's weakest point. The role of the young, out-of-her-depth professional was compelling in 2009's *Up in the Air*, but here it feels tired, and Kendrick's character seems like it was written into the script as an afterthought. It's tough to discern whether this is her fault or an inherent problem in the movie's script, but Kendrick doesn't fare well as the love interest.

Overall, the movie is quite remarkable in how it handles and approaches its sensitive topic. It's not entirely unusual to have a movie deal with a heavy situation and be humorous — what's interesting here



courtesy 50/50 Films

Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Seth Rogen approach the delicate task of treating a dark topic with humour in *50/50*.

is that Reiser and the cast don't rely on the dark humour you'd expect. The moments of levity are flashes of colour, not just snide or sarcastic additions. Despite its pitfalls, *50/50*

is a well-grounded, interesting outing that certainly doesn't suffer from McAvoy's last-minute withdrawal.

50/50 opens in Canada Sept. 30.

cjsw on-air guide

	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
5:30	cjsw echo chamber	some velvet mornings	morning joy	syncopation nation	morning joy	my two cents flat	tea time with annie (continued)	5:30
6 am								6 am
6:30								6:30
7 am	alternative radio	breaking the tethers	am mixtape	the morning after	soapbox derby/ the get up	the house blend	democracy now!	7 am
7:30								7:30
8 am	counterspin						bunte welle german	8 am
8:30	eritrean radio	morning mix — with BBC updates on the hour from 6 am - 9 am every weekday						8:30
9 am	hrvatski radio croatian							9 am
9:30								9:30
10 am	radio pilipino filipino	her royal opinion	outside the lines experimental / classical	instant gratification: revoked!	mind folk'd roots	up for it	calgary vietnamese radio	10 am
10:30								10:30
11 am	buscando america spanish	students' union weekly	spooning & forking	alternative radio	democracy now!	narrowcasted news	hellenic melodies greek	11 am
11:30								11:30
12 pm	deztination worldwide	roger that	the via lactea caboose	freewheelin' sponsored by republic	pillage the people/ my public shame	daydream dance party sponsored by beatroute magazine	speaking in tongues roots	12 pm
12:30								12:30
1 pm							double entendre preserves	1 pm
1:30	contramandatum						flip your wig	1:30
2 pm		the new classics	white lodge/ black lodge	off duty trip	truffle shuffle	my allergy to the fans sponsored by tubby dog	music to my ears	2 pm
2:30								2:30
3 pm	knotted roots							3 pm
3:30								3:30
4 pm	mental illness	aubrey's shindig sponsored by the drum & monkey	electric company	halfway home sponsored by local 522	alternative to what?	road pops sponsored by fwd weekly	level the vibes	4 pm
4:30								4:30
5 pm								5 pm
5:30								5:30
6 pm	breaking techniques	french transe en danse	desi vibes	carnival mix	that's so gay!	musiquarium	voice of ethiopia	6 pm
6:30							radio oromia	6:30
7 pm	mind grapes	south louisiana gumbo roots	tombstone after dark roots	the blues witness roots	folkcetera roots	the dubble bounce	oh africa!	7 pm
7:30								7:30
8 pm	katharsis	yeah, what she said	artslink	writer's block		full moon funkalicious	nocturnable	8 pm
8:30		fat beat diet		lift the bandstand	noise experimental / classical	dirty needles		8:30
9 pm			least side story					9 pm
9:30								9:30
10 pm	that's classical? experimental / classical	the spin evolution	radio boys in the shortwave mystery	good character req/ estate sale	funk senden	what will the neighbors think?	megawatt mayhem metal	10 pm
10:30								10:30
11 pm		each one teach one	urban sex	am i right??	the twisted brainwrong	remote emissions		11 pm
11:30								11:30
12 am	translucent dreams	sweet chin music	twilight banter	blue collar bravado	bass ackwards metal	dna	attention surplus disorder	12 am
12:30								12:30
1 am	sunday night groove school					the mix up		1 am
1:30								1:30
2 am		the third rail	the freak show	the robotic uprising	rage cage metal			2 am
2:30								2:30
3 am	straight on 'til morning					tea time with annie	latin beat	3 am
to 5:30								to 5:30

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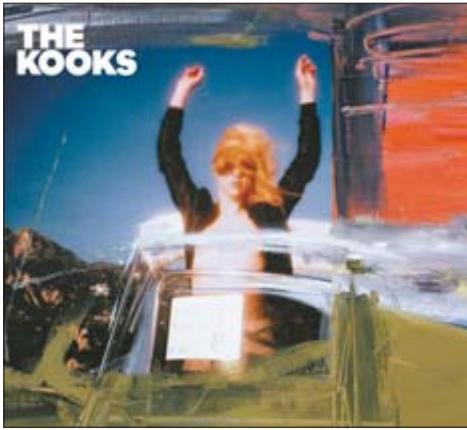
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s p u n

ALBUM REVIEWS



The Kooks
Junk of the Heart
 (September 13, Virgin Records)

I admit it — I was, and still kind of am, a diehard Kooks fan. “Naïve” and “Sofa Song” got some serious playtime on my iPod Mini. How could I help it? Many a young schoolgirl has fallen for the bubbly love songs and ironically upbeat ballads of The Kooks, not to mention frontman Luke Pritchard’s honeyed English voice.

A quick listen to the title track (and first single) “Junk of the Heart” is a throwback to my high school years — that indie-pop I was so deeply infatuated with. It’s clear that The Kooks haven’t strayed too far from the sound that won their fans over in the first place. The album is more reminiscent of the mellow acoustics of their 2006 debut *Inside In/Inside Out* than the bluesy *Konk* of 2008. That isn’t to say, however, that they haven’t matured in the three years since their last release. Dabbles in electronica, soul and jazz, heard on “Runaway” as well as “Is It Me,” add experimental dimension to what would otherwise be the standard Kooks sound. While it’s definitely different, the band has managed to work these sounds effortlessly into their melodies.

While a little bit underwhelming, this album still highlights the ability of The Kooks to develop while keeping their “indie-pop” label. Somewhere, deep down, the 15-year-old me is squealing with happiness.

Laura Wan



Zenith Myth
Zenith Myth
 (October 25, Vibra Cobra Records)

Zenith Myth is the self-titled progressive rock debut of Los Angeles-based artist Mike Edwards. In addition to writing and producing the album, Edwards claims a multitude of instrumental credits, including bass, guitar, piano, screams and iPhone noises. This album displays the work and talents of several other artists — Paul D’Amour of Tool; Melissa Auf der Maur, formerly of the Smashing Pumpkins and Hole; and Sam Goldberg of Broken Social Scene all lend their talents. For an album with so much talent, it is sadly mundane.

Guitar and bass sounds are repeatedly lost under many layers of feedback and distortion. However, on the rare occasion that the guitars play cleanly, we get to hear some talented finger-work. Vocal styles range between spoken word and screaming, but nearly all of it is limited by some kind of distortion. The songs themselves are well-played, but they all start to sound the same around track five. Overall, the whole album feels out of focus.

For an album labelled “progressive,” there is nothing too surprising here. There is no denying that Edwards has put a lot of work and talent into his debut. Unfortunately, the product is almost completely forgettable. Still, if you enjoy heavily-distorted prog rock, *Zenith Myth* is worth a quick look.

Alastair Starke



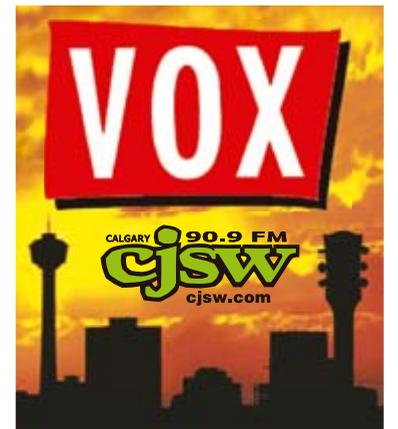
Kathryn Calder
Bright and Vivid
 (October 25, File Under: Music)

Bright and Vivid is a step in a new direction for New Pornographers member Kathryn Calder. This is her second solo album, and compared to her first, 2010’s *Are You My Mother?*, it is clear that Ms. Calder is experimenting — and quite successfully — with different sounds and eclectic rhythms. She has moved significantly from the cozy but safe Regina-Spektor feel to a slightly more daring approach within the world of female indie artists. The disc is full of echoic guitar plucking, and lovely vocals add an overall dreamy tone to it.

Calder has done a wonderful job mixing a far-off, starry-night feel and a higher-paced synth-pop vibe. On a close listen, you can try to dissect the numerous sounds exuding from the stereo, including tambourine, French horn, violin, cello, mandolin and even hand claps. It is not exactly clear what each song is about, and in this, the listener is left to envisage quite a bit, perhaps playing more off the music than the lyrics, challenging the imagination.

This is surely not an album for those who appreciate well-enunciated lyrics and the “verse, chorus, verse” song structure, but if you happen to need an indie soundtrack for a creative gathering with your friends, this is definitely an album to anticipate.

Rheanna Houston



TOP 20 *canadian artist
 **local artist ▶ sept 19/11

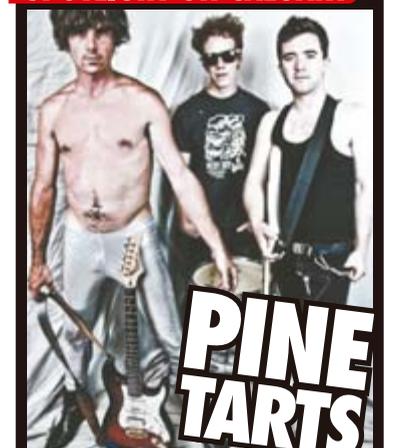
- 1 **BLITZEN TRAPPER** *American Goldwing* (Sub Pop)
- 2 **MATES OF STATE** *Mountaintops* (Barsuk)
- 3 **PINE TARTS**** *Pine Tarts* (Livid)
- 4 **DAN MANGAN*** *Oh Fortune* (Arts & Crafts)
- 5 **CUT OFF YOUR HANDS** *Hollow* (Frenchkiss)
- 6 **GREG MACPHERSON*** *Disintegration Blues* (Disintegration)
- 7 **STEPHEN MALKMUS AND THE JICKS** *Mirror Traffic* (Matador)
- 8 **ST. VINCENT** *Strange Mercy* (4AD)
- 9 **BEIRUT** *The Riptide* (Pompeii)
- 10 **BROKEN BRICKS*** *Little Fugitives* (Self-Released)
- 11 **YOUNG ONES**** *Young Ones* (Self-Released)
- 12 **HRDWTR*** *Hardwater* (Self-Released)
- 13 **CLAP YOUR HANDS SAY YEAH** *Hysterical* (Self-Released)
- 14 **THE JAYHAWKS** *Mockingbird Time* (Rounder)
- 15 **HELLA** *Tripper* (Sargent House)
- 16 **GIRLS** *Father, Son, Holy Ghost* (True Panther)
- 17 **APOLLO GHOSTS*** *Money Has No Heart* (Geographing)
- 18 **HUNGRYTOWN** *Any Forgotten Thing* (Listen Here!)
- 19 **KRIS ELLESTAD**** *No Man Is Land* (Self-Released)
- 20 **THE BRITISH COLUMBIANS*** *Made For Darker Things* (Rural)

HIP HOP/FUNK/SOUL

- 1 **VARIOUS** *Norman Jay MBE Presents Good Times 30th Anniversary Edition* (Strut)
- 2 **SLIM MOORE & THE MAR-KAYS*** *Introducing Slim Moore & The Mar-Kays* (Marlow)
- 3 **THE PIMPS OF JOYTIME** *Janxta Funk!* (Wonderwheel)
- 4 **THE EXTREMITIES*** *The Mint Condition* (Droppin' Science)
- 5 **IAN KETEKU*** *Lessons From Planet Earth: Re-Evolution* (Nocturne)

WORLD

- 1 **MIGHTY POPO*** *Gakondo* (Borealis)
- 2 **ILAIYARAJA** *Solla Solla* (B-Music/Finders Keepers)
- 3 **VARIOUS** *Red Hot + Rio 2 / Nova Tropicalia* (Eone)
- 4 **TINARIWEN** *Tassili +10:1B* (Wedge/Anti-)
- 5 **TRIO BEMBE*** *Oh My Soul* (Self-Released)

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THE MAGNETIC NORTH: Tues. Oct. 18 - 10 pm on *Radio Boys In The Shortwave Mystery*

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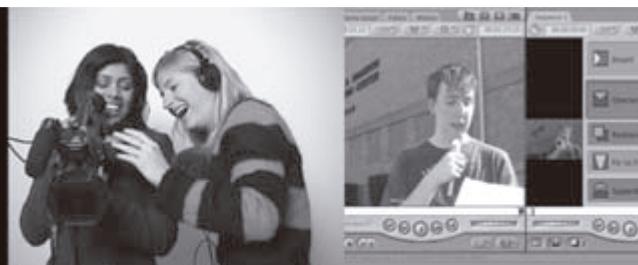
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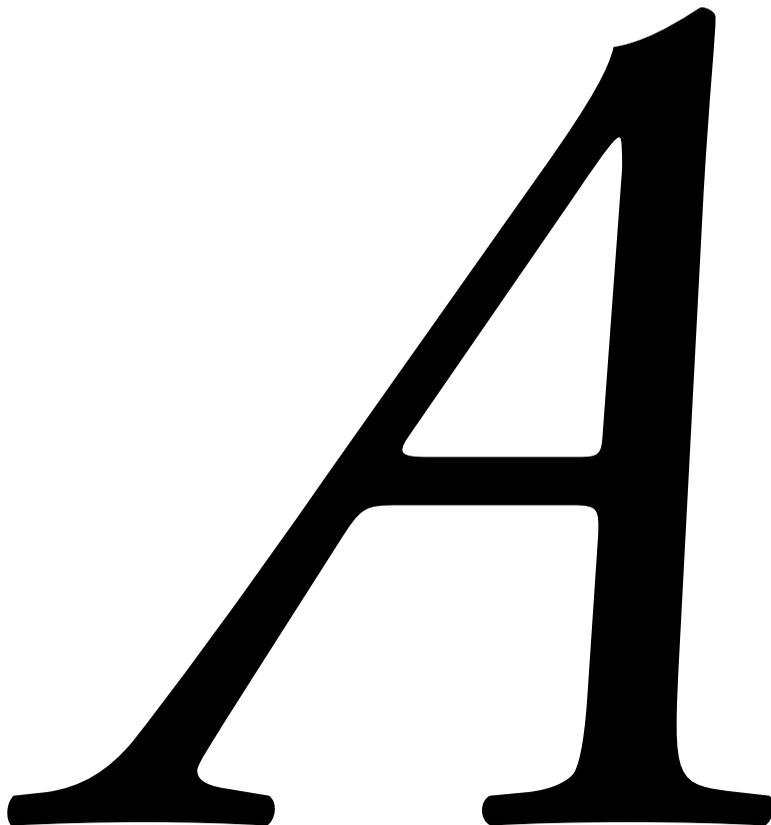
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NEW UNIVERSITY TELEVISION

Pioneering the page

The decline of print comics, the growth of webcomics and the flexibility, innovation and controversy of both.

By Sarah Dorchak



Archie. Dick Tracy. Felix the Cat. Maus. Watchmen. There's no doubt that these titles are recognizable — they've become part of our social literary memory. Even if you've never

read any of the comics themselves, you still know Archie is constantly torn between two women, one blonde and one black-haired.

While it seems inevitable that the print culture of comics — and many other industries — will die out, the process appears sped up due to the sudden rise of webcomic popularity. Most webcomics remain underground and unheard of in most social circles, but some, like *xkcd* and *Penny Arcade*, have broken through the marginalized niche of webcomics and become more mainstream. It makes sense that the relationship between print comic decline and webcomic increase appears causal — why pay for entertainment when you can get it for free?

In Calgary's comic scene especially, it seems the economic turn has hit hard. Several comic stores, including Tramps on Macleod and the campus location of Words and Pictures, have had to close down in the past several years.

"For this type of business we need a really good economy because this is a disposable cash business," Robert Clark, previous owner of Words and Pictures, said in an interview with NUTV on Dec. 9 2010. "Nobody needs comic books, it's not like food or clothes."

"By the 1980s the comic book stores became the dominant way that people could buy comic books," English department head and comic

enthusiast Bart Beaty said. "Comics really retreated to the comic book store and it became the only way to find them. There was a narrowing of the audience, of people who already had an interest in comics."

Now, Beaty says, "nerd culture has taken over and comics have entered the mainstream as fodder for movies, as fodder for television. This has allowed a new audience to emerge and for comic book stores to no longer be the only place to find this material. The comic book store has lost its exclusivity."

Print comics have had to adapt to survive with the emergence of the digital culture and webcomics, Beaty added, mainly by changing their form.

"I just got this book from Amazon and it's a big, beautiful book. Theoretically, someone could scan it in and put it on the web, but why would you want to? That's a big beautiful book! I wouldn't want to read that on the screen!"

Looking lovingly over at the book that takes up a major part of his desk, Beaty added that the attitude changes when there's less effort taken on behalf of the product design: "When it's this week's *Superman* comic, you could scan that and read it on the screen and not be missing anything.

"The ubiquity of the digital culture has made the print industry more aware of design and in how it markets its books. Then you have artists asking what can we do here to justify having a beautifully published book; they've become more aware of taking advantage of the book form."

Print culture, besides updating the form, has kept the content relevant to today's issues.

Specifically in the comic industry, this month Marvel Comics introduced its new *Ultimate Spider-Man*, Miles Morales, a teenager of African American and Latino descent. According to what Marvel Comics editor-in-chief Axel Alonso said in the LatinRapper.com article, "Axel Alonso: Reinventing Today's Heroes," they created the new character because "[they] realized that [they] were standing at the brink of America electing its first African American president and we acknowledged that it was time to take a good look at one of our icons."

"Comics are more relevant now than they ever have been," commented Beaty. He explained that a major sign of this is the huge influx of academic courses that focus on print comics.

"In a lot of ways, the world has caught up with the fact that comics have had a lot going on for a long time, but also the cartoonists have changed what they want to do," he said. "We still have a whole tradition of superhero stuff that's more escapist, but we also have a whole other tradition of mature, sophisticated stories being told."

When asked about webcomics and their growth in sophisticated content, Beaty likened the digital medium to an underground movement. He claims "the underground is the moment where we break free and can do comics about anything. The internet is freer that way — you can do comics about sex or drugs or anything."

Similar to the '60s movement with artists like Robert Crumb, Beaty remarks, "There was a long process of people realizing they could

use comics as a legitimate means of artistic expression.” This realization took a lot longer in the comic industry than in the webcomic industry, as webcomics are already on the margins of society. This marginalization, however, comes with a price. “Few webcartoonists have been able to make a huge impact outside the world of webcomics [as opposed to print comics and cartoonists like Robert Crumb],” Beaty added. “It still remains this small, very marginal niche.”

No matter how small the webcomic niche may be, there’s still room for a huge variety of content. As Ryan Sohmer of Blind Ferret Entertainment and writer/creator of the webcomics *Least I Could Do*, *Looking For Group* and *Gutters* said, “The web levels the playing field — any playing field.”

The leveling of playing fields is one reason why the digital industry has been able to overtake other, more common creative arenas. Anyone can make a webcomic, it’s just a matter of gaining an audience. While this fosters the underground movement Beaty touches on, it also gives the webcomic industry a sense of illegitimacy: the content isn’t scoured over by syndicates (organizations that act as the agent and distributor of comics or other media), nor is it regulated.

“The business model of the web, which seems to be, ‘If I put this up for free hopefully I will be able to generate an audience for it and they’ll buy the book collection or merchandise or ad,’ has meant that you get incredible diversity on the web that would never find a publisher, yet have incredible success, like Kate Beaton’s *Hark! A Vagrant*,” Beaty added.

Sohmer had a different story to tell. His project *Least I Could Do*, he says, was his “first comic strip attempt.”

“I made the decision to switch from journalism into a career of making stuff up,” Sohmer explained.

The digital medium let Sohmer ease into the webcomic industry without financial worry. “It allowed me to take the time to learn to write while doing, as opposed to shopping an idea around to syndicates or book publishers,” which, he added, had led to the creation of his entertainment company.

Sohmer’s company works as a production and publishing house for other webcomics, helping the webcomics get merchandise and expand into other media. For example, *Least I Could Do* will soon be released as a television cartoon. Sohmer has also branched out into different forms of the webcomic, like through his project *Gutters*.

“*Gutters* is a series of standalone pages that parody the comic book industry and the heroes and characters that dwell within,” it explains on the website of *Gutters*. “Think of it as an editorial cartoon targeting comic books.”

The webcomic industry, while being easily broached by anyone of any skill set, also opens doors for anyone of any financial standing. Danielle Corsetto, as well as most other webcartoonists, started her project *Girls With Slingshots* on the web because she had just graduated college.

“It was almost free to put the project online as opposed to printing books. I wasn’t sure if it was going to sell well enough to spend a whole bunch of money on printing,” Corsetto added with a smirk, “I think you’re more poor right out of college and at the time it seemed less risky.”

The decision, she agreed in retrospect, was a good one. “It forces me to keep a deadline — originally if I didn’t have a deadline I would just do my regular day job, and I really like the immediacy of the web, of having people respond to you immediately with their feelings and feedback on the comic.”

While she listens to her viewers, it doesn’t mean Corsetto directs her content towards a certain demographic. In fact, she said, she doesn’t even think of demographics. “It shows when you really enjoy what you’re doing. I think that my work is a lot higher quality because I’m writing what I enjoy and what I relate to without worry.”

Despite the openness of content, Corsetto agreed that it can be difficult to find ‘professional’ webcartoonists and projects. She decided, though, that it all comes down to a personal standard.

“Generally how I gauge if somebody’s ‘made it’ is if they make a living at doing webcomics. I feel that a syndicate would not have picked up those professionals’ work, however, and definitely not mine.” She said with a laugh, “it’s not PG-13 enough!”

But just because a project has gained a syndicate’s attention doesn’t mean it is a quality piece of entertainment, added Corsetto. “For print media and comics, writers can start rehashing the same jokes over again and syndicates will keep them around because of the brand name. If I start phoning it in and doing a crap job, people would stop reading and I would stop making a living.”

Fans often hold producers accountable to their projects, but this phenomenon is not exclusive to the webcomic industry — the only difference is when the proj-

ect is independently produced the owners gain more from listening to their fans. Major comic corporations like Marvel Comics and

Pilgrim Versus the World as a project that, published by independent Oni Press, would not have been overly market-tested.

“Few webcartoonists have been able to make a huge impact outside the world of webcomics. It still remains this small, very marginal niche.

— *Bart Beaty, English department head*

DC Comics, being more established than an independent producer, don’t have to worry about keeping their fans satisfied. In actuality, these companies skirt around this issue by targeting demographics on a large scale.

“Publishers like Disney test-market to death to make sure every detail is what people want,” Beaty said. Just because a project tests well doesn’t mean it explores meaningful avenues, or even is a worthwhile read, he added. Beaty cited Brian Lee O’Malley’s *Scott*

“I don’t think O’Malley consciously sat down and thought, people like romance, video games and drama, and if I combine all these things it’ll be a great hit with people.” It’s been a continuing trend since the ‘60s, he added. “We’ve seen more and more cartoonists say ‘Today I’m going to do my own thing and if it finds an audience then that’s great.’ They don’t sit down and figure out what the world really likes first.”

The influx of artistic and creative opportunities gained the upper

hand when the internet got off the ground. The first webcomic *Witches and Stitches* debuted in 1985 on CompuServe, an internet service provider predating the world wide web. Just as with YouTube and blogs, you could self-publish your own uninhibited content. Now, even most professional webcartoonists continue with the tradition of publishing what they want to write without worry over demographics.

“The people who really want to read it are the ones who stick around. Demographics are something I’ve never concerned myself with,” Sohmer said. The trick, he added, is not getting hung up on restricting content despite the project’s accessibility. “Yes, it is accessible by anyone, but no one is forced to the website.”

Corsetto agreed with Sohmer: “It’s much easier to write stories [when not concerned about targeting audiences]. I knew that *Girls With Slingshots* would find its demographic through word of mouth. In that way, the demographic would mould itself around the strip.”

see PIONEERING, page 16

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Pioneering, cont'd from page 15

“People can gauge it for themselves, like anything on the internet,” she added. “There is an internet culture and people are choosing what they want to read.”

The anonymity and self-regulating characteristics of the internet allow webcartoonists this lack of concern over demographics, but more than just webcartoonists can write what they want.

The one-year-old, Calgary-based comic production company Maad Sheep Productions, headed by Daniel Lenfest-Jameson and Calan Lovstrom, publishes what they want, when they want. The duo manage Maad Sheep, as well as writing and drawing their own stories, while working at their full-time jobs.

“It’s a labour of love,” Lovstrom

said when asked what motivated them to start Maad Sheep. It first started with *Quiver Street*, Lovstrom’s original idea and the writer and illustrator, and Lenfest-Jameson helps with the writing while working on his own project *Willie Lightning*.

“It’s a way for us to put ours and others’ work out there,” added Lenfest-Jameson. “We write out of what we love and what we want to publish — we don’t stifle our material to a certain demographic.”

“We’re not making comics to make money,” Lovstrom interjected.

The idea of creating, writing and illustrating a comic just because you enjoy it is common among webcartoonists, however both Lovstrom and Lenfest-Jameson are strongly set against online comics.

“Staring at a computer burns your eyes out and most of the time the work is shit. It’s almost like a cop-out,” Lovstrom said.

“More than that, to really tell a full-length story you need multiple issues,” Lenfest-Jameson added. “It’s great if you do what you enjoy and if you make people laugh, but there’s a limit to the project’s depth and how much you reach your viewer.”

“There’s nothing like holding a physical comic and collecting those,” he continued. “It’s almost a traditional thing — parents pass their collections onto their kids. How do you pass on your webcomic collection to your kid? Give them a USB stick?”

Along with their own projects, Maad Sheep accepts submissions from other Calgary artists, stating that they leave the submissions “uncensored.” Their aim is to foster not only Calgary artists and content, but the comic culture in general.

“We know the culture is here,”

Lenfest-Jameson said, adding that the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo is the second largest convention in Western Canada. “I mean, Todd McFarlane came from here — Calgary spawned *Spawn!*”

“There just seems to be a lot of underground works,” Lovstrom added. “There’s no advertisement for these projects. We want to make it louder.”

The fact that both the comic and webcomic industries are able to publish original and controversial content, push boundaries and are open for almost anyone to join in doesn’t hide the fact that most people consider webcomics to be less legitimate than print. Part of this opinion derives from the lack of webcomic syndicates and of an editing process. The mindset is that if it’s a recognizable name and product, it’s legitimate.

Bart Beaty, who’s been working on what he calls “intermedial comics,” sees comics as gaining far more le-

gitimacy in other media rather than an all-out legitimacy battle between comics and webcomics.

According to Beaty, intermedial comics are mixed media that take two distinct art forms to create a new form. “There are comics artists who are expanding beyond one medium. For example, Art Spiegelman worked with the Pilobolus dance theatre where he helped choreograph a dance. They projected panels on the stage and the dancers stood in them — it looked like a comic with moving people.”

“These kinds of hybrid projects led to a weird reaction of ‘that’s not comics, it’s something else,’ that these cartoonists have betrayed comics by mixing two things together,” added Beaty. “People are dismissive of webcomics in the same way.”

“The medium,” Sohmer explained, “doesn’t legitimize the work. The work itself does.”

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UNDER DISCUSSION: CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE

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In a debate both sides are given a fair hearing, and expected to bring forward their best evidence.

What if one side doesn't have evidence, though? Without the supporting structure of facts, that side is little more than a fake house on a movie set, projecting a pretty face in front of empty space. This is more than just harmless entertainment — we humans are attracted to pretty faces, sometimes to the point of ignoring what's underneath. A full commitment to the facts by both parties is necessary for a debate, otherwise it's just an exchange of hot air.

By that metric, climate skepticism could launch a dirigible.

"But the Earth has been warmer before," I hear you shout. Scientists thought the Earth was cooling down! They're in the pocket of environmentalists, anyway! The "hockey stick" is based on flawed statistical methods! CO2 lags behind temperature change! There's been no significant warming in the past 15 years! Besides, it's too late to adjust, and any changes would devastate our economy!

Bull. Shit.

I can make a great argument for shifting from oil to renewable resources without once invoking climate science. Only the craziest crackpots claim our oil reserves are infinite; the vast majority of experts agree we'll have a tougher and tougher time extracting the lifeblood of our civilization in future, and most think we're already

there. Switching energy sources is inevitable.

Oil also has the inconvenient habit of pooling into one place. Should that place be in hot political water, or smashed down by some hurricane, our supply will get cut off. In contrast, every part of the globe is drenched in sunlight and tickled by the wind for some portion of the year. A switch to them will improve availability, and likely reduce the cost from trivial to insignificant.

And yet our renewable sources aren't up to snuff yet. There's a ridiculous amount of oppor-

tunity there, which has some venture capital firms drooling. It's a vast, poorly-tapped market, and businesses here and around the globe are racing to be the Ford Motors of solar panels or wave power.

When I add the science back in, the argument goes from great to iron-clad.

We have so much data to show increasing global temperatures, ranging from precise thermometer readings to shifting treelines, that most skeptics have given up arguing the Earth isn't warming. They have instead started dragging out straw-men, such as warmer past temperatures (the rate of change is more important, and completely unprecedented), or flawed sta-

see HORNBECK CLIMATE, page 19

A. Louis Joubert
Gauntlet Opinions



Global warming is one of the most debated scientific topics of our generation. Instead of just being a climate phenomenon, it has become an unimaginably powerful force in politics and in the media. It is the subject of political protests resembling the

past cries against the Vietnam War, and the voices keep getting more and more apocalyptic. But before I start voicing a few queries about this scientifically mysterious phenomenon, a few words on environmentalism in general. I think we can all agree that dumping a load of hazard-

ous waste into wetlands, or releasing gallon upon gallon of oil into the oceans, causing the destruction of wildlife, is morally reprehensible. Efforts of conservation and discouraging water pollution are admirable and noble. There are several excellent reasons why air pollution should also be discouraged, but not for the reason that the world's going to end. These issues seem to be a long shot from the extremism usu-

ally surrounding the global warming debate.

Climate fluctuations have been occurring throughout human history. Lawrence Solomon, a prominent environmentalist and activist, published in his 1990 book, *The Deniers*, a graph which showed a time during the middle-ages in which it was very warm, warmer than today (the Medieval Warm Period). This was long before the Al Gore famous hockey-stick graph of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. After this warmer period, humanity descended into what came to be known as the "Little Ice Age." But, of course, Michael Mann came in with the hockey stick graph, which showed the climate becoming hotter over the past few decades, claiming to eliminate the pre-hockey-stick graph.

However, Edward Wegman, an expert in statistical issues (past chairman of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics, board member of the American Statistical Association, and past president of the International Association of Statistical Computing) concluded, after being asked by the American Congress to assess the graph, that the "paucity of data in the more remote past makes the hottest-in-a-millennium claim essentially unverifiable." After this the hockey stick graph disappeared.

There is also a period further back in human history that is known to climatologists as the "Holocene Maximum," in which, for more than three millennia, the Earth was much warmer than it is today. Europe's and America's sudden, proper winter in the beginning of 2011 is, I suppose, a small-scale example of natural climate fluctuation.

see JOUBERT CLIMATE, page 19



Let the Wars Begin! *Students' Union Launches the First of Four Faculty Wars for This Year*



Matt Diteljan
VP Student Life



Gather the troops, loosen up that arm, get together your ridiculous costumes, and prepare to represent your faculty/club/floor with pride! The rules are simple, the objective is clear, and the atmosphere is electric. You play for bragging rights and thousands of dollars in prizes.

The Students' Union is pleased to introduce the first of four Faculty Wars dodgeball tournaments for 2011

– the initial battle to take place Friday October 14 in the Jack Simpson Gym. This is a great opportunity to show what your faculty is made of. A night of friendly competition, ridiculous costumes, tons of unreal awards and prizes and an incredible evening you will never forget.

Faculty Wars presents an opportunity for all UofC students to let off some steam, build friendships and just have a great time. This event has a successful history with hundreds of students joining in. Now we're taking the event to another level with four events that will culminate in the grand competition

at the end of the school year.

Plans are underway and team captains are being established in all faculties.

“friendly competition, ridiculous costumes, tons of unreal awards and prizes...”

It's easy to get on board and you don't have to be a star athlete to be part of your team. Just register to participate on-line at www.facultywars.com and your team captain will be in touch. If

you're still not sure check out the photo and video section of the web site – you definitely don't want to miss this!

Our commitment at the SU is to make sure you get the most out of student life at the UofC. Sure, school is pretty serious, but we all need to have a release from studying – and what better way than to hit someone in the face with a dodgeball from a rival faculty?

Make sure you register early – the tournaments have sold out early in the past, and will definitely sell out again!

Registration Deadline – Friday October 7.

Letter: a reply to *anal-fisting*

Alastair Pollock

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

I read through Remi Watts's article ["Anal-fisting," Sept. 15] a number of times, and wanted to share my reaction. I found the piece undeniably bold, and I am pleased to see the *Gauntlet* continuing to publish edgy material (and with a great illustration to boot), but I have some particular points of contention with what Mr. Watts wrote.

In calling anal-fisting the 'fullest manifestation of the sexual act,' Watts not just implicitly, but overtly suggests that anyone not practicing anal fisting in their sex lives is doing something wrong. Sex (and pleasure in general) is such a personal affair that I can't accept the idea that a lone

sexual act has claim to greater enjoyment, deeper expression and even stronger or more plentiful orgasms for all people than other acts. Watts is very clear on this point, writing:

"Anal-fisting is the culmination not of just unquantifiable personal sexual orgasmic experiences, which commonly limits discussions of sexual pleasure, but rather it is the fullest manifestation of the sexual act as it relates to sexual ability, limits, pleasure, expression and symbolic relations and power."

What confuses me in particular about this is that he acknowledges orgasmic pleasure to be 'unquantifiable,' but then dismisses this variable of personal preference as a limitation to discussion. On the contrary, I would argue that the non-arbitrary nature of pleasure and enjoyment

is what creates discourse in the first place — as they pertain to all manner of subjects. I enjoy the music of Chromeo more than Metric, and I enjoy the sensation of a handjob more than having my nipples played with. These experiences — these opinions — are conversation starters, not silencers.

clogging her shower, but I don't think that this alone should determine how chores are done.

Finally, I find the idea that the difficulty of anal-fisting should somehow determine its worth to be puzzling. Skill level as a measure of an activity's merit is dubious to me overall, but even still, 'passively recieved' anal

guilty about the way they experience pleasure. I hope everyone who enjoys anal pleasure of all kinds engages proudly in it, but I also think a guy should be able to blow a load all over his partner's face — provided they both consent and take pleasure from it — without feeling guilty for perpetuating patriarchal norms. Similarly, a woman who enjoys all manner of vaginal and clitoral stimulation, but finds anal-fisting does nothing for her should not feel like her desires are subservient to others. This brings me to one last point.

Watts writes that anal-fisting has the ability to disrupt patterns of patriarchal dominance, but to my mind, ranking sexual pleasure and deciding on a 'best' sexual act is, in itself, very patriarchal. Doing so has the effect of 'flattening' sexuality — everything can be measured by the same standards (ability, limits, pleasure) — and personal experience yields to universal decree. Proclaiming a single sexual behaviour to be the 'fullest manifestation of the sex act' is to tell one group of people that the sex they are having is objectively inferior to the sex that another group enjoys. At the very least, this strikes me as pretty authoritarian. I don't think that enjoying or advocating for anal-fisting should involve the diminishment of sexual interests, agency or pleasure in those who choose not to partake.

In calling anal-fisting the 'fullest manifestation of the sexual act,' Watts not just implicitly, but overtly suggests that anyone not practicing anal fisting in their sex lives is doing something wrong."

Watts (and Žižek) also make the argument that anal fisting has an ethical leg-up on other sexual acts. He notes that anal-fisting is not bound to particular groupings of biology, gender or sexual orientation, but neither is kissing or erotic touch of many kinds. Anal-fisting certainly does subvert standards of heteronormativity, but I don't think 'subversive' should be conflated with 'universally better.' My doing the dishes at my girlfriend's house is more subversive to traditional gender roles than un-

fisting hardly comes out atop the difficulty roster when compared with many of the grand-scale sex acts on display at Kink.com. In these terms, I can't see how the challenge of anal-fisting finds it superior to all other sex acts.

The crux of this first contention is that I simply don't believe there is cause or argument to call one sex act better or more of a culmination of anything than another — and I worry that doing so leads to people being made to feel inadequate or

THE STUDENTS' UNION, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAYS

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Days are Monday, October 3 to Wednesday, October 5, 2011 (and Thursday, October 6 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

Nursing Faculty Representative

Number of Vacancies:

1

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

Women's Resource Centre (WRC) Referendum Women's Resource Centre Levy Cancellation

Background: In February 2007 the Union Membership approved through Referendum a WRC levy of \$1.00 to be charged in fall and winter, and a fee of \$0.50 for part-time students to be charged in the fall, winter, spring, and summer semesters resulting in a total fund of approximately \$39,000 in 2007 that has grown to approximately \$45,000 in 2010. The WRC fee is administered by the Union.

In April 2010 the University Of Calgary Board Of Governors approved the creation of a Student Services General Non-Program Fee (GNPF), designed to provide fund contributions to nine (9) University of Calgary administered programs, one of them being the Women's Resource Centre. Due to the inception of the GNPF the Students' Legislative Council resolved to approve a referendum question that would eliminate the now redundant WRC levy.

Question: Are you in favor of eliminating the Women's Resource Centre Levy of \$1.00 for full-time students and \$0.50 for part-time students?

Yes

No

If a Yes vote wins The Students' Union will direct the Office of the Registrar to remove the WRC charge at its earliest possible opportunity, which will likely be implemented by the start of Spring semester.

Chief Returning Officer: Rabiya Mansoor
Students' Union, MSC 251 (403-464-4053)

Dated at the University of Calgary in the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, this 19th day of September, 2011.




As of September 19, 2011 nomination packages will be available online at www.su.ucalgary.ca or at the SU main office.

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Climate Hornbeck, continued from page 17



tistics (which didn't change the conclusion, after they were corrected for, and may not have been wrong in the first place), or historical trends (previous CO2 rises were due to increased solar radiation, not cars), or sensational media reports (the work of a few scientists who detected cooling was blown out of proportion, and has since been discredited). Half-truths

are trotted out as wise sayings. Yes, it's true that there's no significant warming in the past fifteen years, because you need another year or two to reach statistical significance!

Climate skeptics have long criticized Al Gore for being little more than a celebrity cheerleader, using his fame to push an agenda. Now I see their community has responded

by pushing their own celebrity cheerleader, Rex Murphy.

One of the disturbing practices revealed by the great cache of emails out of the University of East Anglia — the so-called Climategate emails — was the attempted shortcutting or corruption of the oh-so precious peer-review process. The emails contained clear declarations of how the grand viziers of climate science would lean on journals and reporters to make sure certain critics did not get the validation, the laying on of peer-reviewed hands, so critical to full participation in the great climate debate. This was most succinctly expressed by the beautiful quotation from Phil Jones of East Anglia that "We will keep them out somehow — even if we have to redefine what peer-review literature is."

Penn State University's inquiry into climate scientist Michael Mann's conduct surrounding the emails stolen from the Climate Research Unit

at East Anglia University concluded there is no evidence to substantiate the claims made by the right-wing media against Mann.

The Penn State panel cleared Mann of any wrongdoing in three of the four areas it probed, recommending only that a separate panel of faculty members pursue a follow-up investigation into the allegation that Mann "engaged in, directly or indirectly, any actions that seriously deviated from accepted practices within the academic community for proposing, conducting or reporting research or other scholarly activities."

Pete Altman over at NRDC's Switchboard blog notes "That's about as close to a silver bullet as you are going to find in terms of shooting down the conspiracy theorists who are touting their 'climategate' nonsense."

Altman notes that Mann "has been the victim of an extended vicious and unfounded smear campaign."

Over a year after the first indepen-

dent inquiry ruled Climategate was a manufactured controversy, and despite two more inquiries reaching the same conclusion, Rex Murphy is still wailing about Climategate.

I noted he's bringing his hot air to campus. I suggest you attend. After all, there's a slim chance that a political commentator has accidentally stumbled on some data that discredits decades of climate research gathered by professional scientists. If not, then you can enjoy bursting his bubble during the Q&A. In this era of smartphones, any claim can be Googled and verified within minutes, and there's no shortage of web sites dedicated to deflating climate skeptics.

Look, I know it's sexy to oppose the experts, to think a consensus is a conspiracy. But when your opposition requires you to employ the same tactics as creationist dinosaurs, it might be a hint that you've floated into crackpot territory.

Climate Joubert, continued from page 17



I mentioned the book, *The Deniers*, in which Solomon describes the distinguished scientists who deny the reality and significance of global warming. Among these scientists are Duncan Wingham, a physicist, who was appointed chair of the Department of Space and Climate Physics and head of the Department of Earth Sciences in 2005. Recent happenings in the area of scientists and global warming include an incident with Ivan Giaever, winner of the 1973 Nobel Prize in physics, who resigned from the American Physical Society because of its "incontrovertible" stance on global warming.

Another scientist who resigned from APS for its stance on global warming is Harold Lewis, emeritus professor of physics at the University of California and former department chairman. In his resignation letter he refers to the climategate scandal, which shows evidence of climatologists in favor of global warming manipulating data. Why, you ask, would they do this? The amount of dollars that are constantly connected with the term "climate change" or "global warming" are sky high. A recent indication of this is the green jobs that the Obama government is throwing money at (\$500 million, to be precise). Another surprising scientist who has voiced his dissidence with global warming is Antonino Zichichi, professor of Advanced Physics at the University of Bologna, president of the Enrico Fermi Center, Rome, and president of the World Federation of Scientists (with 10,000 scientists from 115 countries). Zichichi has received awards and honorary degrees from universities in Italy, Argentina, China, Germany, Poland and the United States.

Many of the scientists in *The De-*

niers have as impressive resumes as Zichichi. So, I decided to give a fuller profile of him to illustrate the caliber of scientist who thinks that global warming is untrue. Zichichi is past president of the Italian National Institute for Nuclear and Subnuclear Physics and president of the NATO Science Committee for Disarmament Technology. The published scientific papers (exceeding 800) and the 10 books he has written have shed light on new opportunities for research in subnuclear physics.

Al Gore admonishes us to accept the argument from authority concerning global warming and accept the word of the scientists who endorse it, but what are we to make of these deniers? What are scientists like Antonino Zuchichi and Edward Wegman doing on the side that Al Gore compared to flat-earthers? I was astounded, taking a course in physical anthropology, that when the text-book writers turned to global warming, how the footnotes suddenly ran dry. Were they the victim of an abrupt bout of lethargy or is something else going on?

To the extent that global warming has increased awareness of the environment and encouraged respect for our planet, it is definitely good, but I do not believe it right to create unnecessary fear. To contend that there is a scientific consensus on global warming is outright deception. To confirm this visit petitionproject.org, which claims that 31,478 American scientists have signed a petition that strongly conveys their dissonance with Global Warming. However, I might well be wrong. So, in the event that I am misguided, get ready! Watch and tremble in fear. The end draws near, the apocalypse is here!

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Depression: changing the face of sport

Recent suicides provoke discussion on the long-term effects of concussions

Joseph Sandler

Gauntlet Sports

With files from Erin Shumlich

It rests in the shadows of our minds, laying dormant until shaken awake. Its onset is unpredictable with a glut of triggers. Depression, a medical condition characterized by long-lasting feelings of intense sadness and hopelessness, can affect anyone. Recent tragedies of high profile athletes this summer have sparked a much needed debate about the role of concussions in long-term mental illnesses. The National Institute of Mental Health estimates that 26.2 per cent of adults over the age of 18 suffer from diagnosable mental disorders in any given year.

Nineteenth century painter Vincent van Gogh had an incredibly bleak insight into depression before he took his own life: "The sadness will last forever."

But what are some of the causes? A difficult or traumatic experience, medical conditions, steroid use and narcotics can all generate the onset of depression.

Associate professor of kinesiology David Paskevich said depression is something that all people experience during their lifetime in different levels of severity.

"The unfortunate thing is that everyone is subject to feeling moments of sadness and it can move to clinical if not treated properly," he said.

According to a Body and Health fact sheet, "it is not something we can 'get over' on our own and it is not the result of personal weakness or an inability to cope."

Paskevich said symptoms of depression often improve with physical activity. Your body uses more

oxygen for anaerobic exercise than it can take in, which signals the body to produce endorphins causing you to feel emotionally stimulated.

While exercise can help alleviate depression, suicides of professional athletes this summer show that exercise isn't a cure-all.

Derek Boogaard, 28, of the New

20–30 years old 26.2

The most common age of onset of major depressive disorder in North America.

60

Percentage of individuals who have committed suicide who suffered depression or another mood disorder.

York Rangers died last May of a lethal mix of oxycodone and alcohol. Last month Rick Rypien, 27, of the Winnipeg Jets was found dead in his Coleman, Alberta home after committing suicide. Wade Belak, 35, committed suicide in his Toronto hotel room.

Something all three of these players had in common was their role as enforcers, dishing out heavy hits.

"When you are doing activities, being in better shape acts as a buffer, which can have a logical effect on depression," said Paskevich. "If you look at what's happened with concussions lately there is greater understanding. If we don't teach our athletes how to cope effectively, it can become overwhelming. Sometimes you can't see the forest through the trees."

Depression is not limited to hockey, although these recent deaths

have highlighted the dangers of poor mental health awareness in North American sports. In 2010, Denver Broncos wide receiver Kenny McKinley lost the battle to depression and American Olympian and 2010 silver medalist freestyle skier Jeret Peterson committed suicide in July.

The estimated percentage of adults over the age of 18 who suffer a diagnosable mental disorder in any given year.

17

Percentage of individuals who experience a lifetime prevalence of depression in North America.

Source: Wikipedia

"The biggest thing, especially with the three deaths in the NHL, is we really need an emphasis on discussing what's going on, how we can monitor it and make sure we are getting people back to baseline," said Paskevich.

In an interview with Sports Illustrated, NFL running back Ricky Williams emphasized a prevalent philosophy in professional sports. "There's a physical prejudice in sports. When it's a broken bone, the teams will do everything in their power to make sure it's okay. When it's a broken soul, it's like weakness."

Williams said the stigma around depression has prevented those most in need of help from coming forward, suffering a slow and agonizing decline into darkness. Sports psychologists have sprouted on the scene, offering more help to athletes who need it, but Lisa Priebe, regis-

tered provisional psychologist from Serenity Now Wellness Centre, said it is not enough.

"The last thing you want to do is be shown as weak and unfortunately there is a stigma still," she said. "It has improved a lot from the past but it definitely needs more improvement. Especially if you are a university student and there are those added means of stress."

Injuries play a pivotal role in inciting depression.

According to Science Daily, someone who has endured multiple head injuries is up to four times more likely to experience depression. Players like Rypien, Boogaard and Belak are added to the long list of former athlete suicides, like former Detroit Red Wings and Chicago Blackhawks tough guy Bob Probert and Chicago Bears safety Dave Duerson, who both sustained multiple concussions.

New research is finally coming to light on the true damage and lasting effects of concussions. After Duerson's suicide, his brain was donated for research and Boogaard's family made a similar pledge.

Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy is a degenerative condition caused by repeated concussions. Patients exhibit symptoms of dementia, aggression, confusion and depression which can appear within months or can remain dormant for decades. Owen Thomas, a junior hockey player at the University of Pennsylvania, whose brain was donated to research after suicide, showed the early stages of CTE.

Concussions have made headlines all summer in lieu of recent tragedies and continued danger of the sport — Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby has been

sidelined since Jan. 5 with a concussion after taking blows to the head in consecutive games. This initiated the NHL to dole out harsher sentences for such hits.

Concussions are a severe symptom of a greater danger: depression. People need to "start accepting depression as a serious and sometimes fatal illness," said Michael Landsberg in a TSN article. "We create fake happiness and for that reason sometimes people can't spot what's truly happening inside."

What makes depression so dangerous and devastating is its triggers are unique to every individual. Priebe said what sets off a bout of depression in one individual may not in another.

Professional sports and players' associations are finally beginning to address the need for a mental health support structure, and more players are beginning to step out of the shadows so they have the proper resources to deal with depression. Major League Baseball has led the way in promoting mental health — all players have to go through psychological evaluations.

"The sad part is sometimes you don't see the short-term effects," said Priebe. "After they retire, symptoms come out, but you don't see it when you are doing it."

Rypien had taken a few leaves of absence during his six-year tenure with the Vancouver Canucks. Former Calgary Flames player Theoren Fleury, who later addressed his depression in an autobiography, ended up suspended from the NHL in 2003 after being placed in the league's substance abuse program. It was not until he began talking about his problems that he was able

see DEPRESSION, page 23

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– Erin Shumlich,
Gauntlet Sports Editor



The Flames get ready to ignite

Taylor McKee
Gauntlet Sports

The collected memory of the 2010-11 Calgary Flames season underwent a major change starting Dec. 23, with Alex Tanguay's third-period blocker-side shelf job and subsequent shootout winner. The game itself was a mere two points. However, throughout the summer Flames fans clung to this memory as a stubborn insistence of a team that defied odds and made last season exciting at best, heart-wrenching at worst. The post Dec. 23 Flames bore little resemblance to the defensively incapable and offensively constipated squad who skated on Saddledome ice for

the first 35 games or so. Perhaps it is out of some bizarre desire for self-preservation that it is often forgotten the Flames were actually in fifth place in the West on March 5 following a 4-3 victory over Columbus. Never mind — forget I even mentioned it. Still too fresh.

The meteoric ascent and ultimate disappointment of the second half of last season has created a schism among the Flames faithful. There are the triumphalists who cling to the belief that the second half represented a veteran-laden team capable of winning at an elite clip thanks to solid defence, top-end leadership and stellar goaltending.

There are those less rose-spectacled who point to the Flames's

record against elite teams as proof they could not defeat bona fide playoff teams. Even during the stretch after Dec. 23, the Flames only managed to win 9 per cent of games against the Western Conference's top four. This is compared to winning 87 per cent of games against non-playoff opponents. This could convince fans the Flames were never destined to make the playoffs and deserved the fate that befell them.

All the stats and musings about the second half are rapidly becoming completely irrelevant with the start of a new season just weeks away. The off-season saw Flames's general manager Jay Feaster begin to leave his stamp on the team,

trading veteran shut down defenseman Robyn Reher, a second round draft pick in 2012, and veteran contractual boat anchor forward Alex Kotalik to the rapidly rebuilding Buffalo Sabres in exchange for forward Paul Byron and defenseman Chris Butler, with the latter signed to an extension with the Flames. In keeping with the theme of dealing veterans, Feaster traded greybeard forward Daymond Langkow for 28-year-old forward Lee Stempniak, and in doing so moved his \$4.5 million cap hit. The Flames have also signed rugged defenseman Scott Hannan and drafted slick forward Sven Baertschi in the first round from the Portland Winter Hawks of the WHL. Feaster also re-signed Forwards Curtis Glencross and Alex Tanguay, complimenting the re-signing of Ukrainian defenseman Anton Babchuk.

So far, training camp has brought few surprises. Baertschi impressed many with his offensive prowess but was promptly sent back to juniors with the second round of cuts.

Defensemen TJ Brodie and Chris Breen, thought to be vying for two defensive spots currently vacant due to injuries sustained by Cory Sarich and Brett Carson, were assigned to Abbotsford, leaving Jordan Henry and Derek Smith to battle for the remaining spots. After a lacklustre 2011 pre-season, Brodie did little to avoid a west-bound plane ticket and will have to start from scratch again next season.

There were whispers that Baertschi may earn himself a few games in the NHL before his all but certain return to Portland. Barring some sort of locust plague — and even then I am not so sure — Baertschi will not play the season with the Flames. As an 18-year-old rookie last season in the Canadian Hockey League Baertschi is not physically ready to deal with the Chris Prongers and Shea Webers of the NHL. Regardless, for an organization that isn't exactly swimming in talent, Baertschi is a breath of fresh air and reason for fans to believe that the cupboards aren't as bare as they may seem.

Perhaps most impressive so far has been the play of Byron, who has succeeded in making himself difficult to cut. The 20-year-old forward Roman Horak, acquired in the afore mentioned deal involving Erixon, remains with the team and looked comfortable and offensively dangerous throughout the pre-season. Horak could be a pleasant surprise if he were legitimate challenge for a fourth line spot, making forward Matt Stajan's place even more precarious.

All things considered, the training camp battles are largely insignificant in terms of substantive roster changes — this training camp has maybe two spots available without occupation due to incumbency. Feaster has stated that a merit-based evaluation will be used, but most consider the sentiment to be rhetoric. It is unlikely that he would be willing to sit three or four

see FLAMES, page 23

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Depression, cont'd from page 20

to find peace.

Preibe said resources are beginning to be readily available for athletes, but the stigma around depression still exists and improvements need to be made so that athletes have the right people to turn to.

Paskevich said monitoring is important, and given the recent deaths of professional NHL players, concussions have been a hot topic. He said players need to feel comfortable discussing mental health issues openly.

"It is something that is uncomfortable to talk about, so it's harder to bring up," said Paskevich. "If I break my leg, it's very observable. If you suffer from depression, people

can't see that."

He said university should be a place where people feel comfortable coming forward.

Depression is dangerous, it is invasive and it can kill — an escape from an unrelenting enemy is difficult to spot and even harder to fight, especially alone.

Depression and suicide in professional sports leagues are a major issue that are just beginning to be addressed. Although studies are still being conducted to find out concussion's role in mental illnesses, there is no doubt that they cause serious, adverse effects in an individual's well-being.

Flames, cont'd from page 22

veterans — with veteran contracts — in favour of a few prospects.

All in all, when one examines the upcoming season, it is seductive to think of the possibilities on the team: If Rene Bourque has a bounce-back, if Niklas Hagman could find his scoring touch again, if Mikael Backlund emerges as a top-flight centreman or if Matt Stajan can earn a third of his paycheck. The banter goes on throughout the line-up. Yes, it is true that if all Flames live up to their projected potential, Calgary should have a playoff team once again. This is reason to be optimistic enough — some of last year's successes occurred without many contributions from underachievers. Enthusiasm, however, is tempered with skepticism for those concerned the

Flames are merely treading water inside a Western Conference that is leaving them behind talent-wise.

Anyone who states they can predict this season with any degree of certainty is misleading. The optimist in me believes the Flames will compete this season in the same eighth to 11th seed range we saw last season. That being said, it is conceivable that the Flames could finish in 14th or fourth. The only certain thing is that Iginla and Kiprusoff are not getting any younger and it would be a disgrace to see them waste any more seasons in the swampy mediocrity that the Flames currently reside in. The Jay Feaster era begins in earnest on Oct. 8th and I am not sure how much longer I can stand watching locker room clean outs in April.

The Dinos this week

Friday, September 23

FOOTBALL: Dinos 38, U of S 24 (in Calgary)

MEN'S HOCKEY: UNB 3, Dinos 1 (non-conference in Fredericton)

WOMEN'S HOCKEY: Dinos 6, Queen's 1 (non-conference in Ottawa)

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Dinos 3, U of Winnipeg 2

Dinos 3, U of S 0 (non-conference in Regina)

Saturday, September 24

WOMEN'S SOCCER: Dinos 1, Fraser Valley 1 (in Calgary)

MEN'S SOCCER: Dinos 1, Fraser Valley 0 (in Calgary)

FIELD HOCKEY: UBC 3, Dinos 0 (in Vancouver)

MEN'S HOCKEY: UNB 2, Dinos 0 (non-conference in Fredericton)

WOMEN'S HOCKEY: Dinos 5, Carleton 0 (non-conference in Ottawa)

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: U of A 3, Dinos 2

U of M 3, Dinos 1 (non-conference in Regina)

Sunday, September 25

WOMEN'S SOCCER: UVic 2, Dinos 1 (in Calgary)

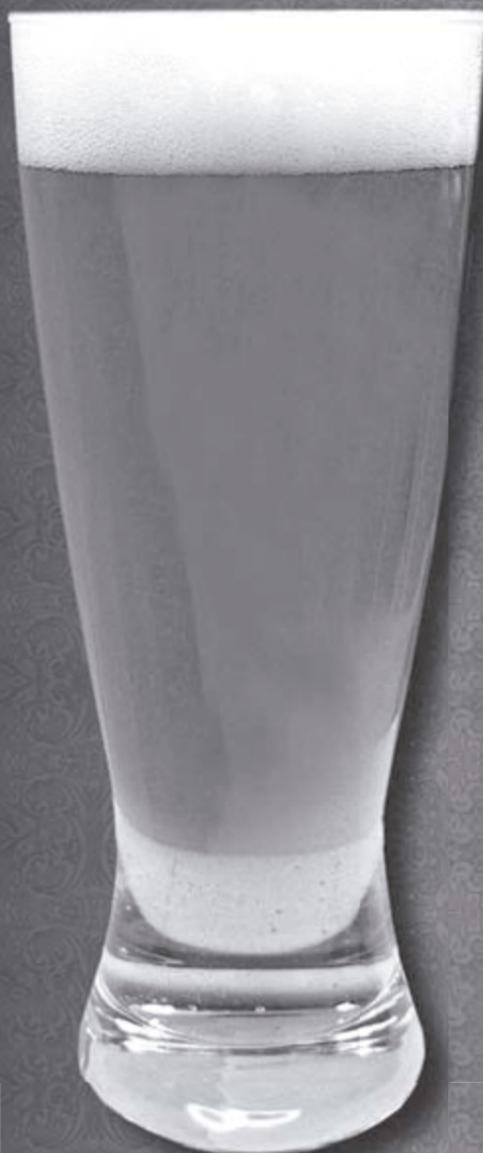
MEN'S SOCCER: UVic 3, Dinos 0 (in Calgary)

FIELD HOCKEY: UBC 3, Dinos 1 (in Vancouver)

WOMEN'S HOCKEY: Dinos 4, U of Ottawa 2 (non-conference in Ottawa)

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: U of Regina 3, Dinos 2 (non-conference in Regina)

THE BACK ALLEY



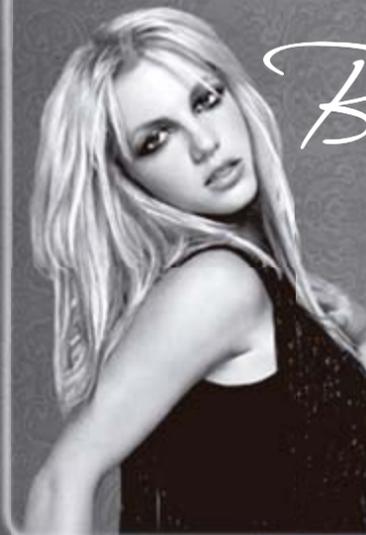
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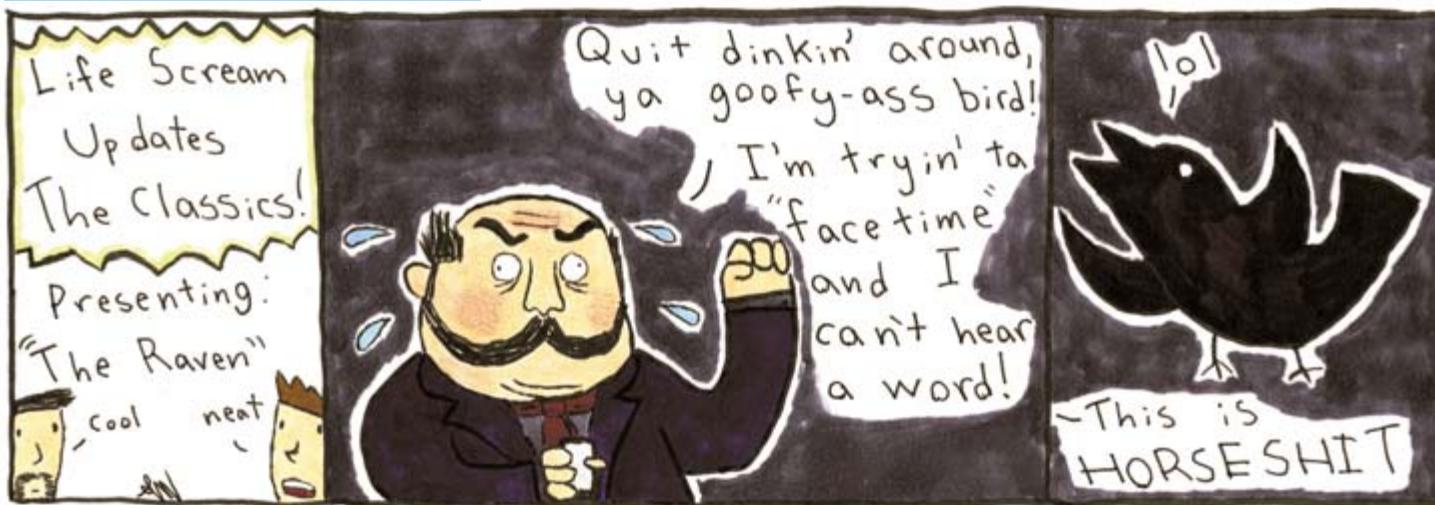
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