

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

gauntlet

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THE PLIGHT

OF

THE BUSH

PG.20

Also in this issue, see *Snowfall*, the Gauntlet's 2012 ski supplement



STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

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we've got answers.



Porn and Healthy Sexuality

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Allies and Helping Professionals**

Orgasm Info for Women

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**sex
week**

Sexual and Gender
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February 6 - 10 in MSC
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NOMINATION DAYS: FEB. 13 - 15

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PRESENTS

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Students' for Literacy is a Students' Union volunteer program that promotes and improves basic English (reading, writing and speaking) literacy skills of adult learners. (1) those who are learning English as a second language, and (2) those who have a literacy-related learning disability.

FEBRUARY 2 2012

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Golden Spatula



Jacob McGregor

"I do enjoy sleeping in yurts."

First, to all of you who wrote in last week: no, the Golden Spatula award is not a form of Russian tribute to their Mongol overlords. Rather, it is a chance for us to recognize journalistic Temur Khan-ness. This week we, the *Gauntlet*, would like to thank Jacob McGregor for his persistent story writing, hard workingness, editor emailing, interview doing and sport loving. Thanks Jacob — may the glories of battle be yours!

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 rum based ink. We urge you to recycle/ferment 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.

Discrimination takes flight

For the second time under the Harper administration, transgender people are facing serious discrimination. The "Passenger Protect" program — a confusing Canadian adaptation of the American "no-fly" list — prevents people from boarding an aircraft whose appearance does not match the gender indicated by the identification they present. That is, if your driver's license or passport (or other government-issued ID) states that you are female, but you don't appear 'female,' then you can be blocked from flying. While to some it may sound innocuous for the government, acting through transportation regulation, to be concerned with the appearance of airplane passengers, the potential for discrimination, particularly regarding Canada's transgender people, is quite serious.

The Harper government's negative attitude towards transgender people was initially exposed in the fall of 2011. Bill C-389 was an attempt by Burnaby National Democratic Party Member of Parliament Bill Siksay to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act to protect the rights of transgender/transsexual citizens from discrimination based on "gender identity" or "gender expression." The bill was heavily opposed in parliament by Stephen Harper's Conservative party and several Liberal MPs, and in the public sphere by the dullard Charles McVety and his Institute for Canadian Values. The bill's critics failed to recognize the spectrum that is gender expres-



sion, seeing only the male-female gender polarization of times past. The bill was and still is desperately needed in Canada. As Albertatrans.org remarked regarding the necessity of the bill, "Without anti-discrimination protections, transgender and transsexual Canadians face economic marginalization, lack of access to services, and even violence simply for being trans." But the dogmatic blindness of the bill's critics have kept it from becoming law. As it presently stands, Bill C-389 needs to be read a second time in parliament, referred to a committee and signed into law before transgender/transsexual people are given adequate protection from discrimination.

The Identity Screening Regulations, which hold the potential to discriminate against transgender

people, came into effect under Harper's government without raising any eyebrows on July 27, 2011. Although regulations such as the ISR are not legislation, they are implemented across Canada by the Ministry of Transportation, and ought to be the concern of all citizens.

While the case could be made that airlines, for reasons of 'security' or something equally banal, ought to have the capacity to deal with people that are disguised, the regulations of the ISR offer no such solution. The troublesome section of the Identity Screening Regulations reads, "5.2 (1) An air carrier shall not transport a passenger if . . . (c) the passenger does not appear to be of the gender indicated on the identification he or she presents." The language used in the

ISR is in no way to the benefit of airline security, rather it is a direct attack against transgender people.

The Harper government — in painful disavowal of their blatant discriminatory views — asserts that a transgender person simply needs to have sexual reassignment surgery, then get an official letter of sexual reassignment from the doctor, then have the sex designation on their official identification forms changed, allowing them to fly without worry. But the vast majority of transgender people are not headed for the operation table, and aren't necessarily interested in expensive and invasive sexual reassignment surgery. Changing one's sex is not equal to visiting your doctor to deal with the flu, even if the Harper government would like us to believe that it is so as to further denigrate transgender people.

While it is possible to sympathize with the paranoia regarding airline security, there is no conceivable benefit to blocking transgender or gender-ambiguous people from being able to fly simply because their appearance is that of the gender they recognize themselves as, and not what the Canadian government has decided their gender ought to look like. Under such absurd regulations, for which there is no legitimate rationale, transgender and the gender ambiguous people are being directly targeted by the strange brand of Harper homophobia.

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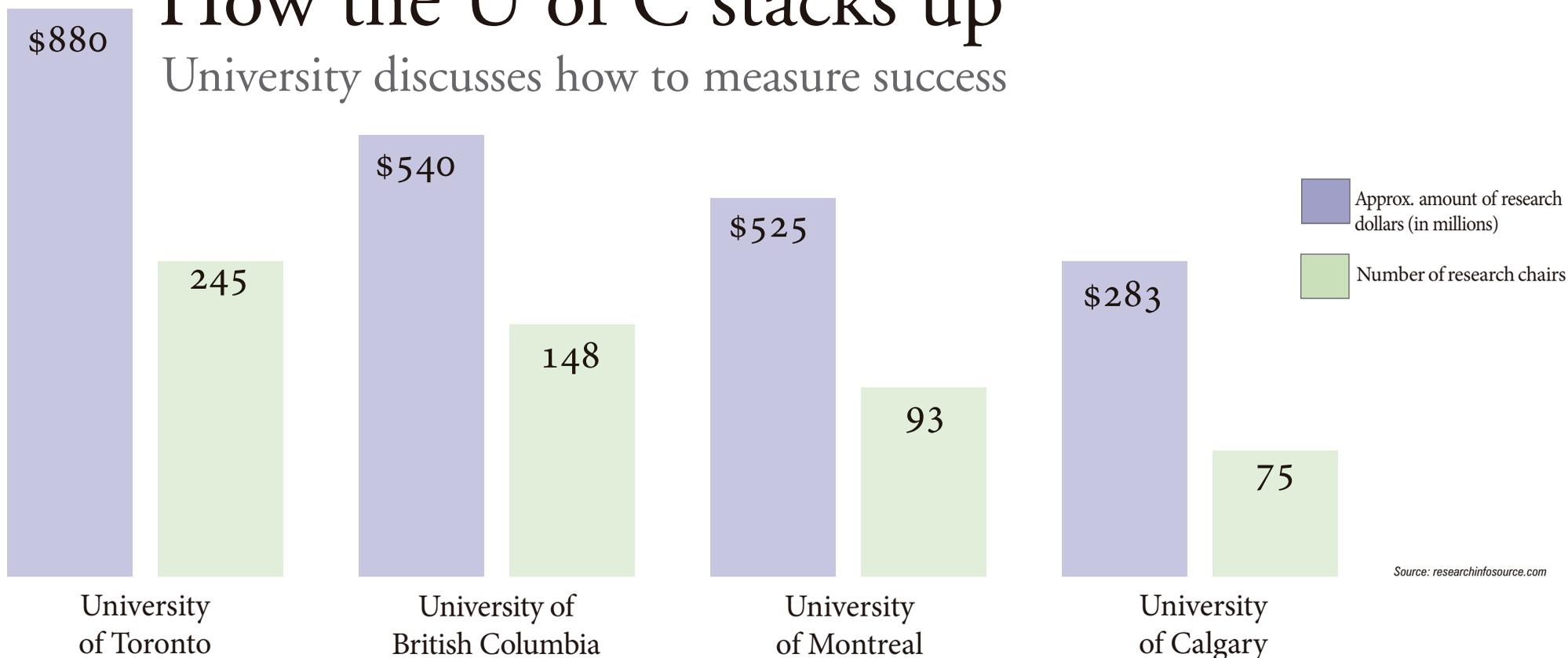
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How the U of C stacks up

University discusses how to measure success



Tyler Harris
Gauntlet News

The University of Calgary is attempting to be named one of the top five research universities in Canada by 2016 as part of their strategic plan called Eyes High, but what measures to use for evaluation have yet to be decided.

The document was developed over eight months and over 4,000 students, faculty and community leaders were consulted.

Research, teaching and community integration are the three goals of Eyes High.

U of C president Elizabeth Cannon said the university will use “key performance indicators that people understand, that can be measured, and can be defended” to determining their rank compared to other schools.

“It’s a fine balance, because we don’t want to move to using metrics that aren’t well understood or well accepted in the community,” Cannon said. “On the other hand, you don’t just want to say, well, it’s

Maclean’s that defines it, or it’s one of those international rankings, because they come up with a basket that may not fully represent what our ambitions are and what we feel are important as a community.”

Cannon indicated three key performance indicators for measuring success. They included research funding attracted by the university, the number of graduate students, and the number of full-time professors at the U of C.

“In terms of research dollars, we’re fifth; in terms of full-time profs, we’re sixth; and in terms of PhD students, we’re ninth,” Students’ Union vice-president academic Ola Mohajer said. “With full-time profs, we’re good, but with the research dollars we need to increase that by at least \$100 million.”

According to Mohajer, the university brought in \$283 million in 2010–2011.

Other metrics include alumni support, development dollars raised and the faculty-to-student ratio.

Although the university says that teaching is an important part

of measuring the U of C’s success standards, in the Jan. 31 Student Legislature Council vice-president academic Dru Marshall expressed the difficulty of finding a reliable metric to measure teaching quality.

“Teaching is absolutely a measure that we want to have, and there are a variety of ways to look at this issue, and there isn’t a perfect metric right now,” said Marshall.

Marshall said Universal Student Ratings of Instruction scores do not always accurately portray teacher and performance and the National Survey of Student Engagement is only done every few years.

Mohajer said that while the document initially emphasized research, input from the SU resulted in more focus on teaching.

“There was such a lack of focus on teaching. It was all about research,” she said. “I think now, especially with the kind of open relationship that we’ve had with the people working on the strategy summary and administration, and their willingness to listen to students and take in student feedback,

it’s a good document.”

Cannon said the goal this year is to decide what measures are important to include in assessing the U of C.

“Being able to do the benchmarking, and then have clarity about what we need to do to be able to impact those areas that we feel need particular attention to help us reach our goals,” said Cannon.

Vice-president research Ed McCauley told the SU Student Legislative Council meeting in November that early involvement in research for undergraduates will be a major focus of the Eyes High project going forward.

“Traditionally, there has been a dichotomy between teaching and research. However, teaching and research should be woven together to create a singular experience and teach broader problem-solving skills,” said McCauley.

As part of the Eyes High strategy a new vice-provost student position will be created, focusing on increasing student engagement from the perspective of students.

Mohajer said that the research now being conducted by undergraduates is highly engaging.

“I think if you were to talk to any of those undergrads who are currently doing undergraduate research, especially if it’s their own project, I think they’ll speak very highly of it, and with a lot of excitement,” she said.

Cannon said how one defines teaching is important.

“From a student’s perspective, I think we sometimes define teaching as that formal instruction in front of the classroom. We take a broader view that teaching is interacting with students inside the classroom, outside the classroom, with your graduate students, supervising students, and so on and so forth.”

Cannon said that while there are desired specific outcomes, especially in achieving the top five goal, a bigger goal is to instill a sense of pride in being associated with the the university.

“This is about the university reaching its potential, and that students who are here are excited to be here.”

What do you believe is a good measure of a successful post-secondary institution?

campus quips



“A good student environment and student life. Name recognition of the university.”
– Lisa Millar, third-year kinesiology



“Good profs, lots of funding, good facilities and a criteria for student acceptance.”
– Marc Lee, first-year business



“The ability of the programs to translate into your life or job.”
– Greg Frost, fourth-year business



“How the students would learn and how it motivates their curiosity.”
– Jennifer Dang, second-year biological sciences

Drunk-driving awareness club now on campus

Pauline Anunciacion
Gauntlet News

On Jan. 19 2012, the Students' Union sanctioned a new club, Save An Innocent Life. Its purpose is to raise awareness about the consequences of drinking and driving. Second-year business student and founder of SAIL Faryal Shah described the tragedy that prompted the initiative.

University of Calgary second-year business student Arsh Brar was killed Jan. 8 in a drunk driving accident.

"We could either sit as a group and cry, or stand up as a group and do something about it," said Shah.

Three days after the accident, Shah had the club constitution written up. The next day, she handed in the forms to the SU. SAIL was sanctioned a week later.

"It was the toughest week of my life and my first encounter with death," said Shah. "We had all these plans. We were going textbook shopping the next day. We even celebrated his twentieth birthday four days earlier. This is something you don't expect."

The club hopes their actions will keep Brar's memory alive.

"Things like these change your life. This club will be a part of his memory. It's a way we can keep Arsh alive in our hearts," said first-year international relations student Eddie Khan.

Shah, however, viewed the sanction with mixed feelings.

"While this club is a way to turn that negative experience into a positive action, it made me sad to hear that there is no drunk-driving awareness club on campus before we sanctioned it," she said. "It shocked me. There shouldn't have to be a big loss before an initiative is taken."

Khan said university students may not be aware that there is the potential to commit a crime while drinking.



Kaye Coholan/the Gauntlet

Members of Save An Innocent Life were in MacHall Wednesday promoting the new club.

"[Drinkers] don't realize that they might potentially commit a crime. The girl who killed Brar — I don't think she's an entirely bad person. She just made a bad decision. She wouldn't have thought of killing two people that night," Khan said.

Shah added that mistakes like these can be avoided. Brar may be the reason behind SAIL, but so was the driver. She hopes the benefits of the club will affect both parties.

"What we're doing is a two-way thing. We don't want people to be hurt by the death of someone, nor do we want someone else to get

hurt because they caused it. The perpetrators are also victims in a sense," remarked Shah.

Within the first two nights of SAIL's launch, 100 students expressed interest in joining the club.

"People are our power right now," explained Shah. "If we don't have members, we wouldn't be doing anything."

Recently, Shah has been organizing group meetings to brainstorm ideas on how SAIL should progress and reach out from campus to the public. A dinner is tentatively set to take place during the first week of March, marking

the official launch of SAIL and to commemorate Arsh Brar.

Shah said that the Brar family and the directorial board of Mothers Against Drunk Driving

will be in attendance.

"There are big things coming," said Shah. "We plan on selling ribbons and setting up donation boxes all around campus and in MacHall."

Proceeds from the fundraiser will go to MADD. SAIL will also be starting a poster campaign to raise awareness.

"We don't want it to just stop at this university. Once this hits off, we want to go to Mount Royal, SAIT, high schools and other campuses."

For now, the main goal is getting the positive message out to the public.

"If we talked to 100 people, and only two people change for the better, we might have saved two lives," said Khan.

For more information, or to be a part of SAIL email sail@ucalgary.ca

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Wikipedia embraced in the classroom

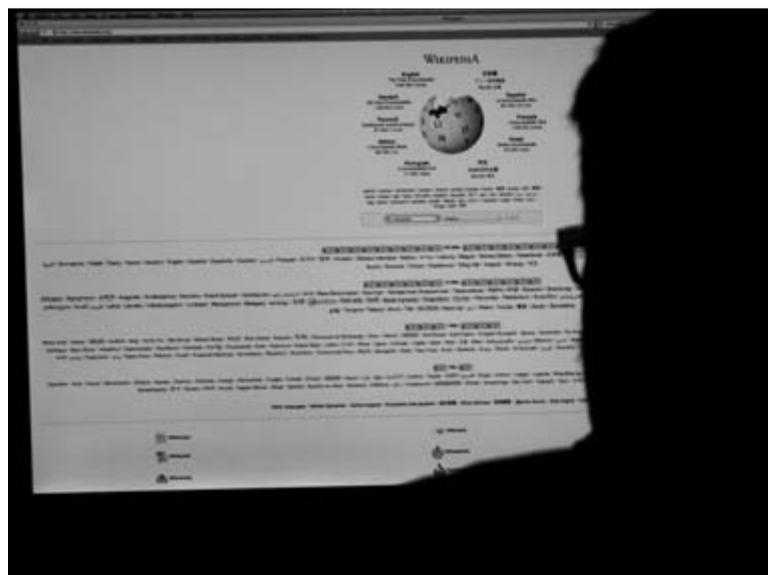
Manal Sheikh
Gauntlet News

Wikipedia is unreliable for citing sources in university. Cite Wikipedia in an essay and you won't be earning any bonus points with your professor. But some universities have decided to incorporate Wikipedia into course material.

The Wikimedia Education Program has reached out to university students to check for "legitimacy, clarity and quality."

Professors participating in the program can have students fact-check content or write entirely new articles for the online encyclopedia.

"The program picks up where the traditional essay leaves off. Students are still synthesizing sources and writing research papers, but they are exposed to a wider audience," said Wikipedia's education coordinator for Canada Jonathan Obar. "It adds a new dimension of media literacy development, an exposure to wiki-culture and wiki-philosophy. It's the best tool we have for e-pedagogical development."



Andrew Williams/the Gauntlet

A student uses Wikipedia for a classroom assignment.

Obar said students benefit from the program as well, allowing them to interact with online communities.

"They get instant feedback from their audience. Before, perhaps only a professor and a teaching assistant would read their research paper, but with this sort of platform, now the audience is significantly larger."

Wikimedia's Education Program began in 2010, targeting public policy classes in American universities. From there, the program spread to Harvard, Yale and Georgetown, among others.

Canadian universities soon followed. Mount Royal University professor Andrew Reil allowed his students in his Controversies in

Science class to write Wikipedia articles for marks. Senior-level psychology courses at the University of Alberta have also embraced Wikipedia.

The program has expanded around the world. Engineering classes in India are part of the program, as are as students in Brazil, and in the future students from North Africa and the Middle East are expected to participate.

Obar said this platform is applicable to all subjects, but a drawback is it doesn't allow students the opportunity to learn how to write argumentative papers.

"Students need to learn argumentative writing, and since Wikipedia is an encyclopedia, neutral writing is all it allows," he said.

Professor of psychology on the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta Paula Marentette said, "It was an ideal opportunity to get students to write for someone else as well as me. It is a different style of writing than most students are used to."

It took some students time to adjust to the program because, ac-

ording to Marentette, "they weren't writing only for a grade anymore, they were writing for an audience as well."

She said that the site was frustrating in terms of dealing with Wikipedia moderators. Her students mainly edit articles and sometimes Wikipedia did not accept students' articles.

She said the program is still in its baby steps and "there is a lot of room for improvement."

Some U of C students greet the idea enthusiastically.

First-year business student Sophia Shaikh said, "I like this approach to learning more because it gets students thinking. You have to really think about the reliability of where you get your sources, and what makes information solid. Plus there are more people who see it, and that's a really good motivator."

Anissa Alfitisi, a first-year biological sciences student, agreed.

"It's pretty clever because Wikipedia is attempting to reach out to the tech-savvy future generation. I would really like to see it in my own classes."

FEB IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH



	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	big friday	democracy now!	7 am
7:30								7:30
8 am	counterspin						bunte welle german	8 am
8:30	eritrean radio							8:30
9 am	hrvatski radio croatian							9 am
9:30								9:30
10 am	radio pilipino filipino	make believe ballroom	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	radio gb	open eyes and empty skies	the via lactea caboose	freewheelin' sponsored by republik	pillage the people/ my public shame	contramandatum sponsored by beatroute magazine	speaking in tongues roots	12 pm
12:30								12:30
1 pm	deztination worldwide	the new classics	white lodge/ black lodge	off duty trip	truffle shuffle	my allergy to the fans sponsored by tubby dog	double entendre preserves	1 pm
1:30								1:30
2 pm	knotted roots						music to my ears	2 pm
2:30								2:30
3 pm								3 pm
3:30	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	3:30
4 pm								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 radio oromia	6 pm
6:30								6:30
7 am	mind grapes	south louisiana gumbo roots	tombstone after dark roots	the blues witness roots	folkcetera roots	the dubble bounce	oh africa!	7 am
7:30								7:30
8 am	katharsis	yeah, what she said	artslink	writer's block	noise experimental / classical	full moon funkacious	nocturnable	8 am
8:30		fat beat diet		lift the bandstand		dirty needles		8:30
9 am			least side story					9 am
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		the robotic uprising	the session	am i right??	60 minutes in hell metal	remote emissions		11 pm
11:30								11:30
12 am	translucent dreams	before the dawn heals us	twilight banter	thee soundcheck from heck/ sleeping aids and razor blades	bass backwards 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	insomniacs anonymous	late night waltz	rage cage metal			2 am
2:30								2:30
3 am	straight on 'til morning					tea time with annie	nightmare dlerium	3 am
to 5:30								to 5:30

CJSW is proud to be bringing our listeners great black history related programming. Throughout the month, you will be able to hear segments on influential musicians as well as historical profiles of black Canadians and Americans of note. Our programmers have put together original segments on musicians such as Ella Fitzgerald, Stevie Wonder, Leadbelly and Billie Holiday. Also included are segments on historical figures such as Frederick Douglass, Anderson Ruffin Abbott and Mary Ann Shadd. For more information, as well as access to all of CJSW's interviews and Black History related segments, visit cjsw.com.
Shakura S'Aida photo by Ken Clarke

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Sexual and Gender Awareness Week

Michael Grondin
News Assistant

Sexual and Gender Awareness Week will be in full swing beginning Feb. 6, encouraging students to discuss, explore and learn about healthy and safe sexuality.

A series of workshops, games and activities will be held throughout the week, all geared to engage discussion about the birds and the bees.

"Our main goal is to invite conversation and to provide opportunities throughout the week where people can ask questions, have dialogues about issues relating to healthy sexuality and gender expression and also to hopefully have opportunities to learn," said University of Calgary registered psychologist Carolyn Claire.

Claire said that an important stage for the student community is reaching a level of security and proper questioning in order for students to go about their sexuality in the best and safest ways possible.

She said it is important to ac-

knowledge the large range of gender and sexual preferences, and to be able to search, question and go about these identities appropriately.

"Generally speaking, most students are in that young adult age group, and one of their main devel-

// Human sexuality and being able to express ourselves in a healthy way is normal, and it is our right as human beings.

opmental tasks has to do with identity, and so our identity as sexual beings and our identity as coming to and expressing our gender plays a huge part in that," she said. "It's also important from the perspective of students, to invite discussion about STIs and to raise awareness on how you can be sexually active and protect yourself."

This is a collaborative project, in which several on- and off-campus

groups are involved, like the Wellness and Health Awareness Team, the Women's Resource Centre, the Calgary Sexual Health Centre and the Students' Union.

According to Shannon Jones, a coordinator from the Calgary

Sexual Health Centre, it is vital to promote and raise awareness for all types of health.

"Health is important, but there is a focus on physical health, mental health and emotional health. Sexuality is not always included in those things, and sexuality is an important part of who we are," said Jones, who added that knowing the relationship between all these forms of health and how they can interact

must be encouraged.

"Human sexuality and being able to express ourselves in a healthy way is normal, and it is our right as human beings," said Jones.

Second-year psychology student Genevieve Hoffart, a member of Wellness and Health Awareness Team, said that because students are in an environment where they are able to search for and meet sexual partners, having access to resources that can guide them is beneficial.

"There are a lot of opportunities for sex at a university campus. You're finding out who you are and who you're attracted to and we want people to build healthy relationships and approach sex the right way," said Hoffart. She said that this project is supposed to be a fun, interactive way to get these messages across.

"We want people to start talking about it, and not to be afraid to talk about it. This whole thing is supposed to be fun and interesting and we want [students] to ask questions."

Sexy events: Feb 6–10

Here is a list of some events happening next week. For a complete list visit ucalgary.ca/counselling/sexualandgender-awarenessweek.

Lunch and Learn STIs:

Mon. 12–1 – Learn about STIs while having lunch.

Men and Masculinity:

Tues. 3–4:30 – Discuss male sexual health, myths, porn, consent and healthy relationships.

Porn and Healthy Sexuality:

Wed. 3–4:30 – Can they coexist?

Gender Diversity for friends, allies and helping professionals:

Fri. 12–1 – Deconstruct gender binary and learn how to support diverse gender expression.

Compiled by Susan Anderson

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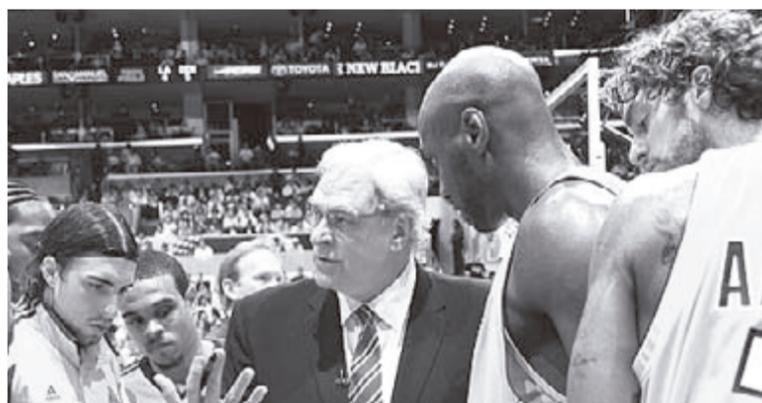
Behind the bench: the art of coaching

Josh Rose

Gauntlet Sports

What makes a great coach? One can look at the number of wins or titles a coach has at the end of their career, but there is much more to being the 'Bench Boss' than producing numbers. The onus often falls on the coach to turn a rowdy group of talent into an effective title contender, and if a team does poorly, often it's blamed on the coach.

In 1966, the head coach of the Texas Western College Miners, Don Haskins, changed the essence of basketball. Until then, basketball at the collegiate level had been a predominantly caucasian sport — African-Americans were infre-



pdadikz/flickr

Behind every great team is a coach who works to help athletes.

quently placed on teams. Haskins broke all the unwritten rules of the time. He recruited several African-American players and, for the first time in history, started five black players in the NCAA Final Four

Championship against the University of Kentucky. The Miners won that game 72-65. In 1997, Haskins was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. He retired in 1999 with a 719-353 all-time record and

won 14 Western Athletic Conference championships and four WAC tournament titles. Haskins also sent four players to the NBA, including Tim Hardaway, a point guard known for his deadly crossover.

In 2007, Phil Jackson was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. Jackson is considered one of the greatest coaches in NBA history and is ranked in the top five of ESPN's 25 best coaches of the last 25 years. He has worked with Scottie Pippen, Shaquille O'Neal, Kobe Bryant and Michael Jordan. His coaching style includes an effective use of triangle offence which has been influenced by Eastern philosophy, earning him the nickname 'Zen Master'. He holds the record for most championships won, two as a player and 11

as a head coach, and so far Jackson holds a 1,384-589 win/loss record. He retired last season, but there are rumours that he will take over as the head coach of the New York Knicks in the 2012-13 NBA season.

The University of Calgary also has several great coaches. The men's Dinos basketball head coach Dan Vanhooren is one of them. He started coaching at the U of C in 2000 and turned a team that hadn't had a winning season in over a decade into a contender within four years. Vanhooren has a master's degree in sports psychology and is certified by the National Coaching Certification Program at level III.

Another great Dinos coach is the women's basketball head coach Shawnee Harle. She has coached the team since 1995 and has never missed the playoffs. Harle has her master's degree in coaching studies and is one of the only basketball coaches in Canada to have a NCCP level V and has served as an assistant coach for the national women's team on several occasions.

NCCP has five different levels of certification: level III is needed to coach CIS, level V is needed to coach national teams.

It's no easy task running practices for a collegiate basketball team. Vanhooren has a seasonal practice plan which goes all year so the team peaks in skill at the right time. It includes strength and conditioning, offensive and defensive systems, and special plays.

"When playing teams like the University of Alberta Bears, we watch several films looking for weaknesses we can take advantage of and then we go through the week preparing for the game," said Vanhooren.

The women's basketball team prepares for practices differently. The girls start practice with a meeting with Harle and assistant coach Claire Mitton.

"By watching tapes we decide what we need to improve on each week both offensive and defensively in order to prepare for the upcoming opponent," said Mitton.

Hall of Fame committees evaluate the contributions of players, referees or coaches involved in the game. Coaches are judged by fans, employers and analysts based on their rate of success. It is the players, who interact with their coach every day, who are qualified to properly judge the quality of their greatness. For Vanhooren, Harle and Mitton, coaching is more than a job, it's something they love.

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CFL takes on HGH

Jacob McGregor
Gauntlet Sports

The Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport recognized the Canadian Football League as the first major North American sport league to implement testing for human growth hormone as part of its anti-doping program. CFL commissioner Mark Cohon said in a statement released on Nov. 17 that a new partnership with the CCES is essential to keep football HGH free.

"Blood testing is an important part of a robust drug testing program," he said. "We feel that our partnership with the CCES has enabled us to really demonstrate our commitment to a safe and healthy environment for our players."

For several years prior to their agreement with the CFL, the CCES had been working with Canadian Interuniversity Sport to battle the

ing control mission here on campus," added Matchett. "There was not a single positive finding among any of the 62 players who were tested."

Cohon also shared his pride at how well the players have responded to the testing program.

"The emphasis we placed on education over the past two years has definitely led to greater understanding and acceptance throughout the league," Cohon said.

Paul Melia, president and CEO of the CCES, praised the CFL for its efforts and looked to the future.

"From its work with the CIS to its drug testing program, the CFL has taken great strides to ensure that the sport is clean and fair. We hope that other professional sport leagues will follow their example," Melia said in a press release on Nov. 17.



Gauntlet file photo

Swimmers race in Canada West championship

The Canada West swimming championship was hosted by the University of Alberta from Jan. 27–29. For the second year in a row, the University of British Columbia claimed first place on the men's side. The University of Calgary men's swimming team placed third and the women captured second. The U of C's Jason Block won male athlete of the meet. Block captured four gold medals in the meet and set meet records for the men's 50-metre and 100-metre breaststroke. The team is now preparing for the CIS championship from Feb. 23–25 and the Olympic trials from Mar. 27–Apr. 1, both in Montreal.

/// In February 2011, the entire Dinos football team was tested. There was not a single positive finding among any of the 62 players who were tested.

use of HGH and other performance-enhancing substances at the collegiate level. The Canadian Anti-Doping Program adopted by the CIS has been a tremendous success, especially regarding HGH. There has been only one known positive test group in Canada, which came from the University of Waterloo Football program in 2010. The positive tests resulted in the suspension of the program for an entire season.

According to Ben Matchett, assistant athletic director for the University of Calgary, another result of the positive test was "increased testing at CIS institutions, especially in football, with the CFL contributing part of the cost of that enhanced testing program."

"In February 2011, the entire Dinos football team was tested by an unannounced, out-of-season dop-


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URBANIZED

Design documentary shows that cities are people, not places

by Sean Willett

The sun sets in the northwest Calgary neighbourhood of Tuscany.

courtesy Davey Norman/Flickr

It's a struggle to view cities as products of design. In Calgary, maybe it's because one may find it hard to believe the terrible bicycle infrastructure and plague-like urban sprawl were planned by rational human beings. Yet cities, like most things in our modern world, are the result of choices made by designers. Whether these choices are the right ones is a different matter entirely.

Urbanized, the final documentary in director Gary Hustwit's design-focused trilogy (which includes 2007's *Helvetica* and 2009's *Objectified*), is also the latest installment in the Calgary International Film Festival's Doc Soup series, a program that aims to showcase six notable documentaries each month. The film shines a light on the people responsible for shaping cities and

the ways they are trying to solve the problems that naturally arise in urban centres. This is done mainly through a series of interconnected interviews, both in offices and out on the streets, as well as breathtaking shots of monumental cityscapes, sleek graphs and the occasional snippet of television footage.

It quickly becomes clear that *Urbanized* isn't really about cities, at least not in the traditional sense. While gorgeously composed tableaux of buildings and streets feature heavily in the movie, it can be seen through the interviews that its true focus is on people. After all, what is a city if not a place for people to live their lives?

The designers that Hustwit chooses to spotlight are ones that have found ways to solve some of

the most important problems facing cities, such as low-income housing, public safety and environmental concerns. It is made very clear that these designers are successful because they took people into consideration, instead of merely looking for the most "rational" solution.

An example of this comes early in the film by spotlighting a low-income housing project designed by Alejandro Aravena in Santiago, Chile. While most low-income housing solutions are focused on building the largest homes possible, Aravena instead focuses on providing the best location possible, to make it easier for parents to go to work and children to go to school. Additionally, he involved the families in the design process by having them choose which amenities they

would prefer to have included in the cost of the building, instead of choosing for them.

By focusing on people, rather than solely on the structural side of urban planning, Hustwit manages to humanize city design. This is most clearly seen when the clean, carefully manicured interview scenes are interrupted by the cities themselves. From children asking Aravena about the camera crew, to the mayor of Bogotá, Colombia waving to passing bicyclists, to sirens causing a designer to pause in the middle of a conversation, these scenes were included by Hustwit to make clear the undeniably important role that people play in designing cities.

Yet despite the exceptional quality of these interviews, they are almost

eclipsed by Hustwit's remarkable sense of style. He manages to combine the jaw-dropping cinematography of Luke Geissbühler with a simple electronic soundtrack to create a sort of transcendent experience, each montage of shots leading perfectly into the next scene. It is hard to think of anyone else who could make Detroit seem otherworldly.

While the stylistic elements of the film have no problem maintaining their rhythm, the interviews often seem a bit disconnected, jumping from one unrelated subject to another at a rapid pace. This barrage of people, places and problems does serve to keep the film interesting and fresh, but effectively ruins any sort of narrative structure. The final few scenes help to fix this problem, but the movie still feels slightly disorganized as a result.

This issue hardly stops *Urbanized* from being an enjoyable and informative documentary, and anyone with even the slightest interest in design should make every effort to watch it.

Considering the way other cities have dealt with the problems we face today, it's clear that there's hope for the future of Calgary. Initiatives such as the proposed bike rental stations, the improvements to the transit system, and the currently-under-construction Bow skyscraper (which was designed by Sir Norman Foster, one of the architects interviewed in the film) reflect many of the solutions featured in *Urbanized*, and will help make living in Calgary cheaper, safer and more convenient.

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NEW UNIVERSITY TELEVISION

Urbanized can be purchased or rented at urbanizedfilm.com, or purchased on iTunes.

Surviving Progress may be harder than we think

Ian Gregg

Gauntlet Entertainment

Mathieu Roy and Harold Crooks have set the year's standard high with *Surviving Progress*, a well-paced Canadian documentary that wants to make sure that modern civilization doesn't self-destruct. Inspired by Ronald Wright's best-seller *A Short History of Progress*, the film depicts trends of progress throughout history while warning of the negative consequences of humanity's tendency to sacrifice long-term sustainability for short-term wants. Supported by a well-spoken cast of experts from a various areas of expertise — including David Suzuki, Ronald Wright and Margaret Atwood — the film puts forth a holistic view of a world in flux by considering economic, environmental and technological aspects.

Filmed on location in four



courtesy Alliance Films

Canadian documentary *Surviving Progress* warns modern-day civilization of the consequences of unsustainable development.

countries, we see the story of the individual and how progressive deforestation in Brazil melds with the economy, how the struggle to

improve quality of life in China strains the model of consumption even more, and how the cycle of debt in the Congo leaves it powerless to cure its plague of instability. Brazilian sawmill owner Enio Beata tells his story of dependence on the rainforest and the failure of the nation's leaders to aid unemployment. "The biggest farmers are senators, deputies, colonels. They're the ones destroying the Amazon forest. Them — not us." The film's score spooks as time-lapse scenes of inner city development, road construction, industrial farming and ant-like people play over engaging interviews with individuals like Beata that lead you to mistrust the very nature of our global economic agenda.

Though the ideas overwhelm at times, the cast of characters work together to cultivate the idea that "traps" lay within progress. According to the film, early humans strived to improve their hunting

methods only to be faced with the extinction of their food sources — and now we face similar problems that affect us on a global scale. Wright emphasizes, "The difference between good progress, which improves quality of life, contrasts against bad progress, which can threaten the very existence of humanity."

The past, present and future collide in this homegrown documentary feature. Although the weight of this film and the ideas it proposes may be heavy, *Surviving Progress* isn't all doom and gloom like many other documentaries in the genre. Instead of cutting the film off early to emphasize our species' despair, it goes on to present optimism. Jane Goodall closes on an encouraging note: "When

humans have their backs against the wall, they work exceptionally well together."

Sure to be a conversation starter, *Surviving Progress* gives you a reason to get yourself to the cinema as soon as possible — but in a sustainable way, of course.

Surviving Progress opens in Calgary on Feb. 3.



Still need your celluloid fix? Visit thegauntlet.ca for a review of the Feb. 3 release *Big Miracle*. Do it. It involves adorable, computer-generated whales.

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NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAYS

THE STUDENTS' UNION,
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Days are Monday, February 13 to Wednesday, February 15, 2012 (and Thursday, February 16 if necessary) and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the Students' Union, MSC 251 between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm on Nomination Days.

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

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

Dated at the University of Calgary in the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, this 30th day of January, 2012.



As of January 30, 2012, nomination packages will be available online at www.su.ucalgary.ca or at the SU main office. Visit www.su.ucalgary.ca for more information.

spun

ALBUM REVIEWS



TOP TWENTY

*Canadian artist **Local artist

- 1 HOSPITALITY *Hospitality* (Merge)
- 2 JUNG PEOPLE** *Tonterhooks* (Self-Released)
- 3 GUIDED BY VOICES *Let's Go Eat The Factory* (Self-Released)
- 4 LONG WEEKENDS* *Don't Reach Out* (Nonesuch)
- 5 THE ASTEROID GALAXY TOUR *Out Of Frequency* (BMG Rights)
- 6 CATE LE BON *Cyrk* (The Control Group)
- 7 THE AGNOSTIC PHIBES** *Rhythm & Blood Conspiracy Campfire Tales* (Shout! Abner Pine)
- 8 HANDS & TEETH* *Hunting Season* (Self-Released)
- 9 MOTHER FALCON *Alhambra* (Self-Released)
- 10 JESSIE BAYLIN *Little Spark* (Thirty Tigers)
- 11 VIRGIN FOREST *Easy Way Out* (Parlophone)
- 12 PORCELAIN RAFT *Strange Weekend* (Secretly Canadian)
- 13 =** *Snow Battered Shine* (Self-Released)
- 14 SEVEN STORY REDHEAD** *Uptight/Downlow* (Self-Released)
- 15 THE MOBY DICKS/THE BROWNS** *Split 7 Inch* (Handsome Dan)
- 16 SONIC AVENUES* *Television Youth* (Dunlap)
- 17 THE ROOTS *Undun* (Del. Jam)
- 18 VARIOUS* *Have Not Been The Same Volume One* (Dunlop)
- 19 TY SEGALL *Singles 2007-2010* (Goner)
- 20 EDDY CURRENT *SUPPRESSION RING So Many Things* (Goner)

EXPERIMENTAL

- 1 =** *Snow Battered Shine* (Self-Released)
- 2 THE WHOLE DEATH CATALOGUE *Digitation/Diglossia* (Trees & Wires)
- 3 BURRO** *Macy's Trip* (Unit Structure)
- 4 3:33* *Live From The Grove* (Parallel Thought)
- 5 DIXIE'S DEATH POOL *The Man With Flowering Hands* (Drip Audio)

ELECTRONIC

- 1 RETURN TO MONO *Frambreaker Remixed* (Audio Villain)
- 2 ANOMIE BELL *Machine* (Self-Released)
- 3 ESCORT *Escort* (Silent Voice)
- 4 THREAT MACHINE* *Threat Machine* (Self-Released)
- 5 CONDUIT* *Year Of The Dead* (Self-Released)

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY



The philosophical **JUNG PEOPLE** make some very rich instrumental post-rock that bears many influences. They work hard on making music that's interesting and engaging. myspace.com/jungpeople

KAT'S PICKS

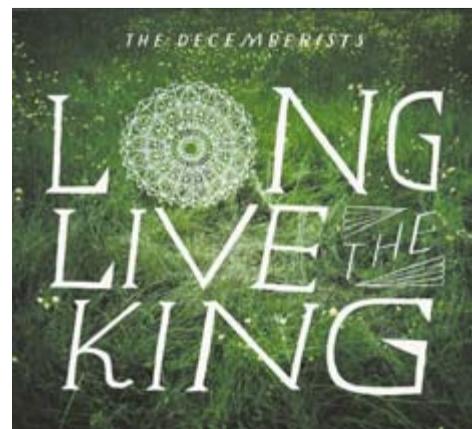
- 1 A PLACE TO BURY STRANGERS
- 2 IMPERIAL TEEN
- 3 PHEDRE*
- 4 FIRST AID KIT
- 5 LEILA

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The Decemberists *Long Live the King* (November 11, Capitol)

"Long live the king!" — this traditional exclamation may pronounce a new era of independent music to come as The Decemberists explore new sonic territory.

After six weeks of recording at the Pendarvis Farm near Portland, Oregon, The Decemberists completed work on their sixth album, January 2011's *The King is Dead*, as well as the more recent EP *Long Live the King*.

Each album is a beautifully-crafted addition to the band's extensive musical repertoire. Loyal subjects of the band will find echoes of the engaging storylines and complex lyricism of earlier albums on *Long Live the King*, but this is no rock opera, nor are there any 12-minute ballads.

While the band's past releases were inspired by the British folk revival, these records are a salute to Americana. Influenced by the sound of early R.E.M., the album is folk, rock and country with Celtic influences. Here The Decemberists introduce rich tones, lyrical sincerity and ambient layering to create the perfect emotional atmosphere.

Even though *Long Live the King* exhibits fewer upbeat ballads than *The King is Dead*, it's unlikely that The Decemberists's loyal subjects will be going anywhere.

Andrea Llewellyn



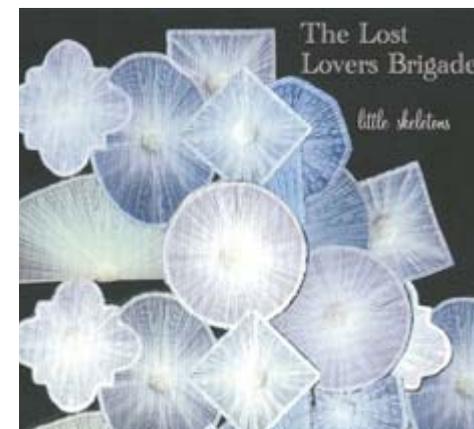
Gorillaz *The Singles Collection 2001-2011* (November 28, Parlophone)

The virtual band Gorillaz came into existence in 1998 at a time when English creators Damon Albarn and Jamie Hewlett grew increasingly tired and frustrated about the quality of music played on MTV. Fourteen years later, the four animated members — 2D, Noodle, Russell and Murdoc — now make up one of the most creative, ambitious and popular musical projects ever created.

Over the years, Albarn has successfully combined elements from different genres to create a distinctive style that straddles rock, hip hop, dub and pop music — the band's current instrumental lineup (used for live performances) features two original members from punk legends The Clash. *The Singles Collection 2001-2011* testifies to this unique style.

Devoted fans of the band might be disappointed by the fact that this album contains nothing new, but it is still a great compilation of the band's most significant work. Given the wide range of music found in any Gorillaz album, selecting a handful of hit songs out of four albums is an arduous task, and some fans will be let down by the exclusion of certain tracks. The absence of any tracks from 2010's *The Fall* is also a major disappointment. Ultimately, though, *The Singles Collection 2001-2011* is an introductory compilation worth owning for diehard fan and novice alike.

Wyatt Anton



The Lost Lovers Brigade *Little Skeletons* (November 29, independently released)

The Lost Lovers Brigade may have talent, but this group of indie rockers out of Vancouver is still searching for an identity. In a failed attempt to showcase their originality and musical range, *Little Skeletons* comes across as a mediocre debut album.

Over the course of 11 songs, The Lost Lovers Brigade visits what seems like every musical genre — as a whole, it is uncertain what audience they are aiming for. They are talented, yet lacking that *je ne sais quoi* necessary for success.

While they may experiment with genres such as country, bluegrass, indie rock, punk and pop, The Lost Lovers Brigade has yet to create a unique and meaningful sound.

Jumping from genre to genre results in an inconsistent product riddled with uncomfortable transitions. The songs jump from country melancholia to folky lullabies, from punky bluegrass indie rock to soulful piano ballads, creating a messy collage.

The Lost Lovers Brigade would attract some noteworthy attention if they could only settle on a musical direction. There's plenty of room for them to grow and a lot of potential here.

Andrea Llewellyn



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Shown on the left is "Li River China" by David Gill, winner in the 2011 International Photo Contest



A FREE TIBET

Our generation's fight for freedom

Erin Shumlich

Sports Editor

Translations by Gyalsten

In 2004, Lobsang Dorjee began the long and treacherous journey from Tibet across the Himalayas, through Nepal and into India.

Dorjee's story is common to other Tibetans who have escaped oppressive Chinese policies — his father was killed and he lived homeless and illiterate in Tibet after his family was kicked out of a monastery during the Chinese invasion.

The plight of Tibetans in China has been dire since the Chinese Communist Party took over the small agricultural region of Tibet. For 51 years, Tibetans have continually asked for religious and cultural freedoms and the right to their own land. Human rights abuses have been rampant in the region, especially in the last few weeks, as Chinese forces cracked down on a protest during the Chinese lunar New Year.

Regardless of recent clashes, new generations of Tibetans like Dorjee are optimistic about the future of their country. The Tibetan government-in-exile reformed late last year, proving the strength to the Tibetan diaspora. The 14th Dalai Lama stepped down as the political leader and a new democratic government-in-exile took over. Tibetans may finally have the tools to start winning the fight for their basic freedoms.

"It seems that wherever I look, it's all problems and there is no one I can ask for help," Dorjee said. "More than ever, I miss my mother, but still I try to make myself happy through helping others and being involved in the Tibetan cause."

Unable to communicate with his

friends and family at home, Dorjee said that although he is grateful for the opportunities that living in India has provided, being away from his family has been very difficult.

He joined a monastery in India through the advice of his friends, but quit shortly thereafter to reside in Dharamsala, India, the home of the 14th Dalai Lama. Now 24 years old, Dorjee has become an Indian citizen.

"The best thing to do is inform people about the plight of Tibetans and so that's what I'm here to do. I have learned great skills in India and when I can go back to Tibet I will open up a restaurant. It is good to have that to look forward to."

Dorjee was 17 years old when he left Tibet. He fled for the hope of freedom, leaving behind his mother, brothers and sisters.

The 14th Dalai Lama is currently advocating a 'middle way' approach with China — that is, working to end human rights abuses and establish suzerainty. Suzerainty is a form of governance where one country, in this case China, has control over a region's foreign affairs while allowing the region domestic autonomy. It would allow Tibet to have its own government while still being part of China. Tsering Asha Leba, president of the Calgary chapter of Students for a Free Tibet, however, says that this is not the end result that SFT wants.

"Our main mission is supporting and advocating for an independent Tibet," she said. "The first and foremost issue for the Dalai Lama is to stop the cultural genocide of Tibetans inside of Tibet, like our language. You can't teach Tibetan in schools anymore and there is no religious freedom. We want an independent Tibet that our history tells us we had."

Younger generations of Tibetans

remain hopeful for the future and, with a new government-in-exile, they may now be equipped with the proper tools to create change.

A dramatic history

Ownership over the region has been a continual issue between Tibet and China.

China has claimed ownership of the Tibetan region since the Yuan dynasty beginning in 1271, but had no effective control of Tibet from 1912 to 1951. China states Tibet had enjoyed an autonomous period under an overarching subordination to China. Like many of its

“The first and foremost issue is to stop the cultural genocide of Tibetans. We want an independent Tibet that our history tells us we had.”

— Tsering Asha Leba, president of the Calgary chapter of Students for a Free Tibet

other states, China claimed Tibet a special-status state with suzerain control of its domestic affairs.

China asserted its power over Tibet in 1912 with a declaration that Tibet would, in the future, come within the sphere of internal administration. Great Britain repudiated this declaration by essentially reprimanding China's right to actively intervene in Tibet's internal affairs, but still recognizing the suzerain right of China in Tibet.

The invasion of Tibet began in 1950, when the People's Liberation Army of China — under the rule of Mao Zedong — entered the largely agricultural Tibetan region of Chamdo and defeated the sparse and unprepared Tibetan army.

A top secret document published on Oct. 6, 1950 from the American Department of National Defense stated "China has claimed suzer-

ainty over Tibet since 1751. However, the claim has been only nominal and the country has maintained itself in isolation and autonomy for a considerable period."

The report concluded that China would gain little in economic means and would be virtually useless in a military sense by controlling Tibet — it would only create problems with supply and drain Chinese resources. The only clear advantages of the invasion appear to be an enhancement of Mao's prestige, an increased presence of communism in Asia and a more effective way to facilitate communist

making every effort to exploit our people, but they have also made Tibet into a huge arsenal that can have no other conceivable purpose than a future offensive against her neighbouring countries and the world at large."

The tension between China and Tibet came to a head in 1959. Delegates of the 14th Dalai Lama allegedly reached an agreement with the newly established People's Republic of China, affirming China's sovereignty of Tibet on May 23, 1951, but this claim was repudiated by the 14th Dalai Lama on March 26, 1959 as having been "thrust upon the Tibetan Government and people by the threat of arms." The Dalai Lama claimed his government the only legitimate one of Tibet. The 1959 protest of the treaty, known as the 1959 Tibetan Uprising, erupted in Lhasa, the Tibetan capital. The Tibetan government-in-exile reported 86,000 Tibetan deaths, citing "secret Chinese documents captured by guerrillas" during the rebellion.

Fleeing to survive

Asha Leba's grandfather was among the first Tibetans to flee the country. He left the monastery and took the 17-day journey over the Himalayas in the same group as the 14th Dalai Lama.

"He said he wasn't really afraid when crossing the Himalayas because by that point it was just a survival instinct that they all had," Asha Leba said.

"You didn't have time to be afraid and would die if you didn't leave. When they ran out of food or water, they had to eat the soles of their shoes because they were made out of yak and [had to] have snow as water."

infiltration into India. The chief strategic importance of controlling the Tibetan region was political: it diverted global attention away from Taiwan, a situation under public scrutiny at the time.

There was an outcry from Tibetans after the 1950 invasion, calling on the international community to condemn China's forceful takeover of the land. In a letter addressed to the Governor General of Canada on Aug. 5, 1958, Tibetan representatives claimed Tibet was an independent country with no stock of modern weapons of war within its boundaries.

"With about 500,000 of their so-called 'liberation army', they over-powered our frontier guards . . . and attempted to destroy our religion, culture and traditions. Not only have the Chinese communists occupied our country

In Nepal, they were taken prisoner because they had no visas, but Asha Leba explained the group was lucky and were allowed to move forward into India. Now, it has become more difficult and dangerous for refugees to enter Nepal.

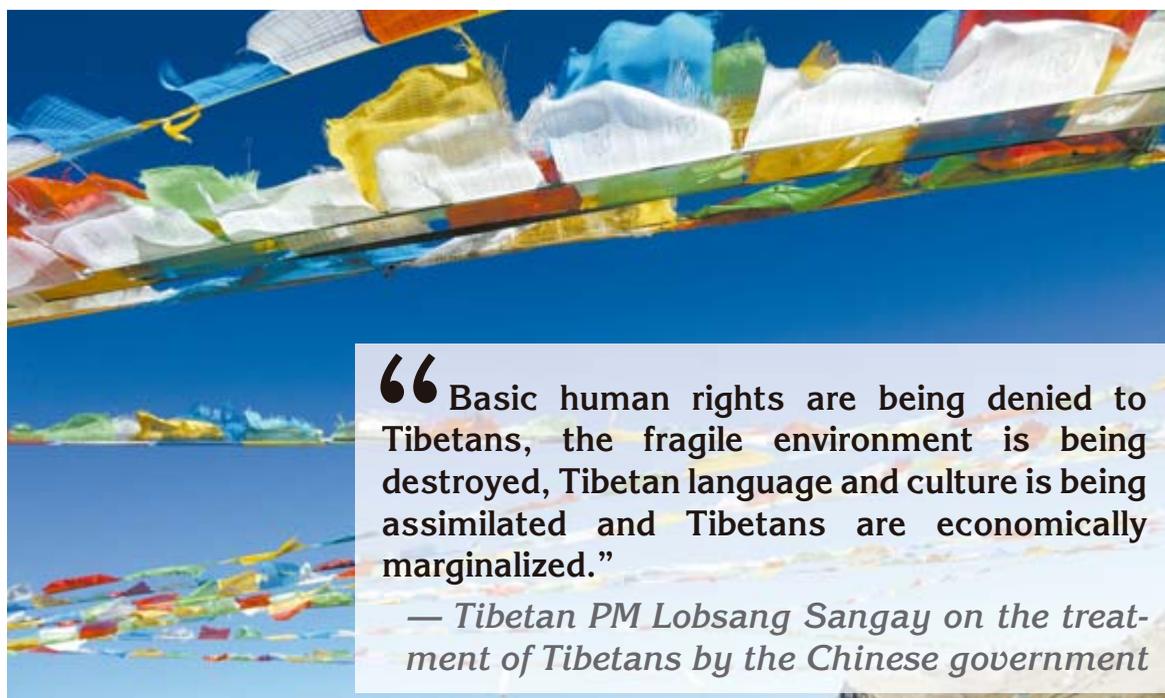
"Nepal has the one-China policy, so it's even worse when you get to Nepal because you really don't know what will happen," she said. "In the time of my grandpa, they were more sympathetic. Now they are more supportive of China, which is logical because China has given them so much. But it's almost like a scare tactic."

In past years, an average of 3,000 Tibetans a year followed in the 14th Dalai Lama's footsteps in order to find a space to express their distinct culture and identity. According to the International Campaign for Tibet, the number of Tibetans crossing into Nepal in 2008 dropped dramatically from 3,000 to 652 due to "China's ensuing crackdown

on the overwhelmingly peaceful protests."

Most recently, on Sept. 11, 2011, 23 Tibetan refugees were arrested and detained by Nepalese police for 11 days. The refugees were eventually released into the hands of the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees, despite the Chinese embassy fighting for the individuals to be forcibly repatriated.

On Aug. 24, before the detainment of the 23 Tibetans, there was a proposed policy change in the Chinese Criminal Procedure Law, which would allow police to detain deported individuals and hold them in secret detention for up to six months without family or legal contact. This law would extend the current law, which subjects suspects to confinement in their homes for up to six months without trial or legal counsel. Asha Leba explained that those who are sent back are in even more danger because they are targeted, especially with the new proposed policy.



“Basic human rights are being denied to Tibetans, the fragile environment is being destroyed, Tibetan language and culture is being assimilated and Tibetans are economically marginalized.”

— Tibetan PM Lobsang Sangay on the treatment of Tibetans by the Chinese government

scjdy/flickr

Standing their ground

The Tibetan government-in-exile is making drastic changes in order to be fully equipped to fight for their rights. In a move that changed thousands of years of tradition, the 14th Dalai Lama stepped down as political leader

and will continue to serve only as the spiritual leader. In a powerful speech on the day the new leadership was implemented, the Dalai Lama proclaimed that the power of Tibet lies in the hands of all Tibetans, not in the leader. The inauguration of Lobsang Sangay, the new political head of Tibet, took place on Aug. 8, 2011 through democratic elections. Prime Minister Sangay said the elections "should send a clear message to the hardliners in the Chinese government that Tibetan leadership is far from fizzling out — we are a democracy that will only grow stronger in years ahead."

The change in tradition was difficult for an older generation of Tibetans to accept, Asha Leba said, but she believes the change will be beneficial. "I'm a huge supporter of the younger generation of Tibetans to be able to instill change," she added.

Chris Ng, a University of Calgary fourth-year economics student who moved to Canada from Hong Kong seven years ago, said that it is difficult for Chinese students to have an opinion about the state of Tibet because the media often distorts the truth.

"It is the Chinese government that cares about Tibet," he said. "But the Chinese people don't know much. The government doesn't give out much information about Tibet, so it is harder for the people to have a view on this issue. Some people in China might get captured if they speak out so most people won't talk much or know much about it."

He said that although Hong Kong is an autonomous region and information flows freely, there are many discrepancies

about what is being told and what actually happens. Ng and his friend Nicholas Zhou, another fourth-year economics student who moved from mainland China seven years ago, referred to the Tiananmen Square protests as an example of a distorted event. Although Zhou said China often hides things to appear in a more positive light, western media often propagate events to make them seem worse than they are.

"The winner writes the history. It's hard to get both perspectives," said Zhou.

He added that Tibet has always been a part of China and questions the proposal to make it an independent state.

"The English and French took North America from the First Nations, but if the First Nations asked for their land back, the government wouldn't give it to them," he said. "[China has] lots of those minority states of different races that are still controlled by Chinese government. [Because] we have lots of [minority states] in China, if Tibet wants to go, the rest of them will go and follow them — half of China will be gone."

Regardless of whether or not China holds legal rights to the land, Asha Leba said the human rights abuses that followed the invasion and continue today are catastrophic, but the abuses don't extend only to Tibetans.

"It's wrong what the [Chinese government] is doing it to Tibetans, but it's even more wrong that they are doing it to their own people and getting away with it," said Asha Leba.

She explained that, because of Canada's strong trade relationship with China, many human

see A FREE TIBET, cont'd on page 22

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A free Tibet, continued from page 21

rights abuses go unquestioned, although she does not think that people ignore human rights abuses on purpose.

"I think that people often just don't realize what's going on," she said. "It's easier to conceal what happens. I know that once people realize what's going on, they want to help. It's just getting the correct information out there that is the hard part, especially when the [Chinese government], a propaganda machine, will spit out anything to make themselves look good. For some people it's easy to believe."

An article released in the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy Press on Sept. 25, 2011 claims self-immolation continues to be a grave situation in Ngaba, Tibet. Monks Lobsang Kelsang and Lobsang Kunchok staged peaceful protests with signs saying "Long live the Dalai Lama" and "We want religious freedom in Tibet" before setting themselves on fire. In the last 12 months, 16 nuns and monks have self-immolated in protest against Chinese policies.

Tibetan exile groups claim six protestors were killed in a peaceful demonstration on Jan. 23 and 24 during the Chinese lunar New Year, although other reports have said that five Chinese police were wounded in an act of violence by the Tibetan protestors. Because the area is off-limits to foreign media, it is impossible to know which account is correct. These clashes occurred just two weeks before Prime Minister Stephen Harper arrived in China to promote trade agreements.

In a statement on Jan. 26, Tibetan Prime Minister Sangay urged the world media and the United Nations to send a fact-finding delegation to the region and send a message to the leaders in Beijing that the killing of Tibetans is a clear violation of Chinese and international laws, and that such action will question China's moral legitimacy and standing in world affairs.

"Chinese police fired indiscriminately on hundreds of Tibetans who had gathered peacefully to claim their basic rights," Sangay said. "Basic human rights are being denied to Tibetans, the fragile environment is being destroyed, Tibetan language and culture is being assimilated and Tibetans are economically marginalized.

"The use of violence against Tibetans is unacceptable and must be strongly condemned by all people in China and around the world. I call on the international community to show solidarity and to raise your voices in support of the fundamental rights of the Tibetan people at this critical time," he proclaimed.

Sangay requests Tibetans in China to refrain from celebrating the Tibetan New Year on Feb. 22 to prevent further crackdowns from the Chinese police.

The Chinese Communist party will be changing power in October 2012 from Hu Jintao, but U of C anthropology professor Alan Smart said he doesn't think this move will change anything, at least initially. Smart currently teaches a political anthropology course and has extensive background in Chinese society and urban research. He said that whoever takes over as head of the party will be well-versed in communist laws and will have been with the party for a substantial period.

"Whoever takes power will follow the trends of the past government and won't make major changes. I particularly don't anticipate any drastic changes," said Smart.



"The use of violence against Tibetans is unacceptable and must be strongly condemned by all people in China and around the world.

I call on the international community to show solidarity and to raise your voices in support of the fundamental rights of the Tibetan people."

— Tibetan PM Lobsang Sangay

Our relationship with Tibet

In the first week of 2012, China gained a large role in the Alberta oil sands, not just buying stakes, but also taking over whole operations. Chinese state-controlled companies are major players in Alberta's oil sands policies.

"The Canadian government realizes that they can't rely as much on the United States as the driver of the economy, and that will mean that they are attracted to playing nice with China," explained Smart. "In the Canadian case, it seems clear that when the Harper government came to power, they were quite likely to object to human

rights abuses, but they have been toning that down in the last couple of years."

Smart said that in most international meetings that include China, there is a ritual period to point out human rights abuses and China expects that.

However, "when you start to point out human rights abuses in other ways, then you are more likely not to get the deals," he said.

With the spark of dissent across the world through the Arab Spring and the Occupy movement, a blind eye towards human rights abuses in Tibet is an anachronism of our time. Even with the growing pres-

ence of China in Canadian trade, the outcry of Tibetans will be hard to ignore in the future. The new democratic government-in-exile, under the rule of Prime Minister Sangay, promised that the sacrifices of young Tibetans who have self-immolated, protested and worked for the Tibetan cause around the world will not be forgotten. The younger generations of Tibetans will continue to speak out against the oppressive Chinese rule and this time, their voices will be heard.

"It would be beautiful to see China, Tibet and Nepal getting along," said Asha Leba. "I don't know if that's realistic, but I hope it is."

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Taking a stand against uncomfortable seating

Kurt Genest
Gauntlet Opinions



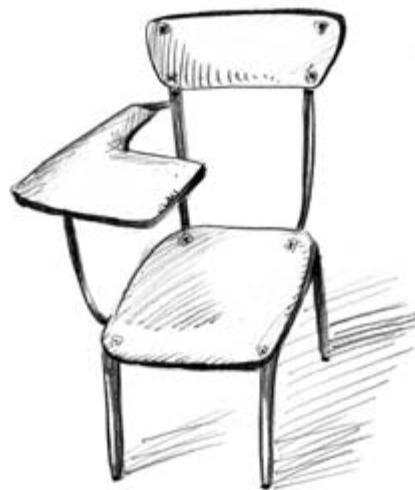
The latest research in the field of education suggests that it takes 10,000 hours of deliberate practice to become an “expert” at something. Mozart and music? Ten thousand hours. Gretzky and hockey? Ten thousand hours. Gordon Ramsay and profanity? Ten thousand hours.

While mastery of such abilities is a rare feat, there is one field in which I can state with some certainty that we are all experts: the art of sitting in uncomfortable plastic chairs. Unless illness, injury or truancy reared their ugly heads in your life, or a fire destroyed all of the furniture at your school, I estimate that the average Canadian student becomes a master of sitting in wretchedly uncomfortable chairs by about eleventh grade — earlier if you didn't have to sit on the floor in kindergarten.

It is as one expert to another, then, that I implore you to take a stand against the uncomfortable seating in many of the classrooms at our university. “Bah,” you say, “replacing the chairs would only add to my hefty

tuition. How am I supposed to buy my daily cup of coffee so that I can leave it under said chairs at the end of class?” You may be right, but consider that a \$20 trip to the movies or a \$100 trip to the dentist offer far more luxurious seating. We spend hundreds of dollars on each course and thousands each semester — is it so outrageous that we should be afforded the simplest of luxuries?

Not all chairs are made equal. Per-



haps the classic perpetrators of discomfort are the plastic ones featured in the largest science theatres. Such chairs are deceptively flexible, as they allow just enough give to contort your body into an uncomfortable position, which you will surely regret when trying to win the dance

competition at the seniors' complex some years down the road.

Also prominent is the indestructible metal chair, whose lack of flexibility affords the student space only to squirm, just as a goldfish does in a plastic bag of water before its imminent demise (when you are a goldfish, your demise is always imminent). You could take a quick trip to the loo to try to escape your unfortunate predicament, but your misery will be multiplied upon your return when your shin collides with the edge of the seat and you crumple to the ground in a lifeless heap.

To be fair, not all university seating falls into these rigid categories. Some classes boast padding that would make any mattress blush like a jilted lover. These chairs can easily induce sleep when combined with warm clothing and the soothing melody of a lecturer's voice. Those who have experienced most of their university courses in these chairs can make the embarrassing and oft-misunderstood claim that they slept their way through university.

Sore backs and broken shins are undesirable, but so is academic narcolepsy. Light padding would be ideal, and what better time than university to live by ideals? Don't take uncomfortable seating sitting down.

Too much 'gay'

Erin Shumlich
Deep-sea diver



The word ‘gay’ is primarily used as a noun or adjective to describe a homosexual person. The word was used as early as 1637, originally meaning carefree, happy and bright. By the end of the 20th century, the meaning of the word shifted in lieu of a cultural attitude in North America to become derisive. Today the term is often used derogatorily to describe a terrible or stupid situation, as in, “that's so gay.”

Easy communication through the sphere of social media prolif-

erates improper English and has embedded the use of the word ‘gay’ into everyday speech. The English Wikipedia blackout in protest of SOPA and PIPA on Jan. 19 caused outrage in the Twitter community — the most common adjective used to project that frustration was, of course, ‘gay.’ Not only did this show ignorance of the situation, more importantly, it showed complete obtuseness.

The continual use of ‘gay’ as a calumnious adjective is a disgrace and asynchronous in the year 2012 when there is no place for such a use. Use your university-‘educated’ brain to dig into the depths of the English language and find another adjective to voice your frustrations.

Damn mass emails

Susan Anderson
News Assistant



I can borrow their notes.

Do mass emails even receive replies? Maybe it's not your fault, maybe you were encouraged in this behavior. Maybe you once successfully received notes — regardless, it's still not worth annoying everyone else in the class. I don't really care about your illness, or your unfortunate incident with the cat/car/whatever. There are many ways to get notes besides a mass email. The rest of your classmates are not responsible for your education. Oh, and if you ask me if you missed anything important in your email, no, of course not, we all stared out the window and wondered why you weren't in class.

101 Things You've Always Wanted to Know about Sex

Matt Diteljan
VP Student Life



Admit it: you have questions about sex. Everybody does! That's why from February 6 - 10, the Students' Union, SU Wellness Centre and the Women's Resource Centre (WRC) are teaming up to bring you Sex Week. Check out workshops, films, lectures and discussions all around MSC, covering everything you've ever wanted to know about sex.

Let's Get Physical

The obvious headliners of Sex Week are the workshops and discussions that relate to the body. Keep informed and keep yourself safe and healthy by attending sessions about orgasms (his and hers) or STIs. Visit Health Services on Friday for a pap clinic, or mark your calendar to do a testicular self-exam.

Say You, Say Me

Communication is an important part of any relationship. Drop by the WRC on Wednesday for “Sex-Positive Communication Skills”, and on Friday for “Talking to your Kids about Sexuality”.

Girls on Film

Throughout the week, you can check out a variety of sex and gender related films. On Tuesday the Wellness Centre presents “Love Bytes: Stories about the Right to Love” followed by a wine and cheese social and discussion. On Wednesday night, drop by That Empty Space for Q-Centre and Fairytales' presentation of “Trinidad”.

Just Can't Get Enough / I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For

Not to worry, we're not done yet. Other workshops and lecture topics this

week include Men and Masculinity; Gender Diversity for Friends, Allies and Helping Professionals; Porn and Healthy Sexuality; the Bible and Homosexuality; Head, Heart, and Body Decision Making and more! Finally, check out the Sex Week Service Fair and our “Ask the Sexperts” question panel on Friday. An anonymous question box will be available at Sex Week events all week long.

Sex Week runs February 6 - 10 throughout MSC. For a complete list of Sex Week events and details, visit www.su.ualgary.ca.



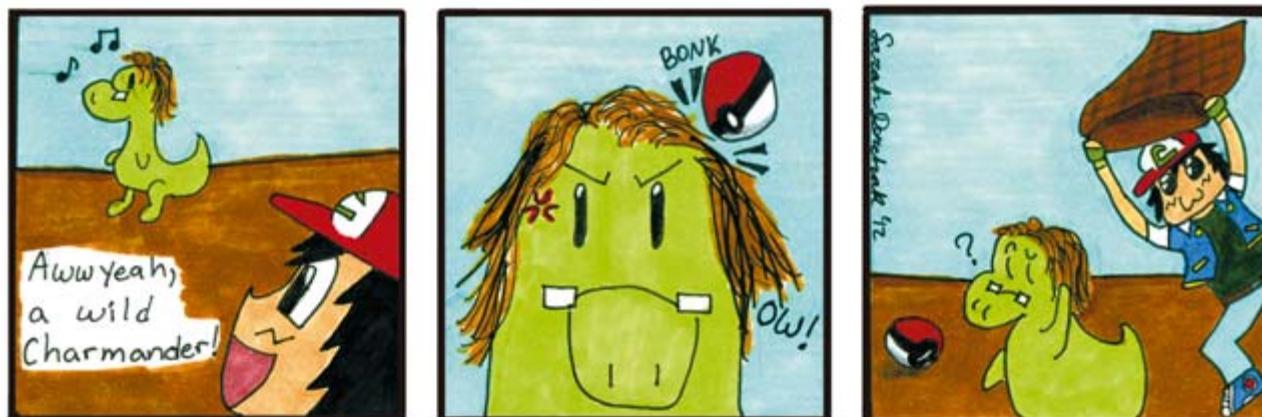
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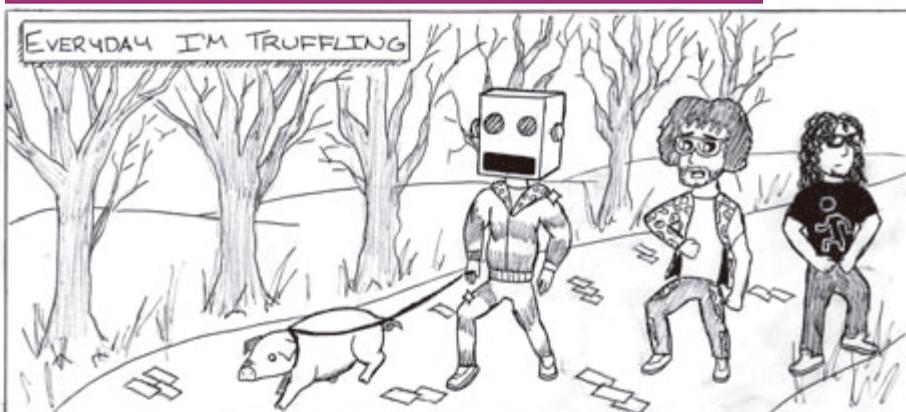
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