

THE

GAUNTLET

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UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

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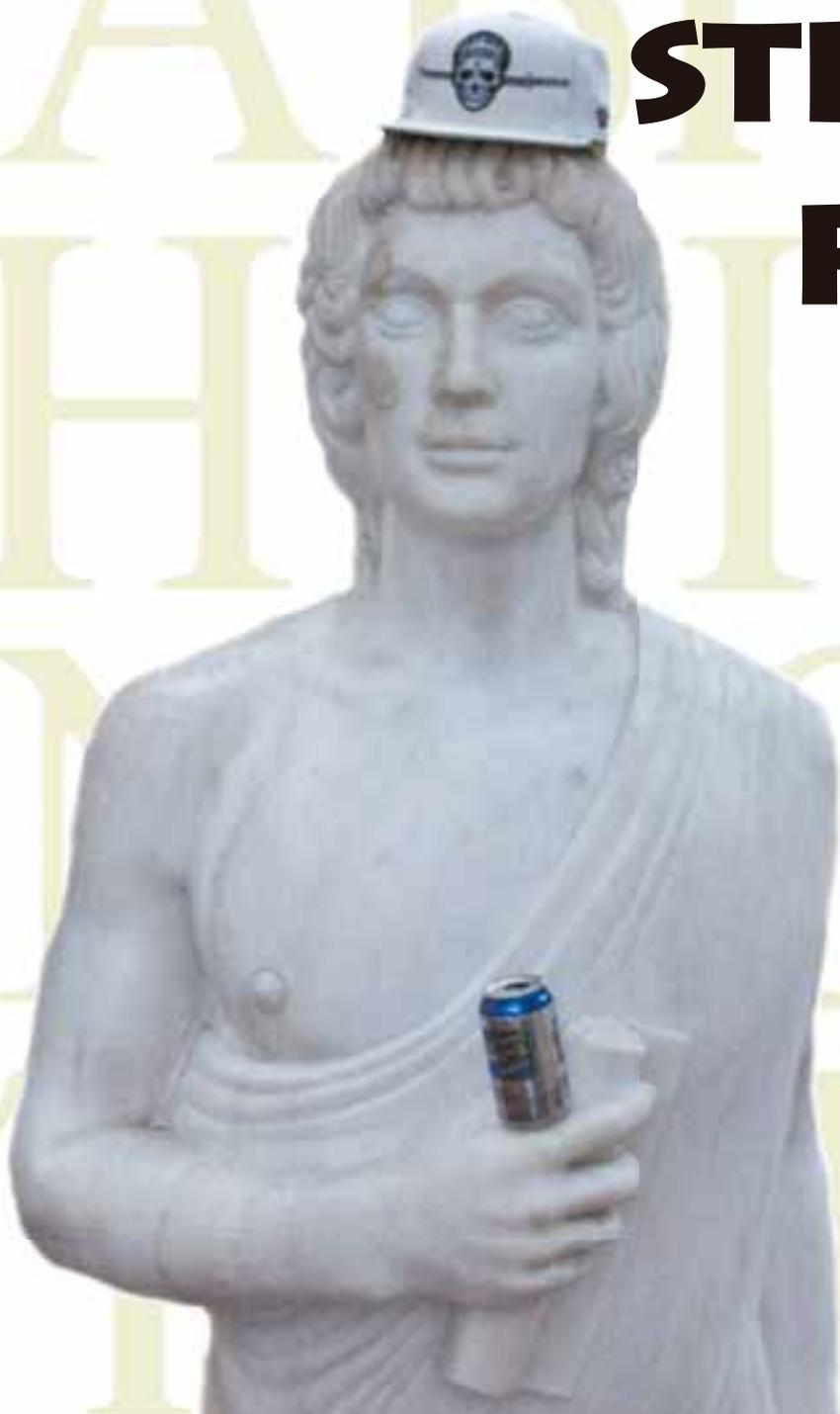


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STUDENTS' UNION

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Clubs

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JANUARY 10, 2013

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Golden Spatula



This week we would like to honour Boaz Schuman for his superb contribution to the Gauntlet. In recognition of his astute examination of Greek culture on campus, Schuman shall receive the most prestigious Golden Spatula award. With your miraculous eloquence you harness the pantheon of gods.

~Boaz Schuman~

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: thegauntlet.ca. The Gauntlet is printed on recycled paper and uses a tailings based ink. We urge you to recycle/purify the Gauntlet.

Letter Policy

Letters must be typed, double-spaced and received by Monday at 4 p.m., and must include the author's name, student ID number, telephone number and signature. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libelous or defamatory material. All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the Gauntlet," and be no longer than 300 words. The Gauntlet retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the Gauntlet office, Room 319 MacEwan Students' Centre, or sent by email to editor@thegauntlet.ca.

The Cover

Photo by Adrienne Shumlich
 Design by Morgan Shandro

Canada exporting terror

Gun violence in the United States has spun out of control. Last July we witnessed a man enter an Aurora, Colorado theatre wearing a gas mask, a load-bearing vest, a ballistic helmet and bullet-proof leggings. He was armed with grenades, a 12-gauge shotgun, a semi-automatic rifle and a handgun. Seventy people were wounded after he opened fire on the unsuspecting audience and 12 people lost their lives.

More recently, another man entered an elementary school on Dec. 14 in Newtown, Connecticut, carrying a Bushmaster semi-automatic rifle and two hand guns. Twenty children between the ages of five and 10 were killed along with six adults.

This event reignited the ongoing debate over gun control laws in the U.S. and ways to mitigate the atrocious number of victims of firearm homicides. In 2011, there were 11,493 homicides in the U.S. resulting from firearms compared with 598 in Canada. From all counts, Canadians look squeaky clean in terms of its ability to regulate gun violence at home, yet we are far from innocent when it comes to our culpability in weapons production and dissemination on a global scale.

According to a Stockholm International Peace Research Institute report, Canada was the 12th biggest arms dealer in the world in 2011. The stats used to compile this report do not include deals with the U.S., which accounts for the bulk of Canada's arms exports.

Some experts estimate Canada to be more accurately ranked at sixth place when accounting for weapons sales to the U.S.

On the eve of the Newtown massacre, an amendment was made to the Automatic Firearms Country Control List, which allows Canadian arms manufacturers to sell firearms, weapons devices and components to Colombia, a country plagued by guerilla warfare and the world's largest cocaine producer. Other countries on the list include Canada's 27 NATO allies, Australia, Finland, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and Botswana.

The Foreign Affairs and International Trade website states that weapons and devices may be exported to countries in the AFCCL only under the approval of the Export and Import Permits Act. This

means that every international transaction must undergo an approval process. It also means that many weapons, like fully automatic weapons, that are banned in Canada, are being made in Canada to be sold elsewhere.

In 2011, Canada approved \$12 billion in weapons exports, including \$4 billion worth to Saudi Arabia, which used Canadian-made armoured vehicles to quell civilian protests in the early days of the Arab Spring. General Dynamics Land Systems in London, Ontario, supplied the weapons that wounded hundreds and killed at least 30 people during a protest against the Bahrain ruling family in March, 2011.

While Canadians smugly pride themselves on boasting low levels of firearm-induced homicides, homegrown weapons manufactur-

ers are profiting from the deaths of innocent civilians around the world.

Additionally, the Canada Pension Plan relies on investments to some of the world's top weapons manufacturers like Lockheed Martin, the company responsible for producing most of the world's military munitions, ballistic missiles and fighter aircraft.

People were horrified by the Newtown and Aurora massacres last year — but many Canadians remain unaware of our involvement in and propagation of these events that increasingly threaten the lives of innocent civilians. Moreover, the tragedies of ordinary lives lost can't be extricated from the atrocities of war, for they are both at the mercy of a similar evil.

If we are going to see any improvement in the reduction of gun violence in the U.S. and elsewhere, we must recognize and address Canada's economic entanglement in the weapons manufacturing industry. The life of a U.S. citizen, a Bahraini protester, a Colombian farmer or a child in elementary school should be of greater value than corporate profits.

It is time for Canada to get its priorities straight and become more globally responsible. Let's stop investing in war and death, and use our intelligence and technology to promote peace and a high quality life for everyone on the planet.

Gauntlet Editorial Board



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Expense records released to public

U of C makes travel and hospitality expense records available online

Michael Grondin

News Editor

On Dec. 17, the University of Calgary publicly released travel and hospitality expense records of U of C Board of Governors and administration in an effort to increase transparency.

The records can be found online and are in accordance with the U of C's new public disclosure of expenses policy, which is meant to improve accountability and "establish parameters for the disclosure of expense information" made by U of C leaders. The U of C is acting in conjunction with the government of Alberta in releasing expense records to the public.

Travel, business flights, meals and accommodation expenses will be posted periodically, beginning with expenses incurred from October 2012.

This move was put in place under a commitment by the university to increase transparency.

The public expense records are available in order to prevent spending discrepancies. One such discrepancy arose when BOG chair Doug Black's expenses did not follow the U of C's hospitality

and travel expense policy and he mispent over \$28,000. Black has since repaid the money in full.

"In addition to publicly disclosing these expenses, the university has implemented a more rigorous internal process for approving executive and board expenses, designated a compliance officer, implemented multiple levels of oversight and engaged the Internal Audit unit to bring even more rigor to the expense approval process," according to a U of C press release.

According to Students' Union president Hardave Birk, increasing transparency around spending is beneficial for all members of the U of C community.

"It's a positive step by the university to be moving forward. It's good to see that they're in compliance with what the provincial government had asked," said Birk. "They're trying to make sure that it's very clear how money is being spent."

It's a really good idea to broadcast and show students what they are spending and what we are getting for our money. – Oliver Horner, first-year business student



Adrienne Shumlich

Keeping track of expenses can be tricky, but having them public will create transparency.

He said this step will allow the university to keep a closer watch on how executives spend money.

"I think it's always good for the university to move towards more transparency, to show where they're spending students' money, where they're spending

tuition money," said Birk. "The fact of the matter is that it's better to have the information out there about where money is going in terms of expenses and travel than to release it later and have it look like a big scandal."

First-year U of C business student Oliver Horner agrees that public disclosure of executive spending is positive for students.

"We need more transparency between the executives and the students," said Horner. "So it's a really good idea to broadcast and show students what they are spending and what we are get-

ting for our money."

According to the U of C, president Elizabeth Cannon's expense records are in accordance with the U of C's hospitality and travel expense policy and regulations.

"Expenses claimed by the president are appropriate to the president's role and fully in accordance with all university policies in place at the time. Going forward, her expenses will be released as part of the [U of C's] regular process of expense disclosure," according to the press release.

The expense reports can be found at ucalgary.ca/legal-services

U of C wins big in business

Riley Hill

News Assistant

On the weekend of Jan. 5, several University of Calgary teams won medals in the Inter-Collegiate Business Competition, an annual undergraduate business competition that includes over 30 universities from around the world. The competition began in

1978 and has been held annually ever since. This year's event took place at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont.

The ICBC showcases eight different business-related events where teams of two to three students compete.

U of C teams won gold in an accounting and business debate, silver in business policy and bronze

in marketing, finance and business ethics.

The winning business debate team included fifth-year economics and political science student Hardave Birk and U of C business student Carol Yan.

"This year, me and another Students' Union representative, Carol Yan, were on the ICBC debate team. We ended coming in first, so that

was really exciting," said Birk. "It was a great experience. You get to meet students from across the country."

The topic of the debate was on selling water at market price.

U of C business professor and U of C ICBC coach Bob Schulz said he was proud of the U of C teams' success.

"We got seven out of eight of our

teams into the finals [this year]. So seven of eight of our teams finished in the top six out of more than 30. That's pretty darn good," said Schulz, who has played a large role in the teams' success.

"In 35 years, we've won 80 gold medals, which is more than twice as many as anyone else over that time. There's no one even close to us, really."

If you were the monarch of the U of C, what would be your first decree?

campus quips



"More MacHall extensions. More restaurants."
– Fady Hanna, first-year math



"Cheaper parking."
– Susanne Brzezina, third-year urban studies and architecture



"Create a place where students can nap."
– Connor Molineaux, first-year political science



"Ban 8 a.m. classes."
– Cheylene Sullivan, third-year zoology

France gives 1,400 diplomas in Alberta

Parents and teachers make French a priority in Canada

Michael Grondin
News Editor

Proficiency of the French language is becoming a priority in Canada. In the 2011–12 school year, the French government gave 4,800 diplomas — 1,400 of which were to Albertans — to Canadian students.

The Diplôme d'Études en langue Française program was developed in Europe and is a framework of measuring language proficiency. These measurements have been used in Canada over the past four years, giving Canadian students the opportunity to test their skills in French.

According to Alberta executive director of Canadian Parents for French Michael Tryon, the program is a global effort that seeks to increase cultural knowledge of the French language. The program looks at four levels of understand-

ing: listening, speaking, reading and writing. CPFF is a Canadian organization, composed of 23,500 members, that aims to increase French knowledge in schools and support French as a national language.

"It is a cultural thing. It is a way to preserve and ensure that the French culture around the world survives," said Tryon. "It is based on a common European frame of reference of languages developed by the European Union, and so it is a model that is used for 100 different languages around the world."

Upon receiving this diploma, students are given recognition by French-speaking universities in Europe.

Tryon said that the DELF allows understanding of how many Canadians have the ability to speak, read and write in French.

The DELF is a good way to mea-



Adrienne Shumlich

The DELF is a diploma that is recognized internationally.

sure whether students have a strong understanding of French, said Tryon. However, post-secondary institutions in Canada are just beginning to recognize this diploma.

"Every province and jurisdiction in Canada uses their own framework to measure language proficiency. Here, in Alberta, we have diploma exams and Alberta Education believes that

diploma exams are sufficient to meet requirements set out by the curriculum," he said. "Parents and teachers have felt that this is insufficient — it doesn't give a true measure of the students' proficiency."

A majority of the students who have been tested for the diploma have found the experience to be positive, said Tryon, adding that having the diploma can be ben-

eficial for employment and education opportunities.

French immersion is offered in 46 different cities and towns in Alberta alone.

Students who wish to receive the diploma can take the DELF test at many sites in the province, including the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta.

According to U of C French instructor and DELF coordinator Odile Rollin, the diploma is the only standardized French language test worldwide.

"It's a diploma for life. When you put it on your resume it is permanent," said Rollin. "Usually, students will take the test because they really want to know how they stand according to international standards."

The next available DELF exam at the U of C is on June 6, 2013.

For more information email delf@ucalgary.ca

Calgary organization working for cyclists

Michael Grondin
News Editor

The Calgary Tour de Nuit Society is an organization committed to making cycling in Calgary easier and safer. The group has worked to promote the benefits of cycling as well as build effective bike lanes in the city.

Tour de Nuit has recently created internship opportunities for Calgary students.

With the help of student interns, Tour de Nuit helped save Calgaryans roughly \$3,000,000 in January 2012 by ending the construction of

an unnecessary bike lane proposed by the City of Calgary, according to Tour de Nuit president Gary Beaton.

"Our objective is to try and get people out of their cars and on bikes," said Beaton. "We've been doing a lot of work with the city to try and get them to stop building nonsense bike lanes around town."

Beaton said a "nonsense bike lane" is one that is out of reach, unsafe and expensive.

In 2012, the group worked with the Lakeview Community Association to stop the construction of a 500-metre bike lane in Glenmore

Park. Beaton said the lane was unnecessary, expensive and was to be built without consultation with the residents in the area.

"There was a promised dialogue with the residents when it was being designed by transportation," said Beaton.

Currently, Tour de Nuit is working on building bike lanes on many roads in the city, including Crowchild Trail. The next project is for bike lanes on 6th and 7th Street downtown, which was initially proposed to the transportation department in 2009. Beaton said these bike lanes will be central for



courtesy Gary Beaton

Tour de Nuit is working to improve cycling infrastructure.

many Calgaryans.

"Downtown on 6th and 7th, right in the heart of the central business district, we're going to be taking out more lanes of car traffic

to put in bike lanes," said Beaton.

Tour de Nuit has been working with engineering firms to ensure their plans are effective.

see CYCLING, page 7

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Keeping it green in 2013

New recycling program implemented in MacEwan Student Centre

Riley Hill

News Assistant

The University of Calgary's Students' Union has introduced biodegradable cutlery and "compost educators" to the MacEwan Student Centre this semester in an effort to reduce waste on campus.

The compost educators program, which is currently in the process of being approved by the SU Sustainability Board, will place staff hired by the SU near garbage cans in the MSC food court during the beginning of this semester. According to SU vice-president operations and finance Scott Weir, the staff will, "in a non-intrusive way, show what bin certain waste products go into."

"We'll have six people posted at the different bins during peek times at the beginning of each semester for about two weeks," said Weir. "They will be there for around three hours each day, wearing green shirts that will say something about composting."

The new cutlery introduced to the MSC this semester is made of cornhusks and is compostable. The cutlery purchased by the SU has several advantages over other biodegradable products, said Weir.

"What's significant is that it's made from a waste product. If you're using corn itself, which you can use, you're diverting food from the food system," said Weir. "You never really want to do that because it raises the price of food. This is a waste product, so it is

something that would have just been composted or thrown out anyhow."

The new cutlery is slightly more expensive than the old plastic products and vendors will cover the extra cost.

Most MSC vendors already have the new cutlery. The program is expected to be fully implemented by early February.

Starbucks, Pizza 73 and Tim Hortons will not take part, as they are not managed by the SU.

These initiatives are part of a wide array of sustainability efforts taken by SU Sustainability Board over the past four years that have included banning polystyrene in the MSC and introducing compostable food packaging.

"First we got rid of Styrofoam. Now we are doing the second phase of the effort, which is being



Louie Villanueva

New cutlery in MSC made out of bio-degradable materials.

implemented this year," said Weir. "The majority of our vendors now have compostable containers and

things like that. That's cool, because it helps reduce our waste on campus."

Second-year law and society student Jay Stuart said these small changes can make sustainability better at the U of C.

"It's good that the university is starting to make these kinds of decisions, like compostable cutlery," said Stuart.

/// The majority of our vendors now have compostable containers and things like that. That's cool, because it helps reduce our waste on campus.

– Scott Weir, SU vice-president operations and finance

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MUSI 305 L01	Composers and Musical Cultures	R 09:00
PHYS 303 L02	Quantum Mysteries and Paradoxes	T/R 14:00

* These lecture sections are taught in the French language.



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<p>Algebra and Trigonometry (UPG 250) Section 004 Jan 8 - Apr 9 Tue, Thu 3:30 - 5:30 pm</p> <p>Biology II (UPG 210) Section 004 Jan 9 - Apr 10 Mon, Wed 5 - 6:30 pm</p> <p>Chemistry II (UPG 240) Section 005 Jan 8 - Apr 4 Tue, Thu 5 - 6:30 pm</p>	<p>English I (UPG 120) Section 006 Jan 8 - Apr 4 Tue, Thu 5 - 6:30 pm</p> <p>English II (UPG 220) Section 005 Jan 8 - Apr 4 Tue, Thu 5 - 6:30 pm</p> <p>Math I (UPG 105) Section 023 Jan 9 - Apr 10 Mon, Wed 6 - 8:30 pm</p>	<p>Math II (UPG 101) Section 029 Jan 8 - Apr 4 Tue, Thu 3:30 - 6 pm Section 027 Jan 9 - Apr 10 Mon, Wed 6:30 - 9 pm</p> <p>Physics II (UPG 230) Section 004 Jan 9 - Apr 10 Mon, Wed 5 - 6:30 pm</p>
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GOOD THINKING. |

CONTED.UCALGARY.CA |

403.220.2952

New \$25 student credit

Tim Louden
Gauntlet News

University of Calgary Active Living is now offering a \$25 credit to full- and part-time students.

The plan is currently available and U of C students can apply this credit towards all programs offered by Active Living, as well as equipment rentals and programs from the Outdoor Centre.

The credit was provided in response to the 2012 Active Living survey in an effort to improve the affordability of programs offered to students.

The \$25 credit can be redeemed in person with student ID at Active Living Client Services, located in the Kinesiology A Block.

A variety of classes have been added to Active Living recreational facilities, including a boot camp, spin class and a drop-in gymnastics program with professional coaches.

According to director of communications and marketing for kinesiology Dan McSwiney, the credit was introduced to help improve student life on campus.

"We looked at ways of trying to get more programming back to students for free," said McSwiney.

The \$25 credit was developed by both U of C Active Living and the Students' Union.

According to su vice-president student life Hayley Wade, the U of C is trying to make fitness and active living more accessible for students.

"Anything that gets students



Adrienne Shumlich

Many active living opportunities are available to students.

more access to active programs and gives them discounts on equipment is a huge benefit," said Wade.

In addition to saving money, McSwiney said there are other benefits to taking advantage of Active Living services.

"Exercise is the most important thing you can do," said McSwiney.

"It goes towards physical well being, mental well being and reducing stress."

McSwiney said because students have already paid for access to Active Living's resources they should not hesitate to use them.

For more information visit
ucalgary.ca/activeliving

Cycling, cont'd from pg 5

"If we can keep the traffic capacity unimpacted by creating a bike lane, that's ideal — that's where you start," said Beaton. "If it does a good job at increasing safety, then what we will see are huge increases in the number of cyclists."

Tour de Nuit has 12 positions available for student interns. U of C graduate student Mahsa Dokhani was a part of Tour de Nuit's intern team in 2012 and presented a business plan to the City of Calgary.

"The presentation that I gave to the City of Calgary was to recommend to them to work on a

business plan to find the most important goals for bicycle infrastructure and safety for cyclists," said Dokhani.

Dokhani said working with students from different universities and backgrounds gave her a hands-on learning opportunity and a chance to help cyclists in Calgary.

"It was a very good experience for me and I recommend it to anyone who wants good experience in business practice," said Dokhani.

For more information visit
morepeoplecycling.ca



Adrienne Shumlich

One month to opt out

The deadline for University of Calgary students enrolled in the winter semester to opt out of their health and dental plan is Jan. 25. Health and dental insurance is included as part of regular tuition and be removed if students have comparable insurance from another provider, but can only be done with appropriate proof of alternative insurance. The Students' Union website allows students to opt out of their health and dental plans by submitting an online form.

However, students must also attach proof of their comparable coverage. The accepted types of confirmation include a copy of benefits card, a confirmation letter from the employer or insurance company, a recent statement of claim or a web-page print out.

To opt out visit mystudentplan.ca/uofcalgary/policy-information.



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GLOBAL GAME JAM 2013

Adrienne Shumlich

Sean Willett

Entertainment Editor

Creativity can be hard to find — artists from every medium are susceptible to the agony that is a creative block. However, sometimes all an artist needs is a group of people, a time limit and lots of Red Bull. The Global Game Jam is an event that provides all three.

Now in its fifth year, the Global Game Jam is an international event that brings game designers together for two straight days of nonstop collaboration. Taking place in cities around the world, participants are treated to a keynote video featuring leading game developers, and a secret theme is revealed. After this, teams of four or five are given 48 hours to create a game based around this theme, without any competitive pressure. This will be the fourth year the GGJ will have a location in Calgary, and the event continues to spread around the globe.

“Last year was a world record-breaking year,” says Adam Goetz, one of the organizers for the Calgary branch of the GGJ. “They had 242 locations, 47 countries and they made a little over 2,200 games. In Calgary we had about 10 teams that produced 10 different games.”

The event is similar in structure to a hackathon, which is a type of intensive collaborative project undertaken by computer programmers. Like a hackathon, participants of the GGJ have to put in a lot of work to finish their project on time, which often means sleep falls to the wayside.

“There was very little sleep,” says Goetz, who volunteered at last year’s event. “You saw people sleeping in their meeting rooms or next to their computers. They

It is a way to help bring out your creativity, and it might just introduce you to something you really love.

— Jedd Baker, Global Game Jam participant

only really slept two or three hours on [the first night], because they were running on adrenaline, but by the end of it everyone was pretty tired.”

However, this is all a part of the experience — an experience Goetz found both remarkable and unique.

“I got to be a participant last year when I was volunteering, to get the experience on the other side of the fence, and it was absolutely awesome,” says Goetz. “It

was very different from any event I’ve ever been to.”

This year, the Calgary event will take place from Jan. 25–27, and will be undergoing a change in location to the University of Calgary.

“This year will have the same spirit as the last couple of years, but the big change this year is that, instead of hosting at Mount Royal or SAIT, we are hosting at the Taylor Family Digital Library,” says Goetz.

Participants will have access to the first two floors of the TFDL for the entirety of the event, and will be able to take advantage of everything the library has to offer, which includes recording equipment and game design software.

“When I started working here, and I saw the technology available, one of the very first things I thought was that this building would be awesome for a game jam,” says Jedd Baker, the IT generalist at the TFDL who originally

suggested the change of location.

Teams will each have their own workroom, which come equipped with a collaborative software program called TeamSpot. This software is one of the main reasons Baker suggested the TFDL for the new location of the GGJ, since it allows groups to quickly and easily modify collaborative projects.

“You can immediately throw up an idea and someone can modify it,” says Baker. “If you say ‘Here’s what I think the zombies should look like,’ and your programmer thinks that it would look a lot better with a mustache, he can just squiggle one in. It really streamlines the whole process.”

Although this is the first year the TFDL will host the GGJ, the library is anything but a stranger to video games. It has already drawn significant attention for its focus on the academic use of video games, which make up a large portion of the library’s Digital Media Commons.

“Game-based learning and video game research are becoming much more ubiquitous in higher education,” says Dylan Tetrault, the Digital Media Commons manager at the TFDL. “We’ve created an area where we have a very large collection of games, from PC games to console games, and

from contemporary games to retrospective ones. It covers almost the entire history of the medium, from old text-based adventures to modern first-person shooters and everything in between.”

The game collection at the TFDL has been used for studying a variety of different academic fields, such as gender studies, fine arts, humanities and kinesiology.

With only 50 spaces available, and with almost half of the tickets already sold, there isn’t much time left to join Global Game Jam 2013. This event offers a rare opportunity to work with other people to make something meaningful — even if you have no prior experience in game design.

“It is for people of all walks of life, and anyone can enter,” explains Tetrault. “You can be an artist, a game designer, a programmer or a writer — no matter what you do there will be a space for you at the Global Game Jam. It’s non-competitive, and is really just a celebration of game design.”

“You don’t have to be super skilled,” says Baker. “It is a way to help bring out your creativity, and it might just introduce you to something you really love.”

Tickets for the Global Game Jam can be purchased at ggj-calgary.eventbrite.com

Movie review: *Les Misérables*

Tom Hooper dreamed a dream, and it paid off

Taylor McKee
Sports Editor

When it became public knowledge that there was going to be another film adaptation of *Les Misérables*, many were pessimistic about the task of putting one of the world's most beloved musicals properly onto the silver screen. However, director Tom Hooper — who recently won an Academy Award for *The King's Speech* in 2011 — fundamentally understands and communicates the tragedy and beauty of the stage musical while grounding the film in the gritty realism of the 19th century setting of Victor Hugo's novel.

For those who have never seen *Les Misérables*, it is a musical that contains scarcely any plain dialogue, posing a serious challenge for film actors. Harder still, Hooper decided that instead of recording the singing in a studio and syncing the audio, the actors would have to sing the songs live to the camera. This makes *Les Misérables* easily one of the most ambitiously filmed musicals of all time and it delivers on just about every level.

From the opening sequence of *Les Misérables*, the absolutely immense scale of the task undertaken by Hooper is clear. The film opens in the shipyards of Toulon where the film's protagonist, Jean Valjean (Hugh Jackman), is serving the fi-

nal day of his 19-year sentence for a petty theft. The shot of the galleys being pulled into the shipyard grabs the audience and introduces them to the dingy 19th century world that they will become familiar with over the course of the film.

The film follows the life of Jean, throughout his various incarnations, as he attempts to escape his past life as a criminal. Jackman plays Jean brilliantly in all facets of the performance — he expertly communicates Jean's courage and strength alongside his generosity, tenderness and vulnerability. Jean is relentlessly pursued by Javert (Russell Crowe), a prison guard turned police inspector with a troubled past. While it is true that Crowe's vocals are woefully inadequate when compared to other members of the cast, his acting is strong. Crowe would have been perfectly casted as Javert, if Javert was not required to sing the vast majority of his lines. The singing clearly does not come naturally to Crowe, whereas Jackman and the rest of the cast are able to blend their acting into their songs with significantly more success.

Later in his life, Jean adopts a daughter, Cosette (Amanda Seyfried), upon the dying wish of the derelict Fantine (Anne Hathaway), a former employee of Jean. Despite Jackman's stellar performance throughout the film, the most memorable character of *Les*



courtesy Working Titles Pictures

Misérables is undoubtedly Hathaway's Fantine.

Though only present for roughly the first third of the film, the pathos of Fantine's character is gut-wrenchingly clear. On the strength of Hathaway's hauntingly beautiful rendition of "I Dreamed a Dream," she deserves Oscar consideration for best supporting actress.

As comic relief, the Thenardiers are played by Sacha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter, who were perfectly selected for their roles. Cohen's playful energy is a

welcome reprieve from the dense and often morose storyline.

Cosette and Jean later move to Paris, where Cosette falls in love with Marius Pontmercy (Eddie Redmayne), a politically active student in a bourgeois Parisian family. Here the film culminates in the failed 1832 June Rebellion in Paris and the struggle at the barricades constructed by revolutionary students, including Marius.

Les Misérables is an example of a cinematic risk paying off. It would have been far too easy for Hooper

to simply film a gorgeous epic with crystal clear vocals, produced and refined in a Hollywood studio. The visually appealing but substantively deficient *The Phantom of the Opera* fell prey to this syndrome in 2004. However, *Les Misérables* is a darker, grimmer and more authentic interpretation with outstanding individual performances and stunning cinematography. Hooper swung for the fence with *Les Misérables* and has produced a film that both purists and newcomers will surely enjoy.

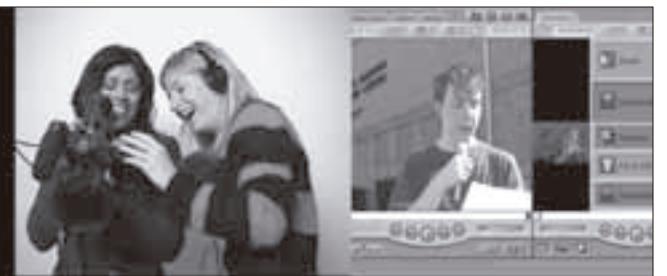


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Movie review: *Django Unchained*

Tarantino's tale of revenge is as bloody as it is boring

Matthew Parkinson
Gauntlet Entertainment

A part of me really wants to love *Django Unchained*, the newest film by director Quentin Tarantino. It is a film that serves as a harsh reminder of the horror that was slavery in America in the 19th century, and absolutely no punches are pulled — the depiction of how slaves were treated is brutal, yet accurate, and the film is as violent as violent gets. It has a clear message, it is overwhelmingly pow-

erful and it contains a few very strong performances. Yet it isn't entirely successful.

It tells the story of a slave named Django (Jamie Foxx), freed by the bounty hunter Dr. Schultz (Christoph Waltz). They soon become partners, and the first third of the film is concerned with the business of bounty hunting. The film then moves to the real meat of the plot, which follows the duo's attempt at rescuing Django's wife, Broomhilda (Kerry Washington), from a plantation owner named Calvin Can-



courtesy Weinstein Company

die (Leonardo DiCaprio).

The style of the movie pays a strong homage to spaghetti west-

erns, especially the work of Sergio Leone. A few scenes in particular are unmistakably tributes to the

Italian director's *Dollars Trilogy*.

What Tarantino was going for is clear: the film is definitely an eye-opener. It will serve as a very strong reminder to anyone who has forgotten just how terrible and dehumanizing the slave trade was. The feeling of guilt and repulsion is one that you seldom get from movies, and *Django Unchained* elicits it for most of its running time.

Unfortunately, it gets quite boring, and if people are looking at their watches instead of what's happening on-screen, the film is not going to be quite as effective. It isn't nearly as bad as *Death Proof*, but it's more average for Tarantino, who previously has made either really great or really bad films. This is definitely one of his good ones, but it feels far too long and the dialogue isn't sharp enough for it to hold interest for its entirety.

The other problem is that Foxx is too bland as Django to effectively work in the "seeing the world through his eyes" role. He makes effective use of body language, but his facial expression rarely changes. Django is emotionless — whether intentionally due to his years of abuse or unintentionally because Foxx didn't turn in a good performance — which makes it difficult to strongly identify with the character.

Waltz and DiCaprio are the most enjoyable actors in the film — either could win an Oscar for their performance. Samuel L. Jackson also delivers an outstanding performance, transforming into a 76-year-old "head slave" and looking far older and less capable than he actually is. All three dominate every scene that they are in.

Django Unchained is a film that's both risky and safe for Tarantino. On one hand, the difficult subject matter is going to provoke responses from a lot of people, but the style and structure are about as simplistic as they come. I completely respect where the film is coming from, but it might be Tarantino's least interesting film to date. That's not necessarily a bad thing, but better editing would have led to more consistently sharp dialogue and, overall, a better film.

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The Board of Directors of Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions (AIHS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Cyril (Cy) B. Frank as the corporation's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) effective April 1, 2013. The Board also announced Dr. Pamela Valentine's promotion to Chief Operating Officer. Dr. Valentine will serve as Acting CEO during the leadership transition.

Dr. Frank currently holds a number of leadership positions in the academic, clinical, research, health services, administrative, and medical device sectors, including senior roles at Alberta Health Services, the Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute (ABJHI), the University of Calgary (U of C), and the recently sold TENET Medical Engineering, a Calgary based company. Dr. Frank is internationally recognized for his collaborative research achievements in ligament healing and transplantation. He was the Scientific Director of the Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis (IMHA) at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for six years. He served as Chair of a national panel formed by the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) to develop a framework and metrics for capturing the impacts of investing in health research. He co-leads the Alberta Osteoarthritis Team which is finding ways to prevent that disease as well as developing a system of providing better access to quality care for patients.

Dr. Frank's achievements have resulted in many provincial, national and international honours, including being named International Bone and Joint Decade "Builder" in 2005; top 40 alumni at the University of Calgary in 2006; University Research Professorship in 2007; the University of Calgary Isaac Walton Kilam Interdisciplinary Research Prize in 2010; and one of the top 50 most influential Albertans in 2011. Dr Frank was elected to CAHS based on achievement in the academic health sciences in Canada. ■

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Movie review: *The Hobbit*

Alexei Pepers

Gauntlet Entertainment

In the days leading up to the release of Peter Jackson's newest epic fantasy, *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*, the big question fans were asking was how he was going to stretch such a short story into three movies. The answer: with bullshit and melodrama.

As the first part of a planned trilogy, *An Unexpected Journey* adapts the first part of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*. It tells the story of a halfling named Bilbo, who, with the encouragement of Gandalf the wizard, sets off to help a group of dwarves reclaim their home from a malicious dragon.

Martin Freeman is perfect in the role of Bilbo, the story's reluctant hero — Bilbo's mix of fear, bravery, politeness and indignation are portrayed flawlessly. Sir Ian McKellen's return as Gandalf is also very enjoyable and he clearly loves every moment spent inhabiting Middle Earth.



courtesy New Line Cinema

Thorin (Richard Armitage), the leader of the dwarves, is suitably proud and haughty — though he unfortunately spends most of the movie glowering. Only a few of the other dwarves get any real screen time and keeping track of who is who can be quite difficult, though the dwarven identity and culture is still carried across impressively.

The film is visually amazing. The groundbreaking 48 frames per second combined with well-executed 3D is stunning and used

to great effect in some magnificent scenes. The level of detail and quality of the digital effects are superb. The score is also wonderful and several of the dwarven songs from the novel are kept and are delightful to hear. Unfortunately, though, music from Jackson's *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy is reused quite often.

However, this is far from the biggest problem: the film, quite simply, is not *The Hobbit* as Tolkien wrote it. There are new heroes and villains, invented history,

thematic changes and barely any scenes from the book that escape unchanged. Some added scenes, like the opening view of Erebor in its prime, don't interfere with the original story and instead take advantage of the visual nature of the medium. But most of the changes seem to exist to simply stretch out the film, or to entice fans of Jackson's *The Lord of the Rings*.

These changes result in a rather jarringly inconsistent tone — while Tolkien's *The Hobbit* is a lighthearted children's fantasy, Jackson's changes add many scenes that carry the weighty melodrama of *The Lord of the Rings*. This results in a bipolar film that has singing dwarves in one moment and dour-faced elves in the next.

The final disappointing aspect was a noticeable lack of subtlety. Barely anything is revealed over time in this film, and instead things are stated plainly upfront, taking away much of the story's weight. Themes that were developed subtly throughout the novel, such as the corruption of wealth,

are shoved in the audience's face right from the beginning of the film. Also, Bilbo's entire character arc of going from a reluctant homebody to a brave hero seems to have been crammed into this first movie, leaving audiences little to look forward to in the next two films.

While *The Hobbit* is a beautiful film and strong proof for the validity of shooting in 48 FPS, it falls flat where Jackson has stretched Tolkien's work into a story that isn't quite sure what it should be. If you are purely a fan of the *The Lord of the Rings* films and not familiar with the books, you might find *An Unexpected Journey* to be enjoyable. However, it is sure to make most Tolkien purists cringe and audiences unfamiliar with the films or the books will likely be completely lost. Had the adaptation been kept to one or two films, the story could have stayed true to the novel but, with so much time to fill, it comes across as a mediocre and unfocused effort.

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THE GREEKS ARE COMING!

by: Boaz Schuman

Wherever there is an economic boom, the echo is generally a cultural one. This cultural echo has happened in Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal and is currently happening in Calgary. To fully appreciate cultural changes in our booming and blooming city, we have to look for culture beyond the museum and the theatre.

An important but relatively unknown cultural force on the University of Calgary campus is the community of Greek letter societies. Other Greek organizations who don't yet have chapters here have shown significant interest in establishing chapters on the U of C campus. Although the Greek community is strongly associated with American culture, the U of C's current Greek letter societies retain a distinctive Canadian flavour.

The North American college fraternity was founded in the 18th and 19th centuries. The first fraternity was Phi Beta Kappa in Virginia, which still pursues its original goal of advancing the sciences and arts. What differentiated these fraternity groups from other, often older societies was that these Greek letter organizations generally existed for the promotion of social goals among peers, rather than the promotion of a particular religion or trade.

Today there are over 123 men's, women's and co-ed North American Greek societies, with more than nine million lifetime members in total. A staggering majority of American politicians, business leaders and many

well-known artists have been members of such groups. In Canada, the influence is not quite as strong, but still present. Despite the scope of Greek society influence, it is rather difficult to talk to members about their organizations, since most Greek letter societies are quite secretive.

Being a member is described as being a part of something much larger than oneself. Members gain a large personal network that can help find internships and jobs, along with being welcomed by other members internationally.

The U of C currently has four Greek societies — two women's and two men's. The women's are Alpha Gamma Delta and Alpha Omicron Pi and the men's are Phi Gamma Delta and Kappa Sigma. A prominent member of Kappa Sigma is Richard Haskayne, after whom the Haskayne School of Business is named. The men's fraternities own properties on 24th Ave, just a few blocks from the university. The houses are recognizable by their bold colours and prominently displayed Greek letters.

Two other women's fraternities, who asked

not to be identified, are looking to become established on campus — so are two other men's fraternities, one of them Delta Kappa Epsilon, of which both Theodore Roosevelt and Gerald Ford were members.

If these Greek letter societies become established at the U of C, the size of the campus' Greek community would effectively double. Dr. Doug Lanpher, the executive director of ΔΚΕ, stressed ΔΚΕ's interest in the U of C because of its promise and prominence. ΔΚΕ has turned down several bids from other Canadian schools, but is actively seeking to establish a U of C chapter.

The Greek organizations are looking to establish chapters at the U of C because they see a lot of room for development and growth within the campus community.

Of course, the elephant in the room is the stereotypical American fraternity or sorority as shown in movies and TV. Such Greek societies are known for partying and pranks, exclusivity and hazing. Calgaryian Greek society members were eager to state that this is not the truth about their organizations — and that the truth is quite a bit more prosaic.

“We place a lot of focus on academics and philanthropy,” says Samantha Taylor, president of Alpha Omicron Pi. “We require over 20 hours of volunteer work per year per member, and [we] just raised over \$1,250 for arthritis at our 24-hour foosball event.”

Other U of C Greek societies have similar fundraisers: Kappa Sigma sells poppies for the Legion, Alpha Gamma Delta holds a 24-hour teeter totter in MacHall and Phi Gamma Delta runs a 24-hour relay around the rock by MacKimmie Library every September.

“We actually managed to raise over \$5,000 for the Children's Hospital with our annual Race Around the Rock fundraiser,” says Bryce Lanz of PGD, who won't reveal his position in the fraternity — PGD is extremely secretive. “We decided on the Children's Hospital after the nephew of one of our brothers received treatment there. The hospital staff were very kind to him, and we wanted to find a way to give back.”

In fact, it seems negative perceptions compel fraternities to work even



Adrienne Shumlich

harder to break the stereotype.

"It's about breaking the mold," says Stacia Jo, Panhellenic delegate. Panhellenic is the body that oversees the Greek women's organizations internationally.

"We have to work hard to let people know we're different from TV and the movies," says Jo.

What about the fact that Greek societies are, well, American? Greek life may be a sign of a growing sense of campus community, but is the culture derived from it Canadian, or merely a colonial outpost of America?

Taylor points out the role her chapter has had not only in defining their own identity, but also in influencing the operation of American chapters.

"Our chapter has a lot more freedom with budgeting than the American ones do, and we were the first to incorporate electronic budgeting, which many of the American chapters eschewed until recently," says Taylor.

According to the Calgary chapter's current president, Sophie Piché, Alpha Gamma Delta was the first sorority established with the specific intention of establishing communities in Canada. The first Alpha Gamma Delta chapter in Canada was formed in Toronto in 1919. Since then, Canadian chapters have influenced American chapters. "When Canada went to war in 1939, American Alpha Gamma Deltas raised funds to support the Canadian war effort," says Piché. This support came over two years before the U.S. officially entered the war.

Canadian organizations further differentiate themselves through naming. While women's organizations in America generally prefer

the title 'sorority,' the Canadian women's societies on campus prefer the title 'women's fraternity' — by choosing their own name, they are able to redefine themselves outside the American mold.

Similarly, the men's fraternity members on campus balk at the use of the term 'frat.' "We just don't like the connotation: fraternities run philanthropic events, support the arts and seek to foster friendships — frats do the stuff we see in the movies. We do throw parties, but we're more 'work hard play hard' than just 'play hard,'" says Sean Cook of PGD.

Another issue is that the stereotypical American fraternity is notoriously homogeneous: only the wealthy, straight and athletic are accepted, as TV and movies show. Again, the U of C Greek society members are adamant that, while their groups are linked with their U.S. counterparts, their culture is deeply Canadian.

"We draw members from all walks of life," Jo says. "We have members of diverse sexual orientations, ethnic origins and socio-economic standings. If it's about friendship, these differences shouldn't matter."

When people expect fraternities to be like the ones in American movies, they internalize an American stereotype in a way that precludes understanding of their own Canadian campus culture.

Recruitment practices vary between different organizations. There are usually tables at Clubs Week at the U of C. PGD has a continual recruitment policy, where they are always looking for members and will explain the process of joining at any of their events. They only pledge twice a year, however.

PGD selects members based on personal relationships and how well a new recruit's values match their values.

There is the further question of sex-segregation which, to the Canadian sensibility, seems a little old-fashioned. Women are un-

able to join a men's fraternity like Kappa Sigma and men are unable to join a women's fraternity such as Alpha Gamma Delta.

"It's a part of our tradition," says Taylor. "That's a part of things we don't have freedom to change."

Members argue that this division is not true sex-segregation.

"I think it would be a bigger problem if there were only men's or women's fraternities on campus," Lanz says. "But, because we have both, there is no exclusivity from the Greek community based on sex."

Jo makes a similar point: "The men's or women's fraternity is really just an administrative distinction: the Greek community mixes freely, and so we're not members of different groups, but all participants in a larger, co-ed community."

Yet, if the community is so open and inclusive, why is there an emphasis on secrecy? If these groups are looking to foster relationships among their members, and between themselves and the community, why do they keep so much of what they do secret? Perhaps this is why the media has latched onto Greek societies as fodder for provocative TV shows and movies — when outsiders don't know what they do, it is easy to imagine the worst.

The response, again, is tradition, though fraternities temper the risk

see GREEK CULTURE, page 14

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Greek culture, continued from page 13



Adrienne Shuntich

of becoming extremely exclusive by remaining on the lookout for new members with whom to share their secrets, as Steven Fowler of Kappa Sigma puts it. It takes about a semester before the fraternities are willing to open themselves up to a new recruit.

"Some of our secrets we share within a couple of weeks," says Fowler, "but it's usually about six weeks before we invite candidates for membership to share our secrets."

I asked him point-blank about the nature of his fraternity's secrets,

and his answer was polite but evasive: "I can't be specific, but we have a lot going on behind the scenes that unfortunately not a lot of people get to see," says Fowler.

PGD does not make public the executive positions of its members, the times and places of its official meetings or what is discussed in them.

"Secrecy gives us a deeper and more meaningful connection with each other. We advertise publicly, and are always looking for new members, so we are really not trying to exclude people, but we want

to have something special that only we share in common," says Lanz.

Taylor echoed these sentiments: "When you join, you immediately gain a role in the society. This is not the way in other groups, where individual members have less in common with each other."

Everyone interviewed stressed that the private knowledge of their groups deals with personal improvement and morality.

What about the hazing horror stories — the blurry videos, photos and witness testimonies — that occasionally surface? No

U of C fraternity has ever been the focus of such a scandal, though one emerged at the University of Alberta just last year.

"It's a shame people harm others' dignity in the name of fostering camaraderie," Lanz says. He calls such abuse of the Greek system disgusting, and points to the strict anti-hazing guidelines of PGD — along with the strict orders for following the rules of the U of C's Students' Union that proceed from the PGD administrative headquarters, which oversees all the PGD chapters and is located in Lexington, Kentucky.

Fowler was similarly adamant in his stand against hazing.

"Our order has a strict zero-tolerance policy against hazing, and adheres to the rules of the SU," says Fowler. "No one should have to humiliate himself to join our brotherhood. We test our new members by looking for signs of integrity of character."

So this is how the Canadian fraternities retain a distinctive Canadian flavour. Taylor describes it as a "tight-knit group with common experiences and concerns," and believes in its power to positively influence its members.

"When I joined, I immediately became connected with more than 40 people, who share my interests and concerns. I don't feel a lot of people get that from their club experiences. The friends I made include grads from years ago. I have made friends for life here," says Taylor.

The Canadian fraternity is secretive and based largely on the improvement of its members, like its American counterparts. Fraternities focus on growing as individuals, which means improvement of leadership skills, business skills and

academics, to name a few. But contrary to TV and movie stereotypes, the Greek community at the U of C is very heterogeneous and inviting to those it feels it can trust, regardless of their socioeconomic background or country of origin.

One U of C Greek society member, who asked not to be identified, asserted, "We misunderstand Canadian culture, including the Greek societies, because we look to American culture to define it." When people expect fraternities to be like the ones in American movies, they internalize an American stereotype in a way that precludes understanding of their own Canadian campus culture.

To be sure, Canadian Greek culture is not so big as in America, nor is it so visible on campus: the Canadian fraternity seems content to work behind the scenes, preferring "quiet glory" — a favourite phrase of PGDS — to open publicity. On the other hand, it is less conservative in many respects, quick to adopt new ways of budgeting and communication. This speaks to what Canadians, on the whole, are like: we do not demand recognition, and patiently endure misconceptions about us; we have close friends, but are welcoming to outsiders; we stick to our principles, but are willing to try new ways of doing things; and we work hard, but know how to party.

The Canadian fraternity is not an outpost of American culture, but an indigenous phenomenon, which is growing at a rapid pace in Calgary — a city that is quickly becoming one of the most interesting ones on the continent. Calgary's economic and cultural boom is reflected in the vibrant and growing Greek culture on the U of C campus.

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REVVING UP FOR A REVOLUTION

Tamara Cottle
Opinions Editor



Ever since Confederation, an aggressive national policy of assimilation has been pursued by the Canadian government to delegitimize aboriginal culture and rights. For 146 years, politicians have instituted laws, amendments and statutes designed to weaken the aboriginal population. Aboriginal rights to land were clearly defined by the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and reaffirmed in the Constitution Act of 1982. The only legal way Canada was able to access land was through the negotiation of treaties with Aboriginal Peoples. Throughout the treaty process, promises were made and contracts signed. Sadly, for aboriginal people, too many promises have been broken and treaty rights continue to be ignored.

Aboriginal people have suffered tremendous abuses at the hands of the Canadian government. Inadequate housing, decreased life expectancy, astronomical levels of incarceration and suicide are the tragic results of oppressive governance. The cacophony of industry, racism and dictatorial politics has all too often muted the voice of the aboriginal community. Yet, with the emergence of the Idle No More movement that is currently sweeping across the nation, aboriginal people are finding a powerful voice.

The movement was initiated by four women in Saskatchewan who were displeased with the recent passing of the federal government's Bill C-45. Jessica Gordon, Sheelah McLean, Sylvia McAdams and Nina Wilson had no idea their "Idle No More" Facebook page, created in early November, would ignite a social media frenzy and spark a movement that has thousands of people across Canada protesting in the streets, flash mobbing malls, blockading transportation thoroughfares and going on hunger strikes.

The use of social media and the overwhelming presence of young people have been fundamental to the unstoppable energy of the movement. Indigenous people

from around the world have latched on to the guiding principles of Idle No More which are, at their roots, a defence against environmental degradation and human rights abuses. Though most people participating in the Idle No More actions are of aboriginal descent, it is in the best interests of all Canadians to support the movement and align themselves with the principles they represent.

Bill C-45, introduced in the House of Commons last May, faced thousands of amendments by opposition leaders. Every single proposed change to the bill was surreptitiously shot down by the Conservative majority in a highly undemocratic fashion. It was eventually passed into law on Dec. 14, 2012, to the dismay of Canadians who have grown suspicious of the recent trend in Conservative governance to compile massive omnibus bills that bury significant alterations to Canadian statutes in endless minutia.

The 400-page Bill introduces countless changes to federal legislation, like the Indian Act and the Navigable Waters Protection Act, all deemed to be for the good of the economy. The Navigable Waters Protection Act, which previously provided federal regulations for protecting Canada's water, has been modified by Bill C-45 to effectively remove federal protection from thousands of bodies of water and streams, save a few lakes which are ironically found in Tory constituencies. The new act gives industry carte blanche to pollute and dump tailings into Canada's most abundant and precious nonrenewable resource. Though regulations may impede the ability of industries to grow economically, clean water is essential to a sustainable ecology as well as our health.

The people of Grassy Narrows, a First Nation community in Manitoba, know first hand the effects of unbridled industry. In 1970, when it was discovered that the fish they were consuming were contaminated with mercury from a chemical and pulp mill, the plant was ordered to stop releasing mercury into the waterways. Forty-two years later, an



courtesy: pateros

independent Japanese research team discovered above normal levels of mercury poisoning still present in the fish at Grassy Narrows along with unprecedented numbers of individuals with Minamata disease, a disorder linked to mercury poisoning that causes brain damage. This is only one of many stories that involve aboriginal groups and others in Canada being negatively affected

The cacophony of industry, racism and dictatorial politics has all too often muted the voice of the aboriginal community.

by unprotected waters.

The loudest battle cry of the Idle No More protests is the lack of consultation made by the government with aboriginal people concerning their lands. Bill C-45 makes unilateral changes to the Indian Act, allowing reserve land to be sold to non-aboriginals and commercial enterprises without the full support and agreement of the majority of the community. Historically, legally-binding treaties were established for Aboriginal Peoples to ensure their territory, autonomy and sovereignty. Contrastingly, the Canadian government's intent was to dismantle

aboriginal unity and gain access to lands for economic and political purposes.

Today, it might seem like Aboriginal Peoples stand to profit from being able to sell their land, but the end game is the same as it was historically: to co-opt aboriginal leaders into serving the economic and political interests of a few powerful players in the Canadian corporate state. By al-

lowing for the division of land on reserves, Bill C-45 threatens to disrupt the sovereignty of First Nations people and their ability to sustain themselves autonomously.

The mainstream press would have most people believe that the Idle No More protests are nothing more than irrational hype. Considering that the media is owned and sponsored by corporations intent on sequestering capital, people should view it critically. It should also be acknowledged that racism continues to afflict the minds of some Canadians towards aboriginal people. On

Dec. 11, 2012, the Health Council of Canada released a report confirming widespread cases of stereotyping and racializing of aboriginal people trying to access health services. Unfortunately, this racism stands to colour the perception many Canadians have towards Idle No More.

Despite all this, there is increasing support for the Idle No More movement and people are speaking out against the opportunistic and exploitative methods being employed by our current government. Aboriginal people are fighting to protect the very life blood of our nation. The Canadian government is treading on dangerous territory when it assumes it can get away with commodifying our natural resources and making arbitrary changes to constitutionally entrenched rights.

We should honour the land and water that provide us with sustenance and encourage those who are fighting to protect our natural resources. We should also pay very close attention to our political representatives and hold them accountable when they attempt to undermine our human rights. Let's hope the beating of the Idle No More drum continues to pulse loud and clear, until the voices of all Canadians are heard and respected.

Oceans of economic opportunity

Finding fiscal relief by diversifying the Canadian economy

Jeremy Woo

Gauntlet Opinions



Canada has been incredibly fortunate. Through seas of uncertainty, Canada has proven its exceptional financial stability. Though Canada's mighty ship has successfully weathered the economic storm thus far, the steady winds of prosperity are dwindling from its sails as growth is slowing and losing pace with the rest of the world. In order to take advantage of the imminent economic upswing happening in the rest of the world, Canada must diversify its slate of trading partners and forge trading relationships with fast-growing economies. The need for diversification stems from an overwhelming economic reliance on the United States, the inherent instability of the American economy and the need to revitalize essential sectors of the Canadian economy.

Though Canada owes much of its tremendous wealth to its strong trading relationship with its southern neighbour, Canada is clearly too reliant on the American economy. The Canadian economy has become dependent on selling

natural resources such as oil, natural gas, minerals, lumber and manufactured goods to Americans. According to Industry Canada, American-bound goods accounted for 74.9 per cent of Canada's total exports in 2010. Obviously,

the Canadian economy is closely intertwined with its American neighbours and any financial instability south of the border can greatly trouble the Canadian economy. Moreover, 50.37 per cent of Canada's imports originate in the

U.S., according to Industry Canada in 2010, highlighting Canada's heavy dependence on American goods.

In order to preserve growth, stability and prosperity in the Canadian economy, Canada must forge

relationships with countries that improve Canada's balance of trade. Canada's first trade deficit in years occurred during the recession of 2008–09 and was largely attributed to American instability. The trade balance with the U.S. alone fell by C\$54 billion, according to Statistics Canada. Canadian businesses struggled as overexposure to the American economy adversely stalled the export market, resulting in mounting losses and job cuts. Meanwhile, Canada's balance of trade with other countries, such as the United Kingdom, improved through the recession, endorsing the search for new, more stable, growth-oriented markets to provide prosperity for Canadians in the future. Clearly, Canada's reliance on the shaky American economy is reason enough to look to new markets overseas for continued growth and expansion of Canadian export opportunities.

It could be argued that a strong trading relationship with the U.S. would be vital to any nation's economic success. After all, the U.S. possesses the world's largest, most powerful economy. While it is important to maintain this ever-important trade relationship, the recent instability of the American economy is a threat to Canada's economic well being. Despite news reports suggesting that citizens of the world should be relieved that the U.S. Congress has successfully negotiated a life-saving deal to avert the supposed "fiscal cliff," the U.S. still has deeply-rooted fiscal troubles that could easily haunt its rickety economy at any time. Though the crisis has been temporarily avoided through freezes in certain tax increases and incremental spending cuts, it is only a short-term repair to buy lawmakers time to address significant spending cuts and tax increases that will solve long-term fiscal issues. In fact, the *Daily Telegraph* reports that only US\$620 billion in new tax revenues will be created — a small dent in a total American debt of US\$16.4 trillion. The American federal government still must face a US\$1.09 trillion an-

see OCEANS, page 17



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Oceans, continued from page 16

nual deficit as of 2012, as reported by *Reuters* and the Congressional Budget Office.

Even during the “fiscal cliff” negotiations, world markets swung wildly, creating fears of another global recession and demonstrating the true instability of the American economy based on the deadlocked and deeply money-troubled American government. While Congress bickers over the flailing American economy and turns the markets upside-down with every negotiation, Canada must diversify to access new markets in order to ensure its continued prosperity, even though the murky, incredibly unstable yet familiar and easily accessible American waters are so close and enticing.

More interestingly, diversification can be used as a tool for re-

vitalizing struggling sectors of the Canadian economy. For example, Canada’s vital forestry industry has been battered in recent years due to over-reliance on American customers. Cross-border trade

In order to preserve growth, stability and prosperity in the Canadian economy, Canada must forge relationships with countries that improve Canada’s balance of trade.

disputes and a struggling American economy are chiefly responsible for the forestry industry’s woes. In British Columbia, the U.S. is by far the largest export market for lumber, according to B.C. Stats. Due to this reliance on American markets, the latest episode of the troublesome softwood

lumber dispute between Canada and the U.S. earlier this century crippled the industry. Lumber exports to the nation’s southern neighbours from B.C. alone fell by almost c\$4 billion over three

years according to B.C. Stats, resulting in devastating labour stoppages and layoffs. Reducing export exposure to a single nation may have eased these losses. Furthermore, as the American housing market shrank drastically during the recession of 2008–09, the B.C. forestry industry lost c\$5

billion in valuable American exports.

However, exports actually increased to quickly growing nations in the Middle East and in China through the deepest part of the recession, as these nations lacking trees used timber to fuel building booms and bullish economies. Instead of continuing to rely on unsteady American markets, the Canadian forestry industry could look to fast-developing economies that demand high-quality building materials and rid the industry of its constant instability.

However, the forestry industry is only one small example. Other struggling sectors of the Canadian economy could be boosted by exposure to new markets as well, including the iron, mineral and manufacturing industries, all

of which have been dominated by the increasingly unpredictable American economy.

Canada’s economic ship is strong — even in the roughest of financial storms, it springs no leaks, its sails remain intact and its masts are strong and proud. The ship has always found a slow, steady wind to forge forward. However, the great sailing ship lacks a rudder — instead, it is steered by a strong American current. Diversification has the opportunity to provide Canadians with long-term stability, jobs and growth, even while maintaining excellent trade relations with Canada’s most important and largest trading partner that lies south of the border.

It is time for Canada to control its own economic destination, fill its sails with the winds of prosperity and sail into unexplored waters to diversify its markets.



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WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Curtis Wolff

Gauntlet Sports

The University of Calgary Dinos women's hockey team is in an excellent position to defend their Canadian Interuniversity Sport championship title in 2013, sitting in first place in the Canada West conference with a 14-3-1 record.

Unsurprisingly, the Dinos Canadian hockey legend Haley Wickenheiser leads the team in points. She collected 23 points despite dressing for only 12 games this season. Having missed some action due to international duties, the Dinos will be glad to have their top scorer in the lineup for the 10 remaining regular season contests. The NHL 13 video game star has been a consistent bright spot for the team since she joined the program three years ago. Her presence on the team has raised the profile and expectations of the women's hockey program at the U of C, which is in only its fourth year of operation.

That's not to say the Dinos have been dependent on one player. The team has been powered by



Louie Villanueva

performances from plenty of less recognizable names, from Calaine Inglis's three game-winning goals to goaltender Amanda Tapp's three shutouts. Fourth-year defence Stephanie Ramsay has been an offensive force on the blue line, leading the team in goals. She's been a huge threat on the power-play, where four of her nine goals have come from. While it may be fun to watch Wickenheiser rack

up the points in her final year as a Dino, Calgary's title defence will rest on the team's ability to come together and play as a unit.

The most crucial test for the Dinos heading into the final stretch will be Jan. 11 and 12 as they head to Saskatchewan to face off against the second place University of Regina Cougars in a double-header. The Cougars sit only three points behind the Dinos and can capture

the top spot in the division if they take both games this weekend. In October, the Dinos shut out the Cougars 3-0 and then lost in overtime the next night despite out-shooting the opposition 47-20. A great showing in their upcoming series will give the Dinos some breathing room at the top of the standings with only one road trip to play the University of Alberta Pandas remaining in their

regular season schedule.

The Dinos's battle to defend their championship will begin on Feb. 15 with the start of the CW playoffs. While the team is expected to breeze through their quarterfinal match against a lower ranked team, squads from the U of A, University of British Columbia and the U of R will offer stiff competition in the semifinal and final series. The Dinos have lost a game against each of these three teams so far this year. While they are undoubtedly the favourites to win the conference, the Dinos shouldn't start booking their hotel rooms for the CIS championship in Toronto before they take care of business out west.

The season has been a resounding success thus far for the Dinos women's hockey team, but the games that will define their season are just getting started. Top performers and unheralded heroes alike must continue to deliver on a consistent basis starting this weekend and going into the playoffs if the Dinos are to meet their expectations and repeat as CIS champions.

GRADE: A

MEN'S HOCKEY

Richard Goldberger

Gauntlet Sports • @RGGoldberger

The University of Calgary Dinos men's hockey team came out of the holiday break with a two game sweep over the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds, extending their winning streak to five — tying the longest winning streak they had last season.

The Dinos currently sit in fourth place in Canada West with an 11-7 overall record. However, their record is not an accurate reflection of the team's potential, as most of their losses have come by just two goals or fewer. As a result, they are posting an immaculate goal differential in CW with a +25, which is good enough for third best goal differential in the country.

Despite losing both meetings with the University of Alberta Golden Bears this season,

the Dinos have either swept or split games with every opponent they've faced — the Dinos have a legitimate shot at being one of the top teams in the CW. Currently, the Dinos are only one point behind the third-place University of Manitoba Bisons.

Much of the Dinos's success can be attributed to the offensive production of forwards Brock Nixon and Tyler Fiddler. Nixon leads the team with 21 points and a +18 rating, while Fiddler leads the team in goals with 10. The Dinos defence has also been solid, only allowing 2.33 goals per game in the first half of the season.

The Dinos have clearly shown that they can compete with each team in the CW. However, in order for the Dinos to make a run at a CW banner, they will need to find ways of earning at least one victory in back-to-back games against the first-place Golden Bears and

the University of Saskatchewan Huskies in order to attain home ice advantage in the playoffs. The Dinos had the exact same record of 9-7 going into the break last year, eventually finishing in fourth place with 15 total wins. The team will likely need to win six or seven of their remaining 10 games in order to secure at least third in the CW if they hope to improve on last year's regular season results.

If the Dinos are to improve on last year and compete for a CW banner, reducing the recurring pattern of alternating wins and losses will be vital.

On five different occasions this season, the Dinos have followed impressive victories with disappointing losses, ultimately preventing them from moving up in the standings. Showing up to each game with the same intensity as the last will be fundamental to capture the top spot in the CW.

There are a few questions surrounding this team. Perhaps the most important question is whether or not the Dinos have improved enough from last year to be considered a serious contender.

However, the men's hockey team should not be underestimated. When the offence is producing,

the Dinos are tough to stop and should be able to give any team a run for their money come playoff time. The Dinos are hosting the University of Regina Rams on Jan. 11 and 12 as they try and gain some ground and extend their impressive winning streak.

GRADE: B



Louie Villanueva

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL



courtesy David Moll

Taylor McKee

Sports Editor • @TaylorMcKee_

The men's volleyball season has been — to put it mildly — rocky, so far this season. After qualifying for the Canadian Interuniversity Sport championships last season, the Dinos now appear destined to miss the Canada West playoffs entirely.

The Dinos ended the 2011-12 CIS playoffs with a win over the University of Alberta Golden Bears to claim fifth spot nationally. However, the Dinos graduated a number of outstanding players last season, including one of the best men's volleyball players in school history and former cw player of the year Graham Vigrass.

It is important to consider that expectations for this season are tempered due to the fact that this would be considered a rebuilding year for the Dinos.

Head coach Rod Durrant has no fifth-year players on the roster and has six freshman players this season. The only player that has started all 12 conference matches is outside hitter Connor Frehlich who is a sophomore. Frehlich is also leading the Dinos with 212 kills, with an average of 2.63 kills per set.

Another sophomore — Cory Meeuwisse — leads the Dinos defensively with 115 digs and an average of 2.74 digs per set.

With performances from younger players on the roster, the future looks a lot brighter than the present for the Dinos men's volleyball program. For the second half of

the season, the Dinos's focus will likely shift to growing as a team and developing their squad for next season.

The Dinos have lost six-straight games and are tied for 11th with the University of Regina Cougars in the cw standings with a record of two wins and 10 losses.

Statistically, the Dinos seem to be missing the attacking prowess of Vigrass. The Dinos have an attacking percentage of .175 — compared to their opponents' percentage of .250. The Dinos also have 79 fewer kills than their opposition.

To start the season, the Dinos split a home-and-home series against the Mount Royal University Cougars on Oct. 26 and 27. Unfortunately, Dinos wins have been few and far between. The last Dinos victory came on Nov. 11 against the University of Winnipeg Wesmen. The Dinos have only won two sets in their past four matches.

The season will not get any easier when the Dinos return from the holiday break as they face the Golden Bears on Jan. 11 and 12. The Golden Bears are currently unbeaten and sit first in the cw with 12 wins. The only previous meeting between the Dinos and Golden Bears was in the Dino Cup in September. The Golden Bears swept the Dinos 0-3 in that game on Oct. 20.

With only 10 games remaining, if the Dinos won every game in the second half of the season, they would still be hard-pressed to earn a high seed entering into the cw playoffs.

GRADE: C-

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Mid-season report cards

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Fabian Mayer

Gauntlet Sports • @FGMay

The University of Calgary Dinos women's volleyball team is currently on track to make the Canada West playoffs again this season, something the program has accomplished every year for over a decade.

The Dinos's 2011-12 season came to an abrupt end in a best-of-three CW quarterfinal to the Trinity Western University Spartans two games to none.

The women's team had a disappointing start to the season, losing all three matches in the Dino Cup. In the regular season so far, however, the women have been successful. With solid play going into the winter break — winning three of their last four games — the team posted a 6-6 record during the 2012 portion of the season.

The squad currently sits at seventh in the CW conference and in the final playoff spot with the University of Brandon Bobcats trailing the Dinos by just two points. In the second half of the season, the Dinos will be hoping to secure a play-



courtesy David Moll

off berth as well as move up the standings in order to gain an easier quarterfinal match-up.

Dinos head coach Natalie Schwartz is relying heavily on veteran leadership this season as she started the same six players in all 12 games. Of those six players, half of them are in their fifth year of

eligibility. These players — Sarah Moncks, Lindsey Doland and Andrea Price — have a lot of responsibility this season for the Dinos.

However, Schwartz is getting production from a younger player as well. Second-year middle Courtney Dawson is leading the team in points scored with 174

and averages 2.76 kills per set. Schwartz's consistent use of similar players has no doubt allowed the Dinos to build chemistry, something that should help the team compete in the final half of the season, especially as the team tries to put together a playoff run.

Though the Dinos entered

the winter break winning two-straight against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies, the Dinos have struggled to put together an extended winning streak.

The team faces a big test the first week after the break with back-to-back home games against the University of Alberta Pandas, a team that has won eight-straight games and sits second in the standings.

These matches will give an important indication as to whether or not the team has made the necessary improvements to contend for the championship.

Overall, the Dinos season has been moderately successful so far. The women's volleyball team is on pace to achieve a similar record this season and are currently in a position to make the playoffs and keep the streak alive.

Making it deep into the post-season would be a pleasant surprise, but seems unlikely at this point. It appears as though it will be another solid, but probably far from spectacular, season for the women's volleyball team.

GRADE: B-

DINOS IN ACTION

Women's hockey: Jan. 11 and 12 vs. the University of Regina Cougars, 6 p.m. at Regina, SK.

Men's hockey: Jan. 11 and 12 vs. the University of Regina Cougars, 7 p.m. at Father David Bauer Arena.

Men's basketball: Jan. 11 vs. the University of British Columbia Okanagan, 9 p.m. at Kelowna, BC. Jan. 12 vs. Thompson Rivers University, 8 p.m. at Kamloops, BC.

Women's basketball: Jan. 11 vs. the University of British Columbia Okanagan, 7 p.m. at Kelowna, BC. Jan. 12 vs. Thompson Rivers University, 6 p.m. at Kamloops, BC.

Men's Volleyball: Jan. 11 and 12 vs. the University of Alberta Golden Bears. Jan. 11 at 6 p.m. and Jan. 12 at 6:30 at Jack Simpson Gym.

Women's Volleyball: Jan. 11 and 12 vs. the University of Alberta Pandas. Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 12 at 5 p.m. at Jack Simpson Gym.

Swimming: Jan. 11-13, UCSC Grand Prix at the U of C Aquatic Centre.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Taylor McKee

Sports Editor • @TaylorMcKee_

After a fourth-place finish in the 2011-12 national championships — which the Dinos entered as the host team — the University of Calgary women's basketball team was cautiously optimistic heading into the 2012-13 season despite losing their iconic head coach Shawnee Harle. Even with all the uncertainty of a new head coach, the Dinos have surpassed all expectations for the first half of their season, sitting first in the Canada West standings. The Dinos are also ranked seventh in Canadian Interuniversity Sport heading into the second half of the season, higher than they were ranked at any point in the 2011-12 season.

Damian Jennings was handed the reins as the Dinos's new head coach and has instilled an offensively minded yet defensively responsible work ethic on



Lois Villeneuve

his new team. Above all, it is the Dinos's tenacity that has been strikingly evident throughout the first months of the season — perfectly demonstrated in a 63-58 overtime victory over the University of Victoria Vikes in their last cw game on Dec. 1. During that game, the Dinos trailed by 21 points, but battled back to get the win heading

into the holidays.

When evaluating the first-half of the season, one can't help but be impressed with the team's leadership and ability to win close games, especially on the road. On Nov. 16-17, the Dinos defeated the University of Saskatchewan Huskies twice on consecutive nights, each by two points, 73-71 and 68-66. This ef-

fort is reflected in the Dinos's team statistics as well by leading the cw with a turnover margin of +8.6.

The Dinos are led in scoring by fifth-year forward Jessica Franz, who has averaged 16.9 points-per-game — good enough to get her in the cis top-20 in this category. Franz also leads the Dinos with 75 rebounds. As far as shooting from beyond the arc, sophomore guard Ashley Hirons has made 17 three-pointers, and has a percentage that places her in the top-15 in the cis. Fourth-year guard Tamara Jarrett has averaged 2.7 steals-per-game, which is good enough for the top-15 in the cis and she is tied for the team lead with 22 assists.

Even though the vast majority of statistical categories show consistent improvement, the Dinos have also struggled in some defensive areas. The Dinos are dead last in cw in defensive three-point percentage

and second-last in field goal percentage. Basically, this means that the Dinos have been allowing their opponents to consistently score more frequently than other teams in cw. The Dinos also sit 12th out of 16 in defensive rebounding despite ranking second in offensive rebounding.

The challenge for the second half of the season will be to maintain their dominance of their cw opponents and manage a difficult schedule. Of the remaining 12 games, seven will be played on the road, including their first two games back against the University of British Columbia Okanagan Heat on Jan. 11 and Thompson Rivers University Wolfpack of Jan. 12. With a blazing start and all things considered, this team has certainly been one of the most pleasant surprises of the athletic year so far.

GRADE: A

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Google Glass seeing into the future

Is Google's Project Glass a vision for the future or just another overhyped gadget?

Rozhen Mohammed-Amin

Gauntlet Technology • @Rozhena

Where is the boundary between science fiction and the future? What would the world look like through the Terminator's eyes? These are just some of many questions that have popped up since Google unveiled Project Glass and their Google Glass device last April.

Project Glass is a research and development program that is de-

veloping smart Google glasses, that brings your smartphone screen in front of your eyes in real time without blocking your view of the world around you. These augmented reality head-mounted display glasses mix the visual world with digital information. Demonstrations from Project Glass show the Google Glass device to have normal eyeglass frames without lenses and with a transparent display in the upper right corner. The location-aware feature of these glasses is

supported by a built-in camera and GPS. Interacting with and accessing displayed information occurs through a combination of gestures and voice commands.

While Google Glass glasses are not the first of their kind, the massive media attention surrounding this project comes from the glasses' slimness and smaller size as well as Google's vision to integrate them into everyday life. After the initial prototype cost, Google plans to have an average consumer cost of around \$250 to \$600, as reported by the *New York Times*. With the trend of increased ease and accessibility seen in our current devices, Google Glass appears to be the next revolutionary electronics device.

Google Glass devices, shown in Google's "One day..." promotional video, allow completely hands-free capabilities, including checking the weather forecast, dialing friends, receiving reminders from your calendar and taking pictures or videos.

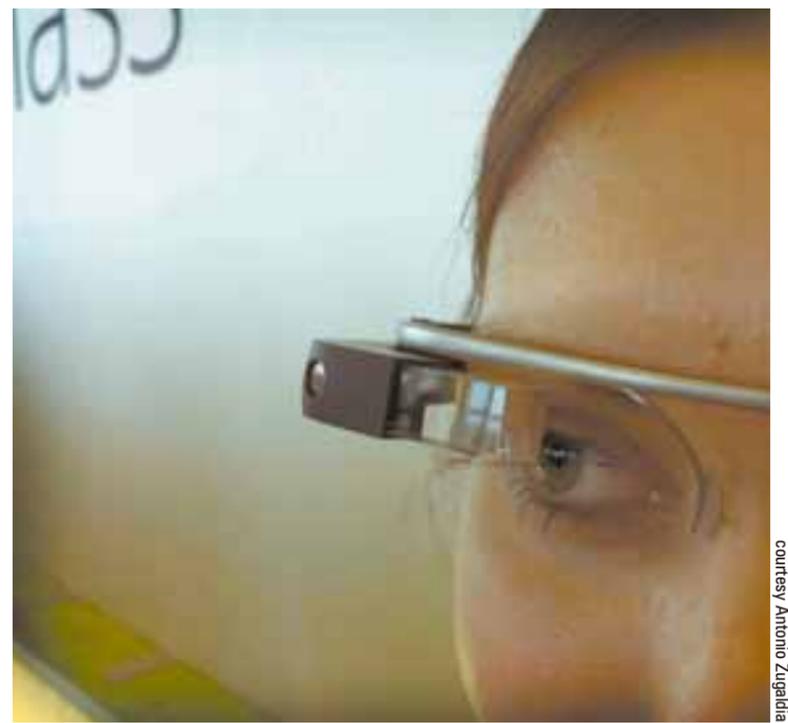
However, there may be implications to being constantly connected online. A modified version of Google's "One day..." video, "Augmented Reality — Google Glasses Remixed with Google Ads," offers a skeptical view on how Google might use this technology to bombard us with ads.

In general, reactions are widely divided about how innovative and useful this technology will be in easing our daily activities.

"It is hard to be innovative — everything is already being done it seems," said Liam Hagel, a fourth-year mechanical engineering student. "I guess it was kind of neat to see [Google] actually pushing for something we have not seen before."

This view is also shared by Keith Robinson, a PhD student in the faculty of environmental design, who sees the glasses as "an interesting novelty at the moment" and "an exciting development in integrating technology in people's lives."

At the moment, real-time navigation seems to be a practical use for the glasses, said Hagel, especially in condensed areas and while in another country. In addition to navigation, Robinson sees potential application of such technology for note-taking in the classroom.



courtesy Antonio Zugaldia

Google Glass brings your smartphone screen in front of your eyes.

The positive reception and enthusiasm towards the technology is matched with skepticism. Most concerns aggregate around safety and privacy issues. "Google Glass might record everything you see and do," wrote James Rivington in his *TechRadar* article "Project Glass: what you need to know."

Overcoming distrust of technology is another problem Google faces in marketing to consumers.

"What if I am walking and I don't see a car coming because Google flash comes up in front of my eye?" asks Hagel. "That is a huge issue."

Social acceptance is also a factor. University of Toronto computer engineering professor Steve Mann was allegedly physically assaulted in a Parisian McDonald's for wearing the experimental EyeTap device. EyeTap is similar to Google Glass in augmenting reality, though more bulky of a design. Associated with Mann's story is privacy and surveillance issues. Mann was able to record the faces of the alleged perpetrators, so what else was he recording?

Forbes writer Kashmir Hill notes in her article, "How Google Glasses make a Persistent, Pervasive Surveillance State Inevitable," surveillance is in the hands of the people, rather than the state, with Google Glass devices. However, she writes, this is no different than our multi-

application smartphones.

Rivington continues this sentiment in his *TechRadar* article: "Google's business is about making money from advertising, and some people worry that Google Glass is its attempt to monetize your eyeballs."

Other than a few public demos, where the glasses were worn by Google co-founder Sergey Brin and some public figures, athletes and models, the glasses have not been released yet. The "Explorer Edition" of the glasses is anticipated to be released for around \$1,500 to specific developers. Brin explained that the rest of the public will have to wait longer to get their hands on the final customer edition.

Google likely gave developers access to Google Glass before consumers so that applications could be made in advance, Robinson said. Applications are the main reason we constantly use our mobile devices, and applications on Google Glass would increase likelihood of its success.

"Right now, [the device] sounds like what pretty much your cell-phone does with a different display technology," said Robinson.

Despite Google Glass's recent recognition by *Time Magazine* as one of the best inventions of 2012, the picture of Google Glass remains blurry.



Pamela Valentine, Ph.D.



Alberta Innovates Health Solutions

The Board of Directors of Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions (AIHS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Pamela Valentine as the corporation's Chief Operating Officer effective April 1, 2013. The Board also announced Dr. Valentine will serve as Acting Chief Executive Officer effective immediately and until April 1, 2013 when Dr. Cy Frank joins the corporation as its CEO.

Dr. Valentine has served as Vice-President Research & Innovation at AIHS for three years. She began her tenure at the organization in 2006, initially providing leadership for the training and early career development programs before being appointed as Director, Grants and Awards in 2008.

Prior to joining AIHS, Dr. Valentine served on faculty in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary and as a member of the Epilepsy and Brain Circuits Program at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute. She holds a Ph.D., M.Sc., and B.Sc. in Psychology, all from the University of Calgary.

Among her numerous honours and awards, Dr. Valentine has received recognition for her work by the Canadian Psychological Association, Neuroscience Canada Foundation, Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada and Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. ■

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Militant group on campus threatens admin

Tamara Cottle
Opinions Editor

A militant student organization on campus has declared war on the University of Calgary administration if they do not concede to demands of lowered student fees and the removal of corporate sponsorship. The student group, known as the Students and Teachers Union for Financial Freedom formed after the Board of Governors approved a 2.15 per cent tuition hike on Dec. 6, 2012 — days before final exams and winter holidays. STUFF emerged to address the persistent trend in gouging students and underpaying instructors while administrators line their pockets.

“A university education is no longer associated with critical thinkers and community leaders,” said Melanie Black, sub-commander and spokesperson for STUFF. “Now, this university has become a financial institution preoccupied with making money for a bloated administrative staff.”

Graffiti on the Building on the Vision campaign monument outside of the Science A building denotes the growing unrest on campus. A once touted apathetic student body is now brimming with anger over the blatant mismanagement of stu-

dent funds by university executives.

Last week, third-year political science student Nelson Hoffman was arrested for hurling eggs at the numerous Bentleys and BMWs parked in the admin wing.

“This disregard for students’ financial woes has gone way too far,” he said from the Mustard Seed shelter where he has been living since he was kicked off campus. “This flaunting consumption of our student fees is not only utterly disrespectful, it is also disgusting and stupid.”

On Monday, a group of 2,000 students protested outside of Science A, in front of the Building on the Vision campaign monument that stands as an honorific to the university’s various corporate sponsors.

“No more will we stand by and allow greed to infiltrate our institutions of learning,” declared Black to the angry mob who began throwing Molotov cocktails at administrative staff members passing by.

“On our Facebook page, we have a list of names and photos of the top administrators at the U of C and we will be releasing more of their personal information to the public if our demands are not met,” said the balaclava-clad Black, who is using an alias for obvious reasons.

The STUFF Facebook page has



Adrienne Shumilich

Graffiti on the Building on the Vision campaign monument signals growing unrest on campus

14,560 likes to date. The site lists administrators and their official wages, along with the personal wages of their corporate allies.

“The beauty of the digital age is that we have all of this information out there, and people are finally starting to utilize it for the good,” said Black referring to the ease at which people can be traced online through social media and other websites. She is careful not

to reveal exactly what is being done with this highly sensitive information, however. “Let’s just say that knowledge is power.”

The once belligerent attitude of administrative staff at the U of C is beginning to show signs of weakness under the attack of the incendiary student protests. Carol Edict, chief executive officer of student finances, who is notorious for her earlier comments regard-

ing student financial woes is now pleading with student leaders to sit down for negotiations. “We are willing to come to some sort of agreement with students over the tuition hike,” she said on Monday, Jan. 8, “but we must first have their promise that they will take down the website.”

When questioned by news media in early December about the tuition hike and potential student reaction, Edict’s reply — “Let them eat ichiban noodles” — intensified student unrest and drove sides further apart. Edict has since retracted her statement and apologized for her insensitivity.

This olive branch, however, is not having the effect administrators would have hoped. “If they think we will be fooled by half-assed concessions or individual pay-offs, they’re sadly mistaken,” said Black.

Students and staff can expect an increased presence of law enforcement officials on campus in upcoming days.

“They can bring in the military for all we care,” said Black. “We will not be silenced. We will not compromise until the filth of human greed is eradicated from this institution.”

KIRTAN YOGA

Meditation by chanting Sanskrit Mantras

Kirtan, is the singing of sacred mantras, accompanied by classical Indian instruments and some Western instruments (such as the guitar, flute, violin, saxophone). It is a call-and-response style of singing which involves the audience in the performance. The leader sings one line or verse and the guests chant in response. It is an ancient and well-known art to calm the mind, open the heart and connect with the Divine Consciousness. It is a culture where everybody can take place and make their own spiritual experience.

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Wishing you health, straight-A's and happy holidays!

Kenya-Jade Pinto
SU VP Academic
Hayley Wade
SU VP Student Life



Exam-time resources are available to keep you healthy, balanced and focused.

As students ourselves, your Students' Union knows just how stressful exam time can be. We are committed to making sure that you know where to turn when you're in need of some extra help.

Look out for your VP Student Life, Hayley Wade, and your VP Academic, Kenya-Jade Pinto, while you're studying as they will be distributing **de-stress packs** full of goodies designed to keep you focused and healthy.

Are you struggling with final papers or finding the time to cram in all the studying you have to do? The **U of C Student Success Centre** can help. They offer writing support, academic and career advising and support and various academic and leadership workshops that can teach you the skills you need to cope. Call them at 403-220-5881 or look into everything they have to offer at www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Don't forget about the **SU Wellness Centre** at this time of year. They have doctors if you're feeling sick and councillors if you need to talk about how you're feeling or need spiritual guidance.

They can offer advice on healthy eating and lifestyle choices that can make you better able to achieve the grades you're hoping for. And don't forget their massage therapists when you're body just can't take the stress anymore. You can contact them at 403-210-9355 or check out their website: www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre.

Finally, we know that **study space** is at a premium this time of year. Sometimes it seems like the only option is sit down in the middle of a hallway! Your SU understands this and, in an attempt to stem the space crunch, we're opening up That Empty Space throughout the exam

period for students to study in. Located in the lower level of the MacEwan Student Centre, That Empty Study Space will be open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., starting on December 10th. For a complete list of other study spaces on campus, check out www.ucalgary.ca/currentstudents/studyspaces.

Our complete list of exam-time resources is available at www.su.ucalgary.ca and in a pamphlet available at the SU offices. Good luck on your exams and we'll see you in the new year!



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