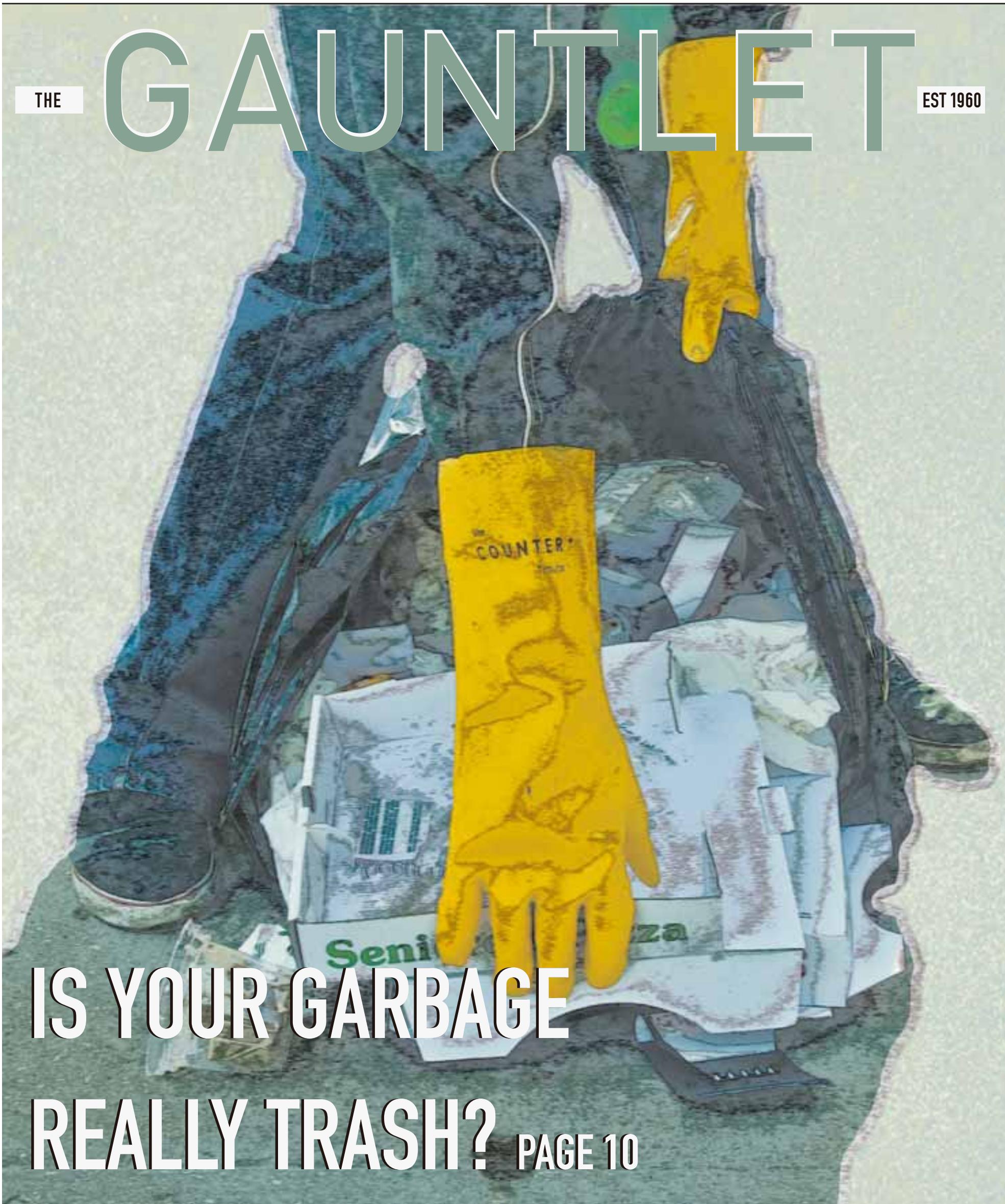


THE

GAUNTLET

EST 1960



IS YOUR GARBAGE
REALLY TRASH? PAGE 10

STUDENTS' UNION  www.su.ucalgary.ca



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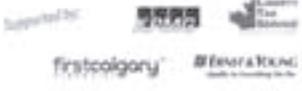
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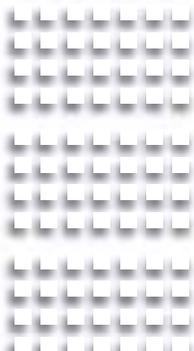



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MARCH 21, 2013

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Golden Spatula



Our Golden Spatula recipient for the week of March 21 is Holly Flagel, a fierce slasher of copy and irrelevant rhetoric. The Gauntlet appreciates your laser eyes and vast vocabulary. The spatula is golden, and so too are you!

~Holly Flagel~

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 french vanilla ice cream ink. We urge you to recycle/lick 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 Evangelos Lambrinoudis II

Escalating rhetoric in North Korea

North Korea is crying for help — but the reclusive country isn't going to do anything rash anytime soon. On March 5, North Korea scrapped the armistice that ended Korean War hostilities in 1953. The cease-fire ended after a United States-led push for the United Nations to sanction North Korea over its recent nuclear tests. North Korea completed its third nuclear test in February.

Heated rhetoric has been ongoing and is very common on the Korean peninsula. However, North Korea's latest temper tantrum is especially poignant because of its specificity. The media is going into a frenzy because the U.S. is specifically targeted — something, of course, that isn't taken lightly.

On Feb. 2, North Korea's official website, Uriminzokkiri, released a video propagating a re-unified

Korea, which depicted an American city in flames and ruins. A caption read, "Somewhere in the United States, black clouds are billowing." The video is depicted as a dream and declares that this dream will come true. More recent propaganda, released on March 19, shows the White House in flames, which came after the U.S. and South Korea were preparing to test B-52 bombers. North Korea warns that "second by second, the fuse of a nuclear war is burning."

All of this sounds very scary — and it is. However, typical American aggression tactics have to be tossed aside to deal with this hostile situation.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Hong Lei at a daily news briefing urged the U.S. to act prudently.

"Actions such as strengthening anti-missile [defences] will intensify antagonism and will not be

beneficial to finding a solution for the problem," he said.

North Korean propaganda keeps the world's attention on the hermit kingdom. Without Kim Jong Un threatening the U.S., the attention of the Western media would be elsewhere. The U.S. is notorious for only paying attention or intervening in hostile situations if they have a vested political interest in the nation or are directly threatened. By now, most people are probably sick of North Korea's erratic behaviour, however, the current threats bring to light a much greater problem that should be paid attention to regardless of what nation is threatened.

North Korea isn't the only nation with issues, and it can be argued that South Korea, China, the U.S. and Canada have just as many issues in their own way. However, the fact that millions of North Koreans are starving to death needs

to be taken seriously. In a mid-1990s famine, between 1–2 million North Koreans may have died due to starvation and disease which continue to plague the reclusive nation. The UN reported that more than a quarter of North Korean children suffer stunted growth as a result of chronic malnutrition.

Obviously this is not an issue that can be resolved quickly. However, we need to look past the propaganda and threats at the real issue if there is going to be any progress. The starvation epidemic does not, as some media sources have suggested, stem from North Korea's lack of democracy. North Korea would not react well to American forces intervening in affairs, especially in the political realm. China is the only country with the authority or ability to influence North Korea because of the two nations' history and political similarities. Other countries need to work with China in order to foster this relationship, and work to prevent trading that would allow the assembly of nuclear weapons.

The world needs to react delicately to North Korea's unprecedented action because, while the rhetoric sounds the same and is growing tiresome, an act of outside aggression could turn North Korea's cry for help into nuclear action. Attention should continue to be paid to the reclusive nation, regardless of military rhetoric because of the extreme suffering of many North Koreans.

Gauntlet Editorial Board



contents

features

Competitors of the U of C Clean Bin Challenge inspire the rethinking and reducing of waste, **page 10.**

news

The provincial government slashes the summer job program, students rally against budget cuts and the ombudsman discusses university, **page 4.**

entertainment

We talk with Sudz Sutherland, preview the Greenlite Arts Festival, review some albums and praise *The Crows*, **page 7.**

opinions

Attention is finally given to the genocide of Shiite Muslims in Pakistan and reform liberal economics are considered for Canada, **page 14.**

sports

The women's basketball team lost in the bronze-medal game of the CIS finals, the final rink review and a preview of the MLB season, **page 21.**

Summer woes without summer jobs

The Alberta government cuts Summer Temporary Employment Program

Michael Grondin

News Editor

For the first time since it was established in 1972, the Summer Temporary Employment Program has been indefinitely suspended.

STEP offered thousands of students employment opportunities at many different organizations across Alberta.

In summer 2012, STEP had an operating budget of \$7.1 million, providing over 3,000 students temporary summer jobs at many small businesses and non-profit organizations that wouldn't have had the funds to hire students otherwise.

To participate in STEP, students had to be at least 16 years of age, residents of Alberta and had to work between 30–40 hours per week. The tasks for the positions had to go beyond everyday operations at each organization.

The Alberta government cut funding for the program as part of the 2013 budget.

The youth unemployment rate in Alberta is 7.8 per cent, lower than the national average of 13.5 per cent, youth being defined as people aged 13–24. The Alberta government has stated in the budget announcement on March 7 that Alberta's students will still find employment opportunities as the economy continues to thrive.

According to Alberta Ministry of Human Services communications officer Greg Kuzniuk, STEP's funding has always been renewed annually.

Kuzniuk said the funds will now be allocated to help Albertans in need and to develop new strategies that will include permanent employment for Alberta's students.



Adrienne Shumlich

Many U of C students have difficulty finding summer jobs. Without STEP, it will be harder.

“For budget 2013, Human Services placed its funding priorities on helping those in greatest need, those being vulnerable Albertans, including children at risk, adults with disabilities and the homeless,” said Kuzniuk.

University of Calgary Students' Union vice-president external and chair of the Council of Alberta University Students Raphael Jacob said it was disappointing to see STEP's funding cut.

“STEP is a relatively inexpensive program, and has proven to be very effective for students,” said Jacob, who has worked two STEP funded jobs in the past.

Jacob said that in the grand scheme of things, the \$7.1 million that STEP costs is a small amount compared to the total \$38 billion dollar budget for 2013. He said STEP integrates more people into the workforce, increasing taxation, which in turn brings money back to the government.

Jacob said the government cut the program funding because they want to find more permanent employment solutions than what was offered through STEP.

“They were likely going to scrap the program either way. The government would like to have a new program that brings

more meaningful employment opportunities that integrates the workers into the field they will be working in in the future,” said Jacob. “I do understand why that could be a benefit, but until we do see that new program, it will be a bad deal for students.”

An independent radio station in Calgary cjsw had two STEP funded positions for several years. cjsw also used funds from Canada Summer Jobs, a federal summer employment program to fund summer positions.

According to cjsw station manager Myke Atkinson, STEP offered students a chance to work interesting jobs that added

to their student experience.

“With the STEP program gone, it's basically going to mean fewer cool jobs,” said Atkinson. “If you want to dig ditches for a summer, there's enough of those jobs around. If you want a manual labour job, that's fine. If you want a job that's going to give you experience towards where you want to go after you're done university, those are the jobs that are going to be lost without STEP.”

Atkinson said it will be difficult for students and organizations who were counting on STEP funded positions for this summer.

“It's a real loss for the students. It's going to be the experiences that you did during university that will set you apart,” said Atkinson. “It's also going to be a really hard summer. Where are all those jobs going to go?”

Fourth-year U of C political science and history student Cailean David worked at cjsw for two summers through funding provided by STEP and Canada Summer Jobs. He said STEP was a beneficial program.

“It's a bummer that the program is closing. The program seemed to be established to provide an opportunity for young students to get a career in a position that was not usually well paying,” said David.

David also said that the organizations that offered STEP positions will be negatively affected because they will be losing valuable workers.

Other organizations offer student employment through the summer months, such as the Canada Summer Jobs and the Canada-Alberta Job Bank.

1972	7.8%	3000	\$7.1 million	\$38 billion	
The STEP program is established.	Alberta's youth unemployment rate.	Number of STEP workers in 2012.	STEP's operational costs in 2012.	Alberta's 2013 operational costs in 2012.	

To comment on this story visit thegauntlet.ca

What is the hardest part about finding a summer job?



“It's not that hard for me. I just go through family.”

– Theresa McCaffrey, first-year biological sciences



“A lot of the jobs get taken by people with connections.”

– Clark Muir, first-year engineering



“Deciding between an internship with career prospects or a high-paying job.”

– Ayla Leniczek, third-year visual studies



“There's a lot of competition and it can be hard to find jobs you want.”

– Aldrian Reyes, fourth-year geophysics

U of C welcomes new ombudsperson

Michael Grondin
News Editor

Duncan McDonald is the University of Calgary's new student ombudsperson. He took the position in late February, replacing interim ombudsperson Sheldon Roth.

McDonald's main responsibility is to act as an intermediary between students and the university administration. The ombudsperson consults students on academic and non-academic issues and works to resolve conflicts and struggles students face. The ombudsperson works closely with the Students' Union and the Graduate Students' Association.

The *Gauntlet* sat down with McDonald and spoke about the role of the ombuds office at the U of C and the benefits it can provide for students.

The Gauntlet: First of all, what is your background? What did you do before you were an ombudsperson at the U of C?

Duncan McDonald: Ombudsing is a very diverse occupation and people can come from many different streams into the field. I came from a non-profit, came back to school and did

my master's in conflict analysis and management from Royal Roads University. I was also an ombudsperson at Brock University, which then led me to this position.

G: What is your role as an ombudsperson?

DM: Most people don't have any idea what the term means. Basically, it is to be a representative and a mechanism by which people can register complaints into a system and find resolution to their problems. We are impartial, informal, confidential and we seek to resolve complaints in that manner.

G: How can you be an effective outlet for students?

DM: Part of it is that students have no idea what the ombudsperson does. Because the student population turns over every year, we continually have to tell students what the role is. I will say that the most consistent feedback I have in the office is, 'I wish I had known more about you and I wish I had come earlier.' The ombuds office is one of the most unique offices on any university campus.

University is like a huge maze. Students are often caught up in



Michael Grondin

Duncan McDonald is the U of C's student ombudsperson.

processes, procedures, problems and they have no idea how to resolve them. The ombuds office acts as an outlet for students to talk about their issues and find effective ways to get around their problems.

G: What do you think are the biggest issues facing students?

DM: I will say that based on interactions I have had so far, they are no different from any university in Canada. My observations of a big issue for students is maintaining mental health, which is tied to academic performance.

Also, the issues international students face because they often get caught in a system they don't understand because they are interacting with a new culture, a new city and new processes.

G: What do you think needs to be done to ensure the student experience is positive?

DM: What I can do to make sure the student experience is positive is to provide a conduit for them to interact with the system when they are in conflict. From a conflict resolution or management point of view, the sooner you resolve your

conflicts, the better and that can contribute to better mental health and a better experience overall.

G: What are your biggest goals coming into this position?

DM: My biggest goal is to understand the system within the U of C. It would be wrong to assume that every university in Canada is exactly the same. The U of C is a large, growing and complex institution, and my first goal is to understand it, interact with as many people as I can and get the message out about the importance of what the ombuds office can do to help students who are struggling.

G: If you had any messages for U of C students, what would they be?

DM: If I could get one message out, it would be to contact me early. I cannot tell you how many times, both at Brock University and here, that students came in way too late. Sometimes I have had issues that needed 10 minutes to resolve, sometimes it's months, so the earlier they come in the more opportunities and options we can generate for resolution.

To contact the ombuds office
email ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Speaking up: students protest provincial budget cuts

Michael Grondin
News Editor

On March 15, roughly 600 protestors marched from the University of Alberta to the Alberta Legislature Building in Edmonton to rally against provincial budget cuts to post-secondary education.

The provincial government announced a 6.8 per cent decrease to Alberta universities' operational funding on March 7.

U of A students and community members rallied in support of the Alberta Coalition for Action on Post-Secondary Education, a group that aims to give students a

voice on issues raised by the province's education cuts.

The rally began at a lecture hall at the U of A, where roughly 500 people met to discuss the potential ramifications of the operational cuts. The group then marched to the Alberta Legislature Building in downtown Edmonton.

Fourth-year U of A political science student and event organizer Brent Kelly said the rally was held to send a message to the provincial government.

"I think a diversity of voices is needed. I think the student voice is key in as much as students recognize that the quality of edu-

cation is going to decrease as a result of these cuts," said Kelly. "What the government should be doing is investing in post-secondary education, investing in other parts of the knowledge economy, but the government is in fact doing the opposite. From our
see U OF A RALLY, page 6



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Getting people talking about food

Michael Grondin
News Editor

Students at the University of Calgary are working to increase knowledge about healthy food, sustainability and access to food through the third annual Hunger Week from March 18–22.

Snack packs were given to students and there were workshops and panels to discuss food-related topics.

Hunger Week is a collaborative project between the U of C's Campus Food Bank and the Meal Exchange.

U of C Centre for Community Engaged Learning service-learning co-ordinator Alycia Lauzon said it is important to understand where our food comes from and the impact it has on the environment.

"Food is starting to be looked at in new ways and we are beginning to focus on where our food is coming from and the impact food production has on the environment and the community," said Lauzon.

Six students will be living completely off food hampers supplied by the Campus Food Bank for a week. They have been blogging about their experience.

Lauzon said another issue raised through Hunger Week is students' access to food.

"A lot of people think that university is a place of privilege and that nobody really goes hungry, but there are a lot of struggles that students have to make ends meet," said Lauzon. "We are looking at access to food and the ability for students to access good, healthy, sustainable food as well."

Students' Union vice-president

student life Hayley Wade has been participating in the week-long hamper project. She said it has been an eye-opening experience.

"It's been a really interesting week so far," said Wade. "I think the experience has really helped me see the struggles many people face when it comes to food, but it's only for one week, and many students live off of these hampers for up to six weeks and I now understand how difficult it can be."

Third-year U of C human resources and dance student Heather Morris, who is participating in Hunger Week, said it is fun engaging with students.

"Hunger Week is a way to get the word out about sustainability and poverty within our immediate community," she said.

For more information
visit su.ucalgary.ca



Michael Grondin

Heather Morris and Chimone Dalton hand out snack packs.

U of A rally, continued from page 5

perspective, the government is in many ways cutting our future."

Kelly fears faculty downsizing and increased fees at Alberta's universities and said all members of Alberta's post-secondary system should be prepared for future struggles.

"What's going to end up hap-

pening here in Alberta is that students are going to pay more money for a decreased quality of education," said Kelly. "It's extremely important that students are aware of these dangers and that students are taking action to work together with faculty, staff and administration to oppose

these cuts and to ensure that we have stable and adequate funding for post-secondary education."

Kelly said that the provincial government has not kept its promise to maintain a strong education system in the province.

"Universities are supposed to be autonomous institutions that inde-

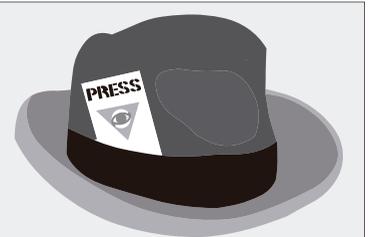
pendently try to search for truth and conduct research in the most effective and efficient manner possible," said Kelly. "To have the government intervening in university and the academic structure and deciding what should be prioritized is really concerning."

Other rallies in Edmonton are

expected to occur in the following weeks, including a rally on March 21. At this time, there have not been similar movements elsewhere in Alberta.

"One way or another, we're going to keep planning events," said Kelly. "What we had on Friday has catalyzed quite a bit of energy, not only on our campus but other campuses as well, which is really positive and really powerful."

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Canadian film challenges deportation

Sudz Sutherland explores the trials of deportees in *Home Again*

Sean Willett

Entertainment Editor

Imagine being unceremoniously taken to a place that is completely unfamiliar — one where you have no friends, no family and no idea of how to fit in. Then imagine being told that you can't go home, and that you may be stuck in this alien world forever. While a scenario like this sounds like something that could only exist in a work of fiction, this is the harsh reality for the thousands of people deported to Jamaica from Canada, the United States and Britain every year. Many of these people haven't seen Jamaica since childhood and, without proper support or reintegration, find themselves in a potentially dangerous situation.

This pressing issue is explored in *Home Again*, a film by Canadian director Sudz Sutherland. The movie tells the story of three very different people who have been deported to Jamaica, a place they haven't been to since they were children. As they each attempt to find their own way in an unfamiliar country their paths take them into some of the darkest parts of Kingston, where they face drugs, violence and people who are all too willing to exploit a confused foreigner. When developing these characters Sutherland interviewed people who had gone through this experience in order to ensure the film would be as authentic as possible.

"We went down to Jamaica in 2005 and interviewed over 40



courtesy eOne Films

deportees," explains Sutherland. "These people were living on the street, and a lot of them were drug dependent. We found them through drug rehabilitation programs and by talking to people we found begging, just asking if they were deportees. Talking to them was like looking into a mirror — some of these guys grew up in Scarborough, like I did. These were young people, people from Canada and America and Britain, and they were living on the street in Jamaica, an island that they just don't know."

Through these interviews, Sutherland found that people deported to Jamaica went through a wide range of different experi-

ences, which is why he felt it was necessary to have *Home Again* focus on three characters instead of just one.

"People wanted us to just do one of the stories, to focus on one person," says Sutherland. "For us, we wanted to have that focus but we also wanted to explore the different facets of the issue. It's larger than just one person. It's not happening to just one person. It's unjust, and it is happening because of policy from not just one government, but many governments. Many different people get caught up in this net."

In early 2013, Canada's Bill C-43 passed. This made it so people can now be deported after facing a minimum criminal sentence of six

months, which means that many more people are being deported for less serious crimes.

"This is not just happening in Jamaica, this is happening all over," says Sutherland. "The issue here is something called a travel document — it isn't a passport or birth certificate, it's practically nothing. It just serves to get you into the country you're being deported to. When you get there you may or may not be fingerprinted, then if a friend or family member doesn't come to pick you up you're left to walk the streets. You have no home to go to. And with this travel document you can't establish credit or open a bank account, you need to have some help."

Sutherland hopes that soon Canada will begin establishing programs to help deportees reintegrate into society in order to prevent people from falling into poverty and violence after arriving in an unfamiliar and often dangerous country. By making *Home Again*, he aims to start a national conversation about this pressing issue.

"The reason why I feel strongly about this is because it can be a death sentence," says Sutherland. "This isn't right, and when you see something that isn't right you need to speak out about it. It is your duty as a human being."

Home Again opens in Calgary on March 29. For more information visit homeagainfilm.com.

NUTV promotes environmentalism in art

Tobias Ma

Gauntlet Entertainment

NUTV will be hosting a gala for their third annual Greenlite Arts Festival on April 3 at 7 p.m. in the Gallery Hall of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Greenlite is an environmentalism-themed festival of film and photography.

The festival has two major components: a film and a photo contest. The film portion, known as

the 48-Hour Eco Film Challenge, begins on March 22 at 4 p.m.

For the challenge, teams are given a prop and a line of dialogue that they must use to create a film in 48 hours. Seventeen teams have registered for the competition.

Taylor Ross, NUTV's executive director, is lending equipment, advice and support to contestants.

"You really don't have to have any experience with film-making," explains Ross.

The parameters of the film competition are open-ended, as long as competitors stick to environmental themes.

"It can be obscure, it can be up front, it's all about how the team wants to incorporate the prop and line of dialogue they are given," says Ross. "Some people go all out with the prop and use it as the central theme of the film, and others have it appear in a shot and then move on."

The photography contest is also

flexible, asking for any kind of photos that fall within the theme of environmentalism.

"We leave the [contest] entirely open, up to the photographer's interpretation," says Ross.

The best photos submitted to the contest will be displayed at the Greenlite gala in the TFDL.

Ross hopes that the festival will stimulate interest in the environment and visual arts.

"We hope it gives students the

opportunity to speak about issues they have within the global scheme of things and a chance to learn new skills like editing or new film-making techniques," she says. "We hope everyone comes out with a finished product they can be happy with."

Deadlines to enter the film and photo contests were March 15, however late photo entries may be accepted if submitted before the gala.

For more information visit nutv.ca.

spun

ALBUM REVIEWS



Ghostkeeper
Horse Chief! War Thief!
March 19, 2013 (Saved by Vinyl)

It would be an enormous understatement to say that Ghostkeeper's newest album, *Horse Chief! War Thief!*, has been stuck in my head. This collection of 11 songs from the Calgary-based roots-rock band attached itself to my brain like a hungry leech to an exposed leg, and it has been feeding on my thoughts ever since.

A big reason for this is undoubtedly Shane Ghostkeeper's fantastic vocals, which gift each track with a distinct, energetic feel that is carried throughout the album. His voice has a twang to it that serves as a perfect match to

the punchy, string-filled instrumentals that make up some of *Horse Chief! War Thief!*'s best songs. The backup vocals of Sarah Houle are also fantastic, and help add a very ethereal feel to some of the album's less conventional tracks.

These less conventional songs ensure that *Horse Chief! War Thief!* never feels stale. My favourite tracks are undoubtedly the very rock-oriented "Horse Chief! War Thief!" and "Turn Up the Heat," but songs like the haunting "Golden" and the pulsating "The Children" help to flesh out the atmosphere of the album. This range of different sounds allows Ghostkeeper to explore a variety of different themes in their lyrics, as the band effortlessly alternates between social commentary and mythic storytelling from song to song.

It would have been easy for *Horse Chief! War Thief!* to have just been made as a one-note collection of catchy rock songs. But because the album was crafted as a coherent whole — instead of merely a collection of singles — the strongest tracks are able to pack a much stronger punch and avoid the trap of repetition.

Horse Chief! War Thief! gives roots-rock fans a lot to love, though listeners should be wary — once Ghostkeeper sinks its hooks into you, it is hard to dig them out.

Sean Willett



Alex Pangman
Have a Little Fun
March 4, 2013 (Justin Time Records)

Alex Pangman may be Canadian, but this is not your standard Diana Krall jazz. Pangman's seventh studio album, *Have a Little Fun*, is both her second album with Montreal-based jazz label Justin Time Records and her second album after a double lung transplant in 2008. It keeps true to Pangman's fascination of all things '30s while also exploring Paris swing music with a greater focus on guitar and violin.

Pangman's music adapts older jazz sounds for a modern audience, without resorting to

infusing them with more contemporary styles of music. While Pangman's last album, 33, was focused on traditional American jazz with only occasional hints of a Parisian sound, *Have a Little Fun* departs from American big-band jazz and embraces Paris cabaret.

The mesmerizing charm of this Paris cabaret style begins in the first track, "Some of These Days," with an enthusiastic swinging guitar solo matched with perpetually peppy vocals from Pangman that will leave the listener glowing. The album progresses through a mix of jazz standards and original songs, supplying a fresh, engaging take on many old tunes such as Sid Robin and Charlie Shavers's "Undecided," which ends the album on a high note.

Pangman's vocals aren't as strong as some of her peers — her voice isn't as powerful or as commanding — but she suffuses her songs with a wonderful vibrato that is a joy to listen to. Her upbeat tone of voice gives her a sort of girl-next-door appeal, infused with a subtle mischievousness. The album isn't consistent throughout, however. Her original songs don't quite stand up next to her renditions of jazz standards, but fortunately they don't detract from the rest of the album. Taken together, *Have a Little Fun* is still very enjoyable.

Sean Sullivan

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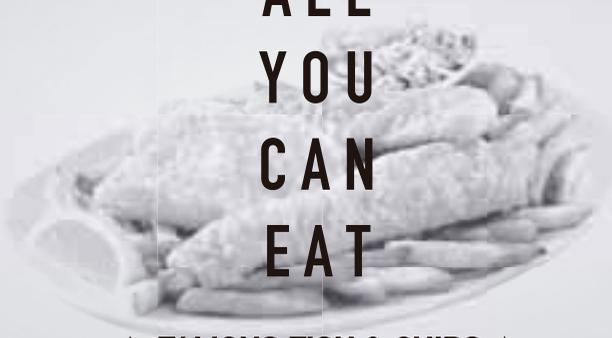
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Film review: *The Croods*

This paleolithic animated film rises above the average fare

Matthew Parkinson
Gauntlet Entertainment

The Croods is an immensely funny, very charming animated film from DreamWorks Animation and co-directors Kirk DeMicco (*Space Chimps*) and Chris Sanders (*How to Train Your Dragon*). The film takes a while to get going — following one very entertaining chase sequence — but once it finds its comfort zone, *The Croods* winds up being one of the most enjoyable films released this year.

The plot is based off the tried and true premise of a family taken out of their comfort zone. Set in prehistoric times, the leader of the group is the father, Grug (Nicolas Cage). The Croods are the only family of cave people still around, as almost all others have died off. They have simple rules on how to stay alive: don't go outside after dark, anything new is dangerous, curiosity kills and do everything together. This is fine with most of the family although, like many teenagers, Eep (Emma Stone) feels smothered by these rules and her overprotective father — she wants

to explore and have freedom. One night, she escapes the cave and runs into a 'modern man,' Guy (Ryan Reynolds), who shows her fire and proclaims that the end of the world is coming. Soon enough, the ground starts breaking apart, forcing Guy and the Crood family to travel in hopes of finding somewhere safe.

There are more characters, but most are not developed well enough to actually matter. Apart from Grug being placed in direct opposition to Guy and the father/daughter dynamic, there's not a whole lot going on between the characters, which is the main problem of *The Croods*. There are four other people in the family, and none of them get any sort of story arc or even a significant scene. There are occasionally some funny gags — the youngest child acts more like an animal than a human and the grandmother is far more nimble and spunky than might be expected — but that's about all these characters accomplish.

Apart from minor characters being undeveloped, *The Croods* is an effective film, especially for its young target audience. There are

bright locations, interesting animal hybrids — turtle-birds and alligator-dogs are among the most memorable — a quick pace, impending danger, a lot of physical comedy and a few memorable characters. Even the problem that DreamWorks films usually face — humans looking far worse than the animals — is almost nonexistent, as the cave people's oafish appearance allows for a certain amount of caricature, even if animals still surpass them in design. The cave people are unsophisticated characters so most of the humour is derived from the situations around them, their primitive nature and the way key lines are delivered by the voice actors.

It might not make sense to some people to see the infamous Cage cast as a caveman but, after seeing *The Croods*, it is a completely understandable casting decision. Cage knows how to play a father figure, and gets to do that often with this role. However, the amount of silliness, bordering on insanity, that his character gets to dish out is why Cage nails this part. He can make lines that should be dramatic absolutely hilarious, and this works given the tone of the film. Stone and



courtesy DreamWorks

Reynolds are less notable, but get a few key lines of their own. Supporting voices come from Catherine Keener, Clark Duke, Cloris Leachman and director Chris Sanders.

The Croods is a rock-solid animated film. What the film brings

to the table is a lot of fun, a great deal of laughs and enough skill behind the animation to overcome the characters' shortcomings. All in all, it's a very good movie that people of all ages will be able to enjoy.

JESUS CHURCH

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Can we live waste-free?

by: **Vaneska
Grechinski**



This week's feature is the fourth and final in our series on food security. The first part looked at a Canadian perspective, the second looked at organic farms in New Orleans, and the third looked at composting. This week's is about reducing waste. To see the previous articles or to comment on this story, visit thegauntlet.ca.

Can we live waste-free in a world where most goods come packaged, and throwing stuff away allows us to forget about it? We need to change the way we think about waste and reduce the amount of waste we produce.

To promote this waste-free lifestyle, the University of Calgary sustainability street team invited U of C students, staff and faculty to participate in the Clean Bin Challenge between Feb. 27–March 26 during which they would live for one month without producing any waste — attempting to have a clean bin. The participant who produces the least amount of waste by weight will be declared the winner.

This Clean Bin Challenge was inspired by the 2010 *Clean Bin Project* documentary. The documentary follows Jen Rustemeyer and Grant Baldwin as they compete against each other to see who can produce the least amount of waste over a year. The documentary examines waste problems, such as the Pacific trash island and offers ways we can reduce waste.

Rustemeyer and Baldwin show how difficult minimizing waste production can be and consider whether their tiny green actions will actually influence the large environmental problems caused by what they call our “throw-away society,” where materials are used once and then discarded, without consideration given to reusing it.

Deven Biskup, a fourth-year U of C history student, commented that tracking how much waste he produces is hard since there are two different bins in his back yard, and his household garbage is taken out constantly. He's never had the chance to see all his waste together in one place.

Reducing waste production is difficult because buying products with a lot of packaging is very convenient. When getting food is easy, consumers hardly stop and think about the amount of waste produced. For example, take-out boxes provide convenient food but go straight to the trash. Consumers need to think about the production, packaging and disposal of goods. When buying a product, one is purchasing the packaging too.

Ryan Petrushka, a third-year U of C geoscience student, said “[I have to] be more careful with what I buy, eliminate the source of it, not have as much food that I won't be eating, because the food comes inside packaging and this is waste.”

The packaging of food, clothing, electronics and other material goods has to be recognized as waste. Kenneth Marsh and Betty Bugusu from the Institute of Food Technologists found that 31 per cent of all municipal solid waste

comes from packaging. In addition, food packaging contributes more waste to landfills than any other type of packaging.

In 2007, Claire Bassett and Angela Charlton published the *War on Waste* for the U.K. government, which studies the amount of food packaging in grocery stores. Twenty-nine similar items from eight different stores were compared. The study found that about 5 per cent of the total weight of groceries was food packaging, and 21–40 per cent of this packaging could not be recycled.

“The quantity of waste I produce is mostly food waste,” said Biskup. A common misconception is to think that food and water are waste. When consumers don't think about packaging, their perspective doesn't encompass waste fully, so consumers think they produce less waste than they actually do.

Most food in Canada comes packaged, and the packaging will usually end up in the garbage. For example, the plastic bottle that water comes in will soon be thrown out. Both the paper bag used for a muffin and the disposable coffee cup go into the garbage. These small, one-time use products add up very quickly.

Why do we need so much packaging? Packaging allows food to be preserved longer and allows for food to be transported farther distances. However, packaging is often just there to make carrying the product home convenient.

In addition to this, the U.K. government's Waste and Resources Action Program showed that luxurious packaging attracts con-

sumers. Consumers often choose packaged goods over loose goods. In other words, consumers are willing to buy a product because of the packaging — the marketing on packaging helps to sell it.

How can packaging be improved? “Creating a food package is as much art as science,” wrote Marsh and Bugusu. Packaging has to be efficient and maintain the quality and safety of food to be considered an ideal food package. Waste-reducing packaging is a “shared responsibility between producers, retailers, consumers, local authorities and the waste management industry.” Producers should promote the use of more recycled materials in the components of the packaging as well as design efficient packaging. Retailers should reduce packaging and research and market products that are less wasteful. Consumers should reduce their demand for packaging. Local authorities should provide recycling facilities and waste education for their residents. Industry should invest in facilities to recycle and recover waste.

Even if a consumer is aware of the waste problem, they still have to purchase the packaging in order to obtain the product. Until the food industry comes up with an ideal packaging system, the responsibility to reduce waste is on consumers.

How can consumers reduce packaging waste? How will the competitors of the Clean Bin Challenge skip purchasing waste if almost everything comes wrapped in some kind of packaging?

In three weeks of competition,

TRASH TIPS

1. Stop Using Plastic Bags.
2. Set Up Your Recycling in a convenient place.
3. Compost!
4. Recycle.
5. Give Up Take Out Containers.
6. Check the Package BEFORE you Buy It.
7. Buy Secondhand.
8. DIY (Do It Yourself).
9. Get Educated.
10. Let businesses know how you feel.

Source: the Clean Bin Project
(cleanbinmovie.com)



courtesy Gladys Nuñez

Clean Bin Challenge participants are ready with their clean bins and reusable coffee mugs.

the participants have had difficulties with food packaging, but are reducing their waste by being creative and organized. The *Clean Bin Project* documentary offered several ways that anyone concerned about the amount of waste they produce can reduce that amount.

An important first strategy is to stop using plastic bags. Most people use plastic bags to take their food home and sometimes the bags are doubled. Cloth bags are much more durable and can usually hold more, so switching to them can be more efficient. According to the *Clean Bin Project*, an average person uses 500 plastic bags per year and fewer than 1 per cent of these are recycled.

Michele Mallinson, a geoscience and paleontology student who is participating in the challenge, said, "If you could go to a natural place and even bring your own plastic bags, then you can just bulk it."

The documentary also recommends thinking about packaging before buying a product.

"I am a vegetarian, but I cannot

buy veggie beef in bulk, like meat, so it comes with the plastic packaging," said Nasrin Pak, a participant and a U of C physics graduate student.

Janice Cook, another participant and a U of C kinesiology professor, faced the same problem, but with fish. If she shops at a grocery store, the salmon she wants comes wrapped in cellophane, with styrofoam and plastic pads.

Another strategy to reduce waste is to have recycling bins handy at home, and to recycle everything possible. Pak, as well as Mallinson, commented that they have become more aware of recycling materials because of the challenge.

"You have to look at your garbage and see what is recyclable, if you have a pop can then you know you can take it back to the bottle depot, you just have to watch what you are throwing away," said Mallinson.

According to the City of Calgary, about 80 per cent of the total municipal solid waste goes straight into landfills, leaving

only 20 per cent in the blue carts for recycling. Waste sorting is the responsibility of every citizen — things that can be reused, recycled and composted should be put in their appropriate place.

Yet reducing packaging is preferable to recycling. Emma Cook-Clarke, a Clean Bin Challenge participant and first-year U of C environmental science student, said, "Even the recyclable things, they still have so much packaging. I bought some rice and it was in a square plastic container, but the plastic was so thick and it seemed really unnecessary. It doesn't make any sense to have all this for a product you will use once."

Considering if a product is actually needed before it is used reduces waste. Cook said that she was inspired to prepare food differently. For example, she no longer uses aluminum foil to cook. She also decided to use handkerchiefs because she realized she wastes too much tissue.

"Twist ties are the other thing I noticed. Is it really necessary when you could just make a knot to close the bag? The challenge makes sure you are aware of the little things," said Cook.

Composting and making some products yourself can further reduce waste. Pak started composting her organics and Mallinson started producing her own homemade soaps.

Going to farmers' markets instead of regular grocery stores can also help. Farmers' markets are a local and healthy alternative, but they are also a waste-reducing business. Products use less pack-

see WASTE, page 12

"We don't see where our garbage goes and this is a huge issue,"

—Emma Cook-Clarke, Clean Bin Challenge participant and first-year environmental science student



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Waste, continued from page 11

aging because they travel short distances and they don't need to be packed in a special way to protect them for long-distance transportation. The products are harvested and are only kept in a cooler for 2-3 days, so packaging is not needed in order to preserve the food.

One of the most important ways to reduce waste is to better educate oneself about the problem.

"The challenge makes you become aware of all your choices, and it can't be an isolated point — you have to look through all your lifestyle habits," said Cook.

Cook-Clarke is also seeing the challenge as a lifestyle change, and that waste needs to be reduced in an inter-connected way, instead of isolated parts.

"We don't see where our garbage goes and this is a huge issue. Once the garbage truck comes and takes it away, it's like we are done with it and we don't have to see the effects at all. Until you see that the environment is being ruined because of the garbage, you don't really

realize the effect that the excessive amount of garbage makes," said Cook-Clarke.

Once something is thrown in the garbage, the problem does not end — the problem is just beginning. Consumers need to be personally responsible for sorting their garbage correctly and trying to reduce the amount of garbage they produce. Without personal responsibility, consumers won't exert any effort to solve the problems caused by it.

"These days people consume a lot. They don't even think where all this garbage goes," said Pak.

The best way to reduce waste is to make these strategies permanent habits. The challenge has inspired the competitors to continue doing the new things they learned.

Consumers should review their true needs before going shopping and value the effort given to producing and disposing products. Is it really so hard to carry a reusable coffee mug, and is that plastic bag for groceries necessary?



courtesy City of Calgary

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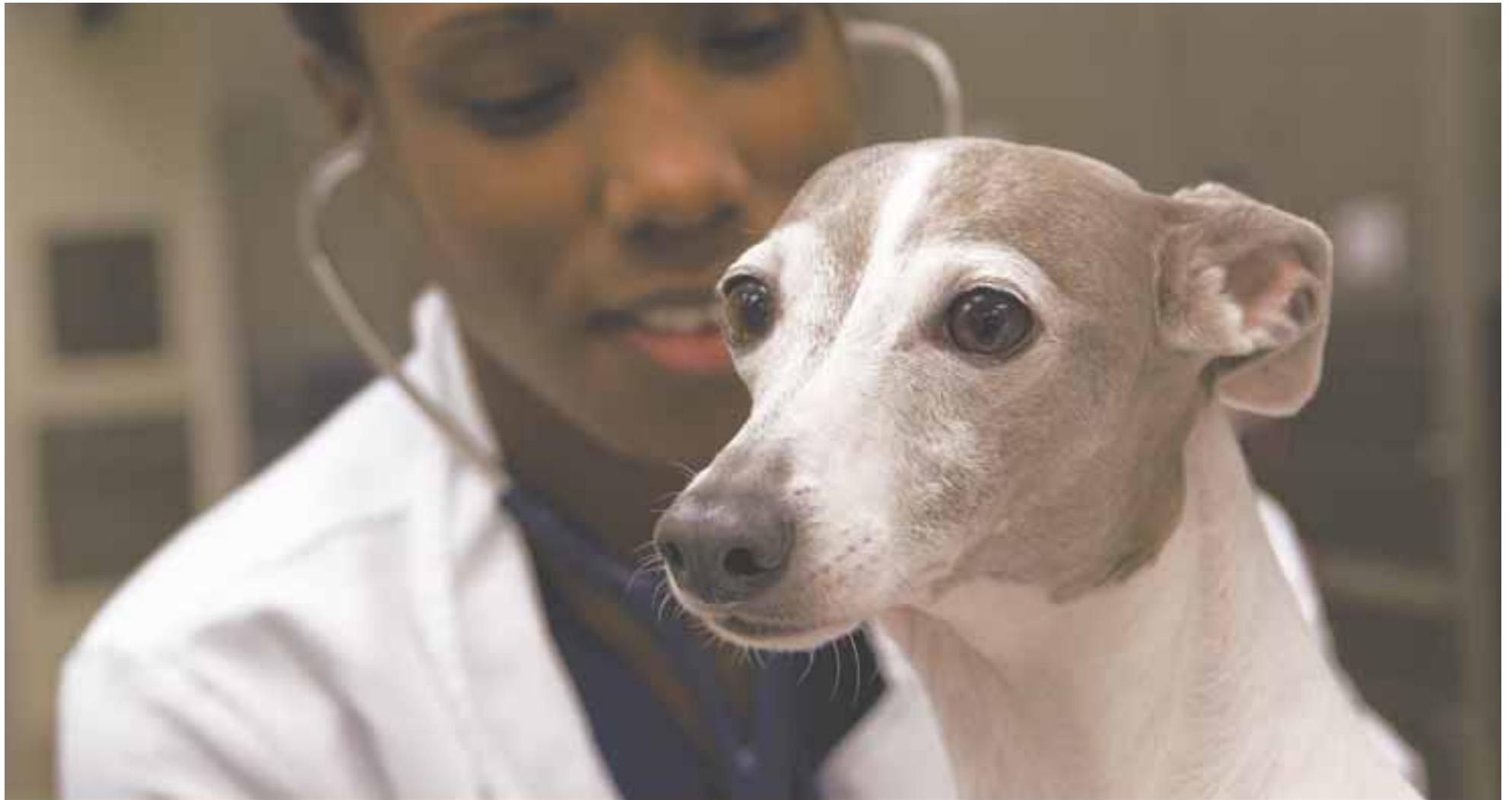
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THE SILENT GENOCIDE

Extremist organization targets Shiite Muslims in Pakistan

Anah Aslam

Gauntlet Opinions
with sources from
Sumaira Ahmed



In June 2011, Pakistan and Aghanistan militant group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi issued an open letter calling for the systematic extermination of the Shiite population of Pakistan. The letter, translated from Urdu, read, “Pakistan means land of the pure, and the Shiites have no right to be here . . . our mission [in Pakistan] is the abolition of this impure sect and people from every city . . . every corner of Pakistan. Like in the past, [our] successful wage against the Shiites of Pakistan, and in particular, [the southwestern province of] Baluchestan, will continue until [the nation] becomes their graveyard.” In other words, this was a declaration of genocide.

Throughout history, the Shiite communities of Pakistan have been the victims of ongoing persecution. Between 1963 and 2012, there have been more than 21,500 reported Shiite deaths. In the first 50 days of 2013, more than 280 Shiite deaths were documented by Pakistani authorities. LeJ claim to have been responsible for the deaths of more than 1,500 Shiite civilians, 620 of those being direct-target killings.

Unlike other ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and surrounding regions, the genocide of Pakistan’s Shiite population has

received little media attention. Both Western and Islamic media have failed to condemn or even acknowledge the continuous violence and oppression that is experienced by Pakistan’s Shiites. The Shiites of Pakistan form 15–20 per cent of the nation’s overall population. For a nation of over 190 million people, at least 30 million are Shiites. With such a large at-risk population, ignorance can no longer be an excuse for inaction.

Formed in 1996, the LeJ is a binational extremist organization whose ideologies are heavily influenced by Salafism, a group that follows a rigid and highly-conservative interpretation of Islam.

The LeJ are considered a terrorist organization by both the Pakistani and American governments and they receive financial support from the Taliban and Al Qaeda. The main objective of the LeJ is to establish a “pure” Sunni society by thoroughly eradicating religious minorities, particularly the Shiites.

Despite the fact that Sunnis and Shiites have only minor differences in religious ideology, in an immensely uneducated and poor nation like Pakistan, extremist groups such as the LeJ can easily recruit followers. The Pakistani nation is torn between Islamic fundamentalism, drone warfare, corrupt politicians and endless poverty. Millions of people have little opportunity to escape the cycle of ignorance.

This ignorance breeds intoler-

“Those that remain silent when others are oppressed are guilty of oppression themselves.”

~ Hussain ibn Ali, seventh century Shiite leader and grandson of the Prophet Mohammed

ance, hate and fear. It is in such societies that people are vulnerable and subject to the influence of malevolent authority figures. Consequently, violent leaders and militant groups are able to recruit youth from the lowest socio-economic levels of society who are most vulnerable to the destructive forces of extremism.

Alongside the various societal issues that impede Pakistan is the nation’s lax and overtly insensitive government. Although the Pakistani government has condemned all domestic fundamentalist groups, no serious measures have been taken to achieve justice for Shiite victims or protect those who are at risk.

In 2012, buses traveling through the northern areas of Gilgit-Baltistan were routinely ambushed. LeJ militants stopped these buses, checked passengers’ ID cards, separated those with Shiite-sounding names and shot them one by one. Women and children were often forced to watch as their husband or father was shot. They were then either raped, mutilated or killed. These atrocities were carried out in broad daylight. The perpetra-

tors have not yet been found or convicted.

On Jan. 10, 2013, several bombings took place in Quetta and Northern Swat Valley of the Khyber province. A total of 130 Shiite civilians were killed, and more than 270 severely injured.

On Feb. 16, two bomb blasts shook Quetta, killing at least 174 Shiites with hundreds more injured. In response, as many as 4,000 women sat in the streets of Quetta for three days and nights with the enshrouded bodies of their loved ones in a mass sit-in protest to demand justice from the Pakistani government.

On March 3, 48 people were killed in a car bombing in the predominantly Shiite neighbourhood of Abbas Town, in the coastal city of Karachi. The homes and livelihoods of hundreds of families were destroyed as the bomb detonated across the densely-populated urban complex.

It is clear from these examples that Pakistan is unsafe for Shiites. The LeJ’s goal is to annihilate all Shiites, ultimately causing the complete extinction of Pakistani Shiites. Therefore, they target

women and children to ensure that no more Shiites will be born into their “pure” nation. This is a problem of unimaginable severity, and it is alarming that so few in the West are aware of the constant threat under which the oppressed Shiites of Pakistan live.

Although we live thousands of kilometres away from Pakistan, there is much we can do to spread awareness and to advocate against these acts of violence. We must establish a movement of peace and a community of humanitarians and activists. All of this is easily achievable when individuals are aware of what is happening in other parts of the world. The first action we all can take is to spread the Shiite story of oppression and victimization. Our silence and ignorance permits the actions of the oppressor. The time to act is now.

The University of Calgary club Thaqalayn Muslim Association will be hosting an all-day remembrance vigil on March 27 in the MacHall South Courtyard for the lives lost in Pakistan.

○○○

Crown corps tranquilize fiscal insanity

Andrew Kemle
Gauntlet Opinions



Issues regarding economic and fiscal stability have, for the most part, replaced issues of domestic security as matters of primary concern for nations since the end of the Cold War. Classical and reform liberal ideologies have provided some solutions to these economic issues faced by Western democracies. Classical liberalism offers solutions of free markets and privatization, while reform liberalism balances the security and stability of government intervention and ownership of resources with the incentives of profit-driven entrepreneurial practices.

The former is typically more appealing to Western citizens as it calls for lower taxes and a greater potential to increase personal wealth. As such, it has greatly impacted economic policy in Canada. However, the stability that comes with controlled markets and the security of a financial overseer can't be ignored in these troubled times, especially when the main drawbacks of this type of policy can be nullified.

The answer to our economic woes lies in government-owned businesses called Crown corporations. The function of these state-owned institutions is to provide goods and services to citizens based on the public good as opposed to the will of shareholders. These businesses avoid problems of distribution and profit-over-welfare thinking. Following the ideas of Keynesian economics, which fall under the reform liberalism banner, Crown corporations serve as overseers in the economy and allow the government to make direct adjustments in sectors with government-owned institutions much easier. Economic booms and busts are often much more controlled in the Keynesian model and the market as a whole is less volatile.

Until the inception of the Mulroney government, Canada had various Crown corporations — like Air Canada and Canada Post — which lessened Canada's stigma as a fiscal basket-case. Many of these Crown corporations, like Air Canada, were privatized as Canada was swept up in the wave of the neoclassical liberalism of the late-'70s and '80s. Though it would be inaccurate to say the financial recession that hit Canada

in this time was caused by mass privatization, the inability for the economy to effectively recover until the utter defeat of Kim Campbell's Progressive Conservatives in the 1993 election is worth noting.

However, as with any left-wing policy, the main critiques remain high taxes and low incentives. This is especially relevant if a company is completely owned and controlled by the government — very little profit-driven thought can make its way past the bureaucracy and funds that must be raised to keep the company afloat. However, a hybrid of the two forms of business — private and public — has been achieved in Russia with outstanding success, nullifying many of these concerns.

Called 'National Champions' by Russian President Vladimir Putin, these corporations are vertically integrative companies placed in vital sectors that are expected to pursue profit and serve people's best interests. One of the most successful of these, Gazprom, remains one of the largest companies in the world and is a major player in the oil and gas industry. The Russian government serves as the primary shareholder in these corporations, while the CEO and other high-ranking executives



are private citizens who run the business as any other entrepreneur would in a free market while still being indirectly responsible to the people. Being the owners of these companies, the government ensures low domestic prices while expecting the executives to strive for maximal profit in foreign countries. This allows for the state to set domestic fiscal policy to their liking as well as remain the major player in the national economy while the companies are able to support themselves through free-market practices, ensuring all practices are for the common good.

These National Champions have since greatly impacted the Russian economy. Since 1999, Russia's purchasing power has in-

creased to seventh in the world, and its gross domestic product grew six-fold, jumping from 22nd to 10th worldwide. The number of people living below the poverty line decreased from 30 per cent to 14 per cent and, according to a 2004 study by the Andreas School of Business, the overall tax burden of Russia was much lower than other European nations. Despite the gains in profit, the overall goal of these Champions is to serve the public good has not been lost as shown by the distribution of wealth and the growth of the middle class from eight million to 55 million people, despite the less than democratic practices of the Putin administration.

Financial stability remains nearly unbreakable in Russia since this introduction. The Russian economy declined slightly during the 2008 crisis, taking only a year to bounce back to the incredible growth rate it had experienced before. Total loss of GDP was also much lower than other major economies, and all losses were reimbursed after the economy recovered in late 2009.

Overall, this form of state-owned business greatly increases the stability and performance of the economy in whatever sector it is located. Though profits will not grow nearly as fast for already developed nations, loss of revenue and incentives should not be a problem if efficient models like Putin's Champions are followed. More importantly, financial stability will increase with the addition and promotion of government overseers, which will greatly benefit citizens and their investments in the long run and avoid the impact of massive and catastrophic market failures. The best option for Canada's economy is the stable reform liberal model. You can only grow upwards if you have a steady base to stand on.

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Storybook basketball season ends in Regina

Taylor McKee

Sports Editor • @TaylorMcKee_

Though the result may be the same as last season, the circumstances are much different for the University of Calgary women's basketball team after the Canadian Interuniversity Sport Final Eight wrapped up in Regina on March 17. The Dinos finished fourth after being defeated by the St. Mary's University Huskies in the bronze-medal game — the same finish as the 2011–12 season when the Dinos lost to the University of Ottawa Gee-Gees in Calgary.

However, the end to this season has a much different feel than last year. The 2011–12 Dinos only qualified for the Final Eight because they were the host team — this year the Dinos qualified by placing second in the Canada West finals, losing to the University of Regina Cougars on March 2. The 2011–12 Dinos were a Cinderella team that were lucky just to be in the tournament; this year, the Dinos earned their spot and competed stride-for-stride with the best programs in the nation.

The quarter-final game was against the Carlton University Ravens on March 15. The Ravens were ranked fourth heading into the tournament and finished the regular season with a record of 15–5 in Ontario University Athletics. The Ravens qualified for the Final Eight by losing to the number-one ranked Windsor University Lancers in the finals of the OUA tournament. Heading into this year's CIS tournament, the Ravens's best finish in the CIS finals was seventh in 2011.

The Dinos struggled finding any sort of offensive rhythm in the early stages of the first quarter against the Ravens, taking nearly five minutes before scoring their first points and almost seven minutes before their first field goal. The early performance of the Dinos's offence was reminiscent of the CW finals against the Cougars where the Dinos were frustrated all game and only scored 37 points. Throughout the early part of the first quarter, the Dinos missed layups and inside jump shots, but the game remained close thanks to some timely free-throw shooting. Late in the first quarter, the Dinos were able to put together nine-consecutive points and jumped out to a 16–12 lead at the end of the quarter.

The second half started off strong for the Dinos, continuing a 16–3 run that extended their lead to as



Brittany Reid

many as 12. The Dinos looked comfortable on offence throughout the second quarter, returning to the up-tempo style that had made them successful throughout the regular season. The half ended with the Dinos leading 34–25 and shooting 47.8 per cent in the half.

The Ravens came out strong in the third and the Dinos saw their lead slip in the early minutes. The Dinos were able to stop the bleeding after some exceptional three-point shooting from guard Ashley Hiron and forward Jessica Franz. The Dinos's lead was cut to five points and the team entered the final frame up 45–40.

The final quarter was exceptionally close with both teams trading clutch shots. Point guard Kristie Sheils hit two consecutive three-pointers — finishing the game with

four threes in total — and was crucial in closing out the game for the Dinos. The Dinos won their quarter-final game 59–51 despite being out-rebounded by the Ravens 55–34 — with 30 of Carleton's rebounds coming on offence.

After the quarter-final, Sheils explained the slow start the Dinos experienced on offence: “We were trying to get the ball inside and that wasn't working. We started missing a lot of our layups and we had to rely on threes in the end.”

The inability to move the ball effectively inside would prove costly for the Dinos as the tournament wore on.

The win against the Ravens meant that the Dinos booked a date against two-time defending CIS champions and the number-one ranked Windsor University Lancers on March

16. The Lancers entered the tournament winning 17-straight games and beat the Gee-Gees 56–46 in their quarter-final game of the CIS tournament. Windsor entered the game with the number-one ranked offence and defence in the CIS and were led by six-foot-three guard Jessica Clemençon, a former CIS player of the year.

In the first quarter, the Dinos were solid defensively and were able to contain the Lancers for the most part, but the size and strength of the Lancers allowed them to score frequently from inside the key. Overall, the Dinos played well early on even though the Lancers led 18–16 after the first quarter.

The Lancers began to pull away in the second quarter by moving the ball towards their stronger inside players and jumped ahead by as

many as 10 points. The Dinos trailed 49–39 at the end of the half, which marked the most points allowed in a half by the Dinos all season. In the first half, the Lancers also made four three-point shots on eight attempts and shot 55.9 per cent from the field.

In the third quarter, the Dinos suffered a huge loss when Sheils suffered a gruesome knee injury after taking a shot and had to be carried off the court by training staff. The loss of Sheils, coupled with the persistent offence of the Lancers extended the deficit to 17 by the end of the third quarter.

With the injury to Sheils and forward Alex Cole fouling out of the game, the Dinos proved to not be as deep as the Lancers in the second half. Led by Clemençon — who finished the game with 21 points — the Lancers pulled away from the Dinos and dashed their hopes of a gold medal. The final score of the semifinal was 82–65 and the Dinos were off to the bronze-medal game.

The loss was the second-straight semifinal loss against the Lancers in the CIS Final Eight — they defeated the Dinos in the 2012 semifinals in Calgary. The loss was the first meeting against Windsor for head coach Damian Jennings, who is in his first year with the Dinos. After the semifinal loss to the Lancers, Jennings addressed some of the challenges of playing at such a high level with relatively little time with his players.

“Most teams have had their fourth- and fifth-year players with one single coach,” said Jennings. “The challenge for my fourth- and fifth-year players was to deal with a

see FINAL EIGHT, page 17

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Gauntlet rink reviews: Banff Trail

Fabian Mayer

Gauntlet Sports • @FGMay

This week marks the final Gauntlet rink review. Hopefully spring will arrive soon and reviewing outdoor rinks will become impossible.

The rinks are reviewed according to four categories: quality of ice, amenities, clientele and overall experience.

Each outdoor rink will be given a score out of five Gauntlet pucks — five out of five being worthy of a Molson Canadian commercial and zero out of five is basically a pile of snow outside of a curling club.

Banff Trail Rink

Location: 2115 20 Ave NW, behind the Banff Trail Community Centre across from Branton Jr. High School.

Quality of ice: 🏒🏒🏒

The ice at Banff Trail's community rink has held up fairly well considering the warm and sunny weather Calgary has seen this winter. One end had quite a few ruts and there were some bumps and divots throughout, sometimes causing pucks to bounce. That being said, there were no bare patches and overall the ice was pretty good.

Amenities: 🏒🏒🏒🏒

There were several features that gave this rink an old-school feel that provided for a unique atmosphere. The boards were made of white wooden planks, now blackened with puck marks. The rink also had older-style square nets. There was a fence surrounding three quarters of the ice surface, one wooden bench and plenty of shovels — I counted nine. The rink's lights shut off at 10 p.m. each night when it closes.

Clientele: 🏒🏒

Aside from a volunteer dutifully clearing snow, I was the only person there to enjoy the sunny Saturday morning.

The rink is reserved for Banff Trail Community Association members Monday to Friday from 2–4 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. and Sunday from 12–3 p.m.

Overall experience: 🏒🏒🏒

The Banff Trail Community Association has a great feel, decent ice and excellent amenities. While having the whole rink to oneself can be nice, it did take something away from the community ambience one expects at an outdoor rink.

The ice was good in the morning but was starting to deteriorate a little in the early afternoon. If one is looking to go for a skate, it's best to go in the morning, evening or on a cold day.



Fabian Mayer

Final Eight, continued from page 16

new guy and new systems for only six months. To make it to the Final Eight and then the final four — I am particularly proud," said Jennings.

The bronze-medal match placed the Dinos against the second-ranked SMU Huskies — the champions of the Atlantic University Sport conference. The Huskies also had the 2012–13 CIS player of the year Justine Colley who was guarded by cw defensive player of the year Tamara Jarrett throughout the bronze-medal game. Previous to this meeting, the Dinos had played the Huskies this pre-season on Oct. 6 in Halifax and lost 68–79. The last time that the Dinos women's basketball team medaled at the CIS championships was in 2001 with a bronze medal. The bronze-medal game on March 17 was the final game for fifth-year players Franz,

guard Megan Schaufele and Cole.

The Dinos came out flying in the first quarter, starting the game with impressive ball movement and an early 12-point lead. Incredibly, after being carried off in the semifinal and entering the court on crutches, Sheils was dressed for the bronze-medal final.

The Dinos took a seven-point lead into the second quarter but began to see their lead slip away after Colley scored six-consecutive points for the Huskies. The Huskies were able to out-rebound the Dinos in the second quarter and were able to out-score the Dinos 21–13, giving the Huskies a two-point lead heading into halftime. Colley scored 17 points in the first half alone and was proving impossible to guard.

The Dinos were down by 10 heading into the final frame and the

combination of the Huskies three-point shooting and Colley's dynamic scoring ability continued to be a nightmare for the Dinos defence. The Dinos were able to claw their way back to within three points thanks to some determined team defence and some key finishes from Schaufele, Jarrett and Franz.

The conclusion of the game was thrilling with each team trading key baskets and the Dinos pressing hard on every possession. Jarrett played some of her best offensive basketball of the season in the fourth quarter but it would not be enough for the Dinos. The Huskies finished the game shooting 41 per cent from three-point range and hit key threes late in the game to sink the Dinos. Colley finished the game with an astounding 33 points and the Huskies defeated the Dinos 83–75.

In her final game as a Dino,

Franz collected 23 rebounds — the best individual rebounding performance at the U of C since 1991 — and added 19 points.

"You definitely want to leave a good legacy," said Franz. "No one expected us to be here and be in the top end of the bracket in nationals . . . I am just so proud of the direction that [Jennings] has taken the program. I could not be more proud of this team."

After the loss, Jennings said the program would continue to improve.

"We have recruited well in the back-court and we have six months of new teaching and learning. I feel very confident about the group being able to adapt," said Jennings. The loss was an obvious setback for the Dinos but Jennings said the broader transformation of the basketball

program was his chief concern.

"Right now, we are trying to create a change of culture more than anything else," said Jennings. "We are trying to create a new performance model at the university that people are buying into in a more holistic sense — not just basketball but how they look after themselves as athletes."

Jennings accomplished a great deal in his first season as a head coach but is more concerned with the overall transformation of the U of C and its basketball philosophy. The women's team was easily one of the most remarkable team performances of the entire athletic year, surprising many and finishing in the top four of the country. Given more time to teach and fine-tune, the future of women's basketball at the U of C looks very bright.

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The boys of summer return

Curtis Wolff

Gauntlet Sports • @CBWolff

With the NHL season only halfway through and winter weather taking a courageous last stand in Canada, it seems a little early to be thinking about baseball. However, in the southern United States the boys of summer are already warming up. With the Major League Baseball's opening night slated for March 31, it's time to preview the upcoming 2013 season.

For the first time in nearly two decades, followers of America's pastime can see a legitimate championship threat in Canada's lone MLB team, the Toronto Blue Jays. After languishing in baseball irrelevancy once again in 2012, the Rogers Communications ownership group set Jays general manager Alex Anthopolous loose on a spending spree that saw the team acquire three new starting pitchers, including 2012 Cy Young winner R. A. Dickey.

The Blue Jays also upgraded their batting order by adding shortstop Jose Reyes and disgraced all-star Melky Cabrera — suspended last year for testing positive for high levels of testosterone. How a

cleaned-up Cabrera will perform is anybody's guess, but he did record the highest batting average in the National League prior to his suspension.

With this revamped roster comes tremendous expectations. Despite the new additions, the Blue Jays will need players like Ricky Romero, Brett Lawrie and Colby Rasmus to reach their highest potential in order for the team to reach their championship hopes.

The rest of the American League should pan out much like last year. AL champions the Detroit Tigers have rid themselves of some troublesome contracts like Jose Valverde and Delmon Young while improving their roster with Anibal Sanchez and Torii Hunter. With the new additions combined with an already strong roster, the Tigers should be considered favourites to reach the World Series again in 2013.

The Los Angeles Angels have added former Texas Rangers superstar Josh Hamilton to a batting order that already includes Albert Pujols and Mike Trout — expect them to bounce back from last year's disappointment and smash their way to first place in the AL West Division.



courtesy Tom Hegerthy/akeandlocal

Desmond Jennings of the Tampa Bay Rays during spring training.

Meanwhile in the AL East, the aging but skillful New York Yankees continue to be a threat. While their roster lacks anything resembling young blood, a healthy Yankees club will make the playoffs.

In the National League, expect the Washington Nationals to dominate again. They've actually managed to improve their team, adding ex-Yankees closer Rafael Soriano and one of baseball's top leadoff hitters Denard Span. With

star pitcher Stephen Strasburg fully recovered from a lingering elbow injury, the Nationals should win more than 100 games this season.

When it comes to playoff time, one can't help but favour the defending World Series Champion San Francisco Giants. The Giants are an exciting team with great chemistry who won it all last year despite asking Cabrera, the league's best hitter, to stay at home once his 50-game suspension had expired. If

pitcher Tim Lincecum can regain his starter-quality stuff, the Giants will beat out a surging LA Dodgers squad for first in the NL West. In the NL Central, the Cincinnati Reds remain the team to beat.

MLB added two wild card playoff positions last year, making playoffs more accessible to middle-of-the-road teams that manage to put together a good season. One team to keep an eye on is the Kansas City Royals. Young bats like Eric Hosmer and Mike Moustakas showed promise last year and management added some better players, including ex-Tampa Bay Rays pitcher James Shields. The Royals might compete for the playoffs in the same way the Baltimore Orioles did last year.

Meanwhile, at the bottom of the standings, expect the Miami Marlins to be just as abominable this year as they were last but this time without the false hopes of a fresh start. The Houston Astros will present another squad that barely passes as a major league team.

In the AL, the usually competitive Rays have added too many fringe-MLBers to be taken seriously and the Boston Red Sox are simply hoping that last season's debacle was rock bottom.

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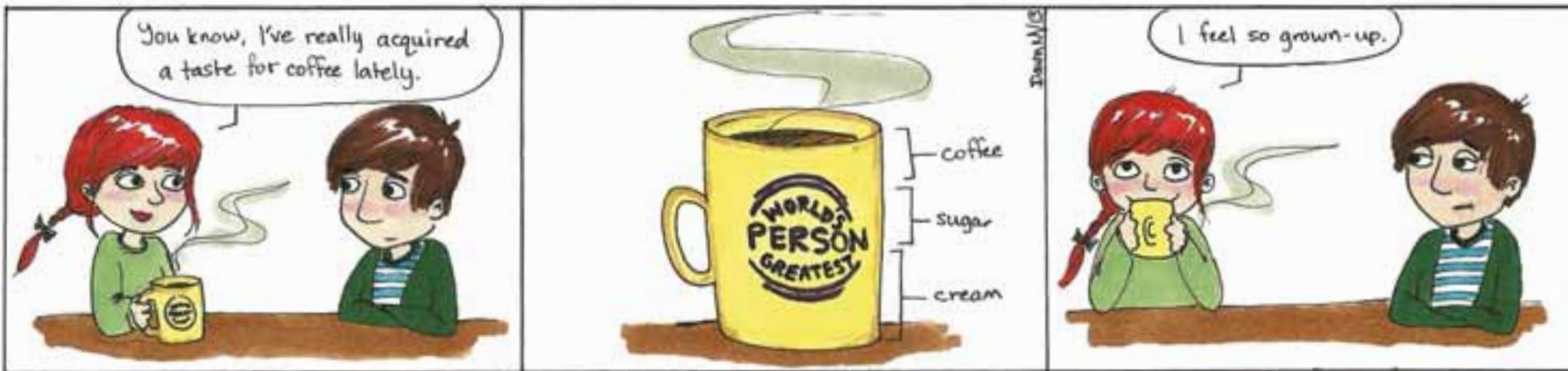
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arguments for a more affordable, higher quality U of C experience. It's an easy way to tell us what we can do for you.

recruited new food vendors to offer healthy meal options, and added more seating space to enjoy them based on feedback obtained through the annual survey. In

“... the Students' Union uses survey results to guide the work we do throughout the year. It's what we use to direct our services and programs, and it's where we get the data to back up our arguments for a more affordable, higher quality U of C experience.”

Your feedback in previous SU surveys has improved the student experience at the University of Calgary. Over the past several years the SU has renovated and expanded the food court in MacHall,

in addition, we created new study spaces on campus, funded programs to enhance the quality of teaching, scholarships and bursaries, made MacHall styrofoam-free and introduced composting bins in the

food court. The survey also helps direct the SU in its advocacy efforts.

The 2013 SU Survey will be available from March 8 to April 5 and the SU needs to know: do the services on campus really meet student needs? Is there an event that you really look forward to? Do you feel like you know what is happening on campus? What can the SU do to make your student experience better? The survey takes only 15 minutes and all students who complete the survey can enter to win one of two \$500 gift cards to the University of Calgary Bookstore. **To complete the survey, go to www.su.ucalgary.ca and follow the links.**

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