

REPAIRING THE
CRACKS OFDOMESTIC
VIOLENCE

Susan Anderson
Editor-in-Chief

The Centre for Response-Based Practice out of Duncan B.C. and the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, along with the City University of Seattle masters and counseling program are presenting a three-day conference at the University of Calgary on May 29–31. The conference, called In Dignity, will address domestic violence and will talk about how people respond to and resist violence. This conference is the first one to present ideas about response-based practice in Calgary.

Allan Wade co-founded the idea of response-based practice, along with Linda Coates and Nick Todd. Wade is a family therapist and researcher and works with couples and families who are facing adversity in the form of violence.

"Response-based practice stems

from the observation that when people are badly treated or when they face adversity, they always respond in some kind of way to address the adversity, to resist the violence, to preserve and reassert their dignity," said Wade. "When you see how people respond to and resist violence, you begin to see that many forms of violence are much more deliberate than is conventionally assumed. For example, offenders anticipate that the victim will resist and take steps to circumvent and suppress that resistance."

Wade's practice also focuses on understanding how society and professionals respond to acts of violence.

"There's good research now that shows that the way in which professionals, friends and family respond to violence is probably the single best predictor of the level of victim distress," said Wade.

Wade explained that the re-

sponse of police, family counselors, parents, siblings and others is an important factor in dealing with violence.

"We study how individuals respond to adversity and the social responses that they receive, so we work to align ourselves with people's responses to adversity and also to try and improve the quality of social responses, right across the board, in professional settings," said Wade. "Where most forms of counselling or therapy focus on how people are affected or impacted, we argue that that this focus leaves out a great deal, including how people respond to adversity and resist. Many of the forms of resistance are then misunderstood as deficits or pathologies or some other problem in the victim."

To explain this view of the victim, Wade gave an example of an adult who survived sexual abuse as a child. The woman told Wade that she had always had the sense

that she should have done more in regards to her abuse, but once she began looking at her experiences through response-based practice, she realized that she did do what she could do, which was an important difference for her.

Wade's response-based practice and research also involves a comprehensive analysis of language, which will be an important part of the conference. He said that violent acts that are unilateral, meaning they involve one person acting against another, are often described as mutual, meaning they involved two people participating in the action.

"For example, violent actions, like wife assault, are unilateral actions by one person against the other. However, they are often described as mutual actions. Wife assault is often called a dispute or an argument. Well, a dispute or an argument is something that two people do together, an assault is something that one per-

son does to another," said Wade.

Wade will be talking about children's resistance to violence at the conference. He has studied the portrayal of the sexual abuse of children.

"Even though consent law in Canada states that children 15 and under cannot consent to sex, they are still routinely described in criminal justice settings and psychological and psychiatric reports as participants in sexual behaviour," said Wade. "We talk about the importance of certain types of grammar and how important it is to get clear and accurate descriptions."

One of Wade's presentations is about interviewing victims of interpersonal violence, which discusses the importance of accurate language.

Wade said that violence is often concealed by euphemisms, and as such, there are implications for every professional setting.

see DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, page 3

Canadian politics are cracking

Senator Mike Duffy has been in the middle of spending scandals over in-eligible housing expenses and former Laval mayor Gilles Vaillancourt was charged with two counts of gangsterism along with 10 other offences. What is Canadian politics coming to? Next thing we know, politicians will be smoking crack. Oh wait. Toronto mayor Rob Ford is already accused of doing so.

Ford is arguably the most notorious Canadian politician today. On Thursday May 16, *Toronto Star* reporters announced that they had seen a video replayed three times on a cell phone showing a man they identified as Rob Ford smoking a pipe, acting intoxicated and saying barely comprehensible things, such as making homosexual slurs against Liberal leader Justin Trudeau and comments about the “minorities” on his football team. While this announcement makes us here in Calgary even more thankful for our mayor Naheed Nenshi, the scan-

dal raises grave concerns about the state of Canadian politics.

This announcement isn't as surprising as it should be, which makes us wonder, what behaviour will we accept from our politicians? These are the people who decide the amount of money we are taxed and where this tax money is spent. They are the people who can raise awareness of important issues or sweep them under the rug. But more than that, these politicians are our country's leaders and represent us as a city, province or country at a global level.

We don't expect politicians to be perfect. They are people too, and the pressures of their job are intense. But we elect them, and so we trust them to have a certain level of moral integrity, a sense of service, public duty and respect. Smoking crack goes against all of these.

Even if Rob Ford didn't smoke crack, he should be stepping up and addressing these claims. He has called them “ridiculous” and will



try to use his long feud with the *Toronto Star* to discredit the *Star's* allegations, but Ford is going to have to be more convincing before we think he's fit to lead a city.

One of the ways to further support or refute the claims is to access the 90-second video clip and further identify the man who is smoking the pipe. The video is believed to be held by people involved in the drug trade. The asking price is \$200,000 so Gawker, a news blog that also sent a reporter to see the video, started a Indiegogo crowdfunding campaign — dubbed the Crackstarter — to

raise the money. The campaign has raised over \$120,000 in less than a week. Further analysis of the video will hopefully prove or disprove these claims, but it won't resolve the issue of electing corrupt politicians. If the video is never seen again or is found to be inconclusive, we will still be left with the embarrassment of having top Canadian politicians accused of smoking crack.

Rob Ford's allies should re-think why they support him and if anyone thinks they can do better, they should run against him. However, the next Toronto municipal elections are in October of 2014, and this scandal could possibly blow over before then.

Voters should think about who they vote for and what sort of candidate they want to represent them. While Rob Ford deserves to be removed from office, voters need to think about how he got the job in the first place.

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Golden Spatula
Zainab Takuma gets the *Gauntlet's* Spatula award for being so committed to the *Gauntlet's* play to take over the world.

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A queer display of public affection

Members of Calgary's queer community stage kiss-in

Riley Hill
News Editor

Lips were locked in Thompson Park on May 17 for the Calgary Queer Kiss-in, a mass display of love with the goal of asserting the queer community's right to public displays of affection. The kiss-in took place on the 9th annual International Day to End Homophobia and Transphobia, a worldwide event held to educate people about, and end, the many injustices queer people face.

The Calgary Outlink Centre for Gender & Sexual Diversity organized the event. Twenty-two couples participated in the kiss-in.

Calgary Outlink board of directors member and recent University of Calgary graduate Gael James said the purpose of the kiss-in was to calm the nerves of people who feel uncomfortable at the sight of queer people being affectionate.

"We just want to raise awareness about the different queer phobias that exist and let people know that, hey, we're people too



Riley Hill

Couples kiss in Thompson Park for the event.

and it's all good," said James. "If you see two queer people kissing or holding hands, it's simply an expression of love. It's not meant to be a threat to you or your beliefs."

Gay Friends Calgary president Bill Taylor spoke during the event. Born and raised in Calgary, Taylor has long played an active role in Calgary's queer community. He echoed James's sentiments about

the non-threatening nature of the kiss-in.

"I know that there are people who think it is offensive, but that's not the idea," said Taylor.

He said the event is simply to assert that queer people should not be uncomfortable about displaying their affection.

"Kissing your partner, hugging your partner, holding hands in a public environment — we should

be able to do this also."

Speaking in front of a crowd of 60 people, Taylor described how the treatment of queer people in Calgary has changed since his youth.

"When I was young, we hid, we pretended, we got married — we did everything we could to protect ourselves," said Taylor. "We were at risk of losing our jobs and our homes. Our churches would

reject us, our families would possibly reject us — the entirety of society had animosity towards us. It's not that bad anymore."

Calgary Police volunteer Calvin Campbell also spoke at the event, highlighting the challenges Calgary's queer community still faces. Campbell described an assault he experienced after leaving the nightclub Twisted Element and how it affected his view of the city.

"In Calgary, I'm a little bit more gun shy because of the assault," said Campbell. "I've already been assaulted once, so I'm a little bit more cautious about not being assaulted again."

Campbell said harassment is still a regular part of many queer people's lives.

"It's often just taunts and slurs that are thrown from people who usually aren't brave enough to say it to your face," said Campbell. "I had one guy ride by on a bike and yell 'faggot' a little while ago. It's usually pretty telling when people are not willing to say it to your face."

Domestic violence, cont'd from cover

Gillian Weaver-Dunlop, who is the manager of men's counselling services at the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, will be presenting at the conference. One of her presentations is about interviewing men who have used violence and draws on how she uses response-based practice in her work.

"With victims of domestic violence, we pay attention to how they respond to being abused by their partners. We look at what they do to oppose, to stand up against, to resist any violence —

whether it's overt actions or covert actions that others might not see. Sometimes that can be even in the privacy of their own mind because it's not safe for them to resist openly," said Weaver-Dunlop.

She explained how victims of domestic violence are often described as being damaged or having deficiencies.

"We try to highlight a person's agency in terms of how they have responded to acts of violence," said Weaver-Dunlop. "There is a new energy that comes into the

room when we talk about how they resisted, how they responded and what did they do in the face of oppression, degradation and abuse."

She also uses this approach when working with perpetrators of violence. She explained how perpetrators talk in the "language of effects," meaning they see their actions as the effect of something else — for example, having an abusive childhood, being drunk or the result of a mental illness.

"It is our perspective that they made a choice by responding in

an abusive way, and in our experience, men are usually not okay with having done that. We try to focus on choice and volition in their actions. We focus on their responses rather than seeing their violence as an effect of something else," said Weaver-Dunlop.

The conference is expecting about 175-200 people. Susan Smed, an organizer of the conference, said they are currently trying to get the word out to their target audience.

"We prefer to have people who can really benefit in their work,"

said Smed.

The Centre for Response-Based Practice and the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter hope to target people who either work in family counselling, domestic violence, police work, education or institutions such as courts.

They are also trying to reach out to the Aboriginal community. However, people who are interested that don't specifically work in counselling are welcome, because the practice can help everyone see violent acts differently.

campus quips

What do you think of Toronto mayor Rob Ford?



"He's a very unique character."

— Shirley Chan, third-year engineering



"He doesn't really impact my life."

— Neil Kay, first-year accounting



"He could control himself a lot better."

— Steven Guscott, second-year kinesiology



"I think he's on quack."

— Duck Mallard, second-year zoology

Human impacts on ecosystem worse than thought

Study examines human influence on southern Alberta's environment

Fabian Mayar

Gauntlet News

Humans have an impact on the ecosystems in which they live — this is uncontroversial. However, the question of how exactly humans affect interactions within an ecosystem is still up for debate. New research by University of Calgary ecologists is shedding light on the scale of these impacts.

Dr. Tyler Muhly, who headed the study, described the focus of the research.

"The main thing we were looking at is how human activity on a large-scale landscape influences the distribution of various species that interact in a food chain," said Muhly. "We wanted to see how human presence influenced where these species interacted on that landscape."

The interactions between species and what shapes them has been the subject of much debate in the field of ecology, with the argument between a bottom-up or top-down approach.

"One of the ecological theories that we were testing was that predators have these effects on

/// We really found that humans are a dominant species as far as influencing how food chains and food webs are regulated.

— Tyler Muhly, U of C biology PhD candidate

food chains from the top down. Predators regulate the species they eat, which in turn has an effect on the species that they eat, so it has a trickle down effect," said Muhly.

Muhly and his team eventually discovered that the bottom-up effect seems to be what is regulating ecosystems in southern Alberta. However, the most groundbreaking findings were that this bottom up effect is principally a result of human impacts on the environment.

"People are having a bigger effect on plants in that system and as a result this is having an effect on the distribution of herbivore species, ultimately having an effect on predators," said Muhly. "We really found that humans are a dominant species as far as influencing how food chains and food webs are regulated."

Data for the study was collected over a period of five years through

GPS collaring of animals, traffic counters and satellite imaging. The research was done in southwest Alberta, entirely outside of national parks.

According to Muhly, humans are influencing plants within the ecosystem by clearing forest in favour of grassland, planting crops such as hay, as well as adding chemicals to the system through the use of fertilizer.

As for the broader implications of the research, Muhly stressed the importance of remaining cognizant about the effects that human activity has on nature.

"If you're trying to manage or understand how a given piece of the landscape works, you need to document what people are doing there," said Muhly. "You need to understand what people are doing and how that might affect the balance of food chains and food webs."

Conner Brown takes chair of CAUS

Zainab Takuma

Gauntlet News

Current University of Calgary Students' Union vice-president external Conner Brown is the newest chair of the Council of Alberta University Students, succeeding current su president and former su vice-president external Raphael Jacob. CAUS represents over 70,000 students from the University of Alberta, University of Calgary and University of Lethbridge, lobbying for undergraduate university students to the Alberta provincial government.

One of CAUS's most prominent achievements last year was the Election Amendment Act, also known as Bill 7. The bill allows university students to cast their ballots in the city where they attend school.

CAUS focuses on a set of long-term priorities. These include



Michael Grondin

Brown is the current Students' Union vice-president external.

issues like the student work program, non-instructional fees and non-reputable financial aid.

Brown, who has held the chair of CAUS for less than two weeks, said he is prepared for the task ahead.

"I feel confident and ready for the job ahead," said Brown.

Jacob also lent his support,

describing him as a smart guy who is interested in provincial politics and has the ability to prove himself to CAUS executives.

"I'm sure he will do very well. I'm very excited that he's a hard worker and, then again, he has the same edge I had this past year," said Jacob.

BSD FINAL REPORT

APRIL 16, 2013

- ★ 6,200 attendees
- ★ 232 busted for open alcohol
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- ★ 3 vandalism reports
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- ★ 1 domestic dispute

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The state of youth employment

U of C professor outlines some of the challenges youth face in workforce

Riley Hill
News Editor

University of Calgary professor Kevin McQuillan recently published a paper titled “All the Workers We Need: Debunking Canada’s Labour-Shortage Fallacy.” The paper examines Canada’s controversial temporary foreign workers program, myths surrounding Canada’s current labour market and some troubling information about the current state of youth employment. The *Gauntlet* recently sat down with McQuillan and asked him about some of the challenges young Canadians face while entering the workforce.

The *Gauntlet*: How do temporary foreign workers affect youth employment?

Kevin McQuillan: I think there are two possible ways. One, many temporary foreign workers are filling lower-skilled service jobs that are often needed by univer-

sity students. We’re seeing many more positions in the service industry being filled by temporary foreign workers. That raises the question, will that shut off potential employment that students might be picking up as they are studying or transitioning from one stage of life to another?

It’s hard to know how big of an issue that is. It does strike me that this is not as prominent in Alberta where unemployment is low, but when you look at some other parts of the country, you wonder why we’re importing temporary foreign workers to fill service jobs that young people either in or out of school might be thinking of working at on a part-time basis.

The other part of it is harder to say. Certainly there is evidence that the Royal Bank situation shows temporary foreign workers coming in and taking more high-skilled positions. The question that’s raised is, are there really no qualified young Canadians



Michael Grondin

McQuillan does his research at the U of C school of public policy.

to take those positions?

The Royal Bank issue focused on information technology and we know that we are turning out computer scientists from universities all across the country. I think we do need to ask ourselves, is there truly this shortage of talented young Canadians who might be able to fill those roles?

But they are not being put into those roles for one reason or another.

G: According to your paper, youth wages have stagnated since 1981. Why is that?

KM: I think part of the answer is that we have had a huge increase in the number of young

people with higher levels of education and skill than was true in the past. There has been a lot of competition for available openings. At the same time, the people who are entering the country under the permanent immigration program — opposed to the temporary foreign worker program — tend to be highly educated as well, because to gain admission as an immigrant, education is weighted very highly. What this adds up to is a lot of competition.

The other part of it is technological and organizational change in our economy. In a lot of areas, companies will eliminate many positions, and they often say, ‘No, we’re not firing anyone. We’re downsizing through attrition.’ This means that when people retire, they’re not replaced, or people may be bought out through packages. Really, what that means is potential entry positions for young people coming into the labour market are eliminated.

GAUNTLET TECH

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Northern Sprites: The two faces of video games

Sean Willett
Production Editor

Even to a person who is familiar with video games, the list of speakers at this year’s Ottawa International Game Conference could seem perplexing. Looking down the list, one can find that for every independent, bearded artist there are half a dozen suit-clad marketing gurus — with a few nerdy programmers sitting awkwardly between these two vastly different groups. People this different can’t possibly be representative of the same industry, can they?

In a way, they aren’t really in the same industry at all. The term ‘video game’ has been applied to an extraordinarily broad range of interactive experiences, to the point where a phone app involving matching colourful gems and a story about a Brazilian man’s experiences with an alcoholic father can be lumped together without anyone batting an eye.

‘Video game’ now serves more as an umbrella term than anything else, a catch-all category encompassing both mindless diversions and meaningful works of art. Yet, strangely, the tendency remains to treat video games as a single, homogenous entity.

Most video games can be fit into either one or both of two major categories: for the purposes of this argument let’s call them ‘tests of skill’ and ‘interactive stories.’ These two groups are similar in the same way that commercials are similar to movies — while both commercials and movies are a series of moving images accompanied by sound, they are otherwise fundamentally different. Likewise, while both types of video games are digital experiences constrained by specific sets of rules, tests of skill mainly focus on challenging the player to beat a high score or complete some sort of test, while interactive stories attempt to communicate some sort of message or artistic

statement to their audience.

While many video games can fit into both categories — most big budget games such as *Assassin’s Creed* and *Call of Duty* mix both approaches with various degrees of success — the divide that exists between the two extreme ends of this spectrum is what has caused the most confusion. Not only are tests of skill and interactive stories completely different experiences, but they are usually created for different reasons, distributed in different ways, criticized using different standards and played by different people. One way is not necessarily better than the other, it’s just that tests of skill like *Angry Birds* or *Candy Crush Saga* are so different from interactive stories like *Journey* and *The Walking Dead* that the two groups can’t even be compared.

This difference is why looking down the list of speakers at OIGC is so confusing. Imagining a person that would be excited to see a scruffy hipster talk about

his independent game collective right after listening to a seminar about mobile marketing strategies takes a significant amount of mental gymnastics. The conference is obviously attempting to appeal to the widest range of people as possible, although there is a bit more emphasis placed on the business side of video games — something that is much more closely related to the primarily profit-driven tests of skill.

As the industry expands and diversifies, I will be interested in seeing whether or not people will continue to attempt to treat all video games as one entity. How much longer will business-minded CEOs intent on learning the latest word on microtransactions and aspiring artists looking for advice on how to use sound in their narratives be forced to endure each other’s company? This depends on whether or not the divide separating the different types of video games grows

or shrinks — there is a lot that these disparate groups of developers can learn from each other, and a future where the lines between narrative-driven games and skill-driven games is blurred even further is far from an impossibility. The most likely future, however, is one where video games split into more than just a straightforward binary, and become as varied and complex as other forms of media.

A change to how we talk about video games will most likely come sooner than later. With the release of ‘games’ like *Proteus* and *Dear Esther*, more and more critics are arguing over what actually constitutes a game, causing small changes to the lexicon surrounding video games to already occur. What we once simply knew as ‘video games’ aren’t very simple anymore, and the way we categorize them can’t stay simple either.

Northern Sprites is a bi-monthly column looking at video games and technology in Canada.

How to make a movie in 24 hours

Calgary team races to produce four-minute film for competition

Sean Willett

Production Editor

Many filmmakers dream of a chance to make it big, to be in a position where they have the money, equipment and time to make anything their hearts desire. But sometimes, having limited time and resources can be just as useful — limitation often breeds creativity. Discovering what can be accomplished in only a day is the idea behind the 24 Hour Film Race, which challenges filmmakers around the world to write, shoot and edit a film in a 24-hour period.

Organized by NYC Midnight Movie Making Madness, Film Racing began in 2002 as a way to challenge filmmakers and promote emerging artists. Film Racing has inspired over 2,000 films since it started and in the last five years has awarded filmmakers over \$200,000.

This year's 24 Hour Film Race started on the evening of May 17 at 8:00 p.m. in Calgary, when teams were emailed a theme, an action and a prop that were required to be used in their short film. This year's theme was time travel, the action was crumpling a piece of paper and the prop was an egg. The films had to be under four minutes long and submitted on time the next evening. With such little time, teams needed to work under pressure.

"You have to go with your instinct," Dominique van Olm says, the director for one of two Calgary teams participating in this year's race. "You have to settle on something and just go with it. Make something work. You adapt around an idea. Being forced into a situation like this is a really interesting way to realize you can make something from nothing."



Michael Grondin

Emily Thomas, Dominique van Olm and Nathaniel Chiang are working set design and sound for the 24 Hour Film Race in Calgary.

The winner of an audience choice award at the 2011 24 Hour Film Race, van Olm and her team, The Ides, already had experience working under the contest's constraints and knew what to expect going into this year's competition.

"The biggest challenge is getting through the brainstorming stage and working the theme that they gave you into your own unique idea," explains the team's assistant director, Emily Thomas. "As soon as you are able to manipulate the theme into your own scenario that is when the project rockets off and the rest of the work is much smoother."

"You have to be as organized as you can before you do it," van Olm says. "Creating a schedule you can stick to is the only way to get everything done that you need."

While there will not be a screening in Calgary this year, the top 24 films will be featured online and the winning teams will be invited to a gala in New York City. There, prizes will be awarded for the five best films selected by a panel of judges. However, fame and fortune are not the only reasons filmmakers participate in the 24 Hour Film Race — the experience and opportunities offered through this challenge are also invaluable.

"I think it's a great creative outlet that most people don't get to have regularly," Nathaniel Chiang says, one of the producers on van Olm's team. "It doesn't matter if you make art regularly or if you just do it from time to time — this is a great way to jump in and let your creative juices flow. You build confidence in yourself, giving yourself the freedom to express what you choose."

For van Olm and her team it was also a way of motivating themselves.

"We entered it as a way to force ourselves to work on something," van Olm says. "It was difficult, but we could do it, which is cool."

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STUDENTS UNION
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What to see in Calgary

In the Dirt with Eyes on the Stars
May 11–June 22

Marie Lannoo's new exhibit is on display at Newzones. Lannoo creates art using abstraction through powdered minerals, resin and high-gloss paint. Visit newzones.com to learn more.

M.C. Escher: The Mathemagician
May 25–Aug. 18

Get turned upside down and topsyturvy. The artwork of M.C. Escher is on exhibit at the Glenbow Museum beginning this week. Visit glenbow.org for more information.

FunnyFest Calgary Comedy Festival

May 30–June 9
Looking for a laugh? The annual FunnyFest starts soon with 70 comedians performing at 11 venues around the city. Check out funnyfest.com for tickets.

Book Review: *Inferno* doesn't quite go down in flames

Sean Sullivan
Entertainment Editor

In his most famous book, *The Da Vinci Code*, Dan Brown brought the renaissance artist back into fashion. However, with his last two books, Brown has trailed behind, playing catch up with existing cultural obsessions. In his latest novel, *Inferno*, Brown returns again to modern culture's fascination with all things Italian.

American pop culture has recently refocused on Italy in the last few years, specifically Florence and Venice. Ubisoft's *Assassin's Creed 2* seems to have begun this trend in 2009, followed by the game's sequels in 2010 and in 2011. The television show *The Borgias* aired in early 2011 and this year saw the premiere of *Da Vinci's Demons*.

Brown plays with the fads and fears of modern culture, introducing various historical and contemporary theories of society, art and science throughout his books. For *Inferno* he draws on the love of Italy, history and complex puzzles, as well as the fear of memory loss, disease, climate

change and overpopulation. As with most of Brown's fiction, the book is a social criticism shrouded in a detective-fiction plot, sprinkled with historical facts.

The settings, themes, characters and situations in *Inferno* are not especially unique. The similarities to numerous popular works of detective fiction from the last decade are noticeable over the first 12 chapters, including *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* and the rest of Stieg Larsson's Millennium trilogy, *The Bourne Identity* and *Indiana Jones*. The book begins with what feels like a blend of Larsson's *The Girl who Kicked the Hornets' Nest* and *The Bourne Identity* as Robert Langdon awakes in the hospital with amnesia and someone trying to kill him.

The book resorts to many of the crutches of genre fiction — dream sequences, excessive internal dialogue and obnoxious metaphors and similes. Many of the characters are so eccentric or outrageous they would not be out of place as James Bond villains. But fans don't read a Dan Brown novel for the writing. They read it

for how well Brown manages to weave real world locations and symbols into a cohesive whole.

Brown has been accused of playing fast and loose with historical facts in all his Robert Langdon novels, mashing together symbols and coincidences to produce underlying mysteries from ages past, but *Inferno* is easier to swallow as it abandons the hidden mysteries of human history in favour of a contemporary puzzle, invented by a modern-day villain and layered over the ancient relics and symbols. By situating the source of the extravagant treasure hunt in the modern day, as the brainchild of an obsessed mind, Brown ensures the mystery is less contrived than his previous novels. Believing an antagonist used obscure clues pointing to various works of art as bread crumbs in an elaborate game is much easier than accepting a secret society that buried clues for later generations to uncover.

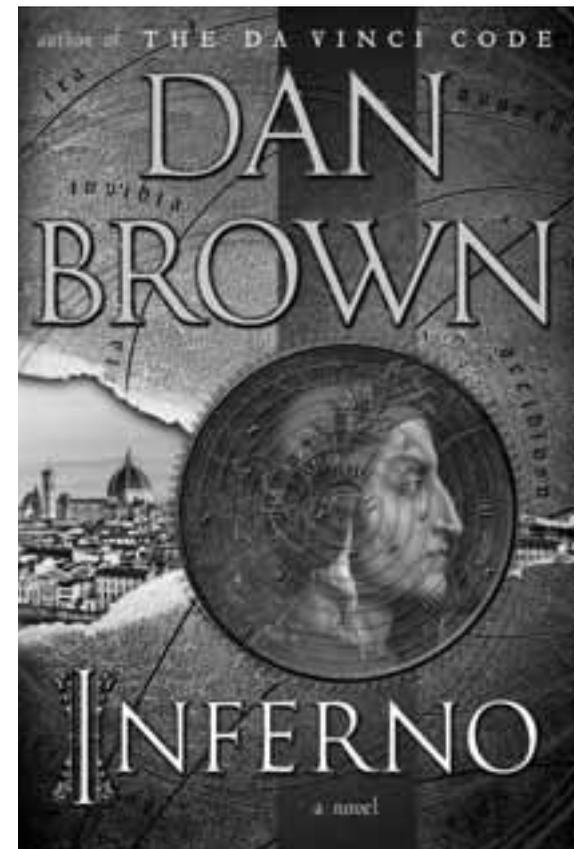
The plot of the novel is never as impressive or as interesting as how Brown manages to connect so many different works of art — that is the real mystery. The

best moments in the book are as each new symbol and location is revealed and the reader gets to see the connections to previous historical landmarks and symbols. Those moments make the book worth reading. On top of that he manages to interlace those connections with real world concerns and fears.

Unfortunately the puzzles that Robert Langdon needs to solve at intervals throughout the book are few and far between as the

story gets distracted with describing the Palazzo Vecchio, the Boboli Gardens, the Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore and other Florentine and Venetian architecture dur-

ing Langdon's carefully explained flight through the Italian streets and gardens. The plot is further broken up by the lengthy, often pedantic history lessons.



courtesy Random House

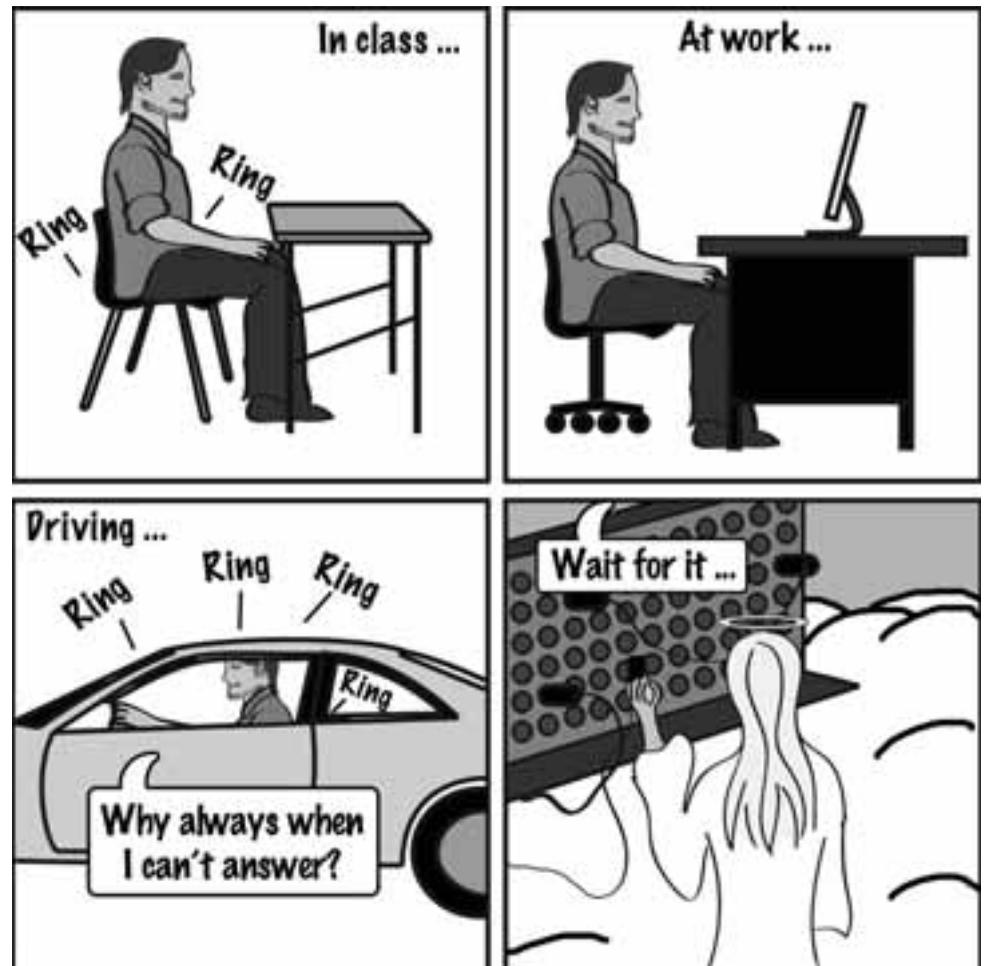
GAUNTLET COMICS

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It Goes Without Saying — Dawn Muenchrath



The Comic Re-titled As Something Else — Sean Sullivan



Calgary's cheapest 18 holes

Disc golf offers casual, affordable summer fun

Fabian Mayer

Gauntlet Sports • @FgMay

Few have heard of disc golf, let alone played it. It is a pastime that has been ignored by most athletes and sports fanatics, so much so that finding a disc golf basket in a park would be a thoroughly confusing experience for many. Yet it is a sport that has much to offer people of all ages, from children to retirees and everyone in between, due to its accessible nature.

The basic objective is the same as golf, but instead of hitting a ball one throws a disc the same way one might throw a Frisbee. The 'hole' is a metal basket with chains coming down the middle to catch the discs, giving it a basketball net-like appearance.

Courses are generally set up in public parks and are maintained by the City, with Calgary's premier disc golf course being the 18-hole Baker Park course along the Bow River in the northwest. There is also a course at the Nordic Centre in Canmore that provides stunning views of the Rockies along with a challenging 18 holes.

Though the sport takes its inspiration from golf, the similarities end there. Disc golf courses are nearly always free and are can



Fabian Mayer

be completed quicker than regular golf courses. Disc golfers don't need to spend four to five hours of their day playing a round or invest hundreds of dollars in expensive equipment. While regular golf can be a competitive and even stressful sport, disc golf is a more relaxed and recreational endeavour.

As long as the weather is reasonable, one is almost guaranteed to find some disc golfers out for a round in Baker Park. Tom Vick-

ers, Byron Dancy and Andrew Lychack are junior high teachers who regularly play together. Vickers has been involved in the sport for over 15 years.

"I started out in Vancouver and have just been totally addicted to it ever since," said Vickers. "It's awesome. The freedom of it, the cool people that you meet. It's absolutely the best sport I've come across."

Vickers added that the relaxed

nature of the activity is in stark contrast to what he called the pretentiousness of regular golf. Along with the easygoing attitude, another appealing aspect of disc golf is the low price tag.

"I've been playing for a couple years," said Dancy. "I've been hanging out with these guys and they're cheap, so I figure I might as well play a cheap sport too. It's fun to get out."

In the days of rising tuition,

textbook and living costs, disc golf offers prime entertainment for students at a bargain price. The Baker Park course can be played in all seasons and is fairly close to the University of Calgary campus. The only cost associated with the sport is the price of a disc, which ranges from \$15–20.

While a novice disc golfer could be forgiven for using a Frisbee, dedicated disc golfers use a set of discs, each one crafted for a certain distance. Some discs offer greater control of the flight path, allowing practiced disc golfers to bend around trees that may stand in the way of the hole.

The Calgary Disc Golf Club has been operating in the city since 2010 and offers scheduled tournaments and playoffs with small cash prizes for those who finish on top of the leaderboard. The newly created organization, which offers memberships for \$30, is a testament to the growth that the sport is currently experiencing. Andrew Lychack has also noticed this increase in popularity over the past few years. He believes the affordability of disc golf has played a large role.

"It's way busier down here now on weekends than it used to be," said Lychack. "It's free, and you can't do anything for free anymore."

Sportsnet to broadcast 13 CIS events in 2013–14

Curtis Wolff

Sports Editor • @CBWolff

Die-hard Dinos fans won't have to make a cross-country trip to see some of their favourite teams play in the big games next year.

Canadian Interuniversity Sport and national broadcaster Sportsnet have announced a six-year deal that will see several CIS championships featured on live national television.

The deal includes broadcast rights to the Vanier Cup, which has been broadcast by TSN for the past four years before that deal expired. While the national football

championship has received attention from national broadcasters in recent years, other CIS championships have been left out of the television spotlight.

However, with the new television agreement some championships that haven't received television attention in the past will now get coverage. Coverage for the 2013–14 season includes football national semifinals and final, women's and men's basketball semifinals and final, men's hockey semifinals and final and the women's hockey final.

Live coverage of these events will be broadcast primarily on

the channel currently known as The Score, which is the third most popular sports television broadcaster in Canada. Sportsnet owner Rogers Communications purchased The Score last year with the intention of incorporating it into the Sportsnet brand. The Score will officially be rebranded under the Sportsnet umbrella on July 1, 2013.

With the acquisition of The Score, Rogers Communications and Sportsnet now boasts a higher capacity for live sports coverage. With the CIS looking to increase their profile among sports viewers and Sportsnet looking to fill

airtime, the deal is a natural fit for both parties.

Although only 13 events will be broadcast in 2013–14, the agreement allows for expansion over the course of the contract. By 2018–19 as many as 27 CIS events

could air annually on Sportsnet, opening the door for the broadcasting of more football, basketball and hockey games, as well as expanded championship coverage in sports such as volleyball and swimming.

2013–14 CIS Events on Sportsnet

Nov. 16 : Uteck and Mitchell Bowls – @ TBA

Nov. 23 : Vanier Cup – @ U. Laval

Mar. 8–9 : Men's basketball – @ Carleton U.

Mar. 15–16 : Women's basketball – @ U. of Windsor

Mar. 16 : Women's hockey – @ St. Thomas U.

Mar. 22–23 : Men's hockey – @ U. Saskatchewan

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