



## Friends rally to help flood victim

**Riley Hill**  
News Editor

High River was devastated during the summer floods, with the whole town being evacuated and millions of dollars in damage done. One of those who lost her home was third-year University of Calgary archeology student Kaiden Tajiri. But thanks to a friend, her year might get a little easier.

To help Tajiri, University of Calgary student Penny Christakis recently created the Tajiri Project, an online fundraising effort for Tajiri and her family.

“Our house was in a part of

town where all the flood water was drained,” Tajiri said. “This was done to save the rest of High River.”

Because of this, 13 feet of water filled the basement of her home with some water flooding the main level. In the rush to leave her home, Tajiri and her family were only able to grab some important documents.

“My mom grabbed a box filled with documents. Except for that, just about everything was destroyed,” Tajiri said. “We went back later to look at the house. The basement was a mess. It had Lego pieces everywhere.”

see TAJIRI, page 4

## Buckley gets player of week nod

**Ashton Chugh**  
Sports Assisant

Dinos football quarterback Andrew Buckley was honoured with the Canadian Inter-university Sport football player of the week award for the week ending Sept. 22, 2013.

The Dinos stomped Manitoba 48-28 to remain the only undefeated team in Canada West 4-0. Buckley completed 24 of 36 of his passes, totaling 512 yards, along with three touchdowns to take the win. Almost 400 of those yards came in the first half.

Buckley’s outstanding performance was the ninth best tally

in conference history for passing yardage. He beat out the likes of Sabastian Robinson, a receiver at Acadia University; Jordan Heather, a quarterback at Bishop’s University; and Dillon Campbell, a running back at Wilfrid Laurier.

Buckley will have some time to rest up as the Dinos do not play until Sept. 28. They will take on the 0-4 University of Alberta Golden Bears who recently lost to the University of British Columbia in overtime. The Bears will have their hands full with Buckley, considering that the Dinos have outscored the Bears 223-17 in their last four meetings.





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#### Golden Spatula



*God does not play  
 dice with the world.  
 I play dice with your  
 heart.*

We found Ashton Chugh making goat's cheese in a cave tucked away near the Swiss Alps. When we asked him what he was doing there, he claimed to be searching for the love of his life who had been kidnapped by a bioluminescent talking whale named Jericho. When we asked him to join our news crew, he surprised us by skiing effortlessly down on a pair of mole-skin skis screwed together by shards of a broken whiskey bottle. He wrote three news articles before he reached the bottom of the hill, and this athleticism led to him being named Sports Assistant and Golden Spatula winner of the week.

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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 barf-based ink. We urge you to recycle/annihilate 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

Design by Evangelos Lambrinoudis II

# The value in brewing discontent

This week's *Gauntlet* includes our new drinking supplement and this has our editorial board feeling like critics. We spent our weekend sampling Calgary's finest liquours all for the good of our loyal readers. But there was one line we should not have crossed. One burden we should not have bared. Our advice to you: never, ever drink anything from Minhas Brewery — it wins the *Gauntlet* Editorial Board's award for worst liquor brand on the planet.

Two University of Calgary graduates started Minhas Brewery in 2005 and the company has since expanded at a frantic pace. Since their humble beginnings, Minhas opened a brewery and distillery in Wisconsin and a pizza restaurant in Calgary. Run by two siblings, Minhas breweries have developed a number of recognizable brands like Damn Good Beer, Mountain Crest Lager and Clear Creek Ice. Their success was built on the foundation of a brand characterized by aggressive marketing, inflated product descriptions and consistently terrible beverages.

The latest monstrosity is Boxer Watermelon, perhaps their worst product to date. It's an 8.5 per cent alcohol, Jolly Rancher-flavoured play on their flagship beer, Boxer Lager. It comes in a massive 710 ml can that is sure to knock you on your ass. And it's cheap. Really cheap. This is the one thing Minhas has going for it. Their beers are always the cheapest in the store. As university students, none of us are above drinking a budget beer. But we will not drink stinky,



watermelon malt swill that tastes like it was brewed in a witches' caldron

You might notice Boxer watermelon ads on Calgary buses — Minhas always markets their new products aggressively. Before Boxer Watermelon, you couldn't ride the train without seeing an ad for Uptown Girl — a beer for the woman who has it all. Before that, there were ads everywhere for Mountain Crest — a beer for the man who has nothing left.

Despite all their beers tasting like horse ass, Minhas insists on pretending that it sells a premium product.

According to the Minhas Brewery website, Boxer is a "classic Canadian-style dry lager" paired well with sharp cheeses, grilled vegetables and robust pasta dishes. No, it's not. At best, Boxer could be described as balsamic vinegar mixed with urine and soda water. And no one drinks Boxer with grilled vegetables. You drink Boxer at 2 a.m. on a street corner to wash down your Hungry Man Dinner from Chicken On The Way. You shotgun warm Boxer in the parking lot before getting in line for Cowboys Dance Hall.

Then there is Axehead: Judas of

the 40 oz. In high school, Axehead was something of an urban legend. At 11 per cent, it is the strongest "malt beverage" sold in Calgary. And like other Minhas products, it's cheap and tastes like turpentine. It just might be the only drink on earth that has never been sipped. If your friends buy a bottle of Axehead, consider it a cry for help.

As a student, your money is scarce. Consider this a warning and check out our drinking supplement to find some better alternatives.

*Gauntlet* Editorial Board

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# European clubs form new council

## Club executives bring cohesive front to campus

Diltaj Atwal

Gauntlet News

The University of Calgary now has its own European Union on campus.

On Sept. 10, the European Council was sanctioned by the Students' Union, forming a new union of European clubs to promote their academic, social and cultural work on campus.

"It's just a collaboration of all European clubs to try to put on events for the university campus," said Polish European Council representative and Polish Students' Club co-president Edyta Maciejowsk. "Since we are all smaller clubs, it's a good opportunity to meet other people from other cultural clubs."

According to European Council communications executive and British Club president Kirsten McGowan, the council consists of executives from the U of C's European clubs.

"Anyone can join a European club and become an executive to then join the European Council," McGowan said.

The European Council includes executives from the Azerbaijani Students' Association, Romanian Students' Association, Polish Students' Club, Ukrainian Students' Society, Club Français, British Club

and the Russian Speaking Student Association.

For clubs to join the European Council, they must represent either the ethnicity or language of a nation that is geographically, politically or ideologically part of Europe. A European club must have at least one representative in the European Council in order for that club to be able to vote on decisions.

The European Council hopes to increase their campus presence through events organized between member clubs. European clubs collaborated last year to host a soccer tournament called the Euro-Cup.

"There were always soccer tournaments between the clubs but it was never organized. So we thought of making an organization that came together to plan the tournament, but then we thought why not make it for something more than that?" said European Council co-ordinator and Romanian Students' Club executive Mihai Robu. "Like bringing all of these different cultures together to learn about each other and work together and compete in some cases."

Robu said that events hosted by the European Council are open to anyone.

"Generally, if there's an interest to participate in the events



Courtesy Yanni Kouts

The European Council is like the U of C's own little European Union.

then we're up for any club joining if they can connect themselves to some European tie of some sort," McGowan said. "Then it's not like we're going to discriminate against them. The more clubs that join, the stronger we'll essentially be and the more people will be coming to our events."

The European Council will make decisions democratically with each club casting one vote through their executives in the European Council. Executives from each club share power equally and have a chance to delegate and share information.

The European Council intends

**/// The more clubs that join the stronger we'll essentially be and the more people will be coming to our events.**

– Kirsten McGowan, president of the U of C British Club

to include more European clubs in the future.

Robu said she hopes other ethnic groups make their own councils, making it possible for the European Council and other council clubs to discuss and collaborate with each other.

"Maybe in the future, certain clubs will come together. We have 300 clubs now so it would be nice to have groups of clubs to collaborate for larger events instead of smaller clubs hosting smaller events that have little attendance," McGowan said.

## Tajiri project, continued from cover

Tajiri's mother was forced to move to Calgary where she has been living with friends and family around the city. To help her mother, Tajiri decided to drop out of university to work full time as a carpenter.

"We got the debit cards from the government, but it wasn't nearly enough to cover all the damage," Tajiri said. "Insurance will only cover some of the damage in the basement. So until we get our home back, I de-

cidated to work so I could help mom." Christakis, who met Tajiri during U of C field school last summer, talked with Tajiri about her troubles and wanted to help in some way.

Christakis and some classmates

decided to go online and start the Tajiri Project, a kick-starter that Christakis hopes will raise \$20,000 for the Tajiri family.

"In the flood, they lost almost everything," Christakis said. "We are

hoping to make this project big. If we got 20,000 people to just donate one dollar, we could help out the family a lot!"

Go to [thegauntlet.ca](http://thegauntlet.ca) to donate

Do you plan to vote in the upcoming municipal election?

## campus quips



"Yes. I feel like you're lazy if you don't."

– Emily Huber, second-year kinesiology



"No. Nenshi is going to run away with it anyway."

– Will Cowie, third-year communications



"Yup. I think it's important to get involved."

– Tsering Asha Leba, fifth-year political science



"No. I don't know who's running."

– Ayyub Omar, fourth-year engineering

Interviews: Chris Adams Photos: Michael Grondin

## New website for buying and selling textbooks

Zainab Takuma  
Staff Writer

At the beginning and end of every semester, students scramble to buy and sell their textbooks. If a student wants to sell an old textbook, their first option is to return it to the U of C Bookstore. And they usually get little money for the effort.

U of C students Vamsee Reddy and Jacob Nasser intend to solve this through the University of Calgary Book Trading Service — a website for students to buy, sell or trade used textbooks.

“It was developed, restructured and reformed just over the summer,” Nasser said. “So coming into this semester a lot of students could utilize it for this coming year and all the years to come.”

The U of C Book Trading Service looks to eliminate the middleman with textbook transactions, making it easier for students to avoid long lines at the bookstore. As an added bonus, student-to-student trading gives students the opportunity to get all the money from their sale — a big improvement from the 75 per cent received from consigning textbooks at Bound and Copied.

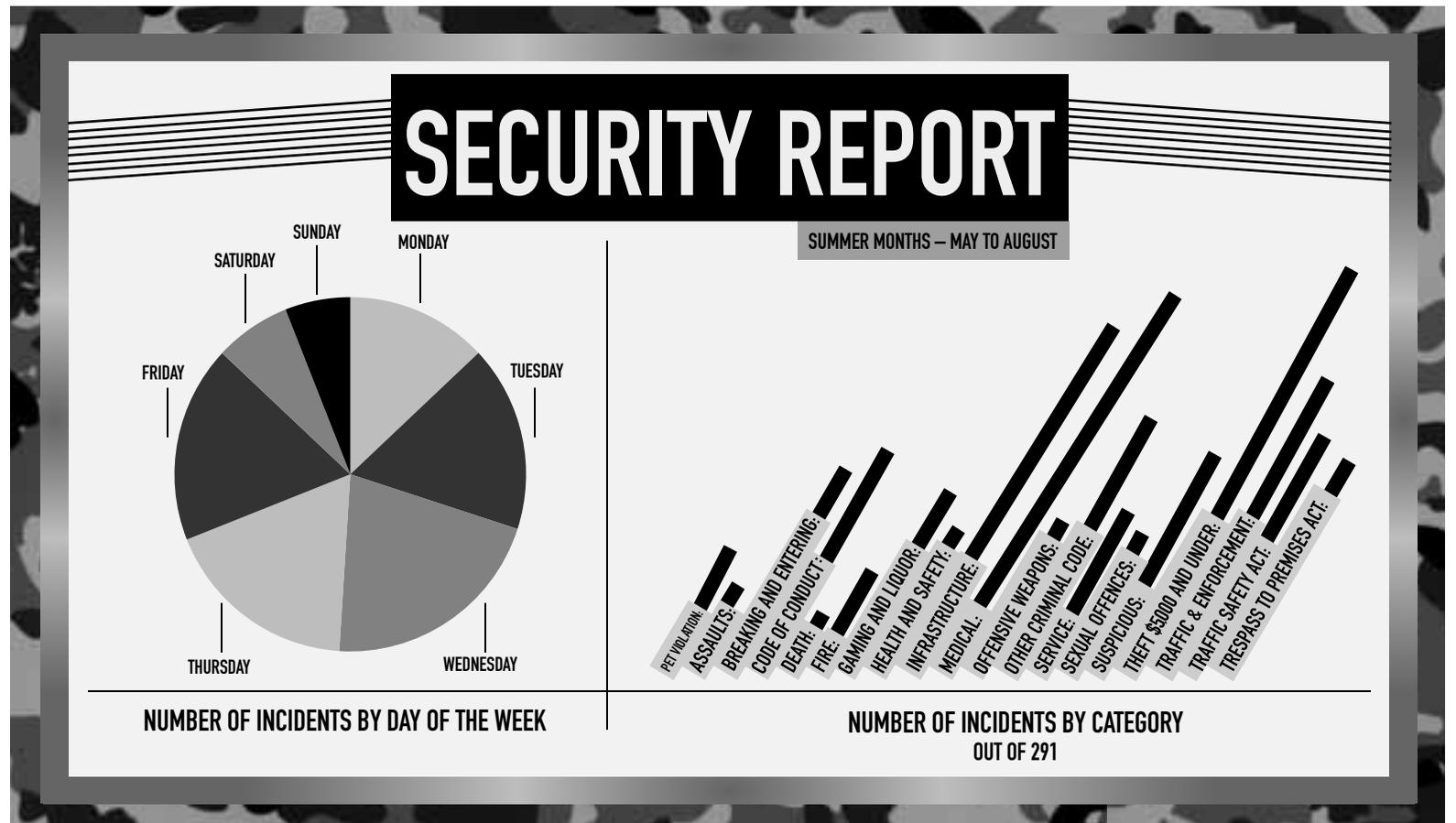
“We have a website where there is no middleman,” Nasser said. “You have your books. You can keep them at home or wherever you want and you just approach [the seller]. You have your phone number and your email on there and you’re good to go.”

Second-year biological science student Dubby Okeke said he signed up for the book trading service four weeks ago after hearing about it on Facebook.

“I was looking for a way to get rid of my books because I don’t get much money from selling them to the bookstore. So, book trade would be better.”

Students need a valid ucalgary email to use the website.

Nasser and Reddy said they hope the website will grow in the future. They are promoting their service through the Science Student Society, social media and by word of mouth.



Evangelous Lambrinoudis II

# Campus security report

## A summary of the summer’s security insanity

Tendayi Moyo  
News Assistant

From responding to theft to dealing with public porn viewers, campus security had a full plate this summer.

Thirty-six officers under the leadership of campus security director Lanny Fritz responded to over 350 incidents between May and August. Fritz, a 16-year Campus Security veteran, said that although the summer brought few students, campus remained an eventful place.

“This summer was a little unique. We had the major flood in Calgary and High River areas,” Fritz said, “which resulted in the university managing many of the evacuees liv-

ing in our residence buildings for a period of time. That was something new and unique and something the university is very proud of.”

Fritz beamed as he spoke about Campus Security’s part in the flood relief efforts.

“It was great to be able to contribute that level of participation in a serious situation.”

But some incidents didn’t inspire as much pride.

In May, officers came across an individual watching pornography in a Science Theatres classroom. Feeling sheepish, the young debaucher was escorted off campus.

This was not the only time Science Theatres was the scene of some objectionable behaviour.

In a crude display, an aspiring

artist covered several desks and walls with drawings of penises. The spirited vandal used lipstick for the phallic drawings.

Besides avoiding the insane, Fritz warns students about the university’s principal hazard: theft.

“Our biggest crime problem on campus continues to be theft,” Fritz said. “Normally we will lose a couple hundred thousand dollars a year to theft. Half of that will belong to students.”

This summer, one student took a nap in MacHall and woke up to find all his belongings, including his laptop, missing.

“This is a classic example,” Fritz said. “What is really unfortunate and debilitating to some students is their work isn’t backed up. Their whole life

as a student may be on that laptop.”

He said that would-be-thieves consider the university a target-rich environment and will not hesitate to take advantage.

“It’s just a matter of being aware and securing your property,” he said.

The university saw 67 incidents of theft over the summer including a stolen bike that was worth over \$8,000.

Although Fritz and his team often handle difficult and sometimes strange situations, he said he is happy to do the work.

“I get great enjoyment working with young people. If I’m able to assist, or any of my officers are able to assist young people along the way, that’s where my satisfaction comes in.”

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# Demonstrators take back the night

## Women march in protest against sexual assault

Ashton Chugh

Gauntlet News

Hundreds of Calgarians gathered on Friday, Sept. 20, at Connaught Park for Take Back The Night, an annual rally to protest violence against women.

The rally began with speakers and performers. Afterwards, women marched through the streets unescorted by men to dramatize their right to walk alone safely.

“The most symbolic thing we do during the event is march through the streets,” said event organizer Christina Pyne. “Women take to the streets to symbolize their power to walk alone at night without being afraid.”

Conservative Calgary Centre MP Joan Crockatt and Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse educator Joe Campbell spoke at the event.

“Studies have been done as recently as this year that show that safe streets is still the number one issue for many Calgarians. And it’s that way across the country,” Crockatt said.

Campbell said he saw violence

against women as part of a larger problem with society and was critical of how sexual assault is discussed.

“Within our culture [people are] always quick to jump to what women did wrong,” Campbell said. “We need to start paying more attention to the people who are choosing to commit these crimes.”

Sept. 20 marked the 31st Take Back The Night event held in Calgary, with the first held in 1982. The event has come a long way since then. Wary of a political fallout, organizers of the first Take Back The Night Calgary decided against getting parking and traffic permits, leading to several arrests for “stunting” — the term used for the traffic violations.

Downtown business owner Nick Doikas said the rally is good for the downtown core, as it is often the site of sexual assaults.

“Having an anti-rape rally held in the Beltline area of Calgary, I can understand the breadth and scope as to why they have chosen the location that they have,” Doikas said. “Having worked in the area for almost four years, I per-



Louie Villanueva

Demonstrators march in downtown Calgary.

sonally see the dangers that present themselves at night.”

The first ever Take Back The Night event was held in Philadelphia in 1975 after Susan Alexander Speeth was stabbed while walking home. Since then, Take Back The Night has been a grassroots movement in hundreds of cities around the world. It has expanded to protest against many types of violence

against women, including sexual assault and domestic abuse.

Boys and Girls Club trauma therapist Susan Brant has attended Take Back The Night rallies for the past several years. She said the need for an organized women’s movement is greater than ever.

“As someone who went through the original women’s movement,

we need to have this rally,” Brant said. “The notion of women having equal opportunity, equal presence and equal voice is still one that is challenged by the predominant patriarchal culture that we find ourselves in.”

The event finished with a “speak out” where participants shared their experiences with gender-based violence.

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# Gauntlet Q&A: Sarwat Nafei

## A former Egyptian senator talks about the nation's troubled politics

Reem Ghaleb

Gauntlet News

Egypt has suffered political conflict since the Arab Spring protests in late 2010. A revolution in early 2011 ended Hosni Mubarak's 30-year regime, leading to elections with Mohamed Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood winning the vote. However, a year after coming to power, a coup ousted Morsi and placed civilian and jurist Adly Mansour as the interim president, although the military still maintains control.

Protests and riots intensified after the ousting of Morsi, leaving Egypt split along sharp political lines. The *Gauntlet* recently spoke with former Egyptian senator and committee of national defense and international affairs member Sarwat Nafei to understand the current situation.

**The Gauntlet:** What was your role in the revolution?

**Sarwat Nafei:** I was part of the revolution in 2011. I shared, like other Egyptians, in the demonstra-

tions. We've been attacked by the police. They fired bullets and tear gas at us until we managed to oust Mubarak. I was always an activist and pro-democracy for Egypt. Then I became a senator for the democratically elected parliament.

For the first time in the history of Egypt, we were reviewing budgets for all the institutions, including the military, police forces and all other institutions that were prevented from being audited or reviewed in the past. Although I was not pro-Morsi or Muslim Brotherhood, I supported establishing democracy in Egypt. So I didn't mind that they would be in power, as long as we could audit them, and as long as we could have the freedom of opposition and the freedom of speech. And I think we were heading in that direction during the year where Morsi was the president because we had the freedom to oppose him and his policies. There was real freedom of speech in all aspects of the media and the parliament and in the streets, so there was no oppression or police state as

the Egyptians used to have in the past 60 years.

**G:** Tell me about the coup and why it happened?

**SN:** In my view, it was all prepared since the 2011 revolution against the Mubarak regime. I believe that the military did not accept the idea of Egypt becoming a democratic state. They were doing their best to prevent any progress for establishing a democratic state within Egypt.

They started by dividing the relationships between all the factions that took part in the revolution and, from there, they planned to have a coup in case any type of democratic election were to occur. It was clear that they were working against the democratically elected parliament, along with other institutions who were against the revolution from the start. So for me, the coup was not a surprise. The surprise was that Morsi did not actually establish or implement the objectives of the revolution by reforming and restructuring the main institutions within the Egyptian system.



Reem Ghaleb

**Sarwat Nafei speaks at the U of C.**

**G:** Why do you think the military is opposed to the idea of democracy?

**SN:** Because it will deny them the privileges and benefits that they have been taking for more than 60 years. If you have a democracy, their budget and their privileges would be reviewed by the parliament. And all of that will be democratically scrutinized and reviewed and audited.

**G:** How did the coup affect the Egyptian people?

**SN:** I think everything now is be-

ing stalled. The economy is in very bad shape. Security in the street is in very bad shape. An emergency law has been declared since the coup that was extended two weeks ago for another couple of months. There is also a curfew which has been instated before Rabaa [the protest against the coup], I believe, and they extended that too. There is no tourism. There is no improvement in the economy. The debt is going up. There is no stability and there are no international relationships, so there is no state.

Read the rest at  
thegauntlet.ca

## New Institute of Quantum Science and Technology

Tina Shaygan

Gauntlet News

The University of Calgary Institute for Quantum Science and Technology was launched last week, providing new research and work opportunities for students in the faculty of science.

According to IQST director and physics professor Barry Sanders, the institute will focus on four pillars of research: quantum information, quantum optics, molecular modeling and nanotechnology.

"Some people refer to the 21st century as the quantum age," Sanders said. "The usual way we learn science without quantum no longer applies"

The IQST is the only institute in Western Canada to concentrate on quantum research. The

University of Toronto and the University of Waterloo have similar institutes in Eastern Canada.

"Alberta is the province that has been gifted with the leadership and nanotechnology in Canada," Sanders said. "The idea is to create the foundation for outstanding quantum research."

The IQST receives \$2 million in annual funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and Discovery Grant.

IQST currently consists of 100 members and has plans to award intern scholarships to undergraduate science students.

"We are racing into an era where we need to know quantum and the purpose of this institute is to give us that foundation," Sanders said.

Read more at  
thegauntlet.ca

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# Men's rights advocates demand closer look



**Tamara Cottle**  
Gauntlet Opinions



On Sept. 11, members of the men's rights activist group Men's Rights Edmonton helped establish Alberta's second men's activist group in Calgary. Men's Rights Edmonton made national headlines recently with their "Don't Be That Girl" advertising campaign, a response to the "Don't Be That Guy" anti-date-rape posters distributed by Edmonton Police and partners. Men's Rights Edmonton's latest poster targets Lise Gotell, chair of Women's and Gender studies at the University of Alberta. The posters display an image of Gotell with the caption "Theft isn't black. Bank fraud isn't Jewish. And rape isn't male. Just because you're paid to demonize men doesn't mean rape is gendered. Don't be that bigot." Another poster depicts a woman drinking with male companions and reads, "Just because you regret a one night stand doesn't mean it wasn't consensual."

The arrival of Men's Rights Calgary has become a lightning-rod issue. Although there are problems with the way certain male activists have conducted themselves, there is a clear and definite need for men's advocacy in Calgary and elsewhere.

One of the difficulties in dealing with the legitimacy of men's activism is the undeniable controversy associated with their activities. Although usually viewed as privileged over women, the shifting status of men in the last few decades has made them vulnerable in some ways. Unfortunately, the emotionally charged way that some men's rights activists behave draws attention away from the real issues plaguing men. Instead of attracting sympathy for their cause, these men alienate themselves by angrily targeting the character of

feminists rather than having a discussion. On the Men's Rights Edmonton website, for example, sits a blog post titled "Men's Rights Edmonton confronts fascists," showcasing the image of two women caught taking down some men's rights campaign posters. The blog requests assistance in revealing the identity of these women so that they can be charged with destruction of property. On one level, this is an understandably angry reaction. Imagine the controversy if women's advocacy leaders caught men's rights activists taking down feminist posters. But the blog post also reveals the movement's juvenile fixations with petty mudslinging.

There have been numerous incidents where the identity of feminists targeted over perceived slights have been revealed to the pro-male activist community resulting in death and rape threats that have damaged both the psychological health of these women and the perception of men's rights as a legitimate cause. The website A Voice For Men, which provides a forum for disgruntled men, posted a video of a women protesting a men's rights event in April. The men's rights group instigated a crusade against her, revealing her personal information and threatening her with violently sexual messages.

The cyberbullying mentality we have seen from factions of the men's rights movement is particularly undiplomatic given that many anti-rape activists are involved in their communities because of oppressive experiences they have suffered. Personal attacks against their detractors have done the men's rights community few public relations favours. However, ideologies do not entirely capture the complicated nature of personal beliefs, which then translate poorly into real-life actions. Much like feminism, we should not dismiss the reflections of an entire school of thought based on the ac-

tions of some of its members.

On the other hand, the animosity towards women reverberating throughout the men's rights movement might be a cry for help that demands a closer look. A rage grows among many men towards women in North American society that is tainting men-women relationships. Media pundits like Jack Thompson have dismissed video games and media depictions of violence towards women as the culprits, but the hostility manifested through these mediums stems from genuine problems.

Fanatics have promoted a divisive attitude towards women's and men's rights, when we should focus on how to make the two compatible. Yes, women have suffered through the ages through pay inequality, abuse and lack of representation, but society should also acknowledge the difficulties that men face, which are often taken for granted.

According to a 2008 Calgary Homeless Foundation study, 78 per cent of homeless people in Calgary were men. The report goes on to say that women merit special consideration "due to vulnerability to violence." But according to a Statistics Canada report for the same year, violent victimization was comparable between sexes. It might seem natural to assume that homeless women experience more violence based on behavioural stereotypes and physical differences between men and women. The reality is that men are subject to as much violence as women. While men are usually the perpetrators of violence, most people from both genders are peaceful. The data from reports on violence is also compromised by the fact that men are less likely to report violence against them, particularly if it's domestic.

Although the male homeless in Calgary outnumber women nearly five to one, there are no shelters specifically dedicated to them. Women

have several such refuges, such as the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter.

The Canadian Council on Learning conducted a meta analysis of gendered learning in Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development countries and found that there is a growing disparity between boys and girls in the education system. In Canada, girls outperform boys in school, especially with respect to reading. For much of the 20th century more men than women attended university. But this report states that since 2005 women compose 58 per cent of the post-secondary school population. The study infers that "boy culture," inadequate pedagogy and physiological differences could be the cause of this inequality. The recommendations from this study include policies for classroom organization changes, new pedagogical approaches and examining broader social contexts that affect men's self-image and values.

Masculinity is in a confused, self-contradictory place. Boys are still pressured by society to excel at physical pursuits, but are expected to sit still in classrooms. A number of books on gender and education, such as Christina Summers's *The War Against Boys* suggest that boys are ill-suited for classrooms and the education system favours and rewards perceivedly feminine behaviours like listening and studying. Men still dominate the 15 most dangerous jobs, all of which are physically demanding but rarely pay well.

The suicide rate for men is nearly triple that of women. They have unfair stereotypes to overcome and unrealistic expectations to uphold. Men must be hyper-vigilant about how people perceive them when dealing with young children, especially young girls for fear of being accused of pedophilia. This could be why men rarely work in early childhood education or elementary schools.

Another area of concern for men are the expectations many women have in the dating arena. Many men feel like they are missing a set standard of etiquette for interacting with women, which has left them confused and frustrated. Traditionally, men are supposed to pay for dinner and hold doors open for women. When they fail to do so they may be labelled cheapskates and unchivalrous. However, many women refuse to let men pay for everything or anything. It's impossible to summarize the nuances of current sexual and romantic relationships, but these shifting expectations coupled with hypermasculinity in entertainment media and the advancement of feminism have left men scratching their heads when it comes to the courtship ritual.

Navigating an environment where sexual equality but also chivalrous gestures are expected generates immense pressure on men. No wonder a growing segment of men have gone from confused to angry. It is also unsurprising that such men misguidedly attack feminism. While feminist theory promotes equality for all races, creeds and genders with an emphasis on the latter, many men's rights activists feel that the movement has become corrupted by human failure and is now unfairly targeting their sex.

There is space to critically look at the ideologies and practices governing men's and women's rights movements. When men's rights groups focus on issues that affect the well-being of men like homelessness, violence and education, they stand to gain more than when directing animosity towards a few women. Men's rights groups are needed in our tumultuous social setting. The extremists in both camps should not detract from the importance of both genders working together to achieving compromise and harmony.

# Living in an anti-social network



**Fatima Ghanem**  
Gauntlet Opinions

The use of contemporary social media has dramatically changed the way human beings interact. A couple of decades ago, the idea that one could connect with just about anyone in the world from their home as quickly as desired was unheard of. Thirty years ago, people did not make plans on the fly through texting — they made arrangements beforehand and met their friends at designated spots, which encouraged commitment and careful time management. Often, when friends suggest meeting, their conversations are followed by flurries of garbled text messages consisting of disorga-

nized attempts to rendez-vous.

Many millennials are at a point in time where we depend on the use of social media and instant messaging to interact with one another. This technology can be useful and convenient but we've lost ourselves to the ease and comfort afforded by it. It might be rare to spot someone without a smartphone, but the mass use of social media is still constrictive and destructive.

Humans have developed an intricate system of social cues through natural selection and adaptation. We have developed ways of interacting with others by perceiving intonation of voice and interpreting non-verbal language, like facial expression and body language. We are so good at performing these actions naturally that we can communicate our thoughts and feelings through the simple exchange of a smile or a frown. This ability to integrate and understand each other is diminishing with the advent of technology and social media.

Facebook is the world's most popular social network with over a billion users, half of which are active almost every day. Statistics on the global usage of Facebook, which were released last month indicate that Canadian usage of Facebook is higher than both the global and the US average. 19 million Canadians log into Facebook at least once a month, while 14 million check their newsfeed every day. I remember when Facebook rose to prominence in 2006. At this time, social networks had already begun creeping up everywhere and I had already explored a few of them. Many of you will remember the dark days of Nexopia or your forgotten Myspace accounts which few use anymore. My experiences with social media might be similar to yours. I was peer-pressured into creating a Facebook account by the end of high school but found myself spending an excessive amount of time using it to groom my self-image and assess others. Eventually, I deactivated my account.

A study performed by a team of researchers from the University of Michigan on the use of social media and its effects on the mental well-being of young adults provides evidence confirming my sentiments on Facebook and social media as a

whole. The study was done through the use of experience sampling, a reliable method of assessing the effects of social media on loneliness, self-esteem and depression. The findings were unsurprising. Young adults who used Facebook regularly were more likely to report a depressed state of emotional and psychological health.

Each time you log onto Facebook, you are bombarded with images and status updates from your friends and colleagues, who are often up to amazing things. There's your friend Shannon looking gorgeous at a party that you were not invited to. There is your friend Dave conquering Mount Kilimanjaro while you sit at home in pajamas and watch reruns of Seinfeld. There is a status update about your friend Vlad's acceptance to a Master's program at Stanford, tabbed beside an email from your professor reminding you that they will not accept your late paper and you have an F headed in your direction. People are likely to report the greatest things about their lives on social media — this encourages a sense of diminished self-esteem for onlookers.

This lowered self-esteem perpetuates a tendency to rely on social media for self-validation. We are familiar with the absurdities of Facebook. We see people posting strongly biased opinions to which they are uncommitted, all for the sake of eliciting attention from others, or constant pictures of repetitive poses designed to accumulate likes and comments. During my time on Facebook, I realized that I had become averse to interacting with others on a one-on-one basis, opting instead to use a flawless screen of obscurity. We can flirt with attractive baristas and classmates without having to change out of our sweatpants and ratty t-shirts. Validating oneself without ever having to leave home has created a culture in which genuine human interaction has become a diminished art. There are far better ways to interact with our friends and family. Facebook is a great way to stay in touch with others but we should make a conscious effort to not take it so seriously and realize that authentic, face-to-face interaction with each other is a natural state of being.

## CASH REWARD

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# Gauntlet Drinking Supplement

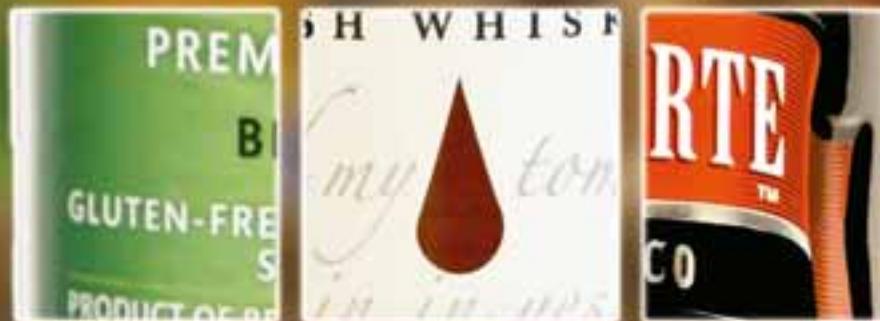
Beer  
Reviews



Whiskey  
Reviews

Tequila  
Reviews

Wine  
101



Cider  
Reviews

Gin  
Reviews



Naughty  
Shots



## Inside: Riley Hill's beer adventure

Challenged to review six beers in two hours, our totally-not-wasted news editor arbitrarily selected six beers off a liquor store shelf and recorded his unfiltered thoughts over the two-hour period. The drinking supplement editors have left his beer diary almost completely unedited. Follow along at the bottom of each page as Riley knocks back six beers and writes his reviews.

# Brews and ciders



## Weihenstephaner

Rating: 10/10

Weihenstephaner Hefe Weissbier is a product of the Weihenstephan Monastery Brewery in Freising, Germany, which claims to be the world's oldest continuously operating brewery. Founded almost 1,000 years ago in 1040, the brewery has survived plagues, wars and four fires but is still standing and now brews a variety of beers that are sold throughout the world.

This wheat beer is Weihenstephan's flagship drink. Dubiously advertised as being brewed according to the Bavarian Purity Law of 1516 — which stipulated that only water, barley and hops could be used in the production of beer — Weihenstephaner's claim is betrayed by their use of wheat and yeast to create a notable banana-like flavour. The result is a formidably smooth and refreshing beer that goes down very easy. Weihenstephaner receives top marks for drinkability.

Ultimately Weihenstephaner is everything that a wheat beer should be. The beer presents well with a nice cloudy colour and sweet aroma. It feels light in the mouth and has a well-balanced flavour. Weihenstephaner is one of the best wheat beers that I've come across.

Curtis Wolff



## Mongozo Premium Pilsener

Rating: 9/10

Mongozo Premium Pilsener is a gluten-free beer from Belgium. It is also the winner of the 2012 World Beer award for best gluten-free beer and I soon found out why.

Right off the bat, Mongozo reminded me of Budweiser. The head is very light and it has a subtle fruity aroma. It's lightly carbonated and my first sip brought sharp tones of rice. It's smooth-bodied, sweet and tickled my senses wonderfully as it went down. This pilsner, unlike many others, has a very light, bitter aftertaste that does not linger for too long. The barley malt meshes well with the hops and produces a crisp taste reminiscent of a mainstream lager. After a few more sips, I realized that I had found a new friend.

The green-on-black label looks simple and clean, which is appropriate for this smooth tasting beer. Its only drawback is that at \$6.25 for a 330 ml bottle, you may want to sip this one slowly, unless you have deep pockets. However, in my opinion, it's worth it even if you aren't restricted to a gluten-free diet.

Ashton Chugh



## Pumpkin Pie Spiced Ale

Rating: 8/10

Pumpkin Pie Spiced Ale is brewed by Alley Kat Brewing Company out of Edmonton. The beer is brewed with a mix of pumpkin, ginger and cinnamon and is only available seasonably in 650 ml bottles.

I've never been the first to reach for the pumpkin pie at the Thanksgiving dinner table — the mushy consistency of pumpkin has always thrown me off. Fortunately, this issue is resolved by transforming pumpkins into an excellent ale. The beer pours with little head and has a metallic-tinted orange-brown colour. A pleasant scent of fresh pumpkin is noticeable.

The beer has a surprising crisp taste that is not very hoppy. The pumpkin flavour is not particularly overwhelming and is mostly predominant in the aftertaste. The crispness of the beer followed immediately by the pumpkin flavour provides a great one-two punch upon first taste.

The effect of the pumpkin flavour wears off a little bit as the drink starts to empty, but the drink continues to be a pleasurable experience. Pumpkin Pie Spiced Ale would make a worthy addition to your turkey dinner this autumn.

Curtis Wolff



## Lazy Mutt Gluten Free Lager

Rating: 3/10

Being born and raised in Calgary, I was excited at the opportunity to review a locally produced micro beer from Minhas Brewery, but I quickly realized that my beautiful city has many more desirable things to offer.

Lazy Mutt is gluten-free and that's about all it has going for it. This beer has a pungent aroma, which is strangely similar to that of a low-end scotch. It tasted like one too. Upon pouring, the head completely evaporated and I was left with what looked nothing like a lager. The beer is nearly as viscous as water. It has a dry aftertaste that clung to my senses the way cough syrup does.

Could the culprit here be the sorghum flour that is advertised on the bottle? Apparently, sorghum is supposed to be sweet and the beer did taste sort of sweet when I took a sip whilst plugging my nose. What is more confusing is that, to me, this beer tasted more like a cider than a lager.

I feel that the label serves as a warning to the potential consumer because I don't believe that the dog on the front is just lazy, I think it died after drinking this brew.

Ashton Chugh

Beer 1: Curious Brew — 7:10 p.m.

Well, here we go. I decided to drink the most expensive beer first because my tongue will soon be numb. According to the bottle, Curious Brew is a "premium lager re-fermented with Champagne yeast for a cleaner, drier, more refreshing beer." I couldn't agree more, beer bottle. This beer is delicious. I wish I could drink another five of these instead of the horrid piss-swill soon coming. 100 per cent refreshing!





**Okanagan: Crisp Apple**  
 Rating: 4/10

The cider industry is booming in Canada, though still only occupying a tiny corner of the alcoholic drinks market. Unit sales increased by 32 per cent from 2011–2012, according to the Association of Canadian Distillers.

I wonder if the boom is from flavoured, sweet cider or more traditional English cider.

This label claims that this is “seriously good cider” and endorsed by Ogopogo. However, the label also says, “flavoured cider,” which is why it smells like sour apple candy, which over-powers any other flavour that could be in the cider.

I prefer my cider dry and slightly bitter, which is why I’ll never get this cider again.

If you’re trying cider because coolers are getting old, go here, but if you’re a beer fan, skip over it. It might as well be a sour apple Jolly Rancher in a can.

At \$12.99 for a 6 pack, it’s your call.

*Susan Anderson*



**Blackthorn**  
 Rating: 7/10

I first had cider while travelling in France, and liked it from the first sip, which puts it ahead of beer and wine, which I had to acquire a taste for, and hard liquor, which I still haven’t acquired a taste for.

This cider reminds me of the one I first fell in love with, Eden’s Promise. Both are English dry ciders without flavouring.

I had to settle for Strongbow in Canada, because it was readily available, but I’m now branching out and trying Blackthorn. Blackthorn’s label claims “a distinctive crisp, dry taste” and lives up to it. While this cider does have added sugar, it doesn’t have any added flavouring.

I love cider for its subtlety, and this one doesn’t disappoint. It’s smooth, yet intriguing with a balanced apple taste. It might be a bit tame for true cider fans, but I will buy this again.

At \$15.99 for four 500ml cans it is a bit expensive but worth it.

*Susan Anderson*

Beer 2: Harvest Moon Organic Hemp Ale — 7:25 p.m.

The first thing I noticed about this beer is that it’s green — not the can, the actual beer. The taste is earthy, like I’m drinking the forest. It has a distinctive aftertaste that I assume is the hemp working its magical healing properties on my body and mind. The can is great because it doesn’t have a giant cannabis leaf on it like every other hemp product. And I can rest easy because it is certified organic by some NGO that has a logo. My consumer choice was an act of altruism and virtue. Five out of five!



**THURSDAY DEN.**  
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# So you want to know about wine?

**Melissa Gervais**  
Gauntlet wine connoisseur

Let me begin by saying that everything I know about wine I learned through working in the service industry. Before you flip the page, rest assured there is plenty to learn and quite a bit of random knowledge to be had. Over the past decade I've been able to work with some interesting characters. None more so than sommeliers — these are people who have studied the chemistry, biology and geography of how a little grape becomes the glass of alcoholic nectar you see before you. Maybe you never thought of drinking as science before.

Through these sommeliers, I found out there were thousands of varieties of grapes from over 6,000 wine regions and two classifications.

The two classifications for wine are old world and new world: for the history buffs, there are old-world wine producers in countries like Italy, France, Germany and Greece and new-world wine producers in Canada, Australia, South Africa, Chile and the United States, each further divided into specific wine regions. For sports fans it's like conferences and divisions.

Here in Canada we have several wine regions, mostly around large bodies of water or where there is the right climate and soil, such as the Okanagan.

Generally speaking there is red wine and white wine. I know there are people who are going to ask about the pink or blush wines. Even though these types of wine may be blended with white and red wine grapes, the wine produced can be considered red.

The reasoning behind this is the colour richness is due to the length of time the grape skins are allowed to sit in the grape juice. No matter what kind of grape is used, the juice is colourless

when pressed. It's when the skins are allowed to soak in that the wine gets its colour.

There are tannins in the skin of the grapes and the more tannins you have the darker the wine will be. Tannins also give wine a boost in flavour.

One common misconception is that the older the wine the better it is. Not necessarily true — there are many factors to consider. While it does take wine about two to three years to mature like most alcohol, wine that has been corked and has air leaking in over time can quickly turn to vinegar. This is rapidly becoming a smaller problem with the introduction of screw-cap lids.

Remember the colour changes depending on the type of grape. A Chardonnay (a common white wine) will be the colour of apple juice, or a bright golden yellow. A Riesling (a crisp German wine) is lighter in colour.

On the red side, a Merlot will be maroon in colour where as a Bordeaux will be a dark burgundy.

The outer rim of colour hanging on the glass tells the age of the wine. The next time you or someone you are with orders wine at a restaurant, lean the glass slightly over a white tablecloth or napkin. For older red wine you'll see a brownish red tinge and for older white you'll see a distinct gold.

In terms of meat pairings there are some common matches, however, true pairings are purely preference. If you like a wine, you can drink it with anything. For darker meats like beef, bison, or game, try a darker variety red wine such as a Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon or Chianti. For salads, fish and poultry you could stick with the Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio or Gewurtztraminer.

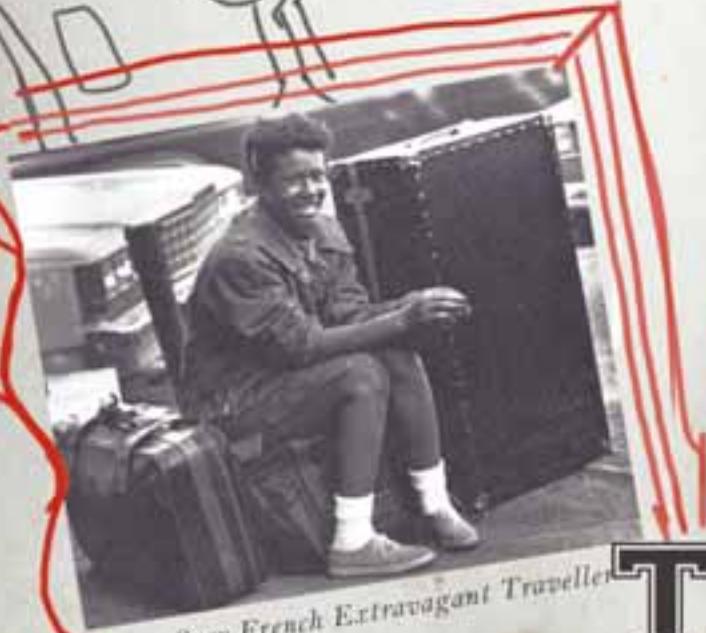
All in all, wine is about personal taste and don't be afraid to enjoy it with a peanut butter and banana sandwich, if you want.



Beer 3: Big Rock SAAZ Republic Pils — 7:40 p.m.

I'm now playing with the big boys — a nice tall 473ml can of delicious beer. The beer is refreshing and hipsters probably designed the logo. The name SAAZ sounds like some obscure leftist paramilitary group that is really just fighting for control of the diamond mines. But that's a nasty thought, so I instead imagine a group of beautiful 20-somethings drinking SAAZ at the beach house after a long summer day of tubing, flirting and horseplay. Nine out of ten!

# THURSDAYS AT COMMONWEALTH



Susy French Extravagant Traveller



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# Distilled spirits



## Writers Tears

Rating: 9/10

I realize that a journalist with an Irish name reviewing an Irish whiskey called Writers Tears is ironic, maybe even a little cliché. It's true I was drawn to the name when I bought a bottle for the first time, but it's not the name or the funny little quotation on the back about Irish writers crying tears of whiskey that brought me back for another drink. Writers Tears is one of the smoothest whiskeys I have ever tasted.

Writers Tears is a pure pot still Irish whiskey from the Writers Tears whiskey in Carlow, Ireland. A pure pot still whiskey, according to the company's website, is a single whiskey brewed from malted and unmalted barley in a single still, unlike blended whiskeys.

The whiskey is a bright amber colour with a woody taste at first sip mixed with a sweet honey flavour. There are also subtle hints of citrus. After a moment the woody taste fades away and the sweet notes of honey and citrus come to the front followed by a fruity aftertaste.

While it may be common practice to touch up a tumbler of whiskey or scotch with a small amount of water to help bring out the flavours, Writers Tears should not be drunk with any added water or even over the rocks. Adding water or ice will ruin the taste and leave this whiskey crying in a dark corner faster than a manic-depressive poet.

There are a number of places that have carried Writers Tears around Calgary but it tends to sell out pretty quickly. It is priced around \$50 if you can find it.

Overall, Writers Tears is one of the better whiskeys available, and its smooth taste will leave you thirsty for more.

Sean Sullivan



## Sortilège

Rating: 6/10

Sortilège is a no frills, head-on collision between two of Canada's national oral delights: whisky and maple syrup. A product of Quebec, this whisky is popular among Quebecers and visitors to the region looking for a local specialty, although it is not particularly popular in other areas of the country. Sortilège is usually served over ice or over ice cream, and I've opted to try both options.

Taking the time to smell the whisky reveals that it is incredibly smoky. The aroma coming out of the bottle is reminiscent of a campfire, followed by the sweet scent of maple. The flavours reverse orders when the taste test comes. After taking a sip of Sortilège the sweetness of the maple immediately hits the tongue and is quickly overpowered by the taste of whisky. The whisky is smoky, but not as smoky as you would expect given the smell. The whisky flavour slowly dissolves into a sweet maple aftertaste that lingers long after the first sip has gone down — a unique and pleasurable drinking experience.

However, Sortilège suffers from having too much of a good thing — the maple flavour becomes overwhelming. As I finished my glass it felt more like I was drinking maple syrup with every sip. Whether that is a good or a bad thing is up to you. I found that the sweetness made it difficult to finish the glass, and I did not pour that much. Drinking two glasses of this whisky would be a challenge. Sortilège is best served in small portions after dinner with some dessert, not by itself for the purpose of repeated servings.

Sortilège was most disappointing when served over ice cream. Maple, whisky and ice cream seems like a dreamy combination, but the appropriate balance was simply not present. The maple flavour was overwhelmed by the vanilla ice cream but the whisky flavour remained, making me wish I had just poured some maple syrup over my ice cream instead.

Curtis Wolff

## Whisky or whiskey?

The Irish and the Americans use the spelling "whiskey," while the Canadians and the Scots spell the word as "whisky." Perhaps not a big deal to you, but for whisk[e]y lovers it has become a point of contention. So why don't we simply spell it as "whisky" in this Canadian publication and let the Irish and Americans spell the word as "whiskey" in theirs? Until recently the *New York Times* would take this approach, but would receive a flood of emails from annoyed Scottish readers whenever they referred to Scottish whisky as "whiskey." So they decided to spell drinks originating from or inspired by Irish and American producers with the "e" and Canadian and Scottish-style drinks without to keep everybody happy.



Beer 4: Peroni Nastro Azzurro — 8:10 p.m.

Another tall can. At this point, all I can think about is how bloated I am and the thought of beer makes me sick. But something must be said. This is an Italian beer; the only Italian beer I've ever had. It's a lager. It's mediocre. The can has some class, all covered in stamps, signatures and red and blue. The side of the can told me to go to [talkingalcohol.com](http://talkingalcohol.com), so I took the bait. It advises me to talk to my children. I am now following [talkingalcohol](http://talkingalcohol) on Twitter. Four out of two.

# Tequila Time



## Corralejo Reposado

A couple summers ago, a friend and I went searching for the best reasonably priced tequila we could find. The reason was not because either of us enjoyed tequila, it was in fact the opposite. We both disliked tequila but wanted to learn why it was enjoyable — beyond the usual get-drunk-quick appeal. Rarely have I found a really good tequila in a Canadian bar. I know they must exist. I have just rarely wandered upon them in the various instances in which tequila shots have been foisted upon me.

One tequila in particular surpassed most of the expensive bottles of tequila and yet costed only \$30–40: Corralejo Reposado.

Corralejo Reposado is an award-winning tequila from Tequila Corralejo in Guanajuato, Mexico. It won a double-gold medal at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition in 2001 and in 2007 and according to the Tequila Corralejo website it has also won three other gold medals in international competitions. Corralejo ages its Reposado tequila in three different oak barrels, French, American and white oak for a total of for four months.

Corralejo Reposado is a clear white tequila with a very slight yellow tinge. Take a sniff of this tequila and what you'll smell is the agave with hints of vanilla and pepper.

The usual bar-fare tequilas have a very harsh taste. Corralejo Reposado is smooth, almost sweet and has a pleasant peppercorn aftertaste.

Sean Sullivan



## Baluarte Blanco

My alcohol cabinet is filled with a number of random bottles of liquor. One, which I received as a gift recently, is a bottle of Baluarte Blanco tequila that has remained unopened.

I've never had a reason to uncork it until now. So let's try this one out together.

Baluarte Blanco comes in a deep black bottle but, as the name suggests, this is a crystal clear tequila. However, it does pack a kick. Baluarte Blanco has a hot spicy taste — it even smells spicy. It's spicy in the same way that those little red cinnamon heart candies are spicy. The taste lingers in your mouth well after you've taken a sip.

Baluarte stores their white tequila in oak barrels for nine months and the oak taste is distinct from the first sip, along with notes of peppercorn and honey.

Baluarte Blanco won a double gold medal at the New York World Wine & Spirits Competition in 2011, however I'm a little disappointed. The spicy flavour is overwhelming and never fades into anything else. I'm also not a fan of those cinnamon heart candies.

Taken in a shot glass, Baluarte is just like every other tequila. It has a harsh kick as you knock it back and drinking Baluarte in a tumbler, a proper tequila glass or snifter glass just seems to me like a waste of time because I'd be waiting too long for flavours to develop.

Baluarte would work best as an interesting addition to a margarita or cocktail, but I'm not sure it is worth the almost \$60 price tag.

Sean Sullivan



Beer 5: AC — lightning bolt — DC Australian Hardrock — 8:40 p.m.

The final tall can. To get in the mood, I'm blasting "Back in Black." This is exactly how I imagined AC/DC beer. It's easy to drink but aggressive. Not the greatest, but reassuring. I'm now listening to "Highway to Hell." This beer sucks, but that's all right, because it's a party, man. Elvis is in Graceland, 2Pac is still alive and 9/11 was an inside job. I can't believe I get paid to do this. Nine lightning bolts out of "Hells Bells."

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# Classy gin for classy people



## Citadelle

Are you looking for a gin that can make you look even more fancy than gin normally would? Look no further than Citadelle, which is sure to look impressive on your liquor shelf with its tall, slender bottle adorned with its eye-catching blue and gold label.

Such a wonderful first impression would mean very little if the gin inside the bottle failed to live up to the hype. Citadelle is a quadruple distilled London gin, brewed in Cognac, France. It is brewed with 19 different botanicals, which combine to give the gin a very strong floral aroma and flavour. Citadelle has an alcohol-by-volume content of 44 per cent, but the taste of the alcohol isn't very noticeable.

What is noticeable, however, is the floral flavours. When drunk straight or on the rocks, Citadelle is difficult to enjoy. The 19 botanicals that are the gin's claim to fame are simply too overpowering, creating the sensation of drinking a mouthful of liquidized roses — this isn't as pleasant as it sounds.

This weakness turns into a strength when Citadelle gin is used in a gin and tonic. The floral flavours mix beautifully with the flavours of the tonic creating what might be the best iteration of the classic cocktail I have ever tasted. Fans of G&Ts will fall in love with this gin, which begs for either a slice of lime or cucumber to finish the cocktail.

Citadelle is a bit harder to find than more conventional gins, but you should be able to track it down in larger liquor stores. It costs around \$35–40 a bottle.

Sean Willett



## Tanqueray Rangpur

Tanqueray gin has long been considered a favourite by many gin drinkers. It straddles the line between price and quality, making for one of the best affordable gins in most liquor stores. However, Tanqueray produces more types of gin than its standard green-bottled staple. Tanqueray Rangpur gin is one of these varieties and is almost as delicious as it is elusive.

Tanqueray Rangpur doesn't look like much — it sports a paler bottle than normal Tanqueray and a transparent label, neither of which are very appealing to the eye. The gin itself more than compensates for this, however, combining the classic four-botanical London dry gin with rangpur flavouring.

Rangpur is a lime-like fruit that is native to India and has traditionally been used to smooth the flavour of gin. Unsurprisingly, this makes Tanqueray Rangpur an amazing gin to enjoy straight or on the rocks, as the rangpur balances out the floral flavour that often makes straight gin too overpowering.

It also mixes very well, especially with fruitier drinks and sodas. Cranberry juice, orange juice, Sprite, ginger ale and, of course, tonic water all go well with Tanqueray Rangpur. This makes it a good choice for people who may not normally enjoy gin, as the citrus flavouring makes for a much more pleasant experience.

Unfortunately, Tanqueray Rangpur is almost impossible to find in Canada, so try ordering it online. If you do find it, it should cost somewhere between \$40–50.

Sean Willett

## 12 Naughty shots

Melissa Gervais has scoured the recipe books and the globe for some very naughty shots.

### The 69

1/3 oz Crème de menthe  
1/3 oz Anisette (licorice-flavoured liqueur)  
1/3 oz Irish cream

### Brass Balls

1/3 oz Grand Marnier  
1/3 oz Peach schnapps  
1/3 oz Pineapple juice

### Pierced Buttery Nipple

1/3 oz Irish cream  
1/3 oz Butterscotch schnapps  
1/3 oz Jagermeister

### Viagra

1/2 oz Amaretto  
1/2 oz Irish Cream  
1/4 oz Crème de Menthe  
1/4 oz White Crème de Cacao

### Deep Throat

1/2 oz Whisky  
1/2 oz Rootbeer schnapps

### Maple Syrup Shot

2 oz Butterscotch schnapps  
1/2 oz Spiced rum  
Stir ingredients together in a mixing glass with cracked ice. Strain into a shot glass, and serve.

### Purple Hooter or The Purple Nurple

1/3 oz Vodka  
1/3 oz Black raspberry liqueur  
1/3 oz Lime juice

### Naked Bird

1/2 oz Vodka  
1/4 oz Raspberry liqueur  
1/4 oz Sweet and sour mix  
Mix equal parts over ice. Shake, strain and serve.

### Red Snapper also known as the Panty Remover

1/3 Crown Royal  
1/3 amaretto  
1/3 cranberry juice  
Can be served as a shot or on the rocks.

### The Screaming Orgasm

1/4 oz Vodka  
1/4 oz Kalua  
1/4 oz Amaretto  
1/4 oz Irish cream liqueur

### Hell's Fairy

1 oz Apple juice  
2 oz Ginger ale  
1 oz Lemonade  
2 oz Red Bull  
2 oz Absinthe  
Combine in a cocktail shaker and shake well.

The *Gauntlet* takes no responsibility for any embarrassment that may take place due to the consumption of one or all of these shots.



## Beer 6: Big Surf Honey Brown Lager — 9:00 p.m.

The final beer in this horrible experiment. I'm listening to "Sweet Home Alabama" because it seems like a song that is played at the end of a movie with a happy ending. But back to the drink. This beer is made of [censored by editor for legal reasons]. Only confused high school party-goers could be fooled into buying this [please don't sue us]. How did someone make a business out of this terrible, terrible brew? I give it five swells out of surfing. Volunteer for the *Gauntlet*.



courtesy Relativity Media

## Movie review: *Don Jon*

Matthew Parkinson

Gauntlet Entertainment

Joseph Gordon-Levitt's feature-length directorial debut certainly could have gone worse than *Don Jon*: an unremarkable but functional movie about a man's addiction to pornography. It also could have been a whole lot better. The problem comes less from Gordon-Levitt's talent behind the camera — it's shot fine and there are a few flourishes of style here and there — and more from the screenplay, which he also wrote, which is repetitive and predictable in nature and doesn't feel particularly true-to-life. As a result, the film's climax doesn't resonate and it is almost impossible to emotionally invest in any of the characters.

The plot goes like this: Jon (Gordon-Levitt) is a serial womanizer, someone who goes to the club every weekend with his best friends and manages to score every time. He has something of a reputation. One night, he catches a glimpse of Barbara (Scarlett Johansson), who doesn't fall for his usual tactics. If he wants her, he is in it for the long haul.

They become a couple, but have to take it slow. One night, Barbara catches Jon watching porn, which she believes is the most disgusting thing he could do. She tells him if he does it again, they're through. Jon is addicted to watching porn — he explains to us no fewer than three times via voice-over narration that he finds it more gratifying than sex — so he sneaks around to watch porn.

Meanwhile, Barbara tries to get Jon to change his life, which involves having him take a night course where he meets a hippie

who never grew up, Esther (Julianne Moore). If you've already figured out where the plot is going from here, you're not alone. *Don Jon* isn't going to surprise anyone watching it.

Unfortunately, it's also not going to make many people laugh, which is a cardinal sin for a comedy. Addictions typically don't make for the funniest material, especially when they have a negative impact on someone's life. Replace porn with heroin and we've got a much more depressing picture, but apparently we're supposed to laugh when a mental illness is related to something that we don't casually speak about in public because it embarrasses us. At least, that is what the film hopes. A few laughs come from Jon's sitcom-like family, which consists of Tony Danza and Glenn Headly hamming it up as Italian-Catholic stereotypes and Brie Larson staring at her phone for all but one scene.

We watch Jon go through the same routine a significant number of times throughout the film and it gets dull quickly. As soon as a scene starts or a character is introduced, we know exactly what's going to happen. It robs the film of its credibility and potential emotional impact. When the audience is well aware of how scripted the movie they're watching is, it's almost impossible to invest. And without many laughs to go around, there is not much reason to watch. Joseph Gordon-Levitt continues to make for a charismatic and strong lead and gives his character a unique voice and a swagger which differentiates him from his previous roles. But while the film is technically proficient, its screenplay leaves a lot to be desired and it's not worth seeing because of this.



courtesy Warner Bros.

## Movie review: *Prisoners*

Matthew Parkinson

Gauntlet Entertainment

It takes a great movie to fill a 150-minute running time, make an audience emotionally invest in characters who sometimes do terrible things and thrill the audience from beginning to end, but *Prisoners* does that and more. This is a fantastic thriller that does pretty much everything it needs to do exceptionally well — to not see it would be doing a disservice to yourself and the film industry. This is a film to get excited about.

*Prisoners* opens innocently enough but soon becomes any parent's worst nightmare. Each year the Dover family and the Birch family get together to celebrate Thanksgiving. This year, the Birch family hosts the dinner. Each family consists of a mother (Maria Bello and Viola Davis), father (Hugh Jackman and Terrence Howard), teenager (Dylan Minette and Zoe Borde) and six-year-old daughter (Erin Gerasimovich and Kyla Drew Simmons). Following dinner, the groups separate. Parents chat with parents, teenagers watch television and the daughters head back to the Dover house to look for a lost whistle. Later, the daughters are nowhere to be found. Detective Loki (Jake Gyllenhaal) heads up the investigation. Cue dramatic music and the start of an intense and gripping thriller.

The film proceeds rather routinely for about 20 minutes, before it takes a slightly unexpected turn and continues to surprise you from there. This isn't a formulaic or predictable crime thriller — it will keep

you guessing from the moment the girls go missing to the point when the credits begin to roll. It does this without cheating, either, which resonates in a day and age where films deliberately mislead and hide information so they can "surprise" you with their reveals. This one permits you to solve its mysteries earlier than it wishes, although it's smart enough that you're unlikely to do so. And even when you think you have everything figured out, it throws another curveball into the mix. To sustain this amount of tension and suspense for more than 150 minutes is an extreme rarity, but Denis Villeneuve's *Prisoners* does exactly that.

The film also offers an emotional experience that you won't soon forget. It has the ability to make you care for all of its characters even when you're unsure of what they've done or you've seen them do morally reprehensible things. Because they're all so strongly motivated and performed — Hugh Jackman gives his most intense performance, Jake Gyllenhaal plays a similar character to the one he had in *Zodiac* but has improved so much as an actor since then — that you really understand their mental state for the film's entirety.

*Prisoners* is a film which will haunt you for days. It features many unforgettable scenes — many of which will make you feel uncomfortable, so be warned — strong, intense performances and a talent for drawing out suspense for a ridiculously long amount of time. This is one of the best movies of the year and you should make it a priority to see it.

## Music in Calgary next week

**Thought Beneath Film**, Oct. 4  
Blind Beggar Pub

Check out this rock band from Hamilton, Ontario on their cross Canada tour, with a pop infused rock 'n' roll sound that is reminiscent of Blink 182.

**Little Miss Higgins**  
Oct. 6  
Ironwood Stage

If you're looking for something a little more country, drop by the Ironwood Stage & Grill on Oct. 6 for Little Miss Higgins for her old-style country blues.

**New Orford String Quartet**, Oct. 6-7  
Rozsa Centre

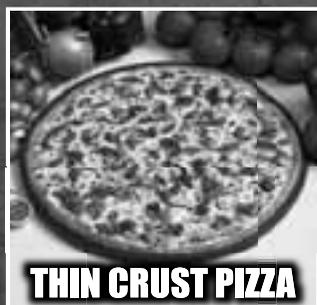
If classical music is your thing, Calgary Pro Musica is presenting the New Orford String Quartet at the University of Calgary's Rozsa Centre.



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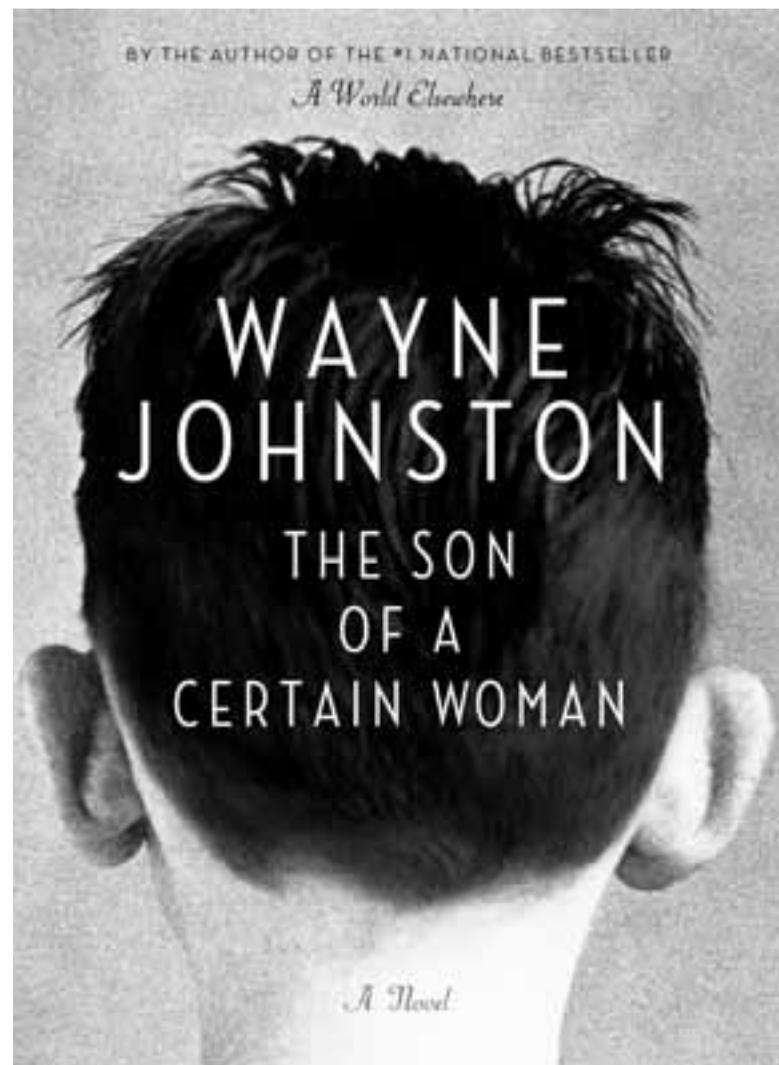
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## Book review: *The Son of a Certain Woman* by Wayne Johnston

Justine Wright

Gauntlet Entertainment

This is the kind of book that would work better as a movie. *The Son of a Certain Woman* comes from the bestselling author Wayne Johnston and follows Percy Joyce, a young Newfoundlander who is born with a disfiguring condition that blemished his skin and enlarged his hands and feet. Percy's life is controversial: he's constantly struggling against his religious neighbours and his growing desire for his own mother.

It's almost a reversal of Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*, complete with an Oedipus complex, but set in the '50s in a very Catholic St. John's neighbourhood. But the similarities end there.

This book reads like a formulaic biography — complete with a Morgan Freeman style voiceover that narrates the child's every thought and action. At times, the narrator's voice is dry, overbearing and extremely detached from what is going on. It often gives too much of the plot away,

though the voice itself is strong and never cheapens the complex characters and issues that surround Percy.

There are a lot of characters that pass through Percy's life. All of them are interesting and well developed, no matter how briefly they appear. None of them feel superfluous and there is always something about them that changes the main character. Percy himself never falls flat either. Nor does he fall into the trap of becoming a passive protagonist who simply narrates the more important people around him. His struggles are first, formidable and real.

However, at times I thought that some of his problems were too exaggerated and just there to make him pitiable rather than help the reader empathize with him. The novel sets up an us-versus-them mentality to help the reader swallow the controversy of a boy who wants to sleep with his mother. Ultimately though, the conflict is engaging and the characters make it work. But next time I think I'll wait for the movie.

# spun

ALBUM REVIEWS



**The Jamies**  
*The Jamies*  
September 21, 2013

The Jamies bring a sound like nothing else I've ever heard. Whether it's the rich, soulful vocals of Jamie Gould — the band's namesake — or the way the album seamlessly switches gears between rock-inspired guitars to electro-pop synth beats, each track brings something exciting and different. It's hard to define them with a single genre, especially considering that every individual in the six-piece band brings something different to the table. They are most definitely indie pop-

rock, in a similar vein as Hot Hot Heat or The New Pornographers. But there is also a distinct '80s new-wave-inspired sound that comes to fruition through the skills of guitarist Greg Lamarche.

Despite the range of genres and influences, The Jamies have created a unique blend that brings the listener on a journey through love, heartache and deceit. The first track starts off light and sweet, with a bouncy beat that transcends into the next track. Synthesizers are used prominently here, with supporting guitar riffs and drums. Things take a darker turn in "Secret Boyfriends" and "Gone," where the guitar takes center stage with dynamic rock chords that reflect the emotions of distrust and loss. A bit of country twang appears in "Money and Heartache," while later songs begin to slow towards the closing track, "Under The Stars." Gould appears at her most vulnerable here, sounding wistful as she bears her soul to us.

A certain amount of experimentation is expected for a debut album, but The Jamies have found the sweet spot between trying out different sounds and having them all come together in a pretty little package. They certainly are not lacking in skilled musicians and each track shines with polish and confidence.

**Kayla Ross**



**Juice**  
*Hit The Ground Running*  
July 16, 2013

When the first song begins on Juice's album *Hit The Ground Running*, they could be any other rock band on the radio today. There's a catchy beat on an electric guitar, Tom Hanley begins singing and you know it's going to be fun to listen to, but it isn't overly remarkable. However, that changes only a few seconds later. Suddenly, a heavy drum beat kicks in, a trumpet starts and what began as a typical rock album becomes half rock 'n' roll and half big-band jazz. Tom Hanley handles the vocals well

and the percussion is strong, but Max Stanutz on trumpet and Kyle Woodard on saxophone bring a unique twist to this album.

*Hit The Ground Running* is the self-produced debut album from Toronto funk-rock band Juice who have performed at Indie Week Festival in Toronto, Sound of Music Festival in Burlington, the Beaches Jazz Festival at Woodbine Park in Toronto and the P.E.I. Jazz and Blues Festival. The band merges indie-rock with jazz and funk to produce a unique and engaging sound.

The big-band jazz sound is clear through the first track, "Wake Me Up," and cycles back and forth with the band's funkier side in a pop-influenced track "The City." Most of the album's 10 tracks, with just a few exceptions, begin with a very funk-inspired sound, like "Never Know" and "Two Brothers," before returning to that big jazz sound — and back to funk and back to jazz. The album's title track "Hit The Ground Running" comes halfway into the album and blends the two sides of funk and jazz in a song that will get your feet tapping every time, if not outright dancing.

Although there are a couple of slow songs and one folk-rock song at the end that is unlike the rest of the album, it is nevertheless fun from beginning to end.

**Sean Sullivan**

## Study Participants Needed

We are seeking individuals to participate in a research project that will take place at the *end of October 2013*

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Lisa Kenney, Victoria Campbell-Arvai and Joe Arvai  
Research Coordinators  
Department of Geography, University of Calgary

**Email: [decislab@ucalgary.ca](mailto:decislab@ucalgary.ca)**

# Screen time:



## Fall television preview, part two

**Sean Sullivan**  
Entertainment Editor

In the last part of my fall television column I previewed four shows I was looking forward to this fall: *The Blacklist*, *Sleepy Hollow*, *Dracula* and *Almost Human*. This week I look at a show that should have been included last week: *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*

### *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*

Often called this fall's most anticipated new show, the first episode of *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* aired on Tuesday, Sept. 24. However, the pilot had originally been screened in its entirety earlier this summer during the San Diego Comic-Con.

Created by Joss Whedon, Jed Whedon and Maurissa Tancher and set after last year's *Avengers*, *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* has a lot going for it

— including an audience that has been waiting in dizzying anticipation since the series was green-lit last year. After his previous television series *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Angel*, *Firefly* and *Dollhouse*, Joss's return to television is met with high expectations. And the reviews for the show's premiere are as full of praise as those written after Comic-Con. Nielsen ratings show 12.1 million viewers tuned in to watch the premiere on Tuesday.

*Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* will be a huge success for ABC, that goes without saying, but I wonder how much of the excitement is only because it is a Whedon show, or how much is because it is set in the Marvel universe and will follow parallel to the movies.

*S.H.I.E.L.D.* is a great show but I wasn't left with the same excited feeling that I expected at the end of the episode. The episode was rushed and the characters a little

flat, even back-from-the-dead Phil Coulson.

There are two main difficulties the pilot had to deal with: Joss, Jed and Tancher had to sell the story to Marvel and ABC — and their audience — and they had to quickly set up the circumstances and the characters of the show.

Joss's television shows are known for their groups of characters and the fascinating ways they interact with each other. Joss has always been great at developing characters and building his stories off of them, rather than building the story and dropping the characters into the situation. The pilot of *S.H.I.E.L.D.* was sparse on character interactions, compared to other Whedon television shows. This was largely because so much had to be established in the episode to set up the rest of the season but it did mean that none of the characters shined during the episode, not even

Clark Gregg's agent Coulson. Small hints of each character's personal problems were littered throughout the episode and there were frequent and fast-paced conversations between characters, but never enough to let us know who these characters are, not enough for us to care about them.

This leads back to the other difficulty with the episode: it had to be a Marvel show. The audience has probably seen at least one of the several Marvel films in the last few years and expects a television show about superheroes to be fast paced and action packed while also containing interesting characters. If anyone can balance all three well, it is the Whedon family. But Joss is the first to point out that a television show is a television show and a movie is a movie. There are different rules and different structures to each and different ways to approach

the story. Joss said as much about the difference between writing for his television show *Firefly* and its sequel film *Serenity*. What exactly is a Marvel live-action television show and how do you write one? The only comparison on what to expect is by referring to the movies. But what if what we expect isn't what makes great television?

This is what I'm concerned about: no show, even a Marvel show, can keep up the fast pace and action of the pilot episode for an entire season. *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* needs to slow down and become more about the characters than the fight scenes and superpowers. However, once it has, will the audience stay? Or alternatively, will it attempt to avoid the typical formula of a Whedon television show to remain closer to the Marvel films?

Sean Sullivan watches more TV than is good for him. To prove his time was well wasted, he writes a bi-weekly column looking at television and movies.



PHOTO BY BRUNO ENGLER

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# Cheer Club adds pep to Dinos games



Michael Grondin

**Ashton Chugh**  
Sports Assistant

Cheerleaders have become associated with North American sporting culture. Their styles vary, but one of their main responsibilities is to engage the fans and make the game experience a more memorable one. From the over-sexed routines performed by the NBA or NFL cheerleaders to the eye-popping gymnastic routines that are seen in competitive cheerleading, spectators always abound.

Unlike many Canadian university teams that have a dedicated varsity cheer team, the University of Calgary Cheer Team is independent from the Dinos's athletic team.

"Lots of the universities have varsity cheerleading teams and that is just not something that the Dinos are interested in having here," said

U of C cheer coach Jodie Larson. "The only way to do it is the club route which, to get a club up and running, takes initiative. You have to really want to do it. It is just a matter of people signing up and taking it upon themselves to join."

Being that this is only the team's second year in existence, they are still in the process of firmly establishing themselves in the university community. The dedicated student leadership demonstrated by the club's founders and members has gotten the club up and running.

"It's a time commitment," said club president Brittany Maddox. "You have to put in the time to keep the club going. It's also about student leadership. As opposed to other teams that have faculty involvement, we are entirely student run."

The team is separated into three different tiers to offer its members

varying levels of involvement that they can choose, according to their desired level of commitment. The most demanding tier is the performance team, which practices a few hours every week and must master the choreography to produce a polished performance. These members can be seen performing during Dinos basketball games, along with volunteering in the community and participating in fundraising events.

The Red Shirt squad is the second-most-demanding tier. These members practice with the team to fully learn the choreography so that they can fill in for performers who are unable to perform on game day due to injury or illness. This tier is for those who want to be part of the performance team, but who are unable to fulfill the time commitments. Red Shirt members are also involved in all the community

events that are sanctioned by the Cheer Club.

The last tier of the team are the Cheer Zone members. These members do not actually dance with the performers, but they do play an integral role in pumping up the fans by cheering on the crowd whilst wearing U of C cheer T-shirts. Cheer Zone members also attend volunteer and team building events.

Tryouts for the team were held on Sept. 25. Potential cheerleaders come from a wide variety of dance backgrounds that range from raw beginners to having competitive cheerleading experience.

Maddox stressed a number of traits she was looking for in any potential new members.

"The ability to pick up choreography, and the ability to have fun with it and not get too stressed out about the choreography," said Maddox. "Also being easy to work with and

outgoing. You can't be a flat person sitting there watching the games. We go to a game to entertain the crowd and get them excited."

Currently, there are no men on the team but the club does welcome them to join. The team wants to work stunting and tumbling into their routines this year, which often requires male participants.

"If we get up to a higher stunting level, we feel that that would attract more guys to join," said Larson.

With the team's recent success at Dinos basketball games, the cheerleaders have developed higher ambitions. They are looking to be a part of football and volleyball games in the future.

"We are really excited about this year," said Maddox. "It's very exciting because we started from such a low point and we are growing. Seeing the team go to where we would like it to be is very inspiring."

## Athlete profile: Graeme Schnell

**Josh O'Brien**  
Gauntlet Sports

Graeme Schnell, 25, bounces the black squash ball off the front wall of a University of Calgary squash court with perfect precision and force. Academically, he is a fourth-year kinesiology student who intends on going to medical school once he finishes his degree. On the court, he is a five-time champion of the Black Knight Canadian University and College Championship Men's Open, the

top Canadian university squash championship. Schnell's 2013 title is one of many — he claimed victories in the 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012 editions of the event. With his fifth victory, Schnell passed the University of Western's Rob Nigro, who last won in 2005, for the most titles in the history of the Canadian University and College Championships. He is one of the top-ranked squash players in Canada and plans to play professionally this year.

"I started playing squash when

I was 10 years old and ever since then I haven't taken any breaks," said Schnell. "While most players take a break right out of juniors because they feel burned out, my best results have come from the training I received there. Since then, I have won most of my tournaments. I feel I have progressed the most from age 18 to now."

Schnell has seen what it takes to be a top-level squash player.

"I'm addicted to these four walls," said Schnell.

see SQUASH page 16



Michael Grondin

# Squash, continued from page 15

"It is great exercise and it keeps me focused on something other than my studies in kinesiology," Schnell continued. "I found that squash is always developing new techniques, spins, coaching philosophies. I have never once felt that this sport is becoming stagnant. It is always evolving and growing, and the higher up you get the

tougher it is."

The squash world was rocked in September when the International Olympic Committee voted for the re-admittance of wrestling into the 2020 Olympic Games, a disappointing decision for squash enthusiasts who hope to see the sport in the Olympics one day. The vote, in which wrestling won with 49 votes

to softball-baseball's 24 and squash's 22, was the outcome of almost three years of debate that was supposed to elect a new sport to the Olympics. Schnell felt that the squash world had done a lot to secure a place in the Olympic games.

"To prepare for 2020 we had come a long way," said Schnell, referencing several of the changes made to professional squash in hopes of being admitted into the Olympics. "The glass court system, 360 degree spectator angles, video review and a revamped scoring system made it much more exciting for the crowd."

Ultimately the IOC decided to re-admit wrestling, reversing their controversial decision to remove it

earlier in 2013.

"I felt we had a very good chance at the 2020 Olympics until we had to face wrestling," said Schnell. "It's the oldest Olympic sport. They have a history and heritage, and taking them out made it virtually impossible for any other sport to make it in."

Canada hasn't produced a top-10 world-ranked player since Jonathan Power was ranked number one in 2006. Schnell's brother Andrew is regarded as one of Canada's next best chances to break into the top-10 world rankings. Andrew is currently ranked at number 70 in the world at the age of 21.

"Right now the most dominant countries in squash are Egypt and

England," said Schnell. "We don't have the right environment to produce a world champion. In Egypt they get scouted when they are very young, get a racquet put in their hands and get to go on court and train with world champions."

Schnell believes that the U of C squash courts are some of the best in Canada. "This is a world-class facility, and we can develop junior players here and use it as a hub for the top players in Canada," said Schnell. "These courts are beautiful and very well maintained. The viewing areas are amazing."

Schnell has one more course left in his degree and plans on playing in tournaments across Canada and the United States in the coming months.



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Dinos receiver Rashaun Simonise dodges a Manitoba tackle on Sept. 20.

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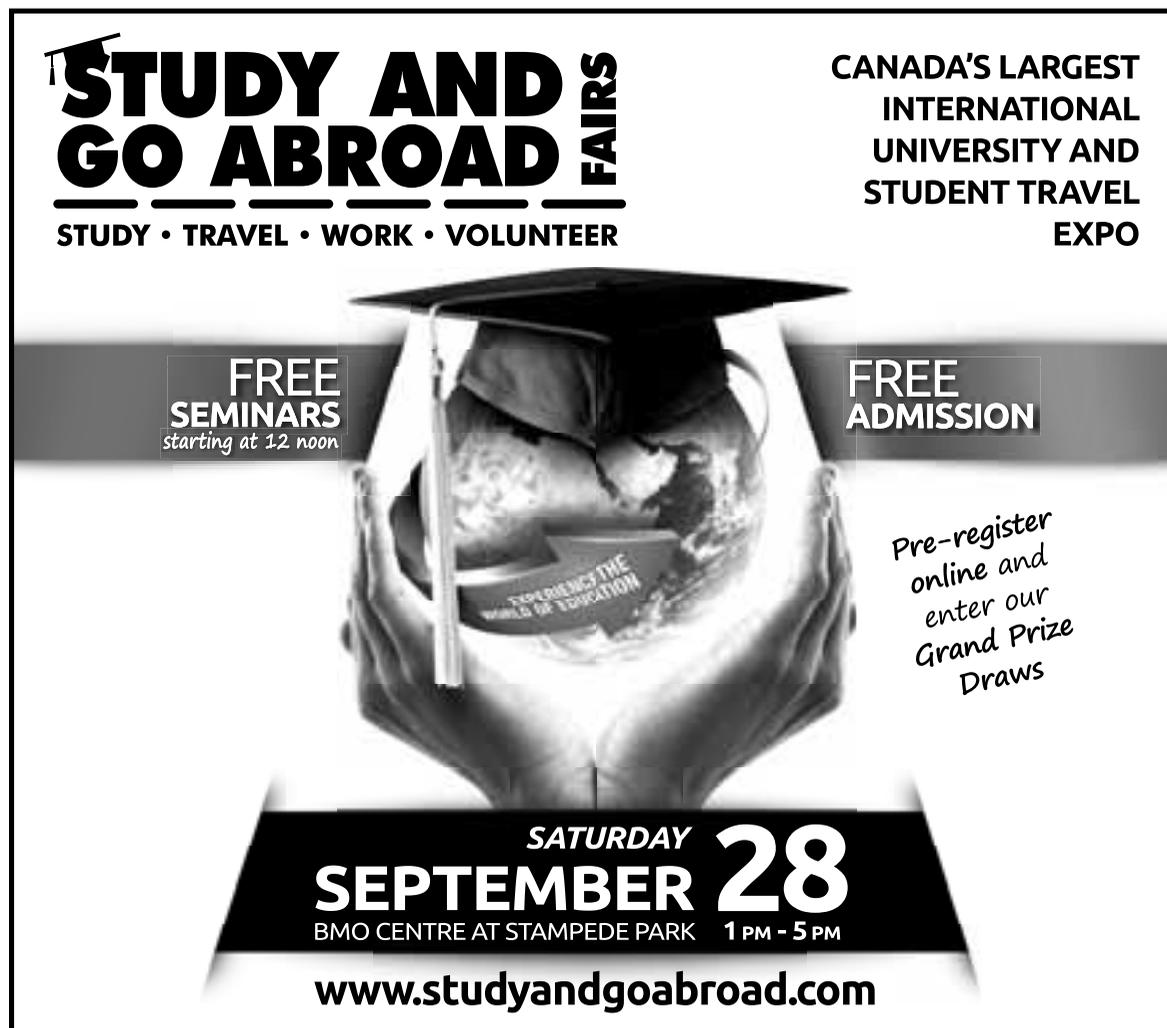
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# Nightmare season ends for the Jays

Canada's baseball team misses postseason for the 20th consecutive year

Curtis Wolff

Sports Editor • @CBWolff

Mourning the demise of another edition of the Toronto Blue Jays is not an unfamiliar act for Canadian baseball fans. The end of September has marked the end of the season for the Blue Jays for the last 20 years. Not since their World Series victory in 1993 have the Blue Jays played a postseason game, a drought so lengthy that the disappointment that should be felt over a failed season has long ago been replaced with feelings of resignation and apathy.

However, the 2013 Toronto Blue Jays were different. This was a team that represented hope, that actually had the potential to win games and play into October. This was a team comprised of all-stars, a collection of can't-miss players that had been anointed by some analysts as being one of the best teams in baseball before they had played a single game.

The optimism surrounding the team exploded in November of 2012 due to a series of bold trades and signings by general manager Alex Anthopoulos, whose pocket-book had been bolstered after being given the green light to go on a spending spree by team owner Rogers Communications. On Nov. 13 the Blue Jays made a blockbuster trade, acquiring starting pitchers Josh Johnson and Mark Buehrle, all-star shortstop José Reyes and infielder Emilio Bonifacio in exchange for seven young players and prospects. This was followed shortly by the signing of disgraced all-star outfielder Melky Cabrera, who was coming off a 50-game suspension for testing positive for abnormally high levels of testosterone. Finally, the Jays acquired R.A. Dickey, the top pitcher in the National League from 2012, from the New York Mets in exchange for promising young catcher Travis D'Arnaud and pitching prospect Noah Syndergaard.

The result of the spending spree was a completely rebuilt team that had auctioned off a sizeable chunk of their acclaimed prospect base for current stars. The Blue Jays were tired of waiting for success and expected to field a winning team this year. Everyone else expected them to win as well. Oddsmakers in Las Vegas had set the odds for the Blue Jays to win the 2013 World Series at 15/2, the highest of any team. Hype



over the team carried over into the spring, and with good reason — the lineup already featured returning stars José Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion.

Yet somehow the unthinkable happened. The Blue Jays won only 10 of their first 30 games. Some games the hitters could only manage a handful of hits, while on other days the pitching staff couldn't keep the game close. The Jays's season went downhill quickly. A 11-game winning streak in June reinvigorated the team and fan base, but the benefits of that stretch were quickly erased by the 7-18 run that followed. As in so many previous years, the 2013 edition of the club was out of postseason contention by July.

How so many players on such a promising team could underperform so badly in a single season is almost unexplainable. Bautista failed to carry the team as he had in previous years. A cleaned-up Cabrera didn't come close to achieving the .346 batting average that he hit in 2012. Dickey's earned-run average soared from 2.73 in 2012 to 4.72. Perhaps most disappointing was catcher J.P. Arencibia, who has posted a shockingly bad .227 on-base percentage and 147 strikeouts. Blue Jays colour commentator and former catcher Gregg Zaun took to the radio last week to call Arencibia's .145 batting average one of the worst in Major League Baseball history.

Injuries are not an excuse for this unmitigated disaster of a season. While Bautista, Johnson and Cabrera were all injured for extended periods of time throughout the season, none of these individuals were playing up to expectations when they were healthy. Coaching doesn't seem to be a huge issue either, which is where the axe normally falls after

terrible seasons. Anthopoulos's announcement that manager John Gibbons will be back in the dugout in 2014 did not stir up much controversy amongst the media or fans.

Perhaps the biggest mystery is

how the Blue Jays's management is unable to assemble a good baseball team no matter strategy they use. For years the Blue Jays used the Oakland Athletics-influenced low-salary strategy that was documented in Michael Lewis's book *Moneyball* and the Brad Pitt-led movie of the same name, with little success. Now it seems that their New York Yankees-style big spending ways have failed just as badly.

Despite the failures of the Blue Jays, the average attendance for home games have increased by almost 5,000 spectators since last year. The sport has grown in popularity, especially amongst young people — according to the *Globe and Mail*, attendance in the 18-32 age group swelled from 37 per cent of the Rogers Centre crowd in 2010 to 50 per cent in 2012. The Blue

Jays should feel very fortunate they have such strong support from this demographic considering that most of them can't remember the last time the team made the playoffs.

There are few easy answers for why the Blue Jays did so poorly this season. However, it would be a mistake for management to chalk it down to an anomaly or blame injuries. While the team still looks as good on paper as it ever did, it's hard to imagine the team ever looking good enough on the field to compete for a postseason berth unless some significant changes are made in the off-season. November 2013 should be just as busy for Anthopoulos and the Blue Jays as it was last year, but this time with the pressure of a failed season squarely on their shoulders.

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# Game review: *Grand Theft Auto V*

Rockstar's latest instalment of its infamous franchise is the best yet

**Ashton Chugh**

Sports Assistant

With each instalment of the *Grand Theft Auto* series, the game developers at Rockstar entice the masses with a potential gem. *Grand Theft Auto V* reportedly cost its developers over \$250 million to make, grossed \$800 million after it was released on Sept. 17 and was the fastest game to make over one billion dollars. There is so much excitement surrounding this game that a man in London was stabbed while waiting in line for it. After neglecting all aspects of my social life to go on a *Grand Theft Auto V* bender, I soon found that my \$59.99 was — unequivocally — worth every penny.

*Grand Theft Auto V* is situated in the sprawling metropolis of San Andreas which is based on the city of Los Angeles and its surrounding area. Fittingly, the game's plot gave the impression of a Hollywood film. From the game's very beginning the player is immersed in a dramatic, action-packed world.

After a bit of playing, I was independently in control of three different characters, whose different stories and personalities all interlink wonderfully. This allows the story to develop through the unique personality of each protagonist, as opposed to all previous *Grand Theft Auto* games which featured a single generic protagonist.

The player is first introduced to Franklin — a black man who wants to be more than just a small-time thug, but who can't resist the temptations of the high life. Michael is a retired ex-criminal who is going through his own version of a mid-life crisis, and has to deal with his unappreciative and demanding family. And then there's Trevor, a wily, libido-driven meth-head who has a murderous streak like no other.

Because *Grand Theft Auto V* has three protagonists, a new feature that is central to the game is character switching. In missions where all three playable characters are involved, the player can switch between them at any time. For example, the player can be

up close and personal during a firefight using Michael, and then switch to Trevor to provide cover and then to Franklin to create a distraction. The player can seamlessly switch to where the most exciting action is taking place.

The missions in *Grand Theft Auto V* are diverse and creative, ranging from an eventful jewelry store heist that the player orchestrates, to run-of-the-mill missions like towing a car for Franklin's crack-addict cousin. Another welcome feature is the mission checkpoints, which means that players don't have to replay an entire mission after failing right at the end.

Initially, the 'fog of war' that covers the map hides how expansive the life-like world of San Andreas really is. Events happen all over the city which occur with or without the player's intervention, making the world of the game feel much more exciting. Upon leaving Franklin's house, I happened upon some criminals who had just robbed a store and needed a ride. Afterwards, I decided to save a battered woman from her abusive boyfriend. I also neglected to save some dude's bike from being stolen because hey, shit happens.

What is great about this game is that it feels like you can do anything your heart desires. Feel the need to calm down after an afternoon of indulging your id at strip clubs and shooting ranges? Try some yoga or a round of golf. Feeling adventurous? Try your hand at flying a plane and ditching it mid-flight for some impromptu skydiving. The game offers plenty of amusing diversions, which often feel like full games themselves.

Many events in *Grand Theft Auto V* revolve around new media. Protagonists receive emails and texts on their smartphones regarding everything from mission information to requests to hangout at the bar from a friend — you can even use them to take selfies. In addition, one can also make trades on the stock market or browse Rockstar's spoof of Facebook, which is aptly titled Life Invader.

The controls are quite easy to get used to. I did fumble a bit at first —



courtesy Rockstar Games

*Grand Theft Auto V* provides a massive, responsive world for the player to wreak havoc upon.

shooting someone while trying to change radio stations and drawing the ire of the police — but thankfully, the game isn't very punishing if you make a mistake. The auto-aim is less finicky than before, and finding cover in a shoot out before your health is completely drained is actually feasible. I also found the driving to be a lot smoother than in previous games.

The game's soundtrack provides a suitable background to the player's self-directed adventures. For example, I switched from Michael to Franklin, who was beefing with his cousin in front of some rival gang members. I immediately put the smack down on the Los Santos Ballas, and when the police gave chase, I hopped on the newly deceased gang members'

motorbike to the tune of 2Pac's "Ambitions Of A Ridah." The timing of the music made me feel like a complete badass — which is exactly what this kind of game should do.

The world of *Grand Theft Auto V* serves as a commentary on contemporary American life, and nothing is safe from Rockstar's dark sense of humour. For example, the first tip I noticed on the loading screen was a little box advertising that I could "relax like a real American by smoking, drinking, and watching mindless TV." Narcissism is especially prevalent as everyone in the game has a self-serving evil streak. The game's narrative does falter occasionally, such as when it makes you play through a lengthy and seemingly unnecessary torture scene. Those with weak stomachs should stay away.

Rockstar's attention to detail is what makes *Grand Theft Auto V* feel so colossal. It's wonderfully weird, overly engrossing, and just hands down fun. You need to be playing this game.

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# Gamers duped by release of kinder *GTA*

Chris Adams  
News Assistant

Late last Monday, gamers took a short break from running over the homeless and stealing jet-packs from military bases to descend upon the world's media-peddlers in order to be the first to get their hands on *Grand Theft Auto V*.

They were, upon leaving the midnight-release, shocked when the ritualistic death-simulator marketed at them for the past 18 months turned out to be nothing more than a fictionalized impression of the bourgeois lifestyle they had been accustomed to before their minds were irreparably altered by Rockstar's games.

The *Gauntlet* reached out to one University of Calgary gamer following the game's release.

"I was really hoping to ascend to max altitude in a stolen helicopter and parachute out while I watched the prostitute I picked up helplessly plummet to the ground," first-year film student Jacob Klebitz said. "Now all this game is about is attending Parent-Teacher Association meetings and protesting the wearing of shirts that show too much midriff."

Rockstar, *Grand Theft Auto's* developer, apparently hopes that the alterations to gameplay for the game will mend the societal damage caused by their previous releases.

"We here at Rockstar need to atone for the senseless hedonism we have been peddling to youth for decades," said Travis Gaines, a representative for Rockstar. "In crafting *Grand Theft Auto V*, we felt obliged to immerse players in the life of a completely content character with absolutely no inclination toward depravity. You know, just to calm things down a bit."

Researchers have concurred that petty crime is, in fact, caused by the corruptible influence of media.

Upon the release of *Grand Theft Auto IV* in 2008, as in the game, real-world carjackings of sports cars skyrocketed.

Joshua Plant, an avid gamer and blogger for *OMFGamez*, voiced his concern for the problematic behaviour a violent video game like *Grand Theft Auto IV* can encourage.

"Players, believing themselves to be channeling an eastern European gangster, had to steal a car in order to pick up their taxi-cab-company-owning cousin for the cross-city street race that was about to start," Plant reported. "Of course, when they were inevitably disqualified because they thought shooting the lead vehicle with a rocket-propelled grenade would give them an edge in the race, the sick cycle began again."

Rockstar spent \$150 million to market this latest iteration of *Grand Theft Auto*, hoping to hoodwink the public into behaving like rational human beings.



Michael Grondin

*Grand Theft Auto V* aims to reshape violent gamers into model citizens.

"Why provide players with an intellectually stimulating satire on the underbelly of a morally bankrupt society rife with hypocrisy and inequality when we can have them play as a lifeless husk with no aspirations or intrigue?" Gaines said. "The former is just too risky."

Trends on social media are already reflecting the game's influence. Posts describing passersby

helping individuals across the street rather than mowing them down in a rage of ungodly bloodlust have seen sharp spikes in recent days.

"At first, I thought the new changes were a little disappointing," Klebitz said. "But now, I can't get enough of helping strangers unload their groceries."

Rockstar has since released a let-

ter of thanks to those tireless logical protesters who were the first to predict violent media's potential influence.

"These are the minds who tried to tell us that slaying pedestrians with ninja weapons in a virtual setting would lead to the same in reality," Gaines said. "It would be morally objectionable for us not to learn from that truth."

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formal celebration of their hard work. We are accepting abstracts from undergraduate students in all programs, faculties and years and look forward to showcasing projects from budding researchers in a diverse array of disciplines. Submissions are accepted for both projects that are underway and those that are completed. **The abstract submission deadline is Friday, Oct. 25, 2013** and both the submission form and guidelines can be accessed via the SU website at [www.su.ucalgary.ca/symposium](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/symposium).

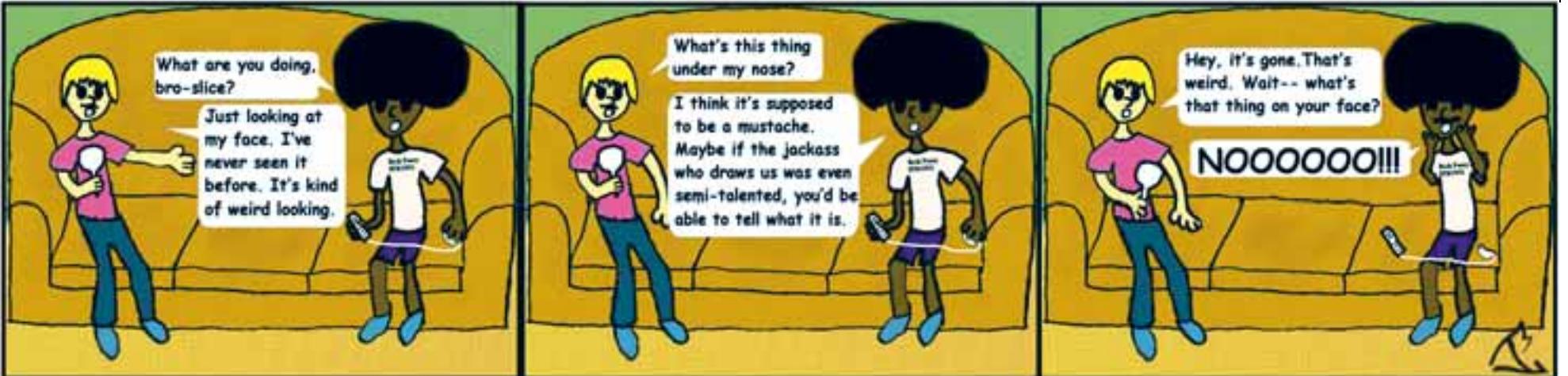
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If you haven't completed a research project of your own yet, I'd still love to see you at the symposium. It's a great opportunity to ask questions, to find how to become more involved with research, and to see the possibilities that are out there. We will also have an on-site service and resource fair available. I'm honoured to be representing such an intelligent and innovative student population and I'm excited to learn more about your passions, projects, and ideas!

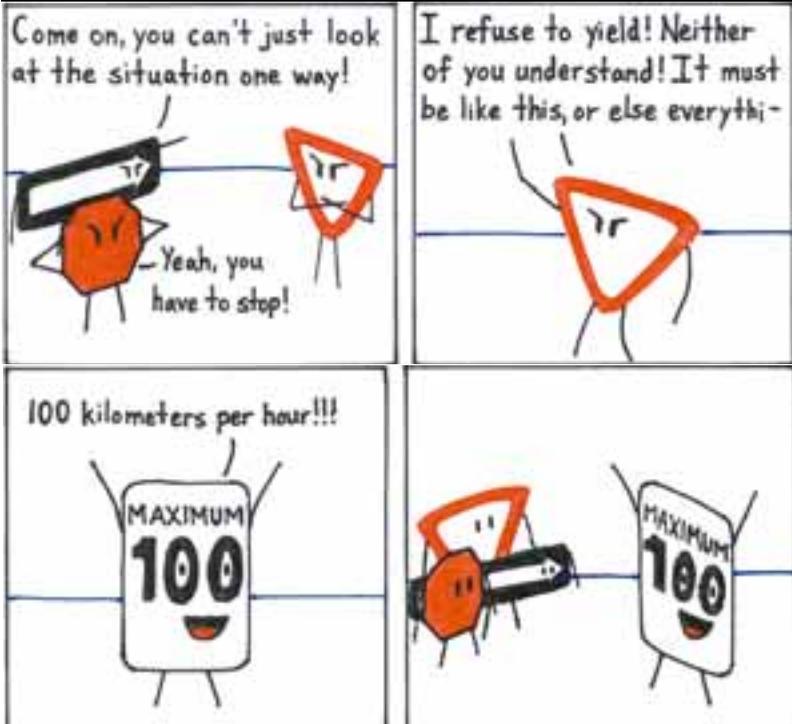
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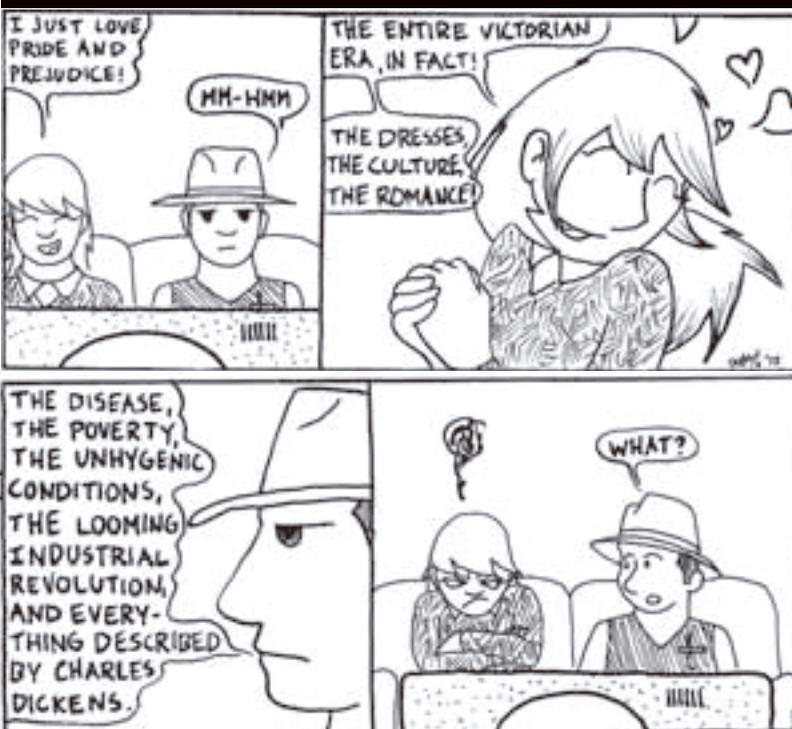
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