

the reflector

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THIS PHOTO
COULD BE
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(PG. 3)



COUPONING IN CALGARY

YYC'S CRAZY COUPONER CREW

(PG. 2)



**IS SNAPCHAT
TURNING PEOPLE
INTO FURRIES?
(PG. 13)**

**ARE DOGS OUR
NEW BABIES?
(PG. 5)**

**RETURN OF THE RED
MILE
(PG. 14)**

Why you should pay more attention to SAMRU

How running for executive positions can change your academic career

Amber McLinden

Staff Writer

It's difficult to engage students when it comes to affecting change through university, according to two Student's Association of Mount Royal University (SAMRU) executives. It's equally as difficult to fill all the executive positions, not because they aren't interesting jobs, but because students seem to have little knowledge of them.

"These roles are not very well known amongst the general student population," says Dexter Bruneau, the current Vice President External.

Currently SAMRU is recruiting for the position of Vice President External because the candidates who were running both dropped out of the race. Now the organization is looking for someone to fill that seat.

According to Bruneau, holding a position in SAMRU comes with its set of perks, "having always followed politics, getting to sit in a room and meet with politicians that I know of through news and through TV, actually sitting

down right in front of them and having a conversation with them was really neat," he says.

Both Bruneau and Robbie Nelson, current VP Academic agree the positions elevated their academic experience. Besides working at Mount Royal, they also seek to influence policy at a municipal, provincial and federal level that will affect the university.

"[I have] learned so much about how things work here and how decisions are made," says Nelson. "It is really powerful to be that student voice at the table making sure that students all across campus are heard."

Experience isn't the only incentive for the job, the position of VP External currently pays a yearly salary of \$38,000. Most of the VP positions do, including Nelson's. The job is full-time and requires students to be a part-time student, with most taking only one or two classes while they take on the high-demand job.

Although many of the executives put in extra hours



Photo courtesy of the SAMRU Facebook page.

towards their roles, both Nelson and Bruneau agree on different levels that the pay is fair. "It's about in the mid-range from what I've seen compared to what executives at other institutions are paid," says Nelson.

"I think considering that it's student's money that is going towards our salaries, it's fair,"

adds Bruneau.

Both individuals encourage people to run for the positions, especially if you're interested in policy, improving your public speaking skills, government, or any topic relating to politics.

SAMRU is always working on a number of issues at all levels, including mental health services, advocating for better

transportation municipally, implementing a fall reading week, and more. If you are interested in these issues, you're encouraged to apply to the available position or engage in student government any way you can.

For more information about the VP External position go to www.samru.ca.

Calgary couponers offer tips and tricks to cut costs



Marie-Anne Levert, founder of the Couponers says her work as a librarian taught her the skills required to find information and share saving tips and tricks. Photo by Josie Lukey.

Josie Lukey

Staff Writer

Counting your pennies takes on a whole new meaning for one group of Calgarians.

The Alberta Couponers are

dedicated to sharing all kinds of savings tips, coupons, deals and freebies not just in the province, but across Canada. Marie-Anne Levert, founder of the Couponers, had a mission to share and spread as much information about savings as

possible.

She's been seeking out sales for more than 50 years.

"My experiences and skills as a librarian in researching and finding info comes in handy to find and share unique savings opportunities and other

information in all areas of our lives," says Levert.

According to Levert, couponing is a choice to save yourself money, and a choice to keep money in your wallet to spend on more important things — like vacations, a new home or even dinner with a loved-one.

Here are a few tips Levert offers to get you pumped to start your coupon journey:

- Start a binder: It's important to keep organized, so Levert recommends purchasing a binder with a zipper that closes all the way around so nothing falls out. Baseball card inserts can also help organize all those coupons.

- Start small: Try collecting coupons on items you would typically purchase for yourself or even begin price matching products between stores. Shaving \$10-\$20 off your bill

is bound to feel amazing!

- Don't shop during peak hours: This is a surefire way to bother the people behind you AND make you feel overwhelmed.

- Inform the cashier: Ask the cashier how they would like you to set up the items. Maybe they want the coupons throughout checkout or at the end — Levert stresses working with the cashiers and not against them.

- Coupon for your lifestyle: You might not have room for 58 cans of tomato soup, so don't splurge because it's on sale. Work with what you want to save money on and what you have space and money for.

If you're not sure how to save money for that trip you've had your eye on, a new bag or even just getting ahead on bills — couponing is a great way to get started on your saving journey!

Lunch. Dogs. Sunshine.

You heard it here first: The hot scoop on the things in life that really matter: dogs and lunch.

But for real, these are the little things that make life worth living. I know that during exam season and the final, dragging weeks of school, it's hard to remember what life is all about. Yeah, yeah education, work, health etc. are vital. But at the end of it all (both school and life) you'll look back at all the tiny moments that made up your biggest experiences.

Sometimes we don't even realize that we're in the middle of moments that we'll remember forever. In 2014, I travelled to India for two months. During my trip, I often felt hot, sweaty and overwhelmed. But now, I remember the tiniest things. Things I wasn't even consciously taking in at the time. Like the way light from the candles illuminated the Ganges River, the smell of incense burning next to a statue of Vishnu or the smiles of the kids I met at the ashram where we stayed.

As I prepare for my final week of my five-year stint at MRU, I have a feeling that my memories about school are going to come back to me the same way.

As we go through the motions, sleep-deprived, stressed-out and overwhelmed, we're also spending time with amazing people, learning about the world and becoming the people we will be for the rest of our lives.

You won't remember anything about the project that you and your group pulled an all-nighter to finish but you will remember laughing hysterically with them when sleep-deprivation insanity set in.

You won't remember whether you got an A or B grade on your poli-sci paper but you will remember the professors that changed your worldviews forever.

My point? Even when you're panicking about an assignment or studying with friends until 3 a.m., you should stop, take a breath and remember that despite a lifetime of preparations for the next big thing, life is happening, right here, right now.

Xoxo,

Publishing Editor



A mid-construction drone shot of Calgary's Rocky Ridge Recreation Centre that began construction in 2014 and is scheduled to open its doors in 2018. Photo by Jennifer Dorozio.

What to know before you drone

How Canada's new drone regulations are impacting recreational and academic pilots

Brett Luft

Web Editor

Canada's newest unmanned aircraft regulations may put a damper on those looking to pick up a drone this summer.

The March 2017 unmanned aircraft regulations offer a fresh take on Canada's old laws that predated modern drone technology. While some of the laws are beneficial to public safety — such as the laws regarding forest fires — others restrict the full potential of even the most basic drones available on the market.

The DJI Phantom 3 Standard, for example, is one of the most inexpensive options to new owners and has advanced software to prevent crashing into obstacles. But, under Canada's new restrictions pilots have to fly more than 75 metres away from any object — which becomes a problem when trying to take photos of trees or buildings.

A full out ban is also imposed on drones flying at night, meaning photography enthusiasts will be unable to get that aerial shot of the Calgary Tower lit up on a clear evening.

While the new regulations seem like total restrictions, the Government of Canada website has been updated to offer further clarity for non-recreational pilots.

A change of winds

These online complications were experienced first-hand when I picked up my DJI Phantom 3 to use for education purposes. As a journalism

student, I thought it would be pretty slick to have some b-roll footage shot from a bird's eye view.

But when I went to look into the restrictions for flying, the website was still set up with ancient guidelines. I couldn't figure out how to request Transport Canada to let me use my drone for academic use.

The website was stuck in limbo between old unmanned aircraft laws and the real-world capabilities of modern drones. But as a result of updating the restrictions, Transport Canada's website now clearly reflects how to gain permission for academic drone piloting.

The expectations for academic use are now fully fleshed out, and the process for gaining long-term certification is fairly straightforward.

Holding back on innovation

Law modernization is usually completed to make things more progressive, but the new drone laws feel like they're really limiting what the market can do.

Drones have the potential to drive efficiency in new ways, offering the potential to truly help people by delivering medicine to bedridden patients or even having pizza delivered autonomously. But Canada's laws feel like a step in the wrong direction for recreation use, and that's truly a shame for those looking to get into the market in

the near future.

The only silver lining for recreational pilots is the clarification surrounding penalties. Before the new restrictions, breaking regulations could cost as much as \$25,000, but the new fine is \$3,000. The \$25,000 fine still exists, but has been restructured to only be applicable against corporations.

Do not fly your drone:

- Higher than 90 metres above the ground
- Closer than 75 m from buildings, vehicles, vessels, animals, people/crowds
- Closer than nine kilometres from the centre of an aerodrome (any airport, heliport, seaplane base or anywhere that aircraft take-off and land)
- Within controlled or restricted airspace
- Within nine km of a forest fire
- Where it could interfere with police or first responders
- At night or in clouds
- If you can't keep it in sight at all times
- If you are not within 500 m of your drone
- If your name, address, and telephone number are not clearly marked on your drone.

Information courtesy of
Transport Canada

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features

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Companions or children?

A doggy-day care employee's thoughts on owners humanizing dogs

Alisa Sanchez
Contributor

People love their dogs. They pamper them and treat them like human babies. Pet businesses and ownership practices have led to dogs becoming less like pets and more like actual members of the family.

According to a 2013 study by the American Sociological Society, people feel more empathy for dogs that have been treated with cruelty than adults.

I work at a dog daycare called Pawsitively Pooched. In my experiences at work, owners often consider their pets kids and the employees certainly treat them as if they are.

Amber Horton, facility manager of Pawsitively Pooched says, “the humanization of dogs is seen very clearly through what food they eat. We get dogs whose lunches consist of chicken, rice, vegetables, fruit, and even deli meat.”

The relationship between people and their dogs is constantly evolving. Many dog

owners have taken instinctual canine emotions and turned them into human emotions, such as seeing their dog's eyes watering and assuming they are crying. People seem to have turned a blind eye to the natural behavior of dogs.

Lola Bridges and Amber Graham, two groomers at Pawsitively Pooched said that dog grooming has become more for vanity than practicality or convenience for the dogs. “I’ve had a customer come in and ask me to give his dog the same haircut as Chuck Liddel,” said Bridges.

Graham, who previously worked at PetSmart, said that she’s done dog manicures, hair dying, and even dog feather-hair extensions.

Bridges and Graham have both said that many owners are scared to bring their dogs in for grooming in fear they will get hurt. Bridges has even offered to film grooming sessions to reassure owners their fur-baby is safe.

Because of this worry owners have about keeping their dogs

safe, some have a problem with neutering canine children, claiming “it takes away their manhood and they will be embarrassed.” In response, the pet industry has created prosthetic implants for dogs – known as “neuticles” that are supposed to replace testicles after the dogs have been neutered.

The humanization of dogs can also be seen in the marketing of clothing. At Pawsitively Pooched, we sell parkas, dresses, and even yoga clothes for pets. On holidays we host themed parties, where we dress the dogs up and show them off as though they are our children. We offer hair coloring and nail painting. We even have a pool, where dogs can have swimming lessons, along with rehabilitation swims.

We have taken technology designed for humans — like swimming pools — and brought it into the dog industry.

And between outfits, hair styling and activities, the doggy consumerism is on the rise.

According to a study from Robin Loznak of NBC News, Americans spent approximately



Maxwell poses for the camera in dog-daycare Pawsitively Pooched after a fun game of fetch. Photo by Alisa Sanchez.

\$60 billion on their pets in one year. Some of the money spent included different day packages which cost owners between \$150 - \$500. Grooming starts at \$65 for miniature dogs and can go up to \$150. When owners are treating their dogs, the costs add up.

All of this might seem harmless, but some owners expect their dogs to act like children because they spend money on them as if they are!

Amber Horton has seen owners blaming their dog's bad behaviour on their lack of “parenting” skills. “People seem to genuinely think they can reason with their dogs, and many refuse to hire a trainer, as they think it is a failure of their

ability to raise a dog,” she said.

The rise in popularity of social media has also created an increase in accounts made specifically for dogs. There are thousands of Instagram accounts purely made by owners pretending to be their dogs, along with Facebook pages, and YouTube accounts.

The humanization of dogs can be seen in many first world countries. For many, dogs have replaced children and are seen as family members that display human emotions and personalities.

So what do you think: would you opt out of a baby and stick to your fur child?

Playing the keys of success

Robert Naumko brings his music and ideas to Calgary

Bigoa Machar
Layout Editor



Robert Naumko's next live performance will be on Friday, Apr. 21 at Cafe Blanca. Photo courtesy of Robert Naumko.

“It sounds like I’m floating on clouds.”

Those were the exact words of someone who had just listened to Robert Naumko’s music.

Originally from Winnipeg, Naumko has taken his act all over North America, from the Pan Am Games in 1999 to a stay at Rancho La Puerta in Tecate, Mexico. Now, Robert has decided to take his neo-classical piano style and turn it into a residence here in Calgary, where he hopes to introduce Calgarians to his music.

“I was just emerging as a solo pianist here after performing internationally. What’s blossomed was a lot of gigs since then,” says Naumko. “As I was emerging, a lot of people didn’t know what I was doing or what my style was, and upon hearing it they told me how excited they were. I was told my music was fresh and exciting and people actually wanted to buy my albums.”

While Naumko says the start

was slow, he’s been able to find his footing with the city’s piano enthusiasts.

“It’s bizarre because for the four and a half years I’ve tried to embark on this, there was resistance to what I was doing,” he says. “Ever since last June, it just started to blossom. The people that attend my concerts are now actually buying my CDs, which is really exciting because I have the opportunity to make money on my performances and my CDs.”

Naumko sees his music best fitting in places that people wouldn’t normally consider. Not only does he hope to bring attention to his music but to different venues as well.

“Places like the Carmichael are really nice to play in. They’re in this nostalgic, romantic atmosphere where the food is great and they get to hear some really good music that fits the venue,” he says.

Although he enjoys bringing his music to diners and even churches across the city, Naumko’s bread and butter lies in delivering home

concerts, something he says he’s done in many cities across the country and hopes to now do in Calgary.

“The home concerts I’ve done have three parts to them. There’s a meet and greet where everyone gets to know one another,” says Naumko. “Then there’s a sit down session of about 45-60 minutes where they get introduced to the music I play. Then part three is just talking about the experience they had with it. This also gives me the opportunity to personally sign CDs.”

Naumko says that home concerts provide a new opportunity for people to experience music a little differently than they’re used to.

“It’s more intimate and for those people who don’t want to travel or go out to a venue, it gives them more opportunity to let them do something special for their friends, family and clients.”

Be sure to check out Naumko’s Facebook page for more updates on his performances and to buy his albums.

Mount Royal: hot destination for international students

Why international students say Calgary offers a warm reception to English Language Learners

Brett Luft

Web Editor

It's a topic I've discussed on multiple occasions during my time at the Reflector: why study abroad? For many, it's an opportunity to take in new cultural experiences, travel and learn to find one's place in the world.

But an exchange is also about sharing one's own culture in a new environment. And that's exactly what Mount Royal student Shaun Henderson did when he met Mana Iwasa while studying at Hirosaki University in Hirosaki, Japan.

Iwasa was the manager of Henderson's soccer team in Hirosaki, and when she said she was interested in studying abroad, Henderson convinced her to study at MRU.

"At first I wanted to go to the United States because it was a dream of mine," Iwasa said. "But when Shaun came to Japan as an international student at Hirosaki University he told me how Calgary is the best!"

After researching, Iwasa made her decision to study in Calgary. "I realized Canada would be better than America," she said.

Henderson, a student studying Outdoor Leadership and Eco-Tourism, says Calgary is a great place for Japanese students because it's a familiar tourist destination.

"With Banff next-door, Calgary is an international hub and gets lots of Japanese travelling through here," Henderson said. "When Japanese travel they like to keep things familiar, such as eating at Japanese restaurants — which Calgary has an abundance of — and staying at Japanese-speaking hotels."

Many tourist companies in the Calgary region offer networking opportunities or sightseeing tours for Japanese visitors. But Iwasa says Calgary's safety net for foreigners is smaller than other places in Canada, which makes it easier to get involved with the English-speaking community.

"I think in Vancouver there's a lot of Japanese people, so if I were to study abroad there, I can speak Japanese frequently," Iwasa said. "I think Vancouver is better to visit, but Calgary is a [better environment] to live and study in."

By not having a total safety net, Iwasa finds herself in positions where she's forced to challenge her English ability. Saya Nishimura, a mutual friend of Henderson and Iwasa, says it's one of the elements that makes Calgary a tight-knit community.

"For studying, Calgary is better because it has more of a community feel to it," Nishimura said.

Nishimura also believes Calgary's entertainment culture caters to this community feeling,

while adding multicultural flair.

"Calgary has a lot of traditional Canadian culture — such as Stampede — but also interesting events such as the Lilac [Festival]," Nishimura said.

The June Lilac Festival has a varied culture on display, which demonstrates Canada's multicultural roots.

But above all, Nishimura believes Calgarians have an easy-to-understand dialect when communicating with visitors.

"When I was a freshman in university I wanted to go to New

Zealand or Canada, but I think Canadian people offer a better experience to Japanese people," Nishimura said. "This is because they don't have a strong dialect or accent, which makes it easier to learn basic English — it's very important..."

Nishimura prefers the collective mindset that many Canadians have. "I think other countries also have too much individualism when compared to Canada."

According to Nishimura, this is also demonstrated in

MRU's international classes, as students from other cultures share their perspectives when tackling obstacles. She says understanding how other cultures overcome issues is beneficial when returning to one's home country.

This makes Mount Royal a proud institution for anyone that might choose to attend — whether or not they're from a foreign country.



Shaun Henderson (left) and Mana Iwasa (right) choose their toppings at The Big Cheese in Kensington for Iwasa's favourite Canadian dish: poutine. Photo by Brett Luft.

Forget brunch, let's talk lunch

Amber McLinden

Staff Writer

Let's face it, brunch is trendy and can get expensive. Restaurants seem to be flourishing on the city's incessant need for brunching, but they're scrambling to bring in revenue when noon hits and serve the hungry workers flocking the streets of Calgary. Check out this guide of the best, and often cheapest, lunch options for when you want a decent midday meal.

Via CIBO **1520 14 St S.W.**

As we all know, pasta can be

pricey. When you're out at any Italian restaurant (even Olive Garden) the pasta dishes are priced upwards of \$18. The exception is at lunch. Via Cibo offers a \$12 lunch special that includes an entree, side, and Italian soda. Get your fill of pasta at lunch and then have a lighter dish around dinner (or just have more pasta). Don't hold back, try the carbonara or the gnocchi for some delicious dishes.

Tandoori Grill **1101 14 St S.W.**

In a corner not touched by the "trendy brunch scene," Tandoori Grill is one of Calgary's hidden gems. The authentic Indian

restaurant is one of the best in town. Their regular curry dishes are priced around \$12 each, and once you buy rice and naan, you're looking at spending about \$20 or more. But if you get there between 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., you can grab their lunch special. A taste of four different curries including beef, veggie, and butter chicken, along with naan and rice, makes this the best way to test out the joint to see if you like it. At only \$10.99, it's probably the best deal on the list.

Misato Sushi & Grill **1851 Sirocco Dr S.W.**

In case you can't already tell,

lunch specials take food that is usually expensive and bring it down into delicious and affordable combinations. Any sushi lover knows that it can be pretty expensive with rolls ranging from \$5 to \$10 each. But if you head over to Misato Sushi for lunch, you can buy a lunch box with a price tag between \$12 to \$26, depending on how much food you want and the amount you want to pay. Consider filling your sushi craving for cheaper during your lunch break.

Quynh **335 2555 32 St N.E.**

While Quynh may be a little far away from Mount Royal,

if you live in the north or are just willing to travel a little bit for cheap food, this is the restaurant for you. Vietnamese isn't the most expensive of foods but it can still run between \$10 and \$15 dollars for a vermicelli bowl. At Quynh for \$9.95, you get one vermicelli entree (which is chosen each day), a shrimp salad roll and your choice of soft drink. Vietnamese is delicious and filling, and will leave you headed back to school or work with more brain energy to finish off your day.

So what do you say? Let's give lunch a little more love and take advantage of the great deals!



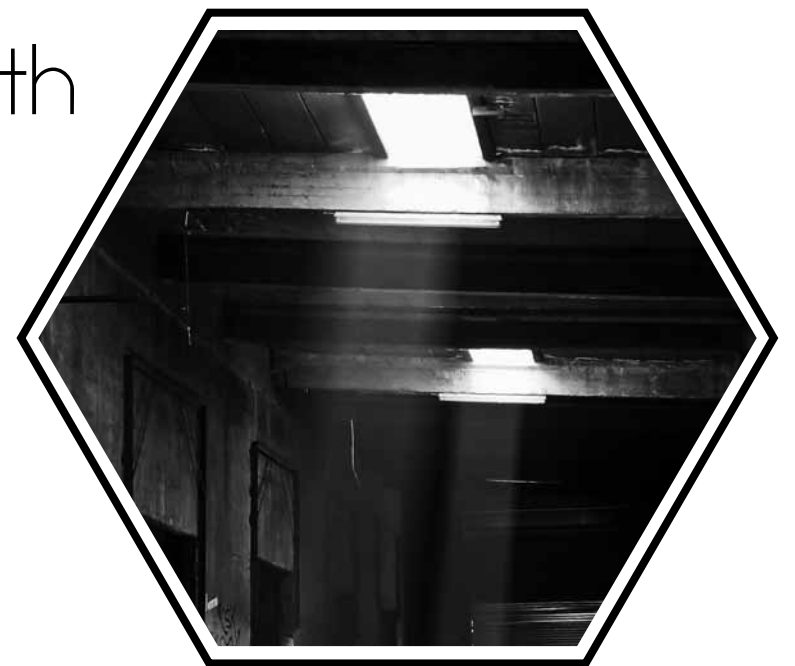
Photo by Amber McLinden

WRITES

Upon This Bastard Heath

By Cameron Mitchell

sitting upon this bastard heath
 a conch shell to My throat
 the epitome of My life
 the sum of all things
 all points converged on this moment
 My mind like a needle point, yet scattered
 this is who i am, this is what i am
 and all i will ever be and
 oh god
 my god your god and our god and nobody's god
 no one's god
 he's their god not ours
 and hours
 minutes to days to weeks to seconds.
 could this be madness?
 am i mad or just alive
 to experience all i see and hear and feel and smell?
 i see it all and you cannot
 for your life
 is but a grain of sand upon My beach.



Moonshine

By Jessie Kennedy

Moonshine in my window
 As I throw the mason jar through
 The glass shattering across the floor
 Of my chest groans in agony
 Pushes my fists down to my sides
 You've never seen before

My darkness dances
 Across my face in lace shadows
 Violently battle below us
 The bottle I emptied
 The liquor cabinet tonight
 Will be the night you damn my name
 Echoes against the walls as you cry
 Out for me to stop!
 Is the one thing I won't do

If I Stay Here With You, Girl

By Chelsea Fritz

Allan's cousin, Beth, was seventeen years old and unlike any other girl I'd seen before. She was tall – almost as tall as me, I'd wager – and in her skin tight bell bottoms, her legs looked like they went on for days. Sure, the girl was beautiful in every conventional sense of the word, but it was the intelligence in her features that really did me in. Her clear, copper complexion was home to the most inquisitive brown eyes that seemed to always be squinted in concentration. She tilted her head to the side as she looked down at the man she was talking to, causing her long black hair to fall gracefully off her shoulder.

I quickly came up with a way to strike up a conversation with her. I left my perch and located the bottle of Jameson's I'd brought from

town. With the whiskey and two shot glasses in hand, I headed out to follow my siren's song.

She smiled as she watched me approach – a smile that nearly did my heart in. I mustered the courage to say hello and introduce myself. She refused my offered spirit – apparently whiskey was the enemy to a half Cree, half Irish girl – so I drank the potent liquid in solitude. I didn't mind, though. In spite of the burning sensation as it went down, the stuff gave me the final push of courage I was lacking.

Midway through one of my well used jokes, Beth became distracted by the yells and cheers of people behind her. She put her hand up, signalling me to shut my mouth for a second. Beth turned around and took a few steps towards the house.

"Allan, you better get your monkey ass down off the damn roof before you break your fucking leg!" If I wasn't in love before then, that surely sealed the deal.

I picked Beth up at six the following Saturday night and instead of driving back to town, she asked if I minded hanging out on the reserve. I obliged, as my interest was piqued at what she had planned.

Following her directions, we meandered through the winding, narrow dirt roads until we ended up at a small beach on the opposite side of the lake. A tiny log cabin (though to call it a cabin would have been an over-reach) was right on the water's edge. Tied to a peg sticking into the sand was a

small canoe that Beth excitedly got into.

"You ever been in one of these before?" she asked.

"Of course," I lied.

The canoe almost tipped over when I stepped into it and as soon as I attempted to pull the oars through the water, I failed miserably. The wooden boat spun in slow circles around the water.

Beth laughed, shook her head, and took the reins. She paddled us out to the middle of the lake. But honestly she could have paddled us all the way to Timbuktu. She was close enough to touch, though I didn't dare to do so.

When she'd had her fill of rowing, she dropped the oars to the floor of the canoe and then leaned back on her elbows so she could look up at the sky.

"You know, it doesn't get dark here in the summer,"

she said. "The birds stay out and sing all day."

I gave an embarrassing grunt in response. It was all I could muster. She began to whistle back to the choir of birds chirping away in the trees and in that moment, with the sun painting a pink halo behind her head, Beth was just as much a part of nature as the wind softly rippling across the lake.

I had no sense of time – the lack of sunset really did that to a man. But when she leaned over and placed her hands on my forearms, I knew I was in exactly the right place at exactly the right time. I didn't hesitate, not even for a second. I closed the gap between Beth and me and kissed her for the very first time.



See the Obvious

By Amanda Derksen

Bowing strands of wine bottle green
striving to touch the sky
laced with a pale joyous arsenic
Birds jabber for a taste
A slight bottle of watered down mint
nested on a bench
asking to be seen
Paper, petal soft, bound to its counterpart
choking it for attention with
thin meek letter stating
"Notice Me"

Photo by Amber McLinden

A Cup of Tea

By Maryam Ejaz

I drink
As if it is my last.

Its warmth seeps deep into my chest
Insulating me from all the pains of the day
putting me at rest

But at times
I hold on to the cup too long

Reaching the end
I feel nostalgic
As the warmth of my last sip is gone

Enjoy the pleasures of life
But know when to let them go
Or those moments of joy
Will forever remind you of the last sips that went cold



Photo by Robyn Welsh

The Saskatchewan Dictator

By Kraig Brachman

I tell you Petro, I'm filled with desires no longer satisfied. I had the world dug underneath my fingernails. I had flesh bodies to penetrate and suck at will. Money was just a concept. Sure, I took from the people, but I was their leader! They should have licked my boots and thanked me for the opportunity. Instead they send me to this purgatory: rural Saskatchewan.

Wheat and horizons is the crop of this land. No one can live on wheat and horizons alone. To have the fruit of knowledge and then be beaten down by uprising commoners. I am pathetic. I am this land.

Barney walks down the tracks, right in the middle. One heavy foot after another. Shoulders slumped, a dog

tooth grin on his lips, a fifty thousand dollar suit browned from dirt and blowing wind.

These stalks point and laugh as the wind blows, Petro. It reminds me of the Ukraine you told me: your story of poverty. The hunger, the beatings, the combination when they both collide to the stomach. The dead littering the streets and the jealousy felt towards that fat communist leader. His rolls of excess mocked your gaunt angles

A furious, bowel driven grown seeps through Barney's teeth.

AHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

Barney flails in the air: Punches whip his dirty statues suit, he kicks at past frustration elicit clouds of dirt to fly up. His outburst leaves him tired, out of breath. He is a mess. Shirt no longer covers

his paunch, his usually moist hair is wild and across his sun burnt face.

What happened to you Petro? What happened when I stabbed you in the eye. What happened to you once I put you into the fire, when your skin started to peel and flake off into black ash? Ha... HA! Hahaha! I wanted what you had; the women, the men, to be god-like. The worship, the fact of your words. I wanted it, I wanted you, I took it, I took you.

Barney stops, sighs. He sticks out his prick and stomach out towards to the earth's curve to stretch his back.

I will be on top again, Petro. My guiding hips will control the people again. I will when I finish the endless Saskatchewan.

Night

By Cameron Mitchell

I lie awake in the night
dreaming strange dreams
of times that never were
and times that never will be

Oh, and there's an itch again
It gnaws and bites and chews.
Begging
it calls out in the night, drawing forth a darkness

I feel, a form
but of what I do not know.
Is this the time?
An end, or a beginning?

and yes
it is clear
I shall sleep easy now
in Her tender embrace

Strangers

By Cameron Mitchell

She had a face that
Fifteen year old I could have
Fallen in love with



Eggshell Sneakers

By Logan Pollon

Continual malfunctioning masturbators
criss-cross and cross
their legs
 a half-remembered crucifixion,
 waist down –
on top it could be anyone
and everyone forgets what their hands are doing.
Their shoes transcend new luminosity,
never have they not been white
walking so close though not so close
to the heavens - but only
if the heavens are the wicked rest

Aperture

By Kelsey Grossklaus

our hands held
more than just us
when we walked through
the forest

we watched branches
bend and snap
while the ringing
in our ears silenced it all

we followed the same fawn
for hours in hopes of catching
something small and innocent

take a picture or two

thought we got lucky
when the fawn turned
to look at us, little did we know
we stood on a pile of feed

a lot can be learned
by how honest nature
is with itself, it knows
when it's dead

After Midnight

By Cameron Mitchell

The gravel makes a different sort of crunch from the ice
A smoke alarm echoes from one of the houses
I feel strange in my core, even though it is my arms that are cold
The stars aren't as bright as the streetlamps

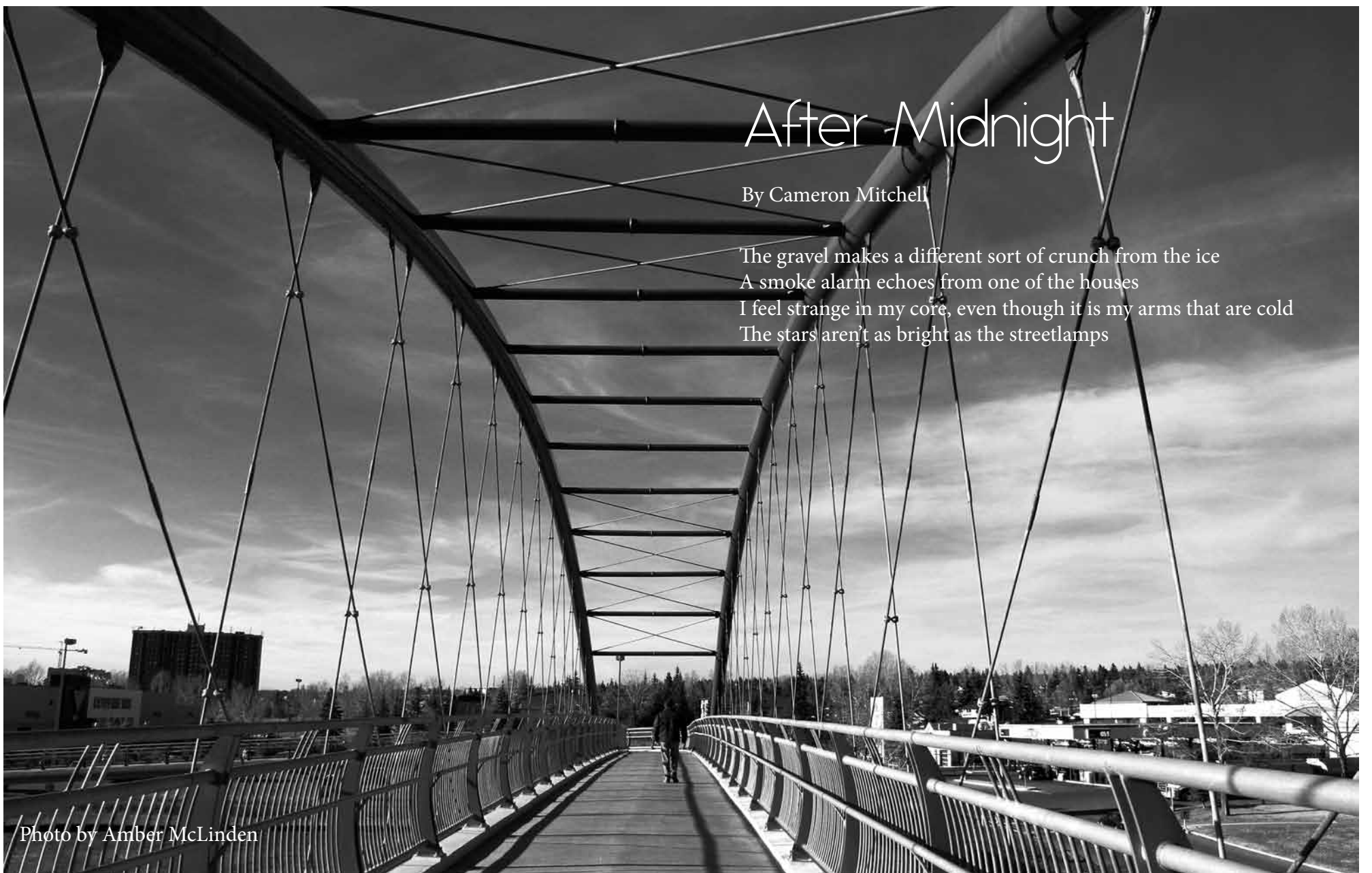


Photo by Amber McLinden

The problem with international representation in Hollywood

Ghost in the Shell is only the tip of the iceberg for race problems in mainstream media

Brett Luft

Web Editor

In its broadcast review of *Ghost in the Shell*, the CBC's Eli Glasner said the film didn't have a whitewashing problem — it had a Hollywood colonialism problem.

His reasoning is simple: the tale of Major is often considered a tale of Japanese identity, and Glasner says by taking a Japanese story in a Japanese city and replacing the character with a predominantly White cast, it creates an unusual setting for the movie.

"Every major character — just about — is Caucasian," Glasner

says in his CBC News review. "Her closest friend is played by a Danish actor, Batou; the robotics professor, Juliette Binoche; the villain, Michael Pitt; except they kept around legendary actor/director Takeshi Kitano [to] play the gruff squadron commander."

"[But he] inexplicably speaks in Japanese — nobody else does, but he does to add a little bit of that exotic flair."

Glasner goes on to say that part of the reason the movie's problem is Hollywood colonization is because they take Japanese culture and images and

"depopulate" the story.

But this isn't a story that's exclusive to *Ghost in the Shell*. These past few weeks also saw the first reveal of a reimagining of another beloved Japanese story: Netflix's *Death Note*.

Just like *Ghost in the Shell*, *Death Note* traditionally takes place within Japanese culture. This cultural relevance goes beyond setting, as the main supporting character is a Shinigami (Death God) with more cultural relevance than, say the Grim Reaper in Western culture.

But all of the characters in *Death Note* have been replaced with a Western cast member. Light Yagami is now Light Turner, Light's sidekick Misa Amane is now Mia Sutton and the only Japanese character seems to be L's sidekick, Watari.

Even the Japanese Death God is played by Willem Dafoe — though he certainly looks and sounds the part.

This misrepresentation of media is a shame to our society, because there are a lot of talented Asian-American actors that would do these stories justice. Amazon's *Man in the High Castle* proved this by reconstructing the United States West Coast as a modern-day extension of Japan and populating it with many great Asian actors.

The search for identity is something that should be universal. It should be equally represented in media, and there's



***Ghost in the Shell*, starring Scarlett Johansson, opened March 31 to a weak response. Photo courtesy Paramount Pictures.**

no way around it. It's just a fact.

Shows such as *Homeland* have made great strides in combatting the "White Saviour" mentality by casting white actors in storylines that aren't necessarily flattering. But that's only a starting point.

Martin Scorsese's *Silence* is one of the only examples in recent history of a story being adapted in a way that made sense to its source material. *Silence* has less than six Western actors attached to its film, and that's only because those characters were written to be Westerners living abroad.

Silence proves that it should be simple for Hollywood to adapt a movie in a culturally appropriate way, but it doesn't appear that it's going to be the norm any time soon.

Even though *Ghost in the Shell* tanked in its opening weekend debut, *Death Note* looks like it's going to be a continuation of Hollywood's issue localizing content for Western audiences.



***Death Note*, hitting Netflix screens this summer, has been met with widespread criticism for its predominantly Western cast. Photo courtesy James Dittiger/Netflix.**

Film:

Calgary Underground Film Festival runs from Apr. 17 to 24. There's a wide range of films for you to check out from documentaries to cartoons! Get your tickets now from calgaryundergroundfilm.org

Spoken Word:

April is National Poetry Month so check out Calgary's Spoken Word Festival which runs from Apr. 22 to 25. Get tickets from calgaryspokenwordfestival.com.

Comics:

Calgary's Comic and Entertainment Expo is back and runs from Apr. 27 to 30. Meet your favorite stars and check out all the different vendors CCEE brings.

Clowns!:

Juggalo weekend is happening Apr. 7 to 8. Watch the juggalos and Insane Clown Posse take over downtown!

OUT'N ABOUT



Outlive

Solid State

Demon Hunter has always been an interesting face in the metal scene. While there's a surprising amount of Christian bands in it, Demon Hunter has always been a bit more transparent in their beliefs, and *Outlive* is the eighth release by the metal veterans. In comparison to past albums, such as *True Defiance* or even *Extremist*, *Outlive* doesn't have the initial "kick" that one would expect from Demon Hunter — it doesn't pull in its audience very

I've always felt that Demon Hunter albums are really dope from the top, and then somewhat boring by the end. The latter is more the theme for *Outlive*. While it's still a good pickup for some, Demon Hunter isn't the greatest brutal bible band on the market. The instrumentals are pretty solid, but the vocals often feel like they were an afterthought making this album more comparable to modern Megadeth or All That Remains.



Swear I'm Good at this

Frenchkiss Records

Pop-punk is alive and well with Diet Cig's latest album, *Swear I'm Good at This*. The duo hold up the middle finger to expectations with this album, both lyrically and musically. In a statement on their single, "Tummy Ache," the band describes what the album feels like to them. "It's the shout into my

This album is a must listen for those of you who are feeling a little angsty and want to make some noise, and find comfort in singer Alex Luciano's soft yet powerful vocals. — *Amber McLinden*



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FOOD COURT

Snapchat filters: bringing out the beauty in the beast

Why you might secretly be a furry

Andi Endruhn

Staff Writer

Let's be honest with ourselves, Snapchat filters are everything we ever wanted.

They clear our skin, give us the glow of a greek deity, and provide the same satisfaction we all get from wasted time spent on Photobooth, twisting our faces into hallucinogenic shapes. But, you will notice one omission from this list. The animal filters.

With an endless barrage of pink-nosed and fluffy eared masks taking over, it's time for us to confront some harrowing truths.

One: Someone sitting in Snapchat headquarters is a furry.

For those of you not in the know (and I apologize for divesting you of your furry-free existence) according to the ever prestigious, and infallible Urban Dictionary, the definition of a furry is contested and variable. In it's simplest form it is a

person with the appreciation of anthropomorphic animals. This appreciation typically extends into a realm of wanting to be, or at least temporarily be these animals with human traits, thus precipitating in the creating of "fursonas," a furies persona as an animal, and the accompanying fursuit.

There is no other explanation for the endless rotation of anthropomorphic animals that grace the filters bar of snapchat. They're cute, they clear our skin, and allow for that beautiful feeling of a little kid with face paint. But Snapchat unlike face paint, isn't limited to the vestiges of youth. Snapchat seems to never go away, transforming each and every one of us into real life depictions of satyrs, and overly cute-sified rabbits. If it were not for someone sitting at a bright beachside office in Venice, California having an extreme interest for fuzzy animal friends (and sometimes scaly but we had to limit our scope) we

would not be beset as we are.

What does our endless affection for these filters say about us? We suffer an innate fascination, everyone of us, with the animal filters. We love them.

There is nary one amongst that have not used the dog filter. We are each guilty in our own way. Yes it might have been to cover a zit on your nose, but regardless, you have capitulated to the perpetuation of cute, and thus we must submit to another truth;

Two: Society is filled with furies.

Socialized from a young age, we are never taught to think otherwise.

So, you decided to dress up as a cat for halloween, just a simple pair of eyeliner cat whiskers and a tail and ears from the dollar store. Sorry, you're a furry now. You've taken a photo with a mascot at a sports game. Sorry, you're a furry now.

It happens to all of us. We are trained to love animals, prize them even into the point of wanting to be one. This is apparent right down to the Halloween decision to be suited up in poly-blend onesies rather than be the requisite witch or pirate that would've been just as easy.

The kindness to us as children, the benevolence in sparing feelings results in the neverending continuing generation of furies. Bringing us up in a world of anthropomorphic idolization that fills our world with furies, and those aligned. Through childhood consideration we are all conditioned to a furry mindset, meaning dormant furies, populate our world. Have you seen Zootopia? Furry.

Three: We are all furies at heart.

While we might all get up on our high horses (pun absolutely intended) about what we all see

as a moral divergence from the norm none of us have stopped it ourselves.

We can't stop it. No one quite wants to. Espousing impulse control does nothing in the face of digitized animal features superimposed onto our faces in good lighting. As every non-millennial will tell you, we collectively agree that a good selfie in good lighting on a good day is one of the small joys in life, much like seeing a dog walk by you on the street. The only thing better is the combination of the two.

Snapchat brings the latent furry out in all of us. No longer is furry-dom banished to distant corners of the internet, Snapchat has enabled and brought it to light. The filters are only a harbinger of what is to come. They are the portent of who we are becoming, and of what we have always been but never known. Each use of the dog filter is complicity in this revelation, and we are powerless to stop it.



Beautiful boy Dan Khavkin using the Llama filter on Snapchat.



Kyle Pura with a local furry. Photo by Brett Luft.

sports

Playoff Fever

Sports Editor
Brendan Stasiewicz
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For just the second time in eight years our boys are in

Kourtney Meldrum and Brendan Stasiewicz

Staff Writer and Sports Editor



The Saddledome will play host to the Calgary Flames as they look to gear up for a long playoff run. Photo by flickr user Bernard Spragg.

Playoff fever is here for the Calgary Flames, and equally as important, for the C of Red. Having not made the playoffs since the 2014-2015 season, the team (and those about to take part in Red Mile festivities) is hungry for another chance - and they've proved it.

After tying a franchise record set by the Atlanta Flames with their ten game win streak, broken after a heart breaking loss to the Boston Bruins on March 15, the team made their push for the playoffs - finally clinching a spot on March 31st against the San Jose Sharks.

The road to get there hasn't been easy. The Flames started off the season less than favorably.

Perhaps it could be new head coach Glen Gulutzan to thank for the turnaround. His coaching has seemingly changed the Calgary Flames into a team that focuses on playing their game when they hit the ice - a game that has proven to get the job done throughout the last half of the season.

Another possible reason for the turnaround could be alcohol (not the first time booze has made something look better).

After a four game losing streak in January had many ruling the Flames out of playoff contention, Gulutzan mentioned in an interview with the Fan960 that the mood was eerily somber on

the Flames train taking the team from Montreal to Ottawa.

Gulutzan exited the train and came back with a tub of beer for him and the team. "Let's stop losing," said the Flames coach.

The train ride quickly turned into something out of "The Polar Express" because the team found a touch of magic in those moments. Since the team bro'd out and had some brews with Gulutzan they are 21-6-1.

The Flames have also acquired a handful of players this season that has helped their success. Both Brian Elliot, goaltender pickup from the St. Louis Blues, and winger Matthew Tkachuk, acquired through the draft, have proven essential to their game.

Defenseman Matt Bartkowski (acquired from the Providence Bruins of the American Hockey League) and Michael Stone (acquired via trade from the Arizona Coyotes) were added to the roster right before the March 1st trade deadline- bolstering up the Flames defensive core (and most importantly forcing pylon lookalike Dennis Wideman out of the lineup).

Though the Calgary Flames wouldn't be who they are without Johnny Gaudreau. The little guy (coming in at 5'9") is mesmerizing to watch on ice. He skates with both grace and precision, his playmaking skills have proven to be flawless in most cases and his shot is deadly.

Do I even have to remind you of his wraparound goal against the Pittsburgh Penguins on March 13? There's a reason they call him Johnny Hockey, after all.

However the Flames are more than just Gaudreau. Sean Monahan has had an impeccable season (he and Gaudreau are dynamite on the ice together) and captain Mark Giordano has been nothing less than inspiring.

Sam Bennett (the Ryan Gosling of Calgary and the cutest player on the Calgary Flames according to writer Kourtney Meldrum) has not produced the same results on the score sheet as last season, but has proven his worth on the ice from his various fights and level of intensity - scrappin' Sammy is hopefully here to stay.

The Calgary Flames have proved that they're playoff ready. All I can say is that the C of Red, and the entirety of Calgary, is ready for the Red Mile to live again this playoff season.

Oh Canada

While it would be easy to write forever about our hometown heroes, there are 15 other squads vying for hockey glory this spring, and five of those teams happen to be Canadian.

That's right, after last years playoffs exclusively featured teams from south of the border, it looks like players from Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Edmonton, and the aforementioned Calgary

Flames will have to wait at least a few extra weeks before shaking the rust of their golf clubs.

Out of the Canadian clubs, McDavid's Oilers and Matthews' Leafs come as the biggest eyebrow raisers.

The freshly opened Rogers Place has turned into a feared building to enter for visiting teams. The young Connor McDavid has solidified himself as a top three player in the NHL and the heavily worked Cam Talbot is proving he wasn't just a system-led goalie in New York.

Meanwhile, TSN's favourite team full of young guns are showing they're not to be taken lightly in Canada's largest city. With the help of William Nylander and Auston Matthews, Mike Babcock has turned the laughing stock of professional sports into a playoff contender.

The brilliant Babcock has also honed Nazem Kadri's skills and made him into the top line forward fans thought he would be.

The best of the rest

American teams will once again be the favourite to lift Lord Stanley's Mug (a feat a Canadian team has not accomplished since the Habs won it all in 1993).

The Metro division has been the best in hockey this year, with

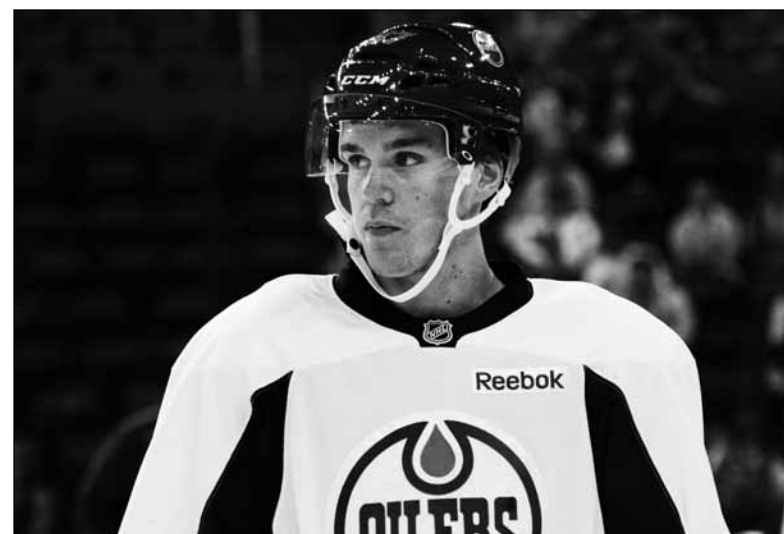
the Penguins, Capitals, Blue Jackets and Rangers all soaring past the 100 point mark. In fact the Rangers, who would be leading the Atlantic division, are forced into a wild card spot due to the strength of the Metro.

Meanwhile in the Western Conference the Chicago Blackhawks definitely won't be a darkhorse going into the postseason. Leading the West, the Hawks are the favourite to go all the way to the finals once again.

Two out of the three California teams are also in the thick of things. The Sharks are looking to get back to the finals for the second straight season, however a recent slump has them limping to the finish line.

The biggest threat to the Hawks, as well as the Oilers and Flames, are the Anaheim Ducks. Much like the Flames, the Ducks rebounded off of an ordinary start to become one of the most dangerous teams in hockey.

Whatever the case, hockey fans are in for a wild (no pun intended) ride in the coming weeks and months. Get some friends together, make your way down to your local establishments (or just find the best spot in your living room) and have some fun watching the best players in the world battle it out.



The revamped Edmonton Oilers led by NHL superstar Connor McDavid look to bring back playoff glory to the alleged "City of Champions." Photo by flickr user Connor Mah.

#S

97.1 Tony Romo has the highest passer rating of all time among retired players

11 game suspension for Flames rookie Matthew Tkachuk for his hit on Drew Doughty

70 points scored by Devin Booker of the Phoenix Suns on Mar. 24

67 points scored by Auston Matthews is the most ever for a Leafs rookie

Opinion: money hungry Gary Bettman lets fans down

The NHL will not participate in the 2018 Winter Olympics

Dan Khavkin

Staff Writer

It's highly controversial for the National Hockey League (NHL) to decide not to let its 150 players participate in the upcoming Olympics held at Pyeongchang, South Korea in 2018. NHL commissioner Gary Bettman has come up with a handful of, quite frankly, very weak arguments on why the NHL shouldn't let its world-class athletes go to the 23rd winter games.

And on Apr. 3, Mr. Bettman announced that the league would not be participating.

Bettman's most prominent argument is all about business.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has paid for the last five trips on behalf of the NHL since the 1998 Nagano Olympics in Japan, but this coming Olympiad sees a different pace.

IOC is pushing the costs onto the NHL.

Arguments laid out by the IOC include how other professionals in a wide range of sports have a strong desire to join and participate in the Olympics.

International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) boss Rene Fasel insists that the timing of the Winter Olympics, which has the NHL take a mid-season break in order to participate, makes them a unique case.

Bettman's counter argument is that the estimated cost is "many, many, many millions of dollars to cover expenses such as transportation, insurance and accommodations for the approximately 150 NHL players who would participate in the Olympics," he stated in May 2016.

The National Hockey League Players' Association (NHLPA) estimate costs to be around \$10-15 million USD.

NHLPA head Don Fehr wants the players to play for their countries in the Olympics.

"If we end up not going, the reaction from the players' side across the board is not going to be a good one. And my guess is it's going to last for a very long time. I think it's disappointing more than surprising. The opportunity to participate at the Olympics Games is a different thing than just another hockey tournament. There's a patriotic element to it and it means something to the guys. It means quite a lot," he states.

The IIHF however, was willing to raise around \$10 million to fund the athletes.

Fasel states, "The NHL's

presence at the Winter Games has been a huge benefit for the sport's visibility worldwide and has provided a memorable experience for the players that have competed from Nagano to Sochi, so we will continue to work hard to ensure that we secure their participation in Pyeongchang and beyond."

Bettman argues that South Korea isn't a hockey market and the risk of injury to stars makes the trip not worth it.

The irony here is that he is okay with the NHL taking part in the 2022 Olympics to be held in Beijing, China.

Even Fasel and members of the IOC jokingly say, "The NHL can't just pick and choose where they want to go."

However, Bettman states, "The league isn't anti-Olympics."

"We've been to five of them. The problem is the clubs are anti-disruption to the season. To disappear for almost three weeks in February when there's no football, no baseball, there's only basketball and us," Bettman says. "To do it where there's no programming for the NHL Network, for NHL.com, for all of our social media platforms - we just disappear."

It is true that the NHL has to halt three weeks of its season but why is that an issue? It's not like the players don't want to compete in the Olympics and they would be aware that the game schedule before and after the event is tighter.

As they have the last five Olympics, the players would be willing to take that so called "hit" like they did in 2014 when the winter games were held in Sochi, Russia.

Everything ran smoothly and hockey fans got a real treat that winter.

But the core issue is that the owners didn't make as much money in that stint.

In my opinion, Bettman needs to know that hockey is about more than making money.

He already is a villain among hockey fans, not just in Canada and the USA, but around the world. He was to blame for THREE lockouts since 1993 when Bettman took over the NHL, using his business approach to the sport.

How can he use this argument when even he stated, "the NHL isn't anti-Olympics"?

NHL superstars can heavily influence the debate and spark a move to put pressure on the people in charge.

Russian hockey superstar Alexander Ovechkin has already vowed he's going to the Olympics "with or without them."

Ted Leonsis, owner of the Washington Capitals, is behind his player.

Ovechkin isn't just a world class hockey player who breaks records almost every season, he also helps pack stadiums and has his name on the back of many fans jerseys, obviously helping out management.

The pinnacle of every athlete's career is to win a gold medal at the Olympics.

It isn't fair to the players or their fans to take away that right because the people in charge of the money aren't willing to fork over the cash and instead make up hypothetical outcomes.

It's reasonable for the owners to be concerned about losing their star players in a non-NHL environment but they have to understand that those players, such as New York Islanders' star John Tavares, would much rather

risk injury wearing his country's sweater.

The Olympics are the perfect example of how the diverse world we live in can unite together for three weeks. If there are two things sports should never be confronted with, it's politics and money.

The NHL is clearly looking for a quick buck when they mentioned they would rather send players to China.

Indeed it is a growing hockey market and the NHL sees what the Russian Kontinental Hockey League (KHL) and the NBA have done to further influence on the other side of the ocean.

The Russian league featured the Kunlun Red Stars, a team based in Beijing, that managed to fit all the needed requirements to join the league and qualified for the playoffs in their inaugural year.

The NBA inked a \$700 million

deal in China to stream games online for five years and the NHL is looking for something similar in terms of business.

This summer the NHL will conduct exhibition games in China to see if the market can grow any bigger but nothing is official thus far.

Olympics obviously benefit from having NHL'ers participate and it makes economic sense to make the IOC ante up to cover insurance costs etc. But, it shouldn't be a deal breaker.

Bettman and his colleagues could've come up with better arguments to explain why the NHL won't take part. For example, the environment around the Olympics.

Unfortunately for hockey fans, we won't get to see the best players in the world participate, and it's a travesty.

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Heroes of the Dorm returns to the big stage

How the Heroic Four is shaping up to be the most exciting esports event of 2017

Brett Luft

Web Editor

On Apr. 8, four collegiate esports teams will battle for free tuition in front of thousands of gaming fans worldwide in Las Vegas as part of Blizzard's Heroes of the Dorm.

Heroes of the Dorm is gaming's take on March Madness, where 64 teams

battle in a month-long Heroes of the Storm tournament for four years of college tuition for each member of the five-man winning team.

I've always been a believer that Heroes of the Dorm is the best way to introduce oneself to esports madness, as it combines something we care about with something dramatic: collegiate sports culture and over-energized gamers running out of Mountain Dew respectively.

And 2017's Heroes of the Dorm has not been without some high-intensity drama. In order to prepare you for the Heroic Four, let's take a look at three of the most interesting stories coming out of the Elite Eight.

Colonel Sanders fries the competition

Possibly the biggest underdog

story to come out of Heroes of the Storm in recent years is the story of the No. 13 seed University of Kentucky's "Scratch Em."

This team has been on fire. Not only did they sweep the no. 2 seed University of California San Diego in the Elite Eight, but their crushing defeat over the no. 1 seed University of Connecticut was a major upset.

Not only has Kentucky been playing great, but also their post-game trash talk has been on point. It's going to take a lot to overcome the undefeated University of Texas Arlington, but they have the passion to take them to the Grand Finals at the very least.

by pushing them to the brink in the Elite Eight, UT Arlington bounced back taking game one and slaughtering Laval in game two of the series.

UT Arlington is the team you want to hate, but they play too flawlessly to justify any bad vibes.

The true North strong and free

The best news for our Canadian readers surrounds Canada's presence in Heroes of the Dorm 2017. Unlike traditional collegiate sports, Heroes of the Dorm is open to any school within North America.

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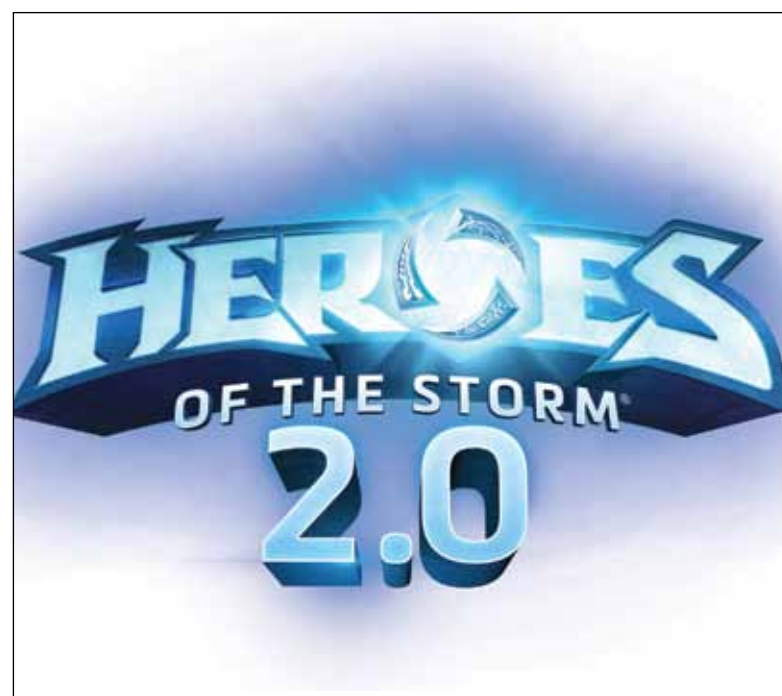
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Heroes of the Storm is a multiplayer online battle arena (MOBA) where two teams of five battle to take down the core of the enemy's base. Photo courtesy Blizzard Entertainment.

Everything's bigger in Texas

And with that we're onto our next story: the unstoppable University of Texas Arlington. These folks are the most professional looking group out there — and there's a good reason for that.

Rather than training with those within the collegiate esports league, UT Arlington has been refining their skills in the Heroes of the Storm Global Championship (HGC) open league — meaning they've been playing the best of the best.

The result is a team that has absolutely ridiculous stats. Most teams are sitting at 19-minute game times, but UT Arlington has been sitting around 13 and 14-minute games. They have an average kill-to-death ratio of 17-4 and they haven't lost a game yet.

Even though University of Laval proved they could bleed

Some major players in this year's tournament were University of Toronto, University of Laval, Queen's University and University of Waterloo, with Laval advancing as far as the Elite Eight.

This is huge news for Canadian esports, as there's not as much love for the scene once you hit the Trans Canada out of Vancouver. University of British Columbia is usually synonymous with esports, acting as an incubator for dominant League of Legends and DOTA 2 players.

But this year's Heroes of the Dorm has proven that esports can thrive elsewhere in Canada, and even though there aren't any Canadian hopefuls, there's still a lot to cheer for when the Heroic Four kicks off on Apr. 8 in Las Vegas and on Facebook LIVE.