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### ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CHAIR DR. BRAD STELFOX PRESENTS

MACEWAN

#### THE FUTURE OF ALBERTA'S ENVIRONMENT

Tuesday, October 10, 2006 / 7:00 pm  
Room 6-214, 10700-104 Avenue

#### WATER FOR ALBERTA: WHAT IS THE FUTURE

Wednesday, October 11, 2006 / 7:00 pm  
CN Conference Theatre, Room 5-142, 10700-104 Avenue

Panel Members:

Danielle Droitsch / Dr. Mary Griffith / John Thompson / Dr. Brad Stelfox

Sponsored by Dr.J.W. Grant MacEwan Environmental Studies Institute.

Both presentations are free of charge and open to students, faculty, staff and the general public.

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### 2006 GSJS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 12 October, 2006 at 6pm

3rd Floor, Students' Union Building

#### Tentative agenda:

- Introductory remarks •
- Approval of 2005-2006 GSJS Audit (Ellis, Govenlock LLP) •
- Announcements •
- Refreshments •

All members (i.e., those with five or more *Gateway* contributions in the 365 days prior to 12 October and who have registered for membership with a *Gateway* editor) are asked to attend. If you have made five or more contributions to the *Gateway* in the 365 days prior to 12 October and would like to become a member, please contact the Editor-in-Chief at eic@gateway.ualberta.ca. This meeting is also open to the public.

For more information, please contact the  
Chair of the Board of Directors at gsjs@gateway.ualberta.ca  
or visit <http://www.gateway.ualberta.ca/gsjs/>



FILE PHOTO: MATT FREHNER

**SCRUMMING IT** The Pandas finished second in the country last season, their seventh straight national medal.

## Rugby Pandas looking at silver lining of second-place finish

NICK FROST  
Sports Writer

After capturing an impressive seventh-straight Canada West title last season, and clawing their way to an eventual loss in the CIS Championship game to Western Ontario, the 2006/07 edition of the Pandas rugby team is determined to get back to the big dance and avenge last year's loss. The team, though, doesn't see failure in the gold-medal game as a downer on an otherwise perfect season—one that saw them finish with only that single loss in eight tries. Rather, they look at replicating many of the positives of last year's squad, and implementing them into this season.

"We have a returning crew of about 16 or 17 players, so a lot of the stuff that we did last year, we're going to try and repeat this year," head coach Matt Parrish explained. "We have a lot of skilled players in what we call 'the spine'—the combination of hooker, and the number eight, nine and ten positions. So if we can keep that combination together, it will definitely

help us into this year."

While most of the players from last year's squad are still around, making the Pandas an experienced, well-seasoned group, the players who aren't returning will definitely cause a noticeable change.

"Two of our mainstays from last year that aren't returning are our two captains and, more specifically, rep players: Summer Yeo—who recently played in the Women's World Cup, so she's doing that this year and she'll be taking the year off—and Adrianna Footz, who has already completed her five years of eligibility," Parrish explained. "Losing those two key players and captains is going to be our biggest missing point this year."

Despite the loss of their two All-Canadian captains, the mood on the field is still reflective of a team with a positive spirit and a winning attitude. There doesn't seem to be any shortage of expectation on both themselves and the coaches going into this campaign.

"Well, it's just really exciting to have all the coaches back again, and to be

learning new things that will, hopefully, up our game a little bit and help us continue to play better than we did last year," co-captain Ashlea Andres said. "We're a hard working team; we're always well organized. We have everything together, and we always stack up well with the rest of the teams in our conference, so we expect nothing short of what we always come out with. I'm super, super pumped!"

As the team looks forward to the start of the conference finals in just over two weeks—and the CIS Championships in nearly four weeks time—they like to think their chances of getting far in both tournaments are pretty solid. However, they like to keep their focus on the closest opponent, rather than looking too far into the unforeseeable future.

"We always feel confident," Parrish said. "You know, we have a good program, good players. We're very lucky that we attract players to the school—without even really having to recruit them—that help the rugby program. So, yes, we do feel fairly confident."

## The Leafs may not suck for much longer



PAUL  
OWEN

Sports  
Commentary

There are two kinds of hockey fans: regular, functioning human beings with a moderate-to-high number of brain cells, and people who cheer for the Toronto Maple Leafs. Now, while Leafs fans can delude themselves into thinking that every year will be the one that will end their now 39-year Stanley Cup drought—not unlike what many Edmonton fans have been doing all summer long—those of us who aren't complete fucking morons have realized that signing past-their-prime veterans and ignoring any semblance of a farm club can have detrimental effects on a hockey team. But, with a plethora of skilled youngsters occupying roster spots, the Leafs seem to finally have realized that the Harold Ballard School of Roster Management isn't going to bring Lord Stanley's Mug to the self-proclaimed Centre of the Hockey Universe.

Ballard, who gained partial ownership of the team in 1961 upon Conn Smythe's death and sole ownership in

1971, was perhaps the smartest business mind in hockey's history. The Leafs would sell out every game in Toronto, and a majority on the road too, regardless of the quality of team on the ice. Why pay big money to keep young, skilled, athletic players entering superstardom when you could just ship them off for the next young thing or, even better, some veteran who skates as though he just shit his pants. Despite Ballard's death in 1990, the team has continued to build their roster in homage to the hard ball o'lard. The team's biggest acquisitions in the 16 years since his death have been Doug Gilmour, Dave Andreychuk and Gary Roberts, all of whom were over 30 when they went to Toronto. The lone exception to the rule has been current Leafs captain Mats Sundin. And the Leafs have dealt away good youngsters too: Rick Vaive, Vincent Damphousse and Al Iafrate, and most recently Brad Boyes—who never even got a shot with the big club before putting up 62 points in Boston last year.

Still, the Leafs have managed to develop a solid core of under-27 players on this year's roster, led by Alexander Steen. The sort-of-Swedish-but-mostly-from-Winnipeg son of former Jets legend Tomas Steen, Alex potted 45 points as a rookie last season and quickly became the team's

second-line centre behind Sundin. The rest of the roster looks like a who's who of Canadian prospects from the last half-dozen years: Carlo Coliacovo, Ian White, Brendan Bell, Matt Stajan and Kyle Wellwood. The Leafs are so deep in goaltending prospects with Mikael Tellqvist and Justin Pogge that they were able to deal stud Finn Tuukka Rask to Boston for Andrew Raycroft.

It may be entirely by accident that the Leafs have developed such a solid nucleus of rookies and sophomores; after all, their main off-season acquisitions since the lockout have still been veterans like Eric Lindros, Jason Allison, Jeff O'Neill and Mike Peca. But the fact remains that the Leafs are starting to look a little more Oiler-esque with each retirement ceremony they hold. It's almost a shame that General Manager John Ferguson Jr's job is in jeopardy. He'll panic and deal away Steen, Stajan and a couple of picks for a goalie or a winger or both. Sure, the new acquisition will do just well enough to not be a bust, but he'll also do just poorly enough to keep the Leafs out of the Finals. With the exception of the 2002 Detroit Red Wings, NHL championship teams weren't built in a day. It's too bad no one told Toronto. On second thought, let's keep this to ourselves. I'd hate to see them actually succeed at anything.