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## FROM THE EDITOR

Hannah Theodore (she/her)

Dear students,

The votes are in and the numbers have been counted! Your new Fanshawe Student Union (FSU) president is Siddharth Singh.

This campaign season was more heated than in previous years, with a heavy focus on religious equality and important debates about what the FSU should be for students. This, combined with the looming fears brought on by the impending international student cap, saw high levels of student interest and engagement with year's candidates and their platforms.

In spite of this high level of interest, low voter turnout overall has led to another failed referendum by the FSU, this time seeking student support for a \$2/semester ancillary fee increase to promote food security on campus. The referendum required at least 20 per cent of students to vote in order to pass, a threshold which was not met.

While voting numbers remain fairly low at Fanshawe, I sense a change in the tides. This year, Interrobang moderated a debate with the presidential candidates,

moving away from the standard presidential speeches format from previous years. This allowed for more open conversations, both between candidates and student voters. The issues currently facing students are complex and many, and this year's campaign did not shy away from any of them.

I think this is a huge step in the right direction, and a sign that students at Fanshawe want to be more engaged with student politics. And I hope they do, because as we look ahead to the future, the need for student political engagement will no doubt be more important than ever.

Congratulations to the new FSU team and thank you to all of you out there who made your voices heard this election.

Sincerely,

Letters to the Editor: fsuletters@fanshawec.ca



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Your artwork on the 2024-2025 Handbook Cover plus \$250 in Gift Cards

In Gift Cards

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## Singh prevails, referendum fails



Hannah **Theodore** (she/her) **INTERROBANG** 

The votes are in, and your new Fanshawe Student Union (FSU) president is Siddharth (Sid) Singh. The business management student is a longtime collaborator of the FSU, working with the student union as a Red Squad volunteer, Class Representative, and most recently as an FSU events ambassador. Voting closed March 6 at 2 p.m.

In total, 2,826 ballots were cast in the election, with Singh securing 1,532 votes, a comfortable 556 votes ahead of runner-up Taimoor Mujahid. In third place with 508 votes was Priteshkumar Mishra. A full breakdown of how students voted can be found at fsu.ca.

Singh campaigned on a platform of teamwork, emphasizing working with students to meet their needs. His manifesto called for giving students the option to opt out of certain ancillary fees, lowering food costs at Oasis, offering \$1 coffee at South Campus, and organizing more events at area campuses.

Upon learning of his win, Singh said he was feeling a "mix of emotions," including disbelief, gratitude, and excitement.

"I feel a sense of humility," he added, "Recognizing the weight of the expectations placed upon me by those who voted for me.'

Singh also expressed his appreciation for everyone who voted for him, as well as all students who exercised their right to vote.



CREDIT: GRACIA ESPINOSA

Siddharth Singh is your new Fanshawe Student Union (FSU) president.

thanks to everyone who partici- challenges ahead." pated in this election," Singh said. "While some may expect me to change after winning, I assure you that my principles remain steadfast. I am here as your president because of your support and votes. This victory is a moment for us all to celebrate, but it also signals the

"I want to express my heartfelt start of my preparations to tackle the

Singh will lead a team of FSU Directors, all of whom were acclaimed to their positions rather than elected. The 2024-2025 FSU Directors are Ananya Soni, Drashti Patel, Kara D'Arcangelo, Viraj Bongane, Vraj Modi, Saraswathy Sakthivel, Farhan Malek, and Sanket

Mehta. Students also elected Shadé Dias to the FSU Board of Governors.

## Results of the referendum

Also on this year's ballot was referendum, asking students to vote either "yes" or "no" to implementing a new food security fee of \$2 per semester. In spite of a lengthy campaign, spearheaded by FSU President Stephin Sathya, the

referendum failed to receive enough votes to pass. For the referendum to pass, 20 per cent of students would have needed to have voted, and with only 2,785 total votes cast, the threshold was not met, meaning the referendum will not move forward. The breakdown of votes for the referendum was 1,912 in favour, 710 against, and 163 spoiled.

## Ontario announces new post-secondary funding, extension on tuition freeze



Justin Koehler (he/him) INTERROBANG

The Ontario government has announced that colleges and universities across the province will receive additional funding of \$1.3 billion, while continuing its freeze on in-province tuition until at least 2026.

This comes after the federal government recently introduced an admissions cap for international students, now limiting the number of international students that colleges and universities may admit for the next two years.

"I didn't believe they were going to take such drastic steps," said President of Fanshawe College, Peter Devlin. "There's still a large bias in support of university education."

Doug Ford and the provincial government are pushing budget increase as a way for colleges and universities to recuperate some of the anticipated losses. Minister of Colleges and Universities Jill Dunlop said the decision to provide additional funding will stabilize the post-secondary system without needing to increase tuition for in-province students.

"It's never been more important to keep costs down for students and parents," Dunlop said. "Instead of burdening hard-working families with higher tuition, we're making historic investments to stabilize colleges and universities. We're taking action to make fees more transparent."

At a press conference following the announcement, Dunlop was heavily questioned by reporters with various questions, largely focused around the lack of more funding. Ontario's Blue-Ribbon Panel recommended that the province inject over \$2.5 billion in ongoing base funding into the province's educational institutions, nearly double what the Ontario government decided to give out.

"Today's announcement, while providing short-term relief, falls far short of what the government's own expert panel found was urgently required," said President and CEO of the Council of Ontario Universities, Steve Orsini. "Ontario's universities now face an eight-year long tuition freeze without adequate multi-year base funding, which continues to undermine the financial sustainability of the sector."

Orsini went on to say that a lack of funding is not a new issue for Ontario institutions, adding that colleges and universities in the province continue to be one of the lowest funded.

"Ontario universities receive the lowest per-student funding in Canada and are only funded at 57 per cent of the national average," said Orsini. "The 10 per cent tuition cut in 2019 and ongoing freeze, declining real per-student operating funding and the more than



CREDIT: JUSTIN KOEHLER Fanshawe College accepts the third highest number of international students on an annual basis.

\$345-million impact this year in repealing Bill 124, are further placing the education, programs and services students rely on at risk."

According to reporting by CBC, Fanshawe currently sits as one of the top three colleges and universities in Canada in terms of the number of international students admitted per year, and college officials have stated they expect the cap will impact the college's finances.

Conestoga has the largest number, admitting over 30,000 international students in 2023.

Despite this, Devlin said that much of the problem stems from a lack of support from the Ontario government.

"I'm disappointed that the minister chose a sledgehammer instead of a scalpel to deal with the problem of bad actors and housing," Devlin said. "Tools were available, including the allocation of study visas to quality schools like Fanshawe, and having institutions provide a letter of attestation for individual international students."

The province has yet to disclose how the \$1.3 billion in funding will be divided amongst universities, but according to their own breakdown of funds, \$200 million will be allocated to the "institutions most in need."

## Fanshawe ranks third in Canada for highest number of international students



**Gracia Espinosa** (she/her) INTERROBANG

Following the announcement of the international student cap, government officials have insisted that private universities are responsible for the rapid growth of international students in Canada. Canada's Immigration Minister Marc Miller went as far as to call institutions in the private sector "puppy mills," collecting tuition high fees and churning out diplomas.

But according to a recent CBC News Investigation, among the top 10 Canadian colleges and universities granted the most international study permits last year, all but one were public institutions. Fanshawe College ranked as the third highest on the list, reportedly welcoming 11,706 international students in 2023.

The exponential growth in international student enrollment at public institutions has raised eyebrows and fueled speculation regarding the driving forces behind this rapid expansion. Immigration Consultant and founder of Study2Stay, Earl Blaney attributed much of this growth to aggressive overseas marketing and recruitment tactics driven by financial incentives for education agents.

"The impression that 'all is great in Canada' is pervasive in overseas messaging, often painting a misleading picture of the immigration and employment landscape," Blaney said.



CREDIT: GRACIA ESPINOSA

Despite rhetoric that the private sector is to blame, most Canadian colleges and universities granting the highest number of international study permits are public, including Fanshawe College, which ranks third in the country.

According to Fanshawe College, 86.7 per cent of students find work number does not reveal the full truth.

'My question for Fanshawe would be: What percentage of graduates answered this survey, and what percentage of graduates are finding jobs related to their field of employment?"

Fanshawe College has also not clarified employment rates speafter graduation. But for Blaney, that cifically for international student post-grad.

> The data from CBC News also shines a light on what drove Canada's dramatic rise in foreign student enrollment. The investigation suggests that international student

tuition provided hefty revenue into colleges and universities, with each international student paying at least \$15,000 per year for college programs. Meanwhile, Doug Ford's government introduced a freeze on tuition for in-province students in 2019, while continuing to increase international student tuition and increasing international recruitment efforts.

In response to the anticipated losses caused by cap, the Ontario government has announced \$1.3 billion in new funding for post-secondary institutions in the province. That funding falls far short of the \$2.5 billion recommended by a panel of experts in Nov. 2023, before the imposition of the cap on international study permits. President of the Fanshawe Student Union (FSU), Stephin Sathya, underscored the importance of government funding to alleviate financial burdens on international

"Pushing for more funding from the government is essential to ensure educational sustainability without burdening international students with increased tuition fees," Sathya asserted.

Considering budget cuts and uncertainties surrounding the cap on international students, Sathya urged Fanshawe to prioritize program quality and relevance.

"Reducing programs that do not contribute to the economy or provide job opportunities is imperative," Sathya stated. "We must focus on programs that lead to quality jobs and align with the economy's needs."

It is predicted that Ontario itself may face a potential loss of more than \$1.5 billion in revenue due to a possible 50 per cent cap on study permits for international students in the province. This cap could result in approximately 100,000 fewer international students being admitted to study in Ontario this year compared to 2023. As a result, Fanshawe College is expected to be one of the most significantly affected by this restriction on international students.

## Background

On Jan. 22, the government announced a new policy regarding international student permits. The policy includes a temporary two-year cap on international study permits, imposing 35 per cent decrease from the previous year. The cap allocation will be determined based on the population of each province. Some provinces may experience more significant reductions than others. The provinces and territories will collaborate to decide how the cap will be distributed among the designated learning institutions under their jurisdiction.





## Fanshawe horticulture student donations surpass 1,000 lbs of microgreens



**CREDIT: FINCH NEVES** 

Fanshawe's Horticulture Technician students have donated over 1,000 lbs to the London Food Bank as part of a student-driven



**Finch Neves** (he/him) INTERROBANG

In February of 2023, Fanshawe's Horticulture Technician students began donating microgreens to the London Food Bank and have now surpassed 1,000 lbs donated.

The idea to donate microgreens came from student Brynna Kirkwood, who was looking into building a business surrounding it and saw the aid that it could provide to the Food Bank, which was then supported by the program's technicians.

Their milestone of 1,000 lbs of microgreens donated is only the beginning, as they can be offered year-round, unlike seasonal produce, and the team has no intention community.

"Microgreens are like a superfood," Food Bank Greenhouse Coordinator, Luis Reyes said. "They

grow very quickly and are incredibly nutrient rich. Most people find it really simple to add microgreens to a dish, even if they have picky children.'

Over 95 per cent of clients at the Food Bank happily accept microgreens such as basil, cilantro, and parsley when picking up their food. The incorporation of microgreens can brighten meals, while also offering densely packed nutrients.

The Horticulture Technician students have been donating a large variety of fresh produce grown on campus for years, ranging from cherry tomatoes to leafy greens like lettuce and kale, but the inclusion of microgreens has been a welcome addition.

"We can't offer microgreens everyday, but we would if we could," Reyes said. "Many people think that all of the food we offer is processed or canned goods, but over almost everyone takes microgreens the community. if they are available.'

Fanshawe College and the Food Bank plan to continue their partnership indefinitely, with new plans on the horizon on ways that the college can further contribute.

As food prices continue to rise, many Londoners, including an increasing number of students, rely on the Food Bank to meet their nutritional needs. It provides a vital service to the city and Fanshawe College students have, and continue to be, important contributors.

"We have an incredible relationship with Fanshawe," said Reyes. "Not only does the horticulture team provide us with donations, but the fashion team also offers recycled textiles for fertilizer, and we have hundreds of monthly volunteers for all kinds of positions. Students who want to join in can go to our website".

With such a major contribution, the Horticulture Technician to stop offering the service to the half of it is actually fresh items. Lots students, and Fanshawe students unteers from the Airshow nominated of items will be selected by some as a whole, have continued to me. Didn't even mention it to me, people, but ignored by others, but play an important role in feeding just put my name forward."

## Fanshawe alumni recognized in Mayor's **New Year's Honour List**



**CREDIT: JENNIFER WILLIAMS** 

The Mayor's New Year's Honour List is an annual recognition of more than a dozen individuals and organizations contributing to the community



Gracia **Espinosa** (she/her) INTERROBANG

Fanshawe alumni made their mark on this year's Mayor's New Year's Honour List. The Mayor's New Year's Honour List is an esteemed recognition of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the community of London across various domains.

Among the honourees was Jennifer Williams, an alumnus of Fanshawe College's Emergency Management program, who was acknowledged for her efforts in enhancing accessibility within the city, specifically with Airshow London, a non-profit that aims to raise funds and awareness for the Children's Health Foundation, veterans' support charities, and student aviation scholarships.

Williams, the Director of Volunteers for Airshow London, was recognized for her dedication to ensuring inclusivity and support for individuals of all backgrounds, languages, and abilities for the annual aviation event.

Reflecting on her unexpected nomination, Williams shared her surprise upon receiving the call.

"I was on holiday, at home, and one of my coworkers called me and said that the Mayor's office is calling for you, and that's strange because I don't have anything to do with the Mayor's office on a day to day," Williams said. "And so, I called them. And it turns out that one of the vol-

As thrilled as she was, Williams kept the news to herself at first.

"I wasn't allowed to tell anyone except for my family," she said. "And so as soon as the announcement went live, they messaged all their friends, posted about it on social media, and told the whole family."

Williams said her commitment to accessibility stems from her personal experiences.

"My nana had MS [Multiple Sclerosis], and she was in a wheelchair, and I believe that influenced how I interact with people with special needs," she explained. "Looking back as an adult, I think she had a huge part in shaping how I viewed the world that way. She passed away when I was in grade six, but I believe that it has stuck with me all these years."

Williams' grandfather, meanwhile, was in the Air Force, and there are pictures of him taking Williams to the Airshow when she was just baby. Today, Williams has been with the Airshow since 2022.

"When I did my placement with Airshow, I just got hooked," she said. "It was something I was passionate about, and I loved it. And I just wanted to ensure everyone else could love it as much as I could."

Williams was subsequently offered a position as Director of Volunteers, which she embraced wholeheartedly.

"It was something I was passionate about, and I loved it. And I just wanted to ensure everyone else could love it as much as I could. And, when I was allowed to work with Airshow and have this be part of my job, I jumped on it."

Williams has earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues for promoting inclusivity and supporting volunteering for the Airshow London, and her inclusion on the Mayor's Honour List is the culmination of that.



## Fanshawe students propose innovative design plans for St. Thomas Railway Lands



**Mauricio Prado** (he/him) INTERROBANG

At an event on Feb. 16, students from the Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Urban Planning diploma program at Fanshawe College shared their passion and excitement for design. Nearly 100 students participated in the Charrette, presenting 10 original environmental, placemaking, and community-building ideas for the Elgin County Railway Museum, City of St. Thomas and community stakeholders.

"The Charrette is an opportunity for our students to come out of the classroom," said Professor of the Honours Bachelor of Environmental Design and Planning (BEDP) and GIS and Urban Planning programs at Fanshawe College William Pol. "They are put into groups of nine or 10 students and have one week to create a design for a specific site or project."

After eight days of intense Charrette work, each group presented their designs in front of a panel of experienced designers who were acquainted with the project and the location.

According to Pol, the Charrette mimics the rigorous group work in professional practice to generate creative design concepts. Innovation Village's Canada Life Village Square made the perfect presentation space for guests, staff, and students.

"It is very time-compressed and stressful for the students, but it is a real-life experience to create inspiring designs," Pol said. "It is also gratifying because they work with other students to create an inspiring design for a particular project."

Pol said that the purpose of this design Charrette was to create ideas for the City of St. Thomas and Doug Terry Holmes, a land developer in the area.

"We wanted students to think of how the vacant St. Thomas railway lands become a vital, vibrant place," Pol said.



Derek McGinnes, Eric Jordan, Hanna Mohn, Irina Caza, Kyle Stansfield, Leonor Dasco, Raimundo Neto, and Ryan Michtics were behind the winning plan, Urban Ecostation.

Pol said the students' projects had three stages to achieve this. First, they had to think of the environment and how to improve contaminated railway lands. The second one was the community and how to bring people to the site for housing, commercial, or recreation activities. Finally, they had to think about the placemaking to make St. Thomas railway lands a specific place where people want to come, spend some time or even live.

"This project is going to provide additional housing," Pol said. According to Pol, housing across Ontario, London, and St. Thomas is unaffordable, with insufficient housing. "This project is to inspire new housing development on the railway lands. It is going to add tourism to the site. It is to inspire ideas for redevelopment of the site and to make it a vibrant place."

The winning project, Urban Ecostation, inspires a new public realm and placemaking focusing on the Elgin County Rail- meeting area in front of the museum. way Museum. Terra Nexus group members included Erika Saldana Ibanez, Hanna Von Daudt Mohn, Eric Jordan, Kyle Stansfield, Ryan Michtics, Derek McGinnes, Leonor Dasco, Irina Caza Teran, and Raimundo Neto.

"The winning project, Urban Ecostation, is a combination of buildings, open space and movement," Pol said. "With Urban Ecostation, students created a beautiful European-style outdoor

Pol said that in many European cities, there are beautiful railway stations. That is where the students got the inspiration from.

"They also emphasized the rehabilitation of the contaminated soils," Pol said. "The outdoor venue space displayed the railway cars, and the judges loved that."

According to Pol, the project will also boost the economy by preserving and recognizing the history of the City of St. Thomas.

## East London Link construction begins, delays expected



**Mauricio Prado** (he/him) **INTERROBANG** 

Lane restrictions have begun for construction of the East London Link Phase 3C project on Highbury Ave. N and Oxford St. E. The multi-year project will revitalize more than 6 km of road from downtown London to Fanshawe College, adding transportation and transit improvements above ground, while repairing and replacing aging sewers, watermains and other underground infrastructure.

This phase three will be widening the road to add dedicated transit land, which will be running in the centre of the road," said City of London Director of Construction and Infrastructure Services Jennie Dann. "This will maintain two lanes for traffic in each direction, adding turn lanes and signals to help people move through the corridor.

Until about Dec. 2024, Highbury

potential delays and utilize navigation applications like Waze and Google Maps to identify feasible alternate routes.

"Cones and construction equipment are already in place," Dann said. "We are also upgrading the underground infrastructure to replace aging sewer water mains and upgrading them to accommodate some of the growth happening in the area."

According to Dann, this project has many suitable housing and growth opportunities because it will make traffic more fluid and shorten distances, resulting in a more con-

"One of the things about a rapid transit system is that you are getting buses out of mixed traffic and into their lane," Dann said. "From a traffic perspective, it gets those buses out and keeps things flowing.

Wayfinding signage will be installed throughout the area to

Ave. N and Oxford St. E will be assist pedestrians in safely navigataccessible to vehicles with fewer ing the construction area. Dann said lanes in each direction. Dann rec- that at least one side of the road will ommended that drivers plan for always have access to the sidewalk throughout construction. She added that the dedicated lanes for the rapid transit system will help improve the frequency and reliability of the running buses.

"For the east corridor, once we have the rapid transit network up and running, there will be a bus every five minutes, so you would not even have to worry about a schedule anymore," Dann said. You would not have to wait long before the bus arrives."

According to Dann, specific sheltered bus stops for rapid transit will be in the centre-running lanes. They will be located everywhere where there is an intersection or where there is a signalized intersection.

What that means is you can press the pedestrian crossing button like you would if you are crossing any intersection, and then you will stop when you get to the centre platform, Dann said. "So instead of waiting on the curbside of the road, you're just



CREDIT: CITY OF LONDON

The East London Link will revitalize the intersection of Highbury Ave N. And Oxford St. E.

waiting at a platform in the centre." Dann said London is among the cities with the highest transit ridership without a higher-order transit system. She added that this must be done for a growing city like London.

According to Dann, they have already done a full environmental assessment for the east corridor from downtown to Fanshawe College, the south corridor from downtown south along Wellington to White Oaks Mall, and the downtown loop that will help support not only rapid transit but the existing conventional transit service in the downtown.

"I expect the system will grow from here because this is just the starting point for transit development," Dann said.

## THE VOTES ARE IN!

2024 Fanshawe Student Union Election Results — March 6, 2024

Total ballots: 2826 (full-time votes: 2785, part-time votes: 41)

## RANSHAWE STUDENT NON ON

## 2024/25 FSU President



1.	Siddharth Singh15	32
2.	Taimoor Mujahid5	56
3.	Priteshkumar Mishra5	80
	Spoiled	89

## **2024/25** FSU Directors







Kara D'Arcangelo



Farhan Malek



Sanket Meht



Vraj Modi



Drashti Patel



Saraswathy Sakthivel



Ananya Soni

2024/25 Board of Governors



## 2024 FSU Referendum

No...710

Yes...1912 \*below 20 per cent threshold to pass

Spoiled.....163



### Volume 56 Issue No. 13 March 8, 2024 theinterrobang.ca

# All talk, no empathy



**Finch Neves** (he/him) **INTERROBANG** 

The Government of Canada has made the decision to limit the number of international students allowed into the country by half for the next two years. They have cited the strain that such a large number of temporary residents have had on the housing system as the primary cause.

Housing is a major concern for nearly everyone in London and certainly most students, but when I think of reasons that housing is unaffordable, I can't say that 10 students living in a house is really the issue that comes to mind.

But let's say they are right. For just a moment, let's pretend that this change would make a staggering impact on our housing market and make living affordable for all. Would that make this right? No, it would not.

Changes to our system, or even a cap of some kind, would not have necessarily been wrong. The main issue that I see is that this was put into action with far too little warning for both students and schools.

Does the government have a fraction of an idea how much planning goes into this process for so many of these students? For many, studying in Canada is a process that takes years of preparation.

First off, Canada requires \$20,000 in the bank just to apply and even after that, the work is far from over. Have you ever tried to learn a language past the jumbled mess of gibberish that was the result of years of French classes?

International students saved and planned for years, learned a whole new language, and left all of their friends and family to pursue a better life, and we said, "Too bad. It is not our problem that we spent years boasting globally about how great our international studies programs were right? It is not our fault that we pretend to be this all-accepting nation of pure love and hope, right?" Make no mistake, we have ruined lives with this decision.

Do not think the government only lied to foreigners either. They have been talking for years about their respect for all post-secondary



**CREDIT: CALEIGH REID** 

The international student cap will have painful impacts on everyone

education. They have funded campaigns supporting respect for the trades and begged every high school to send kids into them.

Surely, international students looking to fill the needs of our country would be the first chosen right? Guess again, because unless you are pursuing education at the level of a master's degree or higher, you are not even allowed to bring your family. That includes students studying to be nurses, many of which already are certified in their countries.

They have made it clear who they view as worthy of investing in, and it is just as pathetically ignorant as you would expect. Right

now, we need nurses, construction workers, and electricians far more than we need philosophy majors.

Again, I understand that a change was necessary. If a cap of some kind was needed, then so be it, but do not tell them when they are already preparing their applications with years of savings in the bank.

A close friend told me about his experience entering Canada for the first time. He walked into Pearson Airport, crowds bustling about noisily, and he saw posters advertising Canada as a place where multiculturalism was the focal point of society.

He told me that he felt at home here as soon as he landed. He has family that was planning to apply next year, but now, it would just be a waste of their money to apply. He looked at me with grief in his eyes as he spoke about the lies on those posters.

We told them that we valued diversity and wanted them to come. We let them dedicate years of their lives to building the foundation to pursue change. We bragged about our streamlined system for permanent residency and then we stabbed them in the back.

We were all talk, no empathy.

## Grief & Eugenics: An Ableist Horror Story, Part 13



Adam D. Kearney (he/they) CONTRIBUTION

This article is the final part in a series of excerpts from Fanshawe grad Adam D. Kearney's essay, Grief & Eugenics: An Ableist Horror Story.

Disability doula is a term I recently learned from Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha's book The Future is Disabled, and it is exactly as it sounds. It is someone who assists in the transition when someone acquires disability. Something else that I have learned from her writing, as well as many others, is just how rich and diverse the disability community is. Folks with disability are a creative group of individuals who have had to learn to not rely on systems that have continually failed us. We have notebooks, blogs, text messages, emails and wherever else you store knowledge full of life hacks. We become natural problem solvers from having to do everything on our own outside the extremely limited resources the system offers us. I once had a laugh with a case worker of mine who suggested I duct

tape my mobility device back together while I wait for government funding. We laughed because this wasn't the first time either of us had heard or said something like this.

We need to stop building dick shaped rockets, giving tax cuts to billionaires, destroying environmentally protected spaces, relying so heavily on single use products that just end up in our oceans and land fills, and start investing in our social and healthcare systems. It's so common sense to say but we are so focused on and busy putting bandaids on things, we haven't stopped to think about how to fix the bigger problems. Our systems are not broken, they are operating exactly how they were designed to, to benefit rich old white men. Maybe the first step in the right direction is to stop seeing disability as the problem and see the changes we need to make in the world

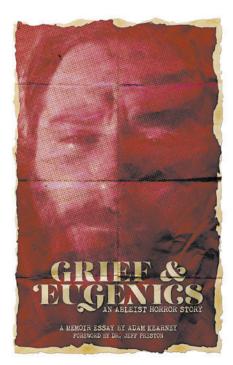
I keep the boxes which contain the ashes of Stuart and Jonas on a book shelf at the foot of my bed. They were symbols of the pain and misery I went through but now they serve as reminders of the future I want to be a part of. The future I am now trying to help foster and create. A place for people with disabilities to live and to live a life free from the shame others push onto them.

"As the people of Akwesasne know, the real measure of a community is determined not so much by the independence of its members as by the extent to which INTERDEPEN-DENCE has meaning for each individual living there." From the book TE-WA-KWE-KON: Together As One.

The cover photo was taken on the one year anniversary of losing Jonas. I am not exactly sure why I took, or even kept the selfie until I started writing this essay. Ugly crying my face off. Laying flat on my back on my new roommate's townhouse floor. Newly separated and struggling to understand how this affected the grief and connection I have for my boys. Listening to "My Name is Jonas" on my record player repeatedly. DRUNK. I would like to say this was my rock bottom, but as you have just read, it wasn't. The Adam on the cover is not the same Adam that wrote this essay. I have my family and friends to thank for that. Thank you. Each and every single one of you.

Peace, Love & Understanding. Adam & Pogue (the dog).

This memoir essay was published as a zine in Jan. 2023. If you enjoy it and feel you would like to support the author, you can find a pay what you can PDF or purchase a physical copy at handcutcompany.com.



CREDIT: ADAM D. KEARNEY

In this final installment, Adam asserts that disability is not the problem, but rather, the world around us and how it operates.



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**FANSHAWE'S STUDENT VOICE** 



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## **Fanshawe Rotaract Club** illuminates service, leadership



CREDIT: COURTESY OF ABASS AYONI BAKARE

Fanshawe's Rotaract Club offers opportunities for students to give back to students and the community.



Mia Rosa-Wayne (she/her) **INTERROBANG** 

The Rotaract Club of Fanshawe has a goal to foster a spirit of community service, leadership, and personal development among its members. The group embodies the spirit of service above self, drawing together students from various disciplines with a shared vision of contributing to a better world

"What we do is very simple. We provide a platform for students to promote a sense of social responsibility and personal development. At a certain level of consciousness, relatively speaking, there is nothing greater than the feeling of the heart of among members by engaging in volunteer and charitable initiatives"

shawe students a unique platform to engage in community service, professional development and international service projects. It operates under the guiding principles of Leadership Service, aiming to equip members with the skills and experiences need to foster positive change. Under the guidance of dedicated faculty, advisors and the mentorship from members of the local Rotary Club, Fanshawe's Rotaract members embark on a journey that transcends the conventional college experience. From organizing different types of events to humanitarian projects, the club's activities are designed to address the pressing challenges of our time while promoting peace, conflict and resolution.

Around the holiday season for generosity," said Rotaract Club presi- example, members of the club recdent Abass Ayoni Bakare. "We foster ognized an opportunity to make the experience of community service a significant impact on the local community outside the confines of the college. They decided to

The Rotaract Club offers Fan- reach out to a retirement home in London, planning a Christmas concert that would bring the festive spirit to its residents.

"It was such a beautiful day. We performed Christmas songs Mariah Carey's 'All I Want for Christmas Is You,' Michael Bublé's 'It's Beginning to Look Like Christmas' and then we infused some pop songs to elevate the mood," said Bakare. "We spent time with them, they didn't want us to leave. It's so heartwarming what warm, meaningful impacts can do and mean more than just a visit."

Armed with enthusiasm and a repertoire of holiday classics, the Rotaract Club members embarked on this festive mission. This visit to the retirement home is something Bakare hopes the residents are going to remember forever.

In other ways of giving to the community, the club keeps the students of Fanshawe in the back of their mind during the colder season.

"In the winter, we go around handing hundreds of students balaclavas, and...gloves. These gloves you don't need to take off and you can still use your phone with them on," said Bakare. "We also visit people's homes with disabilities. We will be helping them with their laundry, dishes, cleaning, and even shovelling the snow in their driveways when it snows.

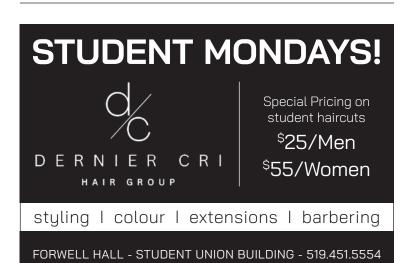
The impact of this group is evident in the stories of the communities and individuals it has touched. Whether it's through the smiles of students or the cheering and happiness of the elderly, the club's contributions are a testament to the power of collective action.

The Fanshawe College Rotaract Club stands as a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration for students seeking to make a difference. It challenges the conventional notion of a college club proving that when young people come together under the banner of service, the impact can be profound and far reaching.

As the club looks to the future, it invites all Fanshawe students to join its ranks.

"I am going to say to the students of Fanshawe, join our club to make an impact," Bakare said.

Whether one's passion lies in tackling environmental issues, promoting health and wellness, or advocating for peace and justice, the Rotaract Club offers the pathway to meaningful engagement and personal growth.





## Homes in a box: Are foldable homes viable and sustainable?



**Konstantinos Drossos** (he/him) **INTERROBANG** 

For just \$20,000 and a \$5 shipping fee, you can unfold your dream home.

A recent trend on TikTok shows many young adults purchasing mobile, foldable homes off Amazon and turning them into livable spaces as a cheaper alternative to buying a home or renting an apartment. But is this really a viable option?

The concept of shippable homes has been around since the start of the 20th century, starting as pre-cut homes made from wood, typically sold at lumber mills. These homes were shown in catalogues where people could pick out the model, have them shipped to them in a week, and then assembled like a giant Lego set.

In the modern era, the concept is somewhat similar, except instead of assembling it piece by piece, your home is unfolded from a rectangle and set into place just after a few hours. The average size of these homes is around 400 sq ft to 600 sq ft, which is roughly the size of a studio apartment. Most come with a fully equipped bathroom and half-kitchen, alongside electric and water

If that all sounds too good to be true, that's because it might be.

Of course, it's an amazing opportunity to be able to own your own space, but finding a plot of land to place it makes it questionable.

Ken Judge, an economics professor from Fanshawe, said there are many pros and cons to living out of these mobile structures but that buying one must be thought out with logic.

"It all depends on what your situation is," Judge said. "If you have a small home and you're going to invest, I would think more long-term and decide whether or not something on that side is going to be attainable or comfortable for you to live in because as a first-time home buyer, you don't know how long you're going to stay there."



consider what their future entails and where path in life they're seeking. Homes are investments and so are families when it comes to aspects of personal growth.

These foldable dwellings make a great living quarter out of a condensed small space for a fraction of the price of a larger-sized home. But how much does someone need to make to maintain and upkeep these structures as time passes? Judge said it's necessary to consider the maintenance costs of these homes if saving for the future is important to you.

"If you're looking just to be cost-effective then yes, it would probably work and fit within your budget and from another standpoint, it could allow you to start saving towards your dream house," Judge said.

Once your foldable home has fulfilled its purpose in your life, how do you move on and make a financial

return on an investment? If a trend like this grows exponentially, then that may lead to a surplus of container homes that no one will know how to get rid of.

"Is there a market for it? For sure," Judge said. "However, you have to do your homework. What's the duration? Is it going to take off and be a part of the market? I don't see these things doing that, so the recyclability of something like that might be very difficult and you might take a big loss on it."

need for affordable housing?

These mobile homes can be seen as both a blessing and a curse depending on the situation at hand. They can be beneficial, both financially and in terms of livability, but it all depends on what your plans pan out to be.







CREDIT: JOHN LEFEBVRE

Keesha Brownie (left), Rodney Ramsey (middle) and Daniel Woodrow (right) of the Underground Comedy Railroad brought their comedy stylings to the Out Back Shack on Feb. 15, 2024

## Welcome to Casa Latina, London's new hub for the Latinx community



**Gracia Espinosa** (she/her) **INTERROBANG** 

London has welcomed a vibrant new cultural hub, Casa Latina, where the Latinx community can socialize, celebrate, and connect. Founded by Daniella Quinones from Colombia and David Ayala from El Salvador, Casa Latina is more than just a meeting place, it's a dynamic space designed to foster community, celebrate Latinx culture, and provide a welcoming environment for all.

Nestled on 150 Dundas St. near Fanshawe's downtown campus, Casa Latina opened its doors on Feb. 17 with a lively celebration featuring live music and dance as a festive tribute to Latinx music.

"We had a little bit of everything, which was our goal to have a variety of folks from different Latin countries," Quinones said. "And it was great. The people enjoyed themselves with the dancing and having a new space to discover. That was good fun, and it was packed."

The hub offers a range of weekly programming and events that Londoners can check on the Casa Latina website, including the Spanish-Speaking Circle on Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. and Mercadito Latino, a vibrant Latin Market held every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., offering an array of Latin American delights and wares.

"The idea is to keep this space as busy as possible with the community. So, it's meant to be a gathering space," Quinones said.

Ayala explained that Casa Latina was a project by their organization, CulturX (pronounced Cultura), which Ayala said.



CREDIT: GRACIA ESPINOSA

Daniella Quinones is one of the founders of this new cultural hub for the Latinx community in London.

was born to celebrate Latinx culture in London. According to the website, CulturX launched in 2020 and is dedicated to uplifting local Latin American businesses and providing invaluable resources and information to the community.

'We realized that Latinos need a space to celebrate their culture and authentically speak for them in London, which we did not have,"

Quinones emphasized the expansion of activities, mentioning cultural workshops, exhibitions, and even night dance parties planned for weekends.

"We're trying to attract people, not just with the food, but the ambiance and idea of gathering and community and being together.'

At the same time, Ayala highlighted Casa Latina's accessibility, welcoming private events and community

"So if you want to have your birthday party here and or come up with your friends and have a private event. you can do it," Ayala said. "And we try to do it in the most affordable way possible. We are also open for the community to have their events here."

Casa Latina is quickly becoming a cornerstone of downtown. Whether you want to immerse yourself in Latin dance rhythms, practice Spanish conversation, or savour

traditional dishes, Casa Latina offers a welcoming space.

"Even if you grew up here or were a recently migrating immigrant, you notice that there must be a place to get together, hang out, or speak Spanish freely," Ayala said.

As Casa Latina continues to grow and expand its offerings, it is a testament to London's Latins community's rich diversity and vibrant spirit.



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# In Seven Days exceeds expectations



CREDIT: DAHLIA KATZ

In Seven Days by Jordi Mand exceeded reporter Zoë King's expectations with its captivating story and dynamic actors seen across The Grand Theatre's Spriet Stage



Zoë **Alexandra** (she/her) **INTERROBANG** 

On the opening night of *In Seven* Days at the Grand Theatre, I had the privilege of sitting within three rows of the playwright for this very touching production. Jordi Mand, whose words were beautifully brought to life at the theatre, left the entire audience deeply moved as the actors portrayed a Jewish family navigating challenging times. The 90-minute show, affectionately branded, "a comedy about death," made me think about saying goodbye to loved ones, MAID (Medical Assistance in Dying), and how religion might affect the MAID process.

Although In Seven Days has now concluded its run in London, this article paints a picture of what I personally took away from this production.

To set the scene, the backdrop of each act was a London family home with an open concept living room and kitchen. This was a very traditionally styled home with its warm-coloured floral wallpaper that created a cozy feeling throughout the house.

There were only five actors on the stage throughout the show and each of them had their own sense of character, all of which have remained ingrained in me since.

We meet Samuel (Ron Lea), the father, an established lawyer who has unfortunately suffered from cancer for years. Even though there was a point that he was in remission, the cancer has come back, and much worse, which has caused great pain for him.

Samuel's daughter, Rachel (Shaina Silver-Baird) has followed

in her father's footsteps and become a lawyer for a firm in Toronto. The father/daughter bond between Rachel and Samuel is very strong and the audience could feel that in many ways. One of the moments that stuck with me when it came to this relationship was when Samuel mentioned how even when Rachel went off to university, whenever she was having a tough time or if she was nervous for an interview, he would call her and sing the hit Stevie Wonder song "I Just Called to Say I Love You," to calm her down.

The character of Shelley (Mairi Babb), meanwhile, is Samuel's girlfriend and takes great care of him during the challenging times of his diagnosis. Shelley's love for both Samuel and Rachel made her a beautiful role in this family dynamic.

Darren (Brendan McMurtry-Howlett) is Rachel's boyfriend, a DJ. Samuel, being a protective father hasn't always been very fond of the boyfriend because he doesn't feel as though Darren could provide for his daughter. Oh, how this changed by the end of the production!

Eli (Ralph Small), the Rabi and one of Samuel's best friends, faces a few battles of choosing to honour his religion or a great friend's wishes.

The production begins with a very overworked and professionally dressed Rachel visiting Samuel and Shelley. After settling in at the house and bickering with Shelley from one thing to the next—including bringing the wrong bagels and her relationship with Darren ending—Rachel uncovers the sad news that her father had decided months ago that MAID is something he wanted to do

In much denial and not wanting her father to go through with this, Rachel spends the entire night researching treatments to help convince her father not to proceed with MAID. However, Samuel has made up his mind and accepted that this is his best option.

Through the darkness, light is brought back onto the stage when Samuel decides to pop the question to Shelley and have the wedding right there in the living room before it's time for them to say goodbye. Another act of brightness happens when Darren visits the house during this hard time and the audience finds out that Rachel is carrying his child.

Over the course of the seven days depicted in the show, three moments stick out most in my mind:

- 1. Darren and Samuel's conversation in the kitchen as they share ice-cream one late night. This is when Samuel realizes that Darren could provide and take care of Rachel when he is gone.
- 2. Eli and Samuel discussing the matters of how Eli feels towards being in the room when the medicine is administered and his conflicted thoughts due to religious purposes.
- 3. After Samuel passes, Rachel plays the voice note that her father had created of him singing the above-mentioned Stevie Wonder song.

There were so many amazing parts of this production that I could truly go on and on. Mand did such an amazing job of showing this family that many could relate to, whether Jewish or non-Jewish. Truthfully, I loved this production so much that I even stayed after to take a picture with Mand. Although this article sprinkled on many parts of what is seen in the show, there is still so much more to uncover. In Seven Days now makes its way to Toronto and will next be performing at the The Greenwin Theatre's Meridian Arts Centre in North York.



CREDIT: COURTESY OF KRISTI HALL

Students are using the new Innovation Village space to host a Spring Blossom Market.

## Student organized market supports mental health



**Konstantinos Drossos** (he/him) **INTERROBANG** 

To kick off the spring season, Fanshawe's Innovation Village is set to host the Blossom Spring Market. The market will be held on March 19 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This season's market was organized by students who are a part of the Special Events Planning program.

Kristi Hall, Special Events Planning program coordinator, explained the concept of the market stemmed from a project for second-year students in the program.

"Students are tasked with creating their event from start to finish and executing it during their final term before graduation," Hall said. "This group came up with the idea for the Blossom Market and has coordinated all the event details including securing vendors, booking and organizing the space, marketing the event and conducting risk management strategies."

This is the first seasonal market to be held in the new space since its opening back in January. The organizers felt that it was the perfect space to hold the event.

"With the opening of Innovation Village this year, our Event Planning program has committed to utilizing the space for some of our events, Hall said. "We are thrilled to be able this term as the Village is ideal for a trade show-style event."

The market will feature vendors and an art gallery for guests to tour and look at while visiting. All the artwork provided and vendor stalls are run by students from Fanshawe as well.

"Many of the vendors are students from the college who will be marketing their business at the event. We are thrilled to support our student entrepreneurs!"

Other businesses partaking in the market are Fanshawe alumni who have started their businesses since graduating

The market will have plenty of activities for students to enjoy and take part in. Two of the market's organizers, Jacob Neil and Megha Zacharia, gave a rundown on what fun awaits.

"A lot of it is based on the vendors we have," said Neil. "The blossom team has been making bracelets, a selfie station at the market, the FSU popcorn stand, and a whole lot of vendors for people to come around and explore what people have been doing in the local community."

The options of vendors are endless, from custom jewelry to homemade goods.

"We have a preserves company, Minerva Resin, where they'll be doing custom resin work, a handful of candle and crystal vendors that have some cool stuff and the other ones that are closely tied to our event theme of mental health, like Stevie's Safe Space, which has clothing and stickers that are for [2SLGBTQIA+] rights and activism, and mental health associated around that," Neil said.

Aside from shopping, students can also take a peek at artwork created by students in Fanshawe's Fine Art program.

"We have around 18 pieces of to host the Blossom Market there art that students can pay \$15 for and it's a really beautiful art piece," said Zacharia.

All the proceeds being gathered from the Blossom Spring Market are being donated to the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) to provide students with free transportation to their 24/7 crisis centre.

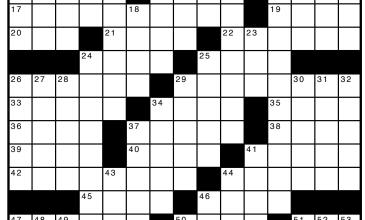
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### **CROSSWORD**

## **ACROSS**

- 1. \_\_\_\_ Rica
- 6. Style hair
- 10. Standardized HS exam
- 14. Re. vision
- 15. Spiritual leader
- 16. Spartan queen
- 17. Volunteer org. established by JFK in 1961
- 19. Word of closing
- 20. Indefinite amount
- 21. Fling
- 22. Stressful
- 24. Biore target
- 25. Jai \_\_\_\_
- 26. Mysterious; secret
- 29. Winter wear
- 33. Glistened
- 34. Algerian port
- 35. Small weight
- 36. Said 3 times, a film about Pearl Harbor
- 37. Roofing material
- 38. Concluding passage
- 39. Dutch export
- 40. News magazine
- 41. Star Wars character
- 42. Family reunion attendee
- 44. Caregiver
- 45. Sugar source
- 46. Sharp curve
- 47. Comment
- 50. Indian garment
- 51. Flower-to-be
- 54. Range feature
- 55. Music, art, etc., embraced by the mainstream
- 58. Bristle
- 59. Miscellany
- 60. Sizeable
- 61. Sea near Uzbekistan
- 62. Grand Ole Opry's state
- 63. Fury





### **DOWN**

- 1. NYC nightclub, shortly
- 2. Ready for business
- 3. Stopover
- 4. Twitch
- 5. Common solvent
- 6. In the vicinity
- 7. Crew members
- 8. Mischief-maker
- 9. Eagles: "Life in the \_\_\_\_"
- 10. One in a pack, perhaps
- 11. Big rig
- 12. Mideast port
- 13. Zest
- 18. Nucleus
- 23. Operated
- 24. Waterway project completed in 1914
- 25. Winged
- 26. Fall bloomer
- 27. \_\_\_\_ Island
- 28. Pink shade

- 32. Chic

- 48. At any time
- 49. I \_\_\_\_ man
  - with seven wives . . .
- 50. Washer cycle
- 51. Town
- 52. Compulsion
- 56. Corrida cheer
- 57. Bronzed

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29. Art shop purchase

"It's All PC" by Allen Vaughan

- 30. Wear away
- 31. Burdened
- 34. Shade of green
- 37. Musk turtle
- 41. Popular flavor
- 43. Pavement
- 44. Lima's land
- 46. Breakfast favorite
- 47. Parks of civil rights fame

- 53. Forest dweller

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**WORD SEARCH** 

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Puzzle rating: Medium

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## **PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**

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malala Yousafzai "When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful."



**NEW ISSUE ON STANDS Bi-Weekly** 





14 COMICS

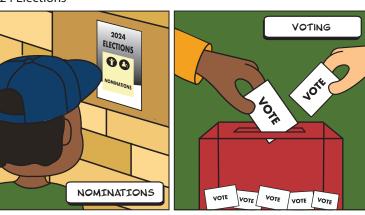
Volume 56 Issue No. 13 March 8, 2024 theinterrobang.ca

I know that I am an atom. I wish people would stop saying I make everything up, I am not a liar.

By Christopher Miszczak © 2024

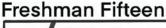
I know that I am I would recommend losing the extra negativity, and focus on being positive.

### 2024 Elections















By Alan Dungo





# Horoscopes

## Aries

Relying on others is okay. You may be independent, but sometimes, a little help from your friends and family can make as much of a difference to them as it does to you. You may want to keep your thoughts to yourself. Sharing too much information will lead to trouble. Distance yourself from those spreading rumours or acting suspiciously secretive. You have plenty to offer, but you'll fall short if you take on too much. Organize your time wisely and concentrate on what's most important to you. Set your sights on what you want, pursue your goal, and rewards will follow.

### awws

You may desire change but before you initiate something new and exciting, consider the cost involved and set a strict budget. A change will promote creativity but also require tremendous energy, willpower, and organization. You'll gain clarity which encourages you to wiggle your way into a position that offers hope. It's best to put everything in place before sharing your plans. Refuse to let anyone interfere or take over. Don't overreact; only change what's necessary and earmark your cash for necessities. Focus on what you can do and walk away from the bad-news treadmill that stops you from pursuing and reaching your goals.

## Gemini

Let's get physical and work through any anxiety exhaling and inhaling. Taking on a challenge that forces you to use your muscles and calculate your every move will help you put an emotional problem in perspective before you share your thoughts. Check out the logistics, pros and cons, and repercussions before moving. Study the facts, rules, and regulations before you begin. Focus on what you can achieve and don't let anyone sidetrack you. Interference due to emotional manipulation will cost you. Take a moment to regroup and do what's best for you. Don't let compliments go to your head.

## Cancer

Perception and facts will collide if you let your emotions play havoc with common sense. Change is viable but will require ingenuity and a fine-tuned intuition to reach your target. Be open to suggestions but do what feels comfortable. You can wrap things up with a presentation, discussion, or forging ahead with confidence. Don't sit back when you have so much to gain if you act. Be accountable and do your best. Refuse to let anyone dictate how you proceed. If it's your show, take control and don't look back. Take your experience and run with it.

## Leo

Don't take anything for granted. Handson help and a tight budget will keep you out of trouble and help you say no when necessary. Distance yourself from anyone making changes that don't suit your needs. Do your own thing. Tidy up loose ends that will ease stress and give you room to breathe. Address any issues swiftly and without anger or force. Find your people. Attend events that interest you, and the conversations that develop will open your mind to new beginnings. A chance to learn something new or upgrade your skills is apparent if you attend a reunion. It's time to expand what you have to offer.

## Virgo

Follow your thoughts from beginning to end before you unleash your next move. Refining your original plan will uncover something that needs adjusting before you proceed. Don't hesitate. Trust yourself to make the right choice and tiptoe through any traps others set. Think outside the box and embrace what feels right. You've got what it takes to make a difference. Don't set guidelines based on what others do or say. The more you discover the easier it will be to disregard outside influences. Push forward with passion, and you will reach your destination. Live, love, and laugh. Fill your heart with joy by sharing something special with someone you love.

## Pibra

Address issues concerning friends, relatives, and colleagues. It's time to redefine who you are and what you want and to finetune your relationships with others. Who you associate with will make a difference in how you proceed. An emotional issue needs careful consideration. A financial opportunity may tempt you, but consider the pros and cons carefully before you take on additional responsibilities. Set a budget for entertainment and plan to have fun. Physical activities will take your mind off stressful situations. Safeguard your money. Excess will lead to disappointment and regret. Choose peace and love over anger and chaos. Don't give in to temptation.

## Scorpio

Set a budget for entertainment. A lack of organization will lead to costly mistakes. Focus more on information and resisting pressure tactics. You'll gain perspective if you ask questions, explore something unique that interests you, and share your thoughts and feelings with someone who reflects your desires. Problems will develop at home if you act out of anger or push your will on someone close to you. Slow down, re-evaluate, and find common ground before you engage. Investigate people and pastimes that fascinate you and you'll discover something unique about yourself. Don't miss out; indulge yourself if you see something that enthralls you.

## Sagittarius

You'll be easily fooled if you believe everything you hear. Expect someone to use emotional manipulation to colour your perspective regarding an important matter or your beliefs. Keep in mind that actions speak louder than words. Put your money and secrets someplace safe. Go under the radar if necessary to protect your privacy. Don't let anxiety set in when quality control is what's needed. Manage situations that can influence your relationships with others and your security. Concentrate on personal improvement. Getting fit and healthy and surrounding yourself with positive people will set the tempo for what's to come. Make love and personal growth a priority.

## Capricorn

Balance and equality are the name of the game. Hold your ground and make things happen. Don't let trivial matters grow into something larger than life. Moderation and doing what's right and best for you will make a difference. Domestic improvements you make will improve your quality of life and ease stress. Put your heart and soul into what makes you happy. Don't let your emotions take over. Pay attention to how you react and what you spend. Patience is necessary if you want to come out on top. A chance to explore new possibilities is apparent. Changing pace or money management will improve your life.

## Aquarius

Mixed emotions will confuse you or someone you are dealing with. Make your intentions clear and your expectations known. Be prepared to barter and customans to coordinate with someone you need in your corner. An investment will require attention. Don't follow the crowd; look at your options and take the path that makes the most sense. Tempers will surface as emotions swell. Avoid discussions with people who don't share your beliefs. Channel your energy into self-improvement, not trying to change others. Observe, evaluate, and let others do as they please. Your ability to oversee instead of interfering will help you gain respect and wisdom.

## Pisces

Take a moment to reflect on the past before you try to change the present. Use your experience as a measuring point to ensure you make better choices. Use common sense and aim for stability. Listen to your heart and it will help you determine who is ready and able to pitch in and help you reach your goal. A revolutionary change will benefit you. Your ability to develop something tangible and present and promote it with finesse will attract attention. Become the glue in whatever situation you face. Stay centered, be reliable, and make a difference to those who matter most to you.

# Falcons men's volleyball team headed to nationals



**Justin** Koehler (he/him) INTERROBANG

The Fanshawe Falcons men's volleyball team is officially headed to nationals following their matchup against the Humber Hawks at the OCAA championships.

The Falcons, who were the second ranked team in the West, battled against the Hawks, coming in as the number five team in the West and the three-time defending champions.

The game took place at Fanshawe's Glenn Johnston Athletic Centre, where the Falcons looked to get out to an early lead in the first set. Jack Voght opened things up with an ace, helping the team to a 6-3 lead early on.

The Hawks were able to keep up the pace though, with Fanshawe holding a slight 17-15 advantage before Humber was able to get ahead to take the first set 25-20.

Similar to the first set, the Falcons got to an early lead in the second set, with Jayden Crowther making some key blocks for the team to bring them to a 7-4 lead. Zack Admans contributed with some key kills in the tight set, but Fanshawe was able to tie the game up with a 25-22 win. In the third, things were close between the two teams, with points being exchanged leading to a tie at 9-9.

The tide turned in the Hawks' favour though, thanks to the efforts of Alain Pineault and Josh Nicholson, as well as Jaskarn Kalsi, who was able to record three kills during a run that would see the Hawks taking the set with a 25-19 win.

The Hawks rode the momentum into the fourth set, getting off to an early 5-1 lead.

The Falcons were able to rally though, with kills from Daniel Ridings as well as an ace from Voght helping to get Fanshawe back in the lead. The men built on their lead, gaining momentum thanks to three consecutive kills from Admans and ultimately taking the set 25-20.

This forced a fifth and final set between the two teams

Humber took the lead first, going on a 6-3 run thanks to consistent kills from three of the Hawks' primary players. The Falcons would mount a comeback though, scoring four straight to take the lead. The lead would then change hands between the two teams, similar to how the rest of the day had gone so far.

Fanshawe would end up falling behind though, with the Hawks going on a run to take a 15-12 win and successfully taking the match, becoming four-time champions in the process.

Through the game, Humber finished with a .265 hitting percentage versus Fanshawe's .178, but the Falcons finished with more digs at 56 as well as more than double the amount of aces at 9 versus Humber's 4.

For the Falcons, Admans was named as the player of the match after scoring 21 points and a .432 kill percentage. As well, Admans and Ridings were both named as Fanshawe's OCAA Tournament All-Stars, with Humber's Marcus Morgan being named player of the match as well as being named the OCAA Tournament MVP.

Even with the loss, Fanshawe along with Humber will both be heading to the CCAA men's volleyball Championships. The tournament will be held at Camosun College in Victoria, British Columbia from March 7-10.



**CREDIT: FANSHAWE ATHLETICS** 

Fanshawe's Daniel Ridings finished as an OCAA Tournament All-Star following the championship game











CREDIT: KAITLIN HOOPER

Students attend a Smash Wrestling event in the Student Centre on Jan. 11.























To contribute contact:

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**FANSHAWE'S STUDENT VOICE** 



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