



SCHOOLS
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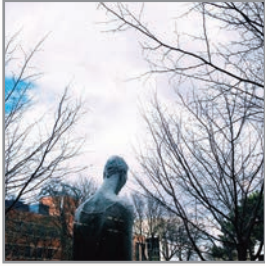


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CREDIT: COURTESY OF FANSHAWE ATHLETICS

Fanshawe's women curling team finished the season with another gold medal win at the CCAA national championships. This is the team's third gold in four years.

Women's curling team wins gold at nationals

FRANCIS SIEBERT
INTERROBANG

Fanshawe College's women's curling team won the gold at the 2015 Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association national championships on March 28 in Olds, Alberta, while the men's team won the silver.

The women's team defeated Humber College 4-2 for the gold after finishing in a three-way tie with Humber and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology for the first place in the round robin with a record of 5-2.

The Falcons defeated the NAIT Oaks to face Humber for the gold. It is the team's third gold in four years, having also won the 2012 and 2013 championships.

"Winning the Gold Medal at the CCAA National Curling Champi-

onships is a dream come true," said skip Shannon Kee in an email. "Our team worked very hard this season and it feels amazing to see it all pay off."

The team was made up of Kee, vice Rachelle Vink, second Christina Borgs, lead Tess Bobbie and alternate Julie Clinton. Kee, Vink and Borgs were named Championship All-Stars.

"Being named All Star Skip was an amazing achievement and I am honoured," Kee said.

Head Coach Barry Westman was awarded the women's coach award.

"That's just the icing on the cake," he said. "The accomplishment of the kids is the most important thing."

The Falcons' men's team placed second at the championships, losing the finals 8-4 to Fleming College's

Knights.

The team started the round robin with a record of 1-3 but won the following three games, finishing 4-3 and earning them a spot in a tiebreaker playoff game. It defeated Olds College 5-4 and the CCAA defending champions, MacEwan University, 11-8 in the semifinals.

The team was made up of skip Kelly Schuh, vice Curtis Easter, second Jackson Cox, lead/alternate Billy Brian and lead/alternate Matt Pretty.

"Looking back now, it's just so incredible that we were able to do that," Easter said. "It's quite the accomplishment, and we're all very proud of it."

The women's team placed at the national championships after defeating the Humber Hawks 8-6 in February for the gold at the Ontario

Colleges Athletic Association provincial championships. The team was also crowned OCAA provincial champions in 2014 and 2013.

"Our team is extremely proud of what we accomplished this year winning both the provincial and national title this year," Vink said in an email. "We are only the fourth team to ever accomplish this so it feels great."

The men's team placed third at the provincial championships, losing 6-3 to the Knights.

Fanshawe will be hosting the 2016 CCCAA national curling championships in March at the Highland Curling Club.

"It was an awesome experience," Kee said. "I am very excited to host the CCAA Championships next year."

Fanshawe ranked high internationally

STEPHANIE LAI
INTERROBANG

In a survey conducted worldwide, Fanshawe College ranked second in the world and first among Ontario colleges for student satisfaction. The survey included responses from 183 post-secondary institutions and was conducted through international students.

This is the fourth year Fanshawe has participated in the survey – i-graduate International Student Barometer (ISB) survey – and has performed well historically, according to Wendy Curtis, executive director of international at Fanshawe.

"Fanshawe is always prepared to learn how we can provide the best possible experience to students from the time they make their decision to the time they graduate," Curtis said.

In an email, Brianne Dos Santos,

Fanshawe's international projects and exchange co-ordinator, said that 14 institutions from across Canada participated – nine colleges in Ontario, two colleges from other provinces and three universities in Canada.

Because the survey requires responses from international students, of course every institution makes international students a priority.

"What Fanshawe has always been very [mindful] about is making sure that the experience of the international student is representative of what the college is all about from start to finish," Curtis said. "I think that's really helped our student satisfaction results because we're very consistent in terms we demonstrate every day we are what we attest to be."

Out of the 1,500 international students at Fanshawe, 331 partook in the survey (22 per cent).

"That's comparable to what oth-

er institutions would have," Curtis said.

Curtis says the college generally ranks high – top 10 internationally and top five in Ontario. What made the difference to shoot Fanshawe high in the ranks this year?

"Year in and year out where we do exceptionally well is with our faculty," she said. "We've always done well ... we're consistently exceptional across the institution. That's the other key here for me is really that it is an institution-wide commitment that we will focus on students."

While international students are the primary source for this particular survey, Curtis stresses the importance of creating the best atmosphere for all students.

"It's a good atmosphere for all students because that's at the core of what we do," she said. "We have some unique programs certainly, but we really differentiate ourselves

based on providing the most relevant, cost-effective route to employment."

So how now can Fanshawe move forward knowing these results?

"What it helps us to do is always make sure we are – as an institution ... it helps us to be at the top of our game all the time."

Curtis also says the college can continue working on being more efficient and targeted.

"We pay a lot of attention to international students – along with domestic students – because that is the workforce," she said. "We want to make sure that when we welcome students here – domestic or international – they stay. Fanshawe provides the fastest most relevant route to employment that helps keep the economy strong."

"I personally feel really proud to be able to talk about Fanshawe College to the world."



Sweet Tweets of the Week

What are you looking forward to most after exams?

Twitter

B

@baileylowry
@fanshawesu
#fsuinterrobang sunshine!
11:35 AM - 8 Apr 2015

Trina

@T_O93
@fanshawesu
#fsuinterrobang finally relaxing!
11:03 AM - 8 Apr 2015

Tanya Rand

@tanya_rand
@fanshawesu
#fsuinterrobang Chicago :)
10:27 AM - 8 Apr 2015

Patricia Varanesi

@PatVaranesi
@fanshawesu I can't wait for home cooked meals and making money again
#fsuinterrobang
10:13 AM - 8 Apr 2015

Facebook

Austin Beuerman

Graduating and getting that dream job... And summer of course.

Matt Graves

Moving back home to be with my friends and family after being in London for school for almost four years!

Jade Arantes

Looking forward starting my Co-op

Krystal Marie DaCosta

I plan on learning a new language this summer and just have summer adventures with my girls!

Kaitlynn Jones

Sleeping in! And partying till the break of dawn, when I'm not working +

Stefanie Smith

Going to Australia for the summer!!

Nick Davis

Road trip across the US to many major theme parks with my bud!

Instagram

karlacssmith

No assignments = no stress!!!!

lindsayensing

Cottage and fishing

mranarchy87

Long drives down a back road in the summer sun

ryanblaker81

Watching nhl playoffs

Thanks for a great school year!

Have an amazing summer Fanshawe!

#FSUInterrobang

College implements sexual violence and assault policy

FRANCIS SIEBERT
INTERROBANG

Ontario's 24 public colleges, including Fanshawe College, have implemented on March 31 stand-alone sexual violence and sexual assault policies and protocols.

The policies were implemented after the colleges' presidents voted unanimously in favour of province-wide sexual violence policies in colleges in November after the Toronto Star revealed that none of them had policies concerning sexual violence.

The new policy says Fanshawe is committed to creating a campus atmosphere in which sexual violence is not tolerated. It defines terms related to sexual violence and suggests what to do if a member of the college community experiences sexual violence and how to file a report. It also advises what to do if a member witnesses sexual violence or if a member discloses allegations of sexual violence to another member.

The document also outlines the roles and responsibilities of the college community and how Fanshawe will respond to reports of sexual violence. The college commits to assist survivors of sexual violence, ensure they are believed and ensure internal investigation procedures are available.

"The issue of sexual assault and sexual violence is a very important issue for the college," said Cathie Auger, Fanshawe's vice president of student services. "We want to ensure that our students and our staff are aware of this policy and they're aware of the role that we all need to play in preventing sexual violence on campus."

Fanshawe will also commit to engage in public education and prevention activities and provide the community with education and information about the sexual violence, the document says. While the

college has not yet determined how it will do so, Auger says it will have a plan by September.

"The policy and protocols were communicated to every student [on March 31] and to every staff member [on March 31], so that's the start of education and awareness, but we need to do a whole lot more," she said.

The document suggests that students and employees who experience sexual violence go to a safe place and seek help and medical assistance by contacting Campus Security Services at 519-452-4430 ext. 4242.

Campus Security Services will also assist survivors in filing a formal report.

Members who witness sexual violence are asked to immediately call Campus Security Services.

The document suggests that members should accept disclosures of sexual violence as true, listen without judgement and help survivors identify available services if a survivor discloses allegations to another member.

The person to whom the allegations were disclosed to are asked to respect the survivor's confidentiality, anonymity and right to choose the services they feel are appropriate, including whether to notify authorities.

Students found to have committed sexual violence will be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct. While the Student Code of Conduct does not specifically address sexual violence, Auger says the college will be changing its policies to align with the sexual assault and sexual violence policy and protocol.

"We will make sure that it's specifically mentioned as an offence in our Student Code of Conduct policy," she said.

The policy and protocol is located at fanshawec.ca/sexualviolence.



CREDIT: COURTESY OF MATCHBOX PICTURES

Like Sager's other features, *Gray Matter* will be filmed primarily in London – this time featuring mostly local talent.

Londoner directing film in town, looking for actors

STEPHANIE LAI
INTERROBANG

Fifteen-year London resident Greg Sager and the team at Matchbox Pictures, a London film production company, will start filming their third feature in the coming months. This time around, they want to tap into more local resources.

Sager, director of *Devil Seed* and *Kingdom Come* – Matchbox's last two features – wants to film almost entirely in London as well as feature area actors.

"This one we're doing now we're trying to do 100 per cent London this time like *Devil Seed* was," Sager said. "I live here – we live here. Me and my two partners."

The movie, called *Gray Matter*, was written with London in mind, Sager says.

"I write with locations I know I can probably get access to," he said. "I keep London in mind in the writing process, and with some of our local actors, I write them in."

Of course shooting in London has its benefits.

"Going home to your own bed is always nice."

Though the main role has been cast, Sager says he's looking for actors to fill an older part, but welcomes anyone with any amount of experience.

"I would imagine there are people that have been bitten by the acting bug or are curious," he said. "We've had awesome experience on both our past two films. Our family just keeps growing."

In fact, Fanshawe is part of the family already. Adam Liley, professor and co-ordinator of the Advanced Filmmaking program at Fanshawe has worked with Sager in the past and says he will be providing students to help with production.

"We've done this in the past and it's been a nice relationship because the students get some real on-set experience and that's always just as valuable as class instruction," Liley said. "We always support that and we know Greg ... very, very well and they're good, honest, hard working people so we know [the students] are going to get a good

experience out of it."

Liley, who works as director of photography on the set of *Trailer Park Boys* in his summers, says this could be a good opportunity for professional development in local actors.

Liley also says that if the City of London could get behind film production in general, more production companies may start filtering in.

"I wish someone at City Hall – and this has been talked about quite a bit – they really should start a film commission and hire somebody full time to sell the city to the market," he said. "London could be the next attractive spot for production business."

Liley credits the great locations and welcoming atmosphere as a reason to get this rolling.

"It [also] would be another economic boom for the area," he said. "We're turning out students that would be a great skilled workforce in that industry."

Those who are interested in helping out can email info@matchboxpictures.ca to acquire more information.



CREDIT: CONNIE LAM

Students came out to The Out Back Shack for the last Sex Toy Bingo night of the year for some X-rated fun and chance to win... stuff.



New Pre-Apprenticeship Programs for July 2015!
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| <p>Information Sessions Fanshawe London Campus (Z Building) March 25 @ 7:00 pm March 27 @ 10:00 am March 28 @ 10:00 am</p> | <p>Full-time, 39-week programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1 apprenticeship courses • Trades readiness and value added skills training • Academic upgrading • Job search techniques |
|---|--|

Learn more fanshawec.ca/preapprenticeship
Funded by the Government of Ontario

STEPHANIE LAI
INTERROBANG

After classes, after projects, after exams – there's always an urge to celebrate. Because of this, London Police Service (LPS) will have more of a presence around the student residences close to downtown London and the Fanshawe and Western University campuses.

Students by now are no strangers to Project L.E.A.R.N., a police initiative to increase patrol in student-heavy areas, but media relations officer Const. Ken Steeves of the LPS says the spring Project is not as high profile as the fall.

"The spring isn't as high of a need for police attendance," Steeves

said. "[But] our response is gauged by the actions displayed."

Steeves does say that though police presence will be increased, it will not be to the same caliber as the fall Project L.E.A.R.N.

The Fanshawe Student Union will be handing out flyers to students in the Fleming, Farnborough and Thurman area with information on Project L.E.A.R.N. and garbage disposal.

"We help out students in any way that we can to try to get them a hassle-free move out and hassle-free end of the semester," Stewart said.

He says it's important to inform students.

"We want students to be informed about what they have the right to do

and what might get them a ticket," Stewart said. "We want them to celebrate another successful year, we just want them to do it in a respectful manner."

"We've got different initiatives in place to help them out like garbage disposal and that type of stuff."

At the time of print, there was no confirmation on what type of disposal will be available, but students can be assured some method will be in place for the last weeks of April going into May.

Both the LPS and FSU want students to enjoy themselves at the end of the year, but one thing remains.

"Don't invite us to your party," he said. "If there's no need for us to be there, then we won't be there."

Year-end, one more Project L.E.A.R.N.



CREDIT: "UNSPOKEN" BY CHRIS JIL ON FLICKR (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0)

When we leave some things left unspoken, that's when we begin to regret.

Words left unspoken

**NAUSHEEN KUMAR**
INTERROBANG

There are certain things and moments in life that are beyond the humdrum of this life. These can never be termed as a past or a distant thing. These are always there, in your present. All you have to do is get up and express it until it is gone forever far from you and completely out of your reach. It is not a person's personality that holds him or her back, but it is actually what he or she thinks.

If something burns your soul to ashes, if you badly crave for something, it is worth fighting for. It is worth living for. It is worth trying for at least once in your life to have no sorrow in the rest of your life.

There will always be a fear of the unknown and a fear of being rejected in life. But if your intentions are right, this fear loses in the battle. This fear calls for a replacement with curiosity. You have got to become conscious of the fact that your unspoken words to the person currently in your life should not become the most important words that should have been said. Struggle. Don't let the present beautiful things in your life vanish forever. Don't repeat your mistakes. Learn from them. Don't bring

your mistakes back in your life.

Silence is sometimes loud enough to turn the other person completely deaf towards life, sometimes for good. Relations are often never initiated by the words left unspoken. Have the guts and just say it, "Life is short."

There is no time to leave important words and thoughts unsaid. Life is truly unpredictable. Life is what you make out of it. Time is not going to wait for you. The situation is not going to wait for you to wake up. One day you will realize it, but it will have ended by that time. Don't let this happen. Don't make it late. Regrets in life are forever.

And then sometimes, you just crave for a heartfelt genuine conversation without worrying about anything and everything going around in the world, the life running around and in front of you. If you like someone, tell them before it gets too late because often assumptions are made on unsaid words and feelings which lead to an ultimate cut-off which ends it all. Then it never happened.

Someday this will be gone. There would be no reason to stay. Words left unspoken actions. Those words which you could never express. Unspoken feelings. It has been rightly said that there is nothing, which haunts us like the things you could not say, the feelings you could not express.

In the end, we only regret the chances and risks we didn't take.

How Christ's death and resurrection can help me

**MICHAEL VEENEMA**
RUMOURS OF GRACE

Last week people around the world celebrated the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. I am not one of those who believe that the story of Christ's rising is a fabrication. Today I want to address the question of Christ's death and resurrection in a personal way. How does it help me?

In the parts of the Bible pre-dating Jesus, there are many passages about the Jewish people sacrificing animals. God had impressed upon the people their tenacity in doing wrong – sinning. Their sins ranged from pettiness towards family members to murder and national scandals. There were issues of guilt, restitution and punishment. The sacrifice of animals was a symbolic act by which the Jewish people renounced their sins and acknowledged that something should stand in for them to receive the penalty for doing wrong. This was a way for God's anger against sin to find an object other than people themselves. It suggested that God would find a way to deal with those issues of guilt, restitution and punishment.

But all the while, the sacrificial animals could not really take the place of humans. In some way, a human would have to suffer for human sin. Enter Jesus, the Son of God. He

took on that suffering when he died on the cross. God's dealing with sin is poetic justice; a person standing in for other people to resolve the issues related to human sin.

This means freedom for me. I know I have done wrong to my parents, children, wife, friends and associates over the years. There are issues here of guilt and punishment. Where can I go with all that? They are laid to rest in the death of Christ. I don't mean that they don't pester me at times, but I know their ability to define me is on the run, mortally wounded.

Celebrated all over the planet by the Christian church, Christ's death is the most astounding and hopeful thing ever to have taken place – except, arguably the creation of the world.

Something new has been unleashed in the world. A crack in the iron rule of death has appeared. The crack is destined to grow and will leave death splintered.

Although my parents are dead, I have not seen the last of them. I will be able to speak with them about things that should have been said but weren't and about things that should not have been done but were. It means that every good thing I have tried can be given a second chance. It means that every evil I have been involved in can be left to vaporize. It means that as I reach out to God for direction and forgiveness, eternal life is thrown into the bargain.

Christ's death and resurrection. Hope. I would say that it brings hope.

Speak for yourself and vote

**VICTOR DE JONG**
INTERROBANG

You wouldn't let your grandmother choose your next car and you wouldn't let your grandfather choose your next apartment, so why are you about to let them choose your next prime minister? Over 60 per cent of the elderly will make it out to the polls this year while you're playing Xbox and pre-drinking for another night out that you can't afford.

It's no wonder there's no politician willing to step up and tackle student debt and youth unemployment when only a measly 38 per cent of Canadians who are affected by these issues are going to come out on election day. It's far too easy to take a complex thing like politics and write it off as stupid just to save the time and effort it would take to make an informed decision on election day, and frankly, that's what politicians are counting on.

It's unusual for elections to be won by enormous margins, so politicians don't waste their time appealing to demographics that don't vote. If every eligible voter between 18 and 24 cast a ballot for the same party, that party would likely win the election. The margins are that small. Instead, well over half of that demographic will choose to remain voiceless and let someone else decide what their taxes pay for and what happens to the country they live in.

With the Canadian electoral system, there's a sentiment that unless you're voting for the

winning party, your vote didn't count. This isn't necessarily the case. In a majority government like the one we have now, the opposition parties can't prevent Prime Minister Stephen Harper from doing whatever he wants. If enough people had voted for any party other than the Conservative, there would be a large enough collective of non-conservative votes in the House of Commons to oppose the prime minister.

In many ways, a minority government is a far more democratic arrangement. The prime minister is forced to appeal to members of parliament outside of the party for support instead of having the ability to pass legislation without any consideration for opposing viewpoints.

The conclusion that should lead you to is that your vote can count. The fact that only about two out of three people bother to vote means that those people have a bigger say in the outcome of the election. The party you vote for may not win a majority or even a minority, but it'll have a higher chance of being able to influence the government in power. You can't increase your influence beyond the single ballot you have available to you, but that ballot becomes more valuable if less people choose to cast theirs.

The old birthday quip is "another year older, another year wiser." It's no surprise then that voter turnout steadily increases by age demographic. It should be noted that the saying doesn't go "another year older, another year more concerned with the well-being of others." No one is going to vote on your behalf, and statistically, you probably won't either.



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CREDIT: GODSPEED YOU! BLACK EMPEROR

An album worthy of five solid stars, *Asunder, Sweet and Other Distress* is a four-movement opus, marrying ominous soundscapes with epic instrumentals.

The behemoth that is Godspeed



NICK REYNO



Asunder, Sweet and Other Distress is perhaps the most ethereal experience you'll have this month. Released on March 31 by the Montreal collective known as Godspeed You! Black Emperor, this album has been the long awaited follow up to the band's 2012 reunion album, *Allelujah! Don't Bend! Ascend!*

The only word that comes close to capturing the essence of Godspeed's music is epic. This nine-person troupe creates intoxicating soundscapes juxtaposed with deafening walls of distorted guitar.

Although *Asunder, Sweet and Other Distress* is entirely an instrumental album, the lack of a designated vocalist does nothing to detract from its magnitude. In fact a vocalist would do well to destroy the experience of listening to these songs – or song.

Asunder, Sweet and Other Distress is actually based around a single live song that Godspeed has been fine-tuning over a number of years called "Behemoth," and it clocks in at an alarming 40 minutes. Although the album has four movements, the sections flow effortlessly into the next to create an album that is more of an experience than an occurrence.

In contrast to previous releases which coast for a while – fading in from an inaudible hum to a climactic wrath of drums, guitars and string instruments – this latest album explodes into thunderous riffs right off the bat. I don't mean thunderous like a classic rock band. These riffs are slow, hulking beasts that pound with every note. "Peasantry or 'Light! Inside of Light!'" has layer upon layer of crunchy guitars that could be a fitting backdrop to the final standoff in a grimy western movie. After establishing itself as a behemoth of a song, the mayhem amps up with a sporadic guitar solo – a rare occurrence for a Godspeed record – that eventually yields to the introduction of a string section. The strings go through a number of movements backed by heavily overdriven guitars and drones that further elevate it to a sense of optimistic promise. This first track is overall cheerful, as if heralding the arrival and continuation of the band.

All of this is done to exaggerate the album's drop into a complex and textured soundscape that occupies much of the mid-album. "Lamb's

Breath" seems to have taken much of its influence from sludge rock and serves to shift the aura of this album from that of celebration to fear of an impending apocalypse that could be right around the corner. The muddy guitar gives way to an unearthly soft drone that seems to fill the room and spill into your brain, swashing around with the weight of an ocean. The term drone may give the allusion of being simple or bland, perhaps conjuring up memories of the economics teacher in *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, but every second of "Lamb's Breath" is carefully calculated and crafted to bring about an ever-evolving sound.

This part of the album serves to lower our guard and prepare us for the cataclysmic conclusion of this album.

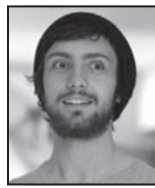
Somewhere around the album's 22-minute mark, this drone dons a cloak of dissonance that continues to rev up as guitars and strings become more and more apparent. Perhaps the best part of this album is that by the time the soundscape starts to don its ominous colours, we've been lulled into a slight trance and it goes predominantly unnoticed. This build is so subtle and carefully articulated, that by the time it's realized, it's already in full swing. The apocalypse is here, and it's only getting darker.

The final piece of *Asunder* is titled "Piss Crowns are Trebled." It is both the most epic and also the longest movement in the entire album, boasting an impressive 14 minutes in length. This song is perhaps one of the most vengeful and ravenous conclusions of any Godspeed record to date, harking to new innovation within the band and perhaps displaying some crossover from the band's side project, Thee Silver Mt. Zion Memorial Orchestra.

"Piss Crowns are Trebled" welcomes the return of the monstrous guitar riffs and wandering solos of the opening number, with several additions that make the production far outweigh its other bookend. What makes this song so seismic is not merely its juxtaposition to the ethereal mid-album soundscape, but the fake ending placed about halfway through it. Just as we think this album is going to wind down and fade away in typical Godspeed fashion, the band reprises the tune in a hell storm of thunderous guitars, booming drums and piercing strings that all verge on the realm shoegaze.

With the release of *Asunder, Sweet and Other Distress*, these Montreal trailblazers remain a step ahead of the numerous post-rock rip-off bands that hunger after their sound, delivering an album that is both innovative and conscious of the original direction of the band.

From under the counter: A year in review

PRESTON LOBZUN
FROM UNDER
THE COUNTER

As we all cram a myriad of studying periods and final projects into the closing of our year, I felt that the best way to compliment that in this column would be to not cover a single release, rather self-analyze the hard work that the underground music scene has been doing in recent times.

I began this column with the intention of covering and discussing recent musical releases performed by London musicians. Heavily involved in this scene and not wanting to dissuade listeners, I have found it far more effective to not review artists in a traditional critique but rather explain the idea behind the music they are trying to create.

I find stylistic divisions and genres to be quite interesting on that regard because each genre has its own way of doing things. An electronic artist has a different creative process than a folk artist, and I think it's really important to cherish these differences while also drawing links as musicians are often not homogeneous in their listening habits.

When I first arrived in London from the Windsor area, I walked into a scene that felt different from

back home. Blue-collar towns like Windsor are known to have healthy music scenes, mostly because there is nothing else to do.

People hang out with each other outside of shows, and they form bands or side projects for the sole intention of just making music. London in late 2012 didn't seem to have that as some of my first show experiences with the exception of a few places were marked with a great deal of apathy and disorganization. Most of this was due to the lack of places to play as some of the most notable venues such as the Embassy had literally burnt out. Other local names like Call the Office had begun to lose touch with the scene in favour of more profitable ventures.

However, much of this changed by the time 2014 rolled around. An insurgence of interest on top of more open spaces began to bridge the gaps between people who had previously never worked together before. Last year, the collective effort of my peers produced festivals, events in new spaces, benefit shows/releases to support political causes, and was able to even host a Japanese band named Sete Star Sept in my basement when the guys were on tour.

All of this has culminated in a soon-to-be released compilation featuring many bands both new and old who have been a part of this change and many of them I have

covered and discussed throughout the year.

This drastic change in environment that has allowed me to meet and work alongside such inspiring and motivated people has been one of the best experiences I have ever had. It really is something I believe everybody can pat themselves on the back for. Seriously, if you have ever been to a local show or bought a local band's CD or even just listened to something online, you are a part of this change that has helped London improve its standing in the wider Canadian music scene.

There is no one person/band to congratulate or one venue to worship, only a community of people willing to spend their time and money on music that often never reaches the mainstream. Almost every band that you could think of started off in these places, playing for less than 10 people and trying to sell CDs at \$5 just to cover basic costs.

I strongly believe that no artistic medium should be treated as a competition. The human mind is a powerful tool that allows us to reason and decipher our own existence. Art in all its forms seeks to use that mind to create something that will stand as a testament to time, to explain our feelings and emotions in the moment that they are constructed, and to inevitably translate the human condition to a common vernacular.



CREDIT: NASA (CC BY-NC 2.0)

Scott and Mark Kelly are now the first set of twins to be used for scientific testing in space.

One giant leap for twin brother astronauts

JERROLD RUNDLE
INTERROBANG

Humans began a new era of space exploration research on March 28, as astronaut Scott Kelly and cosmonaut Mikhail Korniyenko rose from the Baikonur Cosmodrome atop a Soyuz lifting body, beginning Expedition 43 – a 350-day (one-year) mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS), 400 km from Earth's surface.

The pair was joined by cosmonaut Gennady Padalka on the flight up, who will stay aboard for six months, a usual stay aboard the ISS.

While humans have stayed in the planets orbit for longer periods, previous spaceflight records of 365, 380 and 438 days are held solely by cosmonauts, those missions occurred aboard Mir – Russia's former space station – and happened before 2000. Adding to that is the fact that Russia and NASA's last long-term human space study occurred in 2007, and it's easy to understand the need for this mission.

The one-year mission is also

unique for another reason. NASA veteran of 16 years, Scott Kelly is joined – on the ground – by his identical twin and astronaut Mark, who will act as a test control on Earth, monitoring what the long-term effects of living in microgravity will be, compared to a person's average aging. The brothers – having the distinction of being the only siblings to have both been in space – are now also the first set of twins to be used for scientific testing in space as well.

The rigours of living beyond our atmosphere are already well documented, including vision impairment, blood vessel hardening and osteoporosis. With advances in science over the last two decades, we now understand that mental and microbial health are just as important as physical fitness. Despite this, few large-scale studies have been conducted. And while only having two people in Earth's orbit for a year doesn't seem like a large scale project, one needs to remember the two scientists participating in this mission are 33 per cent of the crew aboard the ISS.

To put that in scale, 33 per cent of Fanshawe College's student population is 5,000. Imagine 5,000

students participating in a single yearlong study. So while a duo isn't a large scale on Earth, it's still one-third the entire human population currently living in outer space.

During the one year mission all of these health issues will be monitored in preparation for the needs of NASA when it sends humans to Mars in 15 years. Preparations for NASA's first human mission to Mars have ramped up over the six months, with the testing of two major rocket components: the Space Launch System, the most powerful rocket ever built and the Orion Multipurpose Crew Vehicle – a UFO-shaped capsule designed to replace NASA's reliance on Roscosmos (the Russian space agency) for travelling to the ISS.

But it's not just the one year mission that will ensure members aboard the ISS are busy. Crews have performed multiple spacewalks over the last two months, re-routing hundreds of metres of electrical cables, as new modules are to be added to the ISS's compliment this year, including an expandable habitat by Bigelow Aerospace. There's never a boring day on the ISS, especially when preparing humans for further space exploits.



CREDIT: RARE

Though Banjo and Koozie are not owned by Nintendo, there is hope that they will appear in the game.

Warning: New challengers approaching



ANDREW VIDLER
G33K LYFE

On April 1, Nintendo hosted a live-streamed Nintendo Direct on YouTube, another one of the company's digital press conferences that have replaced its yearly E3 stage event in recent years.

After repeated assurances that the upcoming announcements weren't an elaborate April Fool's joke, fans worldwide settled down for an hour of nothing much to be honest.

Until the end, that is, when they announced the release first downloadable characters in the history of *Super Smash Bros.* The first character, Mewtwo, was announced before the games hit shelves but was finally cleared to the game and given a release date. Nintendo also had another surprise ready with announcement of another returning fighter, Lucas of the *Mother* series.

As if another two fighters added to the already impressive roster wasn't enough, the company announced it would develop new characters for the game. To facilitate this, Nintendo said it would be opening a ballot for fans to recommend any video game character from history. The *Smash Bros.* world instantly lost its mind, launching to the Internet to discuss which characters would be the best fit for the crossover fighter. With the Nintendo-characters-only rule long broken, there have been some truly odd suggestions springing up, not only from the public, but gaming companies as well, some of who have taken to Twitter to drum up support for their characters.

After sifting through a week's worth of suggestions, I have crafted a list of the five characters who not only have a genuine chance of being added but have earned their place

among Mario, Link and the rest.

Note: Newcomers only, sorry Snake.

1. King K. Rool, debut: *Donkey Kong Country* (SNES, 1994)

Making his debut in *Donkey Kong's* first solo outing, this fat, overweight crocodile should be at the very top of Nintendo's list of newcomers. In fact it's surprising that the series has continued so long without his addition. K. Rool is DK's Bowser, a constant thorn in his side, stealing his bananas, aiming super weapons at DK Island and locking up the other Kongs. His sheer girth would immediately put him among the other franchise villains in *Smash's* heavy hitters, and his arsenal of gadgets and army of minions could facilitate a wide variety of special moves.

2. Banjo/Kazooie, debut: *Banjo-Kazooie* (N64, 1998)

Back when I was young, *Banjo-Kazooie* was one of the best platformers on the market, boasting the bright colour palette and fun characters that typifies Nintendo's first party properties. This bear and bird pair would look right at home in the *Smash* world, and their unique mix of speed and strength could make the characters instant favourites. The only issue is that the two characters are not owned by Nintendo but creations of Rare, who was purchased by Microsoft in 2002, locking any inclusion behind some cross-company agreements of which are not often found in games. A glimmer of hope was given by head of Xbox Phil Spencer, who tweeted that he would love to see Banjo-Kazooie in the game. Fingers are crossed.

3. Midna, debut: *The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess* (GameCube/Wii, 2006)

Despite being the second most popular series in Nintendo's library, *The Legend of Zelda* is sorely lacking behind the Mario series when it comes to *Smash* representation.

There may be five character slots taken up by the series, but two are separate versions of Link, and Zelda and Sheik were the same character until the most recent title. With plenty of room for one more, this seems the perfect opportunity for Midna, the least annoying companion in franchise history, to graduate to playable fighter. Navi may be the companion from the most iconic game, but Midna beat her in popularity when she decided not to yell "HEY" at you every five minutes. But beyond that, her arsenal of Twilight powers and magical tricks could make her blast to control.

4. Wonder Red, debut: *The Wonderful 101* (Wii U, 2013)

The leader of the pint sized superhero team The Wonderful 100, Wonder Red is the youngest character on this list by far, but featuring in one of the best exclusives on the system has done a lot for his popularity. With the superhero team's main abilities revolving around merging into weapons, there is a practically limitless number of ways that this could be exploited. As an added bonus, the alternate costumes could put players in control of the other main members of the team, à la Bowser Jr. and the Koopa Kids.

5. Rayman, debut: *Rayman 2: The Great Escape* (N64, 1999)

The biggest outsider on the list, and the only one who is featured on other consoles, Ubisoft's rabbit-like creature with no arms connecting his hands to his body is also one of the few platforming stars with the skills to go toe-to-toe with Mario. Making his debut in 1995, he bounced onto Nintendo consoles in his second title and has never left, often finding the best console sales occurring on Nintendo platforms. A virtual cartoon character, Rayman would fit the aesthetic more than any other third party character and has a readymade arsenal of goofy moves built right in.



CREDIT: "TRAIL MIX" BY SGRACE ON FLICKR (CC BY-NC 2.0)

Instead of munching on candy and marshmallows, try eating nature's candy like raisins, dried apricots and lightly-salted nuts.

Add these to your list of what not to eat

KAREN NIXON-CARROLL
INTERROBANG

There are so many rules to healthy eating that it's easy to get overwhelmed. There's the 80:20 rule where you eat healthy 80 per cent of the time and don't worry 20 per cent. It's not great as you can do a lot of damage in that 20 per cent. And are you really keeping track?

What about the infamous cheat day where you eat healthy all week and allow yourself a whole day to cheat? Again – most people have a really hard time sticking to this as they end up allowing more than one day or they do some serious damage on the one cheat day.

Then, we are all guilty of saying everything in moderation – but what if this is not the case for some foods? Are there some foods that you should just never eat?

White flour (including white bread, pastas and crackers)

There is little to no nutritional value – just lots of empty calories. Instead, go for milled whole grain flours or flours made from beans and vegetables such as oat, spelt, brown rice, quinoa, sweet potato, garbanzo bean, almond and hemp. Not all of these perform the same way in baking as all-purpose.

Candy and marshmallows

Empty calories and sugar spikes both have acute and chronic effects, which are not good to your health.

Instead, try nature's candy like dried fruit and dry-roasted, unsalted nuts and seeds. Add in a little touch of pure dark chocolate – yum.

Artificial sweeteners

They have the same effect on your body as white sugar. Try using a small amount of natural sweeteners like raw honey or agave. These are typically sweeter than sugar so you only need a small amount. Or you may be able to add fruit, vegetables or dried fruit to boost the sweetness and the nutrients.

Microwave popcorn

There are chemicals in this that just should not be allowed into our diets. Purchase an air popper and add your own natural flavourings.

Margarine

Even so-called healthy varieties are no good. Instead, opt for healthy oils such as olive or coconut, or sparing amounts of unsalted butter. Even better, try to enjoy some foods without the added fat or use foods like avocado, homemade low-salt hummus, mashed hard-boiled egg and more.

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Meet and greet: London edition



HAI HA NGUYEN
THE SHOPPING BAG
hhnguyen.77@gmail.com

You can meet the designer of HAI-HA alongside the Stylists at Jordan Stewart on Richmond Row for a full wardrobe make over on April 11 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. The brand HAI-HA was launched in August 2014 by owner, designer and Interrobang column writer Hai Ha Nguyen in London, Ont.

It started when she worked at a bank and reaffirmed to her that the traditional and linear career path was definitely not for her, so she decided to pursue her passion: design and entrepreneurship. The opportunity for design came when a co-worker, who is now a friend, was looking for a bracelet to wear to her graduation.

A custom bracelet was designed and named after HAI-HA's first customer – JEA.

The JEA hand chain was the first design that came to life and is still among the best selling and requested piece to this date. From there, it inspired a whole collection to be designed and an online website to launch. The designs piqued the interest of Jordan Stewart Boutique in London and www.hai-ha.ca was launched simultaneously with its launch in-store.

Although this event is called a designer meet and greet, it's created for you – the customer.

HAI-HA specializes in body chains, which are designed differently than what you would find out in the market, so meeting the person that designed it may help you style it into your wardrobe. What better way than to see it come to life in



CREDIT: COURTESY OF HAI HA NGUYEN

Resident columnist turned jewellery designer Hai Ha Nguyen will be doing another meet and greet at Jordan Stewart on April 11.

an outfit than to be in Jordan Stewart, the trendiest store that houses brands such as ONE Teaspoon, For Love and Lemons, Michael Kors and Ray Ban, and to have dedicated stylists for advice?

The customer service experience is synonymous for both HAI-HA and Jordan Stewart will do whatever they can to make you look and feel your best.

There is an incentive to going to this event because it's not just about shopping. At the last designer meet and greet customers were able to purchase all HAI-HA jewellery tax-free and those who attended were featured on Jordan Stewart and HAI-HA's social media accounts. It's a surprise what will be at this event, but what can be said is that the Nguyen has a sweet tooth and loves to share.

It comes down to connecting and thanking the customers of HAI-HA and Jordan Stewart. HAI-HA has partnered with creative minds all over the world and has a loyal following on social media. She participated in sponsoring the Fanshawe Unbound fashion show and Miss Canada Globe 2014. In this day and age, everyone has so many online shopping and retail options to spend their money, so for customers to be excited about what is happening at Jordan Stewart and HAI-HA is so amazing. Hope to see the readers at the event, for a preview of products in store and of the last event, you can visit www.hai-ha.ca or look up the Instagram for both businesses: HAI-HA @haihaofficial and Jordan Stewart @jordanstewartboutique.



CREDIT: "VEGETABLES" BY SONNY ABESAMIS ON FLICKR (CC BY 2.0)

It's not easy choosing between healthy and treating, but if you continue eating fresh, treats like donuts will not be as appetizing in the future.

Health: To treat and not cheat

KAREN NIXON-CARROLL
INTERROBANG

Treat as a noun means anything that affords particular pleasure or enjoyment.

To cheat means to defraud, deceive, violate rules or regulations.

These words are commonly used among my new clientele and those who have yet to make a significant change toward their health and well-being. It usually takes me a while to break someone from using these words when talking about their diet. Some are not successful, but they were not willing to change in the first place.

A new acquaintance and behavioural specialist agreed with me that rewarding yourself with a good treat or a special cheat is not changing your bad behaviour. It is telling you that all the hard work you are putting in sucks, and that at some point, you'll get to treat or cheat with what you really love.

Eventually, this is what leads to failure. Sure, maybe you can stick it out for a while and could be better off than someone who makes no effort to eat healthy, but you'll still have all the negative side effects from your unhealthy habits.

What to do instead:

Eat healthy all the time

It's hard at first but you get used to saying no and people get used to offering healthy options. Of course, there are situations where you can't avoid it like when you are invited for dinner and birthday cake and there are none to little healthy options. Choose the healthiest and

fill up on that and take just a nibble worth of the other stuff. It's not rude: you could make an argument that you host is rude for not knowing or understanding your lifestyle. However, don't get defensive if someone makes fun of your choices and don't point out the unhealthy things to your host. Just politely say you really love the salad they made and can't get enough of it.

Treat wisely

If you reread the definition of treat you'll see that even the act of doing healthy things are the treat. This is where your thinking has to change: once you see things like your workouts, healthy cooking and eating and regular sleep as pleasurable and enjoy your lifestyle, then those old unhealthy treats will actually start to seem icky.

Don't cheat – ever

You can modify exercises, make a conscious choice to eat healthy or not, ask for help, but don't cheat. It always ends badly at some point.

Don't set yourself up to fail. You are the only one responsible for your choices and have the power to fix them. You may need help sometimes and you can't be afraid or ashamed to ask someone you trust. You have to be willing to do everything it takes to be successful.

Karen Nixon-Carroll is the Program Manager at Fitness 101, Fanshawe College Professor, YMCA fitness course trainer and examiner, Fanshawe FHP grad and holds many fitness certifications for personal training, group fitness and wellness. Email her at karen.carroll@fanshawec.ca.

“Our only limitations are those which we set up in our own minds, or permit others to establish for us.”

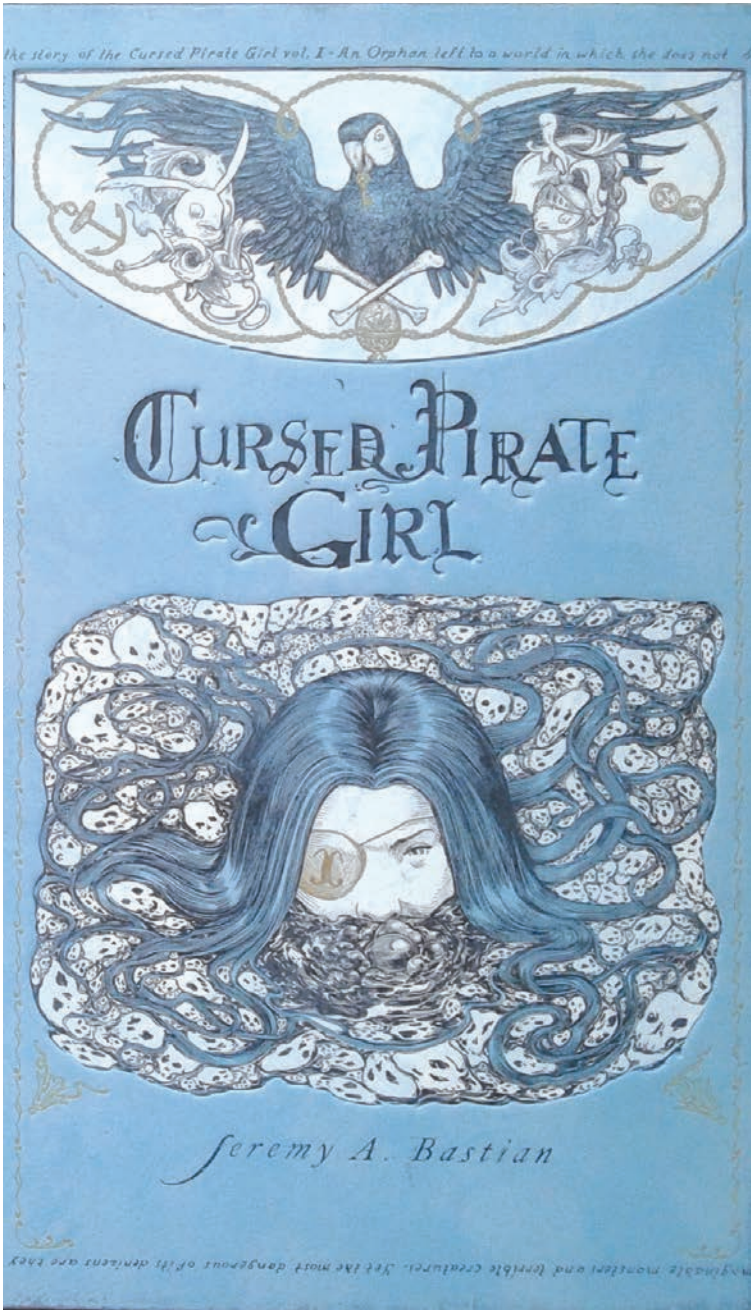
► Elizabeth Arden: Self-Made Maven

In a time when women dare not wear make-up or run their own businesses, Elizabeth daringly did both. She was not a trained chemist, yet she pioneered the concept of scientifically formulating cosmetics. She was not a business graduate, yet she created a global empire. Curiosity and drive were her teachers; the world, her classroom.

We think Elizabeth would have simply adored AU, giving people all over the world the chance to make their mark, on their terms, in their time. Beautiful.

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CREDIT: JERROLD RUNDLE

Readers can't help but become fans of these comic book favourites.

The artistry of fan favourites



JERROLD RUNDLE
INTERROBANG

Michigan – shaped like a mitt, home to a crashed economy and where the stellar comic books of Jeremy Bastian and David Peterson are born.

After receiving his Bachelor of Fine Arts in printmaking from East Michigan University, Bastian began to create the world of *Cursed Pirate Girl*, a story about a young girl who is separated from her father, one of the most cursed pirate captains to live. Set in the 1700's in a Jamaican port, a comic this is not. Wrapped in an embossed hardcover and filled with over 150 torn edge – not cut – pages, the graphic novel looks like something a pirate captain would place in his own library. Bastian's style is reminiscent of old world mapmaking, with details crammed into every millimeter of the page. From sea ghosts, to jousting swordfish, to royal cannibalism, every page, every margin, every speech bubble is a magnificent work of art in the style of a 19th-century madman.

But the *Cursed Pirate Girl* story wasn't finished: more adventures and more swashbuckling needed to be put from fountain pen to coffee-stained paper. That's correct, Bastian stains his paper before drawing the ultra detailed fish-people, cannon-embedded hermit crabs and talking storks. And so, Bastian has continued his industry-loved epic in a 52-page comic heading to comic shops like Heroes, L.A. Moods and The Comic Book Collector this June. I highly recom-

mend this series, looking forward to further work and other universes to spilling from Bastian's head onto the page.

Nine years ago, David Peterson began a small story about a mouse gone missing, needing to be found. Now his series *Mouse Guard* has spawned four sequels, custom jewellery and multiple extremely successful kick-starters – including a table top RPG, a board game, and custom mouse head from Lego minifigs. All this because of a mouse?

Mouse Guard is a story about a mouse society living in a realistic medieval style universe struggling to survive against predators, the elements and their own. The story focuses on the Mouse Guard, a matriarchally led arm – though army is a strong word – travelling through its world to multiple cities protecting its citizens.

Due to the rapid success of *Mouse Guard*, Peterson has been able to bring other artists into the universe with the *Legend of the Guard* titles. These stories revolve around an inn, where mice compete to tell the greatest story and the prize being the bar tab erased for the night. It's these tales that often remind me why building a universe is so fun for anything can happen. The *Legends* series are comics about mice trying to pay for alcohol with a story.

Add Petersons level of detail to each part of his universe – he has a room full of wooden models of ships, buildings and settings which he personally built, all to get the right proportions of a specific scene – and it's easy to see why *Mouse Guard* has been a favourite of comic fans for almost a decade.



CREDIT: UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Before they were Groo's faithful minions, they searched the world over to serve the most despicable master. Join Stuart, Kevin and Bob on their quest in July.

Post-exam movie madness awaits



PAM-MARIE GUZZO
INTERROBANG

The summer is a time to relax, drink by a fire, dance the night away and watch some of the most anticipated movies of the year. For all you cinophiles, here is what you can look forward to this summer.

The Avengers: Age of Ultron (May 1)

This summer will be full of movies about comic book heroes (including *Ant-Man* and *The Fantastic Four*), but the success of the first Avengers means this is the one to watch out for. With what may be the best combination of actors and director to ever team up – and backed by the powerhouse that is Disney – *The Avengers: Age of Ultron* promises to be an awesome rollercoaster ride. Viewer be warned: Joss Whedon has stated this will be a darker movie than the first, so maybe bring

some emergency chocolate to boost your spirits.

Jurassic World (June 12)

It's been 22 years since the original *Jurassic Park*, and *Jurassic World* keeps the timeline, showing the park after 10 years of successful operation. Keeping true to the original as much as possible, this movie will feature animatronic dinosaurs, the panoramic scenery of Isla Nublar and a nod to the park's visionary creator, John Hammond. Far more than just another sequel, *Jurassic World* may be exactly what fans have been craving all this time. For those wanting to explore the park beforehand, jurassicworld.com may be one of the best websites ever created.

Minions (July 10)

Looking for something a bit lighter you can watch with younger family members? *Minions*, a spin-off from the well-loved *Despicable Me* franchise, may be the answer. Following the Minions from their beginning to modern times, this movie tells the story of how these

charming, incomprehensible characters came to be. Hopefully it will feature subtitles, however, or else we may have another *Star Wars Holiday Special* on our hands.

Paper Towns (July 24)

Attention all Nerdfighters. Another film based on a book by Vlogbrother John Green is on its way. Hopefully less inclined to make entire theatres simultaneously break into uncontrollable sobs than *The Fault in Our Stars*, *Paper Towns* promises to be lighter, while simultaneously still considering the deeper meaning of friendship.

Pixels (July 24)

Peter Dinklage. Adam Sandler. Donkey Kong. Sean Bean. Josh Gad. Pac-Man. Together for the first time in what may be the most nostalgia-tapping movie ever conceived of, *Pixels* is as likely to be hilarious as it is disastrous. With the world as we know it on the line, only an improbable combination of actors can save the human race from pixelated doom.

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ONE STUDENT AT A TIME



Fast and furious: Touchdown, baby!



PAM-MARIE
GUZZO
INTERROBANG

The latest of *The Fast and the Furious* franchise surrounds the original crew as an angry Jason Statham (playing the super-assassin-spy Deckard Shaw) follows them around the world in a quest for vengeance. As the crew works through their own personal baggage, with a recently not dead Letty and Brian learning how to play the part of family man, they remember that they've become something more than friends, more than a crew – they've become family.

Furious 7 is a perfect addition to a well-established franchise. With a ton of well-loved familiar faces, and a couple of awesome new additions in the form of Jason Statham, Kurt Russell and Nathalie Emmanuel (who is most well-known for her role as Missandei in *Game of Thrones*), the movie is full of people who clearly enjoyed every moment of filming. While no one can ever deny the over-the-top sexualisation that takes place in these movies, the fact is that everyone is eye candy, regardless of age, gender and ethnicity.

What's great about these movies, and this one in particular, is how they manage to feel so incredibly genuine and authentic while still being demonstrating and almost obscene amount of excess in every-



CREDIT: UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Furious 7 is the last film Paul Walker worked on before his death, and the Fast family dedicated this movie to a friend lost. "Salute mi familia."

thing that they do. Every car is the best of the best, every explosion is a giant fiery inferno and every person can – and does – kick some serious ass when needed. Few movies can feature cars flying out of planes to parachute onto deserted stretches of mountain highway and still have the audience nodding along thinking, "This seems like exactly what would happen."

A word also has to be put in for the fight choreography in this

movie. Watching Vin Diesel and Statham beat the crap out of each other for extended periods of time is something you never realized was missing from your life until you see it. There are also a few amazing scenes with Michelle Rodriguez, who does an incredible job in every fight scene she's in. The audience is also treated to some truly epic car chases – it is a *Fast* movie, after all – and even features an unmanned drone.

The most touching part of the film was, of course, the ending tribute to Paul Walker. It's clear Vin Diesel was speaking from the heart about his long-time friend, and the flashbacks to the previous movies remind the audience of the almost 15 years that Walker dedicated to capturing our imagination.

These are movies that have defined an entire genre, and have entrenched themselves in our culture. The number of people who had to

come together to make this movie happen after his death is incredible and a testament to how loved he was.

Overall, this is a ridiculous, epic, authentic and somewhat insane addition to the *Fast & Furious* franchise. If you're looking for sexy humans, sexy cars, fights and explosions, then this is the movie you've been waiting for. The gritty and the glamorous combine in *Furious 7*, with amazing results.

A new era for The Young Novelists



BOBBYISMS
BOBBY FOLEY

I write about random things a lot. I write a lot about random things. On a hot summer evening in 2014, The Young Novelists gathered together a small group of friends, insiders and network contacts and held a listening party in Toronto to share material they had been working on for a new album.

The gathering was abuzz from start to finish; the band – fronted by Graydon James and Laura Spink and rounded out by Shawn Jurek, Mike Paddags, Alex Dodd and John Law – mingled with guests, scattered in socks throughout the house with glasses of wine and clipboards to make notes on the music of the evening. Roughly 20 songs, in different states of completion from skeletal demos to rehearsal space recordings, were sampled and weighed for possible inclusion.

The result is finally upon us; new album *Made Us Strangers* is available on April 28. The band prepared the album independently but has launched a campaign through PledgeMusic.com to offer unique pre-order incentives and experiences, from vegan-baked goods to shopping trips to private performances. Get details on those and many more at tinyurl.com/theyoungnovelists.

The Young Novelists are also appearing here in town only days later, performing at the London

Music Club on May 2 as part of its album release tour. The band is supported by local duo The Marrieds, tickets are \$10 or \$7 in advance at the Club. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m. show.

Preceded by the singles "Brothers in the Garage" and "Always Make the Mistake," which premiered at the beginning of March and April, respectively – the album marks a period of transition for The Young Novelists for a number of reasons, including the band's first time working with the notable Toronto producer.

"It was a nice experience having Carlin involved, because he had a lot of ideas," James said. "As much as we're democratic [among the band], we're also pretty insular – someone else comes in out of the blue and has all these different ideas, and you start thinking, 'oh yeah, there are different directions we could be taking this.' That was a good move for us, and it expanded our sonic range."

After the summer listening party, James, Spink and the ensemble used the feedback they received to whittle down the song selections for *Made Us Strangers*. They shared the results with Nicholson, who encouraged them to pursue the tracks for which they felt most passionately.

"He didn't want to limit or restrict our idea of what the album could be, but when we got down to individual songs he was like, 'let's change this, let's move this around, let's put that there,'" James said. "Which is kind of a good thing – as a group we have our story, and he's just trying to help us tell it in the best way."



CREDIT: JEN SQUIRES

Graydon James and Laura Spink front the band The Young Novelists, set to perform at the London Music Club May 2.

The year is already shaping up to be a busy one for The Young Novelists, who are committed to a touring schedule that will see them in the U.S. as much as here north of the border. For the more distant shows, James and Spink travel as a duo to be as economically efficient as possible, although their experience this spring and summer may impact the lineup moving forward.

"We've gotten comfortable as a group of six, but two of our band members are moving on to other things – one co-owns a bakery and the other, a teacher, is about to be married," James said. "So there's been a lot of shifting of what the

band is and what it means, it's much more of a transitional time than I thought it would be."

"But that's all post-album; it's not something that fed into what the album was or what we were making at the time, but there is kind of a sense of, 'well, that was one era of the band,' and now we're going to go through a lineup change and the band will just naturally be a different thing."

For more on The Young Novelists or its coming album *Made Us Strangers*, visit them online at theyoungnovelists.com or follow along on Twitter @youngnovelists. The band's PledgeMusic

campaign will extend right up to the album release date of April 28, and pledges of only \$10 will receive a digital copy of the album, direct artist updates and exclusive downloads from the band.

And for the latest music news, album streams and concert previews, follow this column on Twitter @fsu_bobbyisms. This is the sixth school year I've closed on the Interrobang team; I'm thankful to John Said and Stephanie Lai for the opportunity and the rest of the Interrobang team for making the paper look so good in print and online every week. Be safe this summer, I'm out of words.



CREDIT: POLINEF / THINKSTOCK

Take a cue from Macklemore and try thrifting, especially when you've only got \$20 in your pocket.

Thrifting: I'm gonna pop some tags



LISA KELLY
FRUGAL
FASHIONISTA

As the semester winds down – less than 10 days – it's the time of year to start stocking up wardrobe essentials for summer jobs, or for some students, the start of new, full-time employment.

Unfortunately, this is also the time of year when bank balances are running on less than zero. Despite being epically broke, it is possible to find fashion bargains throughout London at one of the many thrift stores in the city. If you're willing to search, you'll be rewarded with affordable fashion.

Here are some of the best thrift stores in London:

Mine 101

Located at 900 Oxford St. E., Mine 101 is a second hand store run by the Women's Community House. The employees of Mine 101 hand select all of the merchandise that is sold in the store; you will find gently used, designer and brand name clothing, accessories and shoes. Like Mine 101's slogan says, you'll look good and feel good too, because the proceeds from cloth-

ing sold at Mine 101 goes towards supporting programs for Women's Community House and the people who depend on it.

Talize

Located at 1345 Huron St., Talize is just a short distance from Fanshawe College. With over 6,000 items arriving each day, and 10 per cent student discount every day, Talize is a thrift store that caters to the students. Much like Mine 101, you'll feel good about looking good, because every purchase helps support Children's Wish Foundation.

Style 360

Located at 360 Springbank Dr., Style 360 is a consignment store with 400 to 700 new, high quality pieces every week. Style 360 carries many brand name and designer clothing items, as well as name brand footwear. Some of the designers the store commonly carry include Marc Jacobs, Michael Kors, Bebe, Chanel, Burberry and many more. As Style 360 is constantly updating its stock, you'll never be bored with the selection.

Mesh Boutique

Located at 204 John St., Mesh Boutique is a consignment store with a vintage focus. The owners of Mesh Boutique only take gently used clothing and they're conscious of the brands they sell. Mesh Bou-

tique is the perfect place to visit if you have vintage style or if you're looking for a unique addition to your wardrobe.

Value Village

With two locations in London, Value Village combines affordable fashion with convenience. For the most frugal of fashionistas, Value Village has a Super Savers Club Card – sign up and you'll save even more. Value Village also offers up to 30 per cent off merchandise for donors. If you're moving out of student housing and need to unload some of your things, bring them to Value Village.

Goodwill Industries

With three locations in London, Goodwill is the place where you can find designer clothes, vintage finds, and amazing bargains. If you're heading to the Horton Street location, be sure to visit Edgar and Joes for brunch – the French toast is divine.

If thrift shopping isn't for you, fear not. There are many department style stores around London that offer fashion for less. Head to Winners or Marshall's to find designer clothing and accessories at bargain prices. The racks may be incredibly messy at times, but if you're willing to dig, you'll find a great deal.



CREDIT: KADMY / THINKSTOCK

It's a messy job, but it's also one that helps to pay the bills. House painting is just one of many options students have in the summer.

Alternative summer jobs to try



JESSICA KLAVER
INTERROBANG

Most of you have already planned out your summers in some sense. Some of you will be travelling, some of you will be lazing by the pool or at the beach and some of you will be working. Although the first two options sound amazing, the latter one is the wisest and will give you a greater return for your time spent. Listed below are some of the top summer jobs for college students to help you make enough money to save for school and have a good time.

Bartender

Hello, tips. Remember the last time you went out and had a little too much to drink? Remember waking up the next morning and wondering where all your money went? Well, being a bartender puts you on the receiving side of that disappearing money. People are generous when they're drinking. Plus, you get to check out all the hot guys and girls from a VIP standpoint (read: you're the one with the booze). Not a bad way to spend your summer.

Being a server would also qualify here, except your tips may not be as good. This is, however, still a good option.

Nanny

Have you always dreamt of travelling internationally? Here's your chance. There are tons of jobs for international nannies, and in most cases, they provide your living arrangements as well as pay you. You will have the opportunity to be

submersed in a new culture and discover a new part of the world. This sounds like a dream job for me – minus the children.

Landscaper/house painter

It seems like every time you walk into a bus shelter there is a poster hanging up looking for students to work in landscaping or house painting. They pay well and you will definitely have saved up a lot of money by the end of the summer. This would be a great job for you if you're the type of person who just wants to buckle down and work hard for a few months.

Customer service rep

Call centres are constantly looking for new people to hire. In fact, I'm pretty sure working at Stream – right across from the college – is almost a right of passage for every college student or Londoner. Seriously, you can go anywhere and find someone who used to work there. And yes, I worked there too. And so did my boyfriend. And my best friend. And – well you get the point.

Farm worker

One of my friends travels the world for months – sometimes years – at a time. When she comes home she is quickly and easily able to find a job working at a farm. It is dirty work, but farm owners provide her with a place to live, and she is able to save up enough money in a few months to take off on her next wild adventure.

These are all good choices for a summer job. There are many other options as well. Whatever you decide to do with your summer, have a safe and happy one. See you all in the fall.



Got a question, concern, or comment about college policies?

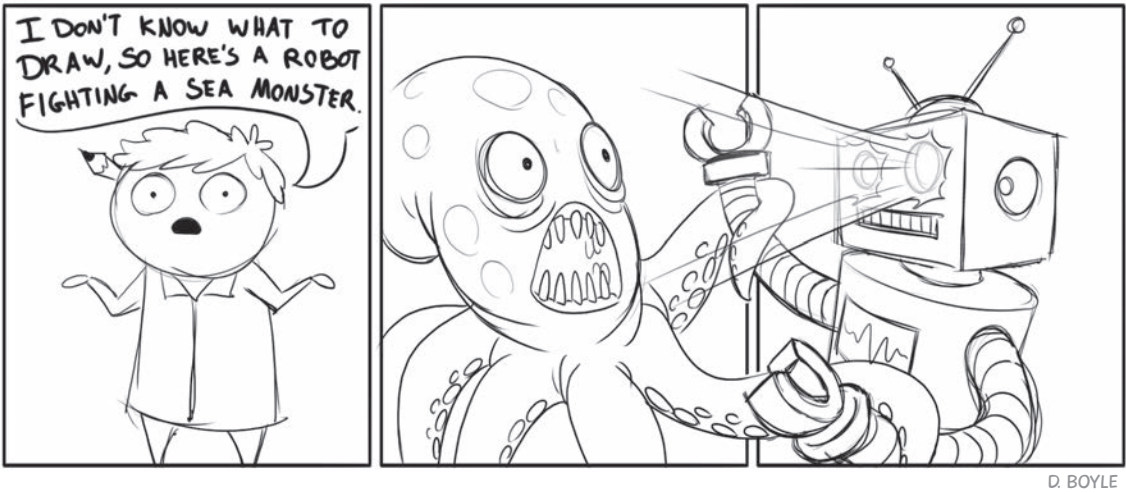
ph: 519-452-4458

fx: 519-451-8831

bog.student@fanshawec.ca

Zachary Benayon

Student Representative to the Board of Governors

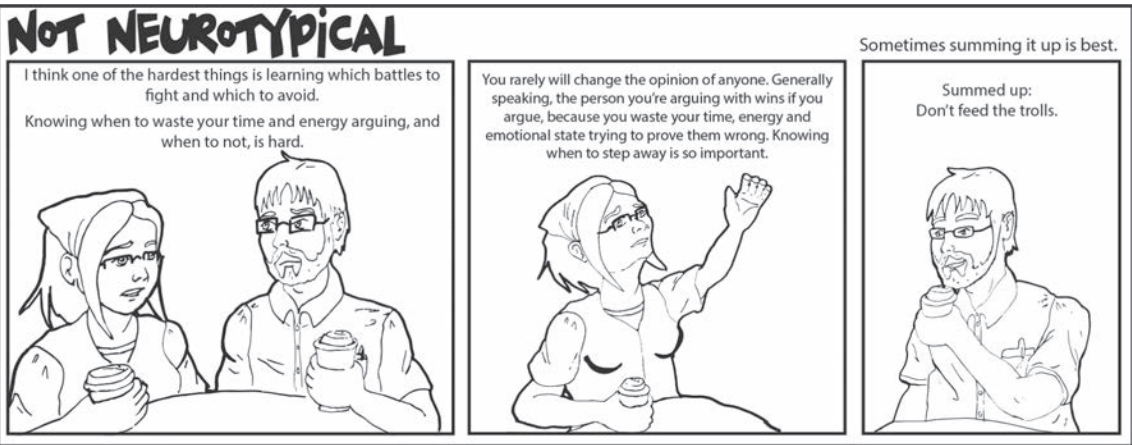


NERDS

WANTS TO ABOLISH WELFARE

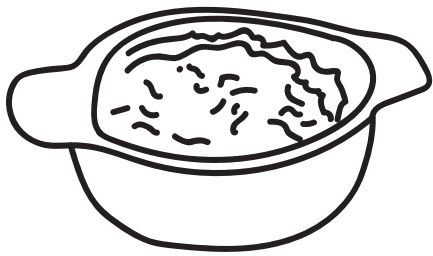


DOESN'T HAVE JOB

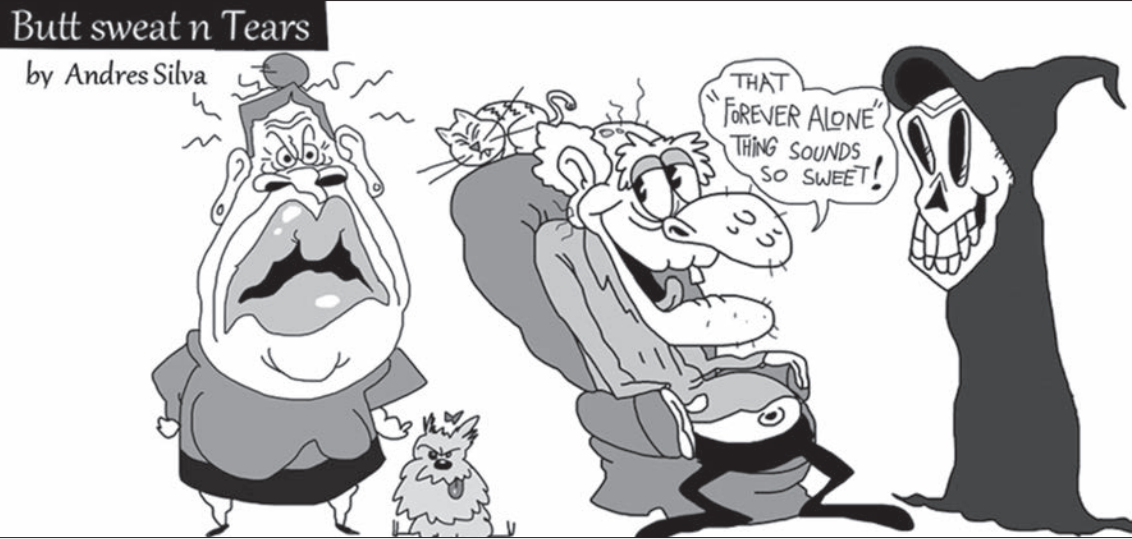
A simple line drawing of a man's head and shoulders. He has short hair, a high forehead, and a serious expression. He is wearing a collared shirt. The text "WANTS TO ABOLISH WELFARE" is written above him and "DOESN'T HAVE JOB" is written below him.

being frank

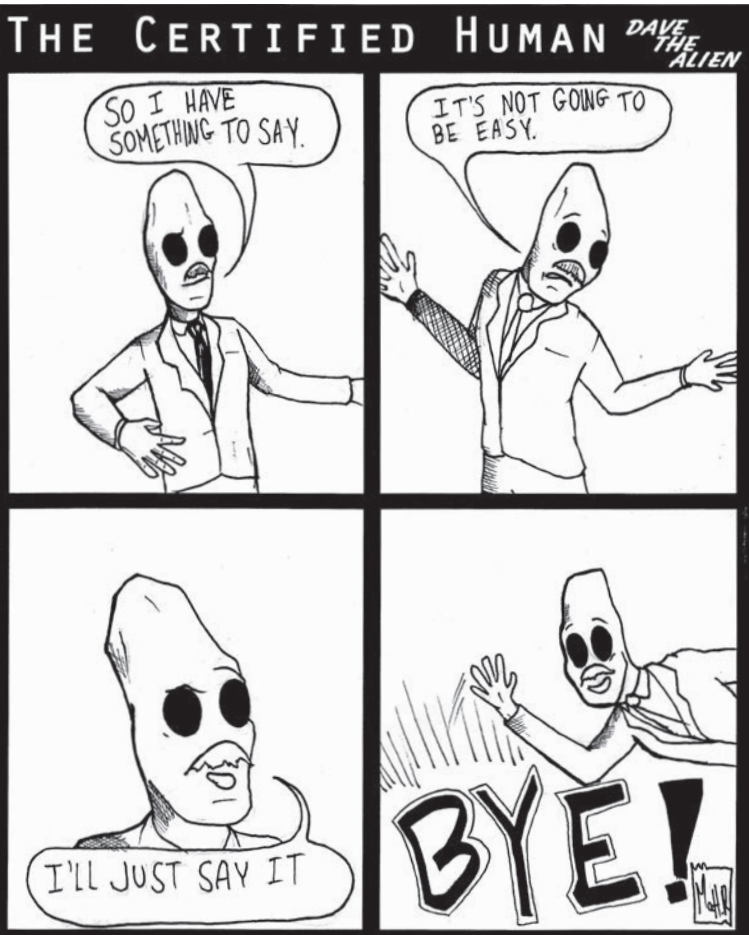
Western University executive meeting



"We're tightening the budget and know that some of you don't mind double dipping."



By: L. A. Bonté For more comics and animations visit FilbertCartoons.com



zodiacstargazerHOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21 - April 19)
Showing up on time is proof that you’re still interested. Aries is often in a hurry, and understands how annoying it can be to wait. Help yourself to an opportunity that’s still fresh and warm from the oven.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)
The week should end differently, than it started. If you need to do some serious unwinding, be sure to let someone else do the driving. It comes as a comfort to know that you look better than you feel.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)
Under the Moon, success and surprise are good friends. Staff your project with people of diverse backgrounds. Synergy springs from a lively discussion with differing points of view.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)
Alliances form out of passing needs and superficial reasons. The friends that you’re making could be wasted space in your address file a year from now. Think before committing all of your resources.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)
Money is the key to major transformations, especially when it’s from somebody else’s pocket. Gifts come with strings attached. If all of this happens between loved ones, it will be easy to restore the balance.

Virgo (August 23 - Sept. 22)
Aggressive people are unwelcome during moments of confusion. If you take without asking, you’ll be punished. If you’re the victim, your complaint will soon be addressed to your satisfaction.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)
Presentation is everything. Dress your ideas in the most fantastic clothing that you can create. There’s a weekend coming, and you’re free to spend it however and with whomever you want.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
Time or budgetary constraints leave you in a sour mood. A few little treats might make up for the big one that you’re missing. Family and friends can help you through a disappointing phase.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You live a life that’s too big, fast or detailed for most to handle or even believe. You’re happy to take the job that no one else wants. Once you find your niche, anything that happens within it is child’s play.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
Review a previous decision. It takes a big Goat to admit an error, but you’re happy to sacrifice pride in the service of truth. Get on the right track, now that you can see where it leads.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
Say the words that everyone else is thinking. Opponents can’t catch you, and wouldn’t know how to hold you even if they could. Reality is just the way you like it these days.

Pisces (Feb. 18 - March 20)
You’re good at what you do and hopeless at most other things. Join a team if you’re not already part of one. Attentive friends and coworkers easily make up for each other’s shortcomings.

Across

1. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Fanshawe ____ rooms upgrading to green bins”

5. Performs in a play

9. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Fanshawe grad ____ digital replica of London”

14. Minuscule amount

15. “Hold it right there!”

16. Japanese cartoon art

17. Give the cold shoulder

18. Head covering

19. Craze

20. Used in cheese making

23. Be mistaken

24. Cash drawers

25. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Government introduces ____ tuition fee payment structure”

27. Pinup leg

30. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Government introduces ____ tuition fee payment structure”

31. “Annie Get Your Gun” star

35. Take by force

37. ____ Scotia

40. Exude

41. Doing nothing

42. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “London to become board game central ____”

43. Common test answer

44. Like chocolate truffle cake

45. Comes down with

46. Santa Claus feature

47. 6 x 9-inch book size

49. Monopoly token

51. “Absolutely!”

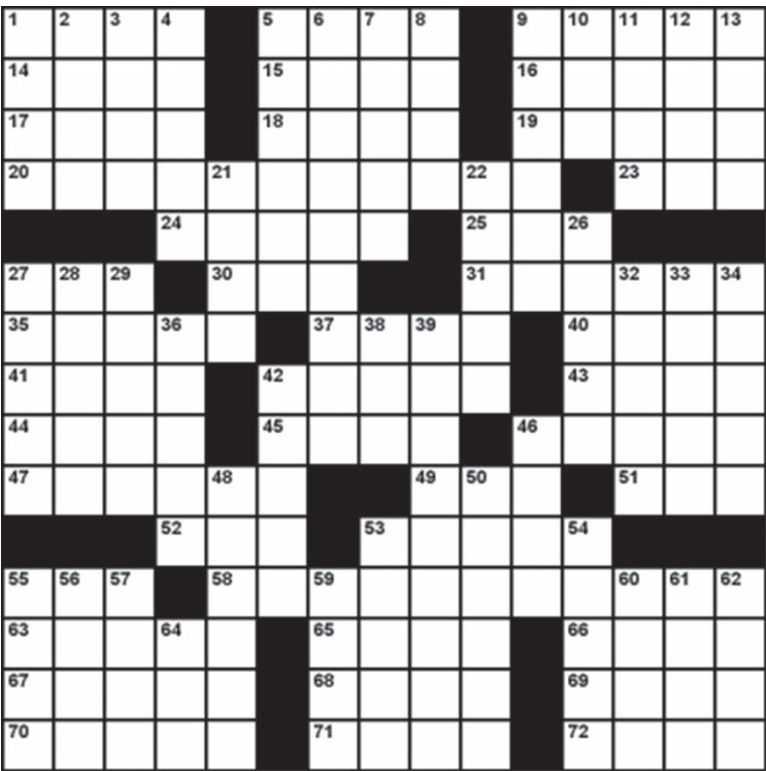
52. Do away with

53. One-eyed Egyptian god

55. Resin used in varnish

58. Printer’s task

63. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Student wins national award and then some”



65. Came down to earth

66. For the second time

67. Walk leisurely

68. Baptism, for one

69. “Don’t go!”

70. Newbie, of sorts

71. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “____, T-shirts and a trip to Peru”

72. Auto part

Down

1. Bit of smoke

2. The best

3. Leave speechless

4. Addiction

5. How long one might stay

6. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Fanshawe medals in CIPF Case ____”

7. Slaves

8. Loose garment

9. Tropical American tree

10. Alicia of “Falcon Crest”

11. Cattle, to Cowper

12. Arab chieftain

13. Blacken on the grill

21. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Fanshawe medals in ____ Case Challenge”

22. Deprive of courage

26. Composed

27. Musical instrument made of a hollow gourd

28. British sub-detection apparatus

29. Swindle

32. Large marine eel

33. Blue hue

34. Can’t do without

36. Doctor’s order

38. ____ grass

39. Resistance of a liquid to shear forces

42. Suffering

46. Champagne designation

48. Clothes coloration

50. Rugged mountain ridges

53. Prefix with centric

54. Hiding place

55. Aladdin’s find

56. Missing from the Marines, say

57. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “Fanshawe medals in CIPF ____ Challenge”

59. Go separate ways

60. Headline from recent issue of Interrobang: “London SHIFTs ____ high gear”

61. In the neighborhood

62. 17th-century actress Nell

64. Confederate soldier, for short

Solution on page 14

QUIRKYFACTS

1. A man from Newport, UK, threw away a computer hard drive before realizing that it contained \$7.5 million worth of bitcoins.
2. Ants have graveyards. A unique odor given off by the dead ant informs its comrades that it’s dead and they subsequently move it to an ant ‘graveyard.’
3. There’s an Iranian man, called Amou Haji, whose skin has turned black because he hasn’t washed for over 60 years. Also, he smokes animal faeces.
4. Dracula simia and dracula gigas are species of orchids that look strikingly similar to a monkey’s face.
5. Studies show that financially stable men prefer smaller breasts.
6. The gas that gives rotten eggs

their distinctive foul smell may slow ageing and block damaging chemical reactions inside cells, according to scientists in China.

7. Redheads require more anesthesia to ‘go under’ than other hair colours do.

8. The world’s shortest man measures only 21.5 inches.

9. There is a village in Ireland called Muff, and they have their own diving club.

10. Children grow faster in the springtime than any other season during the year.

11. The first bomb dropped on Germany in WWII killed the only elephant in the Berlin zoo!

12. The average car produces a pound of pollution every 25 miles!

13. The oldest known animal in the world was ‘Ming’ the 405 year old clam, discovered in 2007.

14. The famous Windows start-up sound was composed using a Mac.

15. High heels were originally made for men in the 16th century.

16. When pitched, the average Major League baseball rotates 15 times before being hit.

17. Women buy four out of every 10 condoms sold.

18. Donald Glover got his rapper name ‘Childish Gambino’ from an online Wu-Tang Clan name generator.

19. Clans of long ago that wanted to get rid of their unwanted people without killing them used to burn their houses down - hence the expression “to get fired.”

20. Many theologians estimate that Jesus wasn’t born on December 25 but sometime in September between 6BC and 30AD.

21. “Fish odor syndrome” is a rare genetic disorder that causes people to smell like rotten fish.

22. The average coach airline meal costs the airline \$4.00. The average first class meal: \$50.

Sudoku Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2 | 8 | | 1 | | | 4 |
| | | 1 | | 2 | 7 | | | 5 |
| 7 | | | 3 | | | | | |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | | | | | | |
| | 1 | | | | | | 8 | |
| | | | | | | 4 | 2 | 9 |
| | | | | | 8 | | | 4 |
| | 8 | | 7 | 3 | | 1 | | |
| | 9 | | 2 | | 6 | 3 | | |

puzzle rating: hard

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means no number is repeated in any column, row or box. **Solution can be found on page 14.**

Word Search

S D S K C A R T E S O O M T R
C U F E S G C L U E I S R C B
O B U T T E R S C O T C H W U
T N P I R O O D H V E N V O B
T E A L A E C M O N D A M O B
O A O I W O K R C Y N N P I L
N P U A B B Y S O I E I L H E
C O S T E S R A L I H B Q C G
A L E R R P O L A C P D G A U
N I I E R D A X T A N O A T M
D T K G Y S D N E R S E N S T
Y I O I S A I D Y A C I F I T
I A O T A M A J U G T E T P A
O N C G Y R R E H C K C A L B
D M A P L E W A L N U T I O N

Ice Cream Flavours

(Words in parentheses not in puzzle)

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| Black Cherry | Cotton Candy | Pistachio |
| Bubblegum | Maple Walnut | Rocky Road |
| Butterscotch | Mint Chip | Strawberry |
| Chocolate | Moosetracks | Tiger Tail |
| Cookies (& Cream) | Neapolitan | Vanilla |



CREDIT: ALLISON PEARCE

This photo is an example of finding beauty in something we would usually overlook.

Five reasons to get into photography



Thinking about getting into photography but not quite sure yet? Wondering, “What’s the point?” Photography has many benefits on both you and your surroundings. Here are five reasons why you should be pursuing photography right now.

1. You notice more
One thing about photography that is quite incredible is its ability to allow you to detach yourself from life and just look. You’ll start to notice patterns, light and textures all over that you would have never noticed before. This will open up a sort of beauty in your surroundings that went under appreciated before. You may even start taking pictures and capturing the beauty of things other people never really quite looked twice at.

2. You capture history
When you’re taking pictures, you’re documenting history. I know it’s sort of a long stretch, but you’re recording what daily life is like in your surroundings. The ability to capture great pictures means you can document your own personal history in a much more beautiful and honest way. Births, graduations and other family events that you wouldn’t normally hire a professional photographer for are now equipped with one. Taking pictures is an excellent way to preserve memories.

3. It’s therapeutic
It’s no doubt that photography, much like any form of artistic expression, can be therapeutic. It allows you to stop and meditate on your surroundings. It gives you the ability to freeze on a moment in time. Taking photographs can detach you from reality for a while. It allows you to pay attention to what you’re drawn to in the world, and allow you to ponder on why. Photography can allow you to discover more about yourself.

4. Time travel
If you’re not a big fan of taking photos, perhaps it’d still be worthwhile to get into observing them. Photographs have an amazing power of allowing you to travel through time. Each photograph represents a moment in history, however insignificant it is. The saying, “A picture is worth a thousand words,” has a lot of meaning. Each photograph can tell a story, and also leave room for speculation to the observer. Looking at photos also gives us a moment to reflect on the beauty of the subject, and appreciate the beauty and diversity here on Earth a bit more.

5. Allows connection with others
Taking someone’s picture is a very intimate experience. You’re capturing a person in their most honest state, and sealing them in time. A lot of people feel very sensitive about having their photo taken. So when an individual allows you to do so, it can be a very bonding moment. The camera definitely allows you to get closer to others.

Kingsman: a defence of violence in film



NEW BRUNSWICK (CUP) — A candlestick through the throat, a knife in the eye, 20 gunshots to the head: these are just some of the 40 gruesome and inventive deaths that appear in an action scene lasting only three minutes in the new film *Kingsman: The Secret Service*.

I loved every second of the action in *Kingsman* and thought it was the number one reason why the film was so fun and enjoyable. Yet every time a drop of blood is shed on the big screen, a group made up of ultra-liberal, humorless, alternative hippies and evangelic, die-hard, Margret Thatcher-loving conservatives come together to form a mob of complainers and bitches. Crying over a movie they often haven’t even seen, this group will try and preach to the public the dangers of going to see a film like *Django Unchained* or *A Clockwork Orange*. Somehow thinking that the public is stupid enough to go see a film involving violence then go home and decapitate their sister while burning down a children’s hospital.

People who can’t distinguish between film and reality are called

children, hence films with extreme violence are only permitted to adults. Of course not every movie requires it, even though the film *Frozen* could have been drastically improved by a scene in which Elsa is mauled by wolves. However, violence is often used as a tool by filmmakers to illustrate a dramatic point within a film, for example a war movie. Saving Private Ryan wouldn’t work as a dramatic, historical, masterpiece if Spielberg had been made to change the hard hitting action we see during the D-day landing scenes. Violence in the movies can also be fun and let the audience relax and enjoy a ridiculous show of gore like the action we see in *Kingsman*. Quentin Tarantino is known for doing revenge flicks: *Inglorious Bastards*, *Django Unchained*, *Kill Bill*. The premise often involves the main character being horrifically wronged in some way and then going on a journey of gore and mayhem. These films make for great cinema and have an extremely gratifying climax, like Hitler being gunned down then set on fire or slave owners being massacred, quenching the audience’s thirst for blood. Yes indeed, it’s peaceful people like you and me

that long to see violence on the big screen. And that’s a good sign.
In fact, I would like nothing more than to get all those media twits that cry and moan about too much killing and violence alone in a dark room where no one can help them and...do nothing to them.
Because I am not a violent person, and the millions of people who go see gory movies on a daily basis are not violent either. If violence in movies did actually have an effect on society, then we would see it constantly.
That’s not to say atrocities don’t exist. Practically every time you turn on the news, it’s some depressing story about a chemical weapons attack in the Ukraine or a massacre in the Middle East. But do you really think ISIS is watching *Rambo* then going out and committing genocide because the film made them think it was OK to kill people?
Of course not. If anything violent movies would occupy the time of murders and terrorists and keep them distracted from committing horrendous war crimes. Start air-dropping Tarantino movies into the war zones – there’s an idea for the UN.

Say It With A Condom

The Consent Project

BRITTANY BARBER
THE DIALOGUE

TORONTO (CUP) — The month of April is widely known as Sexual Assault Awareness month and the Consent Project has condoms that say what everyone needs to hear. The Consent Project is an effort brought to you by SayItWithACondom.com, a marketing-based company that enables the consumers to purchase condoms with witty comments on the packaging. With over 1,600 condom designs, SayItWithACondom.com is large and in charge.

The company started during the presidential election campaign in 2008, with chief executive officer (CEO) Benjamin Sherman, who thought it would be clever to promote the elections with condoms that read, “remember the elections with your next erections.” The slogan was a hit and since then, SayItWithACondom.com has been helping promote the Practice Safe Policy as well as providing comic relief for gag gifts, and developing safe-sex awareness campaigns for non-profit organizations and the government.

In lieu of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Say It With A Condom believes in consent and wants to help promote it. The consent collection can be found on SayItWithACondom.com, and can be purchased for a mere \$2.50 per con-

dom when buying 10. If you’re looking to spread the word and awareness, people can buy the condoms for as little as 0.65 cents each, when buying 10,000 or more condoms.

“ Sex or rape? The difference is a yes ”

The consent collection includes a series of condoms, each with different slogans on them. “My dress does not mean yes” and “Sex or rape? The difference is a yes,” are just some examples of the condoms you can find in their collection. Sexual Assault Awareness month is nothing to joke about.

According to Statistics Canada, one in four North American women will be sexually assaulted during their lifetime, and over 80 per cent of sex crime victims are women, which means that sexual assault can also happen to men. There are very few incidents that are reported to police, in fact, only six out of 100 sexual assault cases get reported.

So if you decide to Say It With A Condom or scream it from the top of the building, you’re spreading the awareness of sexual assault. Sex without a yes is always considered rape, so spread the word and get others educated on consent before it’s too late.

Always get consent before you pitch your tent!

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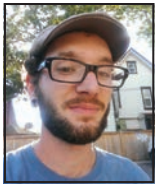
THE MOST TRUSTED NAME IN CANADIAN SELF-STORAGE

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 7 |
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| 6 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 9 |
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| 2 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 5 |
| 4 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 8 |

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| O | C | T | A | V | O | | C | A | R | | Y | E |
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The case of Manchester City

The struggle is real, but whose fault is it?



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It was only seven years ago that Manchester City was on the verge of financial collapse under the precarious ownership of disgraced former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. Stuck firmly in mid-table and less than a decade in the Premier League without suffering relegation, the team was a shade of the side that it is today. Under the stewardship of the Abu Dhabi United Group, the club has since won two Premier League titles and boast one of the strongest and most expensive squads in the country.

Despite all these advantages, the defending champions of England have found themselves in a nose-dive since the turn of the year. The team's only won four matches since January, losing what seemed to be an iron clad grip on second place, dropping to fourth behind Arsenal and Manchester United. The dream of defending the title seem all bust lost, with nine points separating them from Chelsea at the top, a gap that is logically unsurmountable with only seven matches remaining in the season.

Watching a team with the likes of Yaya Touré and Sergio Agüero struggle to draw against the likes of Hull City and Everton and losing to relegation threatened Burnley begs the question of just what the hell is going on behind the scenes.

Generally, such crises are blamed on a new manager imposing his style or new starting 11 players who are struggling to gel with an estab-

lished squad, but City cannot use either of these as an excuse. Manuel Pellegrini won the title in his first season. Sure, last season was an odd one, but he still managed to beat Liverpool and Chelsea to the top while setting a new record for goals scored in a season. Coming into a new year having not lost any key players – and a few minor additions – everyone expected them to be fighting to the end.

Some quarters have looked to blame the absence of Touré, as the crucial midfielder was missing for a month to compete and win the African Cup of Nations, but the major slump started after he had returned. The team managed to do quite well in his absence, and he was in the team for the most recent surprise losses.

The most obvious answer for their struggles is their relative inactivity during the last two transfer windows. While Chelsea and Arsenal were adding the likes of Diego Costa and Alexis Sanchez to their ranks, City spent \$55.7 million (£30 million) on Eliaquim Mangala, who is looking to be an extraordinary flop in his first year. When the best addition to the side is the loan signing of a 34-year-old midfielder, Frank Lampard, something in the transfer process is seriously broken. The signing of Wilfried Bony in January screamed of damage control, but he has only managed to find the net once since his arrival.

With the title seemingly gone, eyes will be turned to how the board reacts and treats the manager. The heads of the club are not known to take disappointment lightly and could be eyeing up a replacement manager even as the season goes on.

On to the next one

JOEL LUXFORD
INTERROBANG

And so begins round two of the Ontario Hockey League playoffs.

Max Domi, Mitchell Marner and the London Knights have moved on to the second round of the OHL playoffs and are now faced with the difficult task of taking on Dylan Strome, Connor McDavid and the Erie Otters.

The Otter's got a bit of a scare but eventually took down their first round opponent, knocking off the Sarnia Sting in five games.

McDavid – dubbed The Next One by the media – led his team with three goals and six assists. Teammate and OHL scoring champ Strome chipped in four goals and four assists of his own. Veteran goaltender Devin Williams showed poise, bouncing back from a terrible start in game four and pitching a shutout in the series clinching game five.

The London Knight's first round matchup against the Kitchener Rangers featured a few bumps in the road but ultimately the Knights prevailed, taking the series in six games. Marner led all playoff scorers by a wide margin in the first round by putting up eight goals and seven assists. The Knight's Domi put up a respectable three goals and four assists in the first round series.

London hopes that the momentum it's built from the recent victory over the Rangers in Kitchener will carry over into their series against Erie.

"They're a great hockey team,"

Domi said of the Erie Otters to the London Free Press. "We know that. They've got a lot of power up front. We've got to be ready – a lot of meetings and video, then we should be ready to go."

Erie dominated the season series between the Knights and Otters, winning five of the six games between the two teams. London's lone win against Erie this season came in a shootout victory back on October 11 that helped propel the team to their eventual third place regular season finish.

But the playoffs offer a chance for a fresh start.

The Knights are going to need big performances from their two star forwards up front if they are going to have a shot at keeping pace with Erie, who finished the regular season as the second highest scoring team in the league. But the real key to the series will be rookie goaltender Tyler Parsons.

Parsons has taken over as the starting goaltender for the Knights since the playoffs have begun. The young goalie has posted a superb .921SV per cent while registering his first shutout of the year last week in London's game six victory over the Rangers.

A perfect blend of timely goaltending and high-powered offense will once again be the recipe for the Knight's playoff hopes.

Catch London at home for game three on April 12 with game four scheduled on April 14. A potential game six is set for April 20 at the Budweiser Gardens. All games are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.



CREDIT: NAUMAN FAROOQ

It's the entry-level luxury SUV that rivals most models in its class, but oh so affordable.

Sorento: Affordable and luxury an oxymoron?

NAUMAN FAROOQ
MOTORING

The original Kia Sorento was the first upmarket offering from this Korean manufacturer in North America. Being an entry-level luxury vehicle, the Sorento showed that the Korean manufacturers could play ball with just about anyone when it comes to quality and driving dynamics.

Its impressive list of features and favourable reviews lead to the first-gen Sorento selling in large numbers. A mid-cycle facelift arrived in 2007, and in 2009, a few more tweaks were made to keep the model fresh.

Rather than just resting on its recent upgrades for a few years, Kia offered an all-new Sorento for the 2010 model year. This model took quite a leap when it came to refinement, equipment and build quality, and the customers surely noticed, as this model went on to become the second most popular vehicle in Kia showrooms. Then, in 2013, the second-gen Sorento also got a facelift while gaining even more technology features.

I love this face-lifted second-gen Sorento. I like the way it looks, I love the interior, and on a long highway cruise, it is quiet, reasonably efficient and provides great road holding. Driving on a frozen highway in January 2014, the Sorento performed remarkably well. This updated second-gen Sorento is just about perfect and will be difficult to improve upon.

Kia begs to differ because the company has now come out with an all-new, third-generation Sorento for the 2016 model year. Has Kia made a good thing even better?

I spent some time with it in Mont-Tremblant to find out. The region was quite frozen. Kia could have flown us all down to a nice, sunny paradise, but the company wanted journalists to drive this vehicle like Canadian owners would and test how it handles on icy roads.

One thing Kia worked on was to improve the strength of the frame of this vehicle. It was a well-known fact that the old Sorento with the V6 motor could tow more than 3,500 lbs. but was limited due to its frame. The 2016 model can tow up to 5,000 lbs. with the same motor, and it can do that because the new shell is much stronger.

The 2016 Sorento can come equipped with the around-view camera system, which turns parking into a video game, and while a regular reversing camera is found on most models, it is unfortunately not offered on the base LX trim model.

There are three trim levels on the 2016 Sorento – the LX, EX and SX. The base engine is a 2.4 litre, four-cylinder motor that produces 185 hp and 178 lb-ft of torque. Power is fed to the front wheels on the base model, although an optional all-wheel drive model featuring a Dynamax system is also available. Next motor up is the turbocharged 2.0 litre, four-cylinder motor that produces 240 hp and 260 lb-ft of torque. This model is also available in front drive or all-wheel drive configuration. The top motor, the 3.3 litre V6 makes 290 hp and 252 lb-ft of torque, and is only offered with the Dynamax all-wheel drive system and is also only offered in the seven-passenger layout. In fact, if you need a seven-seat Sorento, you have to have this V6 motor.

All Sorento models are only offered with a six-speed automatic gearbox. Kia says that the gearing ratio of its box is good enough to compete with the eight-speed and nine-speed gearboxes found in competitor vehicles. I never once wished I had more gear ratios to play with when I drove the new Sorento.

I tested a 2.0 litre model with all-wheel drive and the 3.3 litre model, which only comes with all-wheel drive. The thing that made a good impression early on was how nice the interior style is. This is the kind of interior you'd expect from an

Audi or Lexus, not from a Korean manufacturer that many people think of as an econo-car brand, but you will find it here. In fact, the only cheapish looking trim bit is the plastic cap on the steering wheel that houses the airbag, but that was after trying to find any flaw.

You certainly won't find many flaws in the top trim Infinity infotainment system that features an eight-inch touch screen system. The screen is extremely clear and easy to work with.

The last Sorento was good at covering distances because it was smooth and quiet – the 2016 is even quieter. To do that, Kia employed thicker glass and sound-absorbing aprons in the fenders. You can have a conversation with your passenger, even if you're whispering.

My passenger wasn't whispering when I started tossing the vehicle on an icy, twisty stretch of road, but its traction and stability control system works well, so you have to be a bit crazy to get it to over-steer with all systems on. The feel from its electric power-steering system is a bit lacking in feedback, but the communicative chassis – especially in Sport mode – does tell you what the vehicle is doing underneath you.

Pricing is good also, as the 2.4 LX model can be yours under \$30,000. Just keep an eye on the options, however, as the SX+ V6 AWD model will require \$46,695 plus fees and taxes. In short, the top model is yours for about \$50,000 and that is a lot of money.

My prediction is that most Sorento buyers will spend just under \$40,000 for their vehicle, and for that, you still get one seriously well-equipped vehicle.

Kia has proven that it knows what it's doing; after all, the company has won 50 design awards in the past five years alone. In 2012, Kia sold 77,800 vehicles in Canada. Will the 2016 Sorento be successful in our market? I have no doubts that it will be.

