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INTERROBANG



**DEBATING
SUPER SMASH
BROS.: MELEE
VS ULTIMATE**

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FROM THE EDITOR Hannah Theodore

Hello readers!
Who among us hasn't relied on escapism at least once over the past year and a half? Whether it was perfecting our islands in *Animal Crossing*, or re-watching the entire *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, our geeky escapades have kept us afloat during a period of time that has felt a little more *1984* and a little less *Hogwarts*.

Interrobang's Geek issue has been a recurring theme for years, but one that has fallen to the wayside in recent volumes. But in that time, the landscape of geekiness has shifted irreversibly. Nerds are now the stars of their own Twitch streams, the socially awkward are celebrated on TikTok, and even the most well-adjusted have taken to video games like *Mortal Combat* and *Super Smash Bros.* as a way to blow off steam when options for doing so were scarce.

But this issue looks beyond gaming and movies, and explores other obsessions that many of us "geek out" over. Thanks to the internet, there is a niche for almost everyone, from make-up geeks to travel junkies. While

these geeks don't represent our common understanding of the nerd, their passion and joy for the topics they love fit perfectly into the shared experiences of nerdy fan bases around the world. Move over Comic-Con, today, fans of just about anything can convene at Anime Expo, VidCon, the International Make-up Artists Trade Show, and even Lin-Con, a convention for Abraham Lincoln admirers.

In times of stress, unbridled passion for the things that bring us happiness is a rebellion. As the saying goes, "let people enjoy things!"

And, may you enjoy reading this issue.

Sincerely,

Letters to the Editor: fsuleters@fanshawec.ca

FSU DIRECTORS



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JOIN OUR TEAM

Fanshawe responds to sexually violent threats made on Discord

Hannah Theodore
INTERROBANG

TRIGGER WARNING: This story contains mentions of sexual violence, rape, drugging, and misogyny.

London Police are investigating sexually violent messages posted to Fanshawe's Discord. Discord is a popular online chat space used by the college to facilitate open conversations between students.

The messages, posted in the general Fanshawe chat, which holds over 1,900 users, included threats to spike girls' drinks with Oxycontin at Oasis and Out Back Shack, two popular eateries on campus. The messages were posted around 1 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 15, threatening that the drugging would be taking place Thursday, Sept. 16.

"Trust me gals," read the message. "Ya'll be in dorms on thursday cuz we gonna rape ya'll. Drugged by the drinks at oasis and out back shack."

First-year student Azaria Murphy lives in Kestrel Court residence. Murphy said she was online when the messages began coming through early Wednesday morning.

"I was looking at them and I just didn't know how to react at first," she said. "I could tell that everyone was a little on edge because of it."

Murphy hoped the situation would be resolved quickly, but due to the late hour at which the messages were sent, no moderators were present to filter the threatening messages. According to Murphy, the individual who sent the message, whose username was listed as "Adamxxx-roxx," began adding multiple users in the Discord and spamming them with the same violent message.

"So I had like, 30 notifications of the same message, and I could tell people were really uncomfortable," she said.

Murphy and her roommate then reported the messages to a front desk attendant at Kestrel Court. By the time they returned to their room,



Messages sent to Fanshawe College's Discord chat threatened to tamper with women's drinks at Oasis and Out Back Shack, two popular campus eateries.

CREDIT: HANNAH THEODORE

the messages had been deleted and the user removed.

"I like to think I did what I could in this situation," said Murphy.

In response to the threatening messages, a note was sent to Fanshawe Student Union (FSU) staff around 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15.

"The FSU and Fanshawe College is aware of a social media post with threats to potentially tamper with student drinks in The Out Back Shack and Oasis," said the notice. "Fanshawe Security, Fanshawe Residence, the London Police and our FSU team are aware and investigating the situation. The FSU is committed to maintaining a safe environment for all students and the College Community."

Shortly after the message was sent to staff, the college released a statement via a Twitter thread saying that sexual and gender-based violence would not be tolerated at Fanshawe.

"Recently, we learned of sexually

violent & threatening posts that initiated on Discord," said one of the tweets in the thread. "Our leadership is working with Campus Security Services & the @lpsmediaoffice to identify the individuals responsible. Posts & users have been removed."

FSU President Ricardo Souza said he was outraged at the "horrible" messages.

"Knowing that people might be within us, threatening all our students...here is supposed to be a safe space for everyone, everyone is welcome here, so that's why we are taking this so seriously."

"I'm super proud of the FSU and of Fanshawe because they are taking this super, super seriously," said Souza.

Souza added that the FSU provides support and education to students, through Sexual Awareness events held during the week of Sept. 20, as well as continued reinforcement of the support services

available at the college.

Additional messages seen on Snapchat

Students also reported seeing concerning messages on Snapchat, including an anonymous message stating that "all females are sex toys and objects for men to use and beat when they do not obey their masters," followed by a detailed description of a sexual assault. There has been no confirmation regarding whether the messages on Snapchat and the messages on Discord are connected.

First-year student, Bri Saunders was sent a screenshot of the graphic Snapchat message on Wednesday, Sept. 15. She said she felt scared and disgusted after reading what was said.

"I'm so glad I don't live on campus," she said.

Saunders also expressed concern regarding the messages sent on Discord, adding that she hopes the college is taking the threats seriously,

comparing the situation to recent allegations made at Western University where students claimed on TikTok that 30 women had been drugged and assaulted during O-Week.

"I'm worried because it doesn't seem like Western is doing much about it, so that worries me that Fanshawe might not take it as seriously either, when it's obviously something very serious," said Saunders.

On Thursday Sept. 16, the Ont. government released a statement promising strengthened support for post-secondary students reporting sexual violence or harassment. These changes would require institutions to update their sexual violence and harassment policies by March 2022, in order to shield students from irrelevant questions during sexual violence investigations at institutions and ensure that they can safely bring forward complaints without fear of disciplinary action.

Canadians re-elect a Liberal minority government

Hannah Theodore
INTERROBANG

After a 36-day campaign amid a global pandemic, the Liberals will pick up right about where they left off, with a minority government and roughly the same seat tally they had when Parliament was dissolved in August.

While some votes have still yet to be counted, as of Sept. 21, the Liberals lead in 158 ridings, having already secured 148 seats. Erin O'Toole's Conservatives, meanwhile, are on track to win in 119 ridings - two fewer seats than the party won under former Conservative leader Andrew Scheer. O'Toole's push towards a more centred Conservative Party did not appeal to right-wing voters who held resentment for Trudeau's handling of the pandemic, many of whom instead shifted their focus to the People's Party of Canada (PPC), which currently has more than five per cent of the vote — a much better result than the 1.6 per

cent of the national vote it won in the 2019 election. Still, PPC leader Maxime Bernier lost in his riding of Beauce, Quebec, and the PPCs failed to win any seats.

Leader of the Green Party, Annamie Paul lost in her riding of Toronto Centre, following months of internal unrest within the party. However, Green candidate Mike Morrice was elected in Kitchener Centre, after the Liberal candidate there dropped out amid allegations of harassment. Elizabeth May was also re-elected in her B.C. riding of Saanich — Gulf Islands.

Here in London, there were no surprises, despite a tight race in London — West (which was ultimately won by Liberal candidate and former city councilor, Arielle Kayabaga). Liberal incumbent Peter Fragiskatos held London — North Centre, and NDP incumbent Lindsay Mathyssen, daughter of long-time NDP MP Irene Mathyssen, won in London — Fanshawe with a commanding 43.2 per cent of the vote there.

After a divisive campaign in



Justin Trudeau wins a minority government after calling a snap election.

CREDIT: FSU PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Elgin-Middlesex, Conservative incumbent Karen Vecchio was declared the winner. PPC candidate, Chelsea Hillier, who was notably one of the many protestors present at a Liberal campaign event where gravel was thrown at

the Prime Minister, finished with 11.9 per cent of the vote in that riding.

Results have been slow to come in, as COVID-19 protocols at some polling stations resulted in long lines and longer-than-usual

wait times. No widespread voting issues have been reported though, but because of the influx in local mail-in ballots, the final tallies may still be trickling in days after election night.

Roughly 12,000 attend Western walkout against sexual violence

**Hannah Theodore
& Jessica Gould**
INTERROBANG

A student-led walkout at Western University saw around 12,000 people gather to rally against sexual violence on Sept. 17. Staff, students, faculty and community members gathered on University College Hill to show solidarity with survivors of sexual violence, following reports that 30 women had been drugged and assaulted during Western's O-Week.

According to the Western Gazette, the event began with opening statements which included speeches from organizers, women's organizations and university mental health representatives and sexual violence survivors. Students marched through campus, many carrying signs and chanting slogans like "sexual violence has to go," pushing for a safer campus.

University Students' Council president Zamir Fakirani and his executive team were also present to show their support for the walkout.

The event was organized in response to recent allegations of sexual violence made by various Western students, allegations that have since led to arrests, police investigations, and strict policy changes from the University and the government of Ontario.

The event also drew members of the Fanshawe College community, including second-year graphic design student, Lisa McKaskell.

"I'm here protesting today because of the 30 women that got drugged last week," she said. "Myself and all of my friends have been assaulted at some point or another, we're all survivors, and there's a massive, massive widespread problem with violence against women, especially sexual assault on college and university campuses."

McKaskell's sentiments were shared by many of the speakers at



CREDIT: JESSICA GOULD

Staff, students, faculty and community members gathered on University College Hill to show solidarity with survivors of sexual violence.

the walkout, many of whom called upon the administration to do more to prevent sexual violence and make campus safer.

"If I am drunk and I smile at a man, and he assaults me, suddenly no one is too sure who to hold responsible. 'It's alcohol,' they cry, 'it's party culture,' but it isn't," said soph and co-president of the Red Zone Research Team, Teigan Elliot during a speech.

On Sept. 20, the university implemented new sexual violence training and increased security for all students in residence. There has

been no timeline given as to when students outside of residence will receive this training.

According to the university, students will receive mandatory training regarding consent, personal safety, bystander training, gender-based violence and sexual assault. New safety measures such as adding special constable patrols from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., 15 new security guards and four new special constables who will have the authority of police while on campus, including powers of arrest.

However, many speakers at

Western's walkout argued that the university must do more than what is outlined in the action plan.

"If you truly cared about us, the victims of your institution, you would be doing everything to ensure this doesn't happen again," said one of the survivors who spoke at the walkout. "This includes, but is not limited to, making sexual violence prevention training mandatory for all students and staff."

For McKaskell, the response seen from the administration at Western is one she would like to see implemented at Fanshawe as well.

"I was actually sexually assaulted on a Fanshawe campus a couple years ago and never reported it because I was too afraid of the stigma of what would happen if I let that be known," said McKaskell. "We have such a strong international population, we've got people coming in from all over the world. We should have a common standard for practice, so that everybody knows how to treat people. Especially for Fanshawe, we need to be setting a social standard for safety."

With files from the Western Gazette.

Western mourns death of first-year student assaulted near campus, second suspect wanted

Gazette News
GAZETTE

First-year student Gabriel Neil, succumbed to injuries and died Sunday after being violently

assaulted near Western's campus on Sept. 11.

Neil, a first-year Health Sciences student studying Kinesiology, died in hospital Sunday night. Police have arrested and charged 21-year-old Aliyan Ahmed with one count

of manslaughter in connection to the incident. Ahmed has since been released on bail.

London police have also released a Canada-wide search warrant for the arrest of 19-year-old Haroun Raselma in connection to the death of Neil. Raselma is charged with one count of manslaughter.

According to police, the homicide occurred at the intersection of Western Road and Sarnia Road — near the Western Student Recreation Centre. Officers found Neil suffering serious injuries and transported him to hospital where he remained in critical condition until his death. The investigation is now deemed a homicide.

"We are absolutely devastated by the loss of Gabe," said a representative of Neil's family in a statement. "He was a gentle and kind soul who made friends wherever he went."

The family said Neil hoped to become a doctor.

"We were devastated to learn



CREDIT: TAYLOR LASOTA (GAZETTE)

Western Rd. and Sarnia is a busy intersection on campus.

of the death of Western University student Gabriel Neil over the weekend," said university president Alan Shepard in a statement. "The Western community is grieving this tragic loss and we are heartbroken

for his family, friends and all who knew him."

Shepard said counselling services are available to support students, faculty and staff during this time.



**Have any questions
or comments about
Fanshawe's Mission, Vision,
Values or board policies?**

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Tom Hutchison-Hounsell

Student Representative to
The Board of Governors



Students and staff gathered in Merlin Field to protest against threats of sexual violence.

CREDIT: BRENDAN BEAMISH

Western mandates sexual violence training and bolsters security



Western's Ontario Hall, Mar. 9, 2018.

CREDIT: JORDAN MCGAVIN (GAZETTE)

Fanshawe comes together to "Take Back Our Campus"

Jessica Gould
INTERROBANG

In an event organized in 48 hours, Fanshawe's Merlin Field became a ground to stand together against gender-based threats of sexual violence on campus.

As a response to recent events of sexual violence allegations, the Fanshawe Student Union (FSU), in partnership with Sexual Violence Prevention Advisor, Leah Marshall came together with students to host a Take Back Our Campus walk.

Blue shirts with 'Take Back Our Campus' filled the grass of Merlin Field, with markers handed out to create signs for the march that followed through the campus.

Marshall stood in support of students who have experienced sexual violence.

"The main focus is to come together as a community, and for survivors to know that there are supports available on campus as well as to help stand together as a community to help stand together against sexual violence."

Marshall noted that many students arriving to college have

already experienced sexual assault. "Part of our programming is that we run one to three events every month, whether it be supportive events for survivors because we know many students come to college and they've already experienced sexual violence, not only just experience it on campus. We definitely want to hear from students about what more we can do to support them."

In hopes of moving forward, students are asking for more visibility on finding help with security and resources against violence on campus.

With the event raising awareness and support against sexual violence at school, it brought to light the majority of first-year students like Jaidyn D'Entremont who lives in residence and does not feel safe in a place they want to call home.

"I'm here to protest everything that's been going on and to take action towards making our college campus a safe place for everybody," said D'Entremont. "We are new students, it's already scary enough to leave home, we should not feel scared on top of that to walk around our new home at night just because

we don't know something's going to happen at night, or we're scared to eat here, when that's never something that we would have to deal with otherwise."

A marching line of support with students and staff standing together in solidarity, student Greyson Toombs felt compelled to join the march to show his support for women victims against gender-based violence.

"I feel like there is not enough credibility to how hard it is to survive as someone as a victim of sexual assault," he said. "I am hoping that if there are any more threats, they're shut down immediately and those people get expelled just because there should be no tolerance for that in our society, in our schools, and people should feel safe coming here. People should not have to avoid going out of their dorms, or avoid going out at night."

Fanshawe students in need of support are encouraged to contact Leah Marshall at lmarshall@fanshawe.ca for assistance with next steps on recovery against sexual violence in a safe and confidential space.

Sarah Wallace
GAZETTE

Western is mandating in-person training on sexual violence, consent and personal safety for all students in residence as of Sept. 20. The university will also bolster security on campus in response to this week's reports of sexual assault on campus.

Western University plans to extend this mandatory program to students across campus, receiving training in consent, personal safety, bystander training, gender-based violence and sexual assault. The program was developed in partnership with Western's Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. No timeline has been provided for when students outside of residence will receive this training.

The news comes after reports of sexual assault at Western's Medway-Sydenham Hall surfaced and London Police Service began an investigation.

Western has since announced plans to enhance security patrols on campus, adding special constable patrols from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., 15 new security guards and four new special constables who will have the authority of police while on campus, including powers of arrest.

The university also announced a new task force on sexual violence and student safety will be created.

The task force will aim to "better understand and eradicate sexual violence and create a campus culture where these unacceptable actions are prevented."

"We clearly have a culture problem that we need to address. We let our students and their families down," said Western president Alan

Shepard in the statement. "The measures announced today are the first step in a journey to deeply examine the prevailing culture on our campus and identify what more we can do to ensure the safety and security of every member of our community."

In addition to mandatory in-person sexual violence training, the action plan will reestablish faculty sophs' ability to enter student residences. Faculty orientation leaders were unable to enter residence buildings during Orientation Week due to coronavirus protocols.

The University Students' Council's Foot Patrol will also be reestablished, after being paused due to the pandemic.

The school will also be hiring 100 new safety ambassadors, who will be a mix of upper-year and graduate students, as part of a new program to support students in residence. Their role is currently unknown.

Blue-light phones placed across campus, which allow students to contact emergency services if needed, will be upgraded alongside building alarms, lighting, security card access systems and security cameras.

The task force will take a look at student safety like including gender-based and sexual violence, as well as on-campus activities and programming. According to the university, students, staff, faculty and community partners will continuously be involved in the consultation process.

"We have a lot of work to do as a community," said Shepard in the statement. "Western is taking every necessary measure to ensure our students feel safe, and that all students – present and future – have a community they can trust."

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September is world Duchenne awareness month

Ian Indiano
INTERROBANG

In 1980, right here in London, Jesse Davidson was born. He was the middle child of John and Sherene Davidson. During his first years, he had the life every boy should have, growing up happy and healthy. At an early age he showed a strong interest for sports and the culinary arts. But it all changed when he was six. Jesse's parents noticed their son struggling to get up from a sitting position and to climb the stairs to his bedroom. After months of tests and many referrals to specialists, Jesse was finally diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD).

DMD is a genetic incurable disorder characterized by the progressive muscle degeneration and weakness. It is just one kind of the many different types of muscular dystrophy, and the most common childhood form, affecting one in every 5,000 boys. The symptoms normally appear in early childhood. As the muscles begin to weaken, the child may have difficulty jumping or going up stairs. Other symptoms may include the child stumbling or walking on their tiptoes. Duchenne affects mainly boys, because the DMD gene is found on the X-chromosome, and it is one of the most severe forms of the disease.

After Jesse's diagnosis, the life of the Davidsons changed dramatically. But it was only the beginning of their story. John and Sherene knew that something needed to be done, and that

the only way to find a cure would be through intense research and investment. In 1994, Jesse's Journey was founded with a mission to raise research money and awareness to find a cure. In 1995, John pushed 15-year-old Jesse in his wheelchair across Ontario. The journey, which gave the name to the charity, began at the Manitoba/Ontario border, and finished 3339 km and \$1.5 million later, in Ottawa. Three years later, John set out to walk across Canada from coast to coast, this time alone. He finished his journey 286 days later, after walking more than 8300 km. John not only broke the Guinness World Record for the fastest crossing of Canada on foot, but also raised \$2 million for research. Since then, Jesse's Journey has funded more than \$13.1 million in research around the world.

Today, many charities and institutions around the world turn their attention to defeat DMD. Over the past decades, the life expectancy of individuals with Duchenne has increased significantly. Adults with Duchenne are living longer lives and are no longer an exception, thanks to research, new treatments, and discoveries. Because of that, September is considered the Duchenne awareness month, and Sept. 7 was World Duchenne Awareness Day. The date was chosen based on the Duchenne dystrophin protein, which is the longest human gene known. It consists of 79 exons, therefore, 7/9 is the date. Every year during September, thousands of people around the world turn their efforts to raise awareness and research funds for DMD.

John Davidson is an old friend of Fanshawe College (where Jesse graduated in 2001 with a diploma in hotel and restaurant management). Here is part of the conversation Interrobang had with him.

Although September is the awareness month, how can we help during the other 11 months of the year?

"Keeping our internet presence strong and welcoming year round is the key. While we do everything we can to help showcase DMD awareness month, throughout the entire year we need to be that source that is the number one 'go to' place for information, particularly for newly diagnosed families whose world has just flipped upside down. Jesse's Journey strives to make sure these families are assured that they are not alone and that they have found a home at Jesse's Journey."

Now that we are approaching the end of the pandemic, what are your hopes for Jesse's Journey in a post-pandemic world?

"It's not often that there is a silver lining in something as serious as a global pandemic. Jesse's Journey with a small and dedicated team with strong technology skills was able to adapt quickly and find the benefits in the virtual world that the pandemic gave birth to. Our ability to shift our focus quickly, led to stronger than ever results both in fundraising and connectivity with Duchenne families across Canada and beyond. Having new tools to work with will strengthen our ability to grow in the future, while we closely monitor the time when we can reconnect with families in person at Family Forums across the country. The value in that kind of personal connection is beyond measurable."

Jesse's memory and legacy remains very much alive and stronger than ever. How can people learn more about his incredible story?

"Jesse lives on in everything we do in pursuit of a treatment and ultimately a cure for Duchenne. The Jesse's Journey website is an excellent source of information that is constantly updated with research information. The story of how Jesse's Journey evolved and what happened following our time on the road can be found at YouTube (A Journey of Hope – Jesse's Journey 20th Anniversary Documentary, 2018). This 19 minute biography illustrates what can happen when people set out to make a difference."



ian.indiano

Here are all the ways students can travel out of London without a car

Hannah Theodore
INTERROBANG

Ever since Greyhound announced that it would be halting its service across Canada in May, students and Londoners alike have been desperate for alternative options to get them in and out of the city. Luckily, many options have begun cropping up, with the hope of replacing what was once one of the easiest and most affordable ways to get between cities in Ont. without a vehicle.

The Megabus

Popular in Europe for its cheap and comfortable bus travel, Megabus has been steadily increasing its service across Canada since it launched here in 2009. The Megabus had long been an option for travellers going from Toronto to Montreal, but the yellow double-decker buses had yet to make their way west to London until recently. The new route 2740 bus makes two stops between London and Toronto. The bus sets off from the RV Parking Lot at the Flying J at 3700 Highbury Ave. South and drops you off at Union Station Bus Terminal at the Northeast corner of Bay St. and Lakeshore Blvd.

Of course, this option only works if you are able to get a ride to the Flying J (which is not accessible by London transit). However, it makes for one of the speediest options for travelling from London to Toronto, with a ride duration of about two hours and 20 minutes. The bus departs seven times a day, including a 12:45 p.m. pick-up at Western University. At just \$24.99 a ticket, it is also the cheapest option we know of right now for travelling from London to Toronto.

The GO train

Beginning Oct. 18, the GO train will finally make its way to London

after much anticipation. On Sept. 15, the Ont. government announced that it would be expanding GO train service to southwestern Ontario with weekday trips between London and Toronto. The new service will also connect customers to Stratford and St. Marys using GO Transit services. According to the province, the pilot project will include one trip leaving from London in the early morning, and one return trip in the evening. The new service will extend beyond GO Transit's Kitchener line and also include stops in St. Marys and Stratford.

"The people of Southwestern Ontario deserve better access to a safe and reliable transportation network," said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation in a statement. "Under Premier Ford's leadership, we are taking concrete action and keeping our promise to extend much-needed GO service all the way to London for the first time."

The trip is one of the longer options coming to London, with the journey from London to Toronto's Union Station to take approximately four hours. The trains will use current VIA Rail lines and stations, which in London, is located downtown at 205 York St.

Metrolinx has yet to announce a pricing structure for the London-Toronto trip, nor has it outlined specific departure times.

Great Canadian Coaches

While both the above options have their pros and cons, only one service plans to operate stops directly from Fanshawe College. Great Canadian Coaches, a family-owned bus business, will soon be offering weekly trips to Toronto with various stops along the way, including Square One Mall in Mississauga, by way of the Fanshawe College campus. Students can



CREDIT: ELIJAH-LOVKOFF

From the GO train, to the Megabus, many new options for travelling out of London are on the move.

be picked up outside the Student Centre at Fanshawe, but pick-ups will also be available at Western University and in downtown London.

Great Canadian Coaches Sales Manager Bernie Downey said serving students has always been at the forefront of their business model.

"One of the founders of our company, Larry Hundt...he went to school at the University of Waterloo," said Downey. "He started getting involved and doing bus trips and organizing various student trips. He's kind of come full circle in serving students."

More details about the service, including pricing and scheduling are still to come. The weekly trips along with sight-seeing journeys will be launching some time in the next month.

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Off the radar: what's going on in the world

Ian Indiano
INTERROBANG

Technology makes everything faster. Data and information are more accessible than ever. Thanks to social media and the internet, there are no frontiers anymore. We can learn about what happened on the other side of the world just a few seconds after it happens. The amount of information is overwhelming and difficult to deal with. Suddenly tragedies become trivial, and the major news from last week feels like a distant memory today. This volatility of information can also be dangerous, and we are already being exploited and manipulated through fake news in what specialists call the “post-truth” era, where what’s actually true is less and less clear and tangled with “alternative facts,” personal beliefs and emotional responses. However, as writers and readers of the small press, the least we can do is to stay informed and to make sure to check our sources.

Here are five news around the world that you should be paying attention to.

Philippines boxing star to run for president

42-year-old Manny Pacquiao, famous for winning boxing titles in more weight classes than any other boxer in history, is also currently a senator in the Philippines parliament. He was nominated as a candidate by a faction of the current ruling party, which is called PDP-Laban. Pacquiao has already publicly accepted the nomination, but it is still unclear if his faction will be recognized by the Philippine electoral commission. “I am a fighter,” he said. “And I will always be a fighter inside and outside the ring.”

Part of his party doesn’t agree with his nomination, and hope that his nomination will be reconsidered before the election next year.

U.S.A. to fly back thousands of Haitians

Right now, around 10,000 migrants, mostly Haitians, are camped under a bridge connecting the cities Del Rio, in Texas and Ciudad Acuña, in Mexico. Those migrants are the result of a wave of migrants heading north, coming from South America. Although the migrants are mostly Haitians, there



CREDIT: IAN INDIANO

Catch up with these stories from around the world.

are also Cubans, Peruvians, Venezuelans, and Nicaraguans. In response to the overwhelming amount of people trying to cross the border, the US government has decided to send back all the undocumented migrants to Haiti. The flights can be as many as eight a day. The decision is raising concerns about the Biden administration’s immigration policies that seem to be closer to Trump’s than expected.

To celebrate PM’s birthday, India gives 20 million COVID-19 shots in one day

India was hit hard by the pandemic. The country has reported 33 million cases so far, behind only the US in the list of most cases. The task of vaccinating 1.366 billion people

is not easy. However, their vaccine numbers are improving significantly, and the record of administered doses in one day is broken almost every month. On Aug. 27, they broke the record with 13 million doses in one day, and now, they broke it again, on Sept. 17, administering 20 million doses to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 71st birthday. The total number of doses so far is 790 million doses, which means that more than half of the eligible population have received at least one dose, although only about 20 percent of eligible adults are fully vaccinated.

New Johannesburg mayor killed in car crash

Jolidee Matongo became Johannesburg’s Mayor on Aug.10, after

the death of his predecessor due to COVID-19 complications. However, only a few weeks later on Sept. 18, Matongo would also tragically die in a car accident. According to the local media, his vehicle collided with a van while trying to avoid a pedestrian. The accident also killed the other vehicle’s driver and the pedestrian. Matongo’s two bodyguards are being treated in hospital for their injuries. In honour of Matongo, South Africa’s President Cyril Ramaphosa said, “It is hard to comprehend this tragedy, given the vitality and passion with which Mayor Matongo interacted with me and residents of Soweto so shortly before his death.”

Chinese astronauts back on Earth after China’s longest space mission

After 90 days at the Tianhe module on China’s space station, three Chinese astronauts touched down in the Gobi desert in Mongolia on Sept. 17. This was China’s longest crewed space mission, demonstrating the country’s growing capability and confidence in space exploration. While in space, the astronauts conducted several tests and tasks, including hours-long spacewalks. In 2019, China also became the first country to send a robotic rover to the dark side of the moon. Also, the country is in the process of assembling their own space station after being excluded from the International Space Station project.

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The speed of light and glory of God



Michael Veenema
RELIGION

Every week my parents would drive into town and take me to a public library. This was when I was nine or 10 years old. The library itself was located in a strip mall in Burlington, Ont. While they shopped for groceries, I browsed the shelves. I don't remember if a librarian went beyond the call of duty to direct me to science books for kids, but, as I remember it, each week for some months I would come home with books on dinosaurs, or geology, or the stars.

I was staggered to discover that the earth was old, much older than I had ever imagined. I saw pages and pages where, laid out before me, were cross sections of volcanoes and illustrations of the geological layers that make up this planet.

It wasn't that I was uninterested in the anatomy of birds, or the rain cycle, things I was learning about in elementary school science. But the introduction to our planet's billions-of-years development, learning about large ancient reptilian creatures and the fossils they left behind, and discovering that the earth orbits the sun, that the sun orbits the centre of a galaxy, and that the galaxy is one of millions, truly captured my imagination.

Astronomy, more than anything else, held my attention. Especially the speed of light. Somehow it seemed that so much centred around this speed. Faster than a fast car. Faster than sound at 1,235 km per hour. I learned that light travels at 300,000 km per second.

And I discovered that the distances in space are enormous, almost beyond comprehension. Even though light travels unbelievably fast, it takes it eight minutes to travel from the sun to earth. The distance between the two is 160 million km. This got me to thinking. If it takes light that amount of time to reach us from the sun, that means that we are always seeing the

sun as it was eight minutes ago.

But that is, as the saying goes, "nothing." There are about 300 billion stars (or suns) in our galaxy. Alpha Centauri, the *nearest* one to us, is as far away as it takes light to travel 4.3 years. In other words (if my math doesn't fail me here) it is 40 trillion km distant. As it turns out, for astronomers the basic unit of measurement is a light year, about 95 trillion km.

I mentioned our galaxy. On a clear night, if you are not in the city, the chances are you will be able to see it. It appears like a moderately sized band of powdery looking starlight stretched across the sky. You are looking at its edge. That is because our sun, and its planets, including earth, are closer to the edge of the galaxy than its centre.

The Milky Way is a vast spiral disk of stars and dust. The disk is 1,000 light years thick. It is 100,000 light years in diameter. We are 28,000 light years from the galaxy centre. Traveling at 828,000 km per hour, it takes us 230 million years to circle around the galaxy (no wonder we feel dizzy now and then). At the centre of the Milky Way is a black hole.

A black hole is mysterious, but not as mysterious as it first sounds. Black holes are formed, astronomers now believe, when a giant star implodes on itself. When the star collapses, the result is an object that has so much mass, and therefore so much gravity, that nothing can escape it, not even light. Since light cannot leave the object, it appears as a black hole.

There are stars orbiting close to the black hole centre of the Milky Way. Once every 100,000 years or so, one gets too close and is ripped apart by the black hole, feeding it! The movie, *Interstellar*, tries to depict what it might be like to approach a black hole – and why it might be best to keep your distance.

We now have some idea as to how many galaxies there are in the universe. That is because since the 1990s astronomers have been putting extremely powerful telescopes in orbit around the earth. Some of the objects we can now see are seven or eight billion light years away, and even further. The most distant one so far clocks in a 13.7 billion light years away. It is



CREDIT: OLEH_SLOBODENIUK

On a clear night, if you are not in the city, the chances are you will be able to see it. It appears like a moderately sized band of powdery looking starlight stretched across the sky.

considered to be a galaxy and is called GI-z11. These telescopes have revealed that our universe contains somewhere between 500 billion and one trillion galaxies.

One of the biblical poems, Psalm 19, reads this way.

The heavens are announcing the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

These lines are quoted in a book by Dennis Danielson. Called, *The Book of the Cosmos* (Helix/Perseus, 2000), the book is an edited collection of the way the universe has been conceptualized from the earliest civilizations to Stephen Hawking. Near the end of the book Smithsonian astronomer, Owen Gingerich, wonders if he can "prove" that God exists. Maybe not, he suggests. "But do the heavens declare the glory of God?" "I think so," he concludes (page 528).

Maybe you have a geeky interest in some kind of technology, an area of history, a particular sport, a profession, an area of human development, or artificial intelligence. Could it be that the thing or area which you are so very interested in has its own way of declaring the glory of God?

Has the landscape for female gamers improved?

Savannah Bisaillon
INTERROBANG

From the young age of two, I was exposed to video game culture and the environment that surrounds it as my dad is a pretty big gamer himself. When it comes to being a female gamer there has been a lot of stigma and misrepresentation of female gamers.

Right from a young age, us girls are taught to play with dolls and that video games are too violent and are for guys. But for me and my sisters, we learned how to read from watching our dad play *The Legend of Zelda*. With gaming culture becoming more and more accepted as a hobby, and even as a profession, it is time that some stigmas get broken surrounding what it is like to be a female gamer.

One of the biggest assumptions that come with being a female gamer is that we are actually not "gamers." To go along with this assumption, some people like to believe that us gamers will stay away from violent games. To be really honest I enjoy games with violence, games like *Mortal Combat*, *Super Smash Brother's* and pretty much every game where I can kick some ass.

A lot of the times when I play video games with my friends the guys will say, "Oh you play video games?" and most of the time I come in and knock all of them out of the battle arenas. Plus, I want my friends to know not to go easy on me just because I identify

as female, because chances are I am great at what I play.

When it comes to online gaming and gaming in general, I find there is also a lot of sexism and harassment especially for those who stream and upload content to YouTube. United States Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is actually a gamer first and has made it known that she is ranked at Silver III in *League of Legends*.

She has made it known on Twitter that the sexism she has received from having gaming experience has prepared her for what Twitter trolls say and do. In 2020, I remember hearing about a lot of women in the gaming community coming forward with allegations of sexual misconduct through the platform Twitch and how Twitch is a hostile environment when it comes to gender based violence.

In an interview with Insider magazine Erin Marie Hall, more commonly known as Your-Starling on Twitch said, "Misogyny is not just something that's incidental to the gaming and streaming world, it's inextricably linked."

A lot of times people don't even realize what they are saying is sexist. For instance, if I am playing a game like *Call of Duty* that requires a lot of dexterity and aim and someone makes a comment like, "you aim like a girl," what is that supposed to mean?

Then there is the over-sexualization of female characters in games. What I have noticed is most female characters are designed with little to no clothing, whereas most of the



CREDIT: NESTEA06

When it comes to online gaming and gaming in general, I find there is also a lot of sexism and harassment especially for those who stream and upload content to YouTube.

guy characters are fully clothed. It's hard for us female gamers even when our characters are getting sexualized.

For me, I like to use gaming as a way to de-stress from the day and sometimes I feel as if I'm not accepted as one of the lads when I do play games with my guy friends. Sometimes I feel like they are going easy on me or having conversations that I do not feel included in.

We need to demand for better representation and conditions for women in video games and when we see sexism on platforms like discord or Twitch, we must call it out. The way women are perceived in video games has affected how women are perceived in the real world.

As a female gamer, I hope that people start taking us more seriously and start respecting us more as general competitors. Chances are we like to get our hands a little dirty too.



HAVE AN OPINION? SUBMIT YOUR STORY!
Letters to the Editor: fsuleters@fanshawec.ca

FILE EDIT VIEW GO WINDOW

MAKE - UP GEEKS REJOICE! BEYOND THE LITERAL IS HERE



AISHA JAVAID | INTERROBANG

If blending is your favourite type of cardio, then Beyond the Literal is here for you!

When Doug Ford first announced the COVID-19 lockdown, a wave of panic swept over me. "O.K....I can learn to

dance online, I can shop online, I can do school online... but what about make-up, online?" I thought.

Those open days following examinations were the moments I took myself out on 'self-care' dates at the mall. I'd visit salons, retail stores and cosmetic boutiques. In addition to the shopping, I greatly enjoyed the customer service experiences, especially in stores like Sephora and NYX. I absolutely loved when professional make-up artists guided me through makeovers, educating me on special techniques and trends. I also appreciated the convenience of their professional help when trying to locate appropriate products for myself based on my skin tone and skin type.

It wasn't until I finished a series of rigorous assignments and tests that I realized why I truly missed going to the mall. Sitting behind a screen for work, school, and as a leisure activity with limited social interactions was slowly deteriorating my mental health. Applying, watching tutorials, and purchasing make-up online wasn't adequate. As a recent beauty junkie, I wanted to improve my skills and seek professional help with cosmetics.

I began scouring the internet for virtual make-up events on EventBrite, and that's where I found Beyond the Literal. Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m., Naomi Robles hosts free, live and interactive make-up classes. The professional make-up artist addresses all questions, comments and concerns specified by participants. Robles is enthusiastic, clear, patient and unbiased.

Her establishment, Beyond the Literal, prides itself on being open to all levels, ethnicities and ages of make-up enthusiasts. Moreover, Robles consistently uncovers challenges in the marketing aspect of her business. She disapproves of the many stigmas surrounding make-up. Her brand refuses to focus on a specific audience based on traits such as age, experience or salary.

"If I'm honest, for me, it's not even about the make-up," said Robles. "It's about how she [a participant] shows up for herself. How she feels, I want her to feel a connection with her make-up and make-up brushes.

"Those ah-ha moments. It's all about the person who has the brush in their hands, it's always easy to get a professional to do it [make-up]. My favourite thing is knowing that she is hands-on, following the tutorial and is seeing a transformation, not because anyone else did it, but because she did it."

Her goals are to help empower her viewers, allowing them to grow to discover their own qualities and desired looks. She has compared the application of cosmetics to brushing teeth.

"I'm a strong believer in seeing women feel like they can walk into a room and own it with or without make-up," Robles said.

Robles credits her partner, Cesar, for basically presenting the idea of Beyond the Literal to her. Cesar is a photographer and videographer, who is also responsible for recording and editing Robles' work. The pair began with vlogging their adventurous hikes in Colorado, occasionally with models, whose hair and make-up were done by Robles. The nation-wide shutdown occurred in the United States due to COVID-19, and their journeys were restricted.

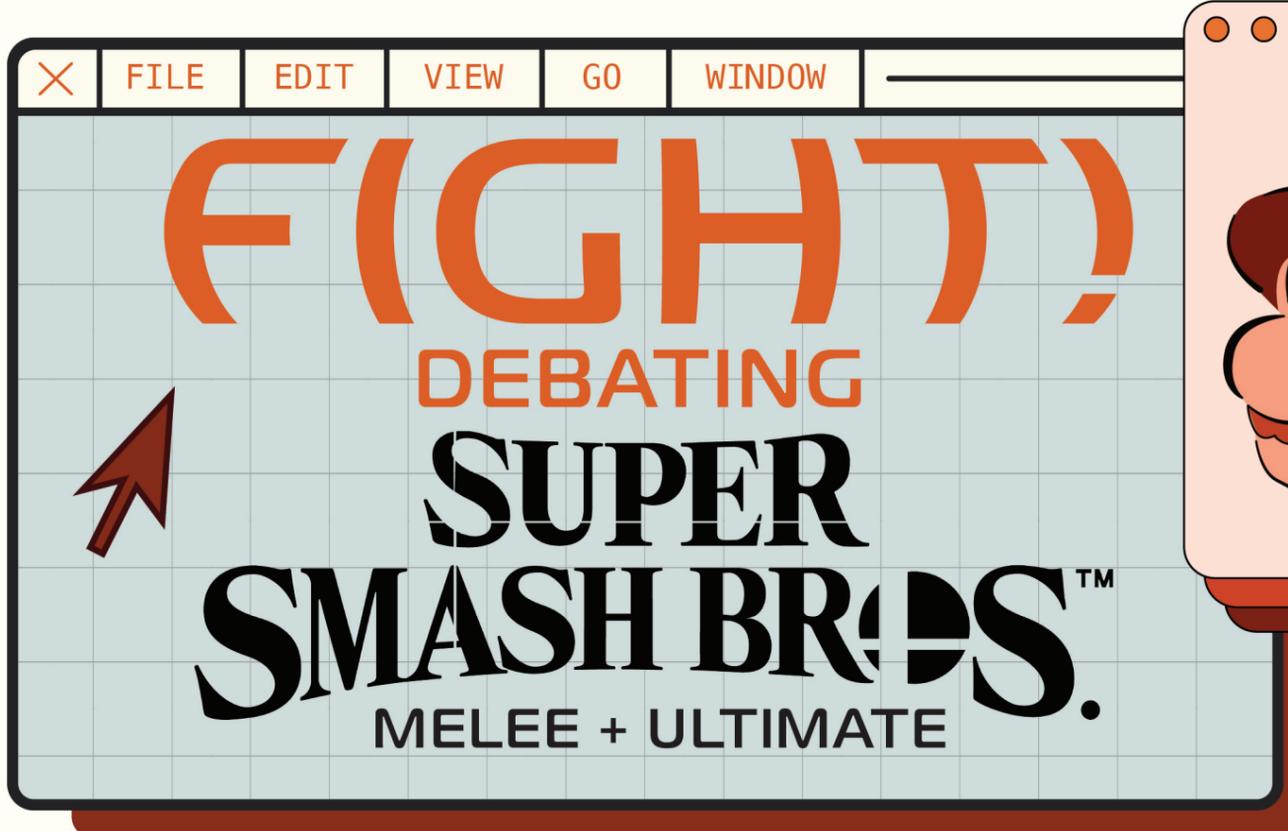
"And then COVID happened, and it was actually Cesar's idea, because he was asking me what women would do now and in the future," said Robles.

Going forward, Robles is in the process of creating online make-up courses.

"I was actually homeschooled in a military family with five kids," she explained. "So, we were all homeschooled. And the way that I learned is kind of how these courses are going to be. You'll get the course but then each week, you will meet with me to review."

Lastly, Robles believes in serving every day, hard-working women. She is constantly thinking about these women and their struggles. Attempting to use make-up to improve the lives of these women is what drives her ambitions.





Super Smash Bros. is a Japanese series of crossover fighting games published by Nintendo and features characters from various Nintendo franchises. The goal is to knock your opponents off the stage and increase their damage. The first *Super Smash Bros.* game was released in 1999 for the Nintendo 64, but the series gained more attention with the release of *Super Smash Bros.: Melee* in 2001 for the GameCube.

Now once *Super Smash Bros.: Ultimate* was released in 2018, a popular debate has arisen regarding which game is the superior *Smash Bros.* iteration. *Melee* has been loved for its fast-paced combos, fluid movement and high skill range, whereas *Ultimate* has been loved for not being as strict as *Melee*.

Ultimate also makes it unclear whether someone will actually lose their stock. From a visual perspective, *Melee* is so fun to watch because the visuals were ahead of its time. Plus, when someone got knocked out, their character would look like it hit the television screen and slid down it before officially dying.

Although there are 17 years between the two games, each is a worthy contender for the title of best *Super Smash Bros.* game. One could say that *Ultimate* is the superior game because of how up-to-date it is with today's current gaming trends. But one could also argue that the added elements can take away from the gaming experience.

When it comes to *Melee*, players find that there are more opportunities for fighting when it comes to combos, hits run, and edgeguards when you choose to move your character and what combinations you use.

Strong moves in *Melee* give you more rewards and weak moves give you less. For your opponent, that means that they will take more damage. One advantage of that is that more damage can be done with weaker moves.

With *Ultimate*, sometimes the moves you make have no rewards because some characters are stronger than others. So it is easier for people to feel like they have more control over the battle when their opponent is playing a weaker skillset character.

Now both games do take a lot of concentration and focus when it comes to a battle. If you slam a button in *Melee*, like you do in *Ultimate*, there is no buffer there to baby you. This means that in *Melee*, there are opportunities to be more precise and purposeful or you could get stuck in your movement. But once you get everything down, it feels a lot faster.

Second-year broadcast-television and film production student, Ben Languille has competed in several Fanshawe Esports events. He has plenty of experience with both *Melee* and *Ultimate*.

"I'd say the prominent difference is the scenes themselves," said Languille. "*Melee* as a community has been going for years and as a game has widely changed within that span. If you take a look at *Melee* in 2021 vs. 2008 you will notice a massive difference in both speed and play overall. *Melee* is a very competitive game with a really chill community, *Ultimate* is very new but much more casual on a whole level."

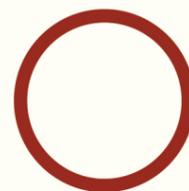
As someone who has played both games, I can see where each side of the argument stands on which game people like to play more. When it comes to *Melee*, I found that people play it more for the competitive aspect, whereas, with *Ultimate*, people play it more for the entertainment.

"*Melee* is a lot faster overall because it has zero input buffer, but it is also very ratchety to people who don't play because of the old hardware and specs," added Languille. "*Ultimate* has two input buffers and has better specs overall, looks sexier and is smoother... but overall, slower."

Esports competitor and second-year Fanshawe student, Greg Church suggested that both games have their benefits, but praised the overall speed and performance of *Melee*.

"On a technical level with the controls, it [*Melee*] directly translates your input unlike *Ultimate* which has a three millisecond delay from pressing the button to the action happening," said Church. "Whereas *Ultimate* has more content (characters, levels, modes), better graphics, and allows for more players (eight rather than four). All the moves have more flare and oomph."

For now, the debate of which *Super Smash Bros.* game is superior rages on, but one thing's for sure: you and your friends will have a great time playing either *Melee* or *Ultimate*.





THE RETURN OF — LIVE — THEATRE

Over the summer, New York City's Broadway was allowed to open their doors at full capacity. When Broadway announced that it would be reopening, dozens of Broadway shows confirmed their returns to the mainstage after being closed down due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Some shows that have confirmed their return to the mainstage are *Aladdin*, *Chicago*, *Come From Away*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Hamilton*, *Hadestown*, and *Jagged Little Pill*. The Tony-award winning *Waitress* also announced its revival with composer Sara Bareillies reprising her role as Jenna. The revival is set to run from Sept. 2, 2021 to Jan. 9, 2022.

With Broadway reopening at full capacity, there are a lot of things to take into consideration. Each theatre will have different guidelines to follow, and they all ask for its patrons to follow their protocols. Every show might have their own set of rules, but all shows require all patrons to be wearing a mask. It is also advised that before attending a show, you should read up on the theatre's guidelines, so you know ahead of time, and if you are feeling sick and unwell, stay home.

What excites me most about Broadway's return is the revival of *Waitress*. *Waitress* is a musical with music by Sara Bareillies and a book by Jessie Nelson based on the 2007 film of the same name. Its original run was from 2015 to 2019. I've always been a fan of Broadway as I am a theatre kid myself, but I am obsessed with *Waitress*. Back in July, when Bareillies announced that the show was returning to Broadway and she was reprising her role, I freaked out. There is just something exciting about being able to go back and sit in a theatre and enjoy a live performance. I remember being so heartbroken in 2019 when they announced that *Waitress* was leaving Broadway.

With popular musicals like *Hamilton* and *Dear Evan Hansen* also making a return to Broadway, you can bet there has been a lot of

hype on social media about how excited people are to be returning back to a norm they have missed. The news is not only exciting for fans of theatre, but also for performers and creative teams, who will be employed once again.

TikToker Hannah Weaver has been documenting her journey as she navigates getting back into auditioning for shows and trying to get back into the spin of things. Being a theatre kid myself, I know that I cannot wait to not only see a play live in theatre again, but to be on stage as well.

The reopening of Broadway is a huge step for the theatre community as it means that there will be more opportunities for theatres all over the world to open back up. It is nice to get a sense of normality after almost two years of doors being closed.

For those who love theatre but cannot get to New York City to see a Broadway show, local theatres are starting to open back up again as well. The Grand Theatre here in London will be having a grand reopening event all month long in Oct.

"I think the important thing is, you know, coming back to this," said Grand Theatre artistic director Dennis Garnhum. "As we reopen, we know that audiences are going to have their own feelings about being among other people. So we just want to really invite people to come on their own terms in their own time, but we're going to do everything we can to invite you back. We're very, very excited about the grand reopening."

The Grand Theatre is going to do everything they can to make sure that attending the theatre will be safe during these unprecedented times.

"The grand reopening festival is a month of celebrating London people," said Garnhum.

We can expect a bit of normality once theatre starts opening up, giving all theatre lovers the comfort and fun they've waited so long for.

GEEKY PLACES TO SHOP ONLINE FOR YOUR INTERNATIONAL NERD STUFF

CYNTHIA KACZALA | INTERROBANG

Sometimes it's hard to get good merchandise from our favourite series/video games that we so desperately want to get our hands on in person, and the COVID-19 pandemic hasn't helped.

Why not try looking for stuff online? Buying stuff from overseas is kind of hard to do if the website is not in your native language. The following list of stores are in English and ship internationally too, so you don't have to worry about the package not being able to reach you.

AMIAMI.COM

This store carries official merchandise from Japan with a range of items, such as keychains, calendars, figures, blankets, clothing, etc. You'll usually be able to find something that you want from your favourite game or anime since they have a large catalogue of series. And they never really run out of items, since it's constantly updating with new merchandise.

You can even pre-order items months in advance and they have a back-order system to resell popular items.

PLAY-ASIA.COM

Its products are mostly electronics- related, like CDs and video games. They even sell game store credit, such as PlayStation Store cards. Make sure to check out the item's information on the page too, since some items are in other languages only.

MANDARAKE

A chain store in Japan that sells used merchandise, basically a digital thrift store. It's the perfect place for getting something cheaper than what you can get it new. One of their main hits is that you can get, for a low price, lots of doujinshis, which are fan-mangas made by fans of an anime/manga or game that usually features the original cast of characters and plot from the source material.

LOOTCRATE.COM

They sell boxes filled with randomized merchandise from pop culture series like anime or video games that are based on a theme each month. Items inside can range from things like pins to mugs to figures. Sometimes they sell crates that focus on one franchise with all the items inside revolving around that series. Most crates have a loot pin included that can be used to unlock bonus stuff. You also can sometimes get a Loot Crate version of an item. These are products that are different from the original in some way.

LOOT VAULT

Mostly a collection of items that were stock leftovers from previous Loot Crate boxes. Sometimes you can even buy whole crates that were sold in the past.

BOKKSU.COM

A Japanese snack version of a loot box. They come with Japanese snacks, tea stuff and a culture guide, which tells you more about the snacks. They have a vegetarian box available and sometimes they have themed ones selling too.

STORENVY.COM

The store is like Etsy, offering both fan-made items and used official products. There is a range of items to buy, such as prints, keychains, figurines, cosplay, etc.

HOBBYLINK JAPAN

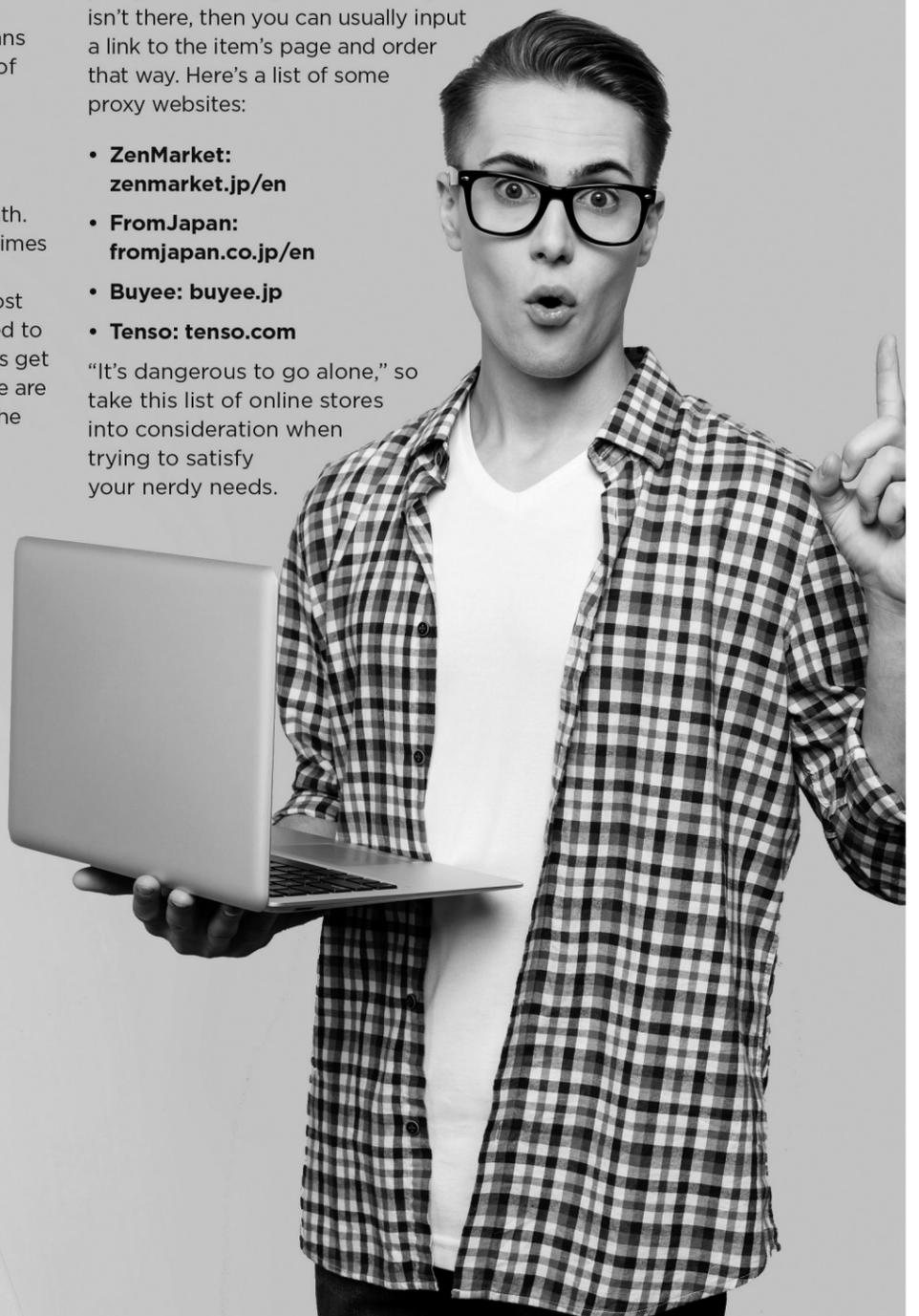
Similar to amiami, however, their products are mostly figure related things, such as Nendoroids and Gunpla (Gundam models).

TOKYO OTAKU MODE

Has a wide selection of items to choose from. The store has literature available in Japanese versions and exclusives from Japan, such as magazines. It also has a lot of apparel items, such as J-Fashion stuff. Proxy websites are places you visit when you can't purchase an item you want because they only ship domestically. For some extra fee they will buy product for you and send it to you. Most sites have some preset stores that you can browse through without leaving the proxy. If the store you want to buy from isn't there, then you can usually input a link to the item's page and order that way. Here's a list of some proxy websites:

- **ZenMarket:** zenmarket.jp/en
- **FromJapan:** fromjapan.co.jp/en
- **Buyee:** buyee.jp
- **Tenso:** tenso.com

"It's dangerous to go alone," so take this list of online stores into consideration when trying to satisfy your nerdy needs.



GET WANDER-LOST IN ONTARIO

AISHA JAVAID | INTERROBANG

Got the travel bug? You don't need to go far to see a lot!

First, let's begin with London. The downtown core of this city offers a diverse selection of eateries, 73 patios, and three major parks. Multiple businesses are in partnership with local post-secondary institutions like Fanshawe College and Western University. These organizations offer a variety of discounts specifically for students.

"We're right on 123 King Street, if anyone has questions, we're happy to help!" said the executive director of Downtown London, Barbara Maly.

Moreover, if you're seeking all the best spots for desserts, pizza, patios, and healthy eats, Tourism London has you covered.

"There's a lot of information on our website," said Tourism London general manager, Cheryl Finn. "Through our website, we try to take every interest and have information available for anyone, with regards to shopping, leisure, and events. We are restricted these days due to COVID, but we have many amazing partners who are still doing some amazing things, like 100 Kellogg.

"Regionally, there are great things to do within a close drive, like our beaches, the Pinery [Provincial Park], Lambton County....that whole blue water area is a great way to have a mini vacation."

Next, we'll uncover a major city, which is nearly a two-hour drive from London, Toronto. From the CN Tower to the Royal Ontario Museum to Toronto Zoo to Casa Loma, this city must be explored. The multiculturalism in the city is apparent from the variety of districts, cuisines, and businesses that cater to over 200 nationalities (blogTO).

Then, not far from Toronto around the so-called Golden Horseshoe, you can find the iconic Niagara Falls. Journey behind the Falls, take cruises within the misty waters, ride in a whirlpool aero car, and explore the streets of Clifton Hill. Besides the waterfalls, this city has some adventurous destinations for an exhilarating experience like the Skylon Tower, and the Butterfly Conservatory.

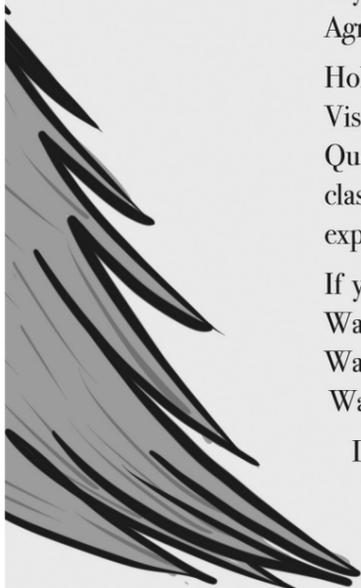
A little further out (but well worth the drive or train ride) is Canada's capital, Ottawa. Ottawa is home to the National Gallery of Canada and Parliament Hill. For those who love history and politics, this city is a must. It offers a wide selection of museums such as the Canadian Museum of History, Canada Agriculture and Food Museum, Bank of Canada Museum, Canadian War Museum, and many more!

Hold on Beliebers, we didn't forget you. Lovers of art, music, and theatre need to explore Stratford. Visit Shakespearean Gardens, Stratford Perth Museum, Gallery Stratford, Agora Gallery, Upper Queen's Park, Gallery Indigena Inc, and many others. Stratford Festival, North America's largest classical repertory theatre company, hosts dozens of productions. Book your tickets and get ready to explore this wonderful city.

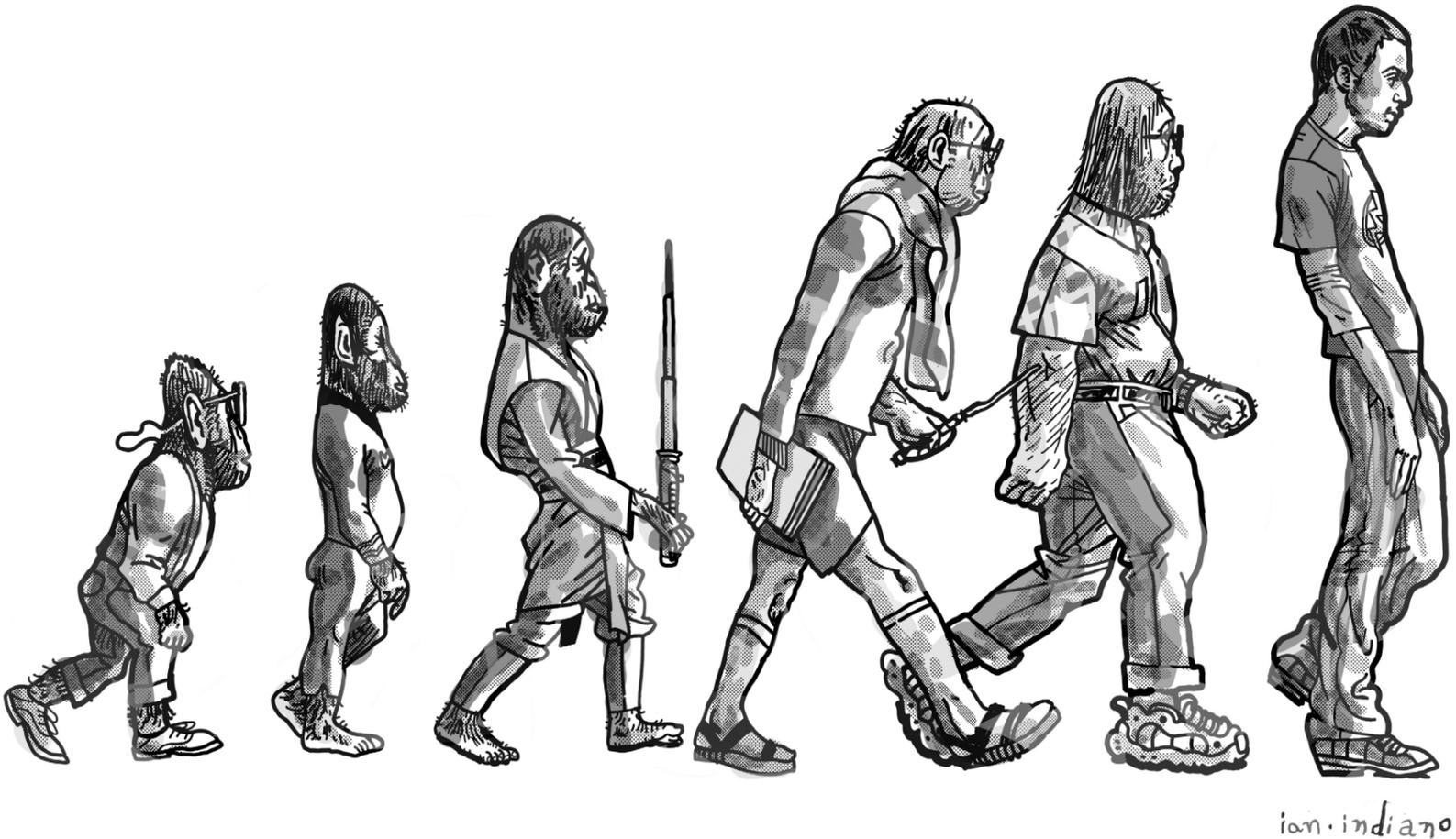
If you're looking for a casual getaway with your boo, then Waterloo is close to you. The city of Waterloo has St. Jacobs Farmer's Market & Flea, THEMUSEUM, Laurel Creek Conservation Area, Waterloo Central Railway, and an Earth Sciences Museum. The city is also home to the University of Waterloo.

During unprecedented times, travelling may be limited, but shouldn't be taken away from you.

Being a hodophile, globetrotter, travel-buff, roadie, and a wayfarer is about exploring new locations and learning about yourself. Be sure to map out your destinations, book in advance, and stay safe. Most of all, have fun and enjoy some of the greatest cities in Ont.



The evolution of the nerd



ian.indiano

CREDIT: IAN INDIANO

The nerd has come a long way, from pencil-pushing punching bag to billionaire public figure.

Aisha Javaid
INTERROBANG

Nerds are never really phishing for compliments; they simply love what they do!

Nerds have gone from once being bullied for having large glasses, braces, buck teeth, and high-waisted pants to today, where that “geek” appearance is a fashionable trend.

The stereotypes and culture of nerds in the media has transitioned from unappealing to motivational and popular. In the past, we had Darwin, Einstein, Newton, Bill Gates, and now we have Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg, and Elon Musk.

Typically, nerds are coined as academically driven, obsessive, socially

uncoordinated, and unattractive.

The likelihood of a young person openly speaking about scientific theorists as being their role models and inspirations was incredibly low. But in recent times, younger generations are publicly comfortable with claiming Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos and Mark Zuckerberg as their inspirations.

There are a few factors that may have contributed to this shift in popularizing these intellectually driven personalities. I also admire Elon Musk and the variety of work that he does. He is an entrepreneur, inventor, and the wealthiest man living today. He’s constantly working with artificial intelligence to allow things to be safer for the environment and beneficial to human-beings. While being the son of a well-known model,

Maye Musk, he proceeded to establish his own niche and uniqueness.

But aside from his work and beliefs, Musk has appeared on Joe Rogan’s podcast, social media networks, and *Saturday Night Live*. He has displayed a likeable and relatable personality on-screen. He appears relaxed and outgoing, an individual many people would enjoy socializing with, as opposed to some previously known inventors, who appeared less open in the media. These individuals also seemed to have strict and stern personalities, which were less likeable and relatable.

As well, today, educational institutions are promoting diversity in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. There are multiple

grants, groups, and networking privileges for women to partake in these disciplines.

In my personal experience, the importance of women in these fields is extremely crucial. For example, in one of my Architectural Technology classes, there were concerns about the designing of male and female public bathrooms. At the time of establishing the number of stalls and the lay-out, the engineers and building designers were male-dominated. Both, men’s, and women’s bathrooms are equipped equally, in terms of the number of water closets.

The study of a female’s biological being, and the duration of her urination time is different than a male’s. Properties like these were not accounted for while designing

and establishing water closets in public institutions. Hence, a key reason why there are larger line-ups for women’s bathrooms rather than in men’s.

This indifference was a key topic in my class and a strong reason why my male professor really wanted more females to partake in studies like engineering, architecture, and interior designing.

Everyone is intelligent, because there is a specific stream of intelligence that suits them best. People who have discovered where their passion lies and which topics they’re willing to constantly research, are able to use their knowledge and skills to profit humanity. Today, nerds are able to use their hard work to help better the world.

Forest City Film Festival returns for in-person screenings

Savannah Bisailon
INTERROBANG

The 2021 Forest City Film Festival is back and featuring in-person screenings. This year’s festival includes a youth film festival and a stellar lineup of industry events, panels, and workshops. There will also be a question-and-answer period with film and music leaders.

The festival will run from Oct. 19-30, and will screen movies with a southwestern Ontario connection in theatres, after being screened virtually last year. In a few weeks, everyone is invited to the Wolf Performance Hall and Arts Project to celebrate film and connect with one another.

“We have to carry on, we have to start to experience community again,” said executive director Dorothy Downs. “Cinema is best

as a shared experience. The films themselves are wonderful and can certainly be enjoyed from home, but for those wanting to see a film on the big screen, with an audience, we are here for that.”

The festival will show over 95 films over the span of 11 days. The line-up features documentaries and short films, but also, for the first time this year the category for experimental film has been introduced.

The annual company session has been rebranded as the Ontario Screen Creators Conference and will move to RBC Place London, formerly known as the London Conference Centre.

The third Forest City Youth Film Festival will take place Oct. 21, with awards to be given out Oct. 24, totaling over \$7000 to be given to young film makers in the region.

The Forest City Film Festival

brings together the work of southwestern Ontario creators, for a juried competition that showcases short films, documentaries and short animations and short documentaries. The Forest City Film Festival presents a selection of Canadian Films each year.

The festival also offers workshops, screenplay competitions and an opportunity for people to network with people in the profession.

The festival will run with an online and onsite experience, offering a hybrid option with all the films being offered through online streaming for five days after the in-person event. To attend in person, you must follow the COVID-19 protocols and proof of vaccination will be required to access venues.

For ticket and schedule information visit ffcf.ca.



CREDIT: OMAR ALVARADO

A Q&A from a previous year with the cast and crew of the film *Prey*.

Nshwaasnangong Centre opens its doors for Indigenous children and families

Jessica Gould
INTERROBANG

In an opening event filled with emotion, gratitude, drumming, and prayers, the Nshwaasnangong Child Care and Family Centre has opened its doors for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Londoners.

Located at 449 Hill Street and operated through the Southwestern Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre (SOAHAC), Nshwaasnangong will be able to offer 88 infants, toddlers, and preschool children by mid-October a safe space through EarlyON programming to focus on culturally relevant education rooted in language and spirit.

During the soft-opening event, SOAHAC Director Jan Martin shared the meaning and focus of the new centre.

“The name Nshwaasnangong means ‘place of the eighth star,’” said Martin. “The name was gifted to our centre in an Anishinaabemowin naming ceremony and refers to the original eighth star in the Big Dipper that fell to the earth and became the Anishinaabe people. The name confers a great responsibility for caring and sharing the gifts of the sky world including culture, teachings, and language, for children and families who will attend the centre.”

In keeping with a focus of an Indigenous world-view, the centre was designed by Indigenous firm Two Row Architect Incorporated to replicate the shape of a turtle in connection with all of the people living on Turtle Island.

The centre features a tiered, curved roof that is lower in spaces for children to reflect protection, and ring-shaped windows close to the ceiling for sunbeams to shine through. While designing the centre, everything created has been intentional to aid Indigenous children in understanding and keeping with an Indigenous perspective through their growth and development.

A lush yard also surrounds



CREDIT: JESSICA GOULD

Nshwaasnangong is the first-of-its-kind centre for London Indigenous children and families for culturally supported education programming through EarlyON.

the building, rich with grass and opportunity for children to gain hands-on knowledge of gardening and agriculture.

“It takes a large circle to raise and support our little ones, and our youth,” said Martin. “Together, our community envisions a creation of a beautiful, bright, and joyful place to honour and express our diverse identities as Indigenous people. We saw a place to rekindle our language, honour the teachings of our

ancestors, and live in a balance with Mother Earth.”

Minister of Education Stephen Lecce expressed pride in the historic London opening for the centre as the project is part of the government’s ongoing commitment to Truth and Reconciliation for Indigenous people in addition to being an investment for early childhood education.

“The launch of the Nshwaasnangong Child Care and Family Centre

will provide quality and free programs for London families, as well as affordable licensed child care, that proudly reflect and celebrate Indigenous cultures,” said Lecce.

Lecce commemorated the project, highlighting the importance the impact of the centre will have for Indigenous peoples.

“You, the taxpayers, invested over \$5.8 million in capital funding towards the completion of this incredible project, in addition to the

ongoing operating funding, to provide families and children with the high-quality opportunities that they deserve with respect to child care,” Lecce added.

For the first-of-its-kind Indigenous centre, a successful 60 per cent capacity has already been reached. Indigenous families who are interested are encouraged to apply through nshwaasnangong.ca/waitlist.

Remembering Norm MacDonald

Amichai Abraham
THE CORD

It came as a shock on Sept. 14 when the world learned of the untimely passing of Norm MacDonald. He was 61 when he succumbed to the leukemia he had been fighting in secret for nine years.

Norm was always a polarizing comedian — you either loved his comedic stylings or hated them. In perhaps his most famous run as the *Saturday Night Live* news anchor for Weekend Update, Norm refused to shy away from hot button issues.

He hosted Weekend Update from 1994 to 1997, often throwing in running and wildly offensive jokes, making him no stranger to splitting the audience.

Most notably, Norm Repeatedly lambasted OJ Simpson before, during, and after his trial. His refusal to cease making such jokes is the main reason he cites for his eventual firing from *SNL*. Despite being let go from *SNL*, he had carved out his niche and had an enthusiastic fan base helping him find success later down the line.

The types of jokes Norm told throughout his career changed as time progressed. While originally he was known for reacting quickly and making snappy hilarious gags, he’d later become known for his long droning jokes, where the funny part wasn’t really the punch-line, but rather everything that preceded it.

While his comedic content may have changed, his delivery rarely did. Part of what made Norm so admired was his deadpan delivery and his nasally voice. He was a common fixture as a guest on late-night talk shows.

He was most frequently on the several incarnations of the talk show that Conan O’Brien had, and on *The Late Show with David Letterman*. He became synonymous with both shows and Letterman once said, “If we could have, we would have had Norm on every damn week.” Norm would eventually be the final comedian to do a set on Letterman’s program.

Norm’s film and television career had some notable moments, as well as plenty of flops. He started his career in the early nineties writing for *The Dennis Miller Show* and *Roseanne*

before being picked up by *SNL* for five years.

His first acting role was with his buddy Adam Sandler in *Billy Madison* (1995). Later, he’d find another side role in *Dr. Dolittle* (1998) and a starring role alongside real-life friend Artie Lange in *Dirty Work* (1998).

Within the world of comedy, Norm was a legend. He was never the most popular comedian of his time, and although his roles as a performer often fell flat, the truth remains; few people on the planet have ever been as funny as Norm MacDonald.

Explaining what makes someone funny is a difficult task, it’s something almost intangible.

Perhaps the best way to exemplify this is by incorporating my own personal attitude towards Norm. Watching random Norm MacDonald clips on YouTube was something I didn’t realize was so meaningful to me until recently. After a tough day, going home and watching Norm MacDonald tell jokes instantly made me feel better, he was my happy place. There have been many times I’ve tried retelling Norm MacDonald jokes with little success. This always confused



CREDIT: THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY

Norm MacDonald hosting Weekend Update on *Saturday Night Live*.

me because whenever Norm would tell the very same jokes, he’d bring audiences to their knees with laughter.

Now going back and watching the same clips I’ve realized, it wasn’t the jokes that made the audience laugh, it was Norm himself. The jokes didn’t make the man, it was the man who made the jokes, and that is something truly special.

Norm battled cancer for nine years and in a true act of bravery,

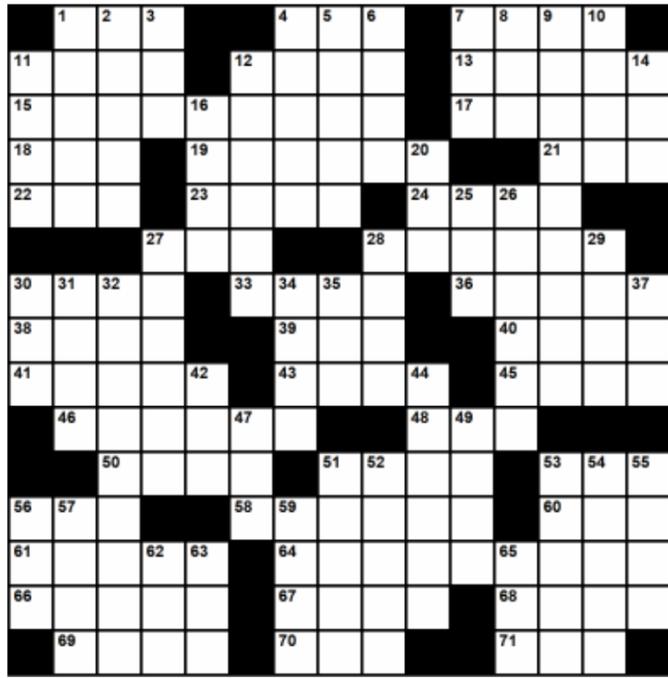
he told nary a soul. Norm actually made a comment about cancer during one of his sets. He talked about how he didn’t really like the wording of ‘losing a battle to cancer’ and thought it was a bit stupid. After all, if you have cancer and die, the cancer dies with you. As Norm put it “That’s not a loss. That’s a draw.”

Norm MacDonald, you will be sorely missed.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1. Store convenience, for short
- 4. Breach
- 7. Fail to see
- 11. Length x width, for a rectangle
- 12. On the level
- 13. Big name in computers
- 15. In dire straits
- 17. Be in harmony
- 18. Picnic pest
- 19. Computer need
- 21. Antarctic cape
- 22. More, in Madrid
- 23. Church service
- 24. Do some cutting, maybe
- 27. Obese
- 28. In harmony
- 30. Computer info
- 33. Yin's opposite
- 36. Errand runners
- 38. Board member, for short
- 39. Aunt or uncle (Abbr.)
- 40. Green shade
- 41. Panoramic view
- 43. Santa's sackful
- 45. Clickable image
- 46. Some are precious
- 48. Tennis term
- 50. Persia, today
- 51. Like most hoopsters
- 53. Type of business
- 56. Computer acronym
- 58. Psychological injury
- 60. Reply to a captain
- 61. Bypass
- 64. Asian country
- 66. Wish to, informally
- 67. Scrape, as the knee
- 68. Calligrapher's supply
- 69. Swann of the NFL
- 70. Superlative suffix
- 71. "Oh, no!"



DOWN

- 1. Hippodrome, e.g.
- 2. Exams
- 3. Detailed plan of action
- 4. Metric units
- 5. Common carriers
- 6. Contemporary
- 7. Hamm of soccer
- 8. Gerund maker
- 9. Like a good war plan
- 10. Caught in the act
- 11. Comic Sandler
- 12. Formal agreement
- 14. Quarterback Dawson
- 16. Mrs. Peel of "The Avengers"
- 20. Strong desire
- 25. Quick swim
- 26. Style of type
- 27. Relevant element
- 28. Not much to look at
- 29. Audition tape
- 30. Actor Patel of "Slumdog Millionaire"
- 31. x, y or z
- 32. Evidence under oath
- 34. Song and dance, e.g.
- 35. Prefix with conservative
- 37. Japanese money
- 42. Upward: Prefix
- 44. Sockeye
- 47. Sockeye
- 49. Social group
- 51. Aquariums
- 52. Sit in on
- 53. Powerful beam
- 54. Pinocchio's problem
- 55. Exemplars of twinship
- 56. Not cooked
- 57. Elliptical
- 59. Stand up
- 62. B & B
- 63. One of Alcott's "Little Men"
- 65. UV index monitor

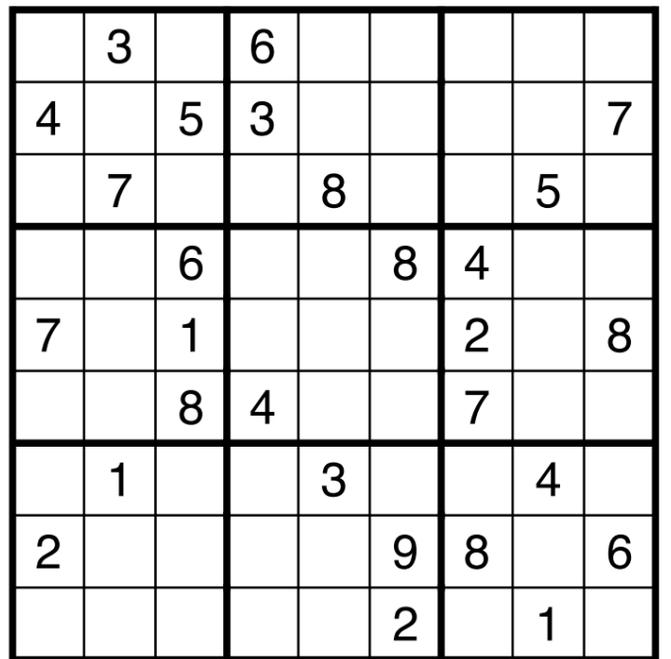
WORD SEARCH



THANKSGIVING

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Stuffing | Mashed potatoes | Pumpkin pie |
| Gravy | Hal | Pecan pie |
| Green beans | Squash | Apple pie |
| Cranberries | Dinner rolls | Corn |
| Salad | Turkey | |

SUDOKU



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.

CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
				12			9						18												

“

10 5 5 23 12 1 10 13 12 25 6

15 12 3 16 15 12 16 2 23 1 10 25 25 6 15 6

23 16 25 1 25 1 12 25 16 17 12 25 1 10 25

16 2 9 16 13 12 26 25 6 20 2 ”

9 10 26 15 10 5 8

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



“All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us.” — Gandalf

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Freshman Fifteen



By Alan Dungo



By Dylan Charette



Aries

Keep your head down and be on the lookout for something that requires your skill set and experience. Stay in touch with people who share common interests and concerns, and you will get wind of a project that sparks your imagination. A chance to partner with someone who has as much to offer in return will transpire. Take the initiative and start a dialogue, and you'll find out if it's possible to make headway. Prepare to act fast once you get the go-ahead. Don't let emotional interference ruin an opportunity.

Taurus

A change of plans may disappoint you, but before you reveal your thoughts or feelings, consider making a positive adjustment that will satisfy your needs. Giving away too much personal information will weaken your position. Look for the best way to use your skills and you'll discover you have more to offer than you realize. Reevaluate a friendship that leads you in a direction that isn't healthy. Walk away from temptation and indulgence and toward physical fitness and a moderate lifestyle. Expect to have a faceoff with someone prominent in your life.

Gemini

Channel your energy into something that matters. Structure and common sense will ward off getting involved in someone else's emotional madness. Don't waste valuable time on something irrelevant to what you are trying so hard to achieve. Align yourself with people trying to reach similar goals and you'll feed off one another. What you accomplish through expanding your outlook and long-term goals will also play into better relationships with people who are instrumental in helping you excel. Expect interference and setbacks.

Cancer

Use your imagination and you'll get ahead. Change the way you run your home. Revamp your spending habits. Being romantic, socializing and taking better care of your physical appearance are favoured. Refuse to let your emotions lead to an argument. Make personal adjustments that will ease stress and keep you from getting into a combative position with someone who can influence your reputation. Choose peace and love over discord. Embrace change and you will be happy with the progress you make. Sport a new look, get into a fitness routine and make romance a priority.

Leo

Look at the possibilities and start rearranging your living space to suit the projects you want to pursue. Be creative, use your imagination and find new ways to put your attributes to good use. Take responsibility and start doing the things that make you happy. It's your life to enjoy, and if you don't follow your heart, you'll have only yourself to blame. Pursue what makes you feel alive, and set priorities to ensure you satisfy your needs. Address issues head-on, and advocate on your behalf. Let go of the past and anything holding you back, and move forward with enthusiasm.

Virgo

Spice up your life. Expand your interests and embrace love; you'll feel free and energized. It's up to you to make the decisions that ensure your happiness. Don't limit yourself by being critical or negative. Pay closer attention to money. Pave the way to a brighter future by paying attention to detail. You'll avoid emotional setbacks if you know everything is updated and at your fingertips. Get physical. Engage in activities that get your heart pumping. Live, laugh and be happy, and everything else will fall into place.

Libra

Do the work yourself if you want things done your way. An improvement at home will give insight into alternative lifestyles and what you can do to improve your relationships. Talks will lead to solutions. Express yourself and follow through. Once you make up your mind, nothing will stand in your way. Get off the fence and sprint to the finish line. Don't let anger set in when action is what's required. Be careful where you put your cash or what you purchase. An impulsive decision will disappoint you. Protect your health, and exercise moderation and common sense.

Scorpio

Keep life simple. A reasonable approach and timeline to what you want to achieve will leave room for innovative ideas to be put in place. Choose to be creative and to follow your heart. Refuse to let someone drive you to distraction. Stay focused on what's important to you, and you won't fall short of your expectations. If you plan to tie up loose ends, you'll require discipline. You'll swing back and forth when dealing with sentimental situations. Trying to let go of things you've been hanging on to will be difficult but necessary.

Sagittarius

Size up situations quickly and distance yourself from anyone playing games. Protect your reputation and challenge anyone who meddles or gets in your way. You'll accomplish the most while in familiar settings that give you space and inclination to forge ahead with an open mind and clear idea of what it is you want. Make yourself heard, and don't back down if someone tries to take over. You can't change the way someone feels but you can set guidelines to protect yourself from those who don't share your beliefs and takes chances that jeopardize your health and well-being.

Capricorn

Live and learn. Whatever you participate in will be a learning experience that will spark your imagination and help you push forward. Refuse to get hung up on something you cannot change when a positive move forward is required. Emotions will skyrocket if you are too open about how you feel or what you intend to do. Take a step back and put all your ducks in a row before you start sharing with others. It will be simpler to make a change than anticipated. Choose the path that makes you happy, and don't let what others do stand in your way.

Aquarius

Don't let hesitation be your downfall when it's time to make a move. Trust your intuition and your ability to assess situations, then act. Take care of unfinished business. What you accomplish will set the mood for what's to follow. You can resolve a money matter or an investment put in place. Refuse to let what others do sway you in the wrong direction. Don't take a physical risk that might end in ill health or injury. Situations will escalate if you lack moderation or let your emotions take over. Don't let temptation be your downfall.

Pisces

Engage in activities or events that are conducive to meeting someone new or bringing you closer to someone you love. Working toward better relationships will help to stabilize your life and your emotional well-being. Romance is on the rise. Keep a low profile and be secretive about what you are doing. Doing something to surprise someone you love will put you in a positive mindset and encourage a lifestyle change that you can enjoy together. Don't hesitate to act, and you'll get the results and the help you need to put your plans in motion.

Discover London's best trails

Savannah Bisailon
INTERROBANG

Even as the colder months approach, there is still time to get out and enjoy some of the natural beauty London has to offer. There are a few hiking trails in London that allow you to get outside and enjoy nature at a safe social distance.

London has some of the best attractions and trails to see. There are a number of trails to explore and with the app AllTrails, it makes finding trails near you a lot easier. With AllTrails, you can find all the trails listed in your area, how deep the trek is, and how many estimated hours the trail will take you to complete.

Some of the most visited trails in London include the Fanshawe Conservation Area, Kilally Meadows and Longwoods Conservation Area. One of my personal favourites is Kilally Meadows. The trail itself is absolutely beautiful and is about a 7.5 km hike. When first entering the trail, I saw a beautiful bridge looking over a watered area.

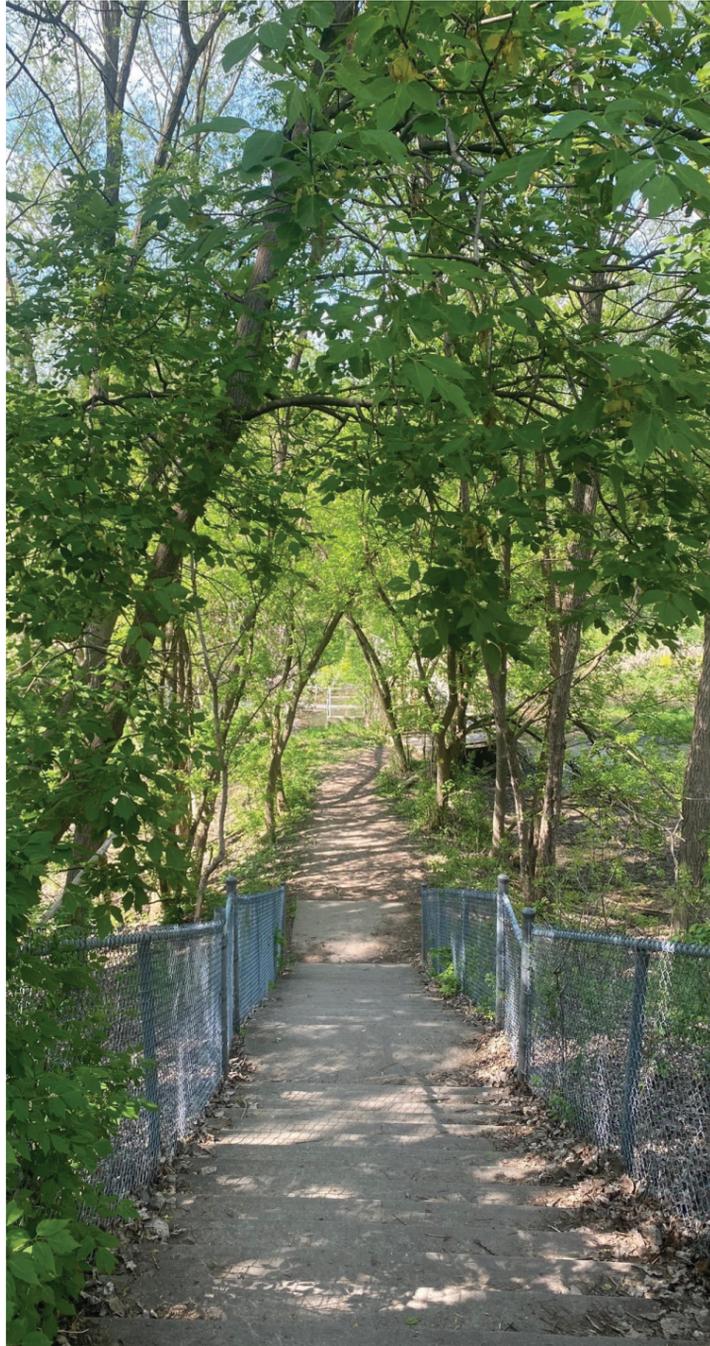
The scenery is absolutely breathtaking and each part of the trail is a great photo opportunity. The layout of the trail makes it easy for you to keep a safe social distance from everyone else as there are multiple paths to follow.

With the scenery and the sound of animals in nature, it is definitely a mindfulness experience. Words cannot describe how beautiful the great outdoors really is.

Sometimes as humans we forget to take time to go exploring, especially now in these unprecedented times. It is important to get out and get some fresh air. I have been in London for three years now and I am just learning about places to see.

With the app AllTrails, you are able to find the perfect trail for your preferred activity. The app gives you the best recommendations for hiking, mountain biking, trail running and more. Kilally Meadows is perfect for hiking if you are not into any of those activities.

Just taking time to explore what the city has to offer and getting outside to enjoy the outdoors is amazing. Nowadays we spend a lot of time working in front of a screen and don't



The Kilally Meadows trails are just some of the many outdoor trails London has to offer.

really get enough time to get out and explore, but knowing there are trails to visit will change that.

If you are a nature lover, I highly recommend going out and checking out some of these trails and conservation areas. The sites are absolutely breathtaking. Bring some water or

pack a nice little picnic and just get outside and enjoy the sunshine.

As the warm weather hangs around, I am so excited to get out more and explore more trails, now that I know there are many trails and conservation areas that I can go to. The app AllTrails even gives you full



CREDIT: SAVANNAH BISAILLON

details about the trail you are hiking on. The app has a map, the weather, and photos of the trails before you go exploring. AllTrails makes planning your hike a whole lot easier. Now that I know of the app, I am excited to start using it more often to plan out my hikes. Overall London has some

exceptional sites to see.

If you are a person who enjoys physical activity or even a person who just likes a great photo opportunity, there is a trail for everyone. Grab your friends or just go on your own and explore what the city has to offer. Just let yourself be one in nature.

Fanshawe softball returns in style on opening weekend

Brad Kraemer
INTERROBANG

After a one-year hiatus, the Fanshawe Falcons were back in action with soccer and baseball Sept. 18 and 19, and the athletes couldn't be more excited to be back on the field. The men's and women's soccer teams travelled to St. Clair College on Friday, Sept. 17 and came out of the gate with a win and a draw respectively. The men's team won their match 1-0 with the lone goal coming from Jalen Loague. The women's team got out to a great start with a tally from Kayla McQueen only two minutes into the game, but saw their win slip away when St. Clair scored on a penalty kick in the 76th minute. Overall, a solid start to the season.

The men's baseball team played in two double-headers on opening weekend and came out 1-3 with their first win of the season coming on the road against Durham, 7-4. Starting pitcher Caleb Burleigh threw two innings with

zero earned runs while getting support from leadoff hitter and shortstop Macguire Gordon who chipped in three hits, an RBI and a stolen base.

The women's softball team began their season with a bang by dismantling Mohawk 11-1. Centre fielder Kennedy Roth hit three triples and starting pitcher Morgan Lowry tossed 11 strikeouts in that game to lead the Falcons to a 1-0 record. After dropping the next two contests by three runs combined, the ladies bounced back with a record-breaking 22-6 win over Seneca. Paige Askew now holds the Fanshawe softball record for RBIs in one game with six runs batted in. Marandee Hunter and Sara Reading also had big games with four hits apiece. After a solid weekend, third-year player Kennedy Roth described what it was like to get back to doing what she loves, even if things are a little different this year.

"It's been so long since I've got to play Fanshawe ball, so I'm very excited to be back playing again," said Roth. "There's a lot of protocols

in place, so things aren't exactly the same. We don't get change rooms, we have assigned seating on the buses... we have to wear masks in the dugout, we don't get water jugs."

The vibe around the school is different this year and there's definitely more energy — if not only because there are way more people around — because with sports returning, so is school spirit. Roth also explained how sports affects school spirit and vice-versa how school spirit affects her play.

"[Fanshawe] works hard so that the teams can have a good name for themselves so people will just want to come to Fanshawe... I think that's a huge part of how athletics has an impact on school spirit," she said. "If your teams are doing well, people are going to want to come out and be a part of it. They're going to want to go to the crowd, they're going to want to cheer and they're going to be in the school, they're going to see other events going on... and it's just a really good way of promoting the school."



CREDIT: MATT HISCOX

Paige Askew gave a record-setting performance with six RBIs against Seneca during opening weekend in a 22-6 win for the Falcons.

On the other hand, "you can obviously notice the difference if there's fans and the crowd is loud, there's school spirit, the mascot's there, you got your walk-up song, your name is being announced. That gets you hyped

up and ready to go and your adrenaline is pumping. It makes things a lot more fun and exciting."

Ultimately, school sports act as a step towards normal life while also giving the school something to cheer for.

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FSU FANSHAWESU STUDENT UNION www.fsu.ca

TRIVIA WISER

TUESDAY SEPT 28TH 7PM

OUT BACK SHACK SIGN UP IN ADVANCE @ FSU.CA

FREE TO PLAY

LOTS OF PRIZES

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Movie NIGHT IN D1060

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

FREE Popcorn!

F9 THE FAST SAGA

7PM D1060

FREE

LEARN TO SIGN WITH US!

Wednesday, September 29th

7PM LIVE ON @ FANSHAWESU

LEARN ABOUT HOW TO USE SIGN LANGUAGE!



REGISTER AT [FSU.CA/EVENTS](https://fsu.ca/events)

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GAME NIGHT

FIFA TOURNAMENT

MONDAY OCT 4, 7PM

SIGN UP IN ADVANCE AT FSU.CA/EVENTS

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DAN LEVY

A VIRTUAL Q&A WITH

TUESDAY OCTOBER 5

7:00PM | ON ZOOM

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