



CREDIT: BACK TO LIFE PRODUCTIONS, LLC

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There are lots of opinions surrounding the newly designed sex-ed curriculum.

**8 Back from the dead**

Our resident movie reviewer tells us what she thought of *The Lazarus Effect*.

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How much should you tip for a manicure or bad dinner service?

# There's a new chief in town

**STEPHANIE LAI**  
INTERROBANG

Deputy Chief John Pare will be taking over as police chief for the London Police Service, effective May 2.

Pare, a long-time Londoner, began his career in LaSalle in 1987. He's in his 28th year in policing.

Being in London, he says all of his encounters with students have been respectful and mostly positive.

"I treat people with respect, and I can gladly say that the majority, if not all the encounters I've had with students, have been respectful," Pare said. "The students within our community are valued."

He says he looks beyond the high-profile incidents London is known for.

"I was out on St. Patrick's Day last year, and kudos to the students," he said. "They were respectful – it was good."

Pare has yet to make his goals public, but says that he wants to continue open lines of communication with student groups.

"I value the input we receive from the community, and the mutual respect and diversity are really important to me," he said. "It will continue to work together to bring forward issues and resolve those issues."

Pare says he will continue to strengthen the educational piece of



CREDIT: STEPHANIE LAI

Current Deputy Chief John Pare was selected to be Chief Brad Duncan's successor, effective May. Project L.E.A.R.N.

"Part of [Project L.E.A.R.N.] isn't solely about the enforcement; it's about the education piece," he said. "We will continue to be proactive in providing the information to new students that living in those residences is about acceptable behaviours and working with their partners in the community to make sure that we can continue down that road."

Pare wants students to understand that police just want an atmosphere of respect in neighbourhoods around the campuses.

"It's about being respectful of your neighbours and mindful of your behaviours," he said. "There are other people that live within these neighbourhoods that may have to get up to go to work the next day or have young children at home."

Pare does remind that most offenses are given to non-students and that university and college students are not targets.

"The large percentage of whether it be a ticket or offence notice or charges relate to non-students," he said. "[Project L.E.A.R.N. is] not about targeting students."

While Pare hasn't been on the streets since he became deputy chief in 2012, he says he will still try to be hands-on.

"I've gone out on foot patrol, or I've gone out on ride-alongs," he said. "It's also important to not get too far from what the front-line officers face with on a daily basis and to see it from their perspective and be out there."

Pare, a grandfather of one, will start his five-year contract as chief in May and says he will request for renewal when he nears the end of the contract.

## Fanshawe washrooms upgrading to green bins

**FRANCIS SIEBERT**  
INTERROBANG

Fanshawe College began replacing washroom trash bins with green composting bins for paper towels and tissues on its London campus on February 27 with the goal of reducing waste production.

While the green bins are only being installed at the London campus right now, the plan is to expand the project to the downtown and remote campuses, according to Mary-Lee Townsend, Fanshawe's sustainability co-ordinator.

The 2013-14 Waste Audit done under the direction of Fanshawe revealed that more than 20,500 kilograms of the college's waste to landfill was paper towels, amounting to 10 per cent of the school's total waste to landfill.

The same study also revealed that 91 per cent of washroom garbage on campus is paper towels and therefore considered a clean waste

stream. A clean waste stream consists primarily of one type of material and is mostly clear of contamination. They are therefore easy to divert.

The problem with paper towels is that they can't be recycled because it's already made of recycled paper, according to *Stanford Magazine*. One alternative is to send paper towels to the landfill, but there, they break down and generate methane. Methane is a greenhouse gas that is more than 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

"You think about the amount of people that use paper towel, so if we, as an organization, can help mitigate that, I think that's a really good thing," Townsend said.

Every year, Fanshawe does a waste audit to see how the school can improve its sustainability.

"It's just a way to remind ourselves every year to keep reducing," she said.

Recently, the college started



CREDIT: FRANCIS SIEBERT

London campus students will start to notice the bins changing to green bins in washrooms.

changing the design of its recycling bins to get more people to recycle.

"We're trying to get all of our bins re-labeled, re-identified and trying to make it easier to understand what goes where."

The college also works with specific departments and areas of the

college to see how each can improve in terms of sustainability.

Townsend encourages students who have sustainability ideas for Fanshawe or questions to get in touch with her at sustainability@fanshawec.ca.



### Sweet Tweets of the Week

What's your St. Patty's Day tradition?

Facebook

**Heather E. Perry**

I like to dress in all green!!

**Sarah Westrop**

Green beer although it's gross, I sacrifice once a year lol

Instagram

**Lauren Schmenk**

@lschmenky  
Shamrock shakes

**Bailey Lowry**

@baileylowry  
Making green pancakes!

**Caleb Trotter**

@c\_trotter2  
Green beer.

**Katie**

@equinekatexo  
Wearing green and green beer

**brl daniak**

@bridaniak  
Shamrock shakes

**Matt Graves**

@matt\_gravess  
Wearing a green shirt and have as many people as possible sign it.

Fred Penner is coming to Fanshawe on March 17.

What's your favourite childhood show?

Answer with a tweet using #FSUInterrobang by 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11 and you will enter a draw for a \$10 Oasis/Out Back Shack gift certificate. Must be a current Fanshawe student to win.

#FSUInterrobang

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‡FREE LUNCH: Contest only open to full-time Fanshawe College students. Offer consists of a \$10 gift card, given out monthly, that can only be redeemed at Oasis or The Out Back Shack during business hours at Fanshawe College in London, Ontario.

## CHECK OUT THIS YEAR'S RESEARCH AND INNOVATION DAY Wednesday, March 18, 2015

### LUNCH AND LEARN PANEL DISCUSSION

11:45 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M. IN THE SCOTIABANK LECTURE THEATRE, T1003

Join London Deputy Mayor Paul Hubert, Glen Burston of Hudson Boat Works and Kapil Lakhota of LEDC as they discuss "The Importance of Research and Innovation to Economic Development". Featuring a keynote address from the honourable Ed Holder, Minister of State (Science and Technology).

### VIEW FELLOW STUDENTS' PROJECTS

1:00 P.M. TO 3:30 P.M. IN THE JAMES A. COLVIN ATRIUM

Support your peers as they showcase their applied research and innovation projects and cast your vote for the People's Choice awards.



For more info:

[fanshawec.ca/research](http://fanshawec.ca/research)





CREDIT: COURTESY OF FANSHAWE ATHLETICS

Fellow Fanshawe students can come out to cheer the Falcons when the college hosts the CCAA national curling championships next year.

## Calling the shots on home ice

FRANCIS SIEBERT  
INTERROBANG

Fanshawe College will be hosting the 2016 Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association national curling championships after it won the bid to host the event at the CCAA Winter Board Meetings on January 12 and 13 in Ottawa.

The college will be hosting the event March 23 to 26, 2016 at the Highland Curling Club in London, where eight women's and eight men's teams will compete. Fanshawe will be guaranteed a spot in the tournament for hosting the event.

"It's very exciting that we are hosting the 2016 CCAA Championships," Falcons skip Shannon Kee said in an email. "I'm excited for the other colleges to come to London and witness firsthand how great and supportive Fanshawe is."

While the Falcons will have home advantage, there are disadvantages to staying home. If students can fit classes into their schedules, they'll go to class.

"It's nice getting away from home," Falcons Curling Coach Barry Westman said. "There's less distractions ... When you're hosting the event, there's still time to go to classes and still time to take some exams during the event."

"They're students first, and athletes second," he said.

Hosting the championship will also be a lot of work for the college, and while the team's spot in the tournament is guaranteed in return, Fanshawe's manager of athletics says it won't be needing it.

"We have the best curling program in the country, so our curling program certainly [doesn't] need any assistance in getting into national championships," Nathan McFadden said.

The Falcons' curling team will also be welcoming a new member next year: associate coach Jordan Ariss.

Ariss was named Fanshawe's Female Athlete of the Year in 2013 and 2012. She won two CCAA gold medals, an OCAA gold medal and an OCAA bronze medal. She was

named to the CCAA and OCAA First Team All Star teams both years.

While Fanshawe has hosted a number of Ontario Colleges Athletic Association provincial championships in the past years, it has not hosted a CCAA championship in over 10 years. The last CCAA tournament Fanshawe hosted was the national soccer championships in 2004.

This year's CCAA curling championships will be held March 25 to 28 in Olds, Alberta, where both the men's and women's teams will be playing.

The Falcon's women's curling team won gold at the OCAA provincial championships this year, defending their title for the second time. The men's team placed third.

Both teams placed first at the 2012 CCAA national championships. The women's team won the gold in 2013, while the men's won the bronze.

"We got a really neat facility in London," Westman said. "I think we could put on a really good show."

## OCAA serves up awards for Falcons

FRANCIS SIEBERT  
INTERROBANG

Five Fanshawe Falcons volleyball team members were honoured at the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association volleyball championships on February 27 as the OCAA handed out their 2015 league awards.

Men's volleyball coach Patrick Johnston was named OCAA men's volleyball West Coach of the Year for the second year in a row. Last year, he also won the OCAA Coach of the Year award.

"It's an honour," he said. "I wasn't expecting it at all this year with some of the great seasons other teams had."

The men's volleyball team under Johnston finished with a record of 12-6, placing third in its division. The team lost OCAA championships quarterfinals on March 1, placing fourth.

"Our staff of four worked really hard," he said. "It's definitely an all-staff award ... and obviously the guys in the court [that] do all the work."

Johnston says the goal for next

year is to improve on this year's fourth place finished at the OCAA provincial championships.

"It's just an award, but hopefully it helps recruit some more players and we can continue being one of the best teams in the OCAA."

Jack Daley, a starting setter in his first season with team, was awarded OCAA West Rookie of the Year, and he was named to the All-Rookie Team. He finished the season with 481 assists and nine service aces.

Stephanie Bignell and Darian Gropp were named to the women's OCAA Second Team All-Star.

Bignell, who played her last season with the Falcons this year, broke the OCAA career block record this season with a total of 239. She had the women's team's most points per set with 2.6.

"It's an awesome way to finish off my career," Bignell said in a Facebook message. "There's a lot of talented athletes in the league, so to be able to be a part of that is a real honour. It's sad to be done volleyball, but I'm really grateful for my time here and to all of the people who have supported me for



CREDIT: COURTESY OF FANSHAWE ATHLETICS  
Stephanie Bignell and Darian Gropp of the women's volleyball were honoured at the OCAA 2015 league awards.

the past five years." Gropp led the women's team in assists, service aces and digs with 238, 25 and 184 respectively.

Fourth-year middle blocker Derek Braun was named to the men's OCAA Second Team All-Star, leading the men's team in kills and blocks with 131 and 45 respectively.

## St. Patrick's Day

What to do and what not to do

STEPHANIE LAI  
INTERROBANG

Historically, St. Patrick's Day is filled with sunshine, above zero temperatures and drinks. Lots of drinks.

Regardless of how you celebrate the day, there are a few things you can do to make the day an enjoyable – and regret-free – one.

The London Police Service will be beefing up patrol for St. Paddy's, but that doesn't mean police will be crashing your party unless invited.

"Don't give any reason to invite us to your party, and we won't attend," said Const. Ken Steeves, media relations officer for LPS. "As long as you're not bothering anyone else."

Steeves says that at last year's festivities, students and Londoners were quite co-operative.

"Even the people that we seized kegs from ... thanked us," he said. "If everyone's co-operative, there should be no negative [repercussions]."

"We're doing our job, and we've got to ensure that even neighbours have the lawful enjoyment of their property."

Steeves warns to stay off the streets, however. It becomes a safety hazard when service vehicles need road access.

"Not only that, but pedestrians don't have the right to take over the street unless they have a permit," Steeves says.

In addition to that, he warns Londoners about having open-door parties.

"There's been times where we have seen known criminals in the area, attending these parties," he said. "Oftentimes, there are several people in the home, and it's very difficult to identify who's responsible, whether it be damage or stolen items."

St. Paddy's festivities tend to start in the morning, and because of this, the Fanshawe Student Union has planned alternative activities. The intent is to give students something

else to do instead of drinking early in the morning.

"[This is] just to give students an alternative to drinking on St. Patrick's Day instead of heading out to downtown early in the day," said Carol Balzer, FSU administrative services manager.

Balzer says these events were put in place due to issues London has experienced in the past. But it's also to cater to students with varying interests.

"We have a wide variety of students on our campus, and we should be providing different opportunities for them besides just pubs and drinking events," she said. "This is a good alternative to get a lot of different types of people involved."

**March 11**  
Comedy Night  
First Run Film

**March 12**  
Annual St. Patrick's Day Pub

**March 13**  
Tim Hicks concert

**March 16**  
Monday night hockey at The Out Back Shack

**March 17**  
Tournament – Table tennis and dodgeball

"It's fun and they get free prizes and T-shirts and food, and they get to be active, and they get to do something they normally wouldn't do on a regular day of classes," Balzer said. Students can register at Athletics

To ensure a fun – but safe – St. Patrick's Day, Steeves stresses what not to do.

- Urinate in public
- Open alcohol in public
- Consuming alcohol in public
- Underage possession and consumption
- Selling alcohol without a permit
- Trespassing
- Drunk in public
- Noise violations

He does have one message for students, however.

"Have fun, enjoy yourself. Enjoy St. Patrick's Day, but do so responsibly."

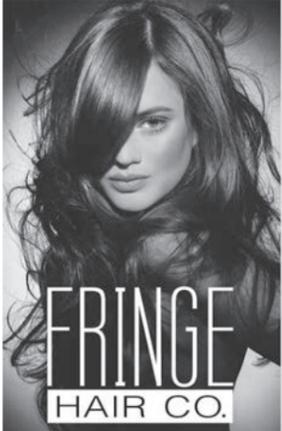
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The American College of Pediatrics published a study that concluded that over half of teenagers have engaged in a form of sexting.

## The politics of sex (education)


**VICTOR DE JONG**  
 INTERROBANG

Few things remain unchanged over the course of 17 years. Cars are more technologically advanced, as are houses, restaurants and relationships. While many '90s kids had cell phones and Facebook in high school, few had it any earlier than that. MediaSmarts released a report last year, which estimated that over 50 per cent of kids in Grade 7 have a cellphone, and 99 per cent of students across all grades have access to the Internet outside of school.

After 17 years of technology changing everything else, Ontario's sex education curriculum was in desperate need of an overhaul.

The current system falls tragically short of equipping young people with the knowledge to engage in healthy sexual relationships. The revised plan was released in February and is being lauded by health experts and educators across the province for being the modern approach to health and sexuality that is needed.

In the digital world that has become so pervasive, kids are interacting with each other by phone and Facebook as much as they are face-to-face. The official journal of the American College of Pediatrics published a study, which concluded that over half of teenagers have engaged in a form of sexting. Far from demonizing the practice, the report went on to say, "This study extends cross-sectional literature and supports the notion that sexting fits within the context of adolescent sexual development..."

It's doubtful whether Grade 11 students sending nudes are aware that they're actively

participating in the creation and distribution of child pornography and could be criminally charged for it. Given the proliferation of sexting, it's crucial for students to be informed about the risks of such behaviour.

Unfortunately, there are still individuals who seem to think that their personal feelings are a better reference point for their children's sex education than the objective research of experts in childhood development and health.

Current candidate for the leadership of Ontario's Progressive Conservative Party MPP Monte McNaughton is claiming that the new curriculum was made without properly consulting parents. Although his statement is demonstrably false, frankly parents have failed at "the talk" since the dawn of time. McNaughton isn't standing up and decrying the education board's failure to consult parents about the calculus or grammar curriculum, and health education is just as important.

Sex education has always been a hot button issue, which is why former Premier Dalton McGuinty shelved his proposed sex-ed plan in 2010 prior to the provincial election. But what are people really afraid of?

The fear of exposing children to information about sex is actually what has created the paradigm of kids learning about sexual norms from the Internet and their peers. Teaching elementary school children the proper names for their genitalia and the definition of informed consent probably won't turn them into deranged sex maniacs.

The vast majority of the new health curriculum is actually about nutrition, exercise and healthy relationships. The reality is that sex is part of a healthy intimate relationship, so the only damage that might be done is to the sensibilities of a fringe group who'd like to believe that their kids aren't doing it anyways.



CREDIT: "YOUNG GIANTS" BY LARISSA SAYER ON FLICKR (CC BY-NC 2.0) / DESATURATED

Where have all the trees gone? In place of tall and mighty trees are buildings and machinery.

## Wheels, gears and levers


**MICHAEL VEENEMA**  
 RUMOURS OF GRACE

During a CBC interview one morning, a guest said that about half of the world's electricity comes from coal. Apparently it is the dirtiest energy money can buy. Coal firing produces enormous amounts of carbon dioxide, which traps heat in our atmosphere. It is a major factor in global over-heating and in the Canadian energy picture.

The interviewee also said that there are about 7,000 coal-fired electric generating stations on the planet. While there is new technology being developed to remove 90 per cent of the carbon emissions from coal smoke, it is expensive, and the number of generating stations using it is extremely tiny. Not a comforting picture.

It gets worse.

The World Resource Institute's website reveals that there are at the moment another 1,199 coal-fired generating plants being planned. It is likely that only a handful will install the new technology.

Admittedly, the author of *The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings (LOTR)*, J. R. R. Tolkien, was not a global warming expert or an engineer of energy systems. But the commentary included in the DVD extended version of *The Two Towers* (part two of *LOTR*) explores Tolkien's distaste for modern minds, which are all about exploitation and development. He was critical of the modernist mind-set that plans infrastructures – such as coal burning plants – that destroy.

Following Tolkien's critique of modern human thinking, we are faced with a profound failure of the imagination. We seem to have become incapable of imagining the world without reducing it – or more accurately, degrading it – in the words of the commentary, "to wheels, gears and levers."

And we should add to gigabytes, human assets, resources, investments, managed processes and measurable outcomes.

The commentary reflects on Tolkien's ap-

preciation of trees: "[He] regarded trees as the messengers of all nature to us, great ancient beings in the world who have lived far longer than most of us will ever live."

"Nobody cares for the woods anymore," Treebeard laments in *The Two Towers*. How true. Our woods are all gone. We would be hard pressed to find any trees in southern Ontario more than a century old. The trees that once grew have all been felled since Europeans arrived, cut down for roads, ships, fuel and construction. The landscape has been completely altered for agriculture, home-building, commerce and industry.

We need some commerce and industry. We need places to live. We need some roads. But we also need a living ecosystem. Without it, we will not be able to live. Our economy is not based on the ability of economists and political leaders to manage the planet's resources. It is based on the water, air and rock that exist naturally on the planet and on the ability of forests and all living organisms to thrive.

The Tolkien commentary claims that the most important issue in *LOTR* is the environment. Tolkien rejected the destruction caused by the over-zealous proponents of the Industrial Revolution, mechanized warfare and bureaucracy. Even though Tolkien is no longer with us, we can safely say he would not have been seduced by the hyper-consumerism that political leaders and economists believe is necessary for the survival of human society.

We live in a time – in the words of the commentary – "of fire and brimstone and the making of metal arts and the fact that you sacrifice the natural world."

Is there no longer any opportunity to cultivate a life marked by a modest use of the planet's finite resources? Is there no longer an interest to do more planting and growing rather than harvesting and poisoning? Can we imagine a world where there is more appreciation for the small things around us rather than the grandiose plans of industry leaders and others whose minds are all about gears, wheels and levers?

Michael Veenema was a chaplain at Fanshawe College until 2004. He lives in Nova Scotia, where he is a pastor and a chaplain. He continues to write.



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# Meet your 2015 Fanshawe Student Union Candidates

## President



**ALAN BUSHELL**

Hello,  
My name is Alan Bushell and I am running for president of the Fanshawe Student Union. As current Vice President and a former SAC Representative, the institutional knowledge I possess is unparalleled. If

elected to the position, I plan to bring in a new era of student service that will be the benchmark for further administrations to strive towards.

The FSU oversees many essential services like the health plan, bus passes, food services and general entertainment. The task of making sure these services are provided with exceptional direction and quality is something I take very seriously.

Encouraging innovation among these services will be the trademark of my platform. This initiative will mean organizing

new and exciting social events and improving food services with interesting new menus and specials.

Being the president of the FSU is a daunting task and I firmly believe that I can and will deliver an extraordinary student experience.

In closing, I encourage you to get out and vote for me during the polling period of March 9 to March 12 at 2 p.m. Let's make this the best year ever at Fanshawe!

## VP Athletics & Residence Life



**JORDAN BORNEMAN**

Hello Fanshawe,  
My name is Jordan Borneman, and I am running for VP Athletics and Residence Life. Anyone who knows me knows that I am addicted to sports. I love both playing and watching sports; I follow most professional sport leagues.

This is my first year at Fanshawe and I am currently enrolled in the Business Marketing program. I transferred to Fanshawe after completing both Hotel and Resort Management and Business Management, at Sault College in Sault Ste. Marie. During my time in the Sault I was lucky to be a part of the student government serving one term as

VP Campus Affairs, two terms as VP Athletics and two terms as president.

I believe with all of my past experience I am the best choice for the VP Athletics and Residence Life position here at Fanshawe. Currently I am an employee of the Athletics department at Fanshawe working as a referee for the intramural sports programs and a scorekeeper in the extramural hockey league.

When elected as the next VP of Athletics and Residence Life, I will bring a number of new and interesting ideas to the FSU. It will be my personal mission to continue to grow athletics and residence life here on campus, ensuring that all Falcons have the best experience possible during their time here at Fanshawe.

So when it comes to Election Day please be sure to vote for me, Jordan Borneman, as your next VP Athletics and Residence life.



**CHERISS MARSON**

Hey Fanshawe! My name is Cheriss Marson and I am running to be your Fanshawe Student Union president for the 2015-2016 academic year.

I was born and raised in London and attended London Central Secondary School. I am currently enrolled in my final semester of the Project Management post-graduate program, and have previously graduated

from Recreation and Leisure Services program here at Fanshawe. I am running for president because I LOVE Fanshawe!

I chose Fanshawe College three years ago, highly influenced by the extra-curricular opportunities it had to offer, student life has always been my passion. After doing my placement at the student union I fell in love with the organization and in my graduating year, I was elected as the Vice President of Internal Affairs. I set goals for this year and far exceeded all expectations for each and every event to enhance the quality of life for all members of our Fanshawe community.

I believe that getting involved is the

best way to enhance your college experience. My main goal is to provide all students the opportunity to get involved and to know what is available to them. My platform focuses on:

- Student engagement
- Healthy events for healthy students
- Spending student money on students
- And collaboration between departments to get optimal programming

For those who haven't had an opportunity to get involved, now is your chance. You can't make a difference if you don't voice your opinion. Check out teamcheriss.com for more information.



**MELANIE RINTJEMA**

Hi I'm Melanie Rintjema and I am 20 years old. I was born and raised in Chatham in a family with two sisters. I grew up in the country and spent a lot of time outside as a kid. I always loved drawing and running. In the summer I did a lot of fieldwork, picking pickles and planting sweet potatoes.

In high school I helped run a lot of fundraisers for many different organizations such as World Vision and Awaken Haiti. I was in charge of designing a set for a school musical. I volunteered at a veterinary clinic for a summer as well.

I also played many different sports

in high school including badminton, cross-country, basketball and soccer. After high school I went to Western University and studied political science for a year. I decided I didn't know what I wanted to do so I took a year off and worked as a server at Bayside Brew Pub in Erieau, On.

I am currently in my first year at Fanshawe studying Fashion Merchandising. I am running for VP Athletics and Residence Life. I believe that I would be a great representative for this position. I have a lot of leadership and volunteer experiences in the past.

I am currently the SAC representative for the School of Design in the FSU, which has taught me a lot about leadership and time management.

I thank you for taking the time to read this.

## VP Finance



**CARLIE FORSYTHE**

Hey Fanshawe! My name is Carlie Forsythe and I am your candidate for VP Finance. I am currently in my third year of Human Resources, and will be continuing with a Bachelor of Commerce this summer. I am a proud Fanshawe alumna, and over

the past five years here, I have gotten to know many students and staff while actively involved within the community. I wish to give back to this school community that I have come to love.

Through my experience working with the Fanshawe Student Union, I was able to understand what the FSU was all about, and have seen the hard work and dedication the executive team delivers. I want to be part of the team that makes your Fanshawe experience the best it can be!

I am running for VP Finance because

I want to be able to use my experience to help students at Fanshawe afford their education and make the most out of their college experience. I believe that every student should have access to financial assistance, and I want to make resources more readily available and easier for students to access. I am confident in my ability to advocate for Fanshawe students and would love the opportunity to be your VP of Finance!

I love meeting new people, so please feel free to say hi or ask any questions if you see me around campus!



**RACHEL STEVENS**

My name is Rachel Stevens. I am in the Technical Production program here at Fanshawe. I am running for VP Athletics and Residence Life. If I get elected, I'll try my best to make next year's Athletics programs and residence living the best it can be.



**NICHOLAS GAULD**

Hello, my name is Nicholas Gauld and I am running to be the 2015-2016 VP of Finance on the FSU Executive Council.

I come from Niagara Falls where I have lived my whole life, and I am finishing my

first year at Fanshawe taking the Technical Production course located right in the centre of downtown London.

I know that college isn't cheap, which can bring anyone's focus away from their studies. By voting for me I will personally try and make information available to you easier about your school costs. I would also like to focus on the community of international students attending here at Fanshawe. You deserve a stress-free study time while you are here, and worrying about money

should be at the bottom of the list.

I can always be reached at n\_gauld@fanshaweonline.ca. I would love to talk to you if you have any questions or concerns you would like to talk about. Make sure to say hi if you see me during elections week from March 9 to March 12.

Let me help you have a stress free school year, and remember vote Nicholas Gauld for your next VP of Finance!

## VP Internal



**TABATHA ROSBOROUGH**

Hello students! My name is Tabatha Rosborough and I am running for the Vice President Internal Affairs for the 2015-2016 year.

VP of Internal Affairs oversees many events, fundraisers, and college clubs. I am proud to live and work in my hometown of London, On. I am currently enrolled in my

first year, second semester, in the Office Administration Program.

Although I have only been here a short time, I have already discovered the benefits as well as the energy and inclusiveness of the Student Union, and believe it to be a vital part of any student experience.

I intend to work to ensure every student has the access, and the information to make the very best of their own student experience.

Vote YES to Tabatha Rosborough for VP Internal Affairs.

An experience for everyone!

## VP Entertainment



**KEVIN KAISAR**

How many of you like enjoying yourselves?

How many of you like to be entertained?

How many of you would like to do this for free?

If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, I have something very special for you!

As your next VP of Entertainment I want to enhance your college experience. I aim to satisfy all your entertainment cravings and see all of you out and about, taking part in all the amazing events we have to offer. Vote for me and I'll make sure you have the college experience you've been dreaming of.

Not only do I have some tricks up my

sleeve, but I also want to know how you want to spend your time on campus. My job is to make sure you have the time of your life while you're a student here. I'm in the Business program and my organization and management skills will make sure I do just that.

My name is Kevin Kaiser and I urge you to make the choice that serves you best. Pick the candidate who is going to do things differently. Elect me and I'll show you why we're called "Funshawe."

## VP External & Academic Affairs



**MARIA NIKIDES**

Hi, my name is Maria Nikides and I am part of Developmental Services Worker Program here at Fanshawe College. I am running for Vice President External and Academic Affairs.

I want this position because for this job you have to constantly help students. I will help you solve your problems with teachers and attend events in support. I have already done this several times with my current position as Human Services and Public Safety Representative, which I enjoy doing very much. I also love helping people and I always am honest.

With this position they take care of all class representatives, which I feel like I can connect with them all. I will make events for

my class representatives so that they will get to know each other and their representatives of their program. I am always keeping on top of my work and studying hard for my tests. I spend my time at the college doing my work and staying up late if need be to get things done.

I am very strongly committed to my program and hope to achieve greater things in placement next year. I am not only a student here at Fanshawe but I'm also a Greek dancer for my community, we actually recently performed at the Raptors game and also performed at a gala with 450 people attending.

I have three brothers in my family and I enjoy fishing and snowboarding with them as well. I look forward to getting to know the students of Fanshawe even more and representing students as whole with this vice president position.

Vote YES for Maria Nikides, the girl with the smile that will go the extra mile.

## JAHMOYIA SMITH

"Some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon 'em." (William Shakespeare *Twelfth Night*). This unique idiom is a constant guide to my inevitable achievement of greatness. I centre my goals and objectives in life on this profound piece of literature.

My name is Jahmoyia Davena Smith, a name, which has no researched meaning, however, I dare to be different and set myself apart.

Ian Wallace says, "Why are you trying so

hard to fit in when you were born to stand out?"

This short quotation has permitted me to use my confidence to conquer any unfamiliar surroundings, which my presence has the opportunity to grace for a long period of time. Nonetheless, a few character traits, which I have garnered in all my years of interacting with people of different culture, ethnicity and background in an educational environment are: selflessness and hospitality.

My dream in life is to become a criminal lawyer, however, I have made the expert decision of pursuing a career in early child-

hood leadership.

I believe that a college experience should be an adventure story that each person writes with their experiences, a story that will remain stamped in the individuals' memory for the rest of their lives. In order to garner such unforgettable college experiences, the individual must be given countless social and exciting opportunities.

If elected Vice President of Entertainment I will give each and every Fanshawe student the opportunity to make his or her college story LEGENDARY.



(From left): General purpose zoom, macro, telephoto zoom and 50 mm prime lenses are what beginners need to kick-start their new hobby.

CREDIT: ALLISON PEARCE

## Four lenses beginner photographers should have



**ALLISON PEARCE**  
INTERROBANG

When it comes to photography, the type of lens you use can define the photo. For those of you who are just beginning with photography, these four lenses can help you get a beginner's grasp on taking great photos.

### 1. General purpose zoom

These days, most DSLRs can be purchased with a general-purpose zoom lens. For cropped sensor cameras, an 18-55 mm lens range is great. If you own a full-frame DSLR, a 24-70 mm will work great. The beauty with these lenses is their

ability to operate as both a wide-angle lens, while still giving you the focal length to zoom in on objects in the distance. These are versatile lenses that are great for shooting in a variety of situations.

### 2. Macro

The beauty with a macro lens is its ability to capture a great amount of detail with its ability to focus on an object up close. Macros will open you up to a world of tiny objects and help you develop as a photographer by making you look at objects differently. Macros are also great portrait lenses, since they are sharp and offer a shallow depth of field.

### 3. Telephoto zoom

A telephoto zoom usually has a maximum focal length to about 200-300 mm. This lens allows you to shoot objects far in the distance.

This is nice when trying to shoot wildlife or sport photography. The longer focal length also allows for minimal lens distortion, which makes it a fantastic portrait lens as well.

### 4. 50 mm prime

The nifty 50 prime is handy because it is relatively affordable and super handy when shooting in low light. Prime lenses are usually fast – meaning the opening of the lens can be opened wide, which allows for more light onto the sensor. Many people also believe that shooting with lenses that have a fixed focal length can help strengthen your photography skills as well. You no longer rely on the zoom on your lens and instead have to walk up to your subject, making your shooting skills much more versatile.



CREDIT: CANDIS BROSS

The freshly launched NARS All Day Luminous Weightless foundation has come to be known at the "one drop wonder."

## Fresh faced foundation



**JOSHUA R. WALLER**  
BEAUTY BOY

other great benefit to this foundation is that it incorporates green and gold pigments to counteract redness as well as bring that luminosity to the skin.

Clinique has also recently launched a new foundation called Beyond Perfecting, which incorporates a foundation and concealer all in one bottle. This super pigmented product is moisturizing, lightweight and gives the skin a flawless finish. Since it has a concealer built into it, you can pretty much skip the entire concealing and correcting step in your beauty routine as this foundation does it all.

An exciting launch that has just happened in the complexion category is the Biotherm Total Recharge CC Cream for men. Yes, men.

It is not necessarily a foundation but a daily moisturizer that contains micro pigment technology. Its lightweight gel texture not only hydrates the skin but also gives the skin a healthy glow. It is sheer in colour so any skin tone can use, and men don't have to use any proper technique to apply it properly. For the men who feel that their skin is looking dull, this product is definitely made for you.

Although it can be tough to switch out your regular foundation for a new one, change is always a good thing. Cosmetic companies are constantly researching and innovating so that products suit your needs even better.

One of the hardest cosmetics to switch from your beauty routine is your foundation. Once you find that perfect shade, texture and coverage, it's difficult to let that foundation go and find a new one.

However, as you all know companies discontinue or reformulate products, and sometimes it's just a good change for your skin to try something new. With 2015 comes a whole bunch of new complexion cosmetics that are definitely worth trying.

NARS cosmetics recently launched a brand new foundation called All Day Luminous Weightless foundation, which is one of the company's biggest launches ever. It is a full but natural coverage foundation that has a 16-hour wear. The foundation is so pigmented it has come to be known as the "one drop wonder" as you literally only need one pump of the foundation to cover your entire face. And to NARS lovers' excitement, this foundation comes with a pump and is oil free.

With over 20 shades, the All Day Luminous Weightless foundation is perfect for anyone, especially those with an oilier skin type. Even though the foundation is pigmented, it is essentially weightless. An-

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LIFE.CHANGING



CREDIT: LISA KELLY

Here we see Frugal Fashionista pair Classic Blue with some soft Glacier Gray. She's ready for spring.

## Cool colour trends for spring

LISA KELLY  
FRUGAL  
FASHIONISTA

March is upon us, and that means less than two weeks until the first day of spring. No really, despite the copious amounts of snow and sub-zero temperatures, spring is almost here.

In preparation for the season, Pantone released its Fashion Color Report for spring 2015. This season we'll be seeing an eclectic mix of colours from a variety of blues, pastels, understated brights and soft neutrals. This season's colour palette is perfect for mixing and matching, with shades that can stand alone or work well with others.

Many shades that have been used in recent seasons are reappearing in the spring 2015 palette. Frugal fashionistas everywhere rejoice – this means you can create a spring wardrobe without going broke.

Start digging – there's got to be at least a few of these colours already residing in the back of your closet.

### Marsala

This wonderfully rich colour has been dubbed the Pantone colour of the year. Although it is somewhat surprising to see this deep burgundy shade in spring fashion, many designers have taken inspiration from the '70s this year. Many shades often shown in the fall season are making an appearance this spring, which is great for your wallet. Save money and repurpose your fall fashions.

### Strawberry Ice

Don't let the name fool you – this fun shade of pink is invigorating and warm. Strawberry Ice is a flattering shade of pink and the perfect spring colour. Pair with Glacier Gray for a soft pastel look or with Tangerine for a fun and playful look that's not overwhelming.

### Classic Blue

The colour of confidence and harmony, Classic Blue is an anchor

to the spring/summer 2015 palette. When worn alone, Classic Blue makes a statement and commands a room. For a playful look, try pairing this shade with the playful colours of the season – Strawberry Ice and Tangerine. Classic Blue also pairs well with Marsala.

### Scuba Blue

A playful shade, Scuba Blue adds some interest to a rather neutral spring palette. This colour can be worn alone or used to brighten up a neutral outfit with a bold Scuba Blue statement piece. With a tropical ocean feel, Scuba Blue pairs well with Classic Blue and Lucite Green.

### Aquamarine

This airy blue is the lead colour for the spring/summer 2015 season and has been shown by many designers on the spring runways. Aquamarine can be easily dressed up or down, and it pairs well with Marsala and Glacier Gray.

### Lucite Green

This pastel has a soft minty glow, however, the colour is just dark enough that fair skinned ladies can still rock it without looking washed out. Lucite Green is a soothing and luxurious shade and pairs well with Scuba Blue and Classic Blue.

### Glacier Gray

This wonderful neutral is the perfect shade of grey for mixing and matching within the spring palette. Glacier Gray contrasts and enhances its fellow spring colours, without taking away from them.

### Tangerine

This playful shade spices up the spring palette. Keeping with the '70s-inspired fashions this season, Tangerine is the perfect colour to pull off a '70s-inspired Mod Squad look. Although Tangerine is a bold shade, it can be worn without overpowering an outfit. It can stand alone or brighten up a pattern, and it pairs well with Strawberry Ice.

Hopefully all this talk of spring colours has inspired you to turn a blind eye to the snow and start incorporating these wonderful colors into your wardrobe now.

## The new (and yummy) pineapple craze

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

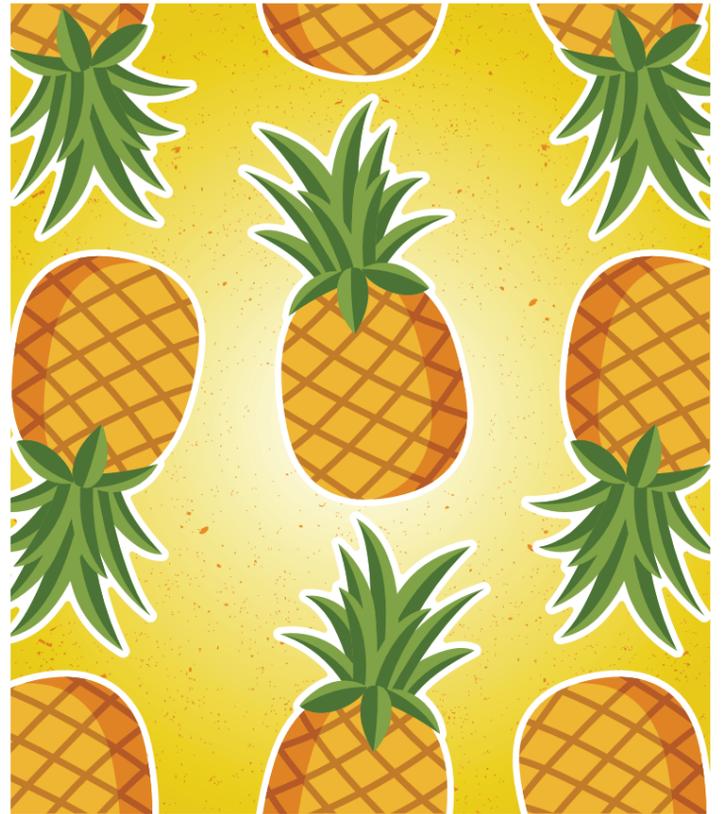
Each season there is a theme that makes waves in fashion and pop culture that is borderline tacky but completely awesome and makes you rethink what fashion is really about. Sure, fashion can be about big gowns, designs that inspire fantasy, big names, high-quality rare fabrics and exclusivity. But there is a side of fashion that makes you feel happy, playful and comfortable that is equally important.

People have different fashion styles, and there are certain trends that conservative fashionistas will claim to never venture into, and that's OK, but sometimes, it takes the right print to hit the right cord and change their mind. Then there are the fashion adventurers who like quirky, unusual things that may seem ordinary but make it their own. Those are the people who help popularize the tropical print craze that is popping up all over the place. Not only in fashion but also photographers and all over social media.

One big thing this season is the pineapple. It's not just an awesome fruit. It's a refreshing print that can inspire different trends, if you really think about.

Fashion and style is all about mixing and matching these days. People will put things together how it speaks to them, not necessarily by the book or advice anymore.

Imagine a pineapple-printed top with some light ripped jeans with a calf-length cream sweater, open toed heels, black round vintage shades, an armful of boho bangles and some effortlessly wavy hair.



CREDIT: DESIGNED BY FREEPIK.COM / MODIFIED BY CANDIS BROSS

The pineapple is making its way onto photo shoots and clothing. Will it make its way into your wardrobe?

You'd pretty much be ready to take a picture to put up on your blog, Twitter or Instagram.

Things like pineapples and tropical prints make the outfit look interesting, more fun and refreshes the typical wardrobe combinations. Ripped jeans aren't a new trend, and oversized and long silhouettes aren't new either, but pairing them with unusual things makes everything feel new again. Sometimes, the pineapple is the prop in a photo shoot or paired with accessories to add color, texture and makes it

more fun. It's a hot item and trend this season.

The pineapple is youthful and makes you think of a tropical place or fruit salad. It works well with street style, blogger style and even dressy occasions. You just have to find a piece with a print that works and speaks out to you.

Maybe you will instantly love the pineapple on your clothing, or maybe it will never be your thing. Regardless, you have to agree it's adorable.

# What would you risk to bring back someone you love?



**PAM-MARIE  
GUZZO**  
INTERROBANG

Medical sciences have come a long way in recent years. Those once doomed to die quickly can now live for years with proper care and treatment. Many diseases, which were once fatal, are now mere inconveniences, and some have been almost completely eradicated. With the advances we've made, where do we stop? If we had the power to bring back those we loved, would we use it? Should we use it?

These are the questions explored by *The Lazarus Effect*, a movie that blurs the line between scientific theory and religious argument. In the basement of a university, a group of medical students have uncovered the secret to bringing back the dead. However, all things come with a cost, and this price is higher than anyone could have imagined.

The movie features an all-star cast, although many are far from the roles we've seen them in previously. Both Mark Duplass (who plays Frank) and Donald Glover (as Niko) are better known for their work in comedies, and Sarah Bolger (as the documentary filmmaker Eva) has mostly been in princess roles, such as in *The Tudors*. However, despite being far outside of their normal castings, all of the actors do an amazing job, showing great emotional range. Olivia Wilde (as the



CREDIT: BACK TO LIFE PRODUCTIONS, LLC

Olivia Wilde stars in *The Lazarus Effect*, in which she stretches her acting chops by flip-flopping personas with ease.

main character Zoe) is especially fantastic as she flips from one persona to the next with barely a pause.

As a horror movie, *The Lazarus Effect* puts on a good show, with a mix of tension-building scenes and jump frights that keep the audience at a heightened state. The pace may feel a bit slow to start, but none of the scenes feel unnecessary or dull. Once the climax of the film begins, the pace picks up and continues to

work well to the end of the film. There are a few horror movie tropes that could have been avoided – such as the creepy little girl seen in every scary movie ever made – but even that had a purpose in the larger plot, so it can be forgiven.

One of the problems the movie does have is its attempt to be palatable to both religious and nonreligious viewers. Scientific explanations are given alongside

theological ones. While the dialogue is well written, this mix still feels awkward, especially given the context of the setting – these are all highly educated, scientific minds in a university research facility. A love triangle also gets shoehorned in, possibly to add conflict and develop the characters, but it really doesn't do much for the story.

Despite the occasional cheesiness of the film, *The Lazarus Effect* does

a great job of showing the boundary between science and theology, blurring that line and making us question how far our push to everlasting life should go. The movie asks some difficult questions about the nature of life, hell, the soul and death. We are reminded of Ian Malcolm's famous line in *Jurassic Park*, "Your scientists were so preoccupied with whether or not they could that they didn't stop to think if they should."

## 2015 Student Council Elections

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CREDIT: READY AT DAWN

It may only take up to 12 hours to play, but *The Order: 1886* plants hope for a sequel.

## The seeds of something special?



ANDREW VIDLER  
G33K LYFE

There is only one thing that can be written about the PlayStation 4's newest AAA exclusive that hasn't been written on hundreds of gaming websites and forums: I actually liked it.

Announced in the early days of the PS4 – and promising a new level of graphics, presentation and cinematic action – *The Order: 1886* showed off what many Sony gamers were hoping would represent the first true next-gen experience.

Originally slated to launch in November, it suffered a three-month delay in order to further polish the final product, finally releasing the game this past February.

Unfortunately for those anticipating the game, reviews were decidedly underwhelming.

Admirably, in a year of broken promises by developers, Ready at Dawn delivered precisely what it was the company had always said they would. The game was praised for its presentation, the world it created and the best graphics ever put on to a console exclusive.

Despite the indifferent consensus toward the final game, there is a minority of people, myself included, that actually found quite a bit to enjoy. This is not to say that the issues raised by the more professional commentators are irrelevant. Conversely, they are actually quite valid, but that, like any medium, the enjoyment is wholly subjective.

The most common complaints raised against the game were in regards to length, game mechanics, and the amount of time the players actually spend playing the game.

To address the first, the game's length has been reported from anywhere between five and 12 hours, and being a purely single-player experience, that's all there is to it.

My initial play-through clocked in less than eight hours, with maybe another two to go back and grab some things I had missed.

I found the story well-paced, but just as I was getting truly invested in the story, it was over, with an open ending that screams, "This will be a franchise." The primary argument is the \$69.99 new release price for the product and whether or not *The Order* represents value for the money. It's a nice thought, but I can't see gamers wanting a 200-hour RPG being measured on the same scale.

Mechanically, the game is sharp and responsive but absolutely nothing new if the player has experience in third person shooters such as *Uncharted* or *Gears of War*. Again, a valid – yet somewhat petty complaint – as not every title can be expected to revolutionize the gameplay tropes of the genre it occupies. The presence of quick time events in the game were also derided, yet I found them to be relatively unobtrusive, and much more *Heavy Rain* than *God of War* in execution.

The third complaint is perhaps the one that resounds the deepest with me, as it's fairly indisputable that a good percentage of my eight-hour play through was spent relatively passively, watching extended, unskippable cut scenes.

This is where the game failed the most, as while the length is not an issue, the balance between action and inaction was staggering.

Despite these flaws, I found myself absolutely glued to my seat during the whole story. The world that Ready at Dawn has created is truly fascinating. It is an alternate depiction of 19th century London, complete with Zeppelins, werewolves and guns made by Nikola Tesla. The obviously-planted seeds and hope for a sequel leaves me some hope that the developers will learn from their mistakes and turn *The Order: [insert year]* into one of the PS4's flagship franchises in the years to come.



CREDIT: NINTENDO

Waiting 2.5 hours to play some more isn't worth it. And neither is shelling out real world money.

## Pokémon Shuffle: Please pay to continue



JERROLD RUNDLE  
INTERROBANG

As I'm playing round 75 the tedium sets in. It goes like this: play five rounds, and for each round played, a life is used. After that, you must wait 30 minutes to recharge each of the five lives, totalling two and a half hours or start showing your credit card.

This is the overall pattern of Genius Sonority and Nintendo's newest release, *Pokémon Shuffle*.

The puzzle fighting game was released worldwide February 18 for the Nintendo 2DS and 3DS systems, with the object of the game being dangerously similar *Pokémon Battle Trozei*, itself a remake of the 2005 DS game *Pokémon Trozei*. Confused yet? This is a common tactic for Nintendo – reduce, reuse, recycle.

Like in *Battle Trozei*, the objective of *Shuffle* is to match highly stylized versions of the Charmanders, Pichachus and over 170 other Pokémon into columns or rows of

at least three – think Bejeweled.

The catch to this game is that levels – with the exception of EX Stages – aren't timed-based but based on the number of turns used.

Players are allowed a team of (usually) four Pokémon to battle, with each one having an ability, which can help sway the battle in your favour. After successfully lowering your target's HP with strategic row-and-column matching, you then have the chance to catch it. The caught Pokémon then becomes available for future battles, levelling up with continued fighting and increasing its attack strength.

But even with all the dazzle and gorgeous new artwork for the pocket monsters, the game is still a free-to-play – a freemium. I can't help but remember the recent *South Park* episode "Freemium isn't Free." And so, by paying money in small increments, the player can get ahead faster.

Think you needed just a few more turns to beat Mega Mawile? Just use a crystal.

On an awesome run and want to continue playing but your lives just ran out? Don't wait those two and

a half hours, just buy some crystals and get some more lives. Not to mention the various aides that can be acquired with coins before and after each battle, like the Great Ball – saving failed captures. Both of these money systems replenish in game through various acts – but agonizingly slow – and so sometimes it seems worth it to spend a dollar here and a dollar there.

That's the issue with free to play. You're always enticed to pay more until you get sick of the repetitiveness.

Though freemium is a much-hated game format for myself, it's not the biggest injustice to this game. The major flaw in *Pokémon Shuffle* is the number of playable stages – or lack of. In a series that has over 700 creatures to choose from, why did they not use more?

Despite Nintendo only recently entering the freemium market with games like *Rusty's Real Deal Baseball*, they and developer Genius Sonority matched the formula pretty well, which is a bit sad really. Twice the levels, a price tag of \$10 to \$15 and some 3D capabilities could have made *Pokémon Shuffle* a great game.



CREDIT: JUSTYN SMITH

Full Year performed for Last Band Standing on March 4 at The Out Back Shack and will be moving onto the finals, which take place March 10.



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Submit your work to the FSU Office SC2001 (2nd Floor Student Centre)



CREDIT: UBISOFT

Watch Dogs gives you the empty city of Chicago to get virtually bored in.

## Annoying gaming trends that need to stop



**ESHAAN GUPTA**  
GAMING  
THE SYSTEM

More often than not, life's a game of "follow the leader." If someone seems to be doing something right, why not adapt what he or she does, right? After all, that's quite literally the definition of a trend.

Trends are important, because they lead to discovering and improving upon current concepts. But sometimes, trends don't evolve any further from their predecessors and begin to stagnate. And due to a general lack of self-awareness, they continue being used despite said stagnation.

The game industry has always been a fan of running trends into the ground, from the second Mario began to run right and stomp his first Goombah. Some of gaming's more annoying trends include:

### Parkour everywhere

Parkour is undeniably cool. It

requires skill and agility that not everyone has, so obviously video games are the best avenue of allowing us to experience such activity, right? Except when everyone decides that it's the go-to system of travel for every single game. *Prince of Persia* mixed combat with parkour in a way never before seen. *Assassin's Creed* was novel in introducing parkour to an open world setting. *Mirror's Edge* gave us a dizzying first-person perspective of it. *Prototype* and *Infamous* gave us out-of-this-world sci-fi powers in the mix.

And since then, the ceiling's been hit, and no one – especially *Watch Dogs* – got the memo.

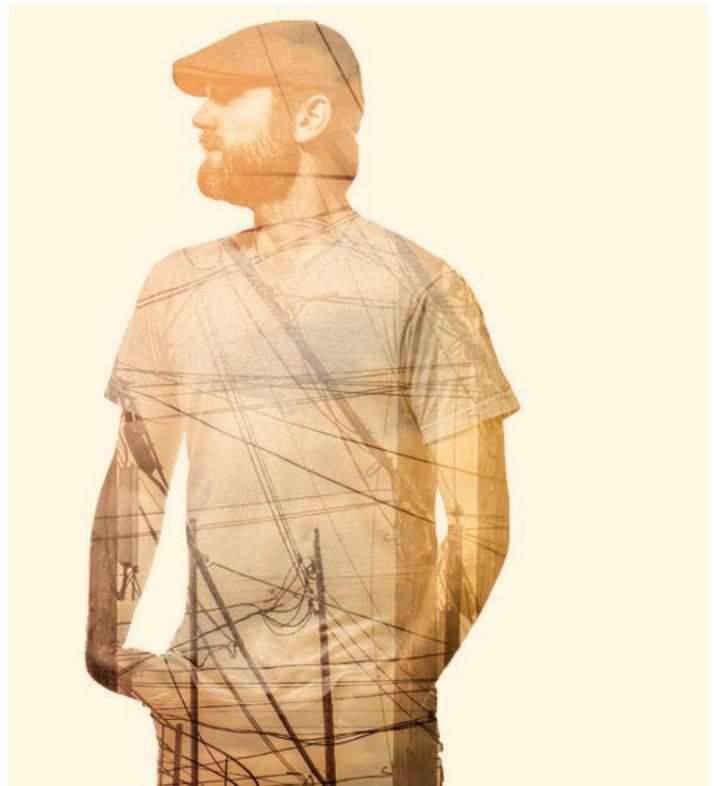
### Open world with little interactivity

Open-world games can provide hours upon hours of solid exploratory entertainment. But when that novelty of exploration is lost, you better damn well have some interesting items to discover, hidden missions to play or just anything to make exploration genuinely rewarding. Again, *Watch Dogs* is a

recent example of being guilty of this – an open-world Chicago with absolutely nothing to do in, aside from story and a handful of side missions. *Mafia 2* has excellent story, and little to no incentive to explore the highly detailed fictional cities of its '50s setting.

### Horror games becoming more action oriented

Probably the most depressing and frustrating trend for horror fans is the push of beloved scare-series into being more and more action-y. *Dead Space* blended some serious scares with its combat, making pure brute-force the least effective strategy at times. *Dead Space 3*, well, eh, not so much. Even the more action-oriented *Resident Evil 4* carried an atmosphere thick with chills and creeps compared to the bland, dull *Resident Evil 6*. And the less said about what's happened to *Silent Hill*, the better. With the rise of virtual reality headsets, pure horror games are thankfully making a comeback in the form of newer titles, but you may as well kiss your favourite old franchises goodbye.



CREDIT: MARTIN GIRARD

Ian Kelly is stopping in London on his 25-date tour, making a stop at Grooves Records before headlining a show at The APK.

## Ian Kelly lines up solo tour



**BOBBYISMS**  
BOBBY FOLEY

I write about random things a lot. I write a lot about random things. Perhaps we haven't quite achieved the vision of the future that was projected in the late 1950's, but under the surface, the world in 2015 couldn't be further from the American landscape that existed when Jack Kerouac published his seminal novel *On The Road* in 1957.

Kerouac's divisive counterculture book casts the bohemian lifestyle into a particularly romantic light against a tapestry that was a strong empowered nation, a place that never truly seemed unsafe to explore with abandon and aplomb. Such isn't the case for modern travelers, and although it doesn't discourage people from embarking on their own backpacking exploits around the globe, it takes a special sort of person with a particular resolve to undertake such an adventure.

It's noteworthy then that Montreal singer-songwriter Ian Kelly has resolved to undertake a similar sojourn. Although it's impossible to tell what role jazz music and drugs are going to play in his 25-date nationwide tour, he will travel alone – leaving behind his regular rhythm section for his first exclusively solo tour in years.

Kelly kicks off his massive tour with two appearances in London on March 16, appearing at Grooves Records downtown for a free in-store performance beginning at 3 p.m. before headlining The APK with special guest Elliot Maginot.

The tour will take him first through the Maritimes and then out west, and with luck, he'll be greeted by warm weather on his return home to Quebec in May.

"Maybe it doesn't make sense to go out and play that many shows, but I thought, 'Let's do this grand tour of small venues and go play from coast to coast,'" Kelly said. "But when I thought about toning the show down, I thought it'd be great to spend some time on my own ... it's just a different experience. I'm really looking forward to it."

"I wrote so many [songs] before selecting the 10 that made [All

These Lines], and before I started to record anything, I made sure I really loved the songs with that single instrument and vocals before I started to add tracks to them," he said. "It's easy for me to take those songs and play them by myself, and since I've been playing with bands for such a long time, it actually feels good to take them back down to their essential arrangement. It's not really hard. It's fun."

For Kelly, the tour represents more than just the opportunity to support 2013's *All These Lines* and his latest single "I'm On Your Side." It also offers a bit of a palate cleanser as he prepares for new projects to come, including a full film score and a new album in the works.

"It's fun to be on the road, but it is fun to stay at home, too," he said. "After this, it's going to be cool to stay home for a while and think about what I want to do next."

Much of the last year was spent building a new addition to his home studio, a large room designed professionally for its acoustics that he describes as "an amazing space to work in." The exciting new space has Kelly rethinking his approach to producing his music moving forward, and it's easy to tell he's eager to be close to home to work.

"Because I had a pretty shitty-sounding room, I think it influenced me while I was creating previous albums to add as many tracks as I possibly could to hide the flaws of the recordings," he said. "Now that I have this amazing room, I want to do recordings that feature way fewer layers because I can manage to get that sound I always wanted. I'll still have to work on it, but my room is not a handicap anymore."

For more on Kelly, his tour across Canada or new music to come, visit [iankellysmusic.com](http://iankellysmusic.com) or follow along on Twitter @iankellysmusic. As if he didn't have enough on his plate, Kelly will welcome his third child in 2015, so enjoy the time we have with him before he holes up for the summer to work on his art.

And for more of the latest music news and touring artists in London, follow this column on Twitter @fsu\_bobbyisms. Spoiler alert: this week I'll be tweeting from the Juno Awards in Hamilton, apologies in advance for all the #Junos activity. I'm out of words.



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## WHAT YOU DO HERE...COUNTS OUT THERE



CREDIT: BADBADNOTGOOD

Featuring vocals from Wu-Tang's Ghostface Killah, *Sour Soul* marries jazz and old-school rap, sure to please all sorts of audiences.

## Old and new: Killah jazz-hop



NICK REYNO



BADBADNOTGOOD is a trio of jazz musicians that met at Humber College in Toronto. The group has become known in the music scene for its renditions of contemporary hip-hop songs, blending them flawlessly with its own unique style.

The group has had a long list of collaborative works and its latest album is no exception.

The album, *Sour Soul*, was released on February 23 and features Wu-Tang Clan rapper Ghostface Killah on vocals.

BBNG has created a style of jazz that exists separately from the typical cigar-smoking opera-going bourgeois of the genre. These hip-hop twisted musicians let the listener experience jazz like never before.

This is the kind of jazz that a James Bond villain listens to when cruising around in a 1950's Cadillac.

While the majority of rap and hip hop has turned to dissonant bells, drum machines and choruses sung by carbon copy divas, the *Sour Soul* album has united old and new. It brought the flair of old-school rap to a new interpretation of jazz.

It even boasts a real acoustic drum kit, none of the thin- and flimsy-sounding percussion on the radio today.

Ghostface Killah delivers hard-hitting raps that compliment the mellow vibe of BBNG in a way that lets *Sour Soul* get aggressive while retaining a relaxed aura.

Many of the songs on this album follow a similar format, opening with a quick and simple jazz introduction closely followed by several rap verses by Ghostface Killah. After a bit of this mellow grooving beneath a violently passionate rap, Ghostface Killah steps away from the track to let BBNG really shine through. Each song concludes with a jazz jam tagged onto the end, lasting anywhere from 30 seconds to a

minute or more.

Some jams flow seamlessly together with the rap portions, as heard in the track "Tone's Rap," while others, such as "Six Degrees," have a gap effectively separating the sections into two separate songs.

The rap side of this compilation isn't bad, but it's certainly not the strongest aspect of *Sour Soul*. That's not to say that there aren't some definite highlights on this album from Ghostface Killah, but the majority of this album's hooks are derived from the instrumental accompaniment.

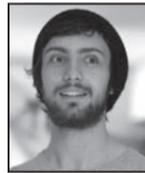
There are still some incredible verses, however, delivered on "Mind Playing Tricks" and "Ray Gun," the latter of which is arguably the best joint effort on the album between Ghostface Killah and BBNG. This whole song just screams of villains, despite much of the content being about superheroes.

While Ghostface Killah overshadows most of the *Sour Soul* album, there are three excellent instrumental tracks on it. The first of these is "Mono," which serves as an introduction to the album. It sets the mood and eases listeners into a dark sort of relaxation. The second instrumental, "Stark's Reality," is by far the cheeriest on the album. Tasteful use of xylophone in this song creates an effective sense of mysticism and wonder that is missing from the rest of *Sour Soul*. The album concludes with "Experience," which is a rendition of the first track "Mono."

Having a rendition such as this in an album is always a risky move, but BBNG manages to pull it off with flair, and if you didn't listen to these songs back to back, you wouldn't hear a single similarity. BBNG uses "Mono" and "Experience" to create bookends for this album that transition us in and out of the world of Ghostface Killah.

Both of these artists have been doing incredible things on their own, and they have both come together to create an amazing collaborative piece of work. *Sour Soul* is a must-have for anyone who likes old-school rap, experimental music or is curious as to what Tony Stark would say if he were a rapper.

## Charlotte Crow – Surrealist Bedroom

PRESTON LOBZUN  
FROM UNDER  
THE COUNTER

One of the more interesting artists I've come across as of recently is Charlotte Crow – not related to Sheryl Crow but we can pretend – a solo artist from the boonies whom I met this past winter.

Not being able to come into the city much, her seclusion out in the county has clearly sparked a great creative nerve that makes her quite prolific for an 18-year-old. She gave me a tape called *Surrealist Bedroom* along with a zine to accompany it last time we crossed paths, and she occasionally sends me other demos once in a while through Soundcloud.

The tape itself is made up from some sort of old cassettes that have been reused and dubbed with pure artistic glee.

Being from a small town myself, I completely understand the idea of being secluded and having the ability to literally write music all day in the comfort of relative silence. In a way, her stuff kind of reminds me of my own solo work when I was living back at home. It was great to be able to go out to the garage at any point in the night and just make music all day.

Everything from ambient to punk to country, it was all just a part of my own music development. Crow's work, however, sways wildly in the winds of lo-fi bedroom pop with twangy '60s guitar playing alongside spacey synths and layered underneath soft vocals.

Each song keeps these same elements but feels different and unique to one another, much like a scrapbook. It's a great thing to sleep to,



CREDIT: CHARLOTTE CROW

Charlotte Crow's homemade tape has this reviewer swooning over her lo-fi bedroom pop and twangy guitar.

and that's not a bad thing. New music with unexpected twists and intricacies often feels like a dream world, and *Surrealist Bedroom* nails that definition with precision and coolness.

With solo artistry, it is always obvious that it is sincere work that you either nail completely or miss entirely. What I mean by this is that most musicians are so passionate about what they do that expressing themselves without outside influence becomes one of the most difficult things to accomplish.

It's much like writing in print or doing a speech. Lots of people can have good ideas, but communicating through words is difficult as your ideas can quite often get lost in a fog of babble and redundancy.

Not being the best writer myself, that statement is almost ironic but I have found this correlation over

the years to be an important facet of my own solo work. Because of my understanding of this passion and going through a phase of not being able to conduct my ideas properly, I feel a strong intuitive tug when I listen to Crow's work.

It is conclusive of what she wants to do, but it is not the end of what she wants to do because as most solo artists go, they never stop. True and dedicated artists will or should paint through their mediums until the day they croak or until they are physically unable to. And I believe through my own conclusions that Crow will certainly be one of those people.

You can get lost in the dream at [charlottecrow.bandcamp.com](http://charlottecrow.bandcamp.com), and also check out her other social media accounts through that page as well.

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ONE STUDENT AT A TIME



To Hell With It

ESHAAN GUPTA

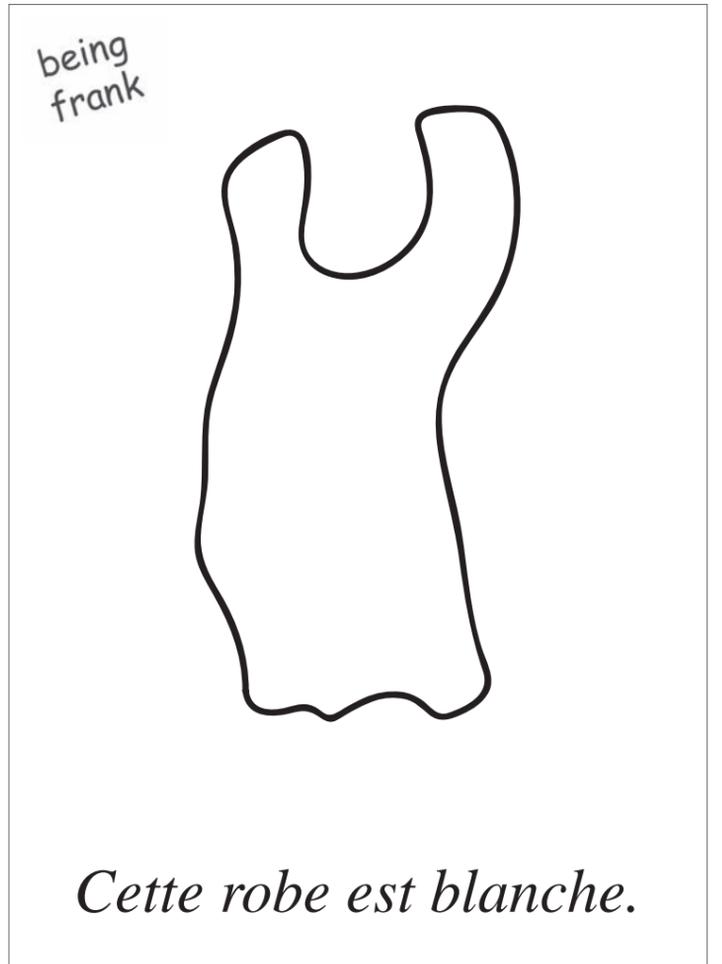
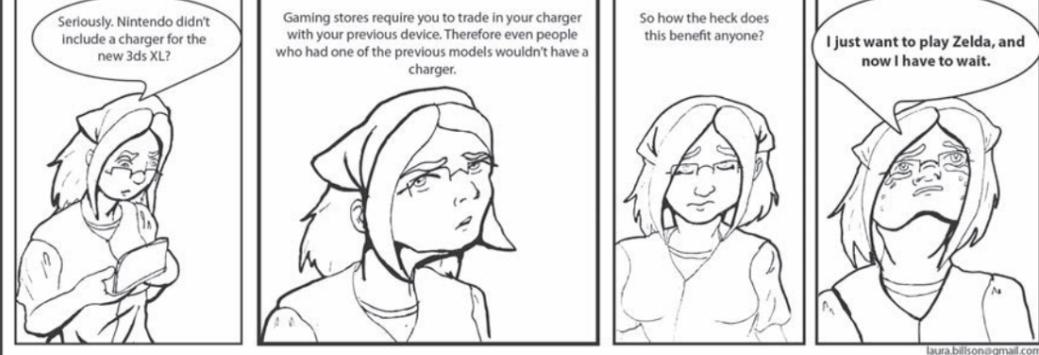


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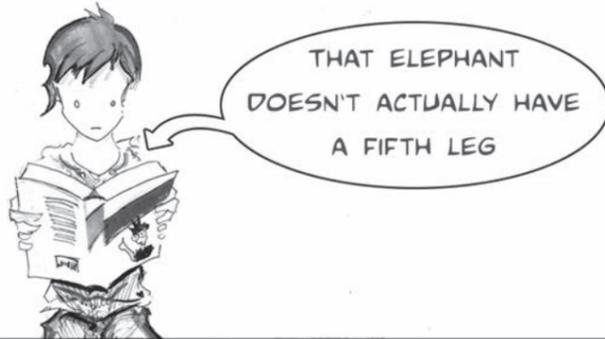
NOT NEUROTYPICAL

Even if something charges with a micro-USB I still expect it to be included.



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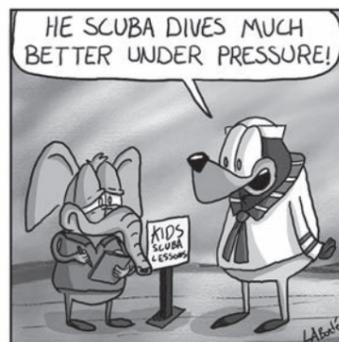
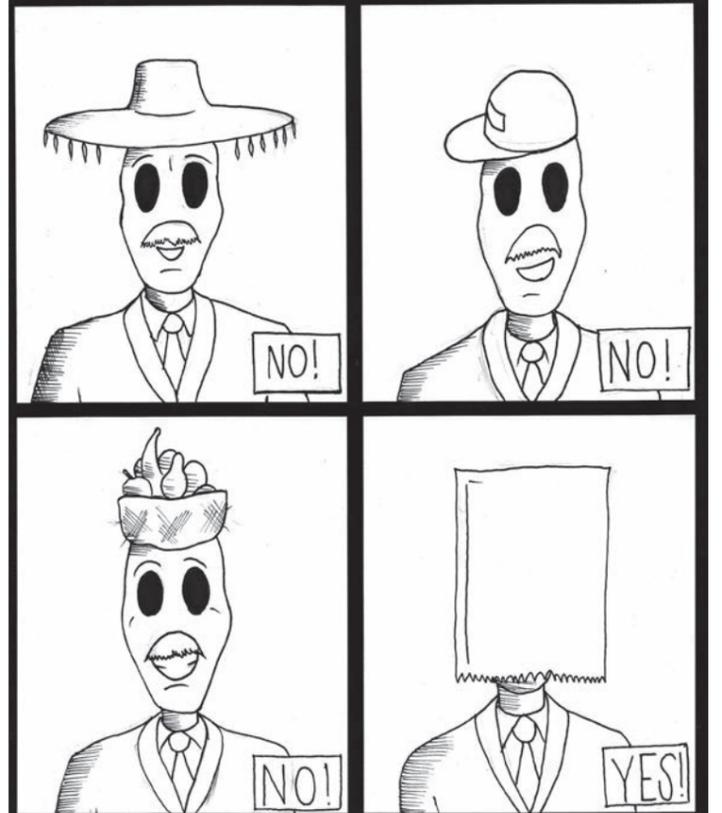
A comic by Christopher Mischczak © 2015

Butt sweat n Tears

by Andres Silva



THE CERTIFIED HUMAN <sup>DAVE THE ALIEN</sup>



By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics and animations visit FilbertCartoons.com

# zodiac stargazer HOROSCOPE

## Aries (March 21 - April 19)

People are leaning on you right and left, whether for support or out of dominance. It's hard for Aries to be at the bottom of the pile, but everyone gets a turn at being the cosmic doormat. This phase will not last.

## Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

Taurus is a mover, a shaker and a fascinating personality. There's plenty of room for proclamations and experiments. Enlightenment is more practical than spiritual.

## Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Stand up for a stretch, drink some water and sit down for another look. Give it your best shot before giving up. Capricorn and Scorpio conspire against you, but you prove to be a worthy opponent.

## Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

If Cancer does something unusual, people will talk. When dealing with relationship issues in public, it's almost certain that you'll make a spectacle of yourself. Celebrities may not get much rest.

## Leo (July 23 - August 22)

When great things are happening to others, they'll take your support but not your perspective. Save those pithy anecdotes for your own audience. Right now your job is being a good, nonjudgmental friend.

## Virgo (August 23 - Sept. 22)

Efficiency and understanding make your week. Social skills are as important as everything else in your arsenal. After all that work spreading the blame, it would be nice to share some of the credit, too.

## Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

A close friend or associate fails to deliver on a promise. Circumstances are more powerful than personalities or intentions. If you learn anything, it will probably be more about damage control.

## Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Be practical in the assignments that you give or accept. Scorpio wants to be sure that others understand his or her abilities. This week's actions are a basis for future working relationships.

## Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You have a low tolerance for nonsense. You're in a down-to-earth mood and prefer the company of others on the same wavelength. Those who interpret or enforce the law will have a few good days.

## Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Results are good, no matter what they mean. You're happy to see a world in perfect working order. As long as you have a handle on the system, you can make it work for you.

## Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You're more than ready to move on. The next thing, whatever it is, has to be better than this one. Tie up all those loose ends before they snag in the wheel of progress and grind it to a halt.

## Pisces (Feb. 18 - March 20)

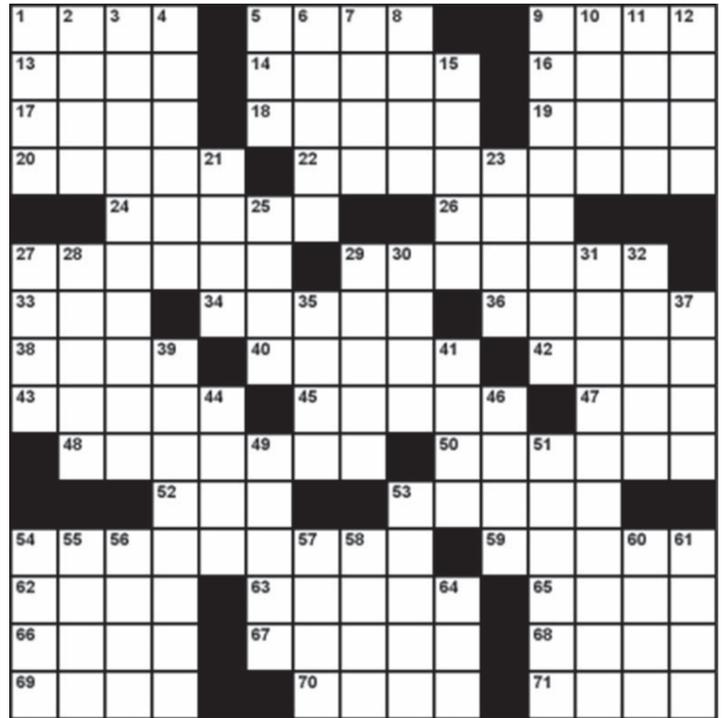
Anyone can be a student -- all you need is an open mind and a subject that interests you. The Moon calls on you to fill an expanding role. You get plenty of support from people who want you to succeed.

### Across

- Small plateau
- Very dry
- Pre-calculus course (abbr.)
- Hardwood trees
- Swindler, slangily
- "Little Caesar" role
- Hardly haute cuisine
- Academy Award
- Bothers
- Cockeyed
- Mekong River capital
- In a very unfriendly way
- Letter enclosure (abbr.)
- Washer setting
- Passport holder
- Persian, e.g.
- Marina sight
- Checkroom problem
- Suggest strongly
- Aussie "bear"
- A lot of lot
- Frazer's "The Golden \_\_\_"
- Cultivated land
- French 101 verb
- One in the arms of Morpheus
- Large quantity
- "\_\_\_ bad!"
- Fourth in a series
- Prove too strong for
- Food and water, for two
- Hindu garment
- Opposite of 50 Across
- Cut short
- Speech problem
- Male duck
- Almond
- Snake eyes
- "So what \_\_\_ is new?"
- Tarot card reader

### Down

- Start of something big?
- Building additions
- Indisputable proof or evidence of a crime



- Distinct feature
- "Give it \_\_\_!"
- Grating
- Foot feature
- Campus bigwig
- Certain four-sided figures
- Carnival attraction
- Computer image
- "Gee whillikers!"
- Winter blanket?
- Cunning
- Cripple
- Pipe problem
- Chow
- Continental money
- Committee head
- "One day \_\_\_ all make sense"
- "A Passion for \_\_\_": Peters-Austin
- Care for
- Pigeon's home
- Guinea pigs, maybe
- Vacations for the vain?
- Above
- Barrel piece
- Game ender, perhaps
- Animal-like
- Double daggers
- Asian river
- Christiania, now
- Conceited
- European language
- Was dressed in
- List-ending abbr.
- Desperate
- Part of a cowboy's boot
- Understand

**Solution on page 14**

# QUIRKY FACTS

- Facebook pays at least \$500 if you can find a way to hack the site.
- Paul Walker of *The Fast and the Furious* fame was in a jewelry store one day when he noticed a young U.S. military veteran with his fiancée shopping for a wedding ring.

Paul went to the manager and said "Put that girl's ring on my tab."

- Viagra dissolved in water can make cut flowers stand up straight for up to a week beyond their natural lifespan.
- There's a video game called "Lose/Lose" that deletes a random file on your computer every time you kill an enemy.
- The Sentinelese are a people who live on a tiny island in the Indian Ocean called North Sentinel Island. For thousands of years, they have refused all contact with the

outside world. Using only stones and arrows, they have successfully repelled all invaders and remain one of the last uncontacted tribes in the world.

- The Angora rabbit is the world's fluffiest bunny, bred for its extremely long wool.
- The flag of the Philippines is flown with the red stripe up in times of war and blue stripe up in times of peace.
- The first Ford cars had Dodge engines.
- The average office worker spends 50 minutes a day looking for lost files and other items.
- The hair of an adult man or woman can stretch 25 per cent of its length without breaking.

11. On October 28, 2013, wind power provided 100 per cent of Denmark's power. At 2 am, it was producing 122 per cent of the country's energy needs.

- Blockbuster laughed at a Netflix partnership proposal in 2000.
- A puppy is born blind, deaf, and toothless.
- A tuna fish can swim 100 miles in a single day!
- Each nostril of a human being register smell in a different way. Smells that are made from the right nostril are more pleasant than the left.
- Instead of McDonald's tearing down a 200-year-old Georgian mansion, citizens of a small NY town forced them to renovate it instead, resulting in a uniquely historic franchise location.
- Neanderthal man had a brain capacity 100cc larger than modern man's.
- Cuban rescue workers use sniffer rabbits to find people in collapsed buildings.
- Anuptaphobia is the fear of staying single.

## Sudoku Puzzle



*puzzle rating: hard*

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

## Word Search



### Movies featuring an election

(Words in parentheses not in puzzle)

- |                 |                  |                   |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Election        | Milk             | Swing Vote        |
| Game Change     | Nixon            | (The) Campaign    |
| Head of State   | Primary (Colors) | (The) Candidate   |
| Knife Fight     | Recount          | The Ides of March |
| Man with a Plan | Running Mates    | Wag the Dog       |

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CREDIT: WARNER BROS.

*Little Shop of Horrors* has everything a great '80s movie needs: over-the-top special effects, a hilarious cast and all the fake blood one can possibly find.

## A filmmaker profile on Steve Martin



ESHAAN GUPTA  
REEL LIFE

Steve Martin's name has been associated with bargain bin DVDs and family-friendly comics, producing a glut of uninspired, safe comedies that mom won't find offensive.

It's really just a consequence of age. Every controversial, ribald comedian has toned it down since pushing past 40 and having a family. Eddie Murphy and Bill Murray are just a few among the many who've been accused of playing it safe since their loud, profane debuts.

Regardless of current circumstance, Steve Martin is a comedian and filmmaker whose legacy should be far from ignored.

Initially getting his big breaks as a writer for *The Smothers Brothers* and as a frequent guest on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson, Steve became an all-seats-sold out comedian with an unprecedented

following.

He eventually made his long-desired transition into film by the late '70s with his first major starring film, *The Jerk*, still considered one of the best comedies of its era.

Some of Martin's cinematic highlights include:

***Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid* (1982)**

Less of a whole movie and more of a cinematic collage, *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid* incorporates Martin into footage from various '50s era noir detective films to construct a nonsensical plot of its own.

***¡Three Amigos!* (1986)**

*¡Three Amigos!* Is a sort-of retelling of Akira Kurosawa's *Seven Samurai*. It tells the story of three down-on-their-luck silent movie stars (Steve Martin, Chevy Chase, Martin Short) who are mistaken by the inhabitants of a small Mexican village as the heroes who were to provide them salvation from a gang of bandits.

***Little Shop of Horrors* (1986)**

A musical remake of the low budget 1963 Jack Nicholson comedy-horror flick of the same name,

*Little Shop of Horrors* stars Martin, Rick Moranis, Jim Belushi, Bill Murray and various other '80s powerhouse comedians. A giant singing, flesh-eating plant is just one of the many horrors in this surreal musical/comedy.

***Planes, Trains and Automobiles* (1987)**

A departure from his usual comedic schticks, Martin stars alongside the late John Candy as two weary travelers trying to make it home from New York to Chicago, after the cancellation of their plane due to bad weather. *PT&A* is, unlike most of Martin's previous works, genuinely sentimental but without being corny or forced.

***L.A. Story* (1991)**

One of Martin's oft-overlooked cinematic entries, *L.A. Story* is hard to make head or tail of from the start, seemingly playing out like a straight, reality-stuck comedy, with occasional deviations into the fantastical. But this rom-com satire of Los Angeles culture is, despite being initially confusing, one of the best comedic dramas you'll see.



CREDIT: KEVORK DJANSEZIAN / GETTY IMAGES NEWS / THINKSTOCK

Regardless of the service, there are tip conventions to follow. Here are some tips on how to tip.

## Tips on tipping for services



JESSICA KLAVER  
INTERROBANG

It was a frigidly cold night as we walked into the restaurant. We were looking forward to sitting down and relaxing over a nice hot meal. The hostess seated us promptly but forgot to mention our arrival to the wait staff.

Approximately 15 minutes went by when our waitress finally addressed us. We ordered our drinks, appetizers and entrees and continued to play an intense game of tic-tac-toe. We were enthralled in our game – I kept beating him – when we realized that about 30 minutes had passed, and we still hadn't received our appetizers.

Our food, all of it, was brought to us shortly after. He took a bite of his steak and found that it was cold. My pasta tasted like it had been cooked and then placed on the counter and forgotten about. Our waitress was busy with all of her other tables, and a while passed before we could draw attention to our dissatisfying meal.

We have all been here before. We went out for a nice dinner, maybe to spend money that we really shouldn't have, and when the meal came, it was disappointing. However, at the end of our substandard meal, we were faced with a question – to tip or not to tip? Here are the basic etiquette rules regarding tipping.

At hair salons, you should leave a 15 to 20 per cent tip. This helps ensure that when you come back to this person, they will do a good job on your hair again.

Are manicures and pedicures your thing? You should be leaving a 15 to 20 per cent tip here as well.

It is not a requirement to tip after getting a massage. There are even some places that don't allow tips. If you do choose to leave a tip, 10 per cent is the normal amount here.

Addicted to ink? It is not necessary to tip your tattoo artist. They would be just as pleased if you recommend them to your friends and family.

For all those pet owners out there, if you bring your dog to the groomers, you should leave a tip of at least \$5.

Thankfully, warmer weather is on its way, but until then, if you leave your coat at a coat check, you should be prepared to tip one to two dollars for each item you leave with the attendant.

That jar that sits on the counter by the register at Starbucks, you don't have to feel obligated to put money in it. As a past Starbucks employee, the people who tip are the regulars that come in every day and have built relationships with the baristas.

Some restaurants are raising their minimum tip amount to 20 per cent. Personally, I'll be sticking with the 15 per cent.

Oh, and what do you do if you received terrible service at one of the locations where you should be leaving a tip? If you want to make the waiter/waitress aware that you were not pleased with your service, it is okay to leave a 10 per cent tip. If you want to make a statement, leave nothing. However, if you choose to not leave a tip at all, I would recommend speaking with the manager to make them aware of the service you received and why you are not leaving a tip.

At the end of the day, try to be understanding. You don't know what has happened in this person's life today. And remember, you could be in a position where you rely on tips for your living someday. Karma is nice to those who are nice to others.

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4	1	8	6	9	2	3	5	7
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CREDIT: CLAUS ANDERSON/LONDON KNIGHTS & GETTY IMAGES

Goalie Tyler Parsons will be playing his best when the team faces off against the Kitchener Rangers on March 12.

## Previewing the London Knights' playoff chances

JOEL LUXFORD  
INTERROBANG

With just five games left in the regular season, the London Knights will begin its first round OHL playoff matchup at the end of March. Before we look ahead to what is to come for the Knights, let's look back at this eventful past season.

The 2014-15 season can be considered a successful transitional year for the London Knights. The season began with London losing four of its first five games and looking overmatched.

In mid-October, general manager Mark Hunter took a position as director of player personnel for the Toronto Maple Leafs and left incumbent Basil McRae to run the Knights for the remainder of the year. As the season wore on, stars like Max Domi and Mitchell Marner started to find their groove. A seven-game win streak in the middle of December put London back on the right track.

McRae made his mark on the team with a couple of deals sending veterans Michael McCarron and Dakota Mermis to the Oshawa Generals for youngsters Josh Sterk and Cliff Pu.

Under McRae's leadership, the Knights have gone 33-17-0 as of the beginning of March. Since Max Domi's return from the World Junior Classic, he has produced 37 points in his past 23 games. Mitchell Marner has carried the Knights on his shoulders all season, posting

an OHL leading 119 points in 56 games.

Needless to say, the Knights are not starving for offense.

Goaltending, on the other hand, has been a big question mark all season long. Veteran Michael Giguere has the third worst goals-against average among qualifying goalies – 3.62 GAA – while rookie Tyler Parsons has only been marginally better with a 3.29 GAA.

If the season ended today, the London Knights would finish third overall in its conference and face a tough first round matchup versus the Kitchener Rangers.

Led by second-year forward Ryan MacInnis and Red Wings goaltending prospect Jake Paterson, the Kitchener Rangers will look forward to being the underdog and the Knights will need to take the team seriously.

In the season series, the Knights have the advantage over Kitchener having won three of the five games these two teams have played so far this season. However, the team's record against the Rangers is deceiving when you consider that all three of its victories have been decided by just one goal.

On March 12, London will face Kitchener in the last matchup of the regular season. In this game, we will get a preview of the Knights potential first round foe and the team's eventual playoff chances.

All interested Knights fans should check out The Biz Booth to pick up their tickets.



CREDIT: NAUMAN FAROOQ

Great for all types of terrain, GMC and Chevrolet make solid trucks. Which one is the best?

## Nauman's picks for pickup trucks

NAUMAN FAROOQ  
MOTORING

The new 2015 Chevrolet Colorado and its 2015 GMC Canyon cousin are defined as midsize pickup trucks. But even the shortest versions are longer than the first generation Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck's smallest version – and that was a full-size pickup.

Times have changed, and full-size pickup trucks have only gotten bigger. While Ford and Ram have abandoned the midsize truck segment in North America, General Motors (GM) saw a hole that needed to be filled. The second generation of the GMC Canyon and the Chevrolet Colorado are now with us.

While the first generation of the Canyon and Colorado were often seen as minimalistic vehicles, GM's approach for the second-generation models was to dress things up. Not only do these new pickup trucks look good from the outside, step inside and you are greeted with a modern, well-built interior with features you'd find in entry-level luxury cars.

These new trucks are after a different market.

There is a market for trucks outside of construction workers and farmers, and this market delves in sporty activities like dirt biking and jet skiing, among other things.

The Canyon and Colorado seem well suited for such activities, but with towing capacities between 1,588 kg to 3,175 kg – depending on the engine you pick – these new midsize pickups can also appeal to traditional truck buyers.

Speaking of engines, there are two offered. The base model gets a 2.5 I4 engine that develops 200 hp and 191 lb-ft of torque. The upgrade motor is a 3.6 I V6 that develops 305 hp and 269 lb-ft of torque. Both engines can be had in either two-wheel drive or all-wheel layouts. While the four-cylinder engine is available with a six-speed manual or a six-speed automatic gearbox, the six-cylinder motor can only be had with the six-speed auto-box.

At an event held by GM in Ajax recently, I got to try both the GMC and Chevrolet versions of these midsize trucks. The only drivetrain on all the test vehicles was the V6 motor, however.

On a short road course, they fared well. These midsize trucks are car-like to drive and handle well. What's most impressive is how the trucks handled on rough terrain.

While I managed to get one vehicle stuck, I'm glad I was in a 4x4 version. I switched it from two-wheel to all-wheel, and I was out of the mud. If ever there was a test to show the worthiness of all-wheel drive, this unplanned test surely proved that to me.

The most pleasing features of pickup trucks are all the options –

and that includes size. These new midsize trucks are no exception. You can have a crew-cab body with a 5 ft. 2 in. box or a 6 ft. 2 in. box, or you can get an extended-cab version with a 6 ft. 2 in. box. So there is a Canyon or Colorado that will fit in your lifestyle, unless you have limited parking facilities.

While both vehicles are fairly equal, the Chevrolet Colorado is a bit cheaper, starting at \$21,695. The GMC Canyon is yours from \$22,395. Well-equipped prices can easily nudge \$35,000 on either model.

Which one would I pick? The GMC version, because I think it looks better, and GMC is the original truck company, so there is longer heritage in that badge.

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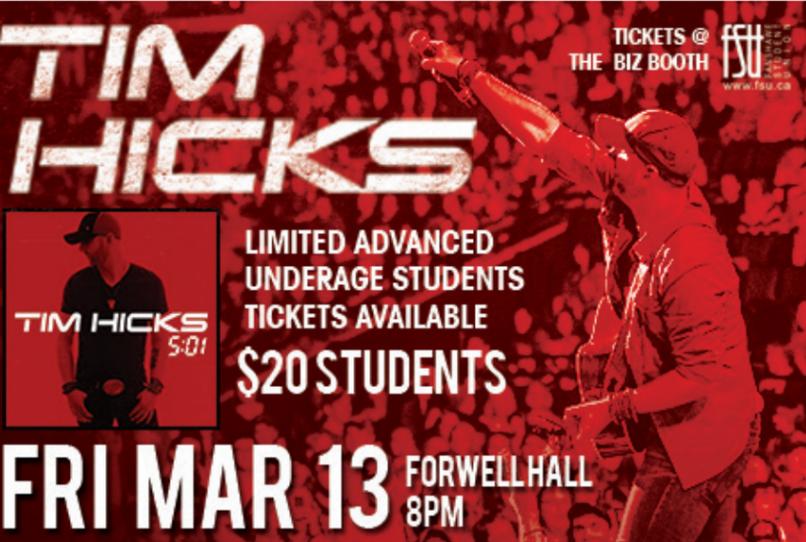
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