



Volume 45 Issue No. 13 November 19, 2012 [www.fsu.ca/interrobang/](http://www.fsu.ca/interrobang/)



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@loki564

#ConfessionNight I take pride in being a giant nerd, geek, or whatever you wanna call it. It's who I am and that's OK.

@fanshawesu

Student leaders - get the recognition you deserve. Apply for the \$1,000 College Student Alliance scholarship <http://bit.ly/WYOZQM> #fanshawe

@jimiinvincible

Twitter is the kind of place I can say how much I think this is really awesome. Right? #geekpride #notgeek-pie [pic.twitter.com/7MXQKgMP](http://pic.twitter.com/7MXQKgMP)

@VPEntertainment

#thatawkwardmoment when you realize you've spent more nights at #fanshawe than you have your new apartment... #LoveWhatYouDo

@Arya\_No1

#ooc Every time I write a 'real life' message, and iRaven autocorrects something into ASOIAF, I burst into a fit of #NerdPride .

@AshleyAnnMorris

Curled up in the boyfriend's large #fanshawe sweater. Cough syrup has nothing on this remedy #sickness

@alexissantos

You know you're a geek when you misread "Skyfall" as "Skyrim." #GeekPride

@Metal\_Tree

Bask in the glory that is my view of #LdnOnt's City Hall. One of many downtown views that is. Free rent! [pic.twitter.com/j84ZU6nK](http://pic.twitter.com/j84ZU6nK)

@jessica\_brook

November <3 #outback #fanshawe <http://instagr.am/p/R0NadhoqkV/>

@emanmouss

Right when I step foot in #fanshawe, straight to the library is where I'm going.. #nerdswag #economicst-tomorrow

@HuffingtonPost

10 new things we've learned about prostate cancer so far this year #november <http://huff.to/Rxd3V2>

@Metatau

Doing #chainmail jewelry while watching #TheGuild from S1E1 #geekpride

@EvansXFM

Just stopped by #Fanshawe J Gym for opening night of @FanshaweFalcons Basketball - Retired Coach Glen Johnson will be honored December 1st.

sweet tweets of the week



CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST

From colourful art prints to sports stars to fuzzy animals and beyond, students found what they were looking for at the Imagnus poster sale on November 14.

## 10 Things I Know About You...

# Okojie a proud nerd

Ebehi Okojie is in her first year of Fanshawe's Music Industry Arts program. "I'm a huge nerd, but one of the coolest ones," she laughed. "I love music and want to be a singer. I give 110 per cent in everything I do. I'm a perfectionist. I'm a sports junkie who loves basketball, football and volleyball. I'm always there for my friends and family, no matter what."

### 1. Why are you here?

To get closer to my dream of being in the music industry.

### 2. What was your life-changing moment?

When Grandpa passed away, and

his last words were for me to become a leader.

### 3. What music are you currently listening to?

"Let Her Go" by Passenger.

### 4. What is the best piece of advice you've ever received?

You have a big heart, but sometimes you need to learn how to lock it down, and put your feelings and yourself first.

### 5. Who is your role model?

My mum, my high school vocal teacher, and my vocal coach.

### 6. Where in the world have you travelled?

British Columbia; a few cities in Ontario; many states in the U.S.;

and Jamaica when I was younger.

### 7. What was your first job?

The one I have now: I am a scorekeeper, timekeeper and anthem singer in the Athletics department.

### 8. What would your last meal be?

A giant bowl of strawberries.

### 9. What makes you uneasy?

Disgusting things like roadkill and annoying sounds like fingernails on a chalkboard and knives screeching on a dinner plate.

### 10. What is your passion?

Music, but more specifically, singing.

Do you want Fanshawe to know 10 Things About You? Just head on over to [fsu.ca/interrobang](http://fsu.ca/interrobang) and click on the 10 Things I Know About You link at the top.



CREDIT: SUBMITTED

Ebehi Okojie a multitaled MIA student.

## UP & COMING EVENTS

MON NOV 19

### HALO 4

Tournament

7:00 PM- 10:00 PM R1020  
\$5 in advance at Biz Booth

TUE NOV 20

### Resumania

FREE @ Student Centre  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

### Comedy Nooner

Allyson Smith

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM  
FREE @ Forwell Hall

WED NOV 21

### Interview Skills Workshops

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM  
FREE @ D1063

### FSU Poker Night

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM  
Forwell Hall  
\$3 at door or  
\$2 in advance at the Biz Booth



### First run film: Breaking Dawn part 2

7:00 PM - 11:00PM  
Rainbow Cinemas  
\$3.5 student / \$5 guests

### Sex Toy Bingo

9:00 PM - 2:00 AM  
FREE @ Out Back Shack

THURS NOV 22

### Music Nooner Sarah and Jeff

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM  
FREE @ Forwell hall  
Tickets available at Biz Booth

**KIOSK QUIZ**  
**WHAT IS FANSHAWE'S WIRELESS PASSWORD?**

Drop by the Welcome Kiosk with your answer. Five winners will be selected from correct entries and we'll notify winners by email.

The Welcome Kiosk (between the Bookstore and the Library) is open all year between 8am and 4pm, Monday to Friday.

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# Flu shot or not? Nursing students conflicted

PAIGE PARKER  
INTERROBANG

Nursing students at Western University and Fanshawe College are conflicted by their right of choice versus what their nursing placement requires.

In order to graduate from the nursing program at either school, students must complete a placement. Thelma Riddell, lecturer at Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing said, "Nursing is a practice profession. There would be no point in studying nursing science if you did not plan to interact with patients."

While it is not a program requirement for the students to receive a flu shot, placement agencies require nursing students to receive the influenza vaccination before they begin their co-ops. According to Marlene Price, manager for the Vaccine Preventable Diseases Program at the Middlesex-London Health Unit, "When students are doing their placements, they may be in hospitals, long-term care facilities, places where they are caring for someone who is ill. So if the nursing student has their flu shot, they can't be infecting anyone else. It's for the protection of the patients in the hospitals."

One Western nursing student, Sara Gasior, felt uneasy with this policy, as she would not have gotten the vaccination had she not been in the program or had it not been a requirement.

She said it's contrary to everything she is being taught in the nursing program. "I think being able to take the flu shot should be a right of choice of personal autonomy and that's what they focus on in nursing; however, they kind of take that away with the flu shot."

Neither school has any control over this policy, which is why "the question about fairness is a tough one as the requirement is set by an outside clinical agency," according to Shelley Masse, coordinator of Practical Nursing at Fanshawe. "Most agencies recommend that their staff get the vaccine but it is not required for staff in some places as it is for students. From that perspective, the practice is not fair as not all 'nurses' or 'nursing students' are held to the same standard."

Riddell said the bigger issue has to do with the fairness of exposing vulnerable patients to unvaccinated care providers. "People can die from acquiring influenza, especially when their bodies are coping with other challenges such as chronic disease or infections, lower immunity due to old age or very young age. It is an expectation that, as health professionals, we get vaccinated annually to protect our patients."

Nonetheless, Gasior still said she feels that "it should be a choice. If you want to get the flu shot, you can, but if you don't want to, you should be able to state that you don't want to and you should still be able to pass."

While some students, like Gasior, struggle with the injustice of the situation, "students are aware of the placement requirements when they come into the nursing program," said Riddell.

But Gasior said she feels her right of choice is being denied by the policy because she understands that medical practices and beliefs vary among individuals. She acknowledged that some people prefer to use homeopathic remedies.

"Homeopathic products are out



CREDIT: GETTY IMAGES

Nursing students face the dilemma of whether or not to get flu shot. While not required to get the shot for their program, the placements that they go on require it since they will be working with vulnerable patients. Without the shot they will not be able to complete their placement and graduate their program.

there," said Price. "But it's the flu vaccine produced and distributed by Health Canada is the one that has been researched and shown to be effective."

People can carry the flu even when they don't have the flu, and so therefore, "the best way to protect yourself from getting sick and those around you is to get the flu shot," according to Price.

While it is an agency requirement for students to be vaccinated, there are some agencies that "will allow them in the facility as long as

there isn't an outbreak; however, if one develops, they will not allow the student to be in the facility. This absence from clinical may put the student at risk for not meeting the course outcomes."

For nursing students that have a documented reason as to why they are not receiving the flu shot, the same policy applies. They could encounter an outbreak and they cannot return "until the outbreak is over or until they have been prescribed medication to treat/prevent the flu," said Masse.

Even though all the information is readily available for students planning to enroll in the nursing program, it is evident that some still struggle with the idea of getting the flu shot. Ultimately it comes down to what is more important for Gasior: becoming a nurse or saving herself from a few pricks. In Gasior's case, she would readily take the flu shot knowing the outcome is of the greater interest for her.



CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST

Students took a puppy break on November 13 when Progressive Animal Welfare Services (PAWS) brought some fuzzy friends to campus. PAWS encouraged Fanshawe staff and students to vote for their idea in the Aviva Community Fund contest. PAWS wants to create a non-profit companion animal hospital that will provide the London community with low-cost spay and neuter services and give shelter to pets in need. Check out [tinyurl.com/PAWSvote2012](http://tinyurl.com/PAWSvote2012) for more information.

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# November Swag Sale

thursday NOV. 22  
f hallway  
(in front of college bookstore)  
10am - 2pm

HELP ASSIST IN  
FUNDRAISING FOR  
PROSTATE CANCER

## Underemployment and work culture main factors leading to stress

MELANIE ANDERSON  
INTERROBANG

If you've been extremely stressed out lately, you're not alone. According to the third annual Sun Life Canadian Health Index, 90 per cent of 18- to 24-year-olds are currently feeling a high level of stress. And young adults aren't the only ones; 72 per cent of all adults are currently feeling overwhelmed by the current economic climate in Canada.

A number of factors can cause stress; you may have been pulling your hair out during midterms or sobbing over a long distance relationship, but the most common sources of anxiety for all of the 3,113 people surveyed are finances

and work life.

Many are unhappy in the workplace, and feel they can do better. According to the Index, 30 per cent of respondents said they are underemployed, under-utilized and unable to make full use of their skills and abilities. Underemployment is highest among young workers aged 18 to 24, as 39 per cent reported feeling under-utilized.

"These results are consistent with Canada's national unemployment rate sitting at close to 15 per cent for Canadians under 25, more than twice the Canadian average," said Louis Theriault, director of health economics at the Conference Board of Canada. "It is

more difficult for young Canadians to find permanent full-time jobs that suit their skills and areas of study. Recent job creation has been dominated by part-time work, which is becoming a trend in Canada. This impacts younger workers in particular and contributes to their higher stress level."

The Index also showed that 80 per cent of Canadians believe their employers should assist in the management of stress in the workplace. Just over one-third (37 per cent) of those aged 18 to 24 who experience excessive stress say they don't have the support they need in their lives to help manage the stress.

## Hutton House gives students a place to grow

AGNES CHICK  
INTERROBANG

It's a life-changing experience when we come across opportunities that help us grow and become a stronger person. Samantha Hogg found an opportunity to grow as a professional and learn from inspirational mentors at her co-op placement with Hutton House, a nonprofit organization that promotes and supports people with disabilities.

A student in the Developmental Service Worker (DSW) program, Hogg already has plenty of experience working with people with disabilities. Working specifically with Hutton House's Day Break program, an individualized program for young adults with complex needs, Hogg has been able to apply her knowledge in a unique and exciting environment.

"Hutton House promotes independence," said Hogg. "Participants choose what they want to do when they come in here. Other organizations aren't like this."

For Hogg, this is a great opportunity to learn from an innovative organization while following her

dream of working with people with disabilities. On a daily basis, Hogg helps clients develop life skills such as nutrition and baking, writing, laundry, computer skills and playing card games. She coordinates with clients on what they would like to do and assists them throughout the activity.

"They can do anything," said Hogg. "The disability is part of the person – it doesn't define who the person is."

Hogg believes that Hutton House has prepared her for a career in developmental services. Not only has her co-op exposed her to many challenges and given her a new perspective on working with adults with disabilities, it has also given her the skills and experience she needs to be successful.

More importantly, Hogg feels a sense of fulfillment by helping those who use Hutton House's services. "Their smiles melt your heart," she noted.

Hogg isn't the first student to pass through Hutton House's doors. Gwen Pelley, field placement coordinator for the DSW program, praised Hutton House for continuously providing Fanshawe

students with valuable hands-on experience.

"Fanshawe College and Hutton House have been working jointly together for many years, providing experiences to students wanting to provide support to people who have a disability," said Pelley. "Hutton House has been flexible and creative in providing opportunities."

This year alone, Hutton House has had 16 students from Fanshawe College. Without the contributions of these students, Hutton House would not be able to provide such a high level of service. Hogg's supervisor, Jennifer Merrylees, a Hutton House coordinator, pointed out how the co-op program benefits their organization.

"We get to learn from the students," said Merrylees. "They have a fresh perspective and the latest information, so it's a great opportunity for us to polish our skills, too."

If you are interested in learning about volunteer and placement opportunities at Hutton House, visit [huttonhouse.com](http://huttonhouse.com) or contact your field placement coordinator.



CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST

Chelsea Cowling, left, and Ola Akinsara get their swag on with some awesome Movermonth gear. Check out the Swag Sale in the F hallway (outside the Bookstore) on November 22.

## CCPR students hosting Christmas party for international students

CCPR STUDENTS  
SPECIAL TO INTERROBANG

Students of Fanshawe's Corporate Communication and Public Relations program are proud to present this year's annual International Christmas Event.

All international students are welcome to experience a Canadian Christmas, as this year's theme is "Cozy Christmas." Come dressed in red and green, or throw on some warm and comfy clothes, and be sure to bring your family and

friends!

From festive activities to fun presentations, the night will be filled with ongoing entertainment. Rumour has it there will be a special guest appearance!

So come one, come all! The event takes place on November 29 in the Alumni Lounge on the second floor of SC building. Doors open at 5 p.m. and tickets are \$15 each. Finger foods and refreshments will be provided.

## Beware of break and enters

MELANIE ANDERSON  
INTERROBANG

If you rarely lock your back door or regularly leave your iPod in your car, you may want to think twice. London Police are reminding citizens, particularly students, to be more security conscious when it comes to their belongings.

With break and enters occurring at all times of the day, it's important to protect your personal items. Some break-ins do occur when residents are home; protect yourself and your new laptop by locking your doors and windows even when you're in the house.

If you're sharing your home with roommates, make sure that everyone has the necessary keys so that doors can be locked when they're out.

Thieves target electronics that

are easy to snatch such as cell-phones, iPods and computers. Don't leave expensive electronics lying around in your vehicle or in plain view within your home.

You may also consider recording your electronic devices' serial numbers or subscribing to tracking software. If you own an iPad or an iPhone, for example, you can download the *Find My iPhone* app that allows you to locate your device on a map and remotely lock your device or erase your personal information.

Backing up information on your computer is another good idea; you can purchase external hard drives for reasonable prices or use blank C.Ds. Other valuables like jewellery or important documents such as passports should be locked away in safes or a safety deposit


box rather than leaving them out in the open.


I know changing a lightbulb can seem like a daunting task, but take the time to make sure your outdoor lights are working and turned on after dark. If you do see someone in your community who appears to be out of place or acting suspiciously, notify the police.

For more information on crime prevention, visit [tinyurl.com/ldnprojsafeguard2012](http://tinyurl.com/ldnprojsafeguard2012).

Anyone who observes suspicious activity is asked to call 9-1-1, the London Police Service at 519-661-5670, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Information can also be sent in online anonymously to [londoncrimestoppers.com](http://londoncrimestoppers.com).

See SC2001  
for details.





# FSU Charity Ball

## Looking for Student Volunteers!

### Tuesday, November 20 at 5pm

1ST MEETING FSU BOARDROOM SC2016  
Food and pop for all those who attend the meeting

## Misconceptions may deter women from joining the military

MELANIE ANDERSON  
INTERROBANG

Currently there are about 10,000 women working in the Canadian Forces (CF). It may seem like a big number, but that only accounts for approximately 12 per cent of the entire force, meaning that 88 per cent of employees are men.

Canadian Forces staff is hoping to expand the female presence in the military to 25 per cent. To do so, the CF hosts national women influencer events specifically geared toward promoting women in the military. "It's important to get the word out that it's not only your typical 19- to 24-year-old male that's in the Canadian Forces," said Captain Margaret Hearn, the attraction and diversity officer for the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre Atlantic.

Sergeant Jamie Shewaga, who's been a part of the Canadian Forces for over 20 years, stressed the importance of recruiting more women in our military. "It's critical for the Canadian Forces to better reflect Canada's demography reality in order to project our values around the world."

In 1885 women served as nurses for the first time in military history. Capt. Hearn pointed out that often females are unaware that over 100 occupations are now available to them. In the late '80s, the CF adopted a "no exclusion policy," becoming one of the only militaries in the world to create equal opportunities for all its members. There are no longer any jobs in the Canadian Forces that women cannot have. The most popular positions among women now include Dental Technician, Health Care Administrator, Imagery Technician, Logistics Officer and Resource Management Clerk. You will find women in more traditionally male-dominated trades as well, such as Combat Arms and Vehicle Technician.

There are several misconceptions that can deter women from joining the military. For one, some women may believe that there are not as many opportunities for them in positions of authority. "Many high ranking and senior appointments are currently held by women, such as the CFLRS

Commandant, Commander Michelaine Lahaie," said Sgt. Shewaga.

Secondly, there's also the idea that the military is solely for those who want to fight. All CF members are required to complete their Basic Military Qualification, which includes weapons training, first aid training, physical fitness and courses on military basics. But, according to the Canadian Forces website, "while all Canadian Forces members are trained to respond to threats, most military jobs do not involve direct combat operations." There are many non-combat jobs in the military including positions in health care, logistics and administration.

The physical fitness testing may also intimidate some women, as it is a challenging requirement regardless of gender. Naval Cadet (NCdt) Abigail Nicolle is a junior at Royal Military College in St. Jean. She found the fitness component a challenge, she said. "It was hard at first. The running was the biggest issue. We would go out as a squadron together in the morning or at night, so that was difficult at first, just adjusting."

According to Capt. Hearn, it's important to understand that there are different expectations for men and women. "Even for the physical fitness tests, the criteria you have to meet is different; women do fewer push-ups than men. The fact of the matter is that women don't have the same upper body strength as men."

NCdt Nicolle decided to attend RMC St-Jean to study engineering. It is not a requirement to study at a Military College to join the Canadian Forces, but those attending will recognize a similar trend among the population. NCdt Nicolle said there are only five women in her squadron and fewer than 30 in the college out of approximately 200 cadets. "I'm the only girl in my classes right now except for one; it's a little bit weird. I was surprised, I knew we didn't have a lot of women at the college, but going into that situation it's still an adjustment," she said.

NCdt Nicolle admitted that it's very difficult at times, but she's made great friendships along the



CREDIT: FORCES.CA

The Canadian Forces are encouraging more women to explore non traditional jobs in the military.

way, "It's good, that small number of girls, we stuck together. Needless to say I'm close to a lot of people in my squadron, regardless of gender."

Capt. Hearn said the majority of her co-workers have been and are currently male, but for her it was

never an issue. "Maybe it's my personality but it really doesn't bother me a whole lot. I go in and do my job, and I do the job the best that I can and it's because of who I am, not because I'm female."

Regardless of the number of men in the force, Capt. Hearn said

it's been an amazing life choice for her. "I've been in the military for 28 years and I've loved every minute of it. It's been a great job for me, so anytime I can promote it and tell people that it's a great job for a female, I do it absolutely."



CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST

Bill Paul (left) interviews Chaukar, a Laggar Falcon, on his radio show, *Straight Talk*, on 106.9 The X. Jeves Sukhdeo (centre), of Jeve's Pet Care, and Brian Salt, of Salthaven Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Centre in Mount Brydges, came on the show to talk about A Charity Event, which takes place on February 20, 2013 at Aroma restaurant. The event is a fundraiser for Salthaven, which will use the proceeds to continue to give sick, injured and orphaned animals a second chance to live a wild and free life. For more information, check out [tinyurl.com/ACHarityEvent2013](http://tinyurl.com/ACHarityEvent2013).

## Charity Ball seeks volunteers

ERIKA FAUST  
INTERROBANG

It's time to start planning the Fanshawe Student Union's annual Charity Ball, so consider this your formal invitation to help!

If you're interested in volunteering and helping to plan this semi-formal event, you can show up to the first meeting on November 20 at 5 p.m. in SC2016. This is where all the major decisions for the event will be made, such as the theme, marketing strategies and which charity the event will raise money for.

Volunteers will be asked to come to three meetings before the

Charity Ball and be available the day of the event to set up before it begins and to help clean up after.

"This is a great event for students to participate in; it's a lot of fun and it's for a great cause," said John Young, operations manager for the FSU, who is organizing the event.

The Charity Ball takes place on February 9, 2013, and runs from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Oasis. It's a night of dancing, fun and a mid-night buffet. This is also a licenced event, and a limited number of underage students will be able to purchase tickets in advance.



CREDIT: ECONOMICCLUB.CA

Sandra Pupatello Ontario Liberal frontrunner?

## In case you need an election fix

VICTOR DE JONG  
 INTERROBANG

The Liberal Party is counting down the days until November 23, 2012. That's the final day for political hopefuls to jump in the ring and square off against each other for Premier Dalton McGuinty's recently vacated position. The provincial Liberal Party has been in power for nine years under his leadership and several leaders on the provincial level are looking to step in. Three of the most formidable candidates are sure to be former Liberal Party member Sandra Pupatello, Education Minister Glen Murray and, returning from a six-year stint at the federal level, Gerard Kennedy.

Before addressing the merits of these individuals, it's worth noting how the provincial party's leader will be selected. Members of the Liberal Party are eligible to cast a vote for one of the candidates on January 26 when the convention will be held in Toronto. Those in attendance vote for their candidate of choice and the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. The process is repeated until there are two candidates remaining, and the final round of voting determines the provincial leader.

One of the fundamental errors that contributed to McGuinty's fall was his introduction of Bill C-115. It will be key for the new leader to immediately establish his or her position on Bill C-115 because of its divisive nature. On this front, Kennedy has a valid argument to make, namely that he's been uninvolved at the provincial level for a number of years and therefore can't be blamed for the current debacle. He seems to be in a sweet spot where he's capable of running for party leadership without being conversely tarnished by that same party's reputation.

The Ontario Minister of Training Colleges and Universities, Murray, also has a lot to offer the powerful teachers' unions in Ontario. His ongoing work in transforming the face of education hasn't gone unnoticed and he's going to pick up a lot of support from that sector; the remainder will depend on how successful a campaign he's able to run.

If it were possible to pick a front-runner at this stage, it would be former Liberal Minister Pupatello. Besides her popularity as a cabinet minister under McGuinty, she's also married to the former Liberal leader of Newfoundland and Labrador, Jim Bennett. While Murray could be seen as having been party to McGuinty's Bill C-115 and Kennedy has failed to be present provincially in recent years, Pupatello has the benefit of having been employed in the private sector for the last 12 months and has avoided political ill will.

The inherent challenge that the incoming provincial leader will face is how to take the party in a new direction without abandoning the legacy of the last nine years. While McGuinty introduced a lot of unpopular legislation in the past year, he was able to win three elections despite having to break some of his most adamant election promises, but it's unlikely that his replacement will get the same leeway.

# Reading the Bible with Neil Peart, Mick Jagger and Sandy



NOTES FROM DAY SEVEN  
 MICHAEL VEENEMA  
 veenema.m@gmail.com

People will often say to me that they tried to read the Bible but didn't get very far. This is totally understandable. It would be arrogant to think it is not. The writers didn't write for you or me. They were writing for people of their time. Yet, interestingly, what they said continues to ring true.

Really? Yes, and in fact that should not be very surprising. We often see this phenomenon in the history of writing. For example, Shakespeare wrote for the audiences of his time, yet many still find truth in his words.

But far be it from me to at this point to tell you to read the entire Bible. I won't ask for that much today. I will be thrilled if you, esteemed reader, for the first time, read just the first page. Genesis, chapter one. As they say, is that too much to ask?

This is the chapter that speaks about the world being created in seven days. Therefore whenever people outside of Christian churches refer to it, they typically dismiss it. After all, no one except deluded fundamentalists takes this sort of creation mythology seriously, they confidently tell us. Believers look down at their shoes and hope not to make eye contact.

The first chapter of the Bible, though, should be taken seriously as the starting point for life, yours and mine. If it is not, we expose ourselves to peril.

Take the opening line. It is magisterial. "In the beginning God created the Heavens and the Earth." Think of these 10 words as an announcement accompanied by thunderous fanfare – horns, other brass instruments and percussion by the Toronto Symphony and Neil Ellwood Peart.

This opening line firmly places God at the foundation of the world. Behold! The creator of this incredible stage, the designer of all the sets. And, although not the writer of every part of the script – as Sir Michael Philip Mick Jagger once sang, Satan too has opportunity to throw in his bits, as do you and I – God is nonetheless the creator of mind, speech and every being, which, in turn, beget more beings.

Next line. The opening scene. It's a storm on the high seas. Shape-shifting cold, dark, watery chaos. Hurricane Sandy. No place for living things. But the Spirit of God is there, hovering over the uninventing dark. Ready to energize and give order.

And then, scene two, God speaks, like an ancient Middle Eastern king to his court. "Let there be..." Order replaces the chaos. Day and night. Sky and water. Land with vegetation. And then items to fill those places. Stars, moon, and sun. Fish and birds. All kinds of animals. And finally, as the pinnacle, humans.

And to humans, God says, "It's all yours! This is your home. Fill it with your tent-dwelling tribes, nations, libraries, colleges, concerts, machines and stories. Make your home even more blessed and beautiful than I have made it. Create with me. Give order to it as I have given order to it. Celebrate with me."

At our peril we forget that only God is God. Without faith in God, we place our faith elsewhere, anywhere. Where atheism grows, religion thrives.

Without God we overplay the appropriate remembrance of the war dead and make a religion of the sacrifices of veterans. Without God we overinvest in ideology, placing our faith in capitalism, socialism, Nazism, revolution, the American Way and the Canadian Way. Good luck with that. Or we overemphasize the importance of body building, individual rights, the stock market,



CREDIT: GENESIS.NET.AU

real estate, hockey, the latest celebrity on offer or just about anything else that moves us.

At our peril, we forget why we exist. We exist to enjoy the blessings God placed on the whole human race; we exist to make our planet more and more a paradise, not an exhausted, depleted shell of its former self – which is where our present trajectory will bring us; we exist to enjoy the diverse cultures we are able to bring to life; we exist to live without fear and terror, and to live free from tyrannies of all kinds, including the tyranny of bullies who become politicians and the tyranny of modern economists who claim that they are the way, the truth, and the life.

Yes, we have messed up, as page two and three of Genesis teach. Messed up from the beginning, all of us involved in the destruction. But that doesn't negate the other stuff, the prior things, the first things. In fact, they will never be negated. Jesus Christ was born, died and was raised from the dead to bring them back "with a vengeance." But that's another story, though one that can only be understood in the light of the Bible's page one.

# Modern video games stuffed with dysfunctional characters

ROLAND PRISKE  
INTERROBANG

Video game characters have all influenced our lives. Yet do some promote negative stereotypes? Do some video games make us think outside the box? Can video games promote an unhealthy lifestyle? These are all great questions. However, they really are unimportant as people will continue to play video games regardless.

Take a look at Mario and Luigi. Let's face it, as much as we all love them, they look like discarded attempts at cloning Mussolini. If the laws of physics and biology applied in real life as they did in the *Mario Brothers* games, then we would be totally screwed. For instance, how does a wormhole into another dimension occur in the pipe system of a home? How do two fully grown Italian men get sucked down a drain? If you look at the concept from a critical eye, the story devolves into a mash-up of bad stereotypes and poorly drawn reptiles, not to mention the drug references. In *Yoshi's Island*, when you consume the wrong mushroom, the screen begins flashing in psychedelic colours, and Yoshi staggers around the screen with a big dopey smile. In several of the other games, Mario and his cohorts consume flowers to shoot fire, take yellow stars to feel invincible, and eat mushrooms to grow twice as large. What does this teach children? Not to mention that while Mario is rather obese, Luigi is skinny to the point of bulimia. By any standard, drug abusers with grotesque weight problems are not a role model for anyone, especially when their only friends are make-believe dinosaurs and a woman who calls herself Princess Peach Toadstool.

The PBS documentary *Raccoon Nation* examines a 1970s anime series called *Rascal the Raccoon*. In this documentary, they explain that, during this show's popularity, thousands of children in Japan purchased raccoons and had them shipped from the U.S.A. This is because the protagonist of the series had a raccoon as a pet, and this made them very popular. Several years later, Nintendo decided to repeat the mistakes of the past with a little yellow abomination named Pikachu. Much like in the show *Rascal the Raccoon*, in the show *Pokemon*, the protagonist has a pet Pikachu, a fictional animal that he cares for and trains to attack other animals. This simple trick of repetition caused millions of children worldwide to want a Pikachu of their own and obtain one by purchasing a sad excuse for a video



CREDIT: NINTENDO

game. Pikachu is a small, violent creature who is abused and trained into fighting other make-believe and often ridiculous animals. Nintendo tricked millions of children and manipulated their parents into purchasing a poorly made video game with the help of a cartoon. It looks like this is a common theme for the gaming console giant.

Nintendo is not the only one making money off bad ideas and selling them as software. Take a look at Blizzard. They make the *Diablo* series and the *World Of Warcraft* massively multiplayer online role-playing game. They also make *StarCraft*, but that game does not actually matter so we are not getting into it. *World of Warcraft* has destroyed relationships, turned friends against each other and, for some players, replaced real life with a fantasy world, not to mention the female characters portrayed in the game are sexist and unrealistic examples of women in the real world. However for the typical *WoW* player, making a female elf character and having her run around in a bikini is as close as they are ever gonna get, so you can't really hold that against them.

# Military appreciation beyond November 11

ALISON MCGEE  
INTERROBANG

Another Remembrance Day has come and gone. I'm certain that you've all paid your respects, done your part and took a moment to remember those who have fought and fallen for this country. Perhaps what you are less inclined to do is extend those same feelings beyond the calendar date of November 11.

I grew up in London, and I lived there until I was 25. Now, I live on a military base, so these issues are much more in the forefront for me, however since I know what it's like to live in London, and perhaps forget that London has a military community as well, I want to take the time to remind people of a few things.

Remembrance Day isn't just about the fallen soldiers. It's about those who return home wounded with visible and invisible scars. It's about those who work long hours

every day to support those on the front lines. It's about those who are on the front lines. It's about those who are truly unsung heroes in the special forces, who do the heavy lifting and the dangerous jobs, but who cannot ever receive thanks. It's about those families who have one of their own involved in the military and who have to make sacrifices that their civilian counterparts will never truly understand.

Being part of a military family, I appreciate that civilians take time out of their busy schedules to thank those close to me for the sacrifices they make, day in and day out. I appreciate that more than any civilian will ever be able to understand. But what I want even more than that kind of attention and gratitude on November 11 is that same kind of attention and gratitude on November 12, December 1, March 20 and every other day.

What I'm going to suggest is that if you want to show your support and your grati-

My question is, how does Blizzard regard women? It appears as nothing more than objects.

Comedian Marcus Brigstock put it best when he said, "If *Pacman* had affected us as kids, we'd all be running around in dark rooms, munching pills and listening to repetitive electronic music." The same generation that played too much *Pacman* as kids ended up inventing the rave party. Since *Pacman*, video games have only gotten worse, while graphics, memory and console power may have increased. So have the addictive potential, lack of creativity on part of game designers, the overabundance of first-person shooters that are basically the same game only slightly remade, using female video game characters not as empowerment figures for girls but as exaggerated pieces of meat on a screen, and taking away from the productivity of people's lives. It seems that while video game graphics are getting better, the characters in those video games slowly devolve into the lowest common denominator game developers can imagine.

tude beyond Remembrance Day, you should also make small gestures of appreciation when the opportunity presents itself. See that soldier standing in line behind you at Tim Hortons in their uniform? Buy their coffee, if you can. See that olive green car trying desperately to turn onto Oxford Street from Wolseley Barracks in rush-hour traffic? Let them in. See that man or woman in uniform at the grocery store? Tell them you appreciate them.

What the military community really needs, but will never ask for, is to feel appreciated on more days of the year than just November 11. London may not be Petawawa or Kingston, but we do house a military community; we support them and they support us.

Don't forget that just because Remembrance Day has passed.

# Christmas cheer not all year

MELANIE ANDERSON  
INTERROBANG

The week of Halloween, I found myself walking through the mall and not only finding Halloween costumes, pumpkins and cobwebs, but also inflatable Santas, garlands and ornaments. Before one commercialized holiday even wraps up, the stores are shoving unnecessary purchases down our throats. I just can't get over how early Christmas has come this year.

The jolly old elf himself made an appearance in London on November 10 as a part of our Santa Claus Parade. May I remind you that our night-time parade was held on the eve of Remembrance Day! I'll admit I was one of the eager fans awaiting Santa's arrival, enjoying the bright lights, floats and Christmas carols, but after a night of holiday celebration I found it odd to be taking a moment of silence at 11 a.m. the next morning.

Now that November has begun, many people have started to decorate their homes, check items off their Christmas lists and attend Christmas parties. There's no snow on the ground, and Americans haven't even finished their Thanksgiving turkey yet.

On one hand, I understand getting Christmas shopping done early or planning who will host Christmas, because the holidays become more of a stress than a special occasion. So although I encourage you to get into the Christmas spirit, try not to be bombarded by all of the materialistic items glistening in windows but instead keep in mind what this holiday is *really* about.



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**Cover Credit:**  
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Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters are subject to editing and should be emailed. All letters must be accompanied by contact information. Letters can also be submitted online at www.fsu.ca/interrobang/ by following the Interrobang links.

# CNTRL tour digs deeper into EDM

MELANIE ANDERSON  
INTERROBANG

Richie Hawtin, Loco Dice and other guests visited Western University and played at the London Music Hall on November 6 as a part of their North American tour "CNTRL: Beyond EDM." The events focused on the technology aspects of modern-day electronic music.

Their goal wasn't just to play amazing shows in university towns across North America, but to educate and engage students about the music. Using a panel set-up, the DJs spent their days giving lectures about the history of the global movement and demonstrating what the future of music technology and performance can become.

"I hope we inspire and give a little bit of what we are doing and give our culture to the kids," said Dice. Loco Dice held a 10-year residency at Tribehouse in his hometown Düsseldorf, Germany and played at DC-10 in Ibiza from 2002 to 2006. He's known for being unpredictable and using his imagination to make an artistic reality for listeners. Through his influential record label Deolat, his own accomplished production catalogue and his legendary DJ sets, Dice has joined a band of elite underground DJs.

He stressed the importance of being unique, "What we tell them is keep your style and define your style. You come to our club and you hear us playing this certain music, (it) doesn't mean you have to follow this; bring your own style – please motivate us, please inspire us. Only because of this does our genre stay alive."

Headlining act Richie Hawtin grew up in Windsor and was a driving force for minimal techno in the '90s. Hawtin is widely known as an innovator and one of the most technologically advanced artists in electronic music. Having experienced the short-lived rise of electronic music in the '90s, these DJs



CREDIT: MELANIE ANDERSON

German DJ/Producer Loco Dice demonstrates his DJ style to a packed Mustang Lounge at Western University.

are hoping that the rise in popularity of electronic music is here to stay.

"What we tell the people is that mainstream is too simple, it's too easy and it can die right away," said Dice, "because mainstream comes with the hype of the media and the hype of culture. It's difficult to find something that will stay forever. Hip-hop is here forever because it took its time to develop and become where it's standing now."

During the presentation at Western, Dice showed how old-style DJing can be done with mod-

ern equipment. He stood up and presented the crowd with a mini DJ lesson. "It's just a small demonstration," Dice said, "it's important for me to show them, 'Hey, in this technology world with all these computers, there's also something really basic like a turntable.' What I'm showing is nothing complicated; I just hope to motivate the kids."

After being in the business for over 20 years, Dice has noticed several changes in the industry, "Changed for sure (is) the technology, the movement; before it was you only had certain synthesizers

and certain sounds you had to play with, now you go to studio and the possibilities are enormous."

Another message Loco is sending to up-and-coming DJs is to never give up on their dreams. "They should believe in themselves. In a hard world, especially in the music business, a lot of kids think there's not a lot of opportunities, there's no way to make something happen or you need a really good connection. We tell them, 'Look, you have friends around you who you can ask to help you make a website or to help you with promotions.'" He added that every-

one has to start somewhere, "Go to a local bar and ask the local promoter, 'Give me a Wednesday night,' and invite your friends. This is how we started in this career. It needs to take time and everyone needs to be patient."

The group completed their Canadian tour dates with stops in Windsor and Toronto following their show in London. They wrapped up their tour on November 18 in Minneapolis.

For more information about the CNTRL tour, visit [facebook.com/cntrlbeyondedm](http://facebook.com/cntrlbeyondedm) or [cntrl.com](http://cntrl.com).

## Sweet sounds of Big Sugar coming to town



MY 15 MINUTES  
WITH...  
TAYLOR MARSHALL

Big Sugar is a band that is greatly influenced by the reggae genre. Gordie Johnson (guitar/vocals), Garry Lowe (bass), Kelly "Mr Chill" Hoppe (harmonica/sax/melodica), Friendliness (keyboards/toasting) and Stephane "Bodean" Beaudin (drums) are currently on tour and will make a stop in London on November 22 with reggae legend Willi Williams as their guest. I recently did an interview with Johnson, and we chatted about what it was like to work with one of their idols and why reggae is such a big influence for the band.

**What has it been like to have one of your idols, Willi Williams, be on tour with you?**

"Yeah, it's a real privilege for us. Our bass player Garry has known Willi all his life and I've loved his music all my life, and once I realized that Garry knew

him I got his phone number and thought what a great opportunity (it was) for us to be able to work with one of our heroes. He's been on the whole tour with us and it's been just amazing."

**Are you enjoying this tour just as much as the last one?**

"It's been amazing. This tour has been very different from last year's tour because we have some new material and also having Willi on stage with us, it makes the songs go in a different direction. It's been really gratifying for us as musicians. I would hate to get up on stage and just walk through the same set list we played last tour. We don't want to just give people a rerun; we want to give them something fresh."

**Why is reggae such an influence for you guys?**

"I think it's because where we developed our sound in Toronto. That music was pervasive everywhere we went. A lot of the band members over the years have been born in Jamaica or Trinidad. It was really the music that was prevalent in our formative years."

**What are some future plans**



CREDIT: BIGSUGAR.COM

Big Sugar, a rock band with reggae influences, will be coming to the London Music Hall on November 22.

**for Big Sugar after this tour is over?**

"We just put out a concert DVD called *Eliminate Ya* with a new song on it, and we also did a song

with Willi Williams that is on iTunes now. The band is feeling really inspired right now so I can see us getting together and doing some more music in the new year."

For more information on the band and for tickets to their show at London Music Hall, visit their website at [bigsugar.com](http://bigsugar.com).



# Diamond Rings explores new dimensions



**BOBBYISMS**  
BOBBY FOLEY

I write about random things a lot. I write a lot about random things. Did you know that the sleepover scene in the movie *Grease* in which Stockard Channing sings about Elvis Presley was filmed on August 16, 1977 – the very day the former heartthrob passed away?

Film soundtracks are remarkable things by their very nature. That a passage of music should not only elevate a moment but also encapsulate a memory is an incredible feat, so it's little wonder that people are forever endeared to musical films like *Grease* or any other – that personal connection is strengthened by the powerful memories attached to the music.

Such is the case with *Free Dimensional*, the sophomore album by Diamond Rings – Toronto's John O'Regan – released October 23 on Secret City Records. Much like the soundtrack to an old favourite film, the album plays on your ear and compels you on a chemical level to provide the experience to make new memories of your own.

As an art form, music can be so wonderfully paradoxical when it's approached intelligently and creatively. With this album, O'Regan marries his pensive, vulnerable writing style with a matured yet understated musical vocabulary,

retaining that introspective quality while shaping broader, bolder musical landscapes. Diamond Rings brings the music and the experience to London for an appearance at Call The Office on November 28.

"I wanted the first album to have that homespun quality," he explained, his decision to explore musically on *Free Dimensional* rooted in his growing comfort with the tools at his disposal. "A big part of being afraid of something is not understanding it ... once I became more comfortable with the medium of electronic music, it was only natural to want to improve."

Diamond Rings' success and growth will come as little surprise to those who have had the foresight to pay attention to his career here in Southern Ontario over the past few years. From his beginnings in Guelph in bands like The D'Urbervilles or releasing a split EP with PS I Love You to high-profile gigs at Yonge-Dundas Square during NXNE or supporting Robyn on her North American tour, O'Regan has been steadily growing in notoriety on an international level.

Impressed by Diamond Rings' journey to date, producer Damian Taylor (Björk, Austra, Robyn) was happy for the opportunity to work with O'Regan, professing a deep respect for his desire to grow and employ new tools "while keeping his music honest and emotionally resonant."

"That was a big part of this whole experience," O'Regan explained. "Coming to terms with

the fact that I wanted to make something direct and impactful, and that I could trust other people to help me do it, but at the end of the day it would still feel like me."

Released almost two years to the day after his first album, *Free Dimensional* debuted on The Hype Machine on the power of two singles, "I'm Just Me" and "Runaway Love," which was filmed in Montreal. In recent weeks, Diamond Rings has performed "I'm Just Me" as a guest of both David Letterman and Jay Leno, a well-deserved opportunity to broadcast his message to a wider audience.

For that reason, missing this show at Call The Office would be a crime! It isn't likely that a world-class artist like Diamond Rings will be playing cozier venues like that for long, so don't miss the chance while you have it. Tickets for the November 28 19-plus show are \$12 in advance through [ticketscene.ca](http://ticketscene.ca), doors open at 9 pm.

For more on Diamond Rings or the new album, visit [diamondringsmusic.com](http://diamondringsmusic.com) or follow along on Twitter @diamondrings. *Free Dimensional* is widely available in stores and online, as well as available on music subscription services and streaming sites now.

And for more of the latest in music news, views and streams, consider following this column on Twitter @fsu\_bobbyisms. Here's hoping you Mo Brothas and Mo Sistas are hanging in there, stay strong for a great cause. I'm out of words.



CREDIT: NORMAN WONG.

Diamond Rings will be at Call The Office on November 28.



CREDIT: FSU STREET TEAM

Arius Paschakis became an instant multi-hundreaire by winning the Fanshawe's Got Talent competition. Arius survived the online voting process and performed in front of a live audience and panel of judges on November 6 in the Out Back Shack.

## Acne + Accutane

### Inflammatory Bowel Disease?

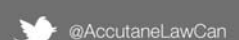
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# How to deal with rude people



**MY SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS**  
**JENNA WANT**  
 j\_want2@fanshaweonline.ca

We've all encountered them. We work with them, go to school with them, and sometimes we are even related to them. You guessed it, this week, I'm talking about rude people.

It doesn't matter what stage you are at in your life, there will always be rude people you have to deal with. Bummer, isn't it? Well I'm here to tell you how to deal.

This came to my attention after dealing with a very rude person on the phone. I had called harmlessly to set up an interview, only to get the cold shoulder and an interview with his dial tone. In his defence, maybe he was having a bad day or had just burnt his tongue while drinking his coffee... although I'd like to think that I would still be as kind as I could to someone if I was having an off day.

Anyway, that's beside the point, back to you. Here are five tips to help you deal with rude people:

1. The first thing you need to

do is learn how to make a voodoo doll. Only kidding, of course! Seriously, something I've learned over the years when it comes to dealing with difficult situations is that you always need to take the high road. It's surprisingly a very tough road to take, as it's not paved entirely well.

2. Another trick that works incredibly well is simply to agree with them. Even if their argument is that this should not be the final season of *Jersey Shore*. If the person you're dealing with happens to be an authority figure or boss, it is essential that you do what they say and then complain about it to your friends and family members afterwards. The last thing that you want to do is burn any bridges.

3. Stick up for yourself! If someone is kicking the back of your chair in a movie or stole your spot in the bathroom line, say something about it! Do not let others walk all over you; sometimes they might not even know that they are bothering you.

4. If you want something, you've got to ask for it. I once sat through all of a *Harry Potter* film with someone's New Balance shoes resting next to my head. I now realize that I did not get to fully admire Ron Weasley



CREDIT: CHRON.COM

Dealing with rude people is a common occurrence that we can't seem to get away from.

because I was too scared to stick up for myself. What a shame!

5. Above all, the most important thing you can do when deal-

ing with rude people is to forget about it. Keep in the back of your mind all of the people who love you, and remember that those are

the only people that matter.

If all else fails, you may really need to learn how to make a voodoo doll.

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# Corporate chic



**THE SHOPPING BAG**  
HAI HA NGUYEN

Thinking of handing out some resumes sometime soon? A great way to impress a potential employer is to look polished and professional and wear something that allows you to incorporate elements of your personality and aura.

Invest in a fitted boyfriend style blazer like the one to the right – it's the easiest way to come off in a professional way and the slightly puffed-up sleeves give the look a structured and defined silhouette. The blazer is in a versatile beige and takes little thought to coordinate into any outfit, but pick a color that you feel comfortable in.

Pair the blazer with a pair of high-waisted tights and a plain top underneath – it's simple but it's a great base to accessorize. Add a great collar necklace and an amazing oversized men's-style watch to complement the structured look of the blazer.

To keep the look formal, wear a great pair of patent black pumps! The shoes don't have to be too intricate since we want to keep the look professional.

**1. Blazer:** This is a tailored basic to keep in your closet and add a formal touch to almost any outfit. Try a slightly padded style; it fits very comfortably and makes



CREDIT: HAI HA NGUYEN

the look more tailored. (Urban Behavior, \$35; other great colored options available at Dynamite, \$40)

**2. High-Waisted Pants:** These elastic high-waisted pants are seriously comfortable and the waistband hugs close to your hips, creating a sleek silhouette. The black vertical ribbing, although subtle, adds length your legs and creates a slimming effect. (Zara, \$40)

**3. Collar Necklace:** This sleek collar necklace sits as a choker and brings emphasis to the neckline. It is easy enough to wear that it doesn't overpower the overall look. (Aldo Accessories, \$15)

**4. Oversized Men's-Style Watch:** Add a masculine touch to the look with a great two-toned chocolate gold and gold oversized men's watch to keep you running on time! (Aldo Accessories, \$40)

**5. Earrings:** Keep it conservative with the earrings since there are a few accent pieces already. A pair of plain gold earrings ties the whole outfit together. (Aldo Accessories or Forever 21, \$10)

**6. Black Patent Pumps:** You can never go wrong with a pair of patent black pumps! These amazing almond-toe pumps elongate your legs for any outfit. The pumps keep the outfit looking sophisticated and business-formal to offset the accessories. (Aldo, \$90)

The featured pieces are great bases for a polished look. Add your touch or favorite lucky charm to help make the job-hunt process more comfortable and stylish. Bring your confidence and positive attitude along with your stylish ensemble and you'll be able to impress anyone who comes your way!

# 50 shades of red



**BEAUTY BOY**  
JOSHUA R. WALLER  
joshua.r.waller@gmail.com

One of the most daring, sexy and hard to wear colours on the lips is red. Seen on countless fashion advertisements, celebrities and timeless icons such as Marilyn Monroe, red lips are wearable by everyone – it just takes some courage and the right shade. Red may seem like a dramatic colour, but it definitely is not just for evening wear; reds can be toned down and become a gorgeous addition to your day look.

The first important thing to know about red lipsticks is that there are two tones: cool toned, which has a blue undertone, and warm toned, which has an orange undertone. When picking a red lipstick, it is best to choose the same tone as the undertone of your skin. If you are cool toned, chose a cool-toned red lipstick and vice versa as this will always look the best. That being said, some warm-toned lipsticks may look good on cool-toned people, you just have to try it on to make sure it looks right and you feel comfortable in it. There is also a lipstick from the Chanel Rouge Allure collection (number 99) that suits most people's skin undertones!

The second most important thing for wearing a red lipstick is lining the lips first! Since red is a bright colour, when it bleeds (which is often), it is very noticeable. Lining and filling in the lips with a lip liner will help hold the colour and can also alter the shade. If you line the lips with a nude liner, it will tone down the red. If you line the lips with a bright pink lip liner, the red will appear very vibrant (this is often done to achieve a 1940s look). To keep the red lipstick in its true colour, just line the lips with a red lip liner. Lastly, to create a vampy shade of red, lining the lips in a deep purple will create a perfect



CREDIT: ELLECANADA.COM

Number 99 from the Chanel Rouge Allure collection looks flawless on almost everyone!

moody lip colour.

When choosing a lip liner, it is always best to find one that is waterproof so it will hold the colour longer. Brands such as Lise Watier, MAC and Make Up For Ever offer outstanding, affordable, waterproof lip liners.

The last and probably most important aspect to keep in mind when wearing a red lipstick is that you need to feel confident when wearing it. Even if you have the perfect shade and have your lips lined just right, if you are feeling insecure about your lip colour, it will translate through and people will notice. Red is bold, colourful and may be frightening at first, but it is an absolutely gorgeous colour to wear and can really enhance your look. Since the holiday season is just around the corner, now is the perfect time to try out one of the 50 shades of red.

# Geek chic makes one smart outfit



**MAKE THE LOOK YOUR OWN**  
AMY LEGGE

College is the perfect time to amp up and use your geek chic look. Elements of this look put together carefully will get you looking more chic than geek in no time. Looking at runway trends and fashion blogs alike, I will give you some advice to skim the line between nerdy girl and sexy secretary.

The cornerstone of a geek chic look is glasses. When you're working this look to your advantage, the heavier, darker, squarer the frame, the better. While non-prescription frames are available (and gaining in popularity), sometimes glasses are best left to those with sight problems. Currently all the rage among hipsters and celebrities (think Justin Timberlake, Anne Hathaway and Taylor Swift), dark horn-rimmed glasses add a touch of sophistication to your look. The psychology of glasses is no fad, however, as studies indicate that you are perceived to be more intelligent (and leave a better impression at a job interview!) if you do wear specs.

The rest of the look is in the details. You don't need a wardrobe overhaul or spending spree to add a little geek into your life. Next time you wear a collared button-down, for example, button it all the way to the top. Pop on a V-neck sweater, crew-neck sweatshirt or even sweater vest (if you're going for prep-school cool) and you're



CREDIT: AMCTV.COM

Jane from *Mad Men* rocks the geek chic look with a conservative turtle neck.

on your way.

Covering up is key. When done right, geek chic is a very conservative look, leaving a lot to the imagination. When you want to look a little more like Jane from *Mad Men* and a little less like Howard Wolowitz in *The Big Bang Theory*, the trick is fit. You can be covered neck to ankle, but when you're covered in a tight-fitting pencil skirt and a thin turtleneck sweater that clings in all the right places, no one will confuse you for a nerd.

Plaid, checks and stripes all can be used to geek up your chic. Think Catholic schoolgirl with a twist, and remember that for this look, kilts are best worn to the knee and not hiked up, as you would see in actual Catholic high schools in

the area. Pairing a plaid skirt with knee-high socks in a contrasting colour and some flat shoes like ballet flats or lace-up oxfords will upgrade your everyday attire.

Not to be forgotten, hair and makeup can also contribute to your overall look. To fit in with both hipsters and runway models walking in geek chic shows, put a deep side part in your hair and pull it back into a slick ponytail or tight bun. Keep makeup minimal, with a pale complexion and lips, and black winged liquid eyeliner for that touch of sexy simplicity.

Geek chic rules because it is interesting, individual and all the rage. Be inspired to smarten up your attire, because dumb isn't cute.



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The nutritional content of vegetables drops significantly when boiled.

CREDIT: JOEL BEZ

## Cooking up a controversy

JASON DOYLE  
SPECIAL TO INTERROBANG

Since we were little, our mothers always told us to eat our vegetables in order to be healthy. In the old days, little thought went into how food was prepared and the impact it would have on the nutritional value of it. Today, there is much controversy in the media about the nutritional content of cooked foods versus raw foods, processed food and other methods used when storing and transporting foods. With every TV show, newspaper article and magazine telling you something different, it can be quite confusing to understand what the science actually says about what we should do with our food before it is consumed. In this article, I'll try to clear up some of the mystery surrounding food preparation.

Firstly, it must be mentioned that our body needs a variety of vitamins and minerals to be healthy, according to the Centers for Disease Control; many of these nutrients are found in the fruits and vegetable servings recommended by Canada's Food Guide. People consume fruits and vegetables a number of ways: frozen, dried, cooked, boiled and drained, and reheated after cooking.

The most common methods of preparing vegetables is cooking or boiling then draining. Cooking your vegetables can cause you to lose as much as 40 per cent of your minerals and 70 per cent of your vitamins. According to NutritionData, boiling and draining can cause a loss of up to 70 per cent of your minerals and 75 percent of your vitamins! This means that if you buy frozen vegetables and then boil them, there is almost no nutritional value left in them at all! In addition to this, reheating previously cooked vegetables can cause a loss of 10 to 40 per cent of the remaining vitamins, although it does not seem to affect mineral content. (For a full list of nutrient losses, check out [nutritiondata.self.com/topics/processing](http://nutritiondata.self.com/topics/processing).)

What about frozen fruits and vegetables? Research shows that some vitamins and minerals (riboflavin, niacin, B6, B12, iron, magnesium and copper) are not lost at all during freezing; however certain vitamins like vitamin C can show as much as a 30 per cent

reduction after being frozen. In addition, some minerals like copper and potassium are lost at a rate of 10 per cent when frozen. Other vitamins and calcium are lost at a rate of 5 per cent.

Studies conducted on dried fruits and vegetables show that minerals aren't typically lost during the drying process, but most vitamins are lost at a rate of 50 per cent! In the case of vitamin C, a typical loss during drying is 80 per cent.

So we should eat all of our fruits and vegetables raw then, right? WRONG! Studies show that while cooking vegetables shows a reduction in the mineral content, eating fruits and vegetables raw makes it tough for our bodies to extract some vitamins in them, particularly beta carotene or vitamin A and other carotenoids, according to an article in the Journal of Nutrition. Carotenoids are very important nutrients because they are anti-oxidants, which neutralize free radical in the cells (electrons that cause damage) and fight some diseases like cancer, according to an article on [beyondveg.com](http://beyondveg.com). Research in the Journal of Nutrition suggests that lightly heating or steaming vegetables makes it easier to extract these carotenoids. Since steaming still reduces some vitamins like vitamin C, according to an article in Scientific American magazine, it would make sense to eat a combination of cooked and raw fruits and vegetables in order to receive optimal nutrients.

As the old saying goes, "variety is the spice of life"; this is definitely true when it comes to food preparation. It is important that you not only have a variety of foods, but also that they are prepared in a variety of ways.

In closing, it should also be mentioned that the food preparation techniques discussed are for optimal nutrient absorption, however when certain barriers are present (time, access to fresh fruits and vegetables, etc.), the important thing is just that you are eating. Remember, some nutrients are better than NO nutrients; however, the more nutrients you absorb on a daily basis, the higher the chance that your body can fight off certain diseases like cancer.

Jason Doyle is a Fitness and Health Promotion student at Fanshawe College.



CREDIT: BETTERMARKSNOW.COM

Many students are sick of hunching over textbooks to prepare for exams, and dream of relaxing during the holiday break in December.

## Midterm madness over; holidays are almost here

DAKOTA THOMPSON  
INTERROBANG

It's a very relieving yet funny feeling going straight from the really eventful and stressful midterm examinations to ending the semester in less than a month. That's right, it's time to shout for joy ladies and gentlemen – we are nearing the end of the Fall 2012 semester here at Fanshawe College and it is all moving at a wickedly fast rate.

All around, students are chatting happily about their upcoming plans for their well-deserved time off. With the winter semester right around the corner, the break in between classes will be a chance for students to relax and unwind while awaiting the challenges that stand before them going into the next semester.

Ryan, who is currently in his second year of Business – Insurance studies at Fanshawe, said, "I am so happy that midterms are done. Now I just have to write exams, then it's off to the cottage for the break."

Dana, who is in his second

semester of studies in the Business – Insurance program, agreed. "I will finally have time to relax with my family and enjoy Christmas without any distractions, and that makes me happy, but I look forward to the next semester and the classes I have."

Don't kick your feet up just yet, though! There are still a few weeks remaining in this semester and still a lot of projects are due and taking precedence over all the spare time a student has. Sarah, who is in her second year of the Business – Marketing program here at Fanshawe, said she looks forward to the challenges. "I am glad midterms are over. A lot of people think the last few weeks are the hardest, but for me it is definitely mid-terms that get me more than anything."

The reality is that time moves so quickly for some students, but tediously long for others to the point where some people require the breaks more than others. I personally love working and studying a lot more than the average person and I don't do well with long

breaks, so the break will be a little uneasy for me. I'll be anticipating the return to classes in January.

Regardless of your excitement or anxiety about the coming break, many will agree that it is time to shut down for a little while. It is a great opportunity to get involved here at Fanshawe with various volunteer initiatives and seminars. ENACTUS, as an example, is a great way to get involved here at the campus. They are a student club that deals with various community initiatives and they are always looking for new members as well. For more information, speak to Nitsa Andres or Jim Johnston in the business office (B2015) or check out the billboards on the second floor of B building.

In conclusion, the time of year is starting to get chilly. It is now time to throw the cabana cozies in the closet and break out the cardigans. Fellow students, this will be a very fast-paced home stretch. Remember to keep your heads up and stay focused, we only have a few short days until the break.

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# Let your geek flag fly

BROOKE FOSTER AND STUART GOODEN | INTERROBANG

Everyone is a geek about something. Perhaps that statement is bold or even, to a degree, offensive to some. But if you take a second to consider what the word actually means, you may find that there is some truth behind it.

Perhaps one of the reasons the word "geek" is looked down upon by some is because it has such a strong correlation with the word "nerd." Though the two are often used interchangeably, the difference between the words is important to understand.

A nerd is generally someone who devotes most of their time to intellectual or technological pursuits. They often forego social endeavours to expand upon their already vast knowledge and skill base. The latest cell phone technology, ancient Mesopotamian trade systems and

building a replica of the Starship Enterprise are all safe to consider super nerdy. Because of the intense intellectual and reclusive nature of most nerds, the word usually has negative connotations.

On the other hand, a geek is simply someone who has found an interest in... well... anything, really. A geek voluntarily seeks to widen his or her knowledge on a particular subject, regardless of how quirky or nerdy that subject is. Geeks are often sociable, enthusiastic experts in any given field. For example, musicians and music fans alike are geeks. Going to shows, buying (or downloading) every single song their favourite musician has been featured in, learning the lyrics to every one of those songs and defending that same musician from haters with a passion are the basic characteristics of any music geek.

There are many different kind of geeks, and chances are you're one of them. We're not talking about the stereotypical ones that like to configure computers and play *Halo* all day long. I'm talking about sports geeks, fashion geeks, music geeks and gym geeks. Everyone has an inner geek. This issue is pulling the curtains off of the word "geek" and the stigma it draws. We're all geeked up in one way or another, so you might as well just embrace it.

No longer should the stigma of being a geek allow others to ostracise or misunderstand. Being a geek is expressing that passion that makes us happy. Without it, our lives would seem mundane and perpetually boring. Remember that, regardless of whether or not they've expressed it, everyone has an inner geek.

## What can geeks do for you

VICTOR DE JONG | INTERROBANG

When people think of you, they likely associate you with a few things for which you're best known or best at doing: everyone knows somebody who opts to fix their car in the driveway instead of bringing it to a shop or a handyman neighbour who built his own shed.

I've recently become aware of geekiness in my own life. As a cycling enthusiast, I often pore over websites for hours at a time looking at new products, interviews and training instructions. While looking at the dimensions of a new bicycle frame, I noticed in the description that it was made from 6061 Aluminum Alloy. Being a curious kind of person, it only took 25 minutes before I was looking at the Periodic Table of Elements, trying to understand atomic mass, covalent bonds and everything else I worked so hard to not learn in high school. My inner geek had surfaced, eager to fill everybody in on the advantages and drawbacks of additional tensile strength that can be achieved in the 4130 alloy.

Julien Channer is a second-year student in the Computer Systems Technology program here at Fanshawe, and he spent his summer working as a computer technician for the Fanshawe Student Union.

Channer's journey into geekdom can be tracked to his first computer. "My parents got one in '95 when I was 10, that was sort of the beginning, I guess." He remembered his first forays into working with software. "All I was concerned about right away was figuring out how to get whatever games I wanted to work. Whenever it would break, we'd have a guy who would come over." Even 'that guy' now remembers who 'that guy' was back in the day.

In Channer's words, "Given enough time and given enough boredom, I would just start messing around with computer settings. That's the best way to figure out how stuff works." Anyone can start messing around with settings, but it's the drive to mess with all the settings that defines

a geek. As much business as local bicycle shops get repairing broken parts, I've seen triple the amount of work done free of charge by untrained cycling enthusiasts who don't leave the house without a bag of tools.

Alison McGee is a Fanshawe Film graduate from 2011 and resident film critic for The Interrobang. She had no problem admitting that she has a lot of geek in her: "I would say it's a very fair statement to call me a film geek – in fact, I'm proud to call myself that!" She's "learned how to think critically about aspects of film like cinematography, editing and atmosphere," thanks to two years of studying film. Even a geek needs their tools, and in Alison's case, she got those by studying Film at Fanshawe, but her interest in her field was what drove her to equip herself in the first place.

We love geeks. Having a friend change your oil in 45 minutes for a 12-pack of beer feels infinitely preferable to dropping a vehicle off for six hours with a good chance you'll get a call that it won't be ready until tomorrow. Every coin has two sides, however, and I decided to get some insight into what it's like being on the other side of the arrangement.

Channer deals with computers for himself and his girlfriend, his parents, her parents and a host of others who caught wind of free repairs. "It's really useful sometimes if you want to impress somebody," but these favours can eventually become obligations, he said, and that can lead to some awkward situations.

McGee has had a significantly different experience. "I actually don't get asked for my opinion on movies all that much from friends and family, I think because I am very open about my opinions with people that I know – they don't want me to spend 10 minutes telling them

why a movie they really want to see is terrible. My husband just avoids that area with me altogether." A sure sign of geekdom is when your partner starts intentionally avoiding the subject area because they don't want to risk setting you off!

Channer and McGee have taken their hobbies to the next level and use their skills to earn some extra money, though Channer experienced some complications. "It's always a family network or a friend network – you feel like an ass if you charge your friend to fix his laptop and it takes an hour, but if his friend is like, 'Hey, he fixed your laptop, can he fix mine?' do you charge him?" The price he charges is always a fraction of what you'd pay in store, and in return, you get a personal guarantee instead of one based on store policy. The inherent dilemmas that arise from charging for non-certified expertise are plentiful, but in most cases this too is an advantage. At a computer repair store you'll be charged as soon as you hand over your PC, while a friend can play with it for five minutes and save you the diagnostic fee at the very least. An individual working for himself can determine what price is appropriate based on the amount of labour necessary. At a place like Future Shop, there's a set price for every procedure and labour is added on top of that.

Geeks get things done, simply being a geek means you are well informed on the subject, actively involved in the community and, by and large, you just know what you're doing. Embracing your inner geek will result in personal enjoyment of a new – or old – hobby, new friends and a feeling of satisfaction that comes from being 'that guy.' While it was a long time coming, I think the day is almost upon us when the geek will inherit the earth.

## TALK LIKE A GEEK WITH THIS USEFUL GEEK TO ENGLISH DICTIONARY

BROOKE FOSTER AND LINDSAY ROCHE | INTERROBANG

**1337:** Pronounced "leet" – derived from the word "elite" – this is a written language that replaces some letters with numbers or symbols. The term "1337" is used by some gamers to express their prowess at a game. Some people use 1337speak as a way to speak in code, often using it to circumvent language filters on websites and in online games.

**Cheese:** Using a non-standard strategy to quickly attack an opponent, such as building a base inside the opponent's base. These attacks are meant to catch the opponent off guard and be difficult to defend against.

**Griever:** A player who directly or indirectly kills their own teammates with the goal of irritating other players. This term is often used in first person shooter games.

**Meme:** Pronounced "meem," it is a humorous idea, photo or video that spreads quickly over Internet forums, blogs and websites.

**n00b//newb/newbie:** Someone who is inexperienced or new to a game or Internet forum.

**Pwned:** Being completely destroyed at a game.

**QQ:** Used to deride someone for whining; each Q resembles an eye with a teardrop.

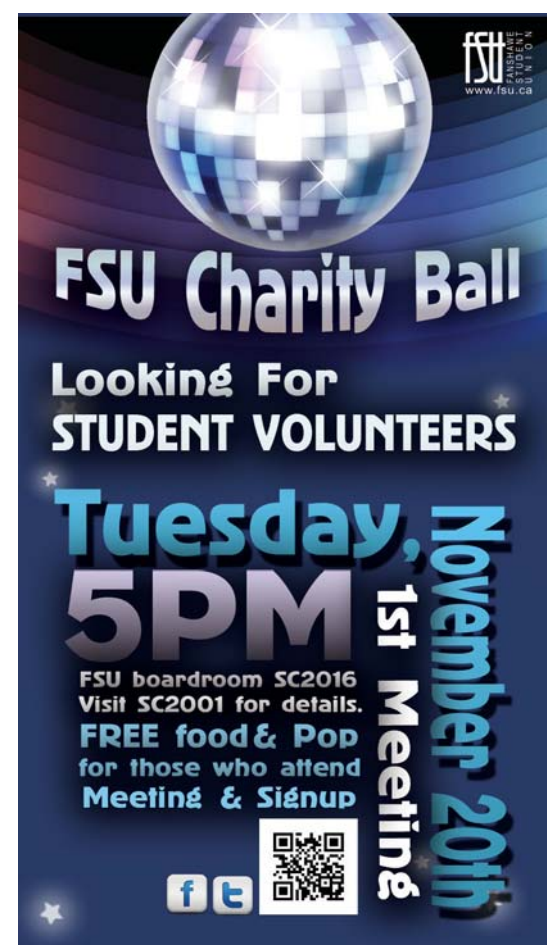
**Shipping:** Fanfictions (stories written by fans using characters and scenarios from existing media works, such as *Harry Potter* or *Twilight*) in which writers will put two characters from the same series in a romantic or intimate relationship that does not exist in the original story.

**Slash:** A fanfiction story in which two characters are paired together in a homosexual relationship. A slasher is someone who reads slash fanfiction.

**Troll:** A person who posts offensive and often superfluous photos or comments on Internet forums in hopes of provoking anger and frustration in other users.

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# From pixels to 3D

## The evolution of your favourite video game characters

LINDSAY ROCHE | INTERROBANG

Gaming has come a long way since the first game of Pong in 1972. Today, games have 3D graphics, online play and so much more. One thing that will never be forgotten is the beloved characters that have changed with the times. Take a look into where Mario, Sonic, Donkey Kong and Kirby all began.

sanbox.yoyogames.com



### MARIO

Nintendo's beloved plumber made his debut in 1981 with the arcade game *Donkey Kong*. In this game, Mario tries to rescue his girlfriend from an evil ape by climbing ladders and dodging obstacles hurled by Donkey Kong to get to her. Since then, Mario has appeared in over 200 games, which have collectively sold over 210 million units. He is Nintendo's mascot and he is said to be the most famous character in video game history.

Mario creator Shigeru Miyamoto originally wanted to name Mario "Mr. Video Game," and he was to be used in all of the games Miyamoto created. Miyamoto ended up naming his character after Nintendo of America's warehouse landlord Mario Segale, so the story goes. Miyamoto named the character after Segale instead of paying back the rent for the warehouse. Settling this disagreement was crucial at the time, as *Donkey Kong* was being localized to North American audiences.

Miyamoto thought that Mario should be a plumber because most of the game is played in underground settings. Mario was designed wearing simple clothing – a red shirt and blue overalls – due to the limitations of the arcade game system. Mario's cap was added so that Miyamoto did not have to draw or animate Mario's hair, forehead or eyebrows as he jumped, and he was given a prominent moustache so the designer could avoid animating his mouth. As the years progressed, Mario's outfit became a little more detailed: a red circle with a red M was added to his hat and gold buttons were added to his overalls.

Today, Mario is in racing, puzzle, party and many more types of games. His latest is *Super Mario Bros 2*, for the Nintendo 3DS.

For more information, check out [tinyurl.com/marioinfo1](http://tinyurl.com/marioinfo1) and [tinyurl.com/marioinfo2](http://tinyurl.com/marioinfo2).

media.sonicart.com



### SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

Sega's speedy blue hedgehog made his debut in 1991 in *Sonic the Hedgehog* for Atari. Sonic was created to rival the popularity of Nintendo's Mario. Since then, Sonic's games have sold over 80 million copies, making him one of the world's best-known video game characters.

Sonic's blue colour was made to match the colour of Sega's logo, and his shoes were inspired by Michael Jackson's boots with an added splash of red, supposedly inspired by Santa Claus. His personality was inspired by Bill Clinton's get-it-done attitude. Sonic's appearance has also had an upgrade over the years. Originally in the video games, Sonic was short and round with short quills and no colour in his pupils. Over the years, Sonic has changed with the times. He now has longer quills, a longer body and green pupils.

Sonic's latest is *Sonic the Hedgehog 4: Episode II*, for various platforms, where he is now accompanied by his two-tailed friend Tails. Up next for Sonic is *Sonic & All-Stars Racing Transformed* for various platforms, expected to come out in the latter part of this year.

For more info on Sonic, check out [tinyurl.com/sonicinfo1](http://tinyurl.com/sonicinfo1), [tinyurl.com/sonicinfo2](http://tinyurl.com/sonicinfo2), [tinyurl.com/sonicinfo3](http://tinyurl.com/sonicinfo3) and [tinyurl.com/segaallstarsracing2012](http://tinyurl.com/segaallstarsracing2012).

dkvine.com



### DONKEY KONG

Donkey Kong stepped into the gaming world in 1981 with *Donkey Kong*. In this he was Mario's enemy as Mario tried to rescue his girlfriend. Since then, Donkey Kong had his own series starting in 1994 with *Donkey Kong Country* for the Super Nintendo.

DK came about because Nintendo could not get the license to make a game based on the *Popeye* comic strip, so Nintendo character creator Shigeru Miyamoto decided on to create a love triangle between a gorilla, a carpenter and his girlfriend that mirrored the rivalry between Bluto and Popeye for Olive Oyl. In later years, the original Donkey Kong from the arcade game became Cranky Kong, DK's grandfather.

DK is known for the bit of hair sticking up on his head and the red tie around his neck.

He has appeared in many Mario sports, party and other types of games, including every edition of *Mario Kart*. DK was also a playable character in the *Mario Party* series up until *Mario Party 4*, and he still appears in some games as a non-playable event character. Over the years, DK has occasionally traded places with spiny-back dragon Bowser as Mario's enemy.

Donkey Kong's most recent title is *Mario vs. Donkey Kong: Mini-Land Mayhem!* There have been rumors of a *Donkey Kong 3D* game for the Nintendo 3DS, but nothing has been confirmed by Nintendo.

For more info on Donkey Kong, check out [tinyurl.com/DKinfo1](http://tinyurl.com/DKinfo1) and the book *Power-up: How Japanese Video Games Gave the World an Extra Life* by Chris Kohler.

creativeurl.com



### KIRBY

Nintendo's pink marshmallow debuted in 1992 with *Kirby's Dream Land* for the Game Boy. In this, he was a black and white two-dimensional sprite. There are many theories on how Kirby got his name – a popular one says that he was named after a vacuum cleaner manufacturer – but Kirby creator Masahiro Sakura said that he does not remember where the name came from.

Kirby is known for his pink colour, round shape, red shoes, stubby arms and his ability to inhale objects and exhale them with great force or take on the special abilities of the objects or characters he inhales. According to the *Super Smash Bros.* games, Kirby is eight inches tall. He hasn't changed much over the years, except for becoming more rounded and defined mainly in his face, and having larger eyes. Kirby's high-pitched voice suggests that he is fairly young. He is also a very positive character and enjoys singing, despite being tone-deaf.

Aside from video games, Kirby is also the star of many anime and manga comics. The longest-running series is *Kirby of the Stars: The Story of Dedede Who Lives In Pupupu*, written by Hirokazu Hikawa. This series has 25 books and was released only in the Japanese language. Kirby's most recent game is *Kirby's Return to Dream Land*, released in fall 2011 for the Nintendo Wii. Nintendo is rumoured to be releasing something for Kirby's 20th anniversary this year.

For more info on Kirby, check out [kirby.nintendo.com](http://kirby.nintendo.com).



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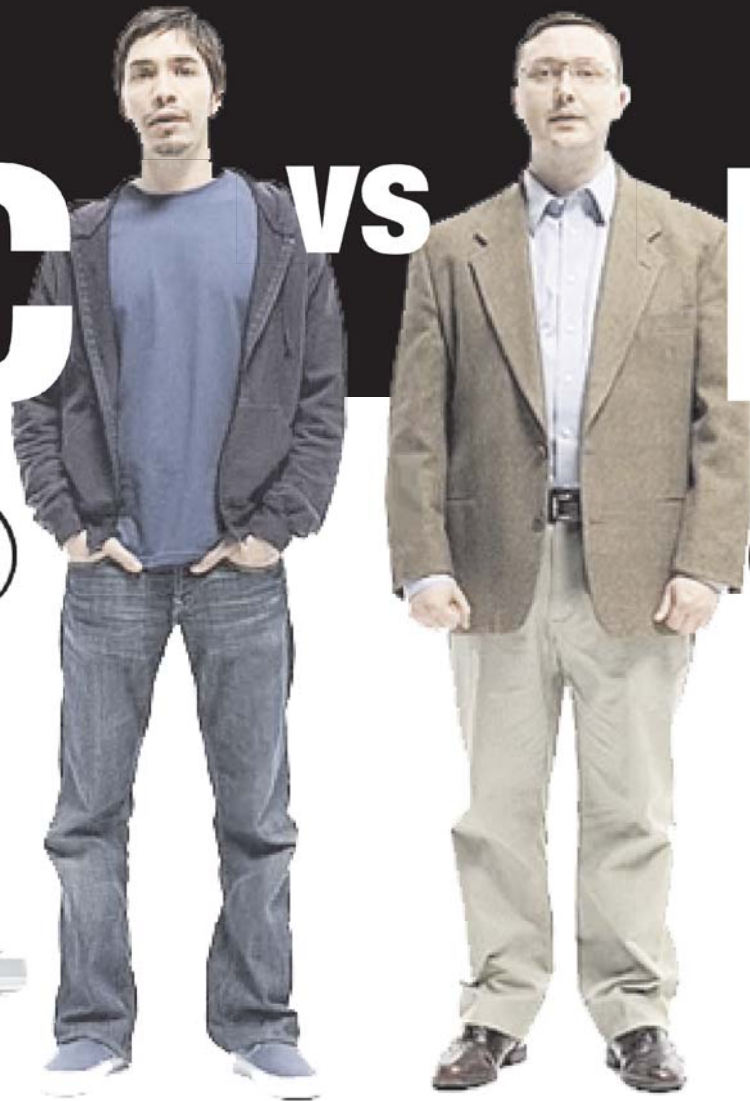
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# The great debate:

# MAC vs PC

STUART GOODEN | INTERROBANG



Nerd.

Pretty Boy.

**L**ike our very own Brooke Foster said in the intro to this issue, there are many types of geeks in this world. Sport geeks, book geeks, Halo geeks, band geeks... you get the idea. Some aren't ashamed to show it, while others choose to get their geek on in private. But absolutely everyone is a computer geek, whether you choose to accept it or not.



Over the past couple of years, the computer market has created two breeds of computer geeks, and you're one of them. You're either a Mac or a PC.

A Mac (also called a Macintosh) is a computer made by Apple and features the Mac OS X operating system. The very first Mac was made back in the mid-'80s when then-chairman Steve Jobs was in charge of Apple. A PC is a personal computer that most often runs the Windows operating system, which was invented by Microsoft's current chairman Bill Gates a year after the Macintosh was introduced.

The Mac versus PC debate is a controversy that has picked up steam the past several years, and it is still tearing students in two over which one they think is better. There are many reasons why users are turned on and made tick over the two developers. Both Mac and PC faithfuls endorse that their computer is superior to the other, but why?

Brenden Gibbins is a TV - News student at Fanshawe who has always been - and always will be - a PC user. Gibbins said he loves the fact that Windows computers are adaptable with almost every type of software and hardware, adding that he feels that Macs put a cap on what you can and cannot do.

"I started using Macs and realized more things aren't compatible with it," he said. Indeed, Macs lack an HDMI port, meaning they cannot be directly hooked up to newer televisions or other HDMI-compatible devices, though this problem can be remedied with adapters. It is also very difficult or impossible to upgrade the hardware on a Mac. "The PC, although it gets viruses and whatnot, I feel like the PC is more compatible with things that I would probably use more, like Flash and things like that. The Mac seems pretty limited."

When asked if pricing was an issue, Gibbins made it pretty clear where he stands. "The price is ridiculous ... I would never buy one. If someone gave one to me, I'd probably sell it." The MacBook Air retails as the cheapest version for Apple at about \$1,000 for an 11.6", 64-gigabyte capacity of flash storage. The MacBook Pro, the most popular type of Mac, starts at \$1,249 for a 13.3" model, and their priciest version runs up to \$2,499 for the 17" model. Student discounts are available, but it still isn't exactly the most affordable piece of electronic equipment on the market.

Gibbins said he doesn't see himself ever forking out thousands of dollars for one. "I can't really justify spending that much money on a computer, without the insurance (warranty)," he added. "The big part of my computer purchase was the insurance. Seventy-five per cent of (my decision) was pretty much insurance just in case it broke, and it broke twice ... I don't know what insurance is like with Macs, but considering the price is so high, I'm assuming the insurance will just add to that ...

That's a lot of money for a computer."

Jake Kislinsky is in the joint broadcast journalism and MIT program with Fanshawe and Western University, and he has made the transition from PC to Mac since joining the program. Kislinsky's hobbies and program requirements are heavily media-based, and he said that when it comes to dealing with media-related software, Apple fits the bill. "I'm somebody that likes using a lot of media applications ... and Macs (are) perfect for that. I was able to use software like Final Cut Pro and iPhoto and different things that I could use to my strengths and Mac offers those types of programs way more than PCs can offer."

Kislinsky said he believes that both types of computers have their place in the market for two separate types of people. "Microsoft and PCs generally cater themselves to business-oriented things. So it's all about spreadsheets, it's all about calculations and numbers," he said. "Whereas Macs really gear their wants and needs towards what people use on an everyday basis. So people like listening to music, they like watching videos they like doing stuff that will make their life easier."

Randy Silverthorne is the computer sales consultant at the Fanshawe Computer Store, and he said that historically, Mac was always the typical option for artistic fields, while those who worked more with words and numbers depended on PCs. "(Macs) were a graphic-based machine. People who were artistically inclined tended to gravitate to the Mac. The IBM PC, when it was created... it was text-based, it was not graphics. So if you were into graphics, you went to Apple, if you were into text, you went to the PC. It's basically that way." That trend continues today as most graphic designers, photographers, fashion designers and other image-based fields turn to Mac.

Although Microsoft has been a staple in the market for decades, over the past several years, it's Apple that has seemed to be running circles around the rest. Silverthorne said that Apple has done a great job at putting down their foot first when it comes to developing new technology. "Apple is an innovator. It definitely is an innovator," he said. "They've grown from 10 to 15 per cent of the market to I would say an estimate of 30 to 40 per cent."

Kislinsky said he thinks that although the two companies will always be around to outdo one another, Windows is just too slow to the draw when it comes to competing with Apple. "You slowly see this emergence that Macs are looking to do just as much as PC, and even more," he noted. "To me it seems like whenever PC does something, then Mac is one step ahead. So Mac will come out with some type of product or some new

feature, whether it's a MacBook Air or an iMac or something like that, and then four or five months down the line when Microsoft or other PCs come out with their stuff, it's kind of just a play on what Mac's already done." Silverthorne said that

despite a couple of technical differences between the two platforms, the popularity of Macs has really come down to one main reason: "The coolness. It's cool to have Mac," he said. He added that he has sold Macs to people who trash the Mac operating system and install Windows instead, opting to buy a Mac over a PC because Macs seem to have fewer hardware problems.

Silverthorne did say that unlike PCs, the quality of Apple computers does not tend to be compromised. "One of the beneficial things about Mac is that all the Apple computers are made by one company, where you have in the PC world ... a hundred different companies that are making Windows computers."

In general, when it comes to electronics, you get what you pay for. If you spend more on a machine, chances are it's because it boasts more features and the quality is better than the rest. But is this the case for Mac computers? When asked if Macs are worth the money they are sold for, Silverthorne was blunt in his reply. "No. A flat no," he said.

Silverthorne then compared the average PC computer to the average Mac. "I can sell you a comparable machine from Windows verses Mac, and it will cost you twice as much for the Mac than it would for the Windows. The Mac comes with one-year parts and labour (warranty); a Windows machine comes with three years parts and labour. The Mac machine is \$1,750, the Windows machine is \$750 - you're paying \$1,000 more for less. So no. The premium that you're paying for Mac is not worth it."

So how then can one become so much more popular in the past several years, despite the huge discrepancy in price? Silverthorne could only come back to his belief why. "I have to write it off to coolness. It's cool to be a Mac user."

## VERDICT

One isn't necessarily better than the other. Users of both computers love what they use, and for different reasons.

PCs are affordable, versatile computers that are compatible with virtually every type of software and hardware, but some brands are known to have hardware problems.

Macs are computers that stay true to their mantra of "it just works." They are reliable, attractive, and offer the experience of using a different operating system than Windows. Unfortunately, they are very expensive, and whether you're able to own one heavily depends on how deep your pockets are. If you're the average student, chances they aren't that deep.

# My little Brony

## A Brony-fied geek subculture

STUART GOODEN | INTERROBANG

There's no denying that back during the glory days, cartoons played a big part in our childhoods, whether you grew up in the age of *Doug* and *Ren & Stimpy* or *Ed, Edd, & Eddy* and *Courage the Cowardly Dog*. But there is one geek subculture that is grasping tightly to cartoons and refuses to let go.

Let me introduce you to Bronies. Bronies are bros, or typically teenaged to middle-aged men that watch the television show *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*. You read that right. Theoretically, this is odd. But after catching up with an actual bronie who was more than willing to express his bronie geekiness, I've learned that the spectrum of geek is broader than I thought. Some bros are bike geeks, some are sports geeks, some are music geeks, there are some who like ponies and there are plenty who like to hold onto elements of childhood a little longer.

For those who don't know what *My Little Pony* is, it's a television show that features the adventures of a unicorn called Twilight Sparkle and five of her pony friends in the kingdom of Equestria. The show is filled with pink-pony happiness that glues many young fans to their television screens on a weekly basis. The show has aired for two seasons, with the third to premiere this fall.

Raymond Haggerty is a Fanshawe College student, and has been a proud bronie for two years now. Haggerty is 25 years old and has no shame expressing his geekiness. When asked as to why he's a bronie, his answer was simple: "The show is just happy and awesome," he said. "There's so much terrible in the world right now, it's nice to veg out for 24 minutes and watch some *My Little Pony* and just be happy and laugh."

Contrary to what you may be thinking, the show is a lot more sophisticated than six pony friends scouring the land looking for solutions to their fairytale problems – well, maybe not for the five-year-old fan. Haggerty said he has noticed that the growing bronie community has influenced the plot a great deal, and Hasbro, the company that produces the show, has catered to their unusual fan base. "The show has definitely evolved over the last two seasons," Haggerty admitted. "It's still there to be silly, and still there for the five year-old girls, because that's still their main audience they want to deal with. But there's definitely stuff for us, like *The Big Lebowski* reference (in season two) is a perfect example, because no five year-old is going to get that."

Haggerty has also noticed many adult elements in the show after its first season when the bronie culture became more and more predominant. Over the course of the second season, he's noticed references to terrorism, international conflict, sadism and even political unrest – pretty uncommon for your average children's show.

The bronie culture is spreading quickly though, with *My Little Pony* and bronie conventions as well as a bronie-specific pony, Derpy hooves, that Hasbro has created.

But like any geek faithful to his or her creed, there is always the chance of taking some heat. Being a bronie isn't exactly the easiest thing to do, but Haggerty doesn't let criticism affect him. Still, he doesn't understand the haters. "I guess they don't get it, or they hate happiness or something. How can you hate something so fluffy and excellent, and only about being happy? Especially on the Internet, there's lots of hate. I just ignore it." Haggerty has already had meet-ups with fellow bronies, and he said he hopes to post flyers around Fanshawe to inform others in hiding that there are like-minded people.

The geek spectrum is indeed wide and varied. When we meant you could be a geek about literally anything, we were totally serious.

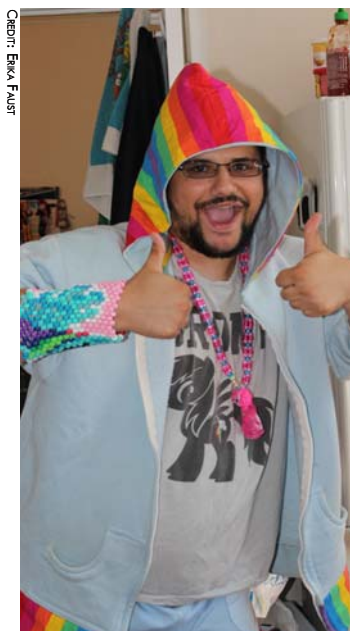


CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST



CREDIT: TONSILKSPORT.COM

For more info on Derpy, read the detailed explanation at <http://knowyourmeme.com/memes/derpy-hooves>.



CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST



CREDIT: LEANNE WHITE

Ray Haggerty and his girlfriend, Leanne White, dressed up as *My Little Pony* characters for a convention this past summer. Haggerty dressed as Rainbow Dash and White dressed as Twilight Sparkle.



CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST

Haggerty's favourite pony is Pinkie Pie because he said her character development throughout the series has been the most interesting.



CREDIT: ERIKA FAUST

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# All you need is BRAINS

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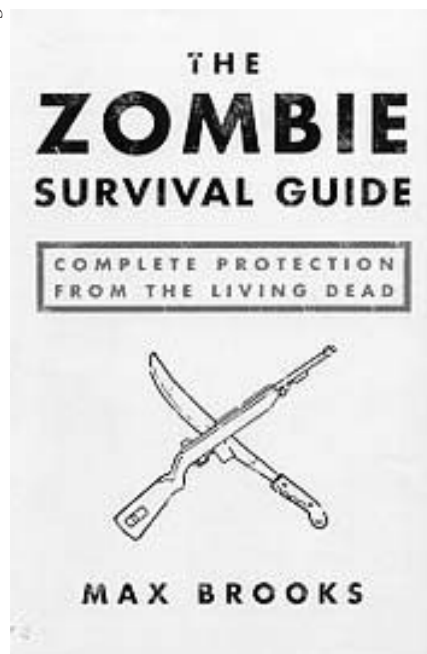
**Z**ombies: those pesky flesh-eating Hollywood monsters never seem to die, even after decapitation. From George A. Romero's classic slow-moving zombies to the infected undead of *28 Days Later* and its sequel, the popular Hollywood depiction of the walking dead has lasted for more than four decades.

But when and where did this craze really start? Self-proclaimed zombie expert Bryan Holmes said, "It all started with (George A.) Romero, of course. He made movies that showed the ugliest of human nature." Romero's 1968 cult classic *Night of the Living Dead* was one of the first movies to depict what we could now refer to as "the Hollywood zombie."

"The word 'zombie' originally comes from the Kimbundu word 'nzúmbe,' a term describing a dead person's soul, and yes, zombies and zombification are integral parts of the Afro-Caribbean religion known as voodoo. However, the origin of their name is the only similarity between the voodoo zombie and the viral zombie," wrote Max Brooks in his New York Times bestselling book, *The Zombie Survival Guide*. By Brooks' definition, a "voodoo zombie" is created using "zombie powder." A voodoo priest would use the powerful neurotoxin to put his victim in a deathlike state, and the paralyzed human would be buried alive. What causes the zombielike state is brain damage from lack of oxygen. Brooks wrote that he believes that, unlike zombies shown in movies, voodoo zombies can think, feel pain and show emotion.

This version of the zombie is where movie producers found inspiration for the well-known flesh-eating ghouls we see on the big screen today. Former Fanshawe student Brian Gibson developed a zombie fascination after seeing *Night of the Living Dead* with his parents at a fairly

CREDIT: UPLOAD.WIKIMEDIA.ORG



young age. He also said he believes that zombies originated from old voodoo tales. "We always have stories about resurrection, people trying to bring others back from the dead. It was almost like a magician bringing back bodies to use, sort of like a puppeteer."

Zombie films always seem to experience a surge in popularity during times of uncertainty. In the '70s, with social uprising and the Vietnam and Cold Wars, fiction was something that people had some sort of control over and zombies were still something new and taboo that people could explore. Holmes said he believes that zombie gore is a metaphor for real life human struggles. "Most people miss the messages hidden in the films."

Eventually, zombie flicks shifted from being all about the hidden messages and the struggles of life to focusing on how much blood and guts you could show in

CREDIT: UPLOAD.WIKIMEDIA.ORG

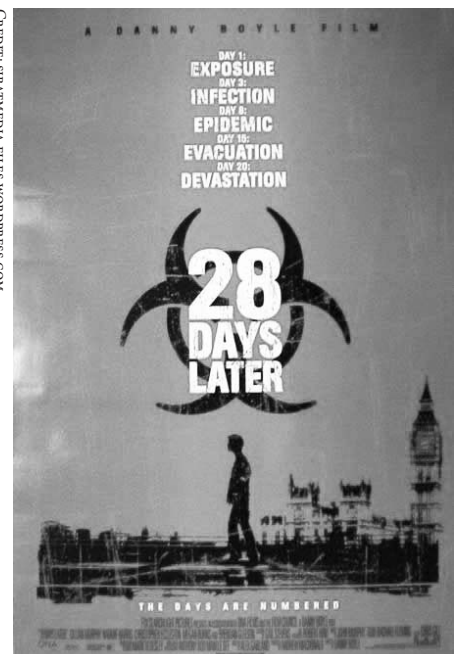


one scene – which is not necessarily a bad thing. "You're thinking 'you shouldn't really be watching this' ... Which just makes it more interesting," Gibson added.

"There are a lot of different reasons that people find it interesting. I watch it for the relationships and the more human side of the plots," he said. "It's dealing with something that's really hard to grasp. People tend to reach out with humour to things that are hard to comprehend. It's just outside our scope of what could really happen," he added.

When reading and watching material based around fictional creatures like zombies, werewolves and vampires, it's important to remember that there is not and never will be one uniform story to describe where the folktale started or where it's going to end. By their very nature, fictional creatures are

CREDIT: SHUTTERMEDIA FILES.WORDPRESS.COM



constantly evolving and new ones always developing. "It's been fascinating to see how big (the zombie craze) has gotten ... but I could see it getting even bigger," Gibson remarked.

Zombie films, survival guides, comic strips and Halloween costumes have become a big part of today's zombie culture, but perhaps one of the most important and popular things to have is a zombie survival plan. Holmes said he gets all his information from movies: "I would pretty much watch anything with the word 'zombie' in it, even the really bad films, and I would try to write down at least three things I would have done differently in their situation." He also joked that, "you are never safe, only safer. Whatever you choose – sealed-up Costco, island off the coast, mountain terrain – just remember to always have an exit strategy planned."

## Sources for survival and education

### Movies

*Night of the Living Dead* (1968 and its 1990 remake)

An unfortunate group finds themselves hiding in a farmhouse from flesh-hungry zombies.

*Shaun of the Dead*

This British zombie movie parody is sure to have you laughing while the undead prepare to attack.

*Zombieland*

An unlikely group joins together to travel across a zombie-infected America in a flick that will make you laugh and question their zombie-killing tactics.

### Books

*The Zombie Survival Guide* by Max Brooks

This New York Times bestseller was written to keep you alive during the imminent zombie apocalypse.

*Pride, Prejudice and Zombies* by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith

A mash-up of the classic *Pride and Prejudice* and modern zombie fiction.

*The Enemy* by Charlie Higson

Set in a post-apocalyptic London, England, a group of children must live in an infected world where only adults become the enemy.

### Extras

*Resident Evil 2*

Prepare your hunting skills by playing this older survival video game made for PlayStation. *Resident Evil* takes place in an American community infected by zombies.

*Zombie Jerky*

Stay nourished while on the run with this Teriyaki beef jerky made to look like zombie flesh.

*Bed, Bath and Beyond's* *Zombie Squad* hand sanitizer

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# Game on!

## Board games rise to the tabletop

ERIKA FAUST | INTERBANG



rule set is pretty simple but it becomes such a complicated game: building your routes, the opportunity to screw over other players – I think that’s a good part of the fun. Not only are you trying to win, but you’re also trying to screw the other players ... it’s all good fun.” Other gateway games include *Ticket to Ride*, *Bonanza*, *Citadel*, *Bang!* and *Pandemic*. “There’s so many that are easy to play to get into (board games),” said Lanctot.

“Lately I’ve been really looking into cooperative games,” said Berdan. “That seems to be a really good introduction for a lot of players. If you’re bringing new players into the board game space, a cooperative board game allows other players to help the new players very easily without compromising the challenge.” In competitive games, when you help a new player, you’re giving them a bit of an advantage over the other players, he said.

“*Pandemic* is the (cooperative game) one we go back to all the time; it’s really, really challenging and it’s really, really easy for a new player to get involved with,” he added. *Pandemic* also has an expansion pack to make the game more challenging.

To find new games (and maybe even some new friends), Lanctot directed new and experienced players to Snakes and Lattes, a board game café located at 600 Bloor St. W. in Toronto. For \$5, “you’re allowed to use any of their games for as long as you want for the rest of the day. They have a library of over 2,000 games.” He added that there is a team of helpful staff members to can help newbies navigate the rules of any game they choose. “Snakes and Lattes’ popularity has gotten people thinking that maybe there’s money in this model.” A similar café, Monopolatte, opened up in Ottawa (640 Somerset St. W.) this past summer.

Another way to learn more about tabletop games is through Lanctot’s own Great Canadian Board Game Blitz. “It’s actually a tournament, but as far as tournaments go, it’s pretty casual. We teach all the games. We do them all over the country, and they’re also very low-cost. We’re totally non-profit, so we put all our money towards prizes.” While it is competitive, “for the most part, (people are) there to have fun and learn,” said Lanctot.

If you’re looking for some local tabletop fun, “go to a good game store like LA Mood, because they’ll actually find out what you’re looking for and make some suggestions,” said McInnis. LA Mood also hosts a monthly board game night, which takes place at the store on the third Saturday of every month.

Bring something new to the table with a tabletop game. For user reviews, game details and more, check out BoardGameGeek.com – you might find your new favourite game.

### For more information...

Great Canadian Board Game Blitz: [gcbgb.ca](http://gcbgb.ca)

Über Cool Stuff: [ubercoolstuff.com](http://ubercoolstuff.com)

LA Mood: [lamoodcomics.com](http://lamoodcomics.com)

Snakes and Lattes: [snakesandlattes.com](http://snakesandlattes.com)

Monopolatte: [monopolatte.com](http://monopolatte.com)

**M**ove over, *Monopoly!* Step aside, *Scrabble!* There are new games in town.

Well, actually, they’re not all that new. Hardcore board gaming geeks have been playing these games for over a decade, but they’re just now coming into the mainstream.

They’re called tabletop games – because you play them on a table – but there’s so much more to them than that.

You may have played board games with your family when you were younger, but there’s a huge difference between this breed of tabletop games and a traditional family game like *Monopoly*, said Marc Lanctot, who is the main organizer of the Great Canadian Board Game Blitz, a group that spreads the joy of strategy board games across the country.

“What sets (these games) apart from classic games would be, first of all, they come out of Germany. *Settlers of Catan* was made by a German designer, published originally in Germany. Only after it got immense success there did they start publishing it in North America,” he said. *Settlers of Catan* was one of the first European tabletop games to become popular in North America and has helped set the strategy board game trend. It continues to be one of the most popular tabletop games today, 17 years after it was created.

“The second thing that separates them is that they’re more strategic, in my opinion, than a classic game ... In *Monopoly*, you spend a lot of time rolling dice. Same thing with *Clue* ... you spend a lot of time rolling dice and just moving around, whereas in a lot of these new games, you have more control over what you can do to win.”

He added that beautiful and detailed designs and cover art, a variety of themes and higher-quality components also set these games apart from the rest. “A lot of the appeal is aesthetic.”

The social aspect of these games is another big draw, according to Chris McInnis, a local board game fan who owns Über Cool Stuff (122 Dundas St.), a store that sells a few tabletop games. “You’re gathering around a table, so there’s a lot of interaction. It’s very tactile, and good games actually have you making choices and interacting with each other a lot,” he said.

“You exercise all kinds of different ways of thinking: there’s often humour, but you’re strategizing at the same

time; you’re trying to predict (what will happen). Basically it just gets you thinking in a lot of different ways in a very short period of time.”

A story published in mid-June in the Star Tribune newspaper out of Minneapolis, Minnesota stated that board game sales are up 6 per cent nationally in the last year, part of a five-year upswing. But Gord Mood and Carol Vandenberg, who sell tons of tabletop games at their store LA Mood (350 Richmond St.), said that isn’t quite the case in their store: Mood estimated he’s seen more like a 20 per cent increase in sales in his store each year.

“Games have really expanded for us a lot,” said Vandenberg. “We’ve dedicated more space and time to them.” A June 25 article in the London Free Press newspaper broke down LA Mood’s sales figures into 50 per cent games, 30 per cent comic books and 20 per cent other (figurines and models, used LPs and more geeky goodness).

Part of this surge in sales can be attributed to geek godfather Wil Wheaton’s game reviewing show, *TableTop* (which you can watch online at [tabletop.geekandsundry.com](http://tabletop.geekandsundry.com)). “Since the Wil Wheaton show, it’s really taken off,” Mood said. “Whenever he picks a game, there’s always a short spike in demand for that game.” Wheaton, along with a group of special guest stars (including Felicia Day), has reviewed games like *Munchkin*, *Ticket to Ride*, *Small World* and *Settlers of Catan* – games that board game geeks have loved for a long time – and made them more accessible to a wider audience by explaining the rules simply and showing every step of gameplay.

Rob Allison, a Londoner who just loves board games, said he thinks the media’s positive portrayal of board games has helped them gain more popularity. “Shows like *Big Bang Theory*, they have their fictional games on there, but they’re highlighting the game-playing aspect as a social activity – it’s more than just rolling the dice and moving pieces around the board and collecting rent.”

What makes a good game depends on the individual, said Board Game Blitz organizer Lanctot, but “I think it’s fair to say that the general (characteristics of a good game) are easy to learn – probably the most important one to me. I personally believe easy to learn is the reason that a lot of these games have become more mainstream, because there’s nothing that turns you off quicker

than something that just has a lot of rules and it’s very hard to learn. It sort of shuts down your mind.”

Having a good strategic component is important as well, he added: “A lot of games in the past 10 years, since *Settlers* has come out, have been really easy to learn, but at the same time, they’ve been strategic. If you’re using a good strategy, you want to be able to win. You want to be able to think, at the end of the game, you want to be able to reflect on what you did inside the game and be able to improve on it. When you play a game, you want it to be fun so that you have the incentive to play again.”

On that note, “I think a good game should be fun to lose,” said Über Cool Stuff owner McInnis, describing the frustration some gamers feel after losing all their money or territory in games like *Monopoly* or *Risk* and sitting at the table while everyone else continues to play. “One of the key things that a lot of new (games) like *Catan* have introduced is that everybody finishes at the same time, which, if you’re playing with more than two or three people, is huge.”

Another component of the replayability factor is the wide range of expansion packs for these games. “The expansions really add to the game too, especially if you like the game,” Lanctot added. “You can buy all these different expansions and they add to the game.”

“It gives your game more life, rather than buying the 67th version of *Monopoly*,” chuckled Andy Berdan, a self-described board game addict who owns around 50 games.

Just looking around the shelves at LA Mood, there are so many tabletop games to choose from, no matter what you’re interested in. If you’re into science, try a game like *Pandemic*, where you and your friends act as a team of scientists and researchers defending the world’s population from terrible diseases. If you’re into history, there are a plethora of games to choose from, whether you want to explore and tame new lands (*Settlers of Catan*) or build a town, tile by tile (*Carcassonne*). If silly games are more your style, get cutthroat and screw over your friends in *Munchkin* or team up and fight against the undead in *Zombies!!!*. But where do you start if you’re looking to get into these games?

Game fan Allison suggested new players start with “gateway” games, “Start with the classics: *Catan*, *Carcassonne* ... (these are) nice, easy games to learn,” he said. These games are gateway games because “they’re fairly easy to learn. The

## Troll 2 lacks nothing – except a troll



Cinema Connoisseur  
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### Troll 2 (1990)



Whether you are filming a \$200 million epic, or simply Kim Kardashian getting it on, producing a motion picture is no small task. Sometimes you have to deal with temperamental actors (like a certain Caped Crusader). The project can go ridiculously over budget, such as the 1995 film *Waterworld*. Or maybe your star might get too busy trying to convert the other cast members and crew to the Church of Scientology instead of focusing on the task at hand.

The film I will be taking a look at this week, *Troll 2*, was plagued with many issues. Among them:

- Almost no one involved with the writing or production of the film spoke English – which isn't always a problem, except for when you are making an English-language film.

- Most of the cast had no previous acting experience. Those who showed up expecting to be extras (including a dentist and a mental hospital resident) were given large roles.

- Last, but not least, the film, despite being named *Troll 2*, contains exactly zero trolls.

All that said, *Troll 2* still manages to be one of the finest films ever produced.

What can be said about *Troll 2*? Well, for starters, it is not a sequel. At first this had me confused, much like after I watched the disaster flick *2012* and tried to track down the previous 2,011 installments. The film was originally slated to be released as *Goblins*, which is appropriate, since it is about goblins. However, it's all about the Benjamins in the end, as



CREDIT: METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS INC.

A family trip is ruined by vile plant-eating monsters. Despite being titled *Troll 2*, there are NO trolls in this movie, only goblins.

the powers that be decided to rename it *Troll 2* in order to capitalize on the prestige of the 1986 film *Troll*.

Now I don't want to start this review in a negative fashion, because I truly did enjoy this film. But I am not a fan of misleading titles. When I watch *RoboCop*, I know that I will see a cyborg that enforces the law. When I watch *Hobo With A Shotgun*, I rightfully anticipate witnessing a dishevelled man with some firearms. And this weekend when I gather my children in front of the TV to watch *Magic Mike*, I fully expect that we will be treated to the tale of a kindly magician who delights audiences by pulling rabbits out of hats and other such illusions.

So I've covered what *Troll 2* isn't, which is a film about trolls. So what is it? Well, it is a statement by director Claudio Fragasso and his wife, writer Rossella Drudi, against those who are vegetarians. Apparently several of the couple's friends had decided to stop eating meat. I myself eat meat at every meal. In fact I am eating a rack of lamb while typing this. So I commend the duo's efforts in creating what might be the only anti-vegetarian propaganda film ever produced.

In *Troll 2*, the Waits family decides to take a trip to the remote farm town of Nillbog. Lots can go wrong when you go on vacation, as

the films of Chevy Chase have taught us. But the Waits family doesn't simply lose their luggage or run into a language barrier. What they do run into is goblins. Not just any goblins, though; these are vegetarian goblins who turn people into plants before consuming them.

The Waits family's battle with these evil goblins is a non-stop thrill ride. Think Rocky vs. Apollo, the Empire vs. the Rebel Alliance and *Kramer vs. Kramer* all wrapped up in one, and then throw in some mother effin' goblins. I cannot do justice to the intricacies of the plot. I will whet your appetite though by telling you that one of the characters urinates on a vegetarian feast prepared by the goblins, and corn on the cob is used in an attempt to seduce another character. I can only imagine this led to a new genre of film called corn porn.

*Troll 2* is a remarkable achievement. Despite overwhelming obstacles, the meat-loving filmmakers and mental patients managed to produce a film that has stood the test of time. If I haven't sold you on the film yet, let me just tell you that a bologna sandwich plays an important role in the film's thrilling final act. *Troll 2* is a film that will terrify you one moment, and have you laughing uncontrollably the next.



CREDIT: DANJAO, LLC, UNITED ARTISTS CORPORATION AND COLUMBIA PICTURES INDUSTRIES, INC.

Daniel Craig is back as James Bond.

## Bond's back



REEL VIEWS  
ALISON MCGEE  
a\_mcgee3@fanshaweonline.ca

### Skyfall (2012)



Everyone's favourite secret agent is back, and every girl has two-plus new hours of Daniel Craig to swoon over. Every guy has a whole new set of gadgets and badass spy moves to covet. Every martini for miles around will be ordered shaken, not stirred. That's right, folks; he's back again for *Skyfall*.

Director Sam Mendes, best known for his films *American Beauty* and *Revolutionary Road*, takes on the task of bringing to life the world's most beloved secret agent in the 23rd installment of the *James Bond* franchise, *Skyfall*. The flick starts off with a bang as Bond is wounded in a fight with a mercenary in Turkey and becomes classified as "missing, presumed dead." Using his secret to his fullest advantage Bond works off the grid to discover the secret of who caused an explosion at the MI6 office and who exactly is out to get M. Uncovering corruption, exposing traitors and saving those who are working to help his cause are once again on 007's dangerous to-do list and this time around the stakes are higher than ever.

Since taking on the role of James Bond three films ago, Daniel Craig has more than proved to audiences that he can pull off the role made famous by the likes of Sean Connery, Roger Moore

and Pierce Brosnan. Maybe it's his classy British accent, or the strong muscular build that he maintains for these films, but something about Craig makes him a pitch-perfect James Bond.

A fan favourite and soon-to-be-retired actress takes up her role as M once again – Dame Judi Dench. The highly talented Dench will be retiring due to a tragic loss of eyesight, but she definitely makes an impression in *Skyfall*, which is said to be one of her last films. Dench is charming yet poignant as usual and her scenes are arguably among the highlights of the film.

Stepping into the role of "Bond Villain" this time around is Javier Bardem, who is best remembered for his disturbing – even terrifying – role as Anton in the Coen brothers' *No Country for Old Men*. There is something about Bardem that lends itself well to playing the villain and in *Skyfall*, as Silva, he makes quite an impression on the audience.

And who, you may be asking, is this flick's "Bond Girl?" Bérénice Marlohe is her name, and she plays the sexy yet dangerous Severine with everything you'd expect out of a Bond Girl.

The thing that is truly special about the *James Bond* franchise is that, despite the fact that there are 23 films, audiences haven't tired of watching the same spy fighting different villains and falling for different girls. At some point, most franchises get tired, old and uninteresting, but *Skyfall* has proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that there is no slowing down for this secret agent.

*Skyfall* is a must-see for all Bond fans, for all Daniel Craig fans and for anyone who dreams of becoming a sexy British secret agent.

## Geek pride at the movies



McGee's Movie Moments  
ALISON MCGEE  
a\_mcgee3@fanshaweonline.ca

Recently, I discovered that a friend of mine who is in his early 30s hadn't seen the final *Harry Potter* flick. Actually, he hadn't seen any of them past *The Goblet of Fire*, and he hadn't read the books either. To me, this was shocking – it was a travesty! How could you watch the first four movies and then have no interest in seeing how it all ends?

So we started the grand endeavour of watching *The Order of the Phoenix*, *The Half-Blood Prince* and *The Deathly Hallows* parts one and two. Why is this important? Because I let my geek flag fly in a big way while watching him watch how it ended. When Hedwig, Moody and Dobby died, I got a little misty-eyed. When McGonagall brought the statues to life and all the teachers started casting the protection spell over Hogwarts, I got goosebumps. When Harry and

Voldemort were locked in battle, wand to wand and you didn't know who was going to come out of it alive, I watched with bated breath.

My friend called me a dork.

The point of this story is that a big part of the fun when watching movies like *Harry Potter*, *The Hunger Games* or even *Twilight* is that for those few hours, in the darkness of the theatre or the privacy of your own home, you get to be your true geeky self. You can give in completely to the idea that you do in fact care whether a 17-year-old, completely fictional wizard lives or dies. You care a lot.

You can watch with complete and utter joy when Harry jumps out of Hagrid's arms, not dead at all, and then again when Neville finally finds his strength and courage and kills the snake, destroying the final horcrux. You can celebrate when Bella finally awakens from her near-death sleep with fierce red eyes. You can feel the bittersweetness of Katniss and Peeta returning to District 12, together and alive.

What I'm saying is, that in honour of the Interrobang's annual



CREDIT: WARNER BROS.

Alison McGee geeks out for *Harry Potter* films.

Geek Pride issue, let your geek flag fly every once in a while. It's easy to geek out for movies – heck, that's a big part of the fun of a lot of flicks nowadays – and what better medium to let yourself get swept away by?

So don't play it cool – instead, let yourself care. Care about Harry, about Edward and Bella, about Katniss and Peeta, even maybe a little still for Luke Skywalker. Whatever you do, let your geek flag fly... at least at the movies.

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# Always remember email etiquette



**THE REAL WORLD**  
Jeffrey Reed  
jreed@fanshawec.ca

One of the great ironies of our tech-savvy world is the way in which we communicate – that is, don't communicate. Despite instant messaging and texting, Skype video chat and email, we live in a world that is technically wired but often disconnected in terms of communicating effectively.

In my Corporate Communication and Public Relations writing class here at Fanshawe College, I encourage my students to be connected during class time – not only in terms of participation, but also as it relates to the Internet. After all, social media is the most powerful medium, offering instant broadcasts to a worldwide audience. It never gets old for me to check on my Google Analytics to track global visitors to my websites.

Perhaps the biggest change I've noticed in terms of simple emailing is the length of messages. When

Internet communications first took the world by storm, it was quite common for email messages to be written as long as traditional business letters. I must admit, being old-school and, yes, a professional writer, I sometimes send lengthy messages that I am sure read like *War and Peace*.

Yet with the advent of texting, smartphones and tablets, email messages are now short and sweet. I chatted recently with my computer techie, who told me purchases of PC towers, for example, have plummeted – most offices now use only laptops. The world of electronic messaging is continually morphing – but not always for the best.

The biggest problem I note with modern communications is a lack of proper email use. By their very nature, email messages can be wrongly interpreted, for many reasons. The sender must be able to craft a well-written message, and must send it in a timely fashion. Messages must be forwarded in a concise, professional manner when you are dealing with clients and staff. There is a human factor involved with email messages, and until we figure out how to put

robots to use in handling all of our daily electronic correspondence, there will always be a margin of error involved in Internet-based messaging.

Every day I am forced to decipher poorly written email messages. Case in point: a publisher recently corresponded with me on three separate occasions and, when he couldn't properly relay his message, gave up in frustration. This was a publisher, not a grade school pupil texting his classmate during English class.

Microsoft Office Online, in a piece penned by the "Crabby Office Lady," listed its Top 10 Cyber Discourtesies – I'm sure you'll recognize these 10 deadly email sins:

- Avoid the "Reply to All" button. In most cases, your personal reply to an email doesn't require you to share your thoughts with everyone on the mailing list. Greta in the accounting department probably couldn't care less if you are attending the company picnic.
- Skip the CAPITAL letters. By using uppercase letters, it essentially means that you are yelling at the recipient. Save the capital letters unless you really want to shout

and seek assistance.

- Save the fancy stationery. You don't need pastel backgrounds, smiley faces and a fancy letterhead to send an email. Keep it simple and uncluttered.

- Give your response first. When you reply to an email, make sure your reply is the first thing the recipient reads.

- Keep forwards to a minimum. Everyone has already heard the joke.

- Don't be a cyber-coward. If you have something to say that is highly personal, scary, sad, angry, tragic, vicious, shocking, or any combination of those, say it in person.

- Keep the 500KB image file to yourself. Most email accounts have limited capacity. Don't send your vacation photos to everyone in your address book. Use Facebook or Flickr to post your photos.

- Fill out the subject line. People get plenty of emails every day; if you can't take the time to fill out the subject line, I don't need to take time to open it.

- Avoid HTML format. The most easily accessible email format around the globe is plain text.

- Count to 10 before hitting the Send button. Think twice, or even wait 24 hours, before sending that clever, scathing message to someone and possibly the rest of the world. A "flaming" email often starts more fires than you can put out.

Of the aforementioned 10 deadly sins of emailing, cyber-cowards and "flaming" emails stand at the top of my list. Just in the past day, I've been privy to some pretty scathing messages – welcome to the world of journalism. Hang around this game long enough, and your skin becomes as thick as an elephant's.

Before you hit the Send button, make sure you're connected to proper email etiquette. Otherwise, you may be blocked from future use and forced to send smoke signals to your friends.

*Award-winning journalist Jeffrey Reed is a Fanshawe College professor with the Corporate Communication and Public Relations post-graduate program and an instructor with Fanshawe's Continuing Education department. E-mail him at jreed@fanshawec.ca.*

## Personal branding



**CAREER CORNER**  
Susan Coyne  
Career Services  
Consultant  
Fanshawe Career Services

When I think about 'branding,' it conjures up an image in my mind of a mark or tattoo that implies ownership, as in branding cattle. I also associate it with company slogans or branding of products, such as Ford's "Drive One!" or Budweiser's "The King of Beers." For many, the decision to buy a product is made because we've bought into the concept created by branding and our perception is if we buy that product, we know what we can expect to receive in return.

Personal branding isn't that much different, if you think about it. Having a brand means communicating what makes you unique and, like product branding, it has been around for a long time.

If there is one thing you can do to improve your chances of getting a job, it would be to develop your own brand statement. Your brand statement may come down to as little as three words. To figure out your brand, you need to take a serious look at your existence, your values, passions and strengths. Self-reflection can be an uncomfortable process, but it should help you to build the confidence you need to create and sell your brand.

In *Job Searching With Social Media for Dummies*, author Joshua Waldman wrote, "Personal branding is the culmination of your actions; it's an image that marks you as a brand. It is you, the entire package, outside and inside, in the sense that you're unique and distinguishable from others." He goes on to state, "Personal branding has a lot to do with the emotion someone feels when he or she thinks about you (something you can't control) but is rooted in self-reflection and integrity (something you

can control by regulating your behaviour on and offline and by presenting yourself conscientiously)."

Social media has become the impetus for so many things, including personal branding. Nowadays everyone has an online reputation, whether you want one or not – better for you to take ownership of your reputation and brand yourself before someone else does.

Personal branding isn't just about you making yourself look good online. It is more about being who you say you are and your ability to communicate that message effectively and consistently. When people meet us, they make impressions based on our in-person brand – the way we act, talk, dress and who we think we are. Online brand elements are used to show people who don't know us in person who we really are. So, our online brand presence is perceived by the way we act online, the way we talk online (and how often) and the way we present ourselves. Our online presence needs to be consistent so no matter where someone looks for you, you will always appear in the same light.

Changing your online image, your style of messaging, your look, etc. will differentiate you from other potential job candidates and will show how you are unique or different and what you stand for. That way, if an employer takes a chance on you based on what your brand represents to them, they will know exactly what they can expect to receive in return.

*Need assistance with your job search? Drop by the Career Services office in D1063. The Career Services staff is available to assist you on an individual basis. Visit the office in D1063 to arrange an appointment with the consultant responsible for your program or call 519 452-4294. For Fanshawe student job listings, visit [www.fanshawec.ca](http://www.fanshawec.ca) or [www.fanshawec.ca/careerservices](http://www.fanshawec.ca/careerservices).*

## The festival of lights

VICTOR KAISAR  
INTERROBANG

At the beginning of November, we celebrated Diwali, or the Festival of Lights. Now you're probably asking yourself what is Diwali? Or why do people celebrate Diwali? The answer to that is simple.

Diwali is a Hindu festival, and in a multicultural country like Canada it becomes one of utmost importance, especially to people who grew up celebrating the festival. It's essentially a five-day festival, but that's not the way I celebrated it. Of course, the prime reason for that is largely the fact that I'm not a Hindu, but as a child growing up in India, the lights fascinated me.

Typically, in the area I grew up, families lit their homes (hence the term "Festival of Lights") and exchanged sweets with one another. Diwali doesn't occur on a fixed day, just like most Indian festivals. In the Gregorian calendar, Diwali typically falls between mid-October and mid-November. Diwali is an official holiday in a number of Asian countries: India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore as well as other countries like Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago as well as Suriname.

Diwali is by no means a public holiday in Canada, so if you're someone who celebrated the festival, you still had to go to school or to work that day, even if you didn't feel like it. You also saw how large department store flyers tend to advertise Diwali shopping and it's all part of multiculturalism.

So what do people do on Diwali in Canada? Many Canadians do celebrate the festival, which also attracts plenty of media and public attention. Various community groups, businesses, schools and associations celebrate Diwali



CREDIT: STOW.AC.UK

Diwali is called the Festival of Lights, but is also known for its sweet treats and celebrations with family.

each year, largely due to the number of employees that might celebrate the festival.

Virginia Park in London saw a near traditional celebration. Besides fireworks on November 17 (which happened to be the official date for the festival in 2012) the place saw Lakshmi puja, bhajans (Indian devotional songs), a quiz on Ramayan (one of the great epics on India), music, entertainment, dancing and celebration by Hindus and non-Hindus alike.

But now here comes my favourite part. What would I do on Diwali growing up? For me the festival largely involved buying tons of fireworks. Huge sales (or "melas," as we called it back home) would sprout up in numerous locations and they were always buzzing with life. Returning home with stacks of fireworks, it was time to move the vehicles into the garages, leaving plenty of space on the roads and on our driveways as we'd take turns, family and friends includ-

ed, to light those fireworks, each of us full of such passion and enthusiasm. And when we were done burning about a thousand rupees' worth of crackers (About \$17 to \$19), we'd take turns scrubbing gunpowder and smoke off our skins before gleefully hogging sweets as if there were a shortage coming.

I miss that here, and I won't lie. I'm scared at times that lighting a firecracker would land me a ticket of some sort. The festival is monitored strictly for obvious reasons: the noise, the risk of fires and the very rare chance of a stray firework. But all that said and done, that won't stop me from heading out and picking up a few sweets, even if I have to eat them myself. I may not be celebrating the festival in the true sense, but look at it this way: the world is a global village, and if it's not me celebrating, then someone else definitely is.

Here's hoping everyone had a safe and happy Diwali.

# BEST IN LATE NIGHT COMIC RELIEF

## New club roaring onto campus

MOAAZ KHAN  
INTERROBANG

Lions International has come to Fanshawe College!

They are going to help those in need and need us too as students to join their ranks as members to help make a Fanshawe College Lions Campus Club. They need our help to get the minimum of 20 members in the club.

Lions Club is an international organization and was formed on June 7, 1917. It includes over 1.35 million members and over 45,000 clubs worldwide. The members do whatever they can to help in local communities. All the money made by the Lions Club members goes to charities and for charitable purposes. The Lions also give out scholarships for local schools and children.

The Lions' mission statement is: "To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs." Their vision statement is: "To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service."

If you want to learn more about the Lions Club International, go to



lionsclubs.org. If you want to know more about the Lions Fanshawe Club or want more information about Lions Club International in general, call 519-452-3935 and ask for Jim Lystar.

We need at least 20 people for minimum to continue the club on campus that we have right now. If

you want to join Fanshawe's Lions Club, go to the main office of the Fanshawe Student Union (on the second floor of SC building) and ask about the club or you can email me at m\_khan33@fanshawec.ca or muazkhan\_1992@hotmail.com.

We need your support, Fanshawe, and we need it now!

### THE LATE LATE SHOW with Craig Ferguson

Black Friday is the day after Thanksgiving, when you find real bargains. It works on our innate desire to save money and to get away from your family after Thanksgiving.

I'm not buying any Christmas gifts until December 22 because that Mayan thing says the world is ending on the 21st. If it happens, I don't want to have wasted money on gifts.

Every guy in the world wants to be James Bond. Even guys in al-Qaida are like, "Death to the West. But not 007."

The CIA director, David Petraeus, resigned. The FBI caught him having an affair with his biographer. Hey general, you work for the CIA, not the TSA.



### CONAN with Conan O'Brien

Taco Bell is going to start selling nachos and chicken nuggets wrapped in a tortilla. In other words, thank God we're going to keep Obamacare.

Honey Boo Boo's in the news. A representative from PETA has written her a letter urging her not to eat her new pet chicken. So instead Honey Boo Boo's mom ate the representative from PETA.

Arizona has elected the first openly bisexual congresswoman. Apparently she did very well with swing voters.

At a gas station in Texas, a woman purchased what she thought was a \$200 iPad that turned out to be just a mirror. Let that be a lesson. Make sure you buy your iPad from a REP-UTABLE gas station.



### LATE NIGHT with Jimmy Fallon

If Congress does nothing, the U.S. could go off a so-called fiscal cliff that could cause another worldwide financial collapse like the one in 2008. Congress had a lot of questions about this scenario, like, "What do you mean if we do nothing?"

Thousands of people complained on Twitter after Facebook went down for 60 seconds. It reminded me of the time my great-grandparents complained about having to make soup out of shoes during World War II.

This weekend, it was announced that Justin Bieber and his girlfriend, Selena Gomez, have broken up. Bieber said, "Just tell me one thing — is it General Petraeus?"



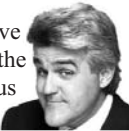
### THE TONIGHT SHOW with Jay Leno

The head of the CIA and former General David Petraeus has resigned because of an extramarital affair. So guys, let that be a lesson for you. If the CIA director can't keep an affair secret, you don't have a chance.

Florida has finally finished counting the votes for president. Why is it so hard for the people down there to count votes? We're talking about a state where half the population can play 10 bingo cards at the same time.

Both parties in Washington now agree that our country is headed toward a "fiscal cliff." The bad news: We just elected a guy whose campaign slogan was "Forward."

The Republicans drove us into a ditch and the Democrats are driving us over a cliff.



### JIMMY KIMMEL LIVE with Jimmy Kimmel

Colorado and Washington have become the first states to legalize the recreational use of marijuana. That's a big deal because here in California, you can use marijuana legally only if you receive it for a fake medical condition.

The U.S. Postal Service announced yesterday they are expecting this year's holiday season to be their busiest ever and also their slowest ever. That's probably the only business in America that complains about being busy.

Mitt Romney has a supporter in Indiana who thought it was a good idea to have the Romney/Ryan logo tattooed on his face. He'll feel stupid when he finds out about campaign buttons.



### THE LATE SHOW with David Letterman

I heard an update from Con Edison, the electricity company. They said the Republicans now will be without power for the next four years.

Gas rationing. Welcome to 1974! Here's the only good thing. We don't have enough gas now to drive over the fiscal cliff.

It's the beginning of the cold and flu season. The thing I don't like about the cold and flu season is the radio stations — all they play is cold and flu music.

Republicans still will not admit that they underestimated the power of the Hispanic vote. As a matter of fact, Latinos are calling this "Cinco Denio."



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Music Tees  
Superhero tees

THE BIG BANG THEORY

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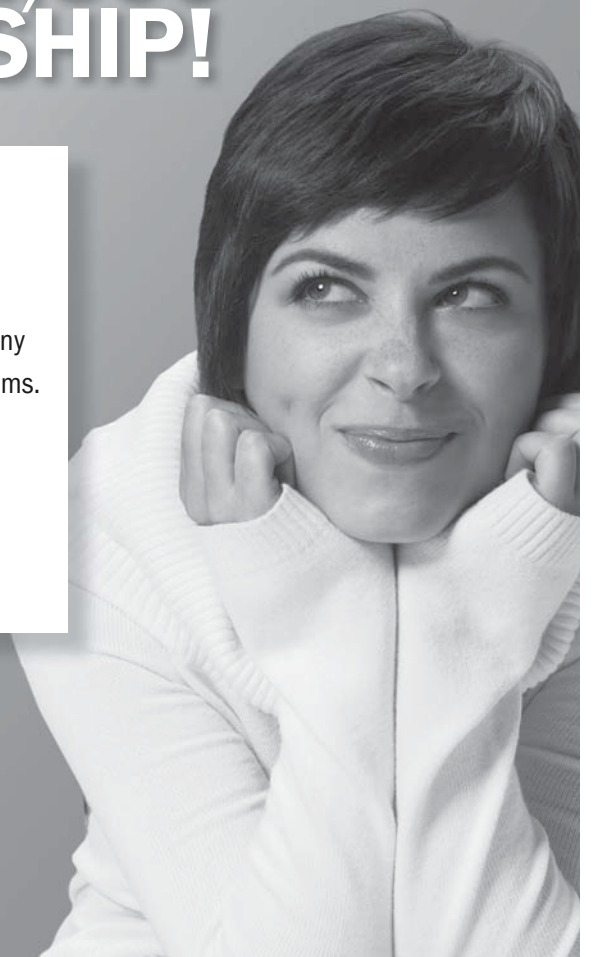
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**NOT NEUROTYPICAL**



**Graphical Deviants**

By: Chris Mischak © 2012



**Butt sweat n Tears** by Andres Silva



**NERDS**



**THUNDERPANTS**



**Mouthless** "Social Deterrent"



**BUS STOP**



**GET CONNECTED**

twitter.com/fanshawesu

youtube.com/fsuweb

facebook.com/fanshawesu

fsu.ca

# zodiac stargazer HOROSCOPE

## Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Since when is Aries such a well-spring of patience? Make sure your priorities are in an order that actually benefits someone else. It's not pure altruism, of course - you have your reasons.

## Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

You're at home among other superior beings. Anyone can play if he or she is willing to be real. The stars give you permission for all the luxury that your body, mind and wallet can withstand.

## Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Be ready for the random movements of fame and fortune. A new situation puts you in touch with resources that you never knew you had. Set aside old business if something better comes along.

## Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Come back to a place where you have every right to be. Find a comfortable seat and don't get up until you're ready. Friends are always within easy reach these days.

## Leo (July 23 - August 22)

People incapable of subtlety can still vaguely appreciate it. If you have so much more class than this lowbrow crowd, what are you doing here? Spend your time with those who share your background or interests.

## Virgo (August 23 - Sept. 22)

Virgo is both invigorated and at peace. While you're convinced of a perfect world, you're still searching for further proof. The light of the moon shines through the keyhole, beckoning you to open the door.

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

Check in with your friends. Their happiness and good fortune might make you envious, but it could also give you ideas. Be candid and plan your strategy together over a good meal.

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

You're in the mood for a challenge or a mystery. The question is whether your partner shares this enthusiasm. If you didn't have any pressing plans together, it should be okay to split up for a few hours.

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

You are not the only one with a mission. Let others cut ahead in line if their needs are more urgent. Seeing events in proportion helps you relax and move with greater ease.

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

You can't even remember your usual excuses. Your family is happy to have the old Capricorn back home. Do what you love, and don't stop until blissful fatigue topples you over.

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

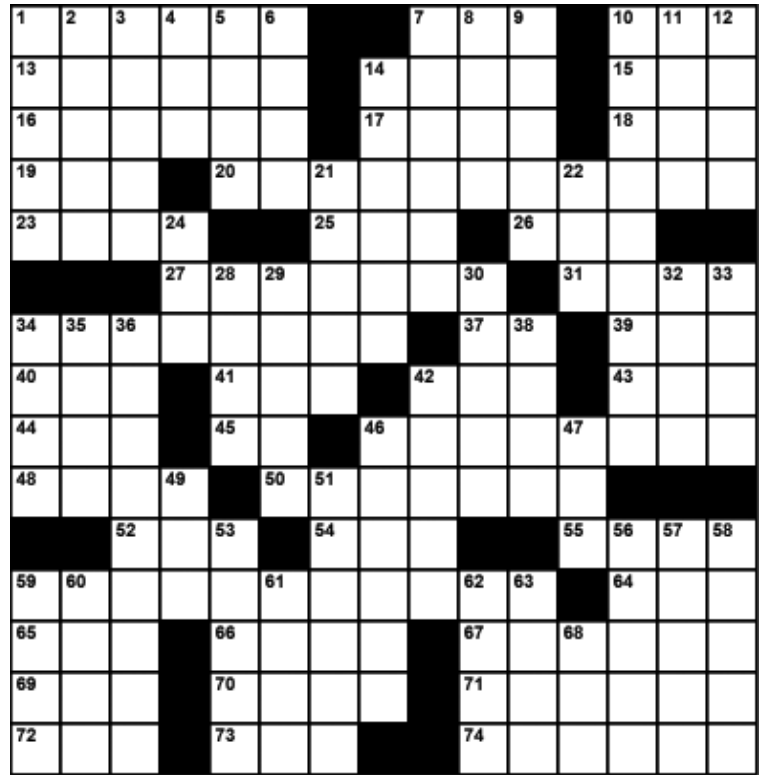
Aquarius is already over the budget. If you think that it's too late to change course, visualize the bills that will be arriving in the next few months. Sometimes simpler is better.

## Pisces (Feb. 18 - March 20)

An okay weekend will turn fantastic. The moon brings grace and wit to your party. You'll fall for any line that's delivered this beautifully. Pinch yourself to make sure that it's not just another dream.

## Across

- Internet Job \_\_\_ Workshop: theme of this puzzle
- \_\_\_ green
- Theme covers ways to use the career services \_\_\_ posting website
- Kind of artist
- Physics units
- 1977 double-platinum Steely Dan album
- Fixes firmly
- Units of work
- "Spy vs. Spy" magazine
- Class-conscious org.?
- Like falling off a log (4 words)
- "¿Cómo \_\_\_ usted?"
- "Fables in Slang" author
- Bygone bird
- Framework
- 1995 N.C.A.A. hoops champs
- Room D1063: \_\_\_ of theme
- "Oh \_\_\_!"
- Plop preceeder
- "\_\_\_ we having fun yet?"
- Son of, in Arabic names
- "Think" sloganer
- "Bambi" character
- Come together
- 3.141
- Directly
- Black cat, maybe
- Power structure
- Snake noise
- Berne's river
- In \_\_\_ (undisturbed)
- Routine (3 words)
- \_\_\_, Nov. 26, 2012: date of theme (abbr.)
- "... \_\_\_ quit!" (2 words)
- Frigid finish
- Rising stars
- Kid's cry
- Sentence part (abbr.)
- Come up with
- Theme is open to \_\_\_ Fanshawe students
- French pronoun
- Bread maker



## Down

- "Goosebumps" author R. L. \_\_\_
- Chair designer Charles
- Up, in baseball (2 words)
- 66, e.g. (abbr.)
- Conclusion
- "Bonanza" brother
- 3.26 light-years
- Irascible
- Indian state
- Stuffed
- City east of Santa Barbara, Cal.
- Commanded
- Enter, as data (2 words)
- Toronto \_\_\_ Centre
- Former French coin
- \_\_\_ grecque (cooked in olive oil, lemon juice, wine, and herbs, and served cold)
- What a waitress wants you to leave (2 words)
- Leg bone
- Hinder
- Olin of "Chocolat"
- Kuwaiti, e.g.
- Titicaca, por ejemplo
- City just south of Timpanogos Cave National Monument
- Heavenly
- Pool site, maybe
- \_\_\_ ware (Japanese porcelain)
- Let go
- Gold units (abbr.)
- Code-cracking org. (abbr.)
- Dave Winfield is the only Hall of Famer to wear this team's cap
- Metal fasteners
- "Er...um..." (2 words)
- Bakery offering
- Family name at Indy
- Deep sleep
- \_\_\_-Altaic languages
- Acute
- "\_\_\_ homo"
- "Cannery Row" character
- Debussy's "La \_\_\_"

Solution on page 26

# QUIRKY FACTS

- You would have to walk for seven hours straight to burn off a super sized Coke, fry and Big Mac.
- Decaffeinated coffee is not 100 per cent caffeine free. When coffee is being decaffeinated, two per cent of the caffeine still remains in it.
- Fifty years ago Cheerios were called Cheerioats.
- Vanilla flavouring is sometimes made with an ingredient from beaver pee.
- Every month, about nine out of 10 American children visit a McDonald's restaurant.
- An average person's yearly fast food intake will contain 12 pubic hairs.
- Chocolate is lower in caffeine than tea, coffee and coca cola. A one ounce bar of chocolate contains about 6mg of caffeine, whereas a five ounce cup of regular coffee contains over 40mg.
- Research has shown that allowing chocolate to melt in your mouth produced brain and heart rate activity that was similar to - and even stronger than - that produced with passionate kissing.
- To burn off one plain M&M candy, you need to walk the full length of a football field.
- There is more real lemon juice in Lemon Pledge furniture polish than in Country Time Lemonade.
- The largest box of chocolates contained 90,090 Frango mint chocolates and weighed 3,3226 lbs! It was made by Marshall Field's of Chicago on November 14, 2002.
- In the 1800's, rum was considered excellent for cleaning hair and keeping it healthy. Brandy was believed to strengthen hair roots.
- The purpose of the indentation at the bottom of a wine bottle is to strengthen the structure of the bottle.
- White wine gets darker as it ages while red wine gets lighter.
- Orange juice naturally contains a small amount of alcohol.
- Japan is the largest exporter of frog's legs.
- Fifty per cent of pizzas in America are pepperoni.
- All 13 minerals necessary for human life can be found in alcohol beverages.
- You can overdose on caffeine.

## Sudoku Puzzle

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

puzzle rating: hard

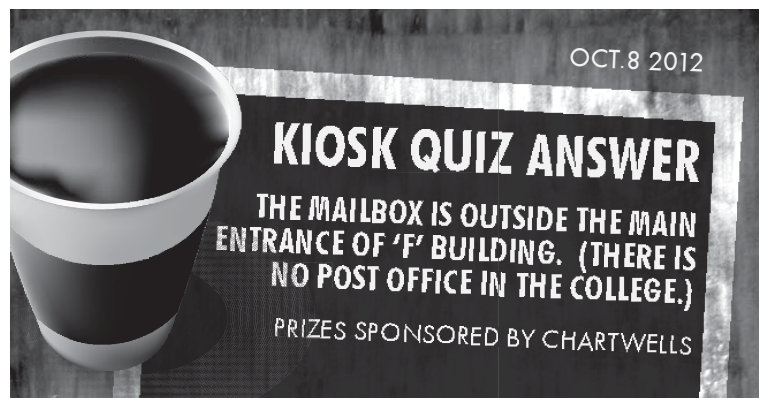
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means no number is repeated in any column, row or box. Solution can be found on page 26.

## Word Search

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

### "Chuck": Secret agent nerd (Words in parentheses not in puzzle)

- |                        |           |                 |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Assassins              | CIA       | Morgan (Grimes) |
| Chuck (Bartowski)      | Computers | NSA             |
| Buy More (Electronics) | Ellie     | Secrets         |
| (Captain) Awesome      | E-mail    | Terrorists      |
| (Maj. John) Casey      | Geek      | Sarah (Walker)  |



# Playing with the big boys every sports geek's fantasy

STUART GOODEN  
INTERROBANG

From the bubbly inner excitement of when the season starts to the heart-break of being ousted in playoffs (with the countless nights of donning your team's jersey and screaming at the television in between), there is nothing more satisfying to the sports fan than the regular season and, if you're lucky, playoffs. But the ultimate expression of passion by any sport fanatic is assuming the role of armchair manager and creating your very own online fantasy sports team.

For the non-sports geek or fair-weather fan, it is just a waste of time, a virtual illusion that means nothing. They don't understand. For the sports guru, competing in an online fantasy league, molding the perfect team, making the difficult but necessary decisions to improve it and earning perennial bragging rights is the ultimate prize.

A fantasy sports pool is simple. When competing in one, you literally take on the position of team manager as you, and the other members of a pool, build a team from scratch by drafting actual players from a league, choose who starts on game days and track your team's progress as you go head-to-head against the other teams in the pool. The players' performance in your league directly follows their performances in real life, so it's up to you to choose who you think are the best possible options for game days.

There are fantasy sports leagues for many popular sports, such as football, baseball and basketball. A popular fantasy sports host is Yahoo! Sports (ca.sports.yahoo.com/fantasy), but many league websites also offer the service, such as NBA.com and NFL.com.

Although fantasy sports have become more popular lately, it isn't anything new. John Young is the operations manager of the Fanshawe Student Union and is part of one of the very first ever fantasy football pools made in North America, created back in 1977.

Even for someone who has been a part of a league for over three decades, Young said the thrill to play in one will never leave him. "It's fun. It's a way to connect with people of similar interests."

The pool started from humble beginnings as a simple workplace diversion. Three of Young's co-workers – along with three other friends – started the game. That core group has stayed almost the same, though people have come and gone throughout the years, he said. "It's meeting with the same people, conversing and trying to get their tendencies of over 30 years of fantasy football." Now that's sports geekery at its finest.

Over the past 35 years, Young has seen a drastic transformation in the way fantasy sports is done. It's gone from primitive, almost barbaric

beginnings to the technologically advanced system it is today. "In 1977 there was no Internet; we got all of our information from the London Free Press and had to do it by hand. We'd often have to go to different papers, because if there was a space allotment problem, they would cut off the stats so we'd have to look to find out what the stats were for different games when it came to passing and receiving. So a lot of hard work, analyzing and taking the information and multiplying by longhand to determine scores." Okay, maybe it wasn't barbaric, but it sure wasn't as easy to do things as it is today, with the click of a mouse.

The way fantasy sports leagues have been done may have changed over time, but the passion to win will always stay the same for the sports geek. I asked Young to rate himself on a scale of one to 10, one being casual and 10 being obsessive when it comes to fantasy sports. "I would say in the early years, I was probably closer to nine or 10, but I've calmed it down and it's a casual, fun thing now," he said. Young confessed that although it is easy to become obsessed with winning, it isn't necessary.

"I've seen some 10 people lose all the time, because they overthink. You have to be knowledgeable, and I think knowledge is power."

Kevin "Beef" Masterson is the Biz Booth supervisor at the Fanshawe Student Union, and he is a fantasy sports veteran of over 20 years. Like Young, he recounted how different it was to operate your team during the glory days. "We were all baseball geeks. Back then the commissioner would do the stats by hand, and during the baseball season, you would get maybe two updates in the stand-



CREDIT: STOCK IMAGES

Many people geek out over fantasy sports.

ings, so you would have to anticipate how your team was doing without actually knowing, because there were no computerized stats. And then we bought a service that we would fax in our lineups too, and they would fax us the reports, and then the computer age took over."

Unlike Young, Masterson said that absolute obsession is vital when it comes to success in fantasy sports. "You need to be a 10. You have to be. If you want to win, you have to be a 10, you really do," he said. "I couldn't do it and just be casual about it, there's no way, it's not in my makeup. If I'm in it, I want to win it." But, like Young, he said that his interest in competing in a fantasy league for so many years has changed. "Before I was married, it was obsessive. You would watch every game; there wasn't any Sunday where you weren't totally obsessing over the whole thing."

Masterson did note, however, that over time, competing in fantasy sports could really take over your life. "You get to the point where

you're either going to become Meat Loaf (the musician), who's in like 400 pools ... It's kind of all consuming. You're following it all the time, every day you're clicking on it, you're talking trades with guys; it really dominates your time."

Many people enjoy sports. Some love to just watch it on TV, others would rather play it, and many love to do both. Most people who do any of these things proclaim themselves to be sports enthusiasts. And that's okay. But, for some, "enthusiast" just isn't enough, and there's only one last distinction that you could possibly attain. That last distinction is known as sports geek. But you're not a sports geek until you've created a fantasy sports team, that's just common law. There's no greater sense of satisfaction than ownership of your own fantasy team and the achievement of winning the league. But beware and know the fine print: competing in one can get obsessive and almost addictive. Once you're in, it's hard to get out.

## NHL lockout 2012: Fault of the players or professionals?

DAKOTA THOMPSON  
INTERROBANG

It is the middle of November and for Canadians across the country, we are in a state of mourning. No, we are not mourning the loss of a person, but a national pastime. Since I was young, I always enjoyed watching the National Hockey League. It is a great organization that has provided many countless hours of entertainment, shock, despair, debate and dreams.

Many Canadian parents who get their children involved with little league hockey generally share the same passion: to try to get their child to become a player in the NHL. Though the odds are extremely slim that every child that plays Junior B, A or OHL will make it to the big time, a lot of parents invest a huge amount of money, time and sleepless nights to help their children reach their dreams of financial security and athletic prowess in the NHL.

The last lockout in the NHL occurred only eight years ago during the 2004/05 season and caused the entire season to pass without one game being played. The lockout resulted in 1,230 cancelled games and lasted from September 26, 2004 to July 13, 2005. It was also supposed to be the 88th season of the National Hockey League and was the very first season to not award a Stanley Cup since 1919.

Recently, the NHLPA and the NHL have been meeting repeatedly to sort out the issues between the two organizations that have left hockey fans looking for other methods of entertainment. On a


lighter note, the Hockey Hall of Fame was on display a few days ago and included new inductees Mats Sundin, who became a star in Toronto; Joe Sakic, who led the Colorado Avalanche to multiple Stanley Cup victories; Vancouver Canucks legend Pavel Bure; and Weston, Ontario's own Adam Oates.

As of mid-November, negotiations to settle on a collective bargaining agreement have yet to introduce any results, good or bad, for hockey fans.

Sidney Crosby has been quoted as saying, "the question I'd ask is why would we change that? I think we all think it's the most competitive league in the world, so why would you go and change that – the way contracts go and the way teams can operate?" He has a point. The entire discussion revolves around the NHL's desire for the players to take a smaller cut than before with regards to revenue splitting of arena ticket sales and concessions.


Steve Fehr, special counsel to the NHLPA, said he expects the collective bargaining issue to be resolved fairly soon. On November 12, he said it may only take a few days to sort the whole ordeal and have a deal for the players to come back and play a reduced season.

In conclusion, this hockey fan truly hopes there is an end to this soon so we can all enjoy getting together with family and friends to listen to the beautiful rants of Don Cherry, the visionary, and to see the lightning-quick action only seen in the NHL.




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# 2013: Year of the Mustang



**MOTORING**  
NAUMAN FAROOQ  
naumanf1@yahoo.com

According to the Chinese calendar, 2013 is the year of the Snake. In reality, it should be the year of the Horse and Snake, because of what Ford has done for the Mustang in 2013.

While for 2013 the Mustang is not all new, it has received some tweaks in the styling department, plus there is more power under the hood.

How much power, you ask? That will depend on your needs and budget, and since I've spent a good deal of time in all the different powertrains offered for the 2013 Mustang, it is my duty to tell you how each one is, so here goes:

Let's start with the entry-level model, the Mustang V6. This model used to be the joke of the Mustang range, since it hardly ever had the "go" to match its sporty looks. Back then, it was the poser's car, but not anymore. For 2013, the 3.7-litre V6 motor produces 305 hp and 280 lb/ft of torque. Couple that with a six-speed automatic or the six-speed manual, as in my tester, and you end up with a very pleasing sports car. Sure, it is not the fastest thing on the road, but work this motor hard and it will reward you. This is a decently quick car (zero to 100 km/h in 5.4 seconds) that sounds good, too.

My tester also came with the Performance package, which gives you a unique strut-tower brace, tire mobility kit, unique front springs, unique stability control calibration, upsized front sway bar and rear sway bar, unique front and rear calipers with Performance Friction pads, and a 3.31 limited-slip rear-axle.

What all this means is that it handles very well, much better than I ever expect it to handle. It seems that Ford is being serious with the Mustang, even down to the base model. I like that.

Next in the Mustang range is the GT, which comes with the much-loved 5.0 litre V8 motor. For 2013, this version produces 420 hp and 390 lb/ft of torque. This version is also available with either a six-speed manual or automatic gearbox, which sends power to the rear wheels. I drove both the manual and auto version this year, thanks to not only the press car, but also the press launch earlier in the year, which was held in Portland, Oregon. While the manual will remain the enthusiast's choice and is the better transmission, I was surprised how useable and still joyous the car is with the automatic gearbox. The automatic has the Select Shift feature, which lets you choose your own gear via a button on the shift lever. While the shifts are smooth, the shift times are less than impressive. A Ford engineer at the event even confessed that this transmission is a bit behind the times and that is why they don't offer it with steering wheel-mounted paddle-shifters, since you'd feel its lag time even more. However, given time, I was able to work out how to best use the shift buttons and the car was quite enjoyable.

On the whole, the Mustang GT is very entertaining, but then any car that can sprint from zero to 100 km/h in 4.5 seconds and top out at 270 km/h will be entertaining. Oh, one more thing: choose the option marked Track Apps, because this allows you to record your performance data from braking, cornering G-forces and acceleration times.

This Track Apps feature is a must with the next version of the Mustang, the Boss 302. This has the same 5.0 litre V8 motor as the



CREDIT: NAUMAN FAROOQ

Ford's 2013 Mustang lineup offers an option for every type of muscle car enthusiast.

GT, but it's also not the same motor. It might be the same size and use the same block, but this one is tweaked. This one produces 444 hp and 380 lb/ft of torque and redlines at 7,500 rpm – this one is the screamer of the bunch. This one is also not for the posers as all Boss 302 models only come as a coupe (while others are also available in convertible guise) and the only transmission offered is a quick-shift six-speed manual.

This car, when you use its red key, is something quite special. It revs harder (resulting in a zero to 100 km/h sprint in just 4.2 seconds), brakes better and handles like a racing Mustang should. It is certainly one of the best, most enjoyable cars you can buy today, but it is not my favourite Mustang.

The one I want is the one they call the Snake. I'm talking about the Shelby GT500. This is the one that has a hissing snake as its ornament. Under its muscular-looking hood, you'll find an engine that is

quite different from anything found in any other Ford product. It is a purpose-built, all aluminum 5.8 litre V8 that has a massive supercharger bolted on. The end result is 662 hp and 631 lb/ft of torque, all of which goes to the rear-wheels via a unique six-speed manual gearbox.

Trust me, this car is as terrifyingly fast as you think it is. Zero to 100 km/h takes just 3.5 seconds, and if you keep your foot welded to the carpet, it will nudge 325 km/h. That is seriously supercar fast.

It is also quite lethal. While most cars that are built to do such speeds are purpose-built speed machines with advanced chassis and suspension set ups and active aerodynamics, the GT500 is like a Viking's hammer in a world of laser-guided missiles. If you know what you're doing, it will reward you with numbers you've probably never seen before. Get it wrong, and it will attempt to kill you without any hesitation. Driving the Shelby GT500

is very rewarding and will get your heart beating a lot faster than it normally does.

The really crazy thing is that despite its massive performance, on a highway cruise, it also manages 10.0 litres/100 km. That is simply remarkable.

Any gripes? In my view, all Mustangs suffers from the same issues, chief among them the dull, plastic interior, plus some of the fit and finish is not up to the standard of its competition from Asia or Europe.

Still, the Mustang is a great choice for anyone looking for a fun car. Prices for the V6 model start at \$23,999. The GT starts at \$39,299, while the Boss 302 is yours from \$48,799. The Shelby GT500 is yours from \$61,999, which makes it the most affordable car that can do over 300 km/h – not that you should on public roads, it just feels good knowing you can.

# The unpredictability of the MLS



**FANSHAWE FC**  
MARTY THOMPSON  
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twitter: @martythompson\_

There is a severe problem with predicting outcomes in soccer, specifically the MLS. Last week I made a few predictions about who would advance through the MLS playoffs. I, admittedly, got all but one incorrect.

The Houston vs. Sporting Kansas City was the only tie that I managed to guess correctly, as Houston held on to their first leg 2-0 lead to come across in the second with a 1-0 loss.

I have been approached by people who frequent sports betting sites or Pro-Line and asked, "How do I go about betting on soccer?" I tell them to not even bother.

Major League Soccer is set up just like many other North American sports leagues... with a salary cap. The cap controls teams from overspending, obviously. But the MLS sees more randomness than any other league.

Sporting and San Jose both crashed out in the first round, both of which were the top seeded

teams.

The league thrives off of the mediocrity. Almost every team in the league can finish anywhere year to year, sometimes completely out of the blue.

In fact, only six out of the first 16 seasons have seen a Supporters Shield (regular season champion) win the playoff round (MLS Cup). This may all seem like a fairly common thing amongst North American sports fan, as most leagues see similar results.

But the only advice I'd give to soccer betters is that European leagues are much more straightforward. There always seems to be a clear winner and loser before the game, as leagues are sorted in class by tiers of teams. For example, there will always be a group of teams who will finish at the top of the table in England, as there will be in France, meanwhile there is another group who will be right behind them. The MLS is one of the only soccer leagues in the world that doesn't have that, and instead has parity throughout the board.

Take the New York Cosmos for example. Back in the 1970s and '80s, a league called the North American Soccer League catapult-



CREDIT: GETTY IMAGES

Robbie Keane turned the table on the San Jose Earthquakes last round, as his two second leg goals put his L.A. Galaxy through to the next round of the playoffs.

ed into popular culture after the arrival of great players like Pelé and George Best to the league. The Cosmos were a dominant team in that era, with Pelé and Franz Beckenbauer among others. The Cosmos have been reborn, and will play in the new reboot of the NASL next season, with MLS aspirations. However, the brass at

New York believes in a league without a salary cap, as they honour their history of attracting the best players in the world. The MLS could be at a crossroad in the next decade; make a push to become a truly top league, or continue on this sustainable yet constrained model.

So, as the crapshoot continues, don't throw down any bets all

willy-nilly. The MLS is very scary to the smart gambler who does his homework. I made my first sports bet a few weeks ago on the MLS and managed to get all of them incorrect (including betting against my beloved Toronto FC team versus Montreal). Never again.



CREDIT: MELANIE ANDERSON

International students from India enjoyed Fanshawe's first ever intramural cricket tournament in early November. The Athletics department plans to make this an annual event, and hopes to see more Canadian students come out next year.

## Cricket tournament a taste of home

MELANIE ANDERSON  
INTERROBANG

Twelve teams participated in Fanshawe's first annual intramural cricket tournament from November 5 to 12. Hospitality student Ansish Sunny was an umpire in the tournament, and he said it's amazing to see cricket played here at Fanshawe. "I'm really happy because I come from India, it's a long way away ... Here you have baseball, it's very popular, every-

one has a baseball in their home; in India, everyone has a cricket bat and ball and even if they don't have the real stuff, they'll make it. They'll make the bats from the trunks of coconut trees."

Jackie Corby, athletics officer for Campus Recreation said she's happy to get so many international students involved. "The International Department really wanted us to have a cricket league because it would be a big draw for

their students." She does, however, hope to see more local players on the teams next year. "I wish we had more Canadians playing in the league ... it's very unfamiliar and very intimidating, we don't often like to step outside our box."

The winner of the intramural league will go to the University of Toronto in Mississauga and participate in the extramural tournament in March of next year.

## No 'dragon' your heels – sign up for the Strength Challenge today



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RICK MELO  
melo\_rick@hotmail.com

It is time to unleash your fury at the 16th annual Year of the Dragon Strength Challenge! This year's Strength Challenge promises to be one of the best, if not THE best.

Fitness 101's Strength Challenge has been an annual event since the late '90s. This will be our second year in a row with the newly improved testing format. Feedback from last year was overwhelmingly positive since it attracted more interest and allowed individuals of varying weight and strength to be able to compete.

The biggest and most well received improvement we've made is the exercise tests themselves. We've incorporated some more endurance-based exercises that will be sure to test each contestant's general ability in terms of resistance training. We now have a timed plank exercising combining a stability ball and dumbbell hold: the longer the hold, the more points rewarded. There is now a push-up test and in order to achieve 10 points, males have to do 55 in one minute, and females have to do 40 (modified) in one

minute. We have also brought back the pull-ups; males performing 25 in 30 seconds will receive 10 points as will females performing five using their own body weight. Females may use weight assistance as well but will not receive full points.

But what is a Strength Challenge without our trademark strength tests? The bench press and leg press have returned with an update. Males will receive full points for benching 1.6 times their body weight for five reps. Females will achieve the same if they can perform five reps at 1.2 times their body weight on the Smith machine. The leg press will demand 10 reps at four times their body weight for males and 10 reps at 3.2 times their body weight for females.

Another very important change is the method of categorizing

weight classes. A middleweight division has been added to ensure there is not a significant disparity among the groups. Lightweight men and women will be less than 165 and 135 pounds, respectively. Middleweight men will weigh between 165 and 195 pounds; middleweight women will weigh between 136 and 166 pounds. Heavyweight men and women will be greater than 195 and 166 pounds, respectively.

The Strength Challenge will be taking place on November 22 and 23. You simply pay \$5 if you are a member, or \$10.50 if you are a non-member, and sign up for a time spot that suits you. There will be plenty of prizes and giveaways from our sponsors to up the ante of friendly competition. If you have any further questions, just stop by the J building front desk.

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

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M	A	A	P	R	E	D	C	R	E	A	T	E	
A	L	L	S	E	S	E	A	R	N	E	R		



CREDIT: IMAGE HOSTING

There are many things you can do to avoid back pain, such as bending your legs when lifting and getting into a regular exercise routine.

## Pondering posture



HEALTH HABIT OF THE WEEK  
Fitness and Health Promotion students

**Q. How do I avoid lower back pain?**

A. To avoid lower back pain, you want to avoid lifting by bending your back; use your legs to lift as this will help to prevent both acute back problems and future chronic pain. You should also concentrate on your posture – focus on keeping your spine straight when standing and even when you are in a seated position.

Furthermore, exercise is a great way to prevent lower back pain. There is a direct relationship between back pain and physical

activity volume; someone who does less physical activity generally has more back pain, and someone with more back pain does less physical activity. Break this cycle by getting outside and go for a walk – increase your aerobic physical activity minutes per week (e.g. walk, bike, take the stairs, swim). Also, improve your posture by increasing the muscular endurance of your core muscles and stretch your full body daily. Aerobic physical activity, muscular endurance and flexibility will not only help you to prevent lower back pain, you will also prevent injury in general, you will improve your posture, you will increase your energy and you will maintain mobility as you age.

Submitted by Jaydip Dhakan and Kedar Upadhyay.

### FANSHAWE COLLEGE ATHLETICS

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# Fanshawe men reap redemption at nationals

MELANIE ANDERSON  
INTERROBANG

The Fanshawe men's cross country team can bask in gold glory once again. The team finished the CCAA National Championship race with all six of their members in the top 26 of 140 competitors, gaining a large margin of victory over Quebec's Sainte-Foy. Clint Smith earned individual silver for the second year in a row with a time of 25:41.

For Fanshawe's Josh Lumani, crossing the finish line was a moment he will never forget.

"It's a lot of weight off my shoulders, just finishing. Coming through the finishing line, it was one of the best experiences of my life, to finally get redemption after what happened last year. Everyone was really happy, I'm still really happy right now."

Last year, Fanshawe settled for silver after Lumani collapsed just 200 metres from the finish line. An unexplained injury left him in the hospital for three days and the team three points behind winning team Sainte-Foy.

This season, Lumani was back and stronger than ever.

"He came back with a force," said Smith. "He had the best season of his three seasons, and 10th at nationals is amazing."

Lumani was in top physical shape heading into the race, but faced a tough mental battle as painful memories of last year's race clouded his mind. "I was definitely thinking about last year during the race and thinking, 'Oh my god, what if this happens again to me?' I think my preparation leading up to this year gave me that opportunity to focus and run a really good race," he said.

After a gold medal win in 2010, the team was back with a vengeance. "The 'Unfinished Business' t-shirts we wore all season can be packed away now and never worn again because we finished it," said Smith.

The race was held at Champlain St-Lambert in Quebec, and wasn't an easy course. "Yeah, the course was tough, it was all sorts of terrain. There was fine gravel, wood chips and a pretty steep hill we had to hit three different times. So it didn't produce the fastest times, but in the end I think we won because everyone ran a smart race," said Lumani.

Smith said it was an all-around team effort. "Me and the boys had really good races all around, no one had a bad race, everybody raced at the top, which is pretty rare. In sports, there's always one guy on a team that seems to slack off or have a bad race, but this was perfect on all counts."

At the 3-km mark, Smith found himself neck and neck with winner Andrew Degroot (St. Claire) in the lead pack. Degroot pulled ahead, but Smith preserved his energy for a surge at the 7-km mark to ensure his victory over third-place finisher Alexandre Lavigne from Sainte-Foy. Smith finished with time to spare, 12 seconds ahead of Lavigne.

Smith admitted he played a safer race, but all for the benefit of the team. "Everything happens for the team, I couldn't sacrifice going harder than I did in case I died and ended up fifth and that would affect the team. I can't say I'm upset with silver, but the team gold was definitely what I wanted and we got it."

It's not just the physical strength

and training that make this team a success, but, according to Smith, a tight bond between all team members. "I remember sitting down with Kyle McKellar and we both just said we can't believe how tight all of us are. We'd do anything for anyone on the team and that's amazing because we went from not knowing them to being their friend to now they're all my family and I'd do anything for them ... that's the best part. That's one of the biggest keys to our success, we love each other and we'd do anything for each other and that keeps us happy all the time."

The players are looking forward to celebrating and having a few weeks off. "During season we sacrifice a lot, you put your team in front of anything you say no to parties you say no to all the other things that friends are doing in college, so we take this time to pick up those friendships that we left."

Lumani agreed, "We're pretty disciplined this season with no partying and stuff, so we're gonna have fun over the next few weeks."

Lumani said his running career at Fanshawe will end in April, but no matter what his next step is, running will always be a major part of his life. Smith will return to Fanshawe next season and start racing again in January, so his break won't be for long. "I'm gonna look for some solid off-season races, maybe hit the track and get some leg speed back, but still as long as I'm at college and as long as I'm running for John (Loney), my biggest concern is keeping that team gold medal where it's supposed to be: at Fanshawe."



CREDIT: FANSHAWE ATHLETICS

Clint Smith crosses the finish line at the CCAA cross country championships. Smith won an individual silver medal and the team won a National Championship gold at Sainte-Foy, Quebec.

# Durocher constant face in Athletics

JEFFREY REED  
SPECIAL TO INTERROBANG

Times were much different when Fanshawe College athletic officer Ernie Durocher joined the school's sports department as a team trainer in 1978. The tiny B gymnasium had a stage directly behind the north basket, resulting in collisions at each Falcons men's and women's basketball game. The college's A gym had a tile floor, which also saw injuries of the slipping and sliding variety.

Thirty-four years later, Fanshawe has grown from a campus of less than 4,000 full-time students to more than 15,000 students. Varsity athletes, intramural and extramural sports participants plus members of the community enjoy a modern athletic complex that rivals any Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) facility.

Durocher, 54, of Brampton, Ontario, is now the veteran amongst the Falcons' athletic staff, and one of London's longest-standing sports personalities.

"I'm a team person," said Durocher from his Fanshawe office, surrounded by memorabilia from the past 34 years, including two men's Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) basketball championship titles in 1980 and '81. "I love the environment here. The people are great. And I'm a sticker."

As a Sheridan College student studying athletic training and man-

agement, Durocher did his work placement with the Toronto Young Nats Jr. B hockey club, whose roster included a 14-year-old hockey phenomenon by the name of Wayne Gretzky.

"The trainer found out I was from Brampton. Gretzky had moved from Brantford to Rexdale. He needed a ride to Maple five days a week, for practices and games. Once we got to know each other, he talked like crazy - and he could eat like crazy too," said Durocher.

A decade after they spent hours together commuting to the team's arena, Gretzky remembered his old friend when he invited Durocher to his Edmonton wedding in 1988. Durocher had just finished visiting his parents in Western Canada, and didn't want to make the return trip - but Gretzky had other ideas.

"Wayne called and said, 'I hear you are not coming to the wedding. I want you on that plane Friday. We have a flight for you, and a hotel. Bring your wife.' How do you say no to that?" said Durocher.

As a student reporter at Fanshawe College in 1981, I interviewed Wayne Gretzky as part of my first feature story. Durocher and I have another connection. During an intramural basketball game, I fell and twisted my ankle. Durocher brought me into his trainer's room and taped up the swollen ankle, much to the amusement of recently retired Falcons

men's basketball coach, Glenn Johnston, who quipped, "What did you do, Scoop, drop your tape recorder on your foot?"

Today, Durocher remains as active as he was during his early years at Fanshawe, but with much more responsibility, playing a big part in the operations of Falcons varsity sports. "Our varsity programs are in full swing," said Durocher from his office, which acts as the central nervous system for the Falcons. "We just finished soccer season and are now getting into volleyball and basketball. It never ends."

Yet Durocher wouldn't have it any other way. He's an avid golfer, plays floor hockey and referees when he's not behind his desk or attending games at home and on the road. He and his wife, Ruth-Anne, have two children: Andrew, 25, and Alanna, 23. And Durocher loves working with today's students, whom he also considers family.

"My most memorable experiences are dealing with so many of the students who have walked through these doors," said Durocher. "Between students, their parents and alumni, it keeps me young. I love the environment."

Jeffrey Reed is an award-winning journalist, and has been a member of the local sports media since 1980. Write to him at jeff@londonontariogolf.com.



CREDIT: FANSHAWE ATHLETICS

Ernie Durocher has been working in Fanshawe's Athletic department since 1978. Starting out as a team trainer, then eventually becoming an athletic officer, Durocher currently coordinates the men's varsity sports program.

## Intramural Standings

### 5 on 5 Basketball

Group One	W	L	T
Team			
Pts			
MIA Ballers	8	0	0
Fitness 101	7	1	0
Cole World	6	2	0
Milf Hunters	4	4	0
Falcons Faculty	3	5	0
Vikings	2	6	0
A Tribe Called Q...	2	6	0
Merlin Mucksquad	2	6	0
City Slickas	0	8	0

### Group Two

Team	W	L	T
Pts			
Goon Squad	7	1	0
GTL	5	1	1
Fanshawe Thunder	4	4	0
Team Gerald	4	4	0
The Squad	3	2	1
Bench Warmers	3	4	1
The Mob	2	6	0
Individuals	2	6	0
New World	1	5	1

## Women's Volleyball

### Group One

Team	W	L	T
Pts			
I'd Hit That	5	0	0
Plaques Attack	3	1	0
Kiss My Ace	2	1	0
Attack Pack	2	2	0
Dirty 1/2 Dozen	1	1	0
Sets On The Beach	1	2	0
Volleyhoots	1	3	0
Bumpin Babes	1	1	0
Practicve Safe Sets	0	5	0

## Men's Volleyball

### Group One

Team	W	L	T
Pts			
Wolf Pack	3	0	0
PHIL	3	0	0
Super Smash Bros	3	1	0
5.0 Crew	2	1	0
Team Lepoivre	2	1	0
How To Kill A ...	2	3	0
Individuals	1	3	0
I'd Hit That	0	3	0
MIA	0	4	0

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