

EYE OF THE TIGER

#WeAreWinter

The Winter Nation: Canada has proven at Sochi that we are indeed winter.

BY SHANE SUKERMAN
OPINION COLUMNIST

Back in 2010, I remember sitting at home a lot, eyes glued to the television screen, cheering for Canada as they competed in Vancouver. The Winter Olympics in 2010 had a number of big moments: Alexandre Bilodeau won Canada its first gold medal on home soil, the Men's Ice Hockey team recovered from their defeat in 2006 and came back to win gold, and Canada finished the Olympics with more gold medals than any other country. It was pretty clear that the Vancouver Games were going to be hard to live up to.

Now, before the Olympics in Sochi began, there was a lot of media attention given to Russia, mostly because of its anti-gay legislation. This resulted in an outcry from the western world, ranging from clever advertisements against the legislation to the boycotting of the entire Olympic Games. Needless to say, most of the attention was not on the athletes until the games actually began.

During the opening ceremony, Hayley Wickenheiser, a female hockey legend, carried the Canadian

flag among her hundreds of fellow athletes. Wickenheiser, along with the rest of the Canadian Women's Ice Hockey team, was aiming for a gold medal once again.

The first few days of the Olympics looked good for Canada, as we won 4 gold medals after the first week. However, our medal count soon began to slow, and at one point Canada sat as low as eighth in the medal rankings. And then the nation woke up.

It started in earnest when the Women's Hockey team made it to the gold medal game against the United States. Since Women's Hockey was introduced, every gold medal game has been played between Canada and the United States. The U.S. brought home the first gold in 1998, and Canada has won every Olympics since then. Having already beaten the U.S. in a preliminary game, Canada was shocked when the Women's Team went down 2-0. It took until the last four minutes of the game, with the score still 2-0, for Canadian patriotism to awaken from

its four year slumber. The Canadian women surged back, scoring two goals in the dying minutes of the game to send it to overtime. Then, just as the nation had regained hope, the girls playing hockey out in Russia with a maple leaf on their chests reminded us that hockey is our game. An overtime winner sent the Canadian Olympic machine into overdrive.

In the days that followed, Canadians were joined together in almost every aspect of being. The spark in our hearts had been lit, and the last few days of the Sochi Winter Games were easily Canada's best.

We continued by supporting our Women's Curling team as they triumphed over Sweden in the gold medal game. Then, we watched as the Men's Curling team lived up to their predecessors, beating Great Britain for another gold medal.

During the four-man bobsled event, however, the Canada 3 team experienced a devastating crash. None of the athletes were seriously injured, but the loss in time put Canada out of the run-

ning for even a top 10 position. This disaster only served to unite us further, as we stood by our athletes and took pride in their efforts. We understood what it meant to train for three years and eleven months, and then to have all that training feel wasted because of a split-second decision. We were proud to call those bobsledders Canadians, and we were proud to call them our brothers.

And then the moment came that our country has been waiting four years for – the semi-finals and finals of Men's Ice Hockey.

In the semi-finals, Canada faced off against the United States, the very team we had barely beaten back in the gold medal game in Vancouver. But our team was different this time, and new heroes like Carey Price and Jamie Benn gave us the advantage over our bitter rivals. We fought hard for our 1-0 victory over the U.S., and we advanced to the gold medal game against Sweden.

This game was the only one of Canada's to be broadcast at an odd hour, as Canadians from coast to coast set their alarm clocks for 6:30 a.m. to wait for puck drop at 7:00. The second this

game started, social media erupted with cheers and support that would not end until long after the game had finished.

Jonathan Toews, two-time Stanley Cup winner and a member of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic squad, tipped in a pass in front of the net to give Canada a 1-0 lead. In the second period, Sidney Crosby made the most of a Swedish turnover at centre ice and scored on a breakaway. Finally, Chris Kunitz snapped another past Henrik Lundqvist in the third to give Canada a 3-0 lead. The gold medal was won, and it was because of the effort put in by each member of the team – not to mention a special performance from goaltender Carey Price, who has been nothing but stellar while wearing the maple leaf on his chest, going back to the World Juniors in 2007.

Canada was brought closer together by these Olympics than we have been since, well, the last Olympics. And while it might not have lived up to the intensity and aura of Vancouver, Canada's final medal count of ten gold, ten silver, and five bronze has reminded the world that when it comes to the Olympics, we are winter.



What happened to MH370?

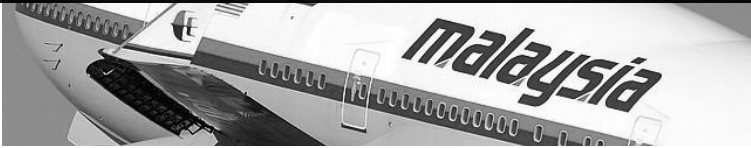
The plane that didn't return, pg. 4

A sticky situation

Oil problems, page 7

Our new favorite jackets

The fate of Canada Goose, page 3



The life of Nelson Mandela

A history of the life and legacy of the beloved leader Nelson Mandel.

BY MAX LI

NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, a beloved South African President and anti-apartheid revolutionary, died December 5 at his home in Johannesburg. He was 95 and had been suffering from respiratory infections for most of his twilight years.

The son of a local chief and councillor to the monarch, Mandela was only nine when he witnessed his father succumb to lung disease. Later on, he would say that he had inherited his father’s “proud rebelliousness” and “stubborn sense of fairness.”

After his father’s death, his mother took him to the household of Chief Jongintaba Dalinyebo, who was to be Mandela’s new guardian. His new family took him to church every Sunday, making Christianity an important part of his life. At his school, he engaged himself with African history and was influenced anti-imperialistic beliefs, although he still considered the European colonialists as allies and not oppressors. During his adolescence and progression into adulthood, Mandela completed his Junior Certificate at Clarkebury Boarding Institute, a Western-style school for Africans in Thembuland, in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. Mandela spent most of his free time running and boxing, and after two years of school he became a prefect. When an anti-imperialist movement rose up, Mandela didn’t take part. Instead, he used his time to found a first-year students’ committee that boycotted against poor food quality, which got him suspended from the university. Afterwards, Mandela didn’t continue his studies at the institution.

At 22 years old, Mandela’s guardian had arranged a marriage for him. Unhappy with the situation, Mandela left to Johannesburg, where he participated in a boycott against bus fare rises, continued with his higher education, and fell into a few short relationships. Four years later, he had made friends from many diverse ethnic origins and he married a Transkei activist, Evelyn Mase. It was at this time that Mandela gained a following from the ANC (African National Congress) and left school to fully immerse himself in politics, where he advocated direct action against apartheid.

In 1950, a 32-year old Mandela became the national President of the ANC. He spent most of his time working and less and less time at home. This drove a wedge between Mandela and his family. Under Mandela’s supervision, the ANC’s following would grow fivefold, from 20 000 to 100 000 people. Dur-



The South African activist and former president Nelson Mandela helped bring an end to apartheid and has been a global advocate for human rights. After nearly three decades of being imprisoned for protesting against the oppressive regime, he became the first black president of South Africa, forming a multicultural government to oversee the country’s transition. After retiring from politics, he has remained and will always be remembered as a devoted representative for peace and social justice in his own nation and around the world.

ing this time, he organized many peaceful protests, following Gandhi’s example. By 1956, he had already received a third ban on public appearances. It was then that his marriage began to fully break up. Two years later, Mandela filed for divorce, and his two children were placed in Evelyn’s custody.

Bad spiralled to worse as 69 people were killed at an ANC protest, a six-year trial that rule in favour of the ANC embarrassed the government, and Nelson Mandela was arrested when he was raising funds for a weaponized rebellion. Because Nelson Mandela was the face of the ANC, he ended up suffering consequences that some of those who were actually involved in the protests didn’t have to. In 1964, Mandela and several executives of the ANC were sentenced to life in prison.

Even in prison, Mandela used his free time to pursue his learning. He set up a prison university at Robben Island, where he debated with many others on topics such as homosexuality and equality. He spent

nearly two decades at this prison. In 1982, Mandela was moved to Pollsmoor prison, where he was permitted 52 letters a year and maintained his own roof garden. Outside of the prison, violence was growing to an uproar, and many feared a civil war. Mandela was given the chance to leave prison from the President Pieter Botha if Mandela would advocate against an uprising. Mandela spurned the offer. His dedication to his cause would cost him five more years of his life in prison.

Things were starting to look up in 1988, when Mandela was moved to the Victor Verster prison. President Botha had sat down to have tea with him, which Mandela much appreciated. Six weeks later, a new President Klerk replaced Botha and freed all ANC prisoners, excluding Mandela. After the two met in person, Mandela was also set free. On February 11, Mandela held his wife Winnie’s hand as his release from prison was broadcasted around the world. But all was not over.

Fast-forward to 1994. After years of campaigning, Mandela was

running for President of South Africa. In the end, the ANC won with a 62% vote, four percent away from being able to rewrite the constitution. In 1995, Mandela divorced Winnie for violating human rights for her political beliefs and entered a relationship with Graça Machel, who was to be his third and last partner.

Mandela improved the condition of South Africa significantly by increasing welfare spending – the provision of minimum well-being and support, introducing parity grants – non-profit, non-repayable sums of money paid to those in need, and creating free healthcare for young children and pregnant women. During his presidency, 3 million people were connected to telephone lines, 1.5 million children entered schools, 500 clinics were upgraded or constructed, 2 million people connected to electricity grids, 3 million people got water access, and 750000 houses were built. Mandela retired in 1999.

His later years were spent

seeking a quiet family life, but he ended up spending most of his time with global leaders, celebrities and the Nelson Mandela Foundation to combat HIV/AIDS. Many foundations in the name of Mandela were created at the time of his retirement. Mandela spoke harshly of the Western powers, especially the United States, saying that, “[all] that Mr. Bush wants is Iraqi oil.”

In 2004, Mandela left public life and ended participating at public events. He spent the rest of his life in and out of hospital, due to respiratory and lung infections. He was discharged from hospital in September 2013, and died three months later.

Mandela will be heralded for his goodwill and selflessness for many years to come. He showed perseverance and bravery in the midst of corruption, violence, and imprisonment, and in the end despite all of his hardships, he came out on top. The life and legacy of Mandela teaches us to always stand by our beliefs and live by our morals. He will be sorely missed.



TORONTO'S TURN PASO has chosen Toronto as the next location for the Pan Am Games. Pictured is the upcoming "Pan Am Village" in Toronto, one of the many proposed structures to be built.

The next Pan Am Games will be held in Toronto as preparations begin for this spectacular event.

BY RYAN SUEN
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Ever since the last Pan Am Games (Pan American) in Mexico handed its last medal to an athlete, the PASO (Pan American Sports Organization) had decided where the next set of games would take place: our famed city, Toronto. In the closing ceremony, our own Mayor Rob Ford and Canadian Minister for Sport received the PASO flag during the closing ceremony at Mexico a common tradition for indicating the

location of the next Pan American Games. The Pan American Games constitute a major event in the Americas, featuring summer, and formerly winter sports, in which thousands of athletes participate in a variety of competitions. The event is held between the nations in the Americas, similarly to the Olympic Games, taking place every four years, though a year before the Olympic Games.

On July 10, 2013, cities all across the Ontarian province celebrated the two-year countdown to the 2015 Pan Am Games, to be hosted in our home city. Top Canadian Athletes to be competing in the Games were featured in their individual towns, pumping their

encouraging fans to brace themselves for a huge performance. Seven days from the early celebration, Pachi the Porcupine was chosen as the next mascot, quickly becoming known as the cute critter with colorful spines. More beneficial events followed, and several individuals of authority and influence in accordance to the games, commented on how well Toronto progressed towards construction and planning of the Games.

Speeding forward into the start of our school year, Cirque du Soleil, Canada's globally celebrated cultural icon, was chosen to bring its special blend of stagecraft and thrilling acrobatic athleticism to

creating original production especially for the opening ceremony of the 2015 Games. As of October, PASO continued to choose different organizations and companies to help with Games, including Royal Canadian Mint to design and create the medals and Loblaw Companies Limited as one of the few Premier Partners of the Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games.

The Rogers Centre was chosen as the location for the opening and closing ceremony, with the Athletes Village to be built at the West Don Lands, along Front Street. The Village will have the capacity to hold approximately 10,000 athletes and officials. Recently, in December, Coca-Cola was named the official

supplier of the Games.

Overall, with large-scale construction process on-the-go and major upgrades to important buildings under pressure from officials to completely finish before 2015, the Toronto 2015 Organizing Committee collaborated to spend approximately C\$ 1.4 billion. The large sum of money, hopefully spent wisely and efficiently, would potentially change to increase even further. But Canadian citizens, not to worry, the financial and physical effort made will be nothing compared to the glory and pride we hold in hosting the Games. People of Canada, brace yourselves: for the best Pan American Games to have taken place yet.

Cracking down Internet freedom

Vietnam's communist party prohibits online criticism against the government.

BY SARAH RAVOTH
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Vietnam's ruling communist party put into effect the vague and potentially manipulative Decree 72 early this September. Overall, Decree 72 prohibits the information Internet users can post online, including personal social media sites, such as Facebook, Twitter, and blogging. The government declared that social media should be used for exchanging personal information rather than news or information about the country. Criticizing the government entails fines of 100 million dong, equivalent to \$4,740—offences that "propaganda against the state" and the spreading of "reactionary ideology" would trigger.

However, the wording of Decree 72 is unclear. Though it states bans on actions such as "undermining the fine customs and traditions of the nation", it does not draw a definite line to the punishments linked to each breach of Internet misuse, essentially being left to the discretion of the Vietnamese government. While supports of the law believe that it clamps down on piracy, the opposition is much greater.

The United States advised Vietnam to drop the decree to better its human rights record as well as establish stronger trade ties, which has large corporations like Yahoo! and Google believing will inhibit trade and the movement of companies into the country. Harsher critics have come down on Vietnam as well, including Reporters Without Borders, a rights group that originated in Paris; calling Vietnam "an enemy of the internet". They also criticized the decree before it became a law, saying it was "the harshest offensive against freedom of information."

Internet usage in Vietnam is only increasing, however. Of the estimated 90 million population, a third uses the internet and 20 million have Facebook accounts, says a September report of information technology published at a seminar in Ho Chi Minh City.

Freedom of speech is now entering a virtual arena, where suppression of thoughts and beliefs on the Internet is as deplorable as the suppression of voicing opinions once was. With the rising amounts of Internet users in Vietnam, it remains only a matter of time before monitoring citizen's freedom of speech online becomes an impossible task as well as a prohibited one.

Americans now own Canada Goose

Canada Goose is selling its majority stake to Bain Capital, an American private equity company.

BY EVELYN LEE
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

On December 10th, 2013, Canada Goose, one of the world's leading extreme weather outdoor company, announced the shocking news that worries many Canadians. They are selling a majority stake in the company to New York private equity firm Bain Capital. However, Dani Reiss, the president and chief executive of Canada Goose seems happier about the partnership than worried. He says, "With this investment, we're able to amplify what has driven our success for the last 15-plus years: delivering the best and warmest jackets to the rest of the world, all proudly made in Canada." He explained that Bain will help with international expansion plans to over-sea countries such as to South Korea.

Ryan Cotton, a principal at Bain Capital, said Canada Goose is "a unique global brand that exudes authenticity." He explained that this is why

many people choose to wear Canada Goose and the key as to why it is a successful company. The two companies did not disclose the purchase price but Dani Reiss, the grandson of the founder of the company, will remain as the president and chief executive and will continue to own minority stake of the company.

Canada Goose was founded in Toronto in 1957 by Sam Tick. In the 1990s, the business expanded rapidly and its revenue increased from \$3 million to \$17.5 million in about a decade, a growth of 5000%, as the company expanded to global market. Now, the company employs more than 1,000 people in manufacturing facilities and sells its products in more than 50 countries.

Bain Capital is a private equity firm with approximately \$70 billion in assets under management. The company previously invested in many other Canadian companies such as Shoppers Drug Mart, Bombardier Recreational Products, and BTI System.

Former Presidential nominee Mitt Romney is the co-founder of the company and spent most

of his career in the company before he engaged in politics. Now, it seems like Americans are in control of Canada's politics and economy, which does not please Canadians. "We felt they were the strongest partner...Our partners in Bain are 100 percent behind us in that manufacturing philosophy," Reiss said. In April, Canada Goose asked investment bank Genuity to look for a partner to introduce additional equity in the company. They chose Bain Capital they were considered as the "best partner" for the company to reach their goal for global market. "Bain Capital has a long and impressive track record of successfully investing in beloved Canadian companies, and we are thrilled to bring them on board. They're the right partner with the right resources and people to help us reach our potential," Reiss said. However, Canadians are not happy with this news. Canada Goose was one of the bigger companies in Canada, providing jobs for many people and helped the growth of Canada's economy. Now, the majority of the profit will go to Bain, helping the American economy. This worries many Canadians about Canada's economic stability.

The Search Continues: Malaysia Airlines Flight 370

As the weeks go on, there is still no sign of the aircraft that the world is so anxious to find.

BY MICHELLE BEYN
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

On March 8th, 2014, Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 went missing on its journey from Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Malaysia to China's Beijing Capital International Airport. Other than those facts, not much else is certain in the disappearance of the Boeing 777-200ER that was carrying 227 passengers and 12 crew members.

The search of the missing commercial aircraft, involving 25 countries and the expense of millions of dollars, began at 8:30AM MYT after it failed to arrive in Beijing at 6:30AM MYT that morning. The plane took off at 12:41AM, and approximately an hour and a half later began to lose communication with ground control. At 1:07AM, the first transponder (a radio frequency identification device that determines the location of the aircraft), a simple switch on the controls, was turned off. Fourteen minutes later, a second transponder, located in a different area of the aircraft, also turned off. There was, however, no emergency signal sent from the pilots as there would be in the case of an accident. At this time, the aircraft was considered an "unidentified blimp" in the sky, which although was tracked by the radar at

specific check points, did not send status signals to ground control.

Even with both of these transmission systems turned off, the aircrafts ACARS (Aircraft Communications Addressing and Reporting System) continued to send "pings" which were picked up by satellites. These "pings" are sent from the aircraft approximately once per hour to communicate that the plane is properly functioning. These signals, however, cannot show the location of the aircraft. In the case of MA370, pings were sent for approximately 7 hours after the aircraft's transponders were turned off, showing that it was intact for that period of time. The last known signal was a ping sent at 8:11AM.

After analyzing radars, experts concluded that after both transponders were turned off, the plane began to take an alternate route, directed sharply west, shifting from the original path of flying northeast to Beijing. They determined this information based off of the waypoints which the plane came in contact with after the transponders were turned off. Waypoints are the reference points in aviation, and when an aircraft flies over them, they send signals to the radars about that information.

The initial search in the South China Sea (near the last known lo-

cation of the aircraft) expanded to the Indian Ocean because of this new information of the path that the aircraft took. Theories exploded that the airplane could be as north as Kazakhstan or as south as the shores of Australia, which drastically widened the search area and efforts.

Throughout the search, there have been many pieces of debris spotted in several different locations. On March 9th, Chinese satellites discovered 3 pieces of debris measuring approximately 22 by 24 metres floating not far from where the aircraft was last located, in between Malaysia and Vietnam. After extensive search efforts, nothing was found. On March 22nd, China also released an image that the satellites located of debris approximately the same size as the previous ones found. This piece, however, was located in the south Indian Ocean to the west of Australia. Because of the turbulent waters and the terrible weather conditions in that area, the debris was yet again not found by officials. Other than these major possible developments, other minor debris had been found such as suitcases and wooden pallets, which were also unidentifiable.

The most probable theory as to the disappearance of the aircraft,

and the theory that the Malaysian government is pursuing, is that it was hijacked. Police found that two of the men onboard were carrying stolen passports that belonged to an Austrian and an Italian, and have identified them as being two men from Iran. Malaysian officials, however, quickly dismissed that there was a connection between the stolen passports and the missing plane. In addition, police are investigating the flight simulators and homes of the pilot, Zaharie Ahmad Shah, and co-pilot, Fariq Abdul Hamid, for any reasonable motive to hijack the plane. The last words communicated to ground control were "Alright, good night", stated by Hamid at 1:19AM, minutes after the first transponder was turned off. So far, in the investigation, there is no evidence to suggest that they had the intent to hijack for a pilot suicide. Another possibility is that the aircraft was hijacked for the purpose of transporting it to another unknown location to be used for terrorism purposes; however, no country has reported an unidentified aircraft over its borders, and there is no evidence to support this theory so far in the investigation.

Another theory states that there could have been an emergency involving the cabin pressure on the airplane. The aircraft was said

to have reached altitudes of over 40,000 ft when the suggested limit is approximately 35,000 ft. This height, which could have been due to a malfunction, would change the cabin pressure and cause people on board the aircraft to faint and eventually die because of the lack of oxygen. Because oxygen masks only last for a short amount of time, they would not be effective in sustaining life. The malfunction of the plane could have been caused by a fire on the aircraft, whether it was from the dangerous lithium batteries that it carried or from another unknown source. This theory however, does not explain why the aircraft took an alternate and unknown route.

The disappearance of Malaysian Airlines Flight 370 is one of the biggest mysteries so far in aviation history. Not much is certain in the investigation other than the aircraft went missing with 239 people on board on March 8th. There are continuous efforts being made and different pieces of information being found on a daily basis, but because of the large search area stretching throughout the Indian Ocean, investigators, military, and navy officials will have their work cut out for them in the following days and possibly months. For all we know, the plane could have vanished in mid air.



DESPITE BAD WEATHER, THE SEARCH MUST GO ON After flight MH370 mysteriously disappeared not long after departure, many are concerned as to where the flight may have disappeared to.

An unforgettable journey

“When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life”- Samuel Johnson



Thornhill’s March Break trip to the UK and Ireland.

BY RYAN KHURANA
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Such weariness never beset the 34 lucky students of TSS who over the March Break went on an unforgettable journey through the Republic of Ireland, Wales and England courtesy of EF tours and the wonderful staff of our school. Over the course of the 10 days the group was given the opportunity to explore various castles, historical sites, and the beautiful landscapes of the region, allowing us to take in the history of a civilization a few thousand years old. The beauty of the United Kingdom is indescribable and no words I could put upon this page would do the region justice.

Our journey began on a flight to London, before a connecting flight to the Republic of Ireland, a long flight shortened by the com-

pany of friends and the many who were soon to become friends. We arrived at Shannon airport and began our first of four days in the country. We met our fantastic bus driver Timmy, who I must say was among the happiest, cheeriest Irishman I’ve ever met. Timmy was pretty awesome. Among the many sites in Ireland, one of the most breathtaking was the Ring of Kerry, a large path filled with many interesting monuments, hilled regions and a gorgeous view of the Irish Sea, the sight of which was enthralling beyond all belief. After a few other sights including Blarney Castle where many of us kissed the Blarney Stone, though sadly were not gifted with its famous eloquence, our sightseeing in Ireland climaxed in Dublin, a city bursting with history and culture. Within the city we visited numerous sites including St. Patrick’s Cathedral and the National Museum of Ireland as well as seeing the Book of Kells,

the first translation of the Gospels into Gaelic, a true historical relic, within the stunning halls of Trinity College, Ireland’s oldest university. Our travels through Ireland ended with a day of shopping in Dublin, followed by the learning of Irish Jigs to which all students and teachers attempted, after which we got ready to set sail for Wales (and sadly had to say goodbye to Timmy).

The cruise to Wales was a relaxing few hours with many luxuries including: an arcade, a movie theatre, and restaurants. Upon docking in Wales we met our second bus driver who was also very adept at handling the winding, curving roads of the Welsh countryside. We went through the country in less than a day seeing the statues and rural regions within it, stopping in the city with the longest name in the world, Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch, and seeing a beautiful castle

in Snowdonia surrounded by a remarkable moat. We then proceeded into England for the latter half of our voyage.

Starting in Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace and resting place of the Bard we were able to visit not only his home but spend time in a town almost entirely dedicated to the man himself. From there we briefly stopped in Oxford, in my opinion the most beautiful place on Earth, where we took a glance at Christ’s Church College, the filming place of the Harry Potter Dining Hall scenes. After Oxford we went into London, UK’s capital and my future home. There we all went on a sightseeing tour that included Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London and numerous other sights before breaking up into two groups: one to the London Eye, a large ferris wheel that provides one with a view of the entire glorious city; the other to Windsor Castle, the Queen’s

“humble” abode. Our time in London ended with a little shopping downtown, to which I must say, shopping upon Saville Row should be a right of passage for the modern man. We then returned on a flight shorter than the first, our lives enriched by the experience.

An adventurous and rewarding March Break from start to finish. Special thanks to our wonderful tour guide Brian who was with us throughout the entire journey and took us through all of the sights and helped make the journey very smooth. Also a great deal of credit must be given to Ms. Lingeman who worked tirelessly to arrange this experience and give our school the opportunity for an event such as this. Thanks must also be given to the supervisors of this trip: Mr. McAdam, Ms. Smullen, Ms. Clarke, and Mr. Mobedi. On behalf of all those on the trip, we thank you for the trip and for all your hard work.



A high-contrast, black and white image showing a textured, irregular shape, possibly a biological specimen or a piece of material, set against a dark background. The shape is elongated and has a rough, granular surface with many small, bright white spots and larger, darker patches. It appears to be a cross-section or a surface view of a complex material. The overall appearance is somewhat abstract and scientific.

www.thornhillalumni.com

The importance of Entrepreneurship

And how it’s not as scary as it sounds

ISAAC TAM
ENTERTAINMENT COLUMNIST

An entrepreneur, by general description, is a person who starts up and operates a business venture in order to meet a certain need, or niche market. These needs could be a service that is not available or does not exist in an area, or a product that works much better than others of its kind or something brand new. It might seem like a bit of a risk in all aspects of the job description, but don’t reject the idea of becoming one, or thinking that entrepreneurs are dumb for going into this profession. The word “entrepreneur”

comes from the French word “entreprendre”, which means to undertake, so an entrepreneur is one who undertakes (I’m sorry Ms. Cassata if I got it wrong). The kind of business that an entrepreneur can undertake varies widely. As stated above, it could be a product or a service that an entrepreneur revolves the business around. But what all entrepreneurial businesses have in common is the inception of a business idea, the spark that ignites the path of the entrepreneur. A simple example of entrepreneurship is found in the conception of the Band-Aid. Back in 1920, Earle Dickson, an employee at Johnson & Johnson, a pharmaceutical devices maker, had a wife that would

often burn or cut herself while cooking. Dickson wanted to make a product that would help cover and treat the wound without much assistance. He went on to invent the Band-Aid and presented the prototype to his employer, who passed it on to executive. They produced and marketed the Band-Aid, shipping millions of them during the Second World War, helping to popularize the product. Dickson went on to become vice-president of Johnson & Johnson before retiring. The business created through the Band-Aid targeted a consumer need, the need to treat a small wound quickly. Most of the products we use today started off with an idea that a person had and wanted to share

with the public (or capitalize from). Kleenex, the slinky, Velcro, and Crocs are all examples of products thought up by entrepreneurs and had their business revolve around the product. Though the process of actually starting up the business may be tricky and it takes a lot of dedication to even consider beginning a venture, if the product or service is good, it will speak for itself and carry you all the way to success. Google was started by Stanford University students Larry Page and Sergey Brin, as an improved search engine that churned up web pages based on relevance and importance of content rather than number of views. Look what happened to them. Apple started off as com-

pany that sold personal computer kits designed by Steve Wozniak, Steve Jobs and Ronald Wayne. With funding and the right connections, one product led to the next and Apple grew into the consumer electronics company it is today. So for all you who are not sure what you want to do, become an entrepreneur. If you have an idea, let it be known and start a business. Not only is entrepreneurship an occupation, it’s also a way to break out your shell. Being an entrepreneur requires you to talk to people, to share your idea and make your product known. In this way, entrepreneurship is also a pathway for personal growth. Be the next Steve Jobs or Bill Gates and you’ll make your impact in this world.

Oil: a very sticky situation

Oil has a lot of negative impacts, but it can’t be easily ignored.

PEGY KORAT
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTOR

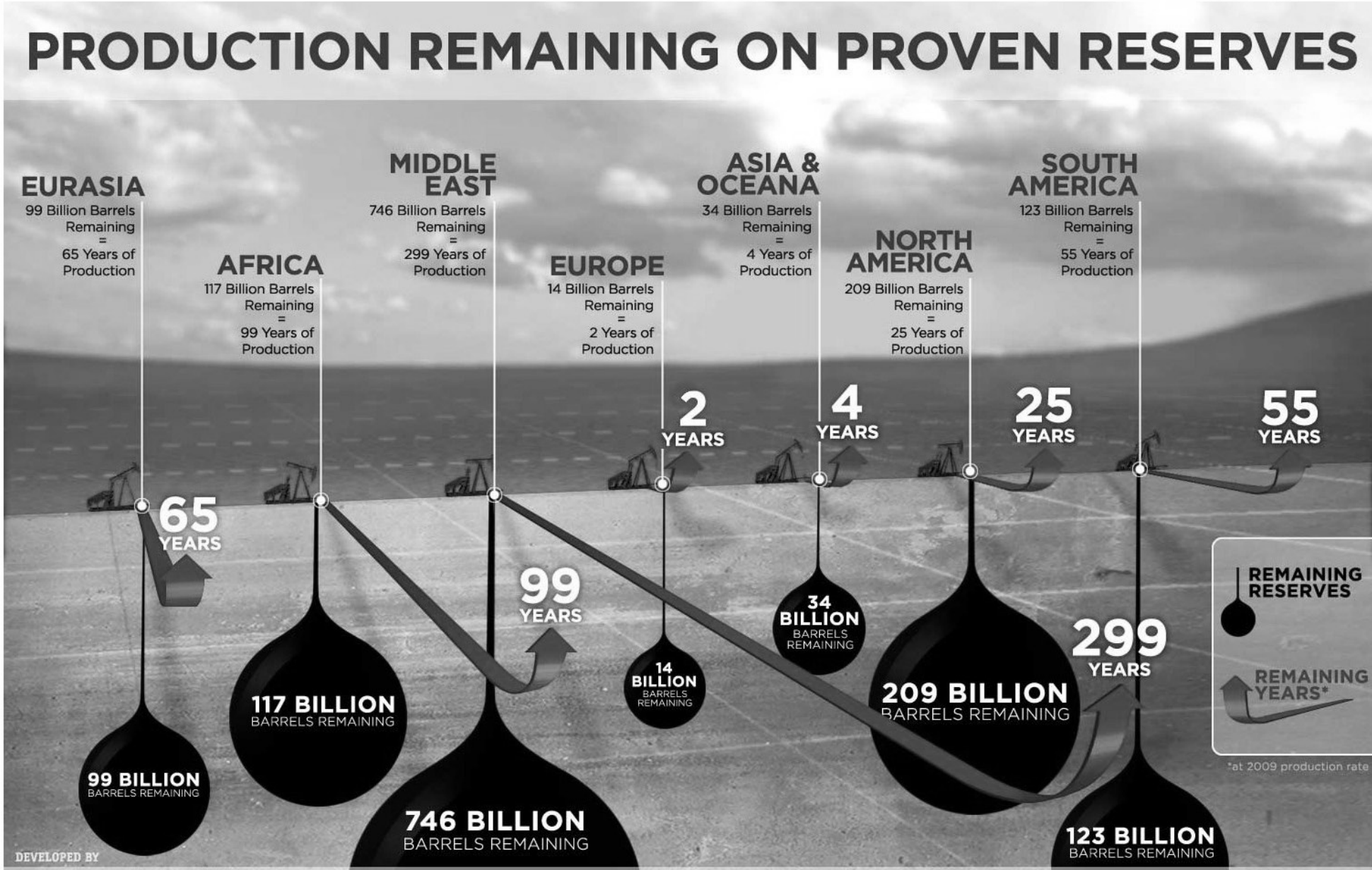
If you own a television, chances are that you have most likely seen those commercials where small animals that are covered in oil are being washed by some detergent, which according to the company is not only tough on grease, but also gentle on the skin. Why would this matter to a high school student though? It should be your mom that needs to be thinking about where she can purchase such a great product and your dad who should be worried about the cost. Then again, there is the fact that if it weren’t for all the issues that oil sands (deposits of loose or partially consolidated sand which contains hydrocarbons such as petroleum) are currently causing, there wouldn’t be a need for all these animals to be in the production of such commercials and instead

they could be replaced with a dish that’s covered in leftover spaghetti. So back to the first question - why would this matter to a high school student? Well believe it or not, it’s more than just these animals that the oil sands are having an impact on. In fact, the local environments in which you and thousands of other high school students live in, could be in danger of facing problems that may eventually result in damages far beyond our control. The world economy has been dependent on oil for over a hundred years and this “necessity” amounts for one third of humanity’s primary energy supply. Based on this, it’s no surprise that countries, including the one that we live in, are constantly trying to improve their oil industries. However, what does startle people, are the results of this process. Canada has the world’s second largest proven oil reserves of 175 billion barrels, which are mostly trapped in the oil sands located in Alberta. Depending on

how this fact may be perceived, some could say that this is great for both Canada and its economy, while others may argue that it’s the source for oncoming disasters. The major use of the oil that gets extracted from these sands is for heating or fuel. It could also be used to create materials such as plastic, lubricants for machinery, or even make the asphalt that’s essential for road construction. Despite the various uses of these oil sands, there are consequences that come along and it’s important to ask whether or not the benefits of extracting this resource outweighs the negative effects that it’s having. The process of oil extraction is known to be the cause of the second fastest rate of deforestation on the planet so that should give us an idea of what’s happening to the animal habitats in Canada. Forests and trees are being cut in order for pipelines to be constructed and that’s creating various problems. Most often than not, these pipelines

are extremely costly due to the fact that they must reach faraway markets and some think that this money could go towards better uses. In addition to this, there’s also the role of oil sands in climate change. Approximately 40% of Canada’s greenhouse emissions which cause climate change come from Alberta alone. There are also health implications that those who work in such projects must face. For instance, the deadly explosions and industrial accidents that happen in production, as well as the reported increase in rare forms of cancer found in workers, has caused controversy regarding the continuation of extracting oil from oil sands. This process also requires large amounts of water which has led to the run off of roughly 3 million gallons of toxic water per day. As a result of this, bodies of water often get contaminated which is not only harmful for animals who rely on such water sources, but also on residents in nearby areas

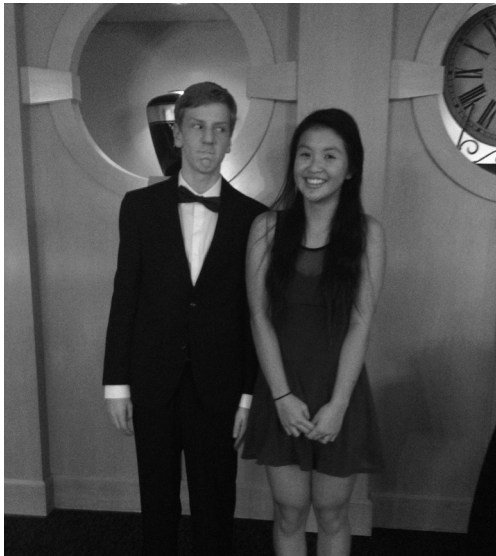
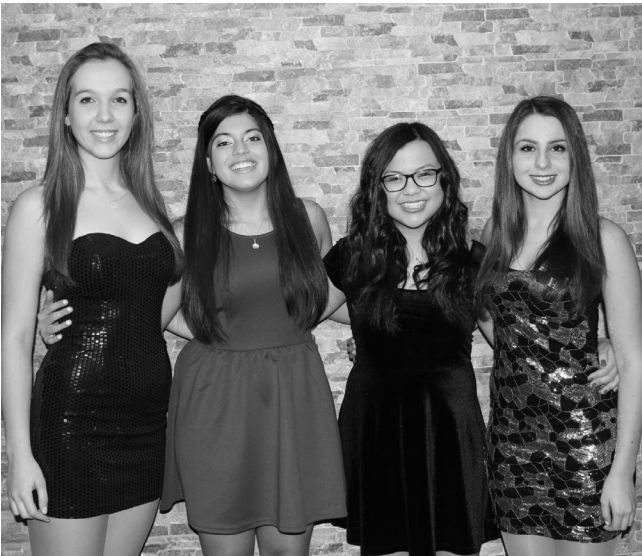
as well. Furthermore, Indigenous nations who have protected the earth on their territories for decades have started to complain about the mining that’s taking place on their land and their lack of control in the government’s choice to continue such processes. On top of all this, there’s the future to think about; as this resource becomes more in demand, and as countries start to closely control their oil distribution, the chances of war between nations seems more likely everyday. There’s a lot to consider when it comes to the topic of oil sands, and even though Canadian oil industries are constantly trying to make all their processes less harmful and eco-friendly, the fact remain that oil sands are causing major problems. And unfortunately for us, these aren’t the kind of problems that can be washed away by some grease fighting, gentle on the skin detergent. It’s going to take a lot more than that.



21

Casino Royal: Semi-Formal

On November 21st, Thornhill Secondary students were presented with an optimal opportunity to dress up in their semi formal attire at the Bellagio where they enjoyed fantastic food, great music, and an outstanding time! Guests got to entertain themselves with the casino-themed event, and got take many pictures which would cherish the memories of a great night.



14

Love is in the Air

Romance is a part of every adolescent's thoughts, and the students at Thornhill aren't an exception. On Valentine's Day, students, both single and in a relationship, got to express their love (romantic and platonic) by buying each other roses, hosted by Red Cross. BOSS also hosted the famous Matchmakers where students had a fun time observing each other's compatibility results.

17

Bananas in Pajamas

On December 17th, students saved the effort of dressing up in the morning by showing their spirits through wearing pyjamas to school! As a reward, alluding to the famous childhood show, BOSS handed out bananas to those who participated in the successful spirit day!

12

Open Mic Night: Winter Wonderland

On December 12th, Thornhill was able to showcase our students' hidden talents. Ranging from musical performances like singing, dancing, beatboxing and more, it was a fun night for the performers who got to collaborate with each other, and the audience, who was able to witness the courage that the performers demonstrated.



EYE OF THE TIGER

from the editors

The Eye of the Tiger is an award-winning school newspaper that reaches 2000 students, parents and members of the community each issue. To advertise with us, please contact eyeofthetigerfinance@gmail.com or eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com

Eric Choi
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

David Bryckine
Crystal Chen
FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

Boaz Wong
HEAD LAYOUT DIRECTOR

Guy Romm
Jodi Lee
DEPUTY LAYOUT EDITOR

Jun Park
Danny Romm
OPINION EDITOR

Hyewoan Song
NEWS EDITOR

Daniel Grenier
SPORTS EDITOR

Patrick Shen
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Eye of the Tiger is advised by Mrs. Borges.

Should we change the sizes of our classrooms?

YES NO

Hyewoan Song

Eric Choi

As students, we all know how stressful life can be because of school. We suffer from high work loads, tests every week, due dates that seem to come faster than they should be, and on top of that, we have to deal with getting along with other students. We are attacked by an overwhelming amount of social and academic expectations in school, and research says that one of the most effective ways to help ease our pains is having smaller classrooms.

Advantages in smaller classrooms become apparent when there are 20 or less students, and it is particularly effective in early grades. First, it solves one of the biggest issues facing current classrooms, which is what and how the teacher teaches may not be suitable for everyone.

Every student is unique with different needs and abilities, so the 'one size fits all' method is often ineffective. In a smaller class, teachers get to know their students personally, and can more easily change the coursework and give more feedback to better meet the needs of individuals.

Second, with smaller classrooms, students may find themselves having more of an incentive to go to class. Devin Andrews, an instructor at the University of Phoenix, says that "In a larger class... if one student doesn't show up for a few days, no one will even notice." On the other hand, if someone goes missing in a class of 20 students or less, someone is definitely going to notice.

The last major advantage of smaller classrooms is students in smaller classrooms tend to be more social. Students get to know their classmates better and their work and contributions get acknowledged by their peers.

This positive interaction with their classmates helps develop co-operation skills and gives students, who in larger classrooms my not be able to speak up due to shyness, a chance to participate in a non-threatening way.

Having smaller classrooms lets students establish better relationships with their teachers and encourages participation in a more social environment. More benefits would come to the students if classrooms size were smaller.

Every classroom is different; it's filled with different kinds of students and taught by different kinds of teachers. Right now, the cap for a full classroom is 30 students, but most classes probably fall in the 25-28 range. Although there may be some theoretical advantages as to having smaller classrooms, I believe that there isn't really a need to decrease the size of our classrooms.

There is the argument that students are able to build more personal relationships with their teachers as the teachers have less students to focus on. I personally don't think that this idea relies on the number of students, but rather, it falls on the student themselves.

If the student likes the course they're taking, or they like the teacher, they will most likely make the effort to get along and establish some sort of personal relationship with the teacher, regardless of if they're in a smaller or larger class.

The variety and types of people in a larger class can be advantageous for students as well. Most people have their friends that they always interact with in that specific class, but then teachers can let students learn to work with those who are not always your closest friends; in the real world, you won't always get the chance to work with those with whomever you're comfortable. In our current classroom size, students get the opportunity to learn to cooperate with different kinds of people, which will be a necessary adaptation that they will need to make in the future.

Smaller classes means more of them, and more classes means needing more teachers. A problem with this is that in order to hastily fill up the extra classrooms, those who are under-qualified can be hired, and that would be negative to the students' learning experience.

It is in the best interest of the students and the education system to maintain the classroom sizes we have right now. Diminishing the sizes of the classrooms would only pose more advantages than disadvantages. Although every classroom isn't perfect, it's better than having smaller classes.

Stop being judgemental

BY JUN PARK
OPINION EDITOR

For the longest time, I used to be grateful of the fact that I wasn't as judgemental or as self-righteous as the people around me were. It's taken me a full 17 years to see the irony in all of this, and it's worth reflecting on, especially because being judgemental has become second nature to us. And it's not entirely our fault; we live in a generation where every aspect of our public lives are meticulously recorded on social media, and it's much easier for us to live under the illusion that we're informed enough to conclude that "x person" fits under "y mould". It's what trends on sites like Vine - comedic skits beginning with the phrase "White girls be like - " or "Asian parents be like -" tend to be the most popular because we find them to be relatable.

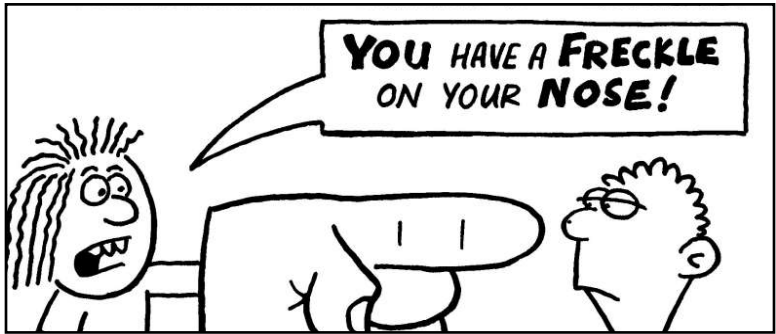
It would be a lie to say that these stereotypes don't come up in day-to-day conversations, but it's just that they're used so frequently that it's hard to tell if we still consider them to be jokes at all. Maybe the cliques and stereotypes are just normal parts of the high school experience, and maybe the message of "don't judge a book by its cover" seems clichéd and juvenile to us, but it's still worth learning the fact that peoples' lives are shaped just as much by their circumstances as their individual actions.

Take the issue of smoking, for

example. By most definitions, the decision to smoke is downright stupid, and conventional wisdom leads us to believe that people's actions are a direct reflection of their characters. Yes, it may be a terrible decision to make, but you have to ask yourself: will I have done the same under similar circumstances? Perhaps the most conflicting decision I had to deal with was between procrastinating on the internet and picking up a pencil, but what if it had included picking up a cigarette? Am I so clouded in my self-righteousness to believe I wouldn't have done otherwise? To dismiss the worth of another based on something that's not entirely in their control?

This doesn't make smoking any less horrible, but it's worth giving people the basic level of respect they deserve. Heading into my last semester of high school, I've been proven time and time again that people, especially those I've misjudged, are capable of incredible changes. Past graduation, we'll encounter people from all different walks of life, and it's a stretch to say that we should all be virtuous and judge every single person by the content of their characters.

Instead, know that being aware of your own judgements is the first step to being a decent, less bitter and more empathic human being. And maybe, just maybe, it would cut some of the high school drama too.



No, pop music isn't bad

BY PATRICK SHEN
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

I've always thought it interesting when people debate what is "good" versus what is "bad" music. And often, pop music falls under the "bad". Of course, everyone is certainly entitled to their own opinions. But imposing self-righteous fury by denouncing people based on something as mundane as their music preferences is rather excessive and, quite frankly, annoying. I mean, come on. Do you really hate that person for listening to Drake or Katy Perry or Justin Bieber? Do you really?

Obviously we've already correctly and logically established that all pop music is bad, so let's take a look at what good music is. And to

do that, we have to look at the evolution of western music through the ages, as pretentious as that sounds.

Have you ever heard Gregorian chant, for example? The term probably conjures up a scene of robed monks singing songs a capella that is - for lack of a better term - decidedly holy. Indeed, the purpose of Gregorian chant is religious worship and devotion as it is composed, lyrically, of sacred text. As the father of all western music, we can, for the sake of argument, consider it good music.

Let's jump a few centuries ahead to the renaissance. Music in this age feels a bit closer to home, with established major and minor scales and complex harmonies. The counterpoint might throw you

off a bit. Even so, the music of the great Baroque masters, like Bach and Vivaldi, is played and performed even in the 21st century.

Give another hundred years or so, and all of a sudden people decide they want their music to be lighter and less complex. They get their Bach Lite™ in their Eine Kleines and their Zauberflöten. But then Beethoven and Schubert come along, and things get a bit weird.

Around that time, music shifted towards romanticism, and took an emotional turn. I'm not talking about Blood on the Dance Floor. I'm talking about Chopin, Tchaikovsky, Puccini, and friends. Were they bad composers for not conforming to Baroque ideals? If

we've learned anything so far, it's that music changes and evolves. Of course classicism would evolve into romanticism.

Of course, jazz and blues would be born as a fusion of traditional European (read: neo-romanticism) and West African musical styles. And of course, Jazz in turn would inspire the creation of many modern musical genres, like pop and hip-hop.

Where do we cut the line at bad and good music? It's interesting to note the one thing that all these genres - whether it be Gregorian chant or Baroque or whatever - have in common: they were all the "pop", or popular music of their times. They were all widely enjoyed, at some point in history.

As music evolves, I think that trying to determine what makes a song, selection, or genre "good" or "bad" is beside the point. I think that pitting artists against each other to gauge their talent is beside the point; the point of music is for an artist to express themselves, and for a listener to experience the artist's emotions, regardless of how those emotions are conveyed (lyrical ballad or frenzied club banger). As long as people enjoy themselves, the music, and the experience, who cares?

That's what pop music is. It's a blanket term for something that appeals to the masses, for something that makes as many people happy as possible. You may think that's kitschy. If so, get over yourself.

Youth inactivity

Why we don't budge, page 11



Always watching

The National Security Agency, page 12



Is school a competition?

Our real motivation, page 11



Rural, urban, and that thing in between



HOME SWEET HOME Thornhill, where many of us call home today used to be a farm land, now it's an odd balance between the two.

Suburbia: home to people who don't belong in cities but also can't farm.

BY GRACETO
OPINION COLUMNIST

Thornhill used to be a farm. But today, where cows used to roam years ago, people live in their nice condominiums and are just minutes away from school and work. Suburbia is slowly taking over as cities attempt to expand to maintain their efficiency and means of production. As the urban crawl spreads towards the rural areas, taking up the empty land in efforts to grow the economy, it creates opportunity.

Cities are progressive; they are economic powerhouses where jobs

are made available and the hub of activity that the country itself thrives on. The suburbs are merely there to act as an extension of city, allowing the growing population to inhabit within a safe range from the city lights. With less air pollution and a lower crime rate compared to the city, the suburbs are a nice blend of the loud city and the quiet country.

The development of the suburbs manifests more apartments and residential buildings to be constructed, as well as office spaces and commercial-use buildings, in order to increase economic activity. However, the pleasant and quiet suburban lifestyle has undesirable repercussions of its own behind its appealing façade.

Although the houses will be much cheaper than those in the

city, the increasing number of housing developments being built will inevitably generate more traffic in the commute to work. As cities will still remain the most active site of jobs and the centre of international relations, the morning roads will be clogged with the anxious drivers sitting in their metal bubbles in a daily attempt to arrive on time for their shifts. The peaceful image of the ideal suburban life will be shattered as the honks of traffic become your own personal alarm.

As new offices are constructed simultaneously, one will likely assume that the suburban residents will choose to work locally, creating less commuter traffic. However, businesses in the suburbs cannot compare with the businesses downtown, where connec-

tions are already established in the heart of the urban hustle. It will be difficult for suburban residents who have already found stable jobs in the city to transition into the local life where the journey to work is a matter of steps instead of a matter of rising gas prices.

In Ontario, where two major bustling cities, namely Ottawa and Toronto, reside, its city outskirts include the many suburban towns and its residents. City dwellers may eventually live in the suburbs for the sake of convenience as it is still relatively close to the city but seems to be much safer than the active urban life. The suburbs' safety factor, large homes at cheap prices, and close proximity to the city are what attracts the soccer moms and their mini-

vans as they aspire for family life.

However, each suburban neighbourhood will be eerily similar as the one before. And if you are somehow able to gain the acknowledgement of your neighbour, you will discover that they live in the same house as you do which you find out when you invite them over to your place for dinner and they don't even need to ask where the bathroom is.

The suburbs are not like the city, but rather, an attempt of a mix of both the rural and urban lifestyles. In its constant strive for the active economic factor that cities have, it is still lacking as we wait for industrialization to run its course.

Nonetheless, it's not particularly enjoyable to be living in the middle of nowhere.

Yoga for Teens

Classes for Stress Reduction and Relaxation

Anja : Certified Yoga Instructor
647-287-1848 | yoga4youngsters@mail.com

Senator expense claims has Canada flying off the 'scandal'

Senators Wallin, Duffy, Harb and Brazeau claim ineligible expenses at the price of taxpayers.

BY WENDY LI
OPINION COLUMNIST

Our Senate: an independent and morally correct institution that we rely on to approve laws that have already gone through the House of Commons, right? Lately, the 'morally correct' part hasn't been quite so clear. A scandal has recently emerged, which has been deemed by the global community as the 'Canadian Senate Expenses Scandal'. In summary: four Canadian Senators, Mike Duffy, Pamela Wallin, Patrick Brazeau, and Mac Harb claimed travel and housing expenses from the Senate for which they were not eligible. What this means is that they claimed primary residency outside of Ottawa in order to claim living expenses in Ottawa. Duffy even went so far as to claim meal expenses for food that he ate in his own house in Ottawa. This is, of course, massively unfair to the taxpayers.

This issue eventually led to the Auditor General of Canada to begin investigating the expense claims of the entire Senate. Mac Harb retired a few months in, while Duffy, Wallin, and Brazeau were suspended without pay in November 2013. Duffy, Wallin, and Brazeau eventually repaid the ineligible amount. Duffy, however, went to extreme lengths to protect himself, even accepting Nigel Wright (Harper's Chief of Staff's offer of \$90,172 to cover his invalid expense claims.

But this web grows ever more complex, as PM Harper himself was quoted in calling Wright's cheque a "gift" and praising him. Wright told MacLean's that he thought himself obligated, as a wealthy individual, to pay the expenses (as to take pressure off of taxpayers). Harper, as



CAN OUR GOVERNMENT BE TRUSTED? Scandals that cost us citizens.

well, seems to be of this opinion. But most people find this exchange to be fishy as anything, particularly as taxpayers have already suffered the consequences, and have suffered them since the senators first sent in their claims. As such, they no longer have anything to do with this; they have already lost their money, and the obligation of the pay-back rests entirely on the senator's personal pockets. So why would Nigel Wright, a man of the alleged opinion that Mike Duffy was a "liar, a loose cannon, and a troublemaker", go to such extreme lengths to protect him? That is the million-dollar question of this entire fiasco.

The first solution posed by the press was that Wright and Duffy were friends, when that couldn't possibly further from the truth. If you look through their records of their interactions, you can see Wright and his colleagues get more and more frustrated with Duffy's shenanigans as time wore on, and Duffy's "pathetic cover-ups and excuses". Duffy, on the hand, told

the press that "I told Nigel that I couldn't pay the expenses, and he said 'Don't worry, I'll write the cheque.'" The two sides don't seem to match. The second (much more likely) solution posed is that Wright was attempting to bribe Duffy into doing something for him. What this 'something' may be, is entirely unknown (to anybody that is not Wright or Duffy), even the Auditor General of Canada. In summary, this entire situation sheds light upon the true nature of the entire Harper establishment.

If these people can't be trusted to use the money that we, as taxpayers give them, how can they be trusted to run our country? If they are so sorely tempted by the thought of a bit of free money that they can completely disregard the fact that this 'free' money is actually the hard-earned money of other people, then how do we know they can't be bribed into making unfair laws? And what can we do to prevent this from happening again? That's some serious food for your thought, readers.

The Competitive Streak in School

Success does not mean keeping a score board.

BY GRACE TO
OPINION COLUMNIST

High school is a race. It's a race towards the finish line for many high schoolers as they compete with their fellow classmates for the top marks and acceptances to post-secondary school institutions.

Over the years, the journey of learning has gradually transformed into a tough competition where only the fittest survive.

Competitiveness is instilled in many individuals at a young age, as it is believed to increase the desire to perform well and prepare children for the harsh realities of the grown up world. Competition is what encourages students to do better in school as they will be motivated to prove themselves in front of their peers. However, although a sense of competition can be healthy to improve a student, not only academically but as an individual, it may also have some unintentional backlash on others who are victimized by its associated pressures.

The idea of competition is that one must fail for the other to succeed. While competition can motivate individuals to consistently improve over time, the presence of competition can also have the power of discouragement as well. As competitiveness is capable of consuming an individual, it makes the learning environment unfavourable for others, thus causing those to feel less engaged. Hard work is only one of the many factors that contribute to overall success; natural talent, background, creativity, attitude, and maybe even pure luck are just some of the other elements that can be considered to be able to achieve one's goals. Unfortunately, in a school environment, those are not taken into account, tested, and scored in the journey to success.

The feelings of inadequacy that are often coupled with academic competition can lead to low self-esteem, which is already prevalent in many young adults. As competition also implies many comparisons to one's self to their peers, it

provokes thoughts of not-being-good-enough as they struggle to compete. As it is natural for many to strive to achieve just as much as one's peers, this causes the situation to worsen as one's goals are altered to reflect those of their peers. Competition is able to have an individual modify their own life goals in order to obtain a sense of accomplishment amongst their peers. However, in the long term basis, the competitive spirit may be the root of cases of minor depression and lack of self-fulfillment as the personal goals were not properly satisfied. Instead, it was the goals of those who were placed on a pedestal throughout the competition, up until the finishing point.

In the current education system, it has been argued and acknowledged that it possesses a number of flaws. As competition becomes increasingly present in the school environment, the concept of learning becomes a competition itself. Learning is no longer collective where sharing knowledge with others is now an uncommon practice as the competitive spirit prevails. This is a great drawback, as the sharing of knowledge is capable of aiding the understanding between all individuals involved, rather than resorting to methods of deceit intended to weaken the opponent.

Although the constant strive for perfection can be seen as both a strength and a weakness, high school can be a vicious environment where victims of competition struggle to survive academically, emotionally, and mentally. More times than not, many of us have been victims of the implications of competition. Its presence in school may play its part in readying its individuals for the battle in the real world but the impacts on the individual in the course of the preparation might not be entirely effective in aiding the student's personal success in life.

As Roosevelt once stated, "Competition has been shown to be useful up to a certain point and no further, but cooperation, which is the thing we must strive for today, begins where competition leaves off."

The spectator sensation

What many teenagers choose to do today, is sit back and enjoy the show.

BY SHANE SUKERMAN
OPINION COLUMNIST

More and more, the youth in our society see a need to change the world. They see class divisions growing, they see nature being slaughtered in the name of progress, and most of all, they see people around the world dying in vain. Unfortunately, there are still those among us who don't see a point in it all – and that's an understandable position to take. Why vote when every party is the same? Why plant a tree when there will be a hundred more clear-cut in the time it takes to dig the hole? Why stand up for something that's just going to be ignored in a week or two, once the viral video that started it all becomes old news? It's a sad cycle, really. Despite all the

problems this world faces, I'd have to say this is one of the most dangerous. As long as people stay silent, and think that their voice doesn't matter, there will be no change. There will be no such thing as a middle class in fifty years. There won't be any more trees to shade us from the glare of sunlight shining off of glass skyscrapers. There won't be enough tears or love for those that we have lost, letting them know that their sacrifice wasn't for nothing. Things have to change. Now. The youth of our society – yes, that's us – needs to realize the power that comes with our responsibilities. Think about life in the 1960's. The counter-culture. Hippies. Anti-war protests. The Beatles. JFK. The Civil Rights Movement. Where would our society be today if these things never came to be? All of these things were, to some extent, influenced and driven by the youth of the era. We have the power to

do the same. The word 'teenager' was coined because of the counter-culture of the 1960's and the youth who fought for it. Since then, because of the lackluster attitude of people our age, it has become synonymous with words like punk, slacker, and useless. We can change that. We have the power to rebrand ourselves, to break the stereotypes of being a teenager. And the best part is, we get to choose how we reimage ourselves.

We don't have to be academic. We don't have to join clubs. We don't have to dress a certain way, or be certain about what we want to do with our lives. All we have to do is care. Care about what we're doing, care about how we're doing it, and ultimately, we have to care about why. As long as we learn to care, the world will learn to see us differently, and the word 'teenager' can come to mean something amazing. Now get out there and vote.

RECREATIONAL DROP-IN
BADMINTON
COURTS AVAILABLE AT \$5
LESSONS ALSO OFFERED
REPUTABLE COACHES
PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

NEARBY LOCATIONS:
WESTMINSTER PS
BILL CROTHERS SS
UNIONVILLE HS
• MANY MORE

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM WILL BE AVAILABLE
AT THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

CALL TO BOOK A COURT
647-242-4188

WWW.FREEWEBS.COM/CCOACHSPORT/ CTS CCF

The Never ending war

As the War on Terror claims more lives, people continue to wonder when America will call it quits.

BY JARED FORMAN
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

September 11th, 2001. 3 000 innocent people across the United States of America lost their lives in the most deadly attack on U.S. soil since Japan assaulted Pearl Harbor in 1941. The attacks by Al Qaeda terrorists brought the U.S. to a standstill. All planes within American airspace were grounded, the stock market was shut down, and businesses closed as Americans everywhere tried the piece the puzzle, and their lives, together. Unfortunately, this was just the beginning.

In the next few weeks, congress would enact laws that not only suppress civil liberties, but also blatantly attack the rights of Americans, rights that are enshrined in the U.S. constitution. The most prolific of which is the USA PATRIOT Act, enacted on October 26th, 2001. This act set the precedent for roving wiretaps of American citizens, the search and seizure of business records, and the surveillance of citizens deemed to be threats to the national security, as part of American life. All of which are in direct violation of the 4th amendment to the U.S. constitution which protect against unlawful search and seizure as well as seizure of property without probable cause or a warrant. Yet despite the brazen attack on the rights of American citizens, the PATRIOT act has been reauthorized by congress three times since its inception. Yet, this is just

what the public was told about. It was not until American patriot, Edward Snowden revealed to the world how the NSA (National Security Agency) and other intelligence services including CSIS (Canadian Security Intelligence Service) have been collecting and monitoring all forms of communications that we learned how far the government has gone to control and monitor its own people. Government spying activities have gotten so out of hand that even the author of the PATRIOT act, Jim Sensenbrenner, has said that NSA's collection of phone records is "extremely troubling and un-American".

Unfortunately though, patriots like Chelsea Manning and Edward Snowden have been vilified by the government and media as well as face/faced prosecution despite the fact that they are standing up for the rights of Americans and people around the world, which are jeopardized by the U.S. government. Chelsea Manning (formerly Bradley Manning) for example, who revealed illegal activities of soldiers during the Iraq War is now serving a 35 years prison sentence for violating the espionage act and "putting national security in danger". Meanwhile, the perpetrators of the acts of torture at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq where war prisoners were sexually abused, raped, and sodomized, are only serving terms up to 10 years. Since 9/11, the U.S. government has effectively criminalized whistleblowers and all forms of dissent by scaring people into believing that those who truly are looking out for the best interests of all Americans are actually "threats to national security" and in the extreme case of Chelsea Manning,

aiding the enemy.

Yet amidst congress passing laws to inhibit people's freedoms, George W. Bush was simultaneously initiating a war in Afghanistan with NATO allies, including Canada, to depose the Al Qaeda backed Taliban government. Although the primary assault was a large success and the Taliban government was removed from power, the Taliban maintained and continue to maintain control over rural, tribal regions which had the effect of dragging the war on into the present day. This 12 year and counting debacle has cost 3 374 lives compared to the 3 000 of 9/11, excluding the thousands upon thousands of civilians who have been caught in the crossfire. As the war rages on, brave soldiers are still fighting in what is unfortunately a futile effort to rid Afghanistan of terrorist cells and create a stable, functioning state.

Nevertheless, one war was just simply not enough for George W. Bush and his Halliburton cronies, as the United States and the "coalition of the willing" engaged the "axis of evil" in "Operation Oil Grab" as they invaded Iraq in 2003 despite a lack of support among allies, and the act of war being illegal under the UN charter. Fur-

thermore, the U.S. used a claim that Iraq had in its possession, Weapons of Mass Destruction as justification to invade.

However, following the invasion, it was proven that this claim was not only wrong, but the Americans knew it was false and outright lied when attempting to garner support for the war at the UN general assembly. The Iraq War would see another 24 219 servicemen and women sacrifice their lives as well as countless more civilians as General Dynamics and Lockheed Martin reaped the rewards of their large weapon contracts. Meanwhile, the war also lead to countless war crimes such as the aforementioned Abu Ghraib prison torture incident, the intentional murder of civilians, and the incarceration of "enemy combatants" at the notorious Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp without charge, and under abhorrent conditions.

More importantly, what I believe is the scariest outcome of 9/11, and what has allowed everything listed above to occur, is that most people don't appear to care about being spied on, having their governments engage in atrocious war crimes, and tolerate their sons and daughters being killed for no jus-

tifiable reason. This is because the media and government have engaged in fear mongering, instilling Islamophobia among the general populous and making them complacent with their government's actions as ignorance and fear continues to grip society, triumphing over knowledge and free expression.

Overall, the United States and many of its allies including Canada are rapidly falling down the path towards a 1984-esque, fascist police state where everyone lives in constant fear of their government, freedoms are suppressed, and everyone is forced to accept all government doctrine. The time to act on George Orwell's warning is now. We must end the fear mongering, spread awareness of the government's violations of our privacy as well as their illegal activities in times of war, and destroy the ignorance surrounding this issue. If we all stand together in support of our liberties and privacy, we can fight back against the widespread surveillance that is currently taking place around the world.

Finally, through solidarity, we can return government to the way government is intended it to be, "of the people, by the people, and for the people".



Start of facisim 9/11 caused citizens in a constant fear under government's supression.

The National Security: Agency's Outreach Program

The surveillance giant continues to abuse the rights of citizens and leaders across the world, and the world remains complacent.

BY DANIEL ROMM
DEPUTY OPINION EDITOR

In not-so-recent news, the National Security Agency (NSA) has recently announced an outreach program that involves a large percentage of the world's population. It's called "Never Lose Your Data!" and features nifty new system. Anytime you delete your texts or emails accidentally, or forget what you were talking about on the phone or over Skype, you can call the NSA and they'll send you the record of your texts or your calls ASAP.

Okay, so that's not an actual program, but it would probably be the best use of the NSA. I mean, they're collecting your information anyways, so why not include a little public service, help the community out a bit?

When you talk about the "scope" of an issue, you're usually talking about how the issue affects the world. When you talk about the NSA, the scope is nothing less than a global threat to civil liberties. With the NSA revelations over the past year, the scope went from national to international, and it is now indisputable to think that the NSA is anything less than a global threat.

See, when the U.S. said they were looking for terrorists, I just didn't realize that 'potential ter-

rorists' include every American citizen, Canadian citizens, the Chancellor of Germany, and any one of over a billion people monitored by the Security Agency.

I was also unaware political, economic, and commercial secrets accounted for a great deal of international terrorism. In that case, there is really nothing else to do but thank the NSA for protecting not only their country, but the world. My commendations.

The NSA was formed in 1952 as the predecessor to the Armed Forces Security Agency, and currently has an estimated 35 000 employees and an annual budget of \$10.8 billion. Although various individuals have informed the public of NSA rights infringements, no one had as much proof and evidence as Edward Snowden.

In May 2013 Snowden took temporary leave from his job working for the NSA under the guise of treating his epilepsy. On May 20th, 2013, Snowden fled to Hong Kong as the very first articles about NSA surveillance were published. He soon fled Hong Kong to Russia, with the intention of taking a connecting flight to a country that would provide him asylum from the far reaching Hand of Justice from the United States government.

Then, on July 1st, 2013, Bolivian president Evo Morales, attending a conference in Russia, stated that he would consider giving asylum to Edward Snowden. On July 2nd, 2013, his flight for Bolivia was rerouted to Austria after France,

Italy, and Spain denied Morales their airspace. There his plane was grounded and searched for Snowden, in what Morales called "a violation of international law."

Following this incident, Snowden decided to remain in Russia, where he was given temporary asylum, and to everyone's best knowledge, that is where the NSA whistleblower, called at once a traitor, a hero, a dissident, and a patriot, currently resides.

In the efforts of national security, the NSA has spied on American citizens, including monitoring telephone conversations, SMS messaging, and online communications and activity. In further efforts to stop terrorism, the NSA worked hand in hand with several other national organizations, including that of Canada, to monitor their citizens as well.

In the efforts of curbing international terrorist organizations, the NSA tracked several international leaders, including but not limited to Germany, France, Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom. With the sole intention of ensuring the safety of the world, the NSA ordered companies and media giants to give open access to any information about their user base, including but not limited to Google, Yahoo, and Microsoft. With the heroic and noble effort of the NSA to protect America's interest, political and economic secrets of other nations and companies were obtained. What else can we do but thank the NSA for its service?

Before I go on, I have to mention something. I mean, it's not really important compared to the other atrocities the NSA has committed, but it's one of the more humorous ones. It turns out that the grave; very serious, super-secret Agency has been infiltrating some of the most prolific international terror cells. That's right. You guessed it. Video games.

Wait what? Millions choked on their morning coffee when it was announced that the organization supposedly responsible for the safety of over 300 million people has been spending some of its time and extensive budget on infiltrating video games. These include MMORPGs such as World of Warcraft and first person shooters such as Halo and Call of Duty.

They have reportedly been investigated individuals who exhibit violent tendencies in game. In a video game. About violence. Unfortunately, it gets a bit more serious when you remember than several individuals were arrested around the Western world in 2013 for things they said in video games.

When America found out that the federal organization responsible for protecting national security viewed over one billion people as terrorists and threats to national security, obviously there had to have been reforms, right? You would be incorrect in assuming things changed. As of today, the NSA currently has no less power than it did before the NSA revelations. The protests were negligible, other coun-

tries hardly made a few words of protest over the revelation that the U.S. was spying on them, while the NSA continues to act with the same audacity that it was acting in before.

Both America the world are reeling from the impact of these revelations. Several global powers can no longer trust America, especially after it was revealed that they bugged the G20 and G8 conferences. The image of our neighbour down south continues to plummet as citizens around the world realize the extent of America's reach. Meanwhile in America and here in Canada, the public has lost a lot of faith in its government. It's hard to trust your leaders when they allow such invasions of privacy to happen.

The National Security Agency is a giant, a monstrosity, and abomination of rights violations across the globe. The scope of the NSA is infinite; there is no limit to the people whom it affects worldwide. To think that you are not being watched by the Canadian government, the U.S. government, and international companies used to be considered sane. Now it is considered ignorant.

It's impossible to predict the future in times like these. It seems unlikely that the citizens or government have anything to do about foreign spying, and it seems even less likely that anyone will protest over their own government's spying. It appears that citizens across the globe have become apathetic to their own plights. When will enough be enough? It's up to you to decide.

The Atlantic division: the worst division



Five teams contending for the bottom of the league.

BY PETER SORTIRAKOS
SPORTS COLUMNIST

In a conference league where the top eight teams from each conference advance through the regular season to compete in the playoffs for a chance at the league championship, division standings aren't usually that important. But with a division as bad as the 2013-14 Atlantic Division in the NBA's Eastern Conference, that view might change. The Boston Celtics, Brooklyn Nets, New York Knicks, Philadelphia 76ers and Toronto Raptors make up this seemingly inept and downright bad division,

but its lack of success hasn't always been the case; in fact historically it has been one of the winningest and most competitive divisions in the league.

Established in 1970 from the Eastern Division, the Atlantic has been home to great teams like Larry Bird's Celtics, Dr. J's Sixers, the Knicks of the 90's and more recently the Big Three in Boston. Even in recent years, all the teams in the division (save the Raptors) have made a playoff appearance, making their struggles this season all the more surprising. But with a look at each team individually, it becomes more obvious why. Boston is playing in their first season since 1998 without Paul Pierce on the roster,

and are looking to mostly unproven commodities to lead the team in the absence of the Big Three and with Rajon Rondo injured. The Sixers are in a similar boat, having traded All-Star Jrue Holiday to the New Orleans Pelicans in the off season in exchange for rookie big man Nerlens Noel, who will sit the year out because of a torn ACL. Toronto on the other hand projects to be a more competitive team, while still being not good enough to be considered a lock for the playoffs; effectively leaving them, once again, in no man's land. However New York and Brooklyn are by far the biggest disappointments amongst the five teams. New York entered the season after a 2nd round play-

off exit and a somewhat lackluster offseason (is there really another word for taking on a player like Andrea Bargnani?). Owner James Dolan has insisted that the Knicks have a championship or bust mentality, but following an extremely slow start New York has a ways to go to even get into the playoffs. Brooklyn also suffered from a painfully slow start to the season, the only difference being that they had even higher hopes than the Knicks. Having acquired Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett from the Celtics in the offseason, along with the hiring of Jason Kidd as head coach, there was a lot of buzz surrounding the Brooklyn team heading into the season, but it seems like that mix of

an inexperienced coach and a team littered with older players has left them with a few issues.

The ineptitude of the Atlantic division really creates an issue in the conference standings as the league is presently constituted. No matter the record, each of the three division leaders in each conference is guaranteed a seeding within the top four in the standings. This means whichever team wins the Atlantic might be stealing a playoff spot from a better team. It's likely that one of the five teams in the Atlantic will eventually seize the opportunity of playing in such a weak division, but until then we are left with the possibility of a sub-par team dictating the playoff picture.

2014 MLB Season Predictions

A full analysis of the year ahead – the winners, the losers, and the surprises in store.

BY DANIEL GRENIER
SPORTS EDITOR

As pitchers and catchers report for duty, baseball fans can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Before long, the 2014 Major League Baseball season will begin. After a long, cold winter, baseball is back. For most of us, the wait was endless. If you latched onto the hot-stove season, disappointment likely followed. Sure, Masahiro Tanaka arrived, Alex Rodriguez departed and Prince Fielder and Doug Fister were involved in blockbuster trades. But for die-hard fans, headline-grabbing moves and legacy-altering suspensions can't rival actual baseball.

For those ready for the game, it's time to look ahead at how the season could unfold. With some rosters undecided, free agents still available and trade candidates loitering around many teams, predicting how the regular season will play out is no easy task.

Luckily, we're up for the challenge here at Bleacher Report. Over the next six weeks, these predictions are subject to change. For now, the following is a look at how the 2014 Major League Baseball standings should play out.

NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST

- 1. Washington Nationals (91-71)
- 2. Atlanta Braves (86-76)
- 3. New York Mets (81-81)
- 4. Philadelphia Phillies (72-90)
- 5. Miami Marlins (67-95)

To be fair, let's separate this division into three tiers: Washington/Atlanta, New York and Philadelphia/Miami. At the top, the Nationals and Braves are both poised to be postseason teams in 2014. When the dust settles in the NL East, Washington's outstanding rotation and deep lineup will propel it to a division title and 95 victories. Atlanta, coming off a 96-win campaign, has the firepower to keep up for most of the season but will go through dry spells due to a suspect lower half of the lineup. In New York, the Mets are improving. In fact, if the team signs one more position player like, say, Stephen Drew, between now and April, it could be a surprise contender. Led by a solid starting rotation—even without Matt Harvey for all or most of the season—and David Wright, it's time for this franchise to crack the 81-win plateau for the first time in six years. Times have changed in Philadelphia. After winning the division five straight years (2007-11), the Phillies have sunk to 81 and 73 wins, respectively, over the last two

seasons. With an aging, unproductive core and rotation question marks behind the brilliant duo of Cliff Lee and Cole Hamels, Philadelphia could struggle to win more than 75 games. If things turn ugly in Philadelphia, the Marlins could surge ahead, leaving the Phillies sunk in the depths of the division.

NATIONAL LEAGUE CENTRAL

- 1. St. Louis Cardinals (88-74)
- 2. Pittsburgh Pirates (85-77)
- 3. Cincinnati Reds (83-79)
- 4. Milwaukee Brewers (75-87)
- 5. Chicago Cubs (66-96)

One year after profiling as the most top-heavy division in baseball and sending three teams to October, the NL Central is on the path to experiencing a down year. With Shin-Soo Choo and A.J. Burnett (as of this moment) no longer with Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, respectively, St. Louis' two biggest threats have been weakened. As usual, the Cardinals profile as the deepest team in this division. Led by Adam Wainwright, Yadier Molina and a loaded farm system, St. Louis can overcome yearly defections (Carlos Beltran to New York) or significant injuries when camp opens. Milwaukee and Chicago are light years behind Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis. While the return of Ryan Braun should be enough to boost the Brewers past the Cubs in 2014, Chicago's farm system has them positioned to challenge for division supremacy much sooner than the team they'll battle for last place this summer.

NATIONAL LEAGUE WEST

- 1. Los Angeles Dodgers (100-62)
- 2. San Francisco Giants (85-77)
- 3. San Diego Padres (83-79)
- 4. Arizona Diamondbacks (73-89)
- 5. Colorado Rockies (64-98)

If any team in baseball has enough firepower to win 100-plus games in 2014, it's the Los Angeles Dodgers. After winning 92 games and advancing to the NLCS last season, the Dodgers enter spring training with Yasiel Puig, Hanley Ramirez and Zack Greinke all ready to roll. Last year, not one member of that trio played a full season. With the best pitcher in the sport, Clayton Kershaw, anchoring the rotation and a lineup similar to what you would see in the All-Star Game, the Dodgers should run away with the NL West. If Los Angeles does run away and hide in first place, the battle for second place and a possible postseason berth will be hotly contested. While the Giants are far from spectacular, they are solid throughout the roster and good enough to compete on a nightly basis with strong starting pitching. If Buster Posey, Pablo Sandoval,

Brandon Belt, Hunter Pence and Mike Morse can stay healthy, offense will be a strength for the first time in years. Get ready to call the San Diego Padres a surprise team by midseason. After acquiring Josh Johnson and Joaquin Benoit, the pitching staff has veterans anchoring the rotation and bullpen. Although the everyday lineup lacks a superstar, full, productive seasons from Jedd Gyorko, Everth Cabrera and Chase Headley could lead to the biggest jump in run production from any NL lineup. In Arizona, Paul Goldschmidt and Mark Trumbo could be a reincarnation of "The Bash Brothers," but it will take more than that for the Diamondbacks to challenge for a postseason spot. Colorado held onto both of its franchise cornerstones—Troy Tulowitzki and Carlos Gonzalez—but could look to move one if another season spirals out of control at Coors Field.

AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST

- 1. Boston Red Sox (89-73)
- 2. Tampa Bay Rays (85-77)
- 3. New York Yankees (82-80)
- 4. Baltimore Orioles (80-82)
- 5. Toronto Blue Jays (80-82)

Money can't buy happiness in the American League East. After spending \$503 million on offseason acquisitions, the New York Yankees are the story of this division heading into spring training. Unfortunately for their fans, it's hard to take an honest look at the roster and peg them for 90-plus wins right now. If Masahiro Tanaka and Jacoby Ellsbury, respectively, perform up to Cy Young and MVP standards, a different picture could emerge by October. For now, the team is only slightly better than the group that won 85 games last season. The Boston Red Sox had a quiet winter but return the nucleus of a team that dominated the regular season and captured a World Series in October. A step back from excellence could occur, but not enough to knock this squad below the 90-win range. In a division without a truly great team, that could be a formula for a return trip to the postseason. Surprisingly, Tampa Bay held onto David Price this winter. After trading both Matt Garza and James Shields two years before their respective free-agent trips, the Rays didn't pull the trigger on a blockbuster involving their ace. With the 2012 AL Cy Young winner in tow, Joe Maddon has the firepower to contend again. Talent is present in both Baltimore and Toronto, especially with deep, powerful lineups. If either or both teams sign an impact free-agent starter between now and April, they could crash the top of this division. With Jose Bautista, Jose Reyes and R.A. Dickey, the Blue Jays are easily the strongest last-place prediction on

this list. In the AL East, any combination is possible.

AMERICAN LEAGUE CENTRAL

- 1. Detroit Tigers (91-71)
- 2. Kansas City Royals (85-77)
- 3. Cleveland Indians (79-83)
- 4. Chicago White Sox (77-85)
- 5. Minnesota Twins (72-90)

Led by the best hitter on the planet, Miguel Cabrera, and the trio of Verlander-Scherzer-Sanchez atop the rotation, picking against the Detroit Tigers in the AL Central is a fool's errand. Despite the question marks surrounding Brad Ausmus' debut as manager, the Fielder-Kinsler swap and moving on from the excellent Doug Fister, the Tigers have the least worrisome roster in the division. After years of talking about competing, the time has arrived for Kansas City. Led by an improving lineup and a possible AL MVP candidate in Eric Hosmer, the Royals will score enough to win in 2014. With a great bullpen, they can hold leads on a nightly basis. The only reason why they can't catch Detroit atop the division is uncertainty behind James Shields in the rotation. According to MLB Depth Charts, the quartet of Jeremy Guthrie, Jason Vargas, Bruce Chen and Danny Duffy is projected to follow Shields in the rotation. Despite a 92-win campaign and postseason berth in 2013, the Indians aren't ready to duplicate their success. Losing Scott Kazmir and Ubaldo Jimenez to free agency will hurt, moving Carlos Santana to third base could result in growing pains, and Asdrubal Cabrera's role will block prospect Francisco Lindor from making an impact at shortstop. In 2012, the White Sox challenged Detroit for the division crown. In 2013, they fell to last place and 99 losses. Led by Chris Sale and the acquisitions of Adam Eaton, Jose Abreu and bullpen pieces like Scott Downs and Ronald Belisario, the 2014 White Sox will improve, but not enough to zoom past the .500 mark. The future is bright in Minnesota. With Byron Buxton and Miguel Sano, this franchise could be back as soon as 2015. For now, last place is realistic.

AMERICAN LEAGUE WEST

- 1. Texas Rangers (92-70)
- 2. Oakland Athletics (89-73)
- 3. Los Angeles Angels (85-77)
- 4. Seattle Mariners (84-78)
- 5. Houston Astros (62-100)

Baseball's best offense is flying under the radar. After acquiring both Prince Fielder and Shin-Soo Choo, the Rangers are on the path to scoring 900 runs and dominating opposing pitchers on a nightly basis. If their pitching, led by the excellent Yu Darvish, can patch things together until Derek Holland returns

from knee surgery, Ron Washington's team will be in position to capture the division in September. Oakland Athletics general manager Billy Beane sent a message to baseball this winter by stockpiling bullpen arms, signing Scott Kazmir and bolstering his bench: October success or bust. As always, the plan is fluid in Oakland. If the Athletics struggle, Beane could hit the reset button and trade away veterans. However, with an offense that scored 767 runs last year, a deep, dynamic bullpen and depth for manager Bob Melvin to work with, don't count on a letdown from this team. Don't let a third-place prediction for the Angels fool you into thinking another disappointing year is on the way. In fact, due to upgrades in the rotation, health from Albert Pujols and another dominant year from Mike Trout, the Angels are a good bet to crash the postseason party for the first time since the 2009 season. Seattle spent big—over \$250 million to land Robinson Cano, Fernando Rodney and Corey Hart—but not wisely enough to offset a roster full of young, unproven commodities. In a different division or league, it's possible that the star power of Cano and Felix Hernandez could will the Mariners into contention. In the AL West, it's only good enough to avoid the cellar. Last September, in the midst of a 15-game losing streak, Astros manager Bo Porter thought the experience of losing would eventually become a positive for a franchise that has experienced three consecutive 100-loss seasons. After trading for Dexter Fowler and signing veteran relievers like Chad Qualls and Matt Albers, it's clear that the Astros are interested in improvement. By midseason, top prospects like George Springer, Jonathan Singleton and Mark Appel could arrive to lift Houston to a 12-game improvement over last year's 51-111 record. The specter of a 99-loss season would bother most teams, but it's a major improvement in Houston.

AWARDS:

American League MVP: Miguel Cabrera (Detroit Tigers)
National League MVP: Yadier Molina (St. Louis Cardinals)
American League Cy Young Award: David Price (Tampa Bay Rays)
National League Cy Young Award: Andrew Cashner (San Diego Padres)
American League Rookie of the Year: Xander Bogaerts (Boston Red Sox)
National League Rookie of the Year: Kolten Wong (St. Louis Cardinals)
American League Manager of the Year: Ned Yost (Kansas City Royals)
National League Manager of the Year: Bruce Bochy (San Francisco Giants)



2014 FIFA World Cup Predictions

The World Cup draw is often greeted with even more anticipation than the tournament itself – and this year’s version showed exactly why. Between Groups of Death, Groups of Life, intriguing matchups and even a head-to-head showdown between the 2010 finalists, the draw had pretty much everything. For some teams, the balls fell kindly and the dream of a deep World Cup is still very much in play. For others, the reality of seeing their hopes already on life support is slowly kicking in. Here we take a look at each group and embark upon the foolhardy process of trying to pick a winner for a tournament that is still more than six months away. By: Daniel Grenier.

Group A

Predicted finishing order:
1. Brazil
2. Croatia
3. Cameroon
4. Mexico
The host nation will be quite happy with itself and should have no trouble in negotiating a path through in first place. Croatia emerged from the UEFA playoffs but was far from convincing, Cameroon has struggled for the past year and well, we know all about Mexico’s trials and tribulations just to get here. Don’t expect much drama, just enjoy the

Group B

show.
Predicted finishing order:
1. Spain
2. Netherlands
3. Chile
4. Australia
It doesn’t get much better than the two finalists from 2010 battling it out in the opening game of the group. From the moment the Netherlands was positioned here, this immediately became the ultimate Group of Death. Don’t sleep on Chile, who placed third in the tricky South American region and have a chance of scraping

Group C

through. Unlike Australia.
Predicted finishing order:
1. Colombia
2. Japan
3. Ivory Coast
4. Greece
Sooner or later an African team is going to break through at a World Cup and the talented Ivory Coast is often touted as that continent’s best bet. However, Colombia will be a strong force on South American soil and Japan is a much-improved team far more rugged than most expect. Greece may lack the firepower needed to go through.

Group D

Predicted finishing order:
1. Italy
2. England
3. Uruguay
4. Costa Rica
Uruguay was the unlucky seed that got an extra European team dumped into its lap, and not just any European team either. The 2006 champion Italy is keen to atone for a dismal showing four years ago, while England has failed to impress over the course of qualifying. However, I do see the Three Lions

sneaking, and I do mean sneaking into the Round of 16. Uruguay becomes this tournament’s version of the 2010 Italian/French squads. Costa Rica is weak on the road and is out-matched here.

Group E

Predicted finishing order:
1. France
2. Ecuador
3. Switzerland
4. Honduras
France hit the jackpot with the draw again, getting the easiest seed in Switzerland and a cushy time all around. Ecuador is tough enough to make life tough for the European side and even Honduras will like its chances of springing a couple of shocks. Hardly the most intriguing group of all, but could feature some quality play.

Group F

Predicted finishing order:
1. Argentina
2. Nigeria
3. Bosnia-Herzegovina
4. Iran
Call this group what you like but Argentina is calling it a walk in the park. Lionel Messi and company somehow landed arguably the weakest team from each pot and is faced with nothing that should give it any real concerns. Each of the remaining three teams has a shot at going through, although Nigeria’s young squad might be the pick.

Group G

Predicted finishing order:
1. Germany
2. Ghana
3. Portugal
4. United States
OK, so hang on a minute, I haven’t completely taken leave of my senses. While Portugal is a team full of talented players named Cristiano Ronaldo, Lots of people seem to forget that Ghana was this close to securing a berth in the final four of the tournament in South Africa. A blatant Luis Suarez handball (which is still one of the

most disgusting things I’ve ever seen in football, ever) and a penalty kick off of the crossbar later, Ghana was snubbed.
With the Uruguayans out of the was, I believe the Ghanaians can handle the U.S., maybe even contest Germany, and I firmly believe that they can overcome Portugal. Look for Ghana/Portugal to surprise.

Group H

Predicted finishing order:
1. Russia
2. Belgium
3. South Korea
4. Algeria
Last time the champion (Spain) emerged from Group H. This time, however... that won’t happen. One of the easiest groups should be a fight between European mid-majors Russia and Belgium, though don’t discount South Korea, whose physical stamina could be a factor in the heat of Cuiaba. Algeria is decent defensively but unlikely to threaten.

Knockout Stage

Brazil beats Netherlands, 2-1
Spain beats Croatia, 2-0
Colombia beats Uruguay, 1-1 (3-2 on PK)
Italy beats Japan, 3-2
France beats Nigeria, 3-0
Argentina beats Ecuador, 2-1
Germany beats Belgium, 1-0
Ghana beats Russia, 2-2 (4-3 on PK)
Brazil atones for its quarterfinal defeat in 2010, while six former winners cruise through to the last eight.

Quarterfinals

Brazil beats Colombia, 2-1
Germany beats France, 2-0
Spain beats Italy, 3-1
Argentina beats Ghana, 2-0

No major shocks here as the plucky run of Ghana comes to a sudden halt against a rampant Argentina.

Semifinals

Germany beats Brazil, 3-2
Argentina beats Spain, 1-0

Spain’s incredible run in major tournaments eventually comes to an end as Messi and his cohorts find a way through that machine-like midfield. Germany keeps on rolling.

Consolation Final

Brazil beats Spain, 2-1
Brazil atones for it’s earlier blunder by salvaging the bronze medal and giving the fans something to cheer for. Spain is held without a medal in a major competition for the first time since 2006.



Final

Germany beats Argentina, 2-1
The Germans finally live up to the hype and take the position of football royalty in a heated matchup with the Argentineans. German Goalkeeper Manuel Neuer is named Tournament MVP



Second season of Avatar

The long wait is over, page 19

In memory, Paul Walker

Fast and Furious star, page 17

Good kid, M.A.A.D. City

A new era of rap, page 18



Marvel at the movies



THE GOLDEN AGE OF SUPERHERO FILMS Superheroes movies have a sudden surge in popularity, most notably Marvel's *The Avengers* which gained huge success upon release.

Simply Marvel-ous!

BY DAKSH DATTA
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

Superheroes have become all the rage recently. Whether it's to see the Avengers saving New York or Superman flying around Metropolis, people have been flocking to the theatres and turning nearly every superhero movie now-a-days into a blockbuster. Where did this popularity come from?

The first refresh of the superhero genre came in the early 2000s, when *X-Men* (2000), and *Spider-Man* (2001) reinvigorated the genre. However, both franchises began losing steam when they hit their third movies, as both *Spiderman 3* and *X-Men: The Last Stand* were received with lackluster reviews. Marvel's rival, DC Comics, had also rebooted its Batman franchise with Christopher Nolan at the helm and was tasting success for the first time in decades. Though Marvel had given the licensing rights of Spiderman, the X-Men, and the Fantastic Four away, they still had a plethora of characters at their disposal.

So, in 2008, they released *Iron*

Man.

Iron Man was Marvel's entry into movies as its own film studio. Robert Downey Jr.'s debut as genius billionaire playboy philanthropist Tony Stark received universal acclaim, and the film was a huge success, grossing over \$600 million worldwide. However, it was the post-credits scene that got the ball rolling. As Nick Fury played by none other than Samuel Jackson said that Tony was part of a bigger universe, fans became excited at the potential team-up hinted at by the mention of the 'Avengers Initiative'. Marvel quickly followed up with *The Incredible Hulk* (2008), *Iron Man 2* (2010), *Thor* (2011), and *Captain America* (2011). Though Hulk's movie wasn't as smashing of a success as planned, the other three heroes quickly became capable of handling their own franchises. Marvel's Cinematic Universe was finally underway, and the genre was forever changed. All of these movies took place in the same universe, referred to each other, and were affected, however, slightly, by the events of one another.

In the meantime, the Batman

franchise was building steam as it approached the end of its trilogy, the X-Men franchise was a hit-and-miss as *X-Men: First Class* was well received, but *X-Men Origins: Wolverine* failed to hit the mark. The Fantastic Four were completely out of the competition, and Superman and Spidey were both being rebooted.

In the summer of 2012, Marvel finally released *The Avengers*, which was essentially a new mega-franchise born from the culmination of the previous five movies, which Marvel referred to as Phase One. Of course, *The Avengers* was a massive success, becoming not only the highest-grossing superhero movie ever, but also the third highest-grossing movie ever, behind only *Titanic* and *Avatar*. Marvel's efforts to build their universe were rewarded with a huge success. However, they did not stop there, as seen in a mid-credits teaser; Thanos, the grinning, purple-faced big bad of the Marvel movie-verse, was revealed as the bad guy for a third Avengers movie.

Soon after, they announced Phase Two, and stated that it would

consist of sequels to *Iron Man 2*, *Thor*, and *Captain America*, along with a new franchise in *Guardians of the Galaxy*. Not only that, but this phase would culminate in another team-up extravaganza and, with much fan-fare, *Avengers: Age of Ultron* was announced with a release date of around 2015. Phase Two picked up right where the first had left off. *Iron Man 3* was a huge success (though it did have a controversial twist), making over \$1.2 billion, and moving into 5th place on the all-time worldwide chart. Recently, *Thor: The Dark World* was released and it was also a big hit, surpassing the total of its predecessor. Both of these movies dealt with the after-effects of *The Avengers* while setting up future storylines (as evident with the Infinity Gauntlet teaser in *Thor 2*). Marvel Studios is clearly doing something right, and other studios are attempting to do the same.

DC Comics rebooted Superman with *Man of Steel*, which alluded to a larger universe of its own with references to Wayne Enterprises. After it was declared a success, a sequel was announced:

Batman vs. Superman. Not only would the film feature two of the most popular superheroes go blow to blow, but it was also announced that Wonder Woman, the third of DC's trinity, would get in on the action. DC clearly wants in on the successful formula created by Marvel Studios, as does FOX (the owner of X-Men). FOX announced its own super-team movie, *X-Men: Days of Future Past*, which would combine the younger X-Men cast (featured in *First Class*) with the older cast that appeared in the original X-Men trilogy.

The Avengers Effect: The 'Avengers Effect' has been felt all around the industry, and their template for success has become the norm for superhero franchises. Marvel Studios has seen an unprecedented amount of success with their Cinematic Universe. They have achieved something amazing, and are confident with what they have in store. One thing is for sure: it's a great time to be a superhero fan! With *The Avengers* sequel and *Batman vs. Superman* facing off in the summer of 2015, which one will emerge victorious?

Bad is the new good?

Things get naughty on the big screen.

BY SHELLEY RAFAILOV
ENTERTAINMENT COLUMNIST

The movie industry is going through its “teenage rebellion phase”. Metaphorically, of course. By this, I mean that in case you haven’t noticed by now, too many movies are now relying on the “villain perspective”, as I have unceremoniously dubbed it, to create a (supposedly) new, interesting plot. The “villain perspective” is created by the movie following the actions of the supposed “bad guy” just as much as the hero. Recently, the movies have been going that extra step and making the villain(s) the main character(s).

And this new twist is getting old.

We have all seen this phase pass through the book industry in the form of “bad boy” sweethearts, teens on the run, teenage spies and such, and all that dystopian warrior stuff. So maybe this works better in books than movies, but the only logical reason I can give for that is that they have been at it longer, and generally, these characters are actually heroes in disguise, and need to do bad things to defeat a greater evil (see: government).

I could list off the top of my head how many recent movies I can remember that have used and abused this storyline: *Wreck it Ralph*, *Now You See Me*, *Megamind*, and so much more, including the new, highly anticipated, live-action film from Disney, *Maleficent*. The villain does not need to shine as the main character; they just have to lure the audience in with the anticipation of the quarrels that will play out, and how evil will pull out new tricks to try and defeat good. In vain, of course.

With most movies that center around the villain, however, there is a catch. The supposed villains

need to have good intentions, and if those are not present, then they have to be either likeable (i.e. to make the audience sympathetic), interesting, or, *ahem*, *visually appealing*. Guess which one prevails in teen movies.

Children’s movies’ villains rely on the ever-present mantra in any kids’ film: “We just want to be understood”. I’m sure you’ve heard it a million times before. As for me, every time I hear that, or a variation on it, I feel bad for all the 5-year-olds who are going to think that works in the real world.

I also get a funny image in my head of Spiderman killing the Green Goblin and some kid tearing up and thinking “He wasn’t all bad. He just needed to be understood”. Sorry kid. Try having a heart to heart with him while he’s flying around lobbing flaming pumpkins at you.

One example that I know will make you understand the popularity of the “villain perspective” is our good friend Loki, most recently from *Thor 2: The Dark World*. From asking around, plus a little surfing on the interwebz, it seemed that most fans wanted to see this latest instalment for Loki, not Thor.

Out of personal opinion, I can happily say that he is the most interesting character in the movie, constantly developing and changing, so the audience never knows what side he is on.

The only thing that we are sure of about him is his main goal, to be king, and that he will do anything to achieve that. While Thor may be pummeling enemies all over the place with his hammer, Loki is cunning, surprising, and devious. But still, at the end of the day, he’s a villain.

I highly recommend watching this movie if you have not already seen it. I promise, it will keep you on the edge of your seat all the way to the twist ending.

Lives lived: Paul Walker obituary



REST IN PEACE, PAUL WALKER The world will miss actor Paul Walker, who recently passed away in a car crash.

The Fast and Furious star will be missed.

BY ALEXANDRA STONE
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

On November 30th 2013, Paul Walker and his long-time friend Roger Rodas were on their way to an event for REACH OUT Worldwide, a charity for victims of the tragic Typhoon Haiyan when they were involved in a car accident.

Paul Walker was born on September 12th, 1973 in Glendale, California, and died on November 30th, 2013 in Santa Clarita, California at approximately 3:30 pm. Paul started his career when he was a young toddler and starred in commercials, began modeling at the age of two, and began starring in many television shows in 1985. He graduated from Sun Valley’s Village Christian School in 1991. He attended many community colleges in Southern California, and ma-

jored in marine biology.

Walker starred in many films, such as “Pleasantville” (1998), “Varsity Blues” (1999), “She’s all that” (1999), and “The Skulls” (2000). In 2001, he scored his first breakthrough role in “The Fast and The Furious”. In 2003, the sequel titled “2 Fast 2 Furious” arrived into theatres around the world. Taking a break from the “Fast” franchise, Paul also worked on films such as “Eight Below” (2006), and “Running Scared” (2006) to name a few.

When 2009 rolled around, Paul returned to film the third Fast and Furious installment. Two years later, he starred in Fast Five, as well as Fast and Furious 6 in 2013. At the time of his death, Walker was busy working on Fast and Furious 7, which was to be released in July 2014. He will also star in a movie called *Hours* that arrived in theatres on December 13th, 2013.

Other than his Hollywood hit films, Paul Walker was famous for

his charity work. He was involved in several charities such as REACH OUT Worldwide, and flew to Haiti to help earthquake victims in 2010.

Paul has won several screen awards such as Hollywood Breakthrough Award in 2001, Best On-Screen Team with Vin Disel in 2002, and Breakthrough Male Performance (MTV Award) in 2002. There have been at least two memorials held in his honour: one in California, and another in British Columbia. One of the memorials was held on December 7th, 2013, in which hundreds of car enthusiasts took to the streets to honour the memory of Paul Walker.

Participants of the memorials donated money to Red Cross to help aid the Typhoon Haiyan victims.

He is missed by millions of fans, his friends, and family, including his daughter Meadow Walker, his parents, Cheryl and Paul Walker III, and his five siblings.

Marvel Heroes: A marvelous game

What does the latest superhero-themed diablo-style mmorpG have to offer you, other than everything?

BY PATRICK SHEN
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Yes, many of you will remember Diablo I and Diablo II, the massively successful first two installments of the Diablo franchise. Marvel Heroes, like Diablo, is an action role-playing game (ARPG) made for PC. It is designed by Gazillion Entertainment (headed by David Brevik, the visionary behind the first two Diablos) and Secret Identity Studios, and features a storyline crafted by world-famous comic super-scribe Brian Michael Bendis. But if you haven’t guessed already, Marvel Heroes is essentially Diablo with a superhero

twist.

The plot revolves around Doctor Doom stealing the Cosmic Cube, an artefact of nigh-omnipotent power, in a plot to rule the world as he rules Latveria. You control an iconic hero from the Marvel universe, travelling the globe in an attempt to stop him and other super-villains involved in his plan. Although it seemed a bit of a wild goose chase, I was amazed at the large variety of environments and maps that Marvel Heroes offers, from midtown Manhattan all the way to the Savage Land.

And the roster size is every bit as impressive as the different environments encountered; there are now more than thirty heroes available for play, each acting as their own class with multiple fully formed skill trees. On top of that, new heroes are being added on a

monthly basis. Impressive, I know. You’ll recognize some more iconic heroes, like Spiderman, Thor, and Ironman, as well as some more obscure characters like Squirrel Girl or Rocket Raccoon. Marvel Heroes also makes it a seamless transition between switching heroes – think League of Legends style multiple-hero-per-account models.

When you start off, new players are given a choice of one of nine starter heroes. Don’t worry, they’re not nobodies; you’re in luck if you’re a fan of Storm or the Human Torch, for example. Other heroes you can purchase with Eternity Splinters, a form of currency that drops throughout the game at a fairly consistent rate. Or, you have the option of purchasing heroes with cash-shop currency if you’re particularly anxious to get a certain hero.

It’s also important to note that Marvel Heroes’ free2play model is, by no means, a pay2win model. The cash shop only carries things like experience/drop rate boosts, costumes, pets, and more heroes. Marvel Heroes doesn’t plan on introducing an auction house, either. Personally, I thank the (Asgardian) Gods – some of whom are playable – for the absence of an auction house, which only promotes real world trading (RWT) and ridiculous real-world-currency-driven competition. What a mouthful, but it’s true. Lack of RWT makes for a decidedly more balanced game.

Although there are some intrinsic kinks with regards to balancing all the different playable heroes, Gazillion is putting a commendable effort into taking feedback and revising powers. Hey, it’s not easy doing a balancing act with 30

classes, each class having up to 30 powers, but we sure do appreciate the effort.

And truly, without Gazillion’s dedication, the game would not be at its current state. I’ll admit it; when Marvel Heroes launched, it was horrible. It’s amazing what a difference half a year can do to a game when you have such an amazing developer; since its launch, Marvel Heroes has added endless dungeons, PvP, difficulty modes, half a dozen new heroes, two new story chapter, and multiple hero overhauls. This has all contributed to a substantially more fun and addictive game.

So yeah, it’s fun. It’s free to play. And most of all, you get to be your favourite spandex’d superhero. I think I’ll stop writing this article and go bash some bad guys now – on Marvel Heroes.



Good music is good music

With the Grammy Awards in our rearview mirror, it’s a great time in music to reflect on all the great songs and the artists who composed them. 2013 has certainly been an excellent year for music, showcasing new album releases from old favourites and the meteoric rise of some new and already distinguished few.

BY ISAAC TAM
ENTERTAINMENT COLUMNIST

Album Review

Good Kid, M.A.A.D City
good kid, m.A.A.d. City (album art shown below) is rapper and hip hop artist Kendrick Lamar’s second studio album. The Compton, California native returns after the release of his debut studio album *Section.80* to deliver us an experience that has been dubbed the *Illmatic* of the west coast. In his sophomore album, Kendrick gives us the story of his life growing up in Compton. His artistry is evident in the way all twelve of the album songs portray a snippet of a narrative told from his real life teenage experiences, making *good kid, m.A.A.d City* a very personal album.

At the beginning and endings of each song, voicemail recordings clue listeners in on a story that resembles something much like *The Outsiders*. When Kendrick is jumped by two hoodlums after seeing a girl (“Sherane”) from across town, a gun fight ensues between Kendrick’s gang and Sherane’s hoods, ending with the death of Kendrick’s friend Dave. Sherane’s hoods run off while Kendrick holds Dave in his arms. An older woman at the scene confronts them and says that they are dying of thirst and need to accept God in their life. After reciting a prayer, Kendrick receives clarity and lives that day forth no longer as K. Dot (his former stage name) but as Kendrick Lamar, his given name.

The production on this album is incredible. Each song may not have the same sound or style as others in this album and it may seem disjointed as a result, but the instrumentals and beats for the individual songs enhance the part of the story that is being told. In *Backseat Freestyle*, the idea is that he is a teenager living it up in the back of a car. To match the showman-like lyrics, the instrumentals are outrageous with what seems to be bells and a booming bass.

But my favourite song off this album is *Sing About Me, I’m Dyin’ of Thirst*. This song is the telling of how Kendrick turns his back on the hood life and decides to be who he is today. It’s also one of the sadder ones as it also depicts the lives of the people who can’t escape the hood life, such as Dave’s brother.

Overall, I think this album

will be a classic. Every song is amazing and the artistry behind it is incredible.

Score: 9/10

Notable Artists

As said before, the Grammys are coming up and it’s time to look at the artists who made 2013 an excellent year in music.

Justin Timberlake
JT came back this year and proved himself not only as a pretty face in a suit and tie, but also a talented musician and entertainer. The release of *The 20/20 Complete Experience* confirmed his return to music after a long hiatus to focus on his acting career. *20/20* is a much more musically mature album than his previous works, with a neo-soul sound that I so admire. The singles *Suit & Tie* and *TKO* are some great tunes that he’s come up with, but none really compare to *Mirrors*, which has a deeper meaning than some might suppose.

Lorde
Lorde created quite a splash in the music industry with the breakthrough single *Royals*, which stayed number one on the billboard for nine consecutive weeks. What seems to be majorly overlooked is the rest of her album, *Pure Heroine*. If you loved the moody atmosphere of *Royals*, you’ll love what *Pure Heroine* has to offer. And to be honest, *Royals* isn’t even the best song off her album!

Macklemore x Ryan Lewis
Indie hip hop and rap duo Macklemore and Ryan Lewis have probably made the biggest impact in the music industry in a while. Not only are these two self producing indie artists, they have had two consecutive singles reach number one on the Billboard, with a combined staying power of 11 weeks. They’ve raked up a couple of awards here and there and have tackled issues that have existed in the hip hop community since its roots. They make music to speak to the people.

Suggested Listening List

Here’s a list of suggested listening for those who have been missing out!

Blue Ocean Floor by Justin Timberlake, *White Teeth Teens* by Lorde, *Otherside* by Macklemore x Ryan Lewis, *Sing About Me, I’m Dyin’ of Thirst* by Kendrick Lamar.



THE KING OF NEW YORK Kendrick Lamar makes a big splash with his album.

Hedley’s new album, Wildlife

Hedley releases their 5th album.

BY HAILEY APPEL
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

Wildlife, the new Hedley album, was released on November 11th 2013. The standard edition of the album has 11 tracks, including “Crazy For You”, “Heaven In Our Headlights”, “Pocket Full of Dreams” and their hit single, “Anything”, which was released on August 27th 2013 and reached number 6 on the *Billboard* Canadian Hot 100. The deluxe edition has 15 tracks, including a remixed version of the song “Wildlife”.

Many of the songs on the album are poppy and exciting, following the vibes of “Anything” in the “I do what I want” sense. For example, in the song “Headphones” lead singer Jacob Hoggard sings, “When the world gets loud I get louder” and sends out the message of being heard in the world. There are also several slower songs on the album, most of them surrounding the theme of love and love lost. This includes the songs “Pocket Full of Dreams”, “All the Way” and “Wildlife”, and on the deluxe edition, “Parade Rain” and “Almost Over”.

Wildlife continues to exhibit Hedley’s pop rock sound, following the trend of their previous album, *Storms* (2011). Their other albums, *Hedley* (2005), *Famous Last Words* (2009), and *The Show Must Go* (2010), took on more of an alternative to punk rock sound, but the band has since evolved.

Hedley formed in Abbotsford, British Columbia in 2003. The name came from the unincorporated area Hedley, British Columbia, which was chosen after members heard that it was for sale for \$346,000. While they never bought the land,

the name stayed. But it is also rumored that the band was named after Hedley Street in Abbotsford, the hometown of lead singer, Jacob Hoggard.

The original band, Jacob Hoggard, Kevin Giesbrecht, Kevin Heeres, Ryan Federau, and Brandon McKay, bet Jacob Hoggard \$150 that he wouldn’t make it into the top three for Canadian Idol. Hoggard proved them wrong making it to the top three before being eliminated from the competition; this brought further recognition to Hedley as a band.

The current band has 4 members, Jacob Hoggard, the lead singer, Thomas MacDonald, better known as “Tommy Mac”, on bass, David Rosin on guitar, and Christian Crippin playing the drums. Hedley has had many nominations and several wins, which include; Best Video - For The Nights I Can’t Remember, Best Cinematography for For the Nights I Can’t Remember (which

defeated another Hedley effort, *She’s So Sorry*), Best Director for *For The Nights I Can’t Remember*, the MuchLOUD Best Rock Video for *She’s So Sorry*, 2 Juno awards for Video of the Year and Best Pop Album, and 3 more awards for the song “For the Nights I Can’t Remember” the Fans Choice Award, Song of the Year, and the Chart Topper Award.

Hedley has also acted as ambassadors for *Free The Children* since 2009, and has travelled to two of Free the Children’s international communities. They became involved after seeing the some of lives of less fortunate fans and wanted give back to them and help improve the lives of others.

The band currently on their “Wildlife” tour, which started on December 20th in Vancouver, British Columbia and ends on April 20th back in Abbotsford. They are scheduled to perform at the Air Canada Centre on March 27th, 2014, and tickets are currently on sale.



WILDLIFE Filled with more of the punk rock feel from B.C.

Gaga for Gaga

Mother Monster’s new album is the most sonically diverse yet.

BY HANNAH SCHNEIDER
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

Gaga is back! After a two and a half year hiatus since her 2011 album “Born This Way”, the Bad Romance singer released her third studio album, titled “ART-POP” on November 11th of this year. Gaga’s highly anticipated album sounds just as expected: bold, experimental, and definitely testing the boundaries with her risqué lyrics.

She forces her “little monsters” to, once again, rethink the definition of a pop album by articulately mixing techno, R&B, rock, disco, and house music to create an astounding 15-song journey across the universe.

The album begins with “Aura”, the controversially exotic song originally titled “Burqa”. The song itself is a mixture of Middle Eastern pop and electronic dance and draws parallels from Muslim culture to Lady Gaga’s own fame. It leaked on the internet this past August, just

as Gaga was returning to twitter after her vow to quit music until \$1 million was raised for Key’s Keep a Child Alive charity drive. By making this track the first on her album, Lady Gaga speaks to the struggles she faces as a celebrity and shows how much of her image is just an aura itself.

The second single on the album, “Venus” is a mash-up of Roman mythology and outer space, and carries an “out of this world” vibe. Inspired by Botticelli’s “Birth of Venus” painting, Lady Gaga takes listeners on a journey through space and time with her ‘70s-esque beat and sometimes nonsensical lyrics (“Aphrodite lady seashell bikini garden panty Venus”, anyone?). Gaga performed this hit on The XFactor UK in October dressed as the goddess Venus herself, complete with one of her many wigs and an actual seashell bikini. This song is full of synth disco-pop and is the first song that the singer has ever produced herself.

The album finishes off with the ever-popular club-banger single “Applause”. With a techno-pop sound to it and heavy baseline,

this song is all about Lady Gaga. To the average listener, the track can be interpreted as a song about Gaga’s inflated ego, but in reality, she parodies herself (and Gaga has a very good sense of humour, if her tweets are anything to go by). Gaga declared a “Pop Music Emergency” when this song was leaked in early August; the same weekend that Katy Perry’s single “Roar” was released (coincidence or not, we’ll never know).

Overall, Lady Gaga has done a masterful job of putting together an album that truly encompasses everything that she is: unconventional, edgy, and independent. She explores all sides of herself as well as the music industry in combining different genres that normally would never be attempted. Her songs flow one into the next amazingly and keeps listeners begging for more. She has accomplished all that she had hoped with ARTPOP and maybe even more. Lady Gaga keeps the world on their toes as she has revolutionized the pop industry once again and proven that it’s impossible to predict what she’ll do next.

Avatar: Legend of Korra Season two



AVATAR FINALLY RETURNS A battle between light and darkness over 10 000 years in the making.

A season of old spirits, and new beginnings

BY FRANK YE
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

After boring fans for more than a year with re-runs of episodes from a rather disappointing first season, the second season of *Legend of Korra* was finally released titled “Spirits”. Avatar Korra has now achieved full Avatar status, having mastered all 4 elements. However, just like the new industrialized world in which she is responsible for caring for, she has trouble connecting to her spiritual self. The season saw the introduction of numerous new characters to the Avatar world, such as Korra’s uncle Chief Unalaq of the Northern Water Tribe, Korra’s stoic cousins Desna and Eska, as well as Tenzin’s brother and sister Kya and Bumi. Unlike the first season, *Legend of Korra* Book 2: Spirits lives up to the Avatar name. The first season was so basic, that it made me angry. It lacked everything that the fans wanted; the spirit world, a dramatic finale, and above all *an answer to what happened to Zuko’s mom*, unlike the first season which was oh-so-originally titled “Air”.

This season brought back the spirit world which is an aspect of the show that all fans of the first series, *Avatar: The Last Airbender* wanted to see. In the Avatar world, people live within the confines of the physical world, and the spirits live in the spirit world. The first season seemed to just gloss over this like it wasn’t even important. This season saw Jinora become Avatar Korra’s mentor and, together, journey into the spirit world where they met General Iroh. It was at that moment the cheerful screams of all the fan boys and fan girls echoed through the skies; not only have we finally seen the spirit world after so long, but have we also seen the return of General Iroh as one

of the most lovable characters from the first series. Also making cameo appearance was the spirit of Avatar Aang, who came back to tell his son Tenzin not to aspire to be a mirror image of him, but to be himself. Although his appearance was short, his appearance was significant as he was there to demonstrate that people must choose their own path. The large presence of spirits and the spirit world in season 2 most certainly did not disappoint.

Despite my love for the spirits of Avatar, what made me almost pass out from excitement was the introduction of the first Avatar, a poor man named Wan. In a two part episode, the origins of the Avatar were shown and many question which had been in the minds of fans since the first series had finally been answered. The Avatar is finally explained to be a mortal with whom the spirit of light, balance and peace had been bound with. In the beginning it is shown that bending was given and then taken away by giant lion turtles upon which the people of the world lived, isolated from the spirits, but since Wan broke was caught stealing food from the rich to give to poor, he was exiled to live with the spirits. This lead him to meeting Raava the spirit of light and Vaatu the spirit of darkness while they were in a struggle for power. After being tricked by Vaatu and helping him escape the grasp of Raava, Wan found out that if Vaatu is not stopped, then the world would be thrown into 10 000 years of darkness. With the help of Raava, Wan travels from lion turtle to lion turtle to gain the ability to bend all 4 elements. But unfortunately due to the curse of his mortality, he needed Raava to hold on to the powers of the other 3 elements while he held on to only one. When they meet Vaatu, they discover that alone they are unable to defeat Vaatu, so they fuse together and defeat him, thus be-

coming the first Avatar and beginning the Avatar cycle. The battle between Avatar Wan and Vaatu made every fan watching cry and shed tears of joy because my gosh it was so good. He made the same epic rotating sphere of elements which Aang made in the series finale of *The Last Air Bender* series, and that was when the season was instantly made for me. When that episode ended, my life felt empty. I was so disappointed that I would never be able to bond my spirit with that of Raava’s, but a man can dream. A man can dream.

Legend of Korra came back strong once again with a villain from the Northern Water Tribe. However, this time it wasn’t just anyone; it was Korra’s uncle Unalaq whose plan is to merge with the dark spirit Vaatu and become a new, dark Avatar.

In the end he not only succeeds, but he also ends up ripping Raava out of Korra’s body and beats Raava into nothingness. But it’s no big deal, because Korra is a strong independent woman who don’t need no light spirit. You see, through the advice of Tenzin, she transforms her spirit into a blue giant and flies over to Vaatu/Unalaq and gives them a piece of her mind. In the end Vaatu and Unalaq is defeated, and Korra and Raava fused together again. Although Korra had now lost her connection to all Avatars before her, she decided that it was time spirits and humans lived together again, in the way it was meant to be.

Thanks to my amazing English teacher Ms. Swan, I could see that this season was inductively organized with the thesis being “Even though we should learn from those who came before us, we must also forge our own paths.”

With season 2 over I return to having boring, dull Friday nights anxiously awaiting the arrival of season 3.

How to transcend reality and become anime

A step-by-step guide to coping.

BY PATRICK SHEN
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Dermatologists HATE her. Local mom discovers the true secret to leading a wrinkle-free life: simply transcend reality and become anime. With this patented guide, you too can experience the bliss of eternal youth. Just don’t overdo it.

Now, let us get to the meat and bones with the first step: dye your hair green. It is scientifically proven that green is the colour most receptive to the Rily-Phaec particles emitted by quantum neutrino fields. These particles are able to form atomic sized grey holes that, when absorbed by green hair, will strengthen the covalent network carbohydrate structure of hair. Strong hair has a variety of beneficial effects, including (but not limited to) smoother skin, stronger bones, and heightened intelligence.

Once you have dyed your hair, the second step is to gain an understanding of the mechanics of the universe by solving one difficult riddle a day. An example riddle: what is more difficult to accomplish, folding paper or burning paper? This is, in fact, a trick question. The answer is that they are equally difficult, because paper is made from trees and trees do not like to be burnt nor folded.

If you were able to correctly answer the previous riddle, then you may move onto the third step: quantify the elements of your life in terms of a painting. It’s not that you don’t want to see things exactly as they happened; it’s just that you prefer to remember them in an artistic way. And truthfully, the life of it all is much more honest because you invest it. Clinical psychology tells us that arguably, watercolour is the most traumatic artistic medium. Watercolour tubes are not recycled like atoms and particles

An example riddle: what is more difficult to accomplish, folding paper or burning paper? This is, in fact, a trick question.

in quantum physics; they can be lost forever. It’s sort of like your past is an unfinished painting and as the artist of that painting, you must find new watercolours because you lost your old ones.

After you have finished your painting, the seventh step involves playing Runescape. Seriously, who still plays Runescape? Not you? Well, you should. Recently, Runescape released the Revolution update, which streamlined the combat experience by allowing “abilities” to be queued, or even set on automatic. The highly controversial Evolution of Combat update in 2012 introduced the “abilities” function, and many players quit because of the heightened PvP difficulty.

With Revolution, the game designers hope to simplify combat for players who preferred the old combat system, while also catering to players who prefer the current one. Various updates planned in the coming months include Legacy, where players will have the option to switch over, entirely, to the old combat system if they wish.

There is no eighth step. There also wasn’t a fourth fifth or sixth step, because you have to figure those out on your own. Hopefully, if you have done everything correctly, you should notice fewer wrinkles. If not, then redo the whole thing. But no matter what, you are 100% guaranteed to become more anime, so there’s that. Now sing along with the name game. Lana, lana, bo bana banana fanna fo fana, fee fy mo mana, lana.

Engarde! Learn How To Fence!

Beginner Lessons ★ Youth, Teens, Adults
Spring Break and Summer Camps
Private Lessons Available

Dragon Fencing Academy
Richmond Hill's Premier Fencing Club

175 West Beaver Creek Rd
Unit 18, Richmond Hill
905.764.8388
www.dragonfencing.com

SUDOKU

How to play Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 through 9. Numbers cannot be repeated; use the existing numbers to help you.

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

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

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

CROSSWORD

- Across**
1. "Here comes trouble!"
5. Chowder morsel
9. Mighty strane
14. British noble
15. Late-night TV host Jay
16. Banquet host
17. Fairy-tale monster
18. Cereal grains
19. Steakhouse order
20. Machinery purchases, in finace
23. Golf peg
24. Fishing pole
25. Constricting snakes
28. Purse handle
31. Angry dog's sound
34. Generic-brand
36. Barnyard cackler
37. Creme-filled cookie
38. Official document reproductions
41. Grade-school support grps.
42. Droop
43. In a balanced manner
44. Venomous snake
45. A __ for sore eyes
47. Brings to a close
48. Grocery sack
49. Make a mistake
51. Wallet materials
60. Ring-shaped reef
61. Light-bulb measure
62. Region
63. Large kitchen appliance
64. Canyon sound
65. Shoebox tops
66. Aren't colorfast
67. Observed
68. Minus

- Down**
1. Aroma
2. Very big
3. Gumbo veggie
4. Back part of a sock
5. Biological duplicate
6. Departs
7. Start a poker pot
8. Forest floor growth
9. Floor-washing imple-
ment
10. Plant deeply
11. Computer-screen im-
age
12. Apartment payment
13. Poor grades
21. "Who's there?" re-
sponse
22. Hypnotic state
25. Boxing matches
26. Ready in the keg
27. Oohs and __
29. Piece of dark-meat
chicken
30. __ room (play area)
31. Pulverize
32. Fishing-line holders
33. Flushed, as cheeks
34. California wine valley
35. Junior naval officer
37. Unseal
39. Playground chasing
game
40. Not concealed
45. Left the harbor
46. Acquire molars
48. Stick out slightly
50. Tattle about
51. Clothing
52. List-shortening abbr.
53. " __ of your business!"

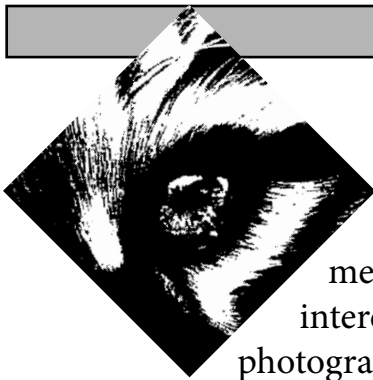
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20					21					22				
				23					24					
	25	26	27			28	29	30				31	32	33
34					35		36				37			
38						39				40				
41					42				43					
44				45				46		47				
			48					49	50					
51	52	53				54	55				56	57	58	59
60						61					62			
63						64					65			
66						67					68			

54. Rams' mates
55. Shoestring

56. School corridor
57. One of the Great Lakes

58. Scarlet and crimson
59. Talk back to

ADVERTISEMENTS



Attention Tigers!

The Eye of the Tiger is al-
ways looking for new staff
members! If you are
interested in writing,
photography, fundraising, or in
mak- ing the layout of our next issue,
contact eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com!

Support your school newspaper!
Join us and make your
voice heard!



Eye of the Tiger is an
award-winning school newspaper
that reaches 2000+ students, parents
and members of the community each
issue. To advertise with us, please
contact:

[eyeofthetigerchiefs@
gmail.com](mailto:eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com)



• THEORY

Free Interview

THORNHILL
SCHOOL OF
MUSIC

EST. 1965

'MUSIC LESSONS OUR PRIME FOCUS FOR 46 YEARS'

905 881-1848

ROCK BAND
WORKSHOP

SUMMER VOCAL
ROCK CAMP

11 Glen Cameron Rd

thornhillmusic@hotmail.com

GUITAR •

Recital Hall
Concerts

CLARINET •

CELLO •

BRASS •

RCM EXAM
PREPARATION

ROCK, POP, BLUES
CLASSICAL & JAZZ

Yonge • Clarke • Bayview • Steeles

11 Glen Cameron Rd

Yonge n/o Steeles

• DRUMS • PIANO • VOCAL • VIOLIN •

DRUMS •