



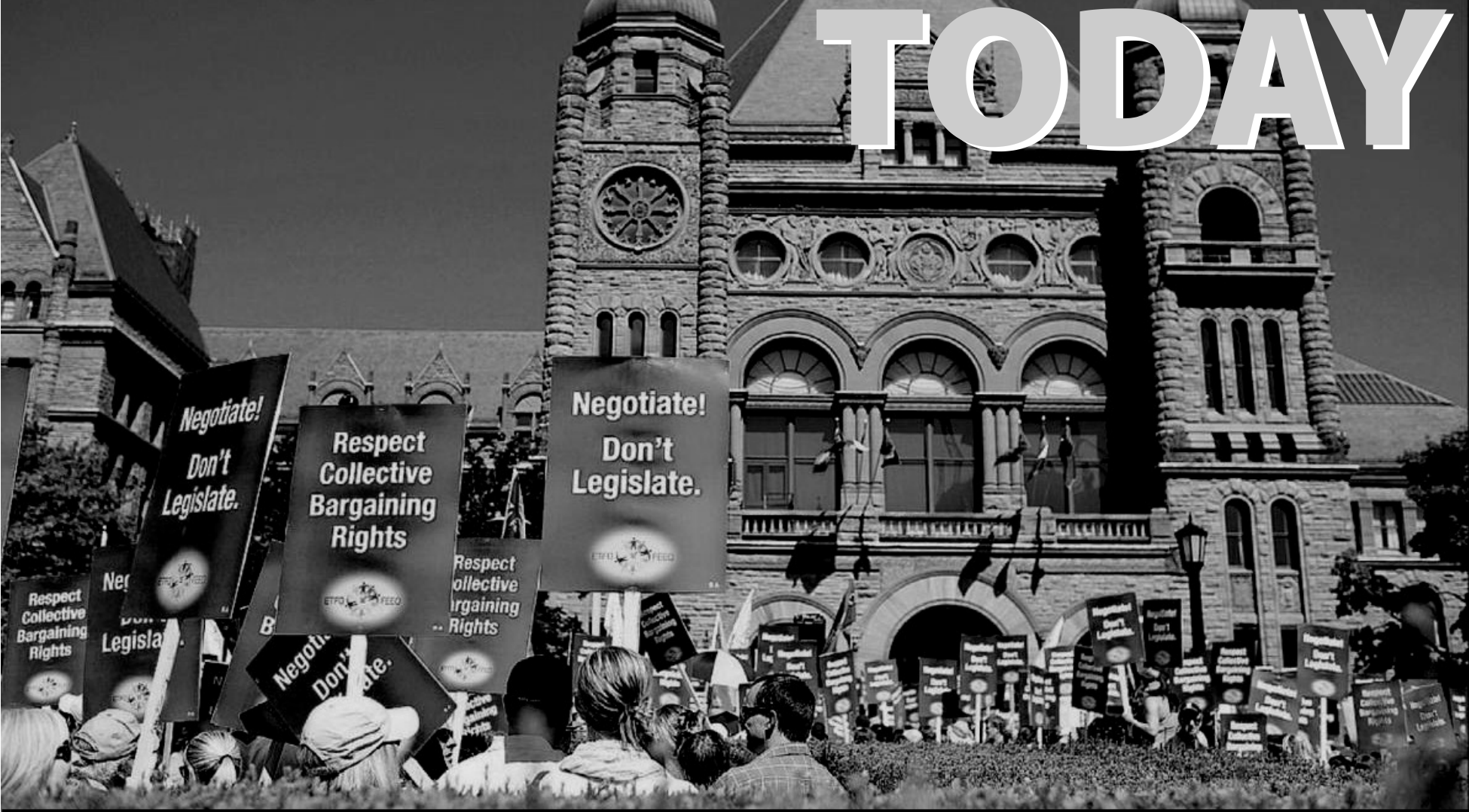
# TWO DAYS OF FUN IN THE SUN

Catch all the action on pg. 18

# EYE OF THE TIGER



# The teacher protest begins



The Cause



## BY STAFF NEWS CONTRIUTOR

The ironically coined “Putting Students First Act”, otherwise known as the notorious “Bill 115”, poses serious implications for all secondary schools in Ontario, starting today. Bill 115, which was passed on September 11, freezes teachers’ wages for two years and limits their ability to strike.

Hysteria erupted following the controversial passing. Teachers protested, as did students – through minor efforts at first, like wearing all black— but it shortly morphed into something far more

serious. Rumours claiming that extracurriculars would be cancelled circulated, sending anxious high school students and their parents in a frenzy. And as time told, those rumours were indeed true.

Neighbouring friends at nearby schools were already feeling the backlash; individual teachers had already shut down their clubs, discontinued their sports teams, and cancelled their proms, while all we could offer was our most sincere condolences. T.S.S., however, was doing fairly well on these terms, and we could thank our dedicated teachers and staff for that. We were

still going strong on school spirit, despite the setbacks – the annual Carnival motored on, our clubs continued to thrive, sports teams battled it out to win, and one could say that everything was fine at Thornhill...

However, the OSSTF ,Ontario Secondary Schools Teacher Federation, announced a bargain two weeks ago in which ten school boards across the province would begin job action— a temporary move to protest the government’s decision and try to make demands – among those, York Region. Trapped in our shiny happy bub-

ble, we neglected to address the fact that what is happening out there just may happen to us. According to OSSTF, teachers may no longer attend meetings – that includes staff meetings, department head meetings, board committee meetings, and co-op. Teachers may not show up on PA days or communicate with parents outside of regular school hours. Teachers may not participate in Ministry initiatives, which includes any activities associated with the EQAO and the OSSLT. They may not assist with maintenance of school-related websites, or provide progress re-

ports. Teachers may not provide on call coverage for absent colleagues, nor may they supervise anything other than their classrooms. Furthermore, there is a possibility that teachers may not submit student attendance, distribute course-selection, or collect textbooks.

This is the scenario. These are the questions we should ask: what are the long-term implications of Bill 115? As a democratic society, how does limiting one’s right to strike change things? How does this affect our generation? What does this mean for our school year? Questions to ponder, Thornhill.



The Effect

So there you have it Thornhill, a glimpse at the man within the main office. Fear not though, if you haven't learned enough about the newest member of the administrative team, Mr. McAdam's door is always open.



# Are you coming to TEDxYouth? Samsung vs. Apple: up close and personal

An amazing event at the Science Centre, just for high school students!

BY CRYSTAL CHEN  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

A TED Talk is a speech delivered at an annual "Technology, Entertainment, and Design" Conference which was held first in California, and now in Europe and Asia through live streams. The content is extremely innovative and identifies with their slogan, "ideas worth spreading". Often used as teaching material, TED has featured international icons such as Bill Clinton, Jane Goodall, and many Nobel Prize winners. After posting its material online through its own website at [www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com) and YouTube, much of TED's archives have gone viral.

TEDxYouthDay is an event by TED to empower and inspire young people through a series of TEDx (that is, independently organized) events in countries all around the world. It happens on Universal Children's Day on November 17th, and fortunately, Toronto hosts one of the world's largest and best organized events for high school students everywhere in the GTA.

Unlike other TEDx events such as TEDxToronto, TEDxYorkU, and TEDxRyersonU, TEDxYouth@Toronto is only catered to high school students and is free of charge for accepted applicants. It will be hosted at the Ontario Science Centre this year from 10am to 6pm, and will feature an array of impressive speakers; so far announced include Dr. Jeremy Friedberg, creator of Spongelab Interactive, and Professor Yu-Ling Cheng, Director of the Centre for Global Engineering (CGEN) and Professor of Chemical Engineering

and Applied Chemistry at the University of Toronto.

Students will have a chance to listen to presentations by renowned leaders of innovation, network with other like-minded, ambitious peers, and engage in various activities for a day of learning, sharing, and enjoying.

What is special about TEDxYouth@Toronto is the way it allows participants to interact with all the presenters, whether it be eating lunch with them or chatting with them at the after party. It is truly a great opportunity for youth to learn more about their world, along with the progress and ideas of others.

Some examples of past speakers at this conference include Jordan Banks, Managing Director of Facebook Canada, Arelene Dickinson of Venture Communications and also known from the hit-show Dragon's Den, Ziya Tong, Co-host of Discovery Channel's Daily Planet, as well as Dani Reiss, President & CEO of Canada Goose. The best example of a seriously talented and incredibly innovative speaker may be last year's Marshall Zhang, who was at the time a Grade 12 student at Bayview Secondary School, having developed progress on the cure of cystic fibrosis as a student researcher at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

This year's event will feature the theme (R)evolution, bringing together a line-up of the speakers and performers. If you are unable to attend on November 17th, you can still watch the conference via satellite live stream with a second audience at a different location set up by TEDxYouth@Toronto, or even at home.

For more information, please visit [tedxyouthtoronto.ca](http://tedxyouthtoronto.ca).

New features in technology can overwhelm buyers, so let's cut to the chase: which ones are better for you?

BY MICHELLE BEYN  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

With the release of the Samsung Galaxy S3 in June of this year, and the iPhone 5 in September, 2012 has been a bold year for technology and Smartphone development. Many consumers have lined up for days to get their hands on these newest handheld devices. The idea of a touch screen phone has recently been getting positive ratings, but Samsung (with the Galaxy S3) and Apple (with the iPhone 5) users can agree that the phones are almost polar opposites. But what are the major differences between them, and why are all the critics raving about their releases?

Well, the new iPhone is currently running on iOS 6 software and the A6 dual core processor chip, while the Galaxy S3 is under Android 4.0, with the new update, 4.1, said to come out in the near future. Both of these phones promise a faster and more reliable usage, with both also running on 4G LTE wireless technology.

The back camera on the iPhone 5 has stayed the same as the previous generation's 8 megapixels, in competition to Samsung's also 8 megapixel Galaxy S3. Both cameras provide clearer quality and better focusing tools than the previous editions, aside from the fact that they have the same megapixel quantity. In addition, the iPhone 5 came out with a large 4.0 inch display compared to the iPhone 4S whose display was slightly smaller, at 3.5 inches. The Samsung

Galaxy S3 however, has an astonishing 4.8 inch display, out-competing the iPhone line-up for the people who enjoy the feel of a larger and wider screen. Apple has also decreased the weight of the iPhone, to only 112 grams, which out-shines the Samsung Galaxy S3, which weights about 133 grams. Although the delta is relatively small, it's one of the physical features for what differentiates the two phones for many picky customers.

These things do make or break how the consumers like or dislike these phones, but the major details the public looks at is the variety of various programs and instalments which are available in each phone. Apple has been notorious for these programs, coming up with easier ways people can navigate and use their phones, such as Siri. It became quite popular after the introduction of it in the release of the iPhone 4S last year. This program was created so that users didn't have to type, but could now voice out the actions that they wants to do. For example, finding a location or emailing your boss now became simpler, as it recognized a human's voice and could do the actions that it was told (somewhat like a personal assistant in a phone). iPhone creators have as well introduced a new system of transferring files, called iCloud.

This system works by syncing all of your Apple products, such as the iPhone, iPad, and iTouch, and when changes are made or downloads are done, it will distribute the new information to all of your other products. If you take a picture via your iPhone, it will transfer it to your Apple computer and your Apple iPad. This feature has been proven to be beneficial for users which own multiple products from

the Apple Company, and use said products for business or personal viewing reasons.

Samsung, of course, has programs which are said to match those of Apple's. SVoice has recently been created for the Samsung Galaxy S3, and many critics have compared it to Siri. It has many of the same features, such as navigation, recommending settings and using social networking sites through the beauty of one's voice.

In the past year, Samsung has stepped up its game, releasing more features for users to take advantage of, such as Direct Call and Typing Accuracy in addition to S Voice. Let's say that you're text one of your friends, but you realize it would be easier to just call the person instead. Well, now you don't have to click anything, just put the phone next to your ear and it will automatically dial the number.

This is called Direct Call, and it really developed the idea of hands-free technology. Another tool they developed, Typing Accuracy, recognizes the letter that comes next while texting based on your typing pattern and the proximity to each key. Essentially, Samsung strives to make the best phone experience for the user that it possibly can, ensuring that the user saves time and effort while using their product. Both the iPhone 5 and the Samsung Galaxy S3 provide different features whose purposes are to increase time efficiency and quality of work for the user.

For most people, choosing which phone they like best gets down to the details, and what that specific person needs out of their Smartphone. Both products claim to be the best, and it is for the consumer to decide whether or not they're right about that statement.

## Thornhill Secondary: Eco-Certified School

Thornhill is now officially environmentally friendly!

BY SANDRA S. & TINA Z.  
NEWS CONTRIBUTORS

The Eco Team is proud to announce that Thornhill Secondary School has been awarded Gold Certification by the Ontario Eco-schools assessors.

There are six areas to the certification process, requiring at least 75% achievement in each: teamwork and leadership; energy conservation; waste minimization; school ground greening; curriculum; and environmental stewardship. Last year was TSS' first year of participation, which brought together teachers and students to lead the initiative and required the entire school community for successful implementation.

The eco-schools and environment is one of the York Region District School Board's main priorities. Its purpose is to promote environmental literacy and practices; become environmentally responsive and reduce ecological footprint; unite the school community; and provide staff and students with deep engagement and leadership.

Staff and students engaged in the following initiatives last year: Recycling, Energy Conservation – including Earth Hour Earth Week:

Each day was linked to a different area of ecological awareness, with student-made PowerPoint Presentations being played in the cafeteria. Weeding, watering, mulching, and plant replacement.

Cross-curricular implementation of eco-themes in lessons for this school year: We are continuing our focus on energy conservation and recycling.

We will support the board's monthly eco-theme. In September, we promoted a day of Litterless lunch. For October, we promoted Waste Reduction week.

We will be sending students and staff on eco workshops and applying learning at the school.

This includes field trips to the science centre and environmental hearings. We are encouraging students to take on leadership roles by providing them with information about volunteer opportunities both in school and in the community.

We will have an outdoor classroom in the outer quadrangle, which has been formally approved by the board. It will be ready for the classes to use in the late spring.

Congratulations to staff and students on a wonderful inaugural year in promoting environmental sustainability and environmental literacy at Thornhill Secondary School.



ALL SMILES! Mr. Lim, Tina Z. & Sandra S. Photo courtesy of Mr. Lim.

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# Meat XL Foods Inc.

Beef between the corporation and health officials.

BY VIVIAN ZHANG  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

E. coli are rod shaped bacteria. Some strains are harmless, but others can cause serious food poisoning, and lead to other complications. E. coli infections are highly contagious, and can be passed from person to person through physical contact, or contact with food. They can be caused by eating undercooked beef, drinking contaminated water, drinking raw milk, working with cattle, and eating raw vegetables that have been contaminated with animal feces.

The E. coli germ is carried by healthy beef and dairy cattle in their intestines, and when the slaughtering process is performed, the meat can be easily contaminated with the germ. When the beef is then ground up, the germs are mixed throughout the meat.

Recently, XL Foods Inc. has recently issued a recall of many of their beef products, and the list is continuing to expand. At this point, it has become the biggest beef recall in Canadian history, with 1800 different kinds of meat items being taken off the shelves in every province, as well as 41 states across the border, and has even reached Hong Kong.

This recall resulted from E. coli linked to the meat products produced by XL Foods, and as a result,

the company has had their license suspended. Many cases of customers falling ill have already proven to be linked to E. coli in XL Foods' meat, and several more cases are being investigated.

It began with a young girl from Alberta, who fell ill on September 4th, and health warnings were issued almost two weeks later on September 16th, cautioning customers about certain packets of ground beef. Alberta health officials originally stated that they were dealing with a typical number of E. coli cases, and that it could not be tied to the XL plant in Brooks, Alberta. However, further investigation shows that the amount of E. coli cases in Saskatchewan is almost quadruple the usual number of cases.

While the typical symptoms of an E. coli infection are not a major risk, doctors have been examining the link between E. coli infections and its long term effects.

In 2000, the water supply of Walkerton, Ontario was contaminated with the same strain of E. coli found in the XL Foods meat products (E. coli 0157:H7). In the 2000 outbreak, 2300 residents developed E. coli infections, whose symptoms appear approximately seven days after contact with the germ. These symptoms begin with sudden abdominal cramps, and progress to watery diarrhea, and then bloody diarrhea, caused by sores from the infection in the intestines. Symptoms of nausea, vomiting, and mild

fever may also occur. These symptoms are standard in E. coli infections, but in the water-borne outbreak twelve years ago, seven people were killed, and 28 of them developed further medical complications due to the effects of the E. coli.



*At this point, it has become the biggest beef recall in Canadian history.*

Dr. William Clark, a kidney specialist at the University of Western Ontario, states that he expects individuals who were affected by the contaminated beef to be at risk of long term health problems, and that "they need to be followed up on an annual basis for the first two or three years to determine if they have developed any of these abnormalities". Dr. Clark has conducted studies of the people affected in the outbreak in 2000, and found that a toxin from the E. coli damaged blood vessels, which led to kidney failure, gastrointestinal complications and neurological effects.

Affected residents were also found to have a higher risk of kidney damage, cardiovascular disease, and a 33% increase of elevated blood pressure. All these repercussions resulted from the same strain of E. coli, and Clark states that the affected customers of the beef recall "need to have some simple screening tests in terms of their

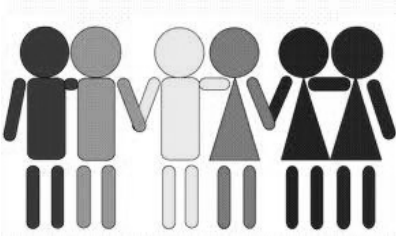
kidney function". The irony is that all these complications resulted from something as small as the pace of the plant.

Doug O'Halloran is the president of the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 401, a labour union in Alberta. He says that the processing line and the XL Foods plant in Brooks moves too quickly. Workers are forced to take shortcuts around cleanliness to keep up with the pace of the plant, such as neglecting to sanitize knives after each cut.

O'Halloran also states that the cattle are supposed to be thoroughly washed to ensure that no manure is left in their fur, but sometimes the water is not hot enough to achieve the level of cleanliness required. He also says that excrement from the cattle is sometimes found on the killing floor, forcing workers to hunt it down through the plant. These conditions are affecting the health of Canadians, as well as other customers of XL Foods around the world.

This particular strain of E. coli has proven to be very dangerous bacteria, and can be extremely harmful to those who become infected.

Many large corporations are more concerned with efficiency than with being thorough, but if the increased efficiency of a company puts its customers' health in jeopardy, then the morals and values, not to mention the reputation of the country are on the line.



## Ask a Unicorn

'Ask a unicorn' is an anonymous advice column run by the Rainbow Alliance (formerly Gay Straight Alliance) supporting our gay, straight, bisexual, trans, and queer students at school. Send your questions to askaunicorn@hotmail.co.uk

BY RAINBOW ALLIANCE  
SCHOOL CLUB

**My friend just came out, how can I support him/her?**

Listen, learn, and love. Figure out what their concerns are to see what there is that you can do for your friend. Tell your friend about some trustworthy adults that are good to speak to, whether they are parents, family, friends, or teachers.

Make sure not to break their trust. It is up to you to respect your friend's choice to share information with you, and if they decide that you're the only one to be aware of this information, then make sure that you're the only one.

For more information or help, you can always contact Youth Line, a LGBTQ youth organisation, at: 1-800-268-9688.

**How do I come out to my family?**

Coming out to your family is all about yourself, and how you want to do it. First, finding another adult that you can trust and that can support you and help you through all of it is a good place to start.

Be sure of your safety before telling anyone. Sharing this part of your life is not worth putting yourself in danger. If you need more help, or more advice, a good place to contact is P.F.L.A.G at: 1-800-780-0724 ext. 120.

**How do I know I'm gay?**

It is perfectly alright for you to be confused. Don't feel like there is any pressure on you to need to know who you are.

There is no right answer in figuring out your sexuality, but testing it through sexual activity is not necessary when it comes to knowing who you are.

Sexuality doesn't have to be something that is fixed, it can be completely fluid. You are allowed to change your mind or come to new realizations all the time. Be sure to talk to people around you that you trust about feelings, thoughts, and experiences because talking things out always makes it easier to organise your thoughts.

**I feel so alone now that I'm openly gay. What can I do to find more people that know what I'm going through?**

The best place to start is at your school. Almost every single York Region school has a GSA or the equivalent, and there are always people there that are open and understanding of the situation you are going through.

There is also a larger York Region GSA that is entirely run by students, for the LGBTQ students in the region. Through those sources, there are many events and opportunities to find people like you, with an idea of what you are going through.

# Have you gone clubbing recently?

Don't get the wrong idea. We're talking about school clubs.

BY STAFF  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Thornhill is chock full of great clubs and student organisations! It's a product of our vibrant and enthusiastic student community.

If you're interested in taking part in one of the many student groups Thornhill has to offer, but have never really approached anyone, have no fear! The Eye of the Tiger has dug up some information on a few of the clubs around the school.

If you want to get started, just take a look!

**The Eye of the Tiger**  
eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com

We don't need much of an introduction, seeing as you're reading our paper right now. But for those of you who don't know us, the Eye of the Tiger is Thornhill's award-winning student newspaper. We're dedicated to fostering student journalism within a professionally structured newspaper. We are always looking for new members to join our illustrious staff. We publish four times a year, offering a platform for student opinion on community and world issues. If you've always wanted to see your name in print, send us a message. We meet Mondays in Room 201, and our door is always open.

**Thornhill Athletic Council**  
thornhillathleticcouncil@gmail.com

Hey Tigers! The Thornhill Athletic Council is a club where you can express your interests in healthy active living. These include intramurals, such as dodgeball, volleyball and basketball, as well as organizing spirit wear that supports school fundraising. As for the Terry Fox run, all proceeds go to the Ter-

ry Fox Foundation. TAC enhances leadership opportunities where we promote making the school a healthier and more active environment where teamwork, friendship, and fun all come together. We meet every other week in the morning in Room 157. It is a great place if you love athletics, so come get involved!

**The Rainbow Alliance**  
askaunicorn@hotmail.co.uk

The Rainbow Alliance (previously known as the Gay Straight Alliance) is a safe space for anyone and everyone regardless of who they are, and regardless of their sexual orientation; whether it be lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, or straight. We plan events to promote awareness, support, and tolerance for everyone. We're all about your safety, you having fun, and making the school a judgement free community. Come out to Room 205 on Tuesdays after school to join in on our family.

**SickKids Foundation Club**  
sickkidsclubtss@hotmail.com

The SickKids Foundation prides itself on relieving suffering and ensuring the best quality of care. Our club strives to raise awareness and funds for the SickKids Foundation. Members of the SickKids Foundation Club meet weekly, to brainstorm, plan, and execute various fundraisers. We raised over \$1000 through a raffle, intramural, bake sale and corporate donations last year. We would love to have new members so please join today!

**Red Cross Youth Action Council**  
tss.redcross@gmail.com

Are you someone who likes to get involved and wants to make a difference? Well then, Red Cross YAC Club is your club! Our mission is to help improve people's lives by promoting humanity here at Thornhill S.S. We organise the

Thanksgiving Food Drive and the Care and Share Food Drive every Christmas season. We are always looking for new fundraising activities that will bring the opportunity to give back in our community and around the world. We meet the first Tuesday of every month in Room. We are looking forward to having the best year yet with you all!

**TSS Lifesaving Society**  
tsslifesaving@gmail.com

Want your first aid certification or re-certification? TSS's Lifesaving Society teaches and certifies participants in Emergency First Aid and CPR throughout the year. Come get your certification and have a good time in the portables after school on Fridays. Send us an email and bring \$5 to join.

**Canadian Cancer Society Club**  
tsscancersociety.exec.com

Our goal is to raise as much money as possible to support those who are battling cancer, or to donate in honour of loved ones who have passed. To succeed as a team, we will need to raise cancer awareness to the student body of Thornhill Secondary School. We will be meeting every Friday in Room 117. Let's work together to take a giant leap closer to making a difference!

**Space Club**  
tss.spaceclub@gmail.com

Whether you're a fully-fledged backyard astronomer, just an astronomy enthusiast, or somewhere in between, come join the TSS Space Club! On a yearly basis, Space Club members participate in NASA- and CSA-funded experiments, build and test working solar flare detectors, hear lectures from real astronomers, have astronomy nights and solar viewings, and go on field trips to the David Dunlap Observatory in Richmond Hill, as well as much more. If you're an astronomer-in-the-making or just

starting to foster an interest in what lies beyond our atmosphere, come join the TSS Space Club- it's out of this world!

**Cooking Club**  
tsscookingclub@hotmail.com

Calling all foodies out there! This year we bring a new addition to the clubs of Thornhill Secondary School. Join us at the Cooking Club in Room 203 after school on Mondays where we will learn and explore healthy eating and authentic foods. Through blind taste tastings, cooking competitions including Chopped, Sweet Genius and Cupcake Wars, and bake sales, it will be getting hot in here. So get ready for an awesome year of cooking, learning, and best of all, eating! But just a warning - if you can't handle the heat, stay out of the kitchen!

**TSS Model UN**  
tssmodelun@gmail.com

Come be a delegation and represent a nation at Model UN! Discuss world issues and improve your public speaking by roleplaying in a United Nations Assembly. You will research, debate, and negotiate resolutions at our meetings. We will also attend various conferences such as UTMUN at UofT, so there is a lot to look forward to as one of us. No experience or previous knowledge required. We meet on Mondays afterschool in Room 210. Hope to see you involved!

**DECA**  
tssdeca.exec@gmail.com

DECA is an experience. It is based around an international competition where students are given real-life business scenarios, and using their creativity, persuasion, and speaking skills, present their solutions to a judge. DECA allows students to improve their confidence, meet people from around Ontario and the world, and have fun!





**MCGUINITY QUILTS** Ontario's premier announces that he will now step down.

# Surprise Ontario!

McGuinty's resignation as Ontario's premier.

**BY STAFF**  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The evening of Monday, October 15 was a shocking time for Ontario citizens; Dalton McGuinty had stepped down as Ontario's premier. The House of Commons is currently frozen, prorogued as it were, until the Liberal Party can elect a new leader.

With 16 years spent at the head of Ontario's Liberal Party and nine years as the premier, McGuinty has been met with many difficulties as the leader of his party. However, he has also been the first Ontario Liberal to win two majority governments since Mitchell Hepburn. His three consecutive terms as premier have made him a fixture in Ontario politics, and with his resignation, the

political landscape has changed drastically.

Currently, many representatives of other parties are unhappy with the prorogation of legislature. While it is still too early to say whether this sudden standstill in the House of Commons is good or not, people are waiting anxiously for the House to begin once again.

Liberal executive council members will have until November 23 to join the race as a leadership hopeful. A hopeful must pay a \$50,000 admission fee and submit the signatures of at least 250 members of the Liberal Party.

McGuinty's resignation had stopped the House of Commons in its tracks. While his nine-year term as premier will not be forgotten, this change in leadership means a drastic alteration of the political landscape.

# The island struggle

Widespread violence in China due to Japanese nationalization of islands.

**BY RICHARD WONG**  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

There has been a recent surge in nationalism and anti-Japanese sentiment in China, and the results have not been pretty. What started off as peaceful demonstration degraded into widespread violence this September; in China, protestors took to demolishing and burning Japanese cars and stores, seemingly out of nationalistic outrage.

So what could have provoked such a massive response from China? At face value, it was the Japanese purchase and nationalization of three privately-owned islands on September 11. The island chain, known as Diaoyu in China and Senkaku in Japan, lies in territory to which both China and Japan have claims. These islands were taken over by the United States upon the conclusion of World War II, and were given to Japan in 1971. China strongly opposed the islands' handover, claiming that it was Chinese territory to begin with. From then on, Japan took a standpoint claiming that there was no dispute to be settled between the two countries; the islands were terra nullius, or "no-man's land" from the late 19th century when Japan first officially surveyed them. Additionally, China stood by without making claims to the islands until 1971.

Even among 17th century cartographers, there was confusion as to which countries formally owned which islands. Japanese cartographers drew maps labelling the Diaoyu/Senkaku island chain as Chinese territory, according to the People's Republic of China, China's governing body. This was presented as evidence of Chinese ownership of the islands, despite Japan's claim that the islands were uninhabited at the time of their first surveying.

So China and Japan are fussing over a small chain of uninhabited islands. What's the big deal? There are several theories as to why this dispute is being treated as seriously as it is. Some consider the islands to be important economic assets which the two countries find are worth defending at the expense of friendly relations.

At the same time, Japan's purchase of the islands nearly coincides with the anniversary of the Mukden Incident, a deeply-felt source of anti-Japanese sentiment in China. Not only are the waters around the island chain valuable shipping lanes and rich fishing grounds, but a 1969 survey conducted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (UNECAFE) suggested the presence of oil reserves on the seabed. In an age in human history where traditional fossil fuels are only going to become harder to come across, the extra oil reserves would prove to be an important supplementary source of wealth for the country which owns them.

While the issue of oil certainly could provide a motive for China's formal complaint and recently-increased military presence around the disputed island chain, it does not fully explain the Chinese public's apparent overreaction to the incident. However, the situation makes more sense after taking into

consideration the timing of Japan's official purchase of the islands. September 18 in China is recognized as the anniversary of the Mukden or Manchurian Incident, when the Imperial Japanese Army invaded northern China in response to an explosion near a Japanese railway.

Strong evidence points toward officers from the Japanese army to having staged the incident to provide justification for invasion of Chinese territory. Japan won the resulting military conflict and occupied northern China, leaving far more Chinese than Japanese casualties behind.

This particular incident is a significant source of anti-Japanese sentiment in China, symbolizing Japan's past takeovers of Chinese territory. For those Chinese citizens who truly believe that the Diaoyu/Senkaku island chain belongs to China, Japan could not have chosen a worse time to make their purchase. From their point of view, the Japanese might almost have made mockery of Chinese history by making history repeat itself.

Presently, it does not seem that China and Japan will come to terms over the ownership of the islands any time in the near future. Experts on international politics predict that with the coming transfer of leadership in China, the People's Republic of China is likely to shelve the issue and turn its attention towards internal problems.

Leaving the issue aside seems like a much better idea than degeneration into military conflict, what with all of the other military and economic issues which the international community has to deal with already.

# The video that angered the Muslim world

The resulting reactions of an anti-Islamic film, *Innocence of Muslims*.

**BY TIAN GAO**  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

An anti-Islamic film trailer of around 13 minutes long was uploaded onto YouTube under the name Sam Bacile on July 1st, 2012. The following day, another trailer of around 14 minutes long was uploaded by the same user. These two videos have caused a massive reaction around the world, and the film in question is called *Innocence of Muslims*.

The film is believed to be written by L.A. based Egyptian-American, Nakoula Basseley Nakoula. It was written under the name of Sam Bacile who is supposedly an Israeli property magnate who made the film with money from Jewish donors. Nakoula denied being the maker of *Innocence of Muslims* and said that Sam Bacile was someone he knew. He claimed that his own involvement in the project did not extend beyond that of consultant and promoter.

Federal authorities, however, later ruled that Bacile is merely one

of Nakoula's many aliases. In addition to a criminal history of bank fraud, probation violations, and a drug conviction, Nakoula has a history of using aliases. Many suspect that he invented the character of Sam Bacile and his Jewish connections as a way of provoking the Muslim world, especially in terms of the conflict with Israel. The video is considered to be extremely offensive and mocks the prophet, Muhammad.

The Obama administration in the United States asked YouTube to consider taking down the video but YouTube has refused as the video does not violate content standards. This is because it was a criticism of the religion of Islam rather than the Muslims who practice it, so it does not qualify as hate speech. YouTube has, however, blocked the video in several countries including Egypt and Libya. Because the video was not taken down from YouTube completely, several governments, including the Pakistani government, have blocked the website altogether, a decision which will remain until the video is removed. Originally uploaded in July of this year, it was dubbed into Arabic by September. An excerpt aired on

Egyptian television on September 9th.

As the video reached more viewers around the world, the controversy surrounding it also raised concerns for foreign embassies, especially in the Middle East. The video's association with the United States has led to many angry protests and threats, especially directed at American embassies. The American government itself has criticized the video in Cairo, Egypt stating that it "condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims". This has done little to stop the anti-American sentiment.

Violent protests at various U.S. embassies have led to many deaths and hundreds of injuries. On September 11th, 2012, the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya was stormed. Four Americans were killed, including U.S. ambassador Chris Stevens. The attack was originally believed to have been provoked by *Innocence of Muslims* and U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton stated in response, "Our commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear: There is never any justification for violent

acts of this kind." It is unknown whether the video was the real trigger for the attack, as analysis of weapons and locations used indicate that the attack may have been well-planned beforehand.

On the same day as the attack in Libya, the U.S. embassy in Cairo, Egypt had its American flag torn down by protestors. Many protestors also reportedly scaled the embassy walls. The Egyptian Prime Minister later said that some protestors admitted to having been paid to join the protest, while others had chosen to be there on their own accord. Many other protests soon followed, including demonstrations by Islamic communities of several cities in Europe and North America.



**IMPACTFUL TRAILER** Nakoula Basseley Nakoula was arrested for his film.

## Do you know about the Thornhill Secondary School Alumni Association?

The TSSAA is active at Thornhill! Every year we:

- Provide scholarships/bursaries to graduating students
- Present achievement awards to junior students
- Support school fundraising initiatives

Connect with us and get involved!



thornhillalumni



thornhillalumni

Visit our website at [www.thornhillalumni.com](http://www.thornhillalumni.com)

*Did your parents, grandparents, or relatives go to Thornhill? Have them connect with us too! They may be eligible to join our Half Century Club - this is for alumni who attended Thornhill 50+ years ago.*

[illegible]

**BY JUSTIN CHUN**  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Evidence on Canada's status as a sanctuary in an unstable world is plentiful and well-deserved.

Lately, however, the not-so-lucky countries of the world have been stipulating a bigger piece of us. At the G20 meetings in Los Cabos, Mexico, Canada was under substantial pressure to help bail out the "rest" of the world by pledging an amount towards a massive \$450-billion pot being amassed by

Despite insistent pleadings from European leaders, Prime Minister Stephen Harper drew a hard line and made it lucid that there are limits to Canada's generosity. Europe is practically the wealthiest part of the planet. It seems that it has gotten to the stage where the rest of the world has to save Europe. The IMF, by the way, is set up to assist the poorest nations in the developing world—not the rich ones. A procedure of "self-help" is Harper's ideal medicine for Europe. There are realistic causes for such a position. While we surely gain from a healthy global econ-

Today, in the midst of interna-

If the world believes they need more Canada, we welcome and suggest them to pursue our path, but they should keep their hands off our bank accounts.

Why it's possible to do something 'right' in the wrong way.

**BY SHANE SUKERMAN**  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Civil rights. Freedom. Liberty. Equality. Justice. These are all things that our society has fought long and hard to obtain. We may not have reached the end of this fight yet, but the progress we've made is astonishing.

What's even more astonishing, however, are the ways in which we attempt to preserve the rewards of our struggle. We've charged ahead for women's rights, taken a stand against racism, and held protests in support of gay rights, but what we haven't done is dig in our heels and realize that we are a society that is far too politically correct.

I'm going to start off here with

one of the things that bug me most: when people are afraid to acknowledge someone as black, and instead say African-American. Now don't get me wrong on this – I'm not some white supremacist. But I think that people go too far to censor themselves for fear of sounding racist or ignorant. I'm a white guy. I'm a Caucasian. Nobody calls me a Caucasian. They call me a white guy. If I want to talk to somebody, I call them over by their first name. Not their full name (that would make conversations sound like they're straight out of Lord of the Rings). It's so impersonal it's disgusting, and it separates society because people are afraid to acknowledge somebody's race for fear of sounding ignorant or offensive. Again, don't get me wrong, I think that every person is equal – but ignoring race isn't the best way to combat racism.

A recent study that revealed that these "colour blind" individuals were actually more likely to be racist, because they denied the presence and effects of racism in society. After all, if you can't see it, you can't fix it, and the study showed that the "colour blind" often exacerbate race-related problems because they tend to individualize conflicts and shortcomings rather than looking at things in the bigger picture. While some of these incidents are honourable attempts to annihilate the distinction between races, I think that most people would agree that something is seriously wrong here.

One more thing that we as a society have grossly overcomplicated is freedom of religion. Fifty years ago, if you walked down Yonge street in December you'd see Christmas trees and Santa Claus by the truckload. Today, most sense of

the holiday spirit is gone, because, out of fear of being offensive, symbols of Christmas have all but disappeared. While I recognize that Canada is a distinctly multicultural place, I also recognize that suppressing vaguely religious images (and I say vaguely because I don't think that anyone could point Santa Claus out in a bible for me) is not the solution.

The solution that ensures equity among religious groups isn't to abolish all images related to holidays; the solution is to have images like these for every holiday. When I walk down Yonge street in December, I don't want to see muddy snow and oil stains, I want to see Christmas trees, Menorahs, and Kwanzaa candles.

I'm a firm believer in equality, justice, and the pursuit of fairness in a life that just isn't. I'm a supporter of gay rights, women's

rights, and I'm strongly against racism. But I recognize that this is a give and take issue. For example, if women want to be paid the same amount as a man, then they had better know that when the Titanic sinks, it won't be women and children first. That made me sound like a bit of a male chauvinist, so let me rephrase it – you can't have your cake and eat it too.

Now, while I know that I may not be expressing my opinion on this in the least offensive way, I do it to prove my own point. Political correctness has blinded us from progression, and I won't be afraid like so many others.

*After all, if you can't see it, you can't fix it. We are a society that is far too politically correct.*

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# Are you involved? Shad Valley: Apply today!

Why extracurricular activities are encouraged.

BY SALLY KIM  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

One of the most exciting things about high school is the extracurricular activities available to students. At Thornhill Secondary School, there are various clubs such as Yearbook Club, the Social Justice League, the Thornhill Athletic Council, Film Club and many more. In addition, there are many sport teams that includes hockey, ski/ snowboarding, track and field, wrestling, rock climbing, ultimate frisbee, and more. If you have an interest, there's a club full of people waiting to share that interest with you. Here at Thornhill, you even have the choice of being able to create your own club if it doesn't already exist.

When applying for post-secondary education, universities and college seek students who take the initiative to take part in these extracurricular activities and become leaders in their school. But why are these extracurricular activities so important? First of all, clubs and other extra-curriculars help students gain experience. Let's say you are interested in becoming a lawyer: clubs like debate would help you learn how to make convincing arguments and speak eloquently. For students studying business, joining DECA is highly recommended, to learn more about the field of business. Students who want to become writers or authors may want to join the Eye of the Tiger, the school's student newspaper. Second, participating in lots of extracurricular activities shows universities and potential employers that you are a well-rounded student capable of carrying a workload. This shows people that you can handle leadership and responsibility in the future, and everybody knows that extracurriculars look great on your resume! As students, there are fewer opportu-

nities available to us in society to be able to gain experiences specific to what students are interested in pursuing. Therefore, being part of clubs and sport teams at school is highly encouraged.

You will often see that there are students who are involved with many extracurricular activities and students who are not at all involved. But could you consider those students not involved to be lacking initiative? Perhaps they just don't have the time. Yes, extracurricular activities require time, effort and making sacrifices, and some people can't commit to clubs and teams for reasons besides laziness. Some students may choose to focus on school work, rather than spending their time in clubs and teams. Others may choose to have an after-school job, and are not able to join extracurricular activities. We cannot judge which of these choices is the right the choice. Therefore, the best solution is to perhaps manage your time and be able to fit at least one extracurricular activity into your time schedule.

It is recommended that students, who are interested in seeking leadership position roles at school, to start joining in grade 9 and 10 when you have more free time.

Overall, schools provide so many different varieties of extracurricular activities, and even though it requires time and effort, it helps you gain valuable experiences. So why not take the time and initiative to join a few this year?



K.C.C. Photo courtesy of Flora Ho.

A Shad Valley Queen's 2012 alumnus' take on the reputed summer program.

BY JUN PARK  
DEPUTY OPINION EDITOR

It's been long past since summer ended, but try to reflect back on your own summer this year. Perhaps you found some time to spend with family and friends, attended summer school, found work or volunteered, or just spent a copious amount of time in front of your computer. Whatever it is that you did this summer, you will likely feel that your two months away from school weren't as productive or exciting as you had hoped it would be. So for those of you who are wondering, "What should I do next summer?", I'd like to suggest a solution.

The program's name is Shad Valley; it features taglines such as "We take the best and make them better" and "Your lifelong competitive advantage". All of its 12,384 alumni in 36 countries from 31 years of the program, myself included, will tell you that Shad Valley provides exactly the experience it set out to deliver.

But what is Shad Valley anyways? It's a month-long summer program held in 10 universities (set to expand to 12 in 2013) across Canada, reaching from the University of British Columbia to Dalhousie University. The program varies slightly from campus to campus, but the core idea is to provide high school students with an intensive experience around the areas of the sciences, technology, and entrepreneurship. Participants, colloquially known as "Shads", are exposed to university-level lectures, engaging workshops (The program at Queen's included a cadaver workshop), recreational activities and excursions, mini-projects and "surprise assignments" throughout the month, and one final project where teams of Shads create and pitch their business ideas to a panel



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of investors.

While the program does place some of its focus on academics, don't fall under the impression that the program is a "boot camp for nerds" or just another academic summer program. The best aspects of Shad Valley may not be in the program itself, but it lies in the fact that students are given an opportunity to share this experience with some of the most genuine, passionate, and talented individuals you can't expect to meet anywhere else.

Personally, it's an unbelievable privilege to be able to say that I've made friends from all across the country (and several outside of it), that I've had the chance to experience university life away from home, or that I now have a connection with a vast network of student scholars, professors, and entrepreneurs who are willing to support me towards my future career.

In this way, Shad Valley, is by far, the most valuable opportunity offered to Canadian high school students.

So how can you apply to Shad Valley? The program is for highly motivated students in Grade 10, 11 and 12 throughout Canada, so there is a fairly competitive appli-

cation process. In the past, components of the application have included a page on academic information and extracurricular achievements, reference letters, a "creative page" of choice, a short essay, and a written page about the question, "Why Shad Valley?". The process is thorough and time consuming, meant to mirror that of university and scholarship applications.

There will be a new online application process starting this year, but the approach should be the same; be genuine in what you say, and try to demonstrate "Shadly" qualities, like excellence in academic/extracurricular achievements, a diversity of interests or passions, a creative and entrepreneurial spirit, and a sense of inclusivity.

The deadlines to apply are set in December and January, with the earlier intake date accepting more applicants.

If you are even remotely thinking of applying to Shad Valley, don't hesitate - go on the website, find out how to apply, and start working, because there is absolutely no better opportunity for high school students than Shad Valley.

## A graduate's kryptonite?

How a diploma alone does not guarantee success.

BY DANA RADOVANOVIC  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

In the last decade, there has been a rising dilemma among high school graduates. Many graduates find themselves lost, hitting a wall of reality, when they have to learn how to live on their own. The chores that they have seen their parents take on every day suddenly become harder to do than the last calculus test they wrote. This suggests that simply acquiring a diploma does not ensure that a graduate will be able to enter the world independently and employ self-care skills. Who should be responsible for teaching them basic everyday skills like how to change a tire or mend their clothes or even how to use basic tools?

It once used to stand that everything parents could not teach their children would be provided by a school education. Prior to 1840, schools aimed to teach basic literacy and religious principles, and through the 1960's, science and mathematics were incredibly demanded by parents. Even domestic sciences have been taught to children but not at high school levels of education. Now, it seems to be that high schools are being given the responsibility of providing students with elementary education, like proper manners and behavior, and the idea of teaching students common household sense.

As much as the school is a

home away from home, its main purpose is not to act as one. In fact, high schools have already taken extra measures to make sure that their students are well rounded by enforcing the Group 1, 2 and 3 course rules. It is again, up to the teenager and his/her parents or guardians to choose courses, not only based on their level of difficulty, but based on the valuable life skills taught. For example, Thornhill Secondary School has numerous courses that go beyond the educational standards and provide greater knowledge on subjects like family studies, mechanics, woodshop and accounting. This shows how much the Ontario school curriculum has already done to compensate for students that lack self-care skills. Further pressure should not be placed on educational institutions that are already providing students with numerous opportunities.

Another great question that arises is how far high schools are willing to go to accommodate for the lack of common, everyday sense seen in students. Should they teach students how to ride a bike? How to vacuum? As unrealistic as it sounds, the repercussion of placing the role of parenting on a school just may lead to those very examples.

The only viable solution to this problem is to shift the focus on parents. Parents should become more interactive with their teenagers, providing them with tools for success in the future, to be able to independently take care of them-

selves. However, these tools should not just include a heap of cash and a luxury, full paid trip to post-secondary education.

As easy and tempting as it may be, it does not really ensure that teens can fully function on their own. Parents should also not allow themselves to fall subject to "helicopter parenting" and keep their children from learning how to do their own laundry at college, cleaning their dorm or cooking their own meals. The connection between parent and teen must be re-instated so that the wisdom many parents carry can be passed on to their teenagers.

Overall, taking a look at the many generations that have existed before ours, the need for high schools to coddle and parent its students has never been necessary or demanded. Perhaps by taking a look at the greater picture and realizing why graduates are lacking such knowledge, this dilemma can be put to an end before any more damage can be done. The obvious direction is to point fingers at the parents, however many more external factors have affected the way graduates are being raised. So much emphasis is being put on learning a variety of academic subjects such as mathematics and science, that daily, household skills can be easily overlooked. It is then our job, as a community, to recognize and emphasize the importance of having a better parental influence in the home and to learn to appreciate the school system's efforts to date.



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Students in grades 5-12 may enter by writing an essay based on someone they think made the biggest impact on Canadian society in 2012. Prizes are awarded for two grade levels: 5th-8th grade and 9th-12th grade. Two winners will be selected for each level. Entries must be received by December 14, 2012. For official rules and a consent form, go to [www.AETV.com/class/canadianclassroom](http://www.AETV.com/class/canadianclassroom).

Cable in the Classroom. A&E showcases informative programming on the first Wednesday of every month from 4am-5am ET. Educators are encouraged to videotape the commercial-free and copyright-cleared programming and incorporate it into their classroom curriculum.

The Idea Book For Educators. A&E has scheduled programs to complement curriculum in the areas of history, literature, performing arts, science and social studies. A free resource guide, including lesson plans to accompany some of these programs, a programming calendar and program descriptions, is also available.

For more information on all A&E educational programs and the Canadian Lives That Make A Difference Essay Contest, as well as access to over 350 study guides, visit us online at [www.AETV.com/class/canadianclassroom](http://www.AETV.com/class/canadianclassroom).

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A&E Canadian Classroom

# Funding the ‘Final Frontier’

How the exploration of space has revolutionized our own world.

BY JAKE BAUER  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

The greatest international project. The one thing that unites countries around the world: the exploration of outer space. Governments worldwide invest billions of dollars into their space programs each year. Canada, the U.S., Japan, Russia, India, China and a group of countries in Europe, working together under the European Space Agency are the nations currently participating in this endeavour.

These countries spend a total of about 27 billion dollars a year into their space programs. Without the funding that space programs have received, we would not have GPS, precise weather predictions, accurate mapping, or satellite television. We would not even have our tiny music players or our super-thin smartphones. Space programs in the present and the past have revolutionized and continue to revolutionize technology.

Take for example, past space missions such as Apollo 11, which was the first successful human landing mission on the moon. To

achieve this success, it required compact devices, food and drinks, and long range communications. This need for such compact devices is what initially led to the creation of smaller and more advanced computer systems. The need for a large amount of food able to support a three-man crew for at least a week also led to what is known as “space food”. This technology also revolutionized military food supply.

New and improved satellites were produced for long range communications, and are now being used for communication here on Earth. Solar panels are also very important parts of a working spacecraft. The advances made in solar arrays for the satellites, spaceships, and space stations revolutionized the production, use and efficiency of solar panels here on Earth. It’s a known fact that the Earth’s time is limited because our Sun’s life is also limited.

Without future advances in space exploration, the human race’s time is limited. Without us being able to travel and to settle planets of other solar systems or even galaxies, the human race will cease to exist. To address these concerns, NASA is currently working on developing a new spacecraft called Orion designed to take astro-



**NASA HAS SOME TRICKS UP THEIR SLEEVES** Plans even include sending astronauts to Mars by the year 2025.

nauts into deep space to visit a near-Earth asteroid and then eventually to Mars. NASA also has plans to send astronauts to Mars by the year 2025, coming in the near future.

In the end, we as humans have the natural instinct to ask questions and to explore. The exploration of space is the ultimate way for us to answer some of the greatest and most confounding questions asked

by mankind. Are we alone in this universe? Is interplanetary space travel possible? Where did we come from? Knowing the answer to these questions would drastically alter society for the better and revolutionize the way the human race thinks about its existence in the universe.

So many of the amazing innovations and new discoveries of the

universe and the Earth itself are products of space programs. The amount of money that is being invested into the exploration of space can’t be compared to all of the discoveries made for the human race and its future in the universe.

Without the space program the human race could not be as advanced, scientifically and technologically, as it is today.

## Apple: the big brother of technological innovation

## London 2012: beyond medals

The battle of modern technology between Apple and Samsung continues.

BY GRACE TO  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

When someone says the word, “apple,” you probably aren’t thinking of the good, old, healthy fruit. Instead, it is far more likely that the American multinational technologies corporation jumps into your mind.

Apple Inc. is a widely successfully company that is best-known in producing Macintosh computers, iPods, iPhones, and iPads. However, fancy capitalistic accessories aside, the Internet has now deemed the company to be best-known in producing lawsuits. It is well-known that Samsung, the South Korean multinational conglomerate, is involved with Apple in a long and ongoing fierce battle for the top smartphones on the market.

In August 2012, Apple was awarded \$1.05 billion in damages by a jury in a ruling against Samsung, but Apple demanded an additional \$707 million in damages in mid-September.

The damages consisted of patent infringement by Samsung in both the technology and design of smartphones.

Unfortunately, the South Korean company was found to be guilty in violating the patent rights of Apple.

The outcome of this lawsuit brings bad news for all smartphones that are designed with a similar look to Apple’s products. Apple’s technology products have an unfair advantage because it has the law on its side; iDevices are accompanied with a long string of technological design patents under its name.

In other words, every electronics company can be a potential victim to Apple’s future lawsuits if their smartphones are shaped like a rectangle.

However, contrary to what the company stands for, Apple is not an innovative company. It has stolen concepts and ideas from many others in the past and transformed them to create their own “unique” products, complete with the famous Apple logo stamped on the back.

Needless to say, Apple has dominated the smartphone and other electronics market with its cleverly sneaky technique. The plot line of Apple’s famous 1984 television commercial was inspired by George Orwell’s novel, 1984.

The advertisement is set in a dystopic setting with the symbolic “Big Brother” up on the big screen while hundreds of people are marching in to listen to his speech. A moment later, a woman, donned in athletic field wear, comes running into the room with a large hammer. Behind her, four police officers, also known as “Thought Police”, are chasing after her. As Big Brother finishes his speech, she throws the hammer right towards the screen, which consequently breaks the reverie of the people watching it.

After the release of this iconic commercial, Apple proclaimed itself to be a corporation that was against corporations; it was against the “Big Brother,” the oppressive force of conformity.

The Apple Company today contradicts its own image that it se for itself some three decades ago; it is, indeed, the figure that rejects valued creativity and innovation. Armed with a mighty shield of patents and an endless supply of lawsuits, Apple is willing to oppress the innovation and creation of other companies in order to keep it’s customers – thus, diminishing the level of originality and the area for further advancements of technology.

In today’s world of creative arts and technology, it is common to find modern technology using concepts that were developed years ago. In fact, it’s quite difficult to consider anything entirely original - the bulk of ideas are copied, borrowed, or stolen. There is a fine line between inspiration and stealing ideas, but it seems that development is thriving in the latter category.

In other words, as Apple is in the progress of reaping great success from its line of copied gadgets, it has also obtained its place at the top of its industry. As a result of Apple’s crowning as the most highly respected competitor in the market, the company has proved to warn hopeful inventors that it is tough to prosper in the technological market without the aid of legal barriers to restrain competition.



**COMPANY IN CHARGE** When it comes to technology, Apple is on the top.

Looking back at Canada’s 17 days of triumph, disappointment, and drama.

BY SARAH SHIN  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

The 2012 Olympic Games left Canadians with a mixture of emotions. Hearty congratulations accompanied heartbreaking disappointments throughout the seventeen days of the Olympics. Many thought the Games was a setback, a wakeup call for Canadian athletes to step up their game. Some even labeled this year’s Games as the ‘Bronze Olympics’, referring to the multitude of bronze medals Canada won. Approximately 60% of Canadians said London 2012 was a disappointment. Despite such a reaction from the public, Canada was actually quite successful in making history on many different aspects.

Going into the Olympics, the Canadian Olympic Committee set a goal of finishing top twelve in the medal count. The final result was close, but not completely fulfilling: Canada finished in 13<sup>th</sup> place, and also placed last of the G8 nations. The fact that Canada only won only one gold (in addition to five silver and twelve bronze medals) seemed to dismay the nation.

This year was Canada’s worst showing since the 1976 Montreal Games where Canada won no gold medals. For the past four Olympics since 1996, Canada brought home three gold medals each time. Canada’s best performance was in the 1984 boycotted Los Angeles Games, where athletes captured 10 gold medals. In Beijing 2008, Canadian athletes brought home eighteen medals, the same amount they brought home in 2012. The distribution of the medals however was quite different; Canada captured three gold, nine silver, and six bronze medals in 2008.

However it is important to note that any nation’s performance at the games is subject to fluctuation. Look at how Canada went

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*Based on the medal counts, Canada didn’t do so well, but London 2012 wasn’t a disappointment at all.*

from 0 golds to 10 from 1976 to 1984. In general, the medal count can only give us a narrow view of the actual games.

Many events in 2012 actually left a mark on Canadian history. One of the biggest events from a Canadian standpoint was the women’s soccer semifinal. After advancing to the quarter finals, Canada beat Great Britain to advance to the semi finals against the United States. Although the Canadians didn’t end the game with a victory, the team managed to win the bronze medal—making it the first team medal for Canada since 1936. In the process a new hero was born, the game-leading goal scorer Christine Sinclair.

Another event that grabbed the hearts of Canadians was the apology of Paula Findlay after finishing last in the triathlon event. Although the result was disappointing, Canada was proud of her determination in finishing the event despite recent injuries.

Lastly, no one can forget the capture of Canada’s lone gold. Rosie MacLennan from King City, Ontario executed a successful routine in the gymnastics trampoline event. Although many expected the 2008 medalist He Wenna to win, to everyone’s amazement, she tumbled and fell right before her last maneuver. A gold in trampoline was extremely rare for Canadians.

Based on the medal counts, Canada didn’t do so well, but London 2012 wasn’t a disappointment at all. London 2012 was still the subject of a great deal of excitement and patriotism. Speculating on particular events, it’s clear that Canada made history in many areas such as soccer and gymnastics. As of now, all Canada can do is have good prospects for the upcoming 2016 Rio Games.



# The current war on women

Are we going to let middle aged men determine the fate of victimized women?

BY PRISCILLA LEUNG & MAARIA KASMANI  
OPINION CONTRIBUTORS

Let's go a few years into the future, shall we?  
Meet Lady, who has just found out she's pregnant. She cannot contain her relief – she was under the impression that she was raped, but clearly, as the lovely Mr. Todd Akin - a Republican senate candidate - had pointed out, the rape couldn't have been *legitimate*, since she had conceived. She must have subconsciously willed the traumatic experience and emotional terror on herself. Now, she'll just have to happily live with the consequences of *totally asking for it*. Although she can't afford to have her child and is in no way mentally prepared to be a mother, she has no choice, since abortion is now illegal in the United States. After all, it's her fault for being so irresistible.  
As ridiculous as the previous situation sounds, there are elements of truth to it. The potential Republican senator actually did make a statement saying that it was "really rare" for a woman to conceive a child, in the case of what he called a "legitimate rape". This wouldn't be the first time that a Republican senator has been accused of supporting the ban of con-

traception, birth control methods, and abortion. Since then, Akin has refused to apologize for the statement, stating that he simply "misspoke". The fact that this was brought to the table at all is atrocious. The truth behind these words is not that of a scientific fact, but an insight into the mindset of the person who made this statement, and those who support his stance on legitimate rape.  
The idea of allowing a bunch of middle aged, Republican males to decide what to do with a uterus is appalling, especially since the majority of them most likely don't know exactly *what* a uterus is – either that, or saying the word gives them the giggles.  
Take, for example, the honorable former Republican representative of Delaware County, Stephen Freind, who very knowledgeably stated that women's bodies can "secrete a certain secretion that has a tendency to kill sperm", which only allows the chance of "one in millions and millions and millions" of women to get pregnant through rape.  
Not only is this statement wildly incorrect, but Freind stood by what he said, even after it was scientifically proven not to be true. If these senators refuse to even use appropriate feminine anatomical terms, how can they be trusted to regulate reproductive rights?  
Republican senators have been trying to alter reproductive

rights for years; for instance, in a recent document regarding their platform, they expressed their approval of states which have "informed consent" laws. These laws require women to take medically unnecessary tests and wait for mandatory prolonged periods of time in order to have an abortion. Republican senators, who have absolutely *no idea* what they're talking about, have been trying with all their ability to control the choices a woman can make with her body. Republican senators, with a lot of power, money, and little knowledge, are considered capable of controlling the fate of millions of women. From trying to cut funds for Planned Parenthood programs to endeavoring to give hospitals the power to deny lifesaving care for pregnant women, Republicans have effectively fired the first shots of what could grow to be a painful, casualty-ridden war on women.  
Let's face it – there will always be a difference in opinion surrounding controversial subjects, like abortion and contraception. It is perfectly fine to have moral, religious, or personal reservations against such practices, but that doesn't mean that it should be needlessly banned for all women. The decision to do something of this nature should rest solely on the woman. Allowing Republican male senators - who have never given birth, never been pregnant, and



**"Meet Lady, who has just found out she's pregnant."**  
She cannot contain her relief – she was under the impression that she was raped, but clearly, as the lovely Mr. Todd Akin - a Republican senate candidate - had pointed out, the rape couldn't have been legitimate, since she had conceived.

never been raped – to cut off women's rights, is so wrong because they don't know what it feels like to be in a situation where such things are necessary. They may not be *the bad guys*, but the idea of letting them control a woman's uterus is preposterous. They are no more suited to make that decision, than how an ignorant child is suited to run an entire country.  
Although it is virtually impossible to change the mindsets of those who have been thinking in a

specific way for generations, the truly horrifying aspect of it all is that most citizens don't realize that this is happening. In order to prevent these heinously repressive ideas for birth control becoming law, it is essential that voters are enlightened on just how these politicians are planning to treat women.  
In this generation, politicians with considerations for women's needs ought to step up and defend the rights of the average woman.

# Irradiated food...not as bad as it sounds!

These bacteria won't cause too much trouble.  
BY AITCH SONG  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

XL Foods, the second largest beef processing operation in Canada, were found to have E. Coli bacteria in their meat. This meat was being shipped all over the country; though the plant is located in Alberta, one person contracted the illness all the way in Newfoundland and Labrador.  
The other five cases are from Alberta and Quebec. Food recalls are not uncommon, in fact there were 27 in the month of September alone. Most go unnoticed and unannounced, but some can be blown up to epic proportions. Remember the 2008 listeriosis outbreak? It was linked to cold cuts from a Maple Leaf Foods plant.  
The XL foods recall brought much talk as to how we could make sure our food was safe, and one topic that was especially highlighted was irradiation. This measure for pathogen control is when food is exposed to ionizing radiation, which is a type of radiation that can liberate an electron without raising

the temperature of the entire atom. Electrons, along with other forms of radiant energy such as gamma rays and x-rays, breaks chemical bonds and damages the target's DNA and prevents it from continuing pathogenic activities. It will leave the food unchanged, but affects viruses, bacteria, and even insects. Other benefits include reduced sprouting, extended shelf life, less food spoilage and less need for pesticides.  
Irradiated food will NOT make your food radioactive. Some rays, like gamma rays and x-rays, do not cause the target to become radioactive under controlled settings. Your suitcase will not become radioactive after passing through an airport luggage scanner after all. If it is further consolation, astronauts have been eating irradiated food since the beginning of the space program.  
Irradiation is currently limited to onions, potatoes, wheat, flour, whole wheat flour and whole and ground spices and dehydrated seasonings in Canada. Why isn't it approved for all foods? Well, most people don't like the sound of irradiated food. It sounds scary, like

something out of science fiction. Also, there is some debate over whether irradiated foods are entirely safe. Some researchers say that it turns food carcinogenic, destroys nutrients and makes the food taste bad.  
However, more legitimate sources, such as the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, have said that irradiated food is safe for human consumption. "During irradiation the food never comes into contact with the radioactive source," says the Canadian Food Inspection Agency website. "In addition, the Food and Drug Regulations places upper limits on the energy levels that may be used for treatment of foods. No radioactive energy (waves) remain in the food after treatment." Despite the assurance from a trustworthy source, many members of the public still remains distrustful of the method.  
Irradiation isn't just used on food. Most disposable medical objects such as syringes are disinfected with irradiation, and it is capable of killing or controlling malignant cells. It is also used in blood transfusions, medical imaging, and enhancing semi-precious stones.

The only use that is not widespread is food irradiation, despite it being so advantageous. As a World Health Organization publication would put it, "[irradiation] could be an extremely effective tool in reducing populations of pathogenic microorganisms and parasites from the surface of raw fruits and vegetables. Its application on a large scale for the purpose of reducing the risk of disease associated with the consumption of potentially contaminated raw fruits and vegetables would appear to have exceptional merit." The only problem with using radiation to disinfect foods is simply its name.  
So how can irradiation become a more mainstream form of producing, clean, safe food? The answer would lie in simple awareness. Awareness campaigns and advertisements are extremely effective; they can make something extremely popular and widespread in one year and make it very unpopular the next.  
If awareness campaigns and advertisements such as billboards, bus ads, and TV commercials are used, then irradiated food will become more accepted.

Simply being aware of things- and helping others to become aware as well- will send a message across. If more people understand of how irradiation works, then people will be less scared the process. Overall, pathogens in food cause approximately 2,718 deaths a year in the United States, and there are many more that are hospitalized because of it. It has been estimated by Health Canada that foodborne diseases cost \$12-14 billion annually. Irradiation can stop many of the offending pathogens, for example E.Coli, salmonella, parasites and hepatitis A and E.  
Irradiation is by far the most effective way to get rid of these pathogens, along with maintaining good hygiene and cleanliness. If some sort of advertising campaign is used for introducing irradiation to the public and showing how it is not dangerous, then perhaps people will stop fearing the unknown and a step forward will be taken in food safety.  
The biggest and perhaps only obstacle this measure has in its way is its name; but after all, as J.K Rowling said, "Fear of a name increases fear of the thing itself."

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# EYE OF THE TIGER

## from the editors

# Why feminism matters to you

No, this isn't about why 'girls rule and boys drool'

BY ADELE CHUI  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Maria Cuervo was walking down the street in Colombia when a male stranger shouted, "This is so you don't think you're so pretty!" before drenching her face in acid. Yes, you read that right; acid. Maria wasn't a criminal, she wasn't a lunatic, and she certainly didn't hang out with the type of crowd that would end up with her face melted off. Maria's only wrong was being female.

The stereotypical image of a feminist is a picture of a bra-burning, hairy-legged woman who hates men as much as she hates the injustices that she deals with on a daily basis.

Radical feminism has created a negative image that has led to an entire generation afraid to associate themselves with the entire feminist movement.

However, the reality is that most feminists are people just like you and I. They don't hate men; in fact, some of them are men. At its core, feminism is not about why 'people hate the menzzz' but rather, gender equality.

What does gender equality mean? The goal of gender equality is to make male and female rights equal. It is the fact that females should be given equal opportunities in male-dominated careers, and that males should be given equal opportunities in female-dominated careers.

It is an equal representation of genders in politics or fashion or art or business and every field in the world. Gender equality is not implying that genders are the same, because they're not, but simply that all genders have equal value and should be accorded equal treatment.

As teens, we do not think the majority of world issues affect us. The reproductive-rights debate in America: not our problem. The sexual double-standard: doesn't matter. The fact that less than 4% of the Fortune 500 CEO positions are held by women: don't care. The fact that 90% of the time, women are awarded custody of a child regardless of circumstances: not a big deal. That men are valued less

when being considered in fields that are normally dominated by women: so what?

The truth of the matter is that you should care. You should care that when people discover there are a record eighteen females on a list of 500 CEOs, they call it monumental progress in the fight for gender equality. And it's not even that women aren't as educated or as strong, because in 2008, 62% of all university undergraduates in Canada were women. So what is stopping that 62% of degree-wielding women from reaching positions like the CEO of a Fortune 500 company? One answer; casual sexism because of gender inequality.

Let's take a phrase that's used fairly often: "Wow, you throw/cook/sing/write/speak/act like a girl." It's something that's typically said to a man to make him feel bad about himself. The revelation: girl or woman=bad. Now multiply that a thousand, no, ten thousand times in a hundred different derivations and you get a culture where being associated with anything feminine irrevocably equals bad.

This means that males who enter predominately female careers are ridiculed for being 'too feminine' or 'not manly enough'. It means that as a girl, besides the ridiculous pressure to be 'sexy' and 'smart' and be 'sexual but not sexual', my gender has been 'bad' my entire life.

Casual sexism is the belief that boys aren't allowed to be overly affectionate with each other or show their emotions without being judged as 'too sensitive'. It's the idea that girls should be delicate flowers or sultry sirens and there is no in-between.

As a teenager, none of us are 100% sure of where we're going or the person we'll be tomorrow.

Feminism is fighting for an equal opportunity at being whoever and whatever we want, without our gender negatively impacting us. I don't know if I want to be a nurse or an engineer or a business person or stay the person I am today.

What I do know is this: regardless of what I choose to become, my gender should never play a part in how I am judged.

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Photo courtesy of M. Belle Beyn

**TIME FOR A FACEOFF** Our series of editorial debates continues this year! Our first argument between Andrea Howard and Jessica Wu discussing cohabitation before marriage.

## Should a couple move in together before tying the proverbial knot?

# YES

Andrea Howard

In a fast-paced world where everything is quick and convenient, it's understandable why we would want to apply this theme to everything. However, in the case of living with a partner before marriage, it is necessary to slow things down to ensure a contented relationship for years to come.

Why? Marriage is an expensive progression, which proves to be both legally and emotionally difficult to terminate. Certainty in a

partner's suitability for marriage would provide comfort towards the negative outcomes of a failed union. Living with your significant other is similar to that of a glimpse into married life, a test-drive if you will. Would you buy a car before driving it first?

The difficulties and challenges one may encounter in conjugality can be spotted in a move-in first. Dating doesn't necessarily draw the clearest picture for us. Hey, you'll experience and see each other at your worst, and if your girlfriend looks rather gross without makeup and you're unsure of your love for her now? Great. You aren't married, which makes eradi-

cation of the connection much simpler.

Currently, divorce rates are at an all time high, but so are common law unions. Divorce is not the result of common law relationships; the cause is the shift in people's views of matrimony. Individuals of both genders tend to be more career driven and also less likely to remain in an unsatisfying marriage. Thus, the non-marriage oriented though quick-to-divorce generation is born.

Don't let Statistics Canada frighten you; a happy marriage is definitely possible. Awareness and caution should just be applied accordingly.

# NO

Jessica Wu

Nearly 40% of Canadian marriages end up in divorce. Of course, modern conventional wisdom suggests that cohabitation is probably a logical idea to counter that.

Not surprisingly, conventional wisdom is often wrong.

This tentative period, often one or two years in length, is littered with good intentions. People are assessing one another's toler-

ance threshold, working out kinks and differences, and most importantly, testing long-term compatibility. Unfortunately, that's just what it is - a test, an experiment. In testing conditions, we are all on our best behaviour, whether conscious of it or not. Not only does it drain all the nostalgic romance, but it makes what was once a sacred tradition a trite formality.

One may also argue that those relatively more uncertain about their relationship are bigger offenders of this 'trial' method. Marriage insinuates living together 'till death do us part.' These two years of 'walking on eggshells'

simply does not shed enough insight on the hefty decision, although popular opinion often suspends the disbelief.

Not convinced? The numbers don't lie. Studies have shown that living together prior to marriage results in a significantly higher divorce rate. So before you tie the inaugural knot, perhaps reconsider... packing boxes.

On the questionably bright side, Statistics Canada has stopped tracking marriage and divorce rates. Have comfort in knowing that you can live in blissful ignorance, even if you do become a walking statistic.

# Bring real sexual education into classrooms

Why abstinence-only education doesn't cut it.

BY JORDI KLEIN  
OPINION EDITOR

Abstinence is the only way to prevent pregnancy with 100% accuracy," my 5th-grade health teacher instructed my class of 14 girls. "Abstinence, abstinence, abstinence." "Abstinence, abstinence, abstinence," we repeated. In that classroom, there was nary a mention of diaphragms, condoms or spermicide; nothing to be said about vaginal sponges, implants, or the birth control pill. It was always abstinence, abstinence, abstinence, as if we were the Puritans in some odd modern adaptation of The Scarlet Letter.

I remained largely in the dark about STIs, the mechanics of the body, and actual contraceptive

methods until high school, where it turned out that my old health teacher had been lying about almost everything.

There were other ways to prevent pregnancy and STDs besides abstinence! The HIV virus was not, in fact, small enough to pass through a latex condom! Having sex before marriage would not send me to hell! In contrast to my 5th-grade health class experience, grade 9 health class taught me everything I ever wanted or needed to know, and abstinence as a contraceptive method was only ever mentioned in passing.

While abstinence is a perfectly legitimate method of contraception, choosing to abstain from sex on any level is a personal choice, and presenting it as the only choice is unrealistic and irresponsible. Teaching abstinence-only sexual

education is like teaching driving school by telling students to walk everywhere. It is contradictory in nature, and it will do more harm than good when those students eventually decide that, yes, they would like to go driving one day.

Abstinence-only programs leave gaps in students' education, leading students to inform themselves- usually with unintended consequences. The Centres for Disease Control in the U.S. recently discovered that states with comprehensive sex education programs- those that include accurate and pertinent information about pregnancy, STDs, and contraceptives- have the lowest teen pregnancy and disease rates in the country, whereas states with abstinence-only sex education have the highest. After a switch to abstinence-only education, rates of sexual ac-

tivity among Texas teenagers reached an all-time high, with birth rates becoming the highest in the country in 2007.

Abstinence-only programs work on fear. They work on shame, and they work on denial of one's sexuality. Let's face it: teenagers are always going to have sex. There have been people having premarital sex since the concept of marriage came into existence, and there isn't anything in the world that is likely to stop people from having sex. Denying a teenager's sexuality isn't going to help prevent sexual activity, and it isn't going to be of any help when the time to have sex finally does come around- whether it's in a committed relationship or otherwise.

Something as personal and important as a sexual education class shouldn't be a place of judge-

ment or ridicule, but that's the kind of environment that abstinence-only education provides. A comprehensive sex education program that gives students a realistic outlook on pregnancy, STDs, contraceptives, and yes, abstinence, is the best way to ensure that all students are well-informed and safe in whatever they choose to do. "Abstinence, abstinence, abstinence" may be the way to go for some people, but schools need to realize that it does not work for everybody.

Repressing and misinforming teens doesn't do anything but make for some repressed and misinformed adults, and that's not the mark of a successful education. In order to know how to handle ourselves responsibly, we first have to learn, and this information should come from the classroom.





# Are NBA Teams built to fail?



**BENCHING HALF OF THE NBA TEAMS** Even after sixty-three years, thirteen teams, including the Orlando Magic, Cleveland Cavaliers and Toronto Raptors, still haven't won a championship

With almost half of all the teams without championship titles, are some just not good enough?

**BY KEVIN CHAN**  
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The National Basketball Association, or NBA for short, has existed for 63 years and is North America's largest professional men's basketball league. The NBA only has thirty teams, and yet thirteen of these teams have never won a championship (that's a whopping 43%), and none of these teams have had more than two Finals appearances. We'll be taking a look at each of these teams' playoff histories, and ultimately try to answer the question: Are some NBA teams built to fail?

### Utah Jazz

The Utah Jazz began in 1974 as the New Orleans Jazz, but moved to Utah in 1979. The Jazz did not fare well in their early years, not appearing in the playoffs until 1984. With the addition of C Mark Eaton, PG John Stockton and PF Karl Malone through the '82, '83 and '85 drafts, the Jazz made the playoffs for 20 straight years, but never advanced past the second round until the '91-'92 season, where they lost in the Western Conference Finals. The Jazz totalled two Finals appearances in '97 and '98, where they were beaten by the Michael Jordan-led Chicago Bulls. The Jazz have not made it past the second round since.

### Phoenix Suns

The Phoenix Suns are the NBA's oldest franchise without a championship title. The franchise began as an expansion team in 1968, and have made the playoffs 29 times in total, with 2 Finals appearances. With several trades and draft picks preceding the 1975-76 season, the Suns made their first Finals appearance but eventually lost to the Boston Celtics in six games. Phoenix made a series of playoff appearances throughout the late 70s and early 80s, and again from the late 80s throughout the 90s, but would not make the Finals until the '92-'93 season. Eventually, the team led by PF Charles Barkley would lose to the

Chicago Bulls. Despite having star players Steve Nash, Amar'e Stoudemire, and Shawn Marion, the Suns have not been able to reach the Finals even after securing the No. 1 seed in the 2005 Playoffs.

### Cleveland Cavaliers

The Cavaliers joined the NBA in 1970 as an expansion team, and faced moderate success in its 16 years until 1986. However, the team made several important acquisitions including C Brad Daugherty, PG Mark Price, G Ron Harper and PF Larry Nance. Even though the Cavaliers reached the playoffs eight times in the following nine years, they were unable to advance past the Eastern Conference Finals, defeated by the Michael Jordan-led Chicago Bulls most of the time. Eventually, the Cavaliers fell towards the bottom of the league before drafting SF LeBron James first overall in the '03 draft. James led the Cavaliers to several playoff appearances and even a Finals appearance in 2007, where they were swept 4-0 by the San Antonio Spurs.

### Denver Nuggets

The Denver Nuggets were one of four teams to join the NBA in the ABA-NBA merger of 1976. After hiring new head coach Doug Moe in 1981, the Nuggets experienced success behind their offensive strategies and scoring machines SF Alex English and SF Kiki Vandeweghe, who both averaged over 25 ppg in a single season. However, the Nuggets never advanced far in the playoffs, facing tougher defensive opponents such as the Los Angeles Lakers. After the departure of English and Vandeweghe, Denver would suffer over a decade of heavy decline, culminating in an 11-win season in 1997-1998. The Nuggets would not see success until they drafted Carmelo Anthony in 2003, who led them to several playoff appearances. However, the unfortunate Nuggets never made it past the Conference Finals, playing strong teams such as the San Antonio Spurs and the Los Angeles Lakers.

### Brooklyn Nets

Like Denver, the Brooklyn (formerly New Jersey) Nets were one of the four teams which merged with the NBA in 1976. The

Nets' first five seasons were dismal, caused in part by large sums of money the team had to pay for rights to play in New York. In 1981, the Nets posted their first winning record and also made their first playoff appearance. They would then face moderate success, securing one of the bottom playoff seeds. However, disaster struck in 1986 as the Nets' two top scorers, PG Michael Ray Richardson and C Darryl Dawkins were unable to play. The Nets would not see serious contention until the arrival of PG Jason Kidd, who led the Nets to a 52-30 record and first seed in the 2002 Playoffs. The Nets would eventually reach the Finals that year, losing to the Los Angeles Lakers. They also appeared in the Finals in the following year, but would lose to the San Antonio Spurs. Even with the addition of All-Star Vince Carter, the Nets were plagued by injuries and never made it past the Eastern Conference Finals again.

### Orlando Magic

Unlike many other expansionary teams, the Magic did quite well after their inauguration in 1989. The Magic won the 1992 Draft Lottery, taking C Shaquille O'Neal first overall. O'Neal led the Magic to their first playoff appearance in the following year, accompanied by G Anfernee Hardaway. The following season, the Magic would reach the NBA Finals, but the young and inexperienced team would be swept by the Houston Rockets. Orlando would host several star players throughout the next decade, including Tracy McGrady, Ben Wallace, and Grant Hill. The Magic would not experience success, however, until the drafting of Dwight Howard in 2004. Howard would eventually lead the Magic to several playoff appearances, the most notable being a Finals appearance in 2009 but losing to the Los Angeles Lakers.

### Indiana Pacers

The Pacers were the third team to join the NBA in the ABA merger of 1976. As a team, the Pacers struggled mightily for over a decade, until the Pacers drafted SG Reggie Miller in 1987. Miller proceeded to lead the team for fifteen years, including one Finals appearance in 1999, but could not beat

strong teams such as the Chicago Bulls and Los Angeles Lakers. After the infamous brawl on November 19, 2004 involving Ron Artest and several other Pacers players, the team lost its winning momentum and spiralled downwards into a playoff drought for several years. Indiana would not see the playoffs again until 2011.

### Charlotte Bobcats

The Charlotte Bobcats are the NBA's newest team, having joined the league in 2004. Having only been in the league for seven years, the Bobcats have only had one playoff appearance in 2010 and were swept in the first round. One can say that the Bobcats have had poor luck in drafting and player selection, despite making significant roster changes every offseason in an attempt to improve their playoff chances. The Bobcats have only had one All-Star in their entire seven year history (F Gerald Wallace).

### New Orleans Hornets

The New Orleans Hornets joined the NBA as an expansionary team in 1988, and immediately chose to acquire a roster of veteran players who could provide depth and experience, as well as a potential championship run. The Hornets made their first playoff appearance in 1992 under the leadership of PF Larry Johnson and C Alonzo Mourning, but were unable to advance past the second round. The team would make several playoff appearances in the following years, but were dominated by strong teams such as the New York Knicks and the Chicago Bulls despite showcasing star players like Glen Rice. The Hornets returned to playoff relevance in 2005 after drafting talented PG Chris Paul, but had no success during the playoff rounds. New Orleans has never appeared in a Finals game.

### Toronto Raptors

The Raptors were one of two NBA teams opened in Canada in 1995. The team struggled for several years until acquiring G/F Vince Carter in 1998, which led to playoff appearances in '00, '01 and '02. However, the Raptors did not play well in the following seasons, and Carter was traded away. Toronto also made the playoffs in '07 and

'08, after revamping the roster and building around PF Chris Bosh and no. 1 draft pick C Andrea Bargnani. The Raptors never advanced past the second round of the playoffs.

### Memphis Grizzlies

The Memphis Grizzlies were originally established in 1995 as the Vancouver Grizzlies, but relocated to Memphis in 2001. The Grizzlies did very poorly early on, and it was not until 2002 when several executives were replaced that the team began to do well. They were led by a young Pau Gasol, who enabled them to reach the postseason three consecutive times between 2004 and 2006. The Grizzlies would not see playoff success until 2011, where they upset the top-seeded San Antonio Spurs before falling to the Oklahoma City Thunder in the second round.

### Minnesota Timberwolves

The Minnesota Timberwolves were founded in 1989 as an expansionary team, and performed horribly in its first six years. The team's luck turned around when they drafted PF Kevin Garnett in 1995, who led the team to eight consecutive playoff appearances. Despite their dominance, the Timberwolves were unable to capitalize on their success, and never had a Finals appearance. Minnesota have not made a serious run for the championship since 2005.

So, are some NBA teams truly meant to fail? I believe that no; teams are not built to fail. For many of the (relatively) older teams discussed today, including the Jazz, Cavaliers and Nuggets, they had above-average rosters at some point in the team's history. However, these rosters were simply not good enough to compete against the superstar rosters of more wealthy teams such as the Bulls, Lakers and Celtics. Other teams simply have had no luck in their drafts, such as failing to draw the lottery pick or losing a first-round draft pick to injury. Yet other teams lose as a result of poor management of coaching personnel and player trades as well. These problems can eventually limit a roster's potential to perform, and as a result the team does poorly and fails to succeed during the regular season and the playoffs.

# Playoff bound?

These new team members are what the Raptors need.

BY PETER SOTIRAKOS  
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

It is late April 2012, Toronto Raptors President and GM Bryan Colangelo is standing at a podium talking about how the Raptors have grown, how they have improved; this sight is all too familiar. For the past 4 seasons, the Raptors have been at home watching the NBA Playoffs, and as the franchise enters its 18<sup>th</sup> season, it has never made it past the second round. Rewind to the summer of 2010, prior to LeBron James’ “Decision” was Chris Bosh’s less publicized but almost as significant decision, as he, James and Dwayne Wade decided to “take their talents to South Beach”, forming the now infamous “Big Three” in Miami. This was the end of an era in Toronto, leaving was their franchise player, their all-star, Chris Bosh, who was the 4<sup>th</sup> overall pick in the 2003 NBA Draft and leads the Raptors all-time in minutes, points, rebounds, blocks and free-throws. This is when Bryan Colangelo officially started, or restarted depending on your opinion, his rebuilding process. Fast forward to the summer of 2011, after a dismal 22-60 season, the Raptors held the 5<sup>th</sup> overall pick in the upcoming draft, and were looking for a new head coach after firing Jay Triano.

In came Dwayne Casey, a fiery coach with a passion for the defensive side of the ball, best noted for

having the offensive-minded Dallas Mavericks buy in to playing defence, and ultimately beating out the Miami Heat in the NBA Finals for the coveted Larry O’Brien Trophy. Also joining the team, though not quite yet, was Jonas Valanciunas (yes, another European center), who Colangelo took to the dismay of many a Raps fan, with their pick that year.

Fast forward back to 2012, the month is July; Colangelo, again, finds himself talking to the Toronto media, but this time its good news. Sitting to his right are newly acquired G/F Landry Fields, via an unmatched offer sheet by the Knicks, and PG Kyle Lowry, by way of a trade with the Houston Rockets. Earlier in the month, with the 8<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> overall picks, the Raptors added Guard Terrence Ross, an athletic, willing defender with a very good jumper, and Quincy Acy, the explosive PF out of Baylor. Another rookie joining the team was the Raps’ previous top pick Jonas Valanciunas, who stayed another season in Lithuania to bypass a lockout shortened NBA season and further his development.

This time around, Valanciunas was more than welcomed into Toronto after a productive year overseas, playing against the best players in the world during the 2012 London Olympics, and being regarded as the best international player not in the NBA in 2011 survey of NBA GMs. But the 2012 NBA offseason did not come without its failures for Toronto, as Captain

Canada, Steve Nash was on the open market, but spurned a reported 3 year/\$36 million deal (and a future front office position according to some rumors) from the Raptors for yet another super-team, the Los Angeles Lakers. It was Fields and Lowry that came over in the immediate aftermath of Nash’s decision to go to LA, as Bryan Colangelo was hasty in exercising his Plan B.

Now, as the season begins, there are mixed expectations for the relatively inexperienced Raptors squad. Management and the players insist that its playoffs or bust, while critics have the Raptors somewhere in the cellar. The true answer is somewhere in between. After a summer of shuffling in the East, with perennially mediocre teams like the Nets, and Sixers looking heavily improved after off-season changes, and former powerhouses Boston, Atlanta, Orlando and Chicago seem like shadows of their former selves following the departure or injury of all-star players, the Raptors making the post-season is not outside the realm of possibility. If DeMar DeRozan and Andrea Bargnani can continue to improve along with the leadership and steady play of Kyle Lowry and promise from the young frontcourt of Valanciunas and Ed Davis, the Raptors certainly can make some noise. So here is hoping that come next April, Bryan Colangelo won’t have to convince us how his team has improved, he’ll be able to show us.

## Spotlight back on the Lake Show

Despite recent disappointing results, the Lakers are back in the game!

BY VICTOR LI  
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Not so long ago, they were back to back NBA champions. More recently, they’ve had back to back second round losses. Most were unsure of what to make of them after their most recent playoff disappointment against OKC. But all that’s changed now. Gone are the questions of whether they deserved to be called true contenders. Gone are the doubts that Kobe would ever equal MJ’s championship count. An off-season of heists has the Lakers back in the spotlight and back in contention again.

Despite early assertions that he would find it hard to picture himself in a Lakers jersey, Nash now finds himself wearing number 10 for the purple and gold. Howard, who had always found himself compared to the great Shaquille O’Neal, now adds another parallel between his career and Shaq Daddy’s as he leaves the Magic for the Lakers. But the Lakers’ haul didn’t stop there, at these two future Hall-of-Famers. They also added 2 guard Jodie Meeks, previously with Philadelphia, and former All-Star Antawn Jamison at the veterans minimum. In return, the Lakers gave up Andrew Bynum, and other much less heralded players. Despite efforts by the owners during the lockout to keep good teams from getting better, the Lakers have still managed to do just that.

The new Lakers line-up that Mitch Kupchak assembled seems like they could go up against anybody in the league. Steve Nash at point guard, Kobe at shooting guard, Metta World Peace at small forward, Pau Gasol at power forward and Dwight Howard at center! All of their starters are former All-Stars, and all could play at an All-

Star level this season, assuming they complement each other well. Their bench isn’t anything to laugh at either. Not with Jodie Meeks, Jordan Hill, and Antawn Jamison off the bench.

It’s hard to see these Lakers ending their season anytime before the NBA Finals, even with the rise of OKC, and the overall improvement in the already tough Western Conference.

But it’s not all good in Lakerland. Dwight Howard’s back remains an issue, as do Kobe and Nash’s advanced ages, and Gasol and World Peace’s declining production.

The pressure, the onus to win a title, previously pressed on the Miami Heat has now been handed back to L.A., where fans are no doubt hungry for another championship, especially when the equally hungry Chris Paul led Clippers are still nipping at their heels.

Learning from Miami’s Big Three’s initial season together, the biggest issue with this team would seem to be chemistry. Will Kobe and Nash share ball-handling duties? How will Howard and Gasol

mesh as the Lakers two frontcourt mates? Princeton offense or triangle offense? How many games will Metta be suspended this season? Will Kobe’s declaration that these are still his Lakers cause locker room problems? How will Mike Brown handle his second year in L.A.? All these questions and more have to be answered during the regular season, but more importantly, during the playoffs, where anything but a championship appearance at the very least would be considered a major disappointment.

Win or lose, the new look Lakers are bound to be entertaining, whether it’s through winning games in a dominant fashion or through drama as conflicts arise within the locker room or on the court. Between the Lakers and the Clippers, the City of Angels seems to have an exciting season ahead of them for NBA fans.

Even fans who don’t like L.A. are bound to have the dates in which their team plays the Lakers circled on their calendars.

Watch out league, Kobe and co. are back.



THEY'RE BACK! Let's hope Kobe and the boys bring back a title this time

# Tracking Tigers

Ever wonder how our sports teams are doing? The Eye of the Tiger introduces ‘Tracking Tigers’ where you can keep up with all the teams and their schedules. In fact, we even encourage you to come out and cheer our Tigers on!

## » Varsity Boys Soccer

Central	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	DIFF
Richmond Hill HS	5	1	0	15	22	2	17
Thornhill SS	3	2	1	10	9	8	1
Langstaff SS	2	2	2	8	10	10	0
St. Robert	2	2	2	8	11	12	0
Unionville HS	2	3	1	7	8	9	-1
Tanenbaum CHAT Kimel	2	4	0	6	7	16	-9
Thornlea SS	1	3	2	5	3	13	-8

September 25: at Unionville HS 2, **Thornhill SS 1**

October 1: at **Thornhill SS 2**, Thornlea SS 0

October 4: **Thornhill SS 2**, at Langstaff SS 2

October 10: Tanenbaum CHAT Kimel 3, at **Thornhill SS 0**

October 12: **Thornhill SS 2**, at St. Robert 1

October 16: at **Thornhill SS 2**, Richmond Hill HS 0

## » Girls Golf

1. Stephanie Chu 61 - St. Augustine CHS

2. Sonia Nagindas 61 - St. Maximilian CHS

3. Selena Costabile 62 - Bill Crothers SS

**39. Audrey Jong 135 - Thornhill HS**

**40. Carla Rawson 136 - Thornhill HS**

## » Junior Girls Basketball

Central	GP	W	L	T	PTS	PF	PA	DIFF
St. Robert	7	7	0	0	14	343	204	96
Cardinal Carter	7	5	2	0	10	228	188	26
Langstaff SS	6	4	2	0	8	207	205	9
Richmond Hill HS	6	3	3	0	6	163	172	-7
Jean Vanier CHS	6	3	3	0	6	202	173	15
Thornhill SS	6	2	4	0	4	172	250	-42
Tanenbaum CHAT Kimel	6	1	5	0	2	219	274	-46
Bayview SS	6	0	6	0	0	132	200	-51

September 25: at Jean Vanier CHS 47, **Thornhill SS 18**

September 27: **Thornhill SS 24**, at Bayview SS 21

October 3: Langstaff SS 43, at **Thornhill SS 28**

October 11: St. Robert 59, at **Thornhill SS 35**

October 18: at **Thornhill SS 52**, Tanenbaum CHAT Kimel 37

October 23: at Cardinal Carter 43, **Thornhill SS 15**

# Moment of silence for the champions

Miami redeems themselves in recent NBA Finals.

BY JAIME FURMAN  
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

It’s about damn time”, said LeBron James while cradling the long awaited Larry O’Brien trophy that had just been rightfully earned. Two years ago, The Miami Heat received Center Chris Bosh, and the “Ringless King” Small Forward LeBron James to accompany Shooting Guard Dwayne Wade. The newly assembled big three were under pressure to produce a championship from all the hype and criticism they were receiving. In the 2011 NBA Finals the Miami Heat embarrassingly lost their series and their title opportunity 4-2 to the Dallas Mavericks.

This loss put the Heat under an even larger microscope and the analysis began. Everyone in frenzy began finding fault to blame on everyone else but themselves. Media blamed the coach Erik Spoelstra as not quite being tamed enough to be head coach for such a hot and delicate franchise. Others blamed Chris Bosh for not having enough playoff experience and not giving it 100%, but the one who got it the worst was King James himself. Fans and critics alike took to blaming James for “choking” as he has in his past playoff experiences and he was responsible for Miami’s finals loss.

However the most logical explanation for the unexpected turn of events was the most obvious one, they just weren’t ready. When three superstars are paired up, they cannot be expected to produce a title in a snap, the chemistry and flow needs time to develop and this was proven in this past 2012 season when the Heat overcame the odds, and silenced the

haters once and for all. But this road to victory was not an easy one. During Game 1 of the Eastern Semi-Finals against the Indiana Pacers, Bosh suffered an abdominal strain the put him out for the series and most of the Conference finals against the Boston Celtics. Miami was down in the series to the Celtics 3-2, and blew fans away when they went on with perseverance to win the series 4-3 with a two game comeback.

But now the team faced its greatest obstacle. The #1 contender for the NBA championship was the hot young team from the West, the Oklahoma City Thunder. OKC was the hottest team in the playoffs leaving a trail of disappointed contenders in their path. So now, the NBA was faced with one of the most exciting and nerve wracking Final series in a long time. The Underdogs of Oklahoma vs. The "Burned Out Chokers" of Miami. Everyone believed OKC would be victorious and make fools out of the Heat like Dallas did in the previous season.

The media perceived Miami to have lost their flame last season, and there was little chance to take the title this year. After a close game , OKC fans began to fear for their beloved team, as the series became 3-1 very quickly. And it was in Game 5 that opinions of Miami changed forever. The 121-106 Victory that won the Miami Heat their second franchise championship, and James and Bosh’s first rings, put an end to the jokes and criticism that the big three had been subject to. As the 2013 NBA season is rolling up quick and the addition of Shooting Guard Ray “Jesus Shuttlesworth” Allen adds a new twist to the now “Big 4”. So now the big looming question stands: can they do it again? We’ll just have to see. Burn baby burn.

# Are the Toronto Maple Leafs cursed?

A look at the team everyone loves to hate.

BY DAKSH DATTA  
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The NHL standings are a dynamic landscape. Year after year the teams climb and drop places, winning and losing important games. Usually a different team ends up winning the Stanley Cup each year, but some teams are regarded as regular "Cup Contenders". However, in recent times there is one team that has cemented its place in the standings: the Toronto Maple Leafs. The Leafs have sat a few places below 8th in the Eastern Conference for too many years. Every year teams climb to the top of the standings and drop to the bottom, but the Leafs have sat between 8th and last since the 2004 lockout. Why? That's a good question, and the answer isn't that the Leafs suck. Did something happen every year? Were every year's teams just low on talent and chemistry? Let's have a look.

In the 2005-2006 season the Leafs roster included players such as Ed Belfour, Tomas Kaberle, and Mats Sundin. Though Sundin is regarded as a good player, and Belfour is third in all-time goalie wins. However, Sundin did not have a spectacular season, scoring 78 points, which is good, but not enough for the team's star player. Ed Belfour also did not have a good season, with an even number of wins and losses, a GAA of 3.29, and a .892 save percentage. That season the Leafs finished in 9th place, missing the playoffs (by a few points) for



**ARE THE LEAFS JUST PLAIN BAD?** Actually, the failure of Toronto's team is due to a chain of unfortunate events

the first time since 1998.

Ed Belfour left next season, and was replaced with Andrew Raycroft, who had a better season than Belfour's last. With a GAA of 2.99, a Win:Loss ratio of 37:25, and a .894 save percentage, Raycroft helped bring the Leafs closer to a playoff spot, but once again they missed the playoffs. Finishing in 9th place, the Leafs trailed the New York Islanders by one point, but were unable to capture the coveted 8th spot.

In the 2007-2008 season the Leafs roster was mostly unchanged, adding only a few new players. However they once again missed the playoffs, this time by 11 points, dropping down to 12th in the

league. Mats Sundin became the Leafs all-time leader in points and goals in what would be his last season as a Maple Leaf. With the Leafs missing the playoffs for a fourth consecutive season, they were running out of time and ideas.

Next season the Leafs started to rebuild their team, or at least partially. With a young team, there weren't any expectations, and that was a good thing. Unsurprisingly, the Leafs finished outside the playoff bracket, in 12th place. The only important event this season was Brian Burke becoming the President and general manager.

The 2009-2010 season was terrible for the Leafs, who started with eight straight losses and fin-

ished in last place in the Eastern Conference. They obtained two major players that season: Jonas Gustavsson and Phil Kessel (who would turn out to be their star player).

The 2010-2011 season wasn't much better, with the Leafs finishing in 10th place. Phil Kessel recorded a team high 64 points. The big discovery this season was rookie goalie James Reimer, who recorded 20 wins and 10 losses and a .921 save percentage. He was regarded as the savior of their season, and given nicknames like "Optimus Reim".

Last season was another failure, with a 13th place season. This season was much worse than the

others for one reason. In March, the Leafs occupied 5th place, and from there nosedived to 13th, while Reimer was concussed for many months. Even afterwards, he wasn't performing to his full potential, and finished the season with 17 wins and losses.

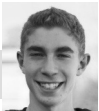
So why have the Leafs missed the playoffs for 7 consecutive seasons? It is not a curse, but simply many individual reasons that happen to be consecutive. In the first two seasons after the lockout, the Leafs barely missed the playoffs, signifying that it was probably a few bad games, bad luck, or some slight mishaps. Following seasons had young teams without any experienced veterans, and since then the Leafs began rebuilding their team, slowly working their way up the standings. When it seemed that they had succeeded, sitting comfortably in 5th place last year, they suddenly plummeted to 13th. According to some, this was due to weak goaltending, which, because of goalie coach Allaire's departure, has been partially explained. Allaire was unhappy with the Leafs, and stated that the organization was dysfunctional, resulting in a rift. The result was seen in the quality of the goaltending, which was a huge factor in their sudden drop. With another lockout looming, perhaps this is what the Leafs need to recuperate, do a systems check, and make sure they are ready to fire on all cylinders come next season. Will they be ready? Or will another problem prevent them from getting a playoff spot?

Only time will tell...

## Bad things come in threes... lockouts are no exception

After the '94 and '04 lockouts, history seems to be repeating itself.

BY JOSH PETERS  
SPORTS COLUMNIST



There is nothing quite like the NHL season opener. The excitement and anticipation of all the off season moves and trades are over. All the big questions will be answered. Who will be the next breakout star? Who will be the surprising underdog? And of course, who will win the coveted Stanley Cup? This all builds up to that one puck drop on the first night of the season when you turn on your TV in your living room to watch your favorite team take the ice to start anew once again. The routine should be the same every year for each avid hockey fan across the nation. However the '94 and '04 seasons had a slight change. The only way you were watching your favorite team open the season was with the newest NHL EA Sports game on the leading console. Hockey fans, I hope you bought NHL 13 because that's the only way you will have seen the season opener this year. Just like the 94 and 04 seasons the NHL has begun with a lockout, led by the King of Lockouts himself, Mr. Gary Bettman.

The NHL decided to have a commissioner in 1993 and the Ivy League law school graduate, Gary Bettman was chosen. The NHL constitution (yes that is a real thing) states that a commissioner must do as follows: "... protect the integrity of the game and preserve public confidence in the league". Right now in 2012, the integrity of the game and the public's belief in the league is at an all time low. But let us see how we got to this point.

One of Bettman's main goals coming in as commissioner was to improve the position of small market teams who were struggling. Like

in many other sports, the big cities and markets got the best players and he sought to fix that. His idea was to tie salaries to the revenue of the league in order to help subsidize small market teams. This system is otherwise known as placing a salary cap. This was not very pleasing to teams such as Toronto, Detroit and New York who dominated a big part of the hockey market. Bettman proposed this idea to the owners of the big teams and they obviously refused so Bettman did the only logical thing: he began the 1994-1995 NHL lockout. It lasted 3 months 1 week and 3 days and cut the amount of games played in half. The big market teams eventually gave in because the idea of losing an entire season was worse than having a salary cap. This may not seem so bad as Bettman got what he wanted and a new, fairer way of negotiating salaries was put in place. However there were two major things wrong with the 1994 lockout that haunted the NHL for the next decade.

The first was that Bettman did not take into account the previous season in which the New York Rangers won the Stanley Cup. At this point hockey was at an all time high in America. With the retiring of Michael Jordan, people were even saying it was bigger than basketball. With the 1994 lockout, the bubble that was the excitement of hockey in the USA burst completely and a bitterness towards the league began that never really went away. The second issue was whatever salary cap deal was negotiated in 1994, simply did not work as players salaries grew faster than the leagues revenue and by 2004 the league had lost about 300 million dollars and the salary crisis hit again. Bettman's solution: cancel the entire 2004-2005 NHL season.

Being a commissioner of any professional sports league is not easy. However, letting a league get to a point where an entire season

must be cancelled is unprecedented. David Stern locked out the NBA last year for a quarter of the season; however they came back stronger than ever and made a bigger profit with a shorter season than any 82 game seasons in recent memory. Bud Selig allowed the MLB to exist during the infamous steroid era but baseball seems to be on their way up to fairer game. That is the sole difference with Gary Bettman. The man who is supposed to "preserve public confidence in the league" is unable to recover when things go wrong. The fact that Bettman was not let go at the end of 2005 is preposterous. He was allowed to continue his rule over the NHL and sure enough here we are again in 2012, locked out due to another issue involving salaries. This time the owners want a bigger cut of the profit that the NHL makes. And in true Bettman fashion he did not find a compromise between the two sides, but rather began what we hope to be a short lockout. We can only pray that he will take a lesson from the other leagues.

Bettman's issues do not start and end with salary problems. The

other main goal he had when he became commissioner was to expand the NHL to south of the United States in places where the sport of hockey ranks in importance fairly close to the morning weather report. He is not without his triumphs, as his Colorado and Carolina expansion teams both won the Stanley Cup within their first year of existence. These teams were both made in the late 90s. Bettman should have quite while he was ahead. Teams like Columbus, Atlanta, Phoenix and many others have been complete failures. The league was forced to move the Thrashers to Winnipeg because they simply could not afford to have another team doing poorly financially. Bettman has good ideas and some of his expansion teams have worked but he has to learn that by placing an NHL team in city, they do not automatically become hockey lovers.

Combining these two major issues with an inability to make successful TV contracts with ESPN in the U.S and the 2012 NHL lockout looming, I think it is pretty safe to say that the NHL's first and only

commissioner is past his prime—that is if you believe he ever had one. The majority of fans and players have lost all confidence in him and resent him deeply. The NHL has become the laughing stock of North American sports leagues with its fluctuating stability and leadership. Even if the NHL returns, some of the top players will be nowhere to be found, playing overseas. The NHL will be in for a rough time if Bettman still stands as the commissioner of the NHL to begin the 2013-2014 season.

Saying that being a commissioner of a professional sports league is tough would be a massive understatement. It is like being the President of the United States except the people following you most closely are not political analysts, but rather testosterone infused, temperamental and passionate sports fans.

There is absolutely no chance of pleasing everyone when the commissioner makes a decision. However that being said, there is a chance of pleasing no one which Gary Bettman has shown us time and time again.



**THE PUCK STOPS HERE** A young fans waits as Bettman and the NHL Players Association try to hammer out a deal



# The Year of Raonic Growing Pains

Thornhill tennis player competes with the great.

BY ISAAC TAM  
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Hey Thornhill reader, have you heard of a guy named Milos Raonic? He's a Thornhill Secondary graduate of 2008 and has since gone to play professional tennis, now ranking No. 15 in the world as of October 1, 2012. You're probably thinking now, whoa, that's awesome! Yes it is awesome, but getting there has not been an easy journey.

Milos was born in Titograd, Yugoslavia, what is now Podgorica, Montenegro. At the age of three, he moved to Canada and settled in Thornhill with his family. By age 8, he started playing tennis at Blackmore Tennis Club in Richmond Hill, since he wanted to play a sport that was played individually. Growing up, he idolized American tennis legend Pete Sampras, watching many of games on video tape. Raonic's first junior event was in October 2003, when he was 12 years-old at the Canadian ITF Group 4 Championships. It ended in a loss however to Kirill Sinityn at 6-7, 3-6, but he went on to play in the junior tournaments until 2007.

2007 was the year Milos turned pro. He played in the ITF Future events and defeated No. 687 Fabrice Martin 7-5, 2-6, 6-4, his first singles match victory but lost in the second round. In 2008, Milos played in the Rogers Cup losing in the first round to Alexandre Kurdyavtsev. He ranked No. 513 by the end of the year. In 2009, he was inconsistent in the tournaments but made his way to No. 373 at the end of the year.

2010 was a big year for Milos in that he played one of the best tennis players at the 2010 Rakuten Japan Open, Rafael Nadal, who was the No. 1 seed at the time. Though Nadal beat Raonic, Raonic played well, breaking Nadal five times but could not convert those to wins. Nadal himself had only broken Raonic twice but with his experience, he was able to win the match. Raonic went on to also play in the US Open in that year, and ranked No. 156 in the end.

2011 was Raonic's breakout year, making big leaps competing in the Australian Open, SAP Open and the 2011 Morgan Keegan Championship. At the Australian Open, he defeated German tennis player Bjorn Phau, his first win in a main draw Grand Slam match. He then defeated No. 22 seed Michael Llodra of France in three sets, making him the first Canadian man in 10 years to reach third round in a singles Grand Slam event. In the third round, he managed to defeat World No. 10 Mikhail Youzhny in four sets but lost to World No. 7 David Ferrer of Spain in the fourth round. Despite his loss in the fourth round, he gained much praise from tennis players and reviewers, calling him the face of a new generation.

In November 2011, he played an exhibition match against Pete Sampras, his childhood idol. It was an experience that he wouldn't forget but he was very nervous playing against him. Sampras was the winner of 14 Grand Slam titles and had retired in 2003, but at the time of the match, Sampras was already 40 years old. Sampras however was still able to lunge for the balls and hit cross court winners against Raonic's 150 mph serves and powerful forehand returns. In the end, Raonic beat Sampras 7-6, 6-1. Sampras said after the match, "I think he's on the right track, but he's very young, so let's be patient here [...] It takes time to be a champion." Raonic was 20 when beat Sampras.



CAUSING A RACKET Thornhill's Milos Raonic is getting a lot of attention.

Two weeks after the exhibition match, Raonic played in the SAP Open tournament, blasting his way though Xavier Malisse, James Blake, Ricardas Berankis and Gael Monfils, making his way to the tournament finals. There he faced Fernando Verdasco, beating him 7-6, 7-6, a very close match but winning his first ATP title, the first Canadian to win one since 1995.

The very next week, he played in the 2011 Regions Morgan Keegan Championships, playing through Fernando Verdasco again, Radek Stepanek, Robert Kendrick and Mardy Fish, but lost to Andy Roddick 6-7, 7-6, 5-7. By the end of 2011, he was ranked World No. 31.

Well, 2012 was certainly a very exciting year for Raonic. Here he faced many tennis greats and proved to everyone that he can play with the big boys. Milos had been gaining a reputation of having huge serves, going up to speeds of 150 mph and many wanted to see how he would match up with top seeded players. In January and February, he won two more ATP titles in India and California. In March, Raonic was met with World No. 2 player Roger Federer at the BNP Paribas Open, the first time either had played each other. Raonic had beaten Federer in the first set 6-7, thanks to his big serve and good returns. By the second and third set however, Federer really picked up his game and won the match 6-2, 6-4. Raonic said after the match, "I want to learn as much as I can from this match [...] I was playing against arguably the best player of all time." Federer was also very impressed with Raonic, finding it hard to return his serves.

In the summer of 2012, Raonic had his first taste of Olympic tennis. In his first round, he played against Japan's Tatsuma Ito, defeating him easily at 6-3, 6-4. Raonic felt very comfortable with the lead he had taken early in the game that lead to a great finish. However, what was to come in the second round was anything but easy. Raonic had been matched with Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France, the World No. 6 player. Unlucky for Raonic - yes, but the game to come was truly epic. Tsonga, a beast among the top tennis players, was a formidable foe for Raonic. Tsonga won the first set 6-3 but Raonic came back to win the next one 6-3 as well. The last set however became the longest Olympic singles match in history at 66 games and the longest games set played. Raonic and Tsonga battled it out for a total of 48 games in the last set, but in the end Tsonga pulled off the victory, beating Raonic at 25-23.

After the dramatic Olympic game at Wimbledon, Raonic headed to Toronto to play in the Rogers Cup, making his way to the quarterfinals and losing to John Isner. After the quarterfinal run, he reached a career-high ranking of No. 19 in the world, the first time he had reached top 20.

The 2012 US Open took place

from late August to September of this year. Raonic came off with a very weak start, beating Santiago Giraldo 3-6, 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 4-6. He picked up his game though in the second round match against Paul-Henri Mathieu, defeating him 5-7, 4-6, 6-7. Moving onto the third round, he came upon James Blake, but Raonic made easy work of him at 3-6, 0-6, 6-7. Finally, in the fourth round of the tournament, Raonic came to play Andy Murray, the World No. 3 tennis player who, at 25, had not won a Grand Slam title. Andy Murray had most recently won the gold medal at the Olympics, beating Roger Federer for the title and he had high hopes and confidence in winning the US Open. There was much hype over the game as both players were up and rising players who were unpredictable in their games. As it turns out, Murray played extremely well and beat Raonic 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 and later won the US Open.

Now that it is the fall of 2012, things are starting to wind down in tennis, but Raonic is working hard and training hard. As of October 1, Raonic is ranked No. 15 in the world. Many believe that he can make it into the top 10 and perhaps break into the top 5. Fellow tennis player Novak Djokovic who is the No. 2 player in the world believes Raonic is going to be a great player. In the time of his success, Djokovic and Raonic had gotten to be extremely close, relating in their cultures. In fact, Djokovic resides just a few blocks from Raonic's home in Montenegro.

"Milos has bright future in front of him," says Djokovic, "He's a very nice man in the first place, and somebody that you could tell that is very committed to the game. He's very professional. He understands the match play, what he needs to do in important moments. That's going to be crucial for him to overcome those challenges in the future. But he has potential to be Top 10."

Are the Jays losing their touch?

BY FAIYAZ AKHAND  
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

This season was meant to be the season where the Blue Jays make the playoffs for the first time since the golden days of Robbie Alomar and Joe Carter, with the addition of the second wildcard spot in both leagues, many believed this was done for the tough AL division as most teams in the division would be able to make playoffs had they have been in a different division.

Outside of the extra playoff spot the team was expecting a monstrous season from their sophomore Canadian born and raised, superstar in the making Brett Lawrie. With other key acquisitions from the year before and during the off-season such as Francisco Cordero, Sergio Santos, Colby Rasmus, Kelly Johnson. Then you add in the home grown products like Henderson Alvarez, who had a nice September call up last year, Brett Lawrie who put absolutely monstrous numbers during his call up and a re-emergence of often injured pitcher Dustin McGowan this team was finally looking like they could be potential contenders in 2012. Then came the beginning of one of the most disastrous if not the most disastrous seasons in franchise history.

The season started with a great 15th Inning win by the Blue Jays but soon after words, we find out Dustin McGowan will not pitch at all the whole season, Serio Santos suffers an injury and likely will not pitch again the whole season, Ricky Romero has been pitching terrible despite what his record says and Jose Bautista has completely lost his touch and cannot hit a ball.

To make matters worse J.P. Arencibia, Brett Lawrie, Colby Rasmus, Adam Lind, Kelly Johnson and Eric Thames were all off to a terrible start. But incredibly the Blue Jays were still top of their division until the key moment of the 2012 season.

The four day span that potentially cost the Blue Jays their season, in a span of four days in June the Blue Jays lost their most productive starter and team star Brandon Morrow to a injury that will take him out till at least late-August, Kyle Drabek and Drew Hutchison both starters lost for up to a full 12-Month period and would require Tommy-John Surgery for their elbows. But still no one had written off the Blue Jays yet as they were still finding ways to win games and the fans were still showing up to games. Then more

injuries happened that you could say ended the Blue Jays hopes with injuries, to Jose Bautista, who had, finally found his touch and Brett Lawrie who despite a poor offensive season was still playing stellar defence.

This was all too much to overcome for the Blue Jays but this did give them a chance to see how their prospects were doing as they were able to get a small sample of Anthony Gose and Adeiny Hechavarria, Moises Sierra and even David Cooper (who also got injured) in the majors. Although Gose and Hechavarria started off quite slow you could see the tremendous talent that they did possess but it also did mean they needed some extra time in the Minor leagues to be ready for the next level.

Yunel Escobar ran into some public relations problems late in the season for writing homophobic slurs on his eye-black tape and actually playing in the game while wearing the eye-black tape. This resulted in Yunel being suspended for 3-games and being in plenty of trouble with the media on a national level. Also, the divisional rivals Boston Red Sox for the latter stages of the season had put out rumours that they were looking to hire our team Manager John Farrell as their new manager as they also had been having a terrible season, this all led to the fans questioning where John Farrell's heart was and if Alex Anthopoulos still wanted him back.

Outside of this almost completely tragic season capped off with Ricky Romero being injured in his final start for the Blue Jays, the Blue Jays did have some nice memorable moments such as the first triple play turned by the team since 1979, 45-year old Omar Vizquel passed the legendary Babe Ruth in all time hits, Edwin Encarnacion having a great season long effort and surpassing 40 homeruns, marking the first time he had done so in his career.

This upcoming off-season for the Toronto Blue Jays may turn out to be the most important in team history as they may potentially lose a lot of fans because the fans were looking forward to a season filled with joy and winning, but they were instead given a lack lustre team filled with injuries.

Alex Anthopoulos must sign a new Second-Basemen, Left Fielder and at least one superstar starting pitcher as these signings may determine whether or not the Blue Jays are serious about winning or not.

Going forward the Toronto Blue Jays as an organization must look to raise the payroll in hopes of the next season being a great one.

# WANTED



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO COACH SPORTS TEAMS AT LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL

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# Toronto International Film Festival



**ONE OF THE MOST ANTICIPATED FILM FESTIVALS TODAY** Right here, at the Air Canada Centre is a spotlight for culture and a centre stage for entertainment, for actors and audiences alike!

One of the best festivals film has to offer.

BY JARED JUBAS-MALZ  
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

Have you ever wanted to watch some of the best international films but have never known where to go? Well the Toronto International Film Festival is the place for you! This festival’s main location is the Bell Lightbox, which is located in downtown Toronto. TIFF 2012 was a festival of many pleasures and surprises — and only a few disappointments say

star critics.

Starting in 1976, this festival has grown to one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world with hundreds of different movies each year starting in early September. Some movies even have the directors there for a question and answer period and you can be quite surprised with some of the things they had to do to get what they wanted on film. There are also many stars which you might be able to see at some of the TIFF locations. In 2012 there were many stars including; Colin Farrell who starred in Seven Psychopaths and

was excited for watching himself in the premiere. Also there was Ryan Gosling who starred in The Place Behind the Pines, and Emma Watson in The Perks of Being A Wallflower. TIFF has been a home to some award winning films such as The King’s Speech, based on the true story of King George VI of Britain and the speech therapist who helped him make his first wartime radio broadcast. At the 83rd Academy Awards, The King’s Speech received 12 Oscar nominations, the most out of all the films in that year. Slumdog Millionaire was another award winning movie about a

Mumbai teen who became a contestant on the Indian version of “Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?” He did so well that he was arrested under the suspicion that he was cheating. While he is being interrogated, events from his history are shown which explain how he knew the answers. Slumdog Millionaire was nominated for 10 Academy Awards in 2009 and won eight of them; also becoming the eighth film to ever win eight Academy Awards. Slumdog Millionaire was also nominated at the BAFTA Awards, Golden Globe Awards, and Critics’ Choice Awards.

It’s clear that this festival breeds winners! Just starting at 35,000 people, the film festival now attracts over 250,000 people each year. TIFF was founded by Windsor Arms Hotel and was originally names “The Festival of Festivals” until 1994 when it was changed to Toronto International Film Festival.

This festival is a great opportunity to watch some films that you may never be able to see again in theatres, and it’s a fun event that boasts the world’s most famous actors and actresses. Make sure to see it out next time it comes!

# Entertain me Canada!

Canada falls short in the entertainment industry, so what do we have to offer?

BY LAUREN MALYK  
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

When channel-surfing on a Monday night do you find yourself wondering where all of the Canadian television programs have gone? So does student Priyanka Vasudev who states that she finds herself “overwhelmed with the number of televised voice and dance competitions and lost in the sea of American television.”

Looking at the television and music industries, it’s evident that both businesses are dominated by Americans.

The first thing about Canadian entertainment that viewers should be aware of is the Canada Broadcasting Act, which has been in effect since 1991. It requires that

Canada’s broadcasting system be owned and operated by Canadians. To cut to the chase the Act is to “safeguard, enrich and strengthen the cultural, political, social and economic fabric of Canada.”

Taking a look at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Canadians can see that it mostly airs Canadian Content. The CBC was launched on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1952 and is the national Canadian broadcaster. Currently it broadcasts Canadian shows like: *The Rick Mercer Report*, *Little Mosque On The Prairie*, *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, *The Tudors*, *Heartland* and *Intelligence*.

Moving on to the next competitor, Canadian Television Network (CTV). Judging by the number of American shows that appear to be on this Television Network like: *The Big Bang Theory*, *America’s Next Top Model*, *Access Hollywood*, *Anger Management*, *Grey’s Anatomy*, *Grimm*, *Once Upon A Time* and *The New Normal*.

It’s surprising that CTV, one of Canada’s top entertainment providers, is actually privately owned. Also in 2002 data shows that CTV

was replaced as the top network provider by competitor Global.

On to CTV’s major competitor, Global Television Network is a Calgary based company that emerged in 1970’s and is owned by Shaw Media Global Inc. However despite Global being Canadian based it still seems to have the majority of its television shows from the U.S. ‘The pants’ of North America seem to rule the television industry, so what does Canada have to offer entertainment?

To answer the question Canadian’s can look forward to multicultural-based television programs from the CBC. This is the corporation that demonstrates the pride of truly being Canadian in comparison to other television networks. *Murdoch Mysteries* is a successful and proud Canadian show broadcasted originally shown on Citytv but the latest season has been picked up by CBC that focuses on Toronto, Ontario in the 1890’s as the protagonist Detective William Murdoch (Yannick Bisson) solves enigmas. On a side note the show has actually featured Prime Minister, Stephen Harper as a supporting

character in an episode.

To dissect the shows popularity, its audience is generally mature mystery lovers. The good aspects of it are that it appeals to audiences who enjoy mystery, the past, steam-punk (at times) and Canadian culture. The majority of the cast within the show happen to be Canadian, which showcases our Canadian talent.

Broadcasting companies over the years have been trying to target Canadian youth through the use of shows like *Degrassi: The Next Generation*. However, within these teen-targeted dramas, adolescents seem to shy away from then saying that the plot is too out there and unrealistic and that the actors are lacking. This generation then turns to the American young adult shows that provide comedy relief and well-known actors. Within Canadian entertainment there seems to be something off, which is related to how American’s have dominated in their entertainment industry.

As for what Canadian television has to offer music wise, the two competitors and sister companies are Much Music and MTV

Canada. Bell Media owns both of these. Therefore, no matter what music programming a viewer chooses to watch, at the end of the day Bell Media is still profiting.

For up and coming Canadian musical artists keep an eye on Grimes and the Weekend!

Canadian entertainment ultimately falls short because it’s trying to stay true to its Canadian culture and does not generally focus on the younger generation of Canadians. The youth then turn to American sitcoms, which leads to them losing their Canadian heritage entertainment-wise.

Canada as a whole needs to promote the entertainment industry more in order to look for new talent in writers and actors. What Canada really needs is a balance of shows aimed at youth and more Canadian values and heritage to a degree.. Ultimately just from analyzing the content put out by Canadian broadcasting companies it’s easy to see Canada’s culture is in danger. Canadian’s need to step up to the plate to save our culture, instead of just standing by. So, entertain Canada!

Canadian’s need to step up to the plate to save our culture, instead of just standing by.



SUNSET The Twilight series will lose its sparkle as the final movie comes.

# The end of Twilight

What’s with all the hype?

BY SARAH KRUPAT  
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

After four years, the highly successful *Twilight* series is coming to an end. Some people rejoice, (as it’s not for everyone) but fans are wishing there would be more movies to come.

For the past 5 years, *Twilight* is all anyone would talk about. They have won many awards such as: 41 Teen Choice awards, some Grammys (for their outstanding soundtrack), and a few People’s Choice awards. This movie series scores highly on Rotten Tomatoes, and ranges are of around four out of five. This series has become a phenomenon worldwide.

This series was based on the very popular book series by Stephenie Meyer. There are four books and five movies to this collection. The movies consist of: *Twilight*, *New Moon*, *Eclipse*, *Breaking Dawn Part One* and *Breaking Dawn Part Two*. Taking place in the town of Forks, Washington, the main character is challenged when she moves to her dad’s home.

The movies follow her journey through her last years of high school and how the meeting of a mysterious boy named Edward Cullen, change her life forever. This is a series about challenges,

love and sacrifices.

Many people have been drawn to these movies over the past years, but why? Well, this movie fits into a variety of genres such as; suspense, drama, fantasy and romance.

Also, there are tons of great actors and actresses like Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner. These actors and actresses make the movie easy to relate to for their general comfort in the role, even in the strangest scenes. Not to mention they make great vampires and werewolves!

A great thing about these movies is that each one has a different director so each movie has a different style then the last. So if you’re not that happy with one of them, that doesn’t mean you won’t like the others!

This movie has gotten many fans from all age groups, (mostly consisting of teens though). Some people may think that these movies are only successful because of all the attention from the media.

In my opinion, a bit of the hype is associated with that, but the bulk of their popularity comes from their cinematography and fantastic music. If you haven’t seen the four movies yet, now is the time. Aren’t you excited? Only one more month until the suspense is over!

# Steam greenlight

The \$100 charge and how it affects developers.

BY JOEY KLEIN  
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

A recent turn of events has come that will change the gaming world, more specifically, the PC gaming world. “Steam”, a popular digital distribution service, used by many in the PC gaming community, recently announced that they would be releasing a new feature for the steam client called “Greenlight.”

Steam is a favoured downloading client by the PC gaming community. Steam allows users to purchase games online, and download them to as many computers as they want.

The Steam client also includes an entire online community and some interesting features like “Steam Workshop,” which allows people to create items for a certain game, and then get them published.

Greenlight is an outlet for independent game developers that allows them to get their game on the Steam client free of charge. The developer submits the game to Greenlight, and then the Steam community votes on which games get released. However, the first few hours on Greenlight would not be ideal.

During the first few hours of Greenlight’s existence many people, which can only be described as “trolls,” flooded Greenlight with fake games with racist, misogynistic, or inhumane themes. Titles such as “Gas Chamber Simulator 2012,” or “African American Mine

simulator 2012.”

In order to repel these “trolls,” Valve, the corporation that founded, owns, and runs Steam, made it that so to submit a game, you must pay \$100. And if you want to submit another game, you need to pay again.

Many saw the incorporation of a charge as a good thing as now the legitimate games could new be filtered through the non-legitimate games.

Others thought it was an unnecessary change. The thing about the charge: is that it makes you consider which engine you will use to make the game.

A popular choice is “Unreal Engine”, which if you want to make a game with it, cost \$99 US. You must pay 25% royalties to Epic, the creator of the Unreal engine if your game generates over \$50,000 US. So making a game with one of the most well-known engines out there, licensing the engine, plus the submission cost adds to \$199, and that is a pretty good deal.

At the time of writing, 10 games have been “Greenlit” and 1 has been released. Keep in mind that hundreds of games have probably been put on Greenlight. So it is both a good, and bad thing that the community is so choosy. On the good side, only the best of the best make it into the Steam store, and on the bad side, many new games are added daily, and many of the old games are forgotten.

I personally feel that Greenlight will help developers save money for updates or new projects, but we’ll have to wait and see.

# Stories for the masses

The Eye of the Tiger presents a series of fictional short stories that are written by our very own Thornhill students! We are always looking for unconventional pieces to tantalize our readers, so if you have any creative stories that you would like to share to be included in our upcoming issues, submissions can be made to [eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com](mailto:eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com).

» The Bureau (pt. 1)

BY LESTER LUI  
SHORT STORY AUTHOR

Rickard sat on the park bench. Twenty years ago he had been given his assignment by the bureau at this spot. And it was those twenty years he had spent in regret, unable to tell her the truth.

“Your assignment Rickard, make sure she succeeds in her life. The chairman is placing you in a position for you to end up as her best friend, and it will be you who will be responsible for her success in her career. Any questions?”

‘Yes...’ Thought Rickard. He realized his thoughts had changed. ‘Why can’t I tell her?’ He thought. Then he remembered, ‘Because it’s part of the chairman’s plan.’

‘Screw the plan...’ he thought.

‘Rickard! You’ve done assignments like these hundreds of times before! Your nickname was “the actor”! Of all the assignments, how is it that this is the only one where you’re not acting the part?!’

Rickard remembered the scolding he got from his supervisor. The chairman had spent seventy years ensuring this woman’s success, as he had spent many other years ensuring the success and failures of others in past lives. What made this one special for him, he didn’t know. All he knew was that now, he loved her, and she would never know.

He couldn’t tell her about the bureau, he couldn’t tell her about the adjustments that had been made in her life. He couldn’t even see her now. He sat on the park bench thinking about the days that could’ve been, had he said anything, had he revealed his employers. He still remembered parts of her plan.

“Her sudden recovery will inspire many. But interfere with that, and I can ensure you she will be reset...” Rickard couldn’t risk that, he couldn’t risk her losing everything she was, everything that made her, her. Everything that made him fall for her. He couldn’t be that selfish.

As an agent of fate, he always thought it would only have been him controlling others, not the other way around. For centuries he had been manipulating the world, assignment after assignment, and in the end it was always the same, except for this one.

She may have been another assignment from the bureau, but she was the only assignment he truly cared about.



What made this one special for him, he didn’t know. All he knew was that now, he loved her, and she would never know.

# Movies for 1980s fans

A look at the less modern popularized 80s films for the movie lover in all of us.

BY RACHEL LEVITT  
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

There is just something about eighties films that attracts a modern audience. There is a certain underlying charm and appeal that draws fans of all genres in.

You may have seen the mainstream masterpieces of the time such as *Back to the Future*, *Nightmare on Elm Street*, *The Breakfast Club* and many other excellent films. The movies on this devised list were huge hits; however seem to be less popularized now. This was written to help you complete your repertoire of eighties film knowledge.

**Heathers**

This film is *Mean Girls* with a twist. Veronica Sawyer -the Caddy of the story- is a member of the most powerful and cruel clique at Westerberg High: the Heathers.

When she meets the tall, dark and handsome, JD, they join together to get revenge on the popular students at school. However, what started out as innocent revenge winds up having a body count. This movie delivers a hearty dose of black comedy in this dark twist on the typical high school clique tale.

**Lost Boys**

Remember the good old days before vampires became overrated? To rekindle the old appeal of bloodsucking creature films is *Lost Boys*. Set in California, the older of two brothers, Michael, gets involved with a group of vampires that turn him into one of their own—well almost.

Michael is only a part-vampire until he makes his first kill, so it is

up to his younger brother, Sam to kill the head vampire and return him to human.

But the clock is ticking, and Michael’s newfound instincts are begging for blood. This is a campy, fun film with just the right balance of gore and storyline to have you watching it over and over.

**St. Elmo’s Fire**

This is the film that could easily be considered the sequel to *The Breakfast Club*. The story centers around a group of seven friends, all with very different personalities, and their lives after university.

You have Wendy who harbours secret affection for immature, wild Billy. Jules is the party girl, living high on life, and horribly unstable. Kirby enters, pursuing his high school crush, slightly obsessively. Then you have Alec, who is convinced marriage will stop him from cheating on the girl he loves more than anyone, Leslie, who although loves him back, is not ready for marriage.

To complete the love triangle is Kevin, who is torn by sabotaging his friendship with Alec by revealing the truth about his affairs to get the girl, or possibly lose her forever. *St. Elmo’s Fire* is a guaranteed hit that will spark a flame with anyone. Also, if you like this movie, you should also see the “third” film in the unofficial trilogy; *The Big Chill*.

**Labyrinth**

This is a phenomenal and exciting film that will capture audiences of all ages. When her brother, Toby, is kidnapped by the goblin king (played by David Bowie), Sarah embarks into a fantastical Wonderland like maze to bring him home.

However, she only has thirteen hours to solve all the mazes puzzles and make it around the obstacles in order to successfully

rescue Toby in time. Lovers of *Labyrinth* will also enjoy *The Never Ending Story*. This movie is a family classic that will stay with you forever.

**Say Anything**

One of the most charming films of the eighties can warm even the coldest of hearts. Lloyd Dobbler has a crush on Diane Court-the most popular girl at school- just like every other boy.

When he gets the courage to call her up after graduation and ask her on a date, she says yes to everyone’s surprise. As their relationship progresses, Diane comes to learn from Lloyd what she missed out on in high school, while she was busy studying and volunteering instead of having a social life. The two of

them also learn to deal with judgement from others and worst of all: Diane’s dad. This is a gem that can easily be considered one of the greatest romantic comedies of all time.

**Splash**

This film is a comedy about a man who falls in love with a mermaid. When a mysterious woman, Madison, appears in Allen Bauer’s life, he cannot shake this connection he feels with her.

While at first the story commences as a charming Manhattan love story, when it is revealed that Madison is a mermaid, she is taken by scientists and experimented on. For people who love twists on the classic mermaid tale, *Splash* is a sip of fresh salt water.



1980s FANATIC “Heathers”, a 1980s film portrays a clique tale with a twist.



# Making books into movies

A cursed beginning or an enlightening endeavour?

BY ALEX WONG & RYAN SUEN  
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTORS

After you read an ingeniously written novel, you always wonder first, 'I wish it happened in real life!' Second to that? You wonder if it is possible for it to become a movie. After all, two varying differences of the same story can help you understand the story better, correct? Yes, most would like to experience favourite novels such as *Artemis Fowl* by Eoin Colfer, or classics such as *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens as movies. However, with the superbly written content of the book, the detail of descriptive factors, and the complexity of the plot, we have to consider, can or *will* any director take on the challenge? One must admit, the difficulty in creating these movies undeniably takes an immense amount of planning as well as money. But there are brilliant directors who successfully achieve this, such as those of the *Harry Potter* series and Peter Jackson with *The Lord of the Rings*.

In the past few years, many movies have hit the world by surprise, some of which were based on books. One of the more notable ones is *The Hunger Games*. Based off a trilogy by Suzanne Collins, many say this movie was a success. A story taking place in a post apocalyptic North America, the movie has done many things right. Yet, many say the movie was a disappointment. Missing scenes, casting

disappointments. However there are those who simply love this movie due to the fact that they loved the book; they just enjoy the fact it is indeed the *Hunger Games*.

Another set of movies that just does it all wrong; *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. A movie that was rated a measly 53% on movie rating site *Rotten Tomatoes*, it simply shows many factors from the original book incorrectly. On page, the angsty doodles and hilarious mockeries written by the "no one understands me" self-exasperated Greg Heffley. However, director Thor Freudenthal decided to make a "live action" film of this book. The casting was not spectacular; "The characters have all the personality of hand puppets," says Peter Galvin, a movie critic from sbs.com. The plot seems empty without the mindless drawings of Greg, which practically dictated the storyline. It was just not meant to be transferred from ink to film, but they did it regardless, and three times too.

Fortunately, not all movie adaptations are major disappointments. Harry Potter, muggle to wizard, is an iconic figure in today's youth and generations to come. Harry Potter was a series recommended to almost all ages due to its extreme creativity and its skillfully devised plot. The movies almost matched the series in practically everything, step by step. Furthermore, the plot in the movies did not deviate from the original in any noticeable way. Even the characters matched the descriptions stated in the books, their personali-

ty, their appearance, as well as their significance in the story. The only significant difference is the movie is rated for a higher age group, and this is only due to the slightly increased level of violence.

One of the most highly anticipated movies during the year of 2010 was the movie remake of *The Lightning Thief*. If one did not read the original series, the movie would have been a remarkable experience. However, just like the movie version of *The Hunger Games*, many have read the book. And what they would have realized was the movie's plot, especially the ending, was completely contrasted to that of the book. For example, by the end of the novel version, Percy supposedly was fatally injured by the antagonist's trap.

Instead, the director decided to make Percy defeat the antagonist (Luke Castellan), and conclude the film with Percy and his female companion Annabeth having a practice duel. Obviously, the first fault of the movie would be realized as the conclusion to the movie seemed incomplete and empty. It would seem as if 'that was it' and the series ended right there. No more troubles, the enemy utterly defeated, and the camp for Demigods was safely 'happily ever after'; that was the impression it gave us readers. The most shocking fact though, was they decided to make the sequel to the *Lightning Thief* coming in 2013. And the director? Who could have guessed, the director to *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Thor Freudenthal*. Many questions ponder this situation, such as 'will he

mess it up again?' And since Chris Columbus left the protagonist ultimately victorious, it will indeed, be quite a challenge.

In the past, many movie adaptations have found their way into our gradually expanding world of entertainment. Some have failed to prolong our attention throughout the movie, others, successfully capturing our interest and spreading their legacy throughout the society.

Constantly, these outstanding and prosperous films are competing furiously against the movies of pure originality: those possessing of no novelistic heritage. However, because these wondrous movies and their prodigious directors only enter our realm of films practically limited to once a generation, if we are lucky that is, they are consid-

ered superior to movies with no previous history. Yes, their reputation may be corrupted slightly due to their unsuccessful companions, but before we stumble into a lachrymose state depression, please consider something extremely imperative to the change of our perspective. The following years may reveal surprises that we have never thought would surface.

There is always the possibility, whether a small speck or a large portion, that the lesser directors are in for a change. They may learn from their mistakes, work on them, and strive for drastic improvement. It will require our patience and acknowledgment, but the results yielded will benefit both the directors as well as those who have negatively critiqued them.



**BORING GAMES** A failed movie? Is the pen mightier than the teen film?

# We are fun: The Rise

A look at the breakthrough indie pop group.

BY ISAAC TAM  
ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

2012 has been a pretty great year for music; new groups and single artists have made their debut and many veterans of song have returned and given us what we love from them. Certainly out of the breakout artists: some have been unique while others

have simply given us a shadow of what was already present in the music scene.

However, there is one breakout group that has gotten me really excited about what is to come in the pop genre, and that is the indie pop band Fun. Churning out the hit singles "We Are Young" and "Some Nights", they have revolutionized, at least for me, the way pop sounds.

What is surprising for me is that Fun (though officially labeled

'fun.') has already released an album prior to their actual breakout onto the song charts in late 2011. *Aim and Ignite*, the name of their previous rock album, released in 2009, was the collaboration of lead singer Nate Ruess, pianist Andrew Dost, and guitarist/drummer Jack Antonoff. Their first album, recorded under the label Nettwerk, was given mildly positive reviews, but was not the dynamite that blew them into stardom.

Then in late 2010, the band signed onto Fueled by Ramen, of whom the likes of Gym Class Heroes and Cobra Starship have been affiliated with. Ruess was at first tentative on signing onto a major record label but recalls the transition as being very easy.

They then reached the decision to hire hip-hop producer Jeff Bhasker who was at the time working with Beyonce. When Ruess and Bhasker first met, Bhasker was blown away by Ruess' vocal styling. He immediately wanted to see the band. Naturally afterwards, hip-hop was a great influence in the songs written by Fun on their second album *Some Nights*.

During the writing and recording sessions of their breakout album, Ruess presented ideas on a melody and lyrics while Dost and Antonoff created chord progressions to accompany it. Many ideas for instrumentation were thrown about when planning for songs but ultimately, Bhasker decided that it was best to have just one instrument to provide the biggest sounds.

Singer Janelle Monae was then brought in to collaborate the trio in the song "We Are Young", and what was to come was phenomenal. Released as a single on September 20, 2011, this power ballad was the first

glimpse to the new sound Fun had to offer. A drum beat begins the song, followed by Ruess' warming vocals and Dost on piano, playing a simple backup line. Instruments cut off 50 seconds in, Ruess slows his tempo, and in a burst of sonic brilliance, the chorus begins! As the piano bangs, the bass rumbles and windows shatter, Ruess cries out: "Tonight ... we are young" (mind you, Ruess is 30 years old). The song continues with layers of additional instruments and the chorus is repeated a second time. At the bridge, the voice talents of Monae appears; however, the only line she says is "Carry me home tonight". Finally, all instrumentation save the piano die out, leaving Ruess to utter his final line.

That one tune brought them right to stardom. The song gained massive coverage, being featured on an episode of *Glee* as well as a Chevrolet commercial during *Super Bowl XLVI*, gaining popularity at the game. The song was also featured on *Chuck*, *90210* and *Gossip Girl*. Sales went off the rocket and their track was certified five times platinum in the US. It reached number 1 on the US Billboard Hot 100 and stayed there for six consecutive weeks. It also broke a record for logging seven weeks of 300 000+ sales, more than Eminem and Rihanna's "Love the Way You Lie".

After a while of relishing in their success, Fun released their *Some Nights* album on February 14, 2012. The album contained nine songs, including a bonus track. It received positive reviews and was a greater compilation than their previous effort. Fun offered a sound unlike any heard before really, combining sounds alike to Queen

and the Beatles, with a certain punk feeling to it. Peaking at number 3 on the Billboard 200, *Some Nights* had 70 000 sales in the first week and has sold over 500 000 since, certified Gold.

After that, Fun released the song "Some Nights" off their album as a single on June 4, 2012. This tune was a much catchier, upbeat and memorable taste of Fun's album. Starting off with purely vocals, all three members tightly harmonize with each other. They begin separating from one another, creating a larger atmosphere, somewhat like a military chant, until about a minute in when the gates of silence come crashing down. Military beats explode and a booming bass roars through the verse.

Later on, something very magical surfaces, and I honestly thought it was genius the way it was incorporated; auto-tune was used by an alternative rock group! Thought only to be used by the likes of T-Pain and Rebecca Black, the inclusion of auto-tune was unique and pure as it mixed effortlessly with Ruess' voice. In the end however, the message of the song is what stays, being about the frailty of life and how one night can change who you are.

"Some Nights" reached number three on the Billboard Hot 100 but peaked at number one in Australia and New Zealand for two weeks. Considered a sleeper hit, it peaked after seven months on the board in late September and has had success worldwide.

I recommend listening to their *Some Nights* album. Not everybody is going to be a fan, but it is a refreshing take on the pop genre. In the future, I expect big things to come from this band.



**RISE TO FAME** The indie trio rose to fame with songs like "We are Young".

# Running and walking and partying



Thornhill's annual Terry Fox Run/Walk (September 25) and Carnival (October 5) are always a treat for our students. Despite this year's setbacks, with bad weather causing the displacement of the Carnival and a cold windy day heralding the Terry Fox Run/Walk, we were determined to move ahead. Teachers dressed up or baked goods to encourage their students to donate to Thornhill's Terry Fox campaign, and our school raised over \$1000 for cancer research and education. A startling amount of students ran for Terry Fox, and the displaced Carnival was a wonderful way to end the following week!

If you ran, walked, or had a blast with your friends at these amazing events, be sure to check out the photos below. Who knows? You might spot yourself in one of the many lovely photographs taken by our Eye of the Tiger team.

Photos courtesy of Eric Bai, Talia Simoni, Patrick Shen, and Flora Ho.



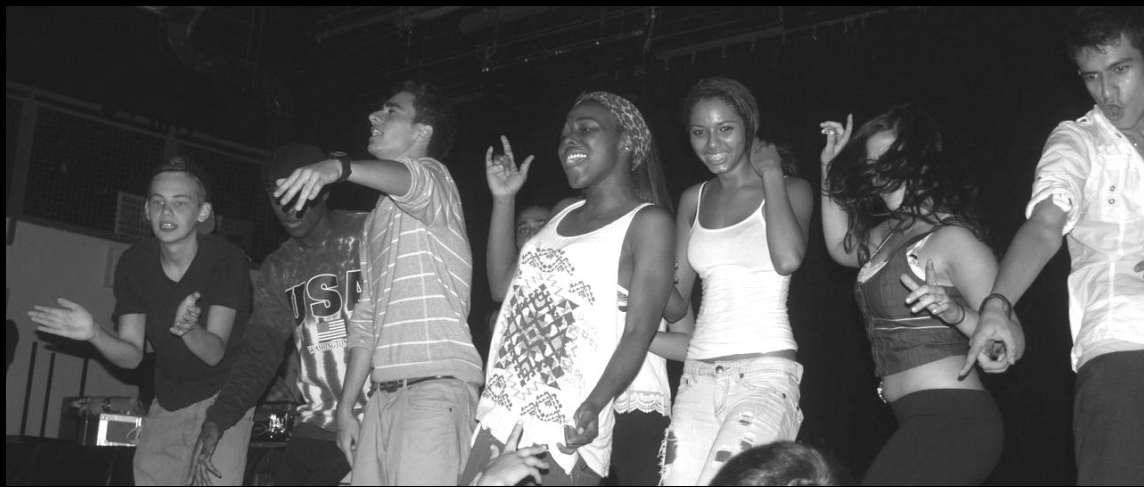


# The fun doesn't stop

T.S.S. is a place full of hustle and bustle, and we're not shy to say that we have a great student community. From an amazing Homecoming dance to a soccer team blazing its way through the field, our year starts out big!

If you missed out on any of these events, fret not. It's only November, and that means another seven months of spirit days, holidays, B.O.S.S. events, and thrilling sports all ready for you to join in. Get ready Thornhill, the year's just getting started!

Photos courtesy of Flora Ho and Eric Bai.



# Ask Vlad

The Eye of the Tiger is back again, with the second edition of our famous advice column. This time, Vlad Boshor himself answers your questions on everything from the end of the world to the makeup looks he enjoys. If you have any questions that you would like answered, check out our Facebook page or send us a message at [eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com](mailto:eyeofthetigerchiefs@gmail.com).

BY VLAD BOSHOER  
COLUMNIST



**Q: Are we going to die in December?**

**From the-end-of-the-world**

A: Absolutely. But that's not the worst of it. Think Old Testament. Fire and brimstone coming down from the skies, rivers and seas boiling, forty years of darkness, earthquakes, volcanoes, the dead rising from the grave, cats and dogs living together, human sacrifice, mass hysteria! Should be fun.

**Q: How do I get my boyfriend to be more romantic?**

**From loves-candle-lit-dinners**

A: Watch "A Serbian Film" together, take long walks in cemeteries... that kind of thing. If he is musically adept, ask him to serenade you. Don't try to force yourself between him and his mates. Also, don't chat him up to death on every single date. Have a few moments of natural, not-awkward silence together to let all the emotions sink. If both of you can manage to do that, it's good news.

**Q: Why do best friends inevitably separate over time?**

**From baby-come-back**

A: People naturally drift apart for a variety of reasons. After you graduate high school, you and your best friend may attend different universities, or colleges. This automatically creates a rift. While you are pursuing a career of your personal choice, you will meet more people who click with you better.

You start to see your previous friends a lot more as your work load increases, and you deal with heavier responsibilities. It's not that unusual to lose all your previous friends in about twenty years, because new ones always take their place. It may sound tragic, but that's life.

**Q: I'm really worried about graduating and going to university and getting enough money to pay for school. What to do?**

**From terrified-of-the-future**

A: There's always the meth business if you paid attention in chemistry class. You almost always have a fine, productive work period and if worst comes to worst, you'll only get about twenty five plus years in prison, unless someone disposes of you before the feds do. What could go wrong?

**Q: How do I encourage my friends to fall in love with death metal? From a-music-fan**

Hold their head with your hands, growl like a beast from hell into their ear and hope for the best.

**Q: Why is social media a thing? From why-the-internet**

A: It's simply an advancement in technology and right to free speech. Not all social media is strictly beneficial (i.e. Facebook) and has caused some negative impact on human interaction for our generation; however social media is critical in our current times for protest and original content, be it blogging, videos or art. Social media gives someone a chance to make a break-through from the common crowd and become known.

**Q: What's your fave makeup look? From mascara-is-a-person's-best-friend**

A: I'm actually quite partial to purple eye-liner.

**Q: I'm very much in love, but how do I let this guy know? He's crushed on me before and I've always rejected him. Now, he's supposedly found someone, but he's really vague about her...**

**What do I do? xoxoxoxoxo**

**From madly-in-love**

A: As a guy, I will tell you right now that the best thing you could possibly do is to ask him out. If he as even the slightest feelings for you yet, he will for sure accept. If not, tough luck. Move on and next time try to be more open for the guys who make the effort for you.

**Q: I have this friend who kind of eats like a whale (messy, inhaling, doesn't really pay attention), and I don't know how to tell them!**

**From om-nom-nom-nom**

A: When faced with a delicate situation such as having a friend who "eats like a whale", it is important to tread lightly. The solution may seem complicated at first, but it will get simpler as you go along. Start introducing the word "harpoons" slowly over the course of your day-by-day conversations. Whales do not like harpoons, and if you kindly remind your friend through very subtle means (such as posting pictures of harpoons on their Facebook wall), this should solve his or her eating problems.

## Community classroom update: Markham Fair

A quick little update on the trip at the Markham Fair!

BY MATTHEW MACLEAN  
TEACHER

On September 27 2012, the community classrooms of 135 and 138 spent the day at

the Markham Fair. The fair was an opportunity to teach the students about social skills and connect to our monthly theme of the living world and to simply have fun. Students sent in their art work, which was later judged at the fair. Brandon in Room 135 won a first place

red ribbon for his colourful rooster. He was filled with joy and excitement when he found out. A sense of pride was felt by everyone for Brandon's win but also for all the students who participated. Everyone had a great day at the Markham Fair!





SUDOKU

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

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.

JIGOKU


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. > and < connections between squares indicate that one number is greater than or less than another.

SLITHERLINK

•	3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3	•	•	•	•
•	1	2	•	3	2	3	2	1	2	•	•	•	•	•
•	3	•	•	1	•	2	2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•	1	2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	2	2	•	3	3	1	3	•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	2	1	1	2	•	3	1	•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•	•	•	2	1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•	1	3	•	2	•	•	•	2	•	•	•
•	•	3	2	3	2	1	2	•	3	2	•	•	•	•
•	3	•	2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3	•	•	•
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Horizontally or vertically connect adjacent dots to form a path that forms a single loop, without crossing itself, or branching. The numbers indicate how many lines surround each cell (only 0-3 are permitted).

CROSSWORD

- Across

1. Hot stuff

8. Nuts, so to speak

15. More accurate

16. Select for jury duty

17. Snob

18. Saltpeter, for one

19. They're found in patches

19. Bone parallel to the radius

20. Zero

21. Like some straits

22. Peeve

23. Recurring subject

25. Record store section

26. Moistens, in a way

28. With 43-Across and 20-Down a sign on a restaurant door

30. "My God," in the Scriptures

31. Jack-a-dandy

32. Semimonthly tides

36. On floppy disk, say

40. Signed

41. Burgundy and Bordeaux

42. Interdict

43. See 28-Across

46. Tear to bits

47. Sighs of content

50. 1-Across, e.g.

51. Stable staple

52. Places for Pekes

54. Spleen

55. "The Misfits" co-star

58. Initial gain

60. Vine-covered passageway

61. Spirits

62. Opens, as a letter

63. Give back

64. Lent preceder
- Down

1. Be rife (with)

2. Wheel support

3. Domain

4. Hunt and Peck

5. Olfactory offense

6. British tax

7. Table scrap

8. Magnavox rival

9. \_\_\_ Largo, "Thunderball" villain

10. Prone

11. Cover with fat

12. TV studio sign

13. Prefix with chloride

14. Visit the land of Nod

20. See 28-Across

23. Statistical calculation

24. Wards (off)

26. Half of the French?

27. Sparkle

28. Wimple wearer

29. The briny

31. Pranks

33. Album whose cover shows Paul McCartney with 28-Across

34. Blueprint

35. E-mail command

37. Female lobster

38. The Old Sod

39. Small colonist

44. Chantey singer

45. Now clear this!

46. Kitchen appliances

47. Hitching post?

48. Non-Polynesian, in Pearl City

49. Blueprint

51. Centaur, in part

53. With 60-Down, Summer Olympics event

55. Computer list

56. Stewpot

57. Cushy

59. "So that's your game!"

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						

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