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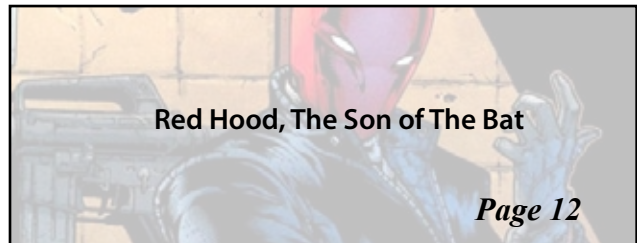
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Game Changers Take on Montreal at NCWiE

**ALISON LEE AND
KRISTINA LEE**

3B NANOTECHNOLOGY
1T ENVIRONMENTAL

Montreal was busy this weekend, November 16th, playing host to the Santa Claus parade and to Canadian engineering students who gathered there for the annual National Conference on Women in Engineering (NCWiE). This year's conference was themed "Being a Game Changer" and introduced the participants to multiple speakers who discussed how to integrate and strengthen minority groups in engineering.

The conference began on Friday, November 16th as students flew, drove, and took the train into the heart of Montreal. Representatives from engineering schools across the country gathered together to discuss the topic of women in engineering. A total of ten delegates from Waterloo drove into Montreal to attend this conference.

Friday had a large focus on being a female in the workforce as the two opening speakers both talked about their journeys and the hardships they faced. Melissa Dominguez, a Google employee, and Nicole Slade, from Iron Ore Canada, both spoke about work-life balance and how they reached their current positions at their respective companies.

Their main point was that women and men face different challenges, one of which is having children. Although both men and women can take time off to raise their young children now, we cannot deny the fact that we feel differently about spending a whole day away from them.

The next day was filled with different seminars. The day started out with different sessions that covered topics including co-op, mentorship, and LGBTQ awareness in EngSoc. The latter presentation was given by Greg Burns, an engineering student at Conestoga College. The rest of the day followed with an address by Maud Cohen, a Student Panel, and two more speaker sessions. At night we got the chance to sit and talk with the day's speakers at a semi-formal, followed by a night on the town.

The last day of the conference, Sunday, concluded with round table discussion and our final speaker, Suzelle Barrington from Engineers Canada. This session was a great opportunity to talk to the other students about topics ranging from the involvement of men in Women in Engineering clubs to whether or not the club is still relevant in today's society. Suzelle Barrington discusses Engineers Canada's goal of 30 by 2013 which is a goal to have 30% female engineers in the workforce by the year 2013.

NCWiE was not all business though! There were nightly events where the delegates enjoyed each other's company and learnt more about different programs across the country. It was an excellent opportunity to exchange stories and tactics used at different schools. Saturday was an excellent day to watch the Santa Claus Parade down Rue St. Catherine and at night, there was

plenty of life in Montreal. There was also some time to enjoy the bountiful pre-Christmas sales. Most importantly, by talking to other engineering students across the country, the UW delegates gained a perspective of WiE activities on other campuses and the issues they all try to tackle. Look out for new and improved WiE initiatives at UW in the future!



Andy Fidel

The Waterloo delegates at the National Conference on Women in Engineering

TEDxUW: Living on the Edge

**KEVIN JOSEPH AND
AMMAR MASUD**

3B NANOTECHNOLOGY

On November 18th, Waterloo hosted its second TEDxUW event in which Waterloo students and faculty independently organized a licensed TED conference. The event featured Waterloo students, professors, alumni and local entrepreneurs who gave talks around the theme of "EDGE": what gave them the edge to succeed, what to do as a society on the edge of catastrophe, and how to climb up to the edge after smacking into the wall. Overall, the event was a success. The talks were largely motivating and eye-opening, with fresh perspectives and new spins on old adages. Although the DC Live Event was not as populated as anticipated, this is in spite of the strong effort put in by the volunteers who were enthusiastic, cordial and hardworking. There were special features for attendees of the Live-Stream including a special networking event, but these did not commence until later in the day, making it difficult to draw a crowd in the early morning when viewers had the ability to stream the talks from home.

The newly-opened Quantum-Nano Center was definitely the perfect choice of venue for such an event. The atmosphere reflected the spirit of innovation and forward-thinking for which TED events are famous. The décor featured stylized blocks spelling out "EDGE", an interactive Red-Room in which attendees were encouraged to write their thoughts on EDGE on blank canvases,

and a photo-shoot area. The catering was excellent and, needless to say, was taken advantage of to its fullest. There were booths and demonstrations from various Waterloo clubs and organizations including the Nanorobotics Group, the Arts Student Union, the Institute for Quantum Computing (whose demonstration of Quantum Key Cryptography's inclusion of cute plush dinosaurs as 'Alice', 'Bob', and 'Eve' was much appreciated), and many more.

The main event was opened (and reopened after breaks) by Waterloo's a capella groups, The Unaccompanied Minors and UW Water boys, who were talented and entertaining as always, though it would have felt less incongruous if their set selection was more in-line with the day's theme. The Master of Ceremonies, Denise Donlon, did an overall good job of keeping the event running smoothly despite a few gaffes here and there. Regardless of his forewarning regarding an inability to publicly speak, TEDx chair Prashanth Gopalan introduced the event with such a genuine belief in the spirit of TED that it was hard to not be infected.

The first talk was by Andrew Wong, a student, who at the ripe-old age of nineteen, organized a youth delegation to Rio de Janeiro for a UN conference on climate change. Wong led a group of youth from across Canada and the globe to write a report on climate change and presented it to the UN where they met the likes of Ban Ki-Moon and David Suzuki. It is unfortunate, however, that Wong did not spend more of his time on stage discussing his report, or what the



Athavan Anpalagan

Bill Tatham on uniting health care information at TEDxUW

world leaders which he met had to say about their report. Although Andrew Wong spoke about how his belief in his ability to change the world drove him to succeed, it is regrettable that his talk focused on with whom he earned the honour of meeting, and less about the impact these meetings had in his commendable fight against climate change.

If there is one talk that every student should see it is probably Bill Tatham's (of Tatham Centre fame). Tatham talked about his experiences in the Healthcare system following his wife's diagnosis with breast cancer. As a citizen and as a businessman, he was distraught to discover the 50% correct diagnosis rate, the redundancies in paperwork, the lack of intercommunication

between different Healthcare facilities, and the use of ineffective and expensive consult- outsourced software. As a solution, Tatham built a cloud-based platform to better integrate, organize and educate so that each individual could build their own personal health plan. It would observe diet, exercise, medication, and health-information to better pinpoint what the problem is, when it arises, and why it happened.

Andrew Maxwell delivered the next talk on his research, drawing from CBC's Dragon's Den, to assess how trust is an integral element of the relationship between the entrepreneur and investor.

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Letter From the Editor

It's My Last Issue – It's Time to Up the Cheese Factor



FARZI YUSUFALI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Greetings IW readers! I have no idea where the term has gone but I've got to tell you, I can't believe that this is my last issue. Considering how much work has gone into this issue, I'm hoping that you will use this medium as your method of procrastination in studying for exams; trust me, *The Tin Soldier* (that is an eight page insert this term) is definitely worth a read.

I've strived to keep some semblance of a common theme and coherency for all the editorials published this term. My goal has been to tackle a common problem that plagues the engineering student body and expand on it in a logical fashion; some instalments have, of course, been better at achieving this than others. From what I gather, I tend to write better editorials when I get more sleep. The only exception to this was my last instalment involving the engineering dating scene. I don't even know how those conversations started considering that I was working on the paper and my Fourth Year Design Project. Either way, I hope you enjoyed that one because I definitely enjoyed writing it in my semi-sane state.

Besides the job of publishing the paper, each editor has undertaken a personal project for the long term betterment of the paper. For example, Jon, the EIC for Fall 2011, has taken it upon himself to transfer all the older issues into digital files so that we have a way to access the older papers without risking damage to the paper copies. He's done an absolutely amazing job so far and I've loved reading all the sample issues sent to me from the 90's; I think that the engineers from that era are quite a bit crazier than our bunch. Jacob Terry, EIC for Spring 2012, has worked really hard to revamp the IW website so that it's a lot more user-friendly and is a lot prettier than it was before. As part of this project, he also took the articles published under the old software, PROPS, and has moved them to Wordpress (the current system used to sync the articles to the website) so that we can have archives that can go back to the early 2000's.

For my personal project, I resolved to heavily recruit the incoming first years to get involved with the paper and to ensure that they are exposed to more than just article writing. While this meant kicking out most of my classmates from the weekly meetings, it allowed for the first years to be less inhibited in taking on more responsibility in the paper. Even though I had to spend some time training them to use the Adobe software to layout the paper or to teach them how to use their respective Wordpress accounts to do some copy-editing, it meant that they could step up and lend a hand when the workload this term got too heavy. I'm going to digress now by saying this: upper year Nanos, you are bat-sh*t crazy to think that 3B is easier than 3A; you were totally wrong about that. In addition to that, I've also strived to add more

variety in the articles we publish this term to widen our audience reader-ship. Finally, outside of the paper, especially with the ridiculous amount of advertising that has happened this term, I'm working towards upgrading the hardware in the office to make the lives of future EIC's easier, especially during production weekends. Hopefully, with the appropriate approvals, we'll have some snazzy new equipment to work with in future terms.

Between Jacob and I, the EIC last term, we've done an overhaul of the paper's layout design. Our goal is to make the publication consistent throughout the entire year because we have seen apparent distinctions between the designs in the 'A' and 'B' societies paper. With the culmination of this term, Jacob and I will work together to create "Style Guide" that will be a reference for future EIC's as to how the style of the paper should be; of course, it's up to them if they want to change it.

In terms of the content published this term, I have been proud to say that we've had some really great ideas come about this term. For instance, *The Short Short Review* has been a great hit as it exposes the reader to alternative sources of entertainment while adhering to the short time commitment that is complementary to the average engineering student schedule. Also, *Music through the (p)Ages* has been a great addition to the paper as it explores various genres and eras of music that you wouldn't explore otherwise (not to mention the great suggestions it gives for *The Iron Warrior* playlist). *The Highly Variable X Recipe* column has also been a great read as it caters to the needs of our readership while injecting a dose of quirkiness. With so many submissions from EWB, *Topz (with a Z)*, *T-Cubed*, and *Future of Gaming*, we had a great variety of topics covered each issue. In addition to that, I need to extend a special thank-you to Prof. Gordon Stubbley for being so involved in reaching out to the engineering body; it means a lot to us that he's willing to keep us informed on all things education.

Now, for the mushy stuff: I would like to thank Jacob Terry for being more than involved in the paper's production even though he's in Guelph for co-op. I appreciate all the nagging and poking you did to keep me on my toes, even though it meant my hating your guts on Monday mornings. Somehow, you always appeased me with unicorns and rainbows; I still don't understand that. You've also been amazing at picking up any outstanding articles and making sure that they are included in the paper (even if it meant writing two or three articles per issue). Just looking at the Gmail chats we've had makes me think that you are both sweet and insane for keeping such a close eye on me.

Next, I'd like to thank Mary Bland, the business manager in the EngSoc Office, for being absolutely amazing in everything you do. Doing my job this term would have been a lot harder without you and god knows, I'd have been a wreck if you were not there. Mary, you're an awesome lady!

My Iron Warrior crew this term has also been unbelievable in making my life a whole

lot easier. A special shout-out needs to be made to the army of copy editors (which are too many to name individually) who have been known to power through twenty-some-odd articles in about an hour when I give them the word/signal. A special thank you is in order to Josh Kalpin and Leah Kristufek for being the most involved in this process especially when I send my editorial for editing Monday morning; you are saints for putting up with me. These production weekends would be a lot longer if you guys weren't around. My layout editors, especially Lucas Hudson, have been great about coming in every production weekend to help me with the paper especially on days where I needed to juggle my school work and finishing the paper. Finally, my circulation editor, Vincent Heymans, has been awesome about taking on the responsibility of ensuring that all the papers got distributed (even it meant trekking to V1 and MKV with his scooter in the evening with three bundles of papers when I asked); thank you! I could keep thanking people on and on but it's late and my fingers are getting tired. Let's just say, thank you to all the staff, contributors, and anyone involved in the production of the paper for making my job so much easier; I love you, IW family!

On to the announcements: the Iron Pen award is given to the contributor who writes the highest number of words throughout the entire term. This Fall, the winner is, by a landslide, Josh Kalpin for writing an astonishing 8450 words this term. Considering that I often 'volun-told' you to write things for me, it's definitely well-deserved. For the Editor's Awards, given to those who have gone above and beyond in the call of duty, Lucas Hudson and Leah Kristufek are very deserving this term as they have been at my side for every production weekend to assist me in any way possible. Finally, I would like to announce the next EIC for the upcoming Spring term, Lucas Hudson. I'm sure you'll do an amazing job and considering your work ethic and your ideas that you would like to implement during your term, I'm sure you'll leave your mark (and a piece of your soul) with this paper. Don't worry, I'll be more than happy to poke and prod to keep you on your toes, for your sake!

If I've missed any thank-you's, I'm incredibly sorry; I'm sleep-deprived and have a bad memory to begin with. If not now, I'm sure to appreciate you and your contributions sometime this weekend. Before I start shedding some tears, while writing my last lines as the Editor-in-Chief, I am going to say that I'm so happy to have gone through this experience (even though it meant going slightly crazy in the interim) and would not have had this term play out in any other way. If you want to chat with me or anyone else involved with *The Iron Warrior*, feel free to email me at iwarrior@uwaterloo.ca, send me a message at [facebook.com/TheIronWarrior](https://www.facebook.com/TheIronWarrior), or just stop by the IW Office. As always, I'm happy to hear from you and would love to answer any questions you may have. I'm signing off for the last time (*tear*) and wish you luck for your final exams! Bye! :D

THE IRON WARRIOR

The Newspaper of the University
of Waterloo Engineering Society

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The Iron Warrior encourages submissions from students, faculty and members of the university community. Submissions should reflect the concerns and intellectual standards of the university in general. The author's name and phone number should be included.

All submissions, unless otherwise stated, become the property of *The Iron Warrior*, which reserves the right to refuse publication of material which it deems unsuitable. *The Iron Warrior* also reserves the right to edit grammar, spelling and text that do not meet university standards. Authors will be notified of any major changes that may be required.

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Ceasefires, Abortions, and Pharaohs



THE SIT-IW-ATION ROOM
2B MECHANICAL
3B NANOTECHNOLOGY

A Fragile Peace Falls on Israel-Gaza.

A ceasefire has been reached in yet another chapter of violence between Israel and the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. A fragile peace settled on Gaza and Israel last Thursday after five days of Israeli airstrikes and Palestinian rocket strikes that left 160 Palestinians and six Israelis dead. The battle was yet another display of Israeli military dominance, with its multi-billion dollar Iron Dome intercepting a large majority of Palestinian rockets and its air force quickly decimating Hamas strongholds and weapons depots. The ceasefire remains fragile with some radicals in Palestine continuing to fire rockets into Israel and attempts by a large group of Gaza residents to cross the Israeli border ended in bloodshed, with one fatality. The ceasefire and further military ac-

tion hinges largely on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's resolve as he faces an election next winter, one that he is expected to win. However, with only 50% support from the Israeli population for the ceasefire and the possibility of further rockets causing increased pressure for a ground invasion, the future of peace in Israel and Palestine remains uncertain at best.

Irish Abortion Laws Brought into Spotlight After Women's Death.

In a tragic series of events, 31-year-old Savita Halappanavar died in an Irish hospital on October 28th from blood poisoning after being refused an abortion despite doctors informing her a week earlier that her baby would not live. The predominantly Catholic Republic of Ireland has some of the most restrictive abortion laws on the planet, virtually outlawing abortion in all cases, with some ambiguity surrounding the legality of abortion when the mother's life is in danger. The lack of explicit legislation allowing for abortion in these cases is what kept doctors from aborting her child until two days after

the heartbeat of the fetus had stopped, and what allegedly led to the death of Halappanavar. The death has caused a large stir of opinion in Ireland, with large scale protests and a government-led inquiry soon to follow. However, Halappanavar's husband has refused to cooperate with the inquiry, insisting that widespread support for anti-abortion legislation in the country will create bias in the investigation and fail to clarify those responsible in the death of his wife.

Egyptian President Dubbed "Pharaoh" as Presidential Powers are Expanded.

Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi issued decrees that have prompted violent protests throughout Egypt. His decrees have granted him sweeping new powers which have caused him to be branded as an autocratic "pharaoh". These new decrees state that any decisions and laws created by the President cannot be changed or appealed by the courts or any other body. They also state that no judiciary body can dissolve the upper house of parliament or the assembly that is drafting the new constitution. The Presi-

dent can also take any measures necessary to prevent threats to the revolution. Finally, the decrees include the creation of a new judiciary body that will retry former President Mubarak and other officials for the deaths of numerous people in last year's protests. The lower house of the parliament was deemed void and disbanded by the courts earlier this year. Both the upper and lower houses were dominated by the Muslim Brotherhood, of which Morsi is the former leader. Numerous groups have also withdrawn from the constitution assembly recently due to Islamists dominating it and refusing to compromise. Some groups claim that the new constitution may end up being worse for women's rights and freedom of the press than before the revolution. President Morsi stated that the decrees are meant to speed up the process of restructuring the country and are only in effect until the constitution is created and a new parliament formed. The decrees come in the wake of international praise that Morsi has received after brokering a ceasefire between Israel and Palestine.

UWPEA Visits Shell Refinery in Sarnia



LEAH KRISTUFEK
2A CHEMICAL

In the recent University of Waterloo Petroleum Energy Association (UWPEA) facilitated trip to the Shell refinery in Sarnia, the organization stayed true to its goal to 'educate and empower students about the energy industry and fuel them with support to follow a career path related to energy.' Around twenty-five engineering students travelled to the Shell Refinery in Sarnia on November 9th. The students met with Shell employees, including several recent Waterloo grads, to learn about the fascinating and challenging problems presented in their work. Employees talked about many things, including the two possible ways of becoming a perma-

nent employee: through recruitment to the company after a brief interview process or through an initial internship. They also discussed safety issues at the plant (a high priority given the possibilities of volatile gases leaking), and the ways that safety procedures manage to stay ahead of possible dangers.

The Waterloo group also had the opportunity to glimpse a little bit of the action as they took a quick tour of the site. The Shell refinery in Sarnia has the capacity to process 75,000 barrels of oil per day and is able to store approximately a month and a half worth of natural gas on site. They got to see many of the processes studied in the classroom in operation in the field, as well as counter measures used to mitigate the environmental impacts. Familiar processes included a BTX unit which is used to separate aromatic hydrocarbons to form different products. (BTX stands for Benzene, Toluene and Xylene,

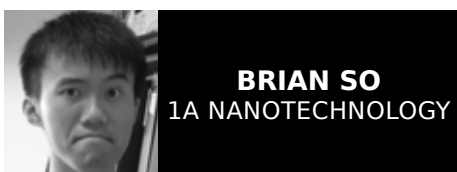
of which there are several distinct isomers). They also got to take a look at a Hydrodesulfurization unit (HDS), which removes sulfur from natural gas and refined petroleum products, and a Cat Cracker, which uses catalysts to break down heavy hydrocarbons in to lighter hydrocarbons to form products such as gasoline, kerosene and jet fuel. Through these processes and more, the refinery is able to create over 12 distinctly different products from raw crude oil, including Furnace oils, Diesel fuels, Jet fuel, Propane, pure chemicals and low sulphur gasoline.

Given the explosive nature of natural gases the students received a lengthy talk about safety before their bus tour of the site. Each member of the group was given a card outlining what to do in the event of any kind of disaster and the bus had seat belts to satisfy safety requirements. Furthermore, for reasons unknown, though it may be related to

the protection of trade secrets, no photography was permitted.

This trip provided valuable insight for those considering a career in the petroleum energy industry. It was yet another reminder that not all jobs are desk jobs, although sitting behind a desk sometimes may be a part of them. As an engineer you may be required to spend considerable amounts of time in front of a computer creating models. However, you might also get the chance to be more hands-on and assist in the creation, alteration, and maintenance of very large systems, in this case a system which takes up a vast spread of land extending over 32km south of Sarnia. Jobs in industry are full of opportunities to work in innovative environments with cutting edge technology. The Sarnia trip further confirmed that jobs in the petrochemical industry can be both challenging and rewarding.

The Great Act of General Petraeus



BRIAN SO
1A NANOTECHNOLOGY

It all started when Jim Kelly filed a complaint to CIA that she was receiving harassing emails from someone. The CIA quickly traced these emails back to Paula Broadwell, 40, mother of two, the biographer of General Petraeus and subsequently his lover. General Petraeus is the former director of the US Central Intelligence Agency, successfully commanding America's surge of troops in Iraq during the years 2007-2008. Some people believe that this was due to the general's vanity, the fact that he prefers to be surrounded by admiring staff, academics and through this affair, journalists as well. Soon after the emails were discovered to have been sent by Mrs Broadwell, FBI director Robert Mueller and Attorney General Eric holder were informed. The following is a detailed timeline of the entire situation.

In the spring of 2006, Paula Broadwell met David Petraeus. At the time, Paula was a graduate student at Harvard University and David was the US Army lieutenant-general. Roughly a year later, General Petraeus is confirmed publicly to be the commanding general for the troops that were currently fighting in Iraq. Mrs Broadwell then begins a case study of General Petraeus's leadership and how he managed to get to his current position. Because of this, she is invited

to join him and his team for a run along the Potomac River in Washington. But then in October 2008, General Petraeus takes position of the commanding general of the US central Command. As well, Jill Kelley becomes his family friend. Two years later, in June 2010, General Petraeus is confirmed as the commander of international forces in Afghanistan. A few months later, Mrs Broadwell decides to build on her PhD research by doing a biography of General Petraeus and as a result, begins to travel frequently to Afghanistan, gaining exclusive access to the General and his team of commanders. That fall, General Petraeus retires from the military and takes up the post as the director of CIA. They begin to have an affair.

It is early in the summer of 2011 now and Jill Kelley begins to receive harassing emails from an anonymous person. She reports this to one of her acquaintances in the FBI, prompting an investigation. At about this time, the affair between General Petraeus and Mrs Broadwell ended, according to Petraeus's spokesman. Soon after this, the investigations of the FBI regarding the harassing emails Jill Kelley has been receiving were traced back to none other than Mrs. Broadwell, a 40 year old mother of two. FBI Director Robert Mueller and Attorney General Eric Holder are informed of the situation. On the 21st of October, Mrs. Broadwell was interviewed by the FBI and admits to the affair. A day later, the same thing hap-

pens to General Petraeus; he denies to have disclosed any national security information during the affair. A week later, Mrs. Broadwell gives a speech at the University of Denver, in which she refers to unreported information about a deadly attack a month earlier on the US consulate in Benghazi.

On November 6th, President Obama has been elected for a second term. In addition to this, James Clapper the director of National Intelligence, is informed of the affair revolving around General Petraeus. On the 7th, the White house is informed by Clapper of the affair. This also happens to be General Petraeus's Birthday. President Obama arrives in Washington a day later, and having been informed by the White house of the affair, meets with the general afterwards. The general asks permission to resign. The day after, on the 9th of November, Obama accepts the resignation and the news becomes public before the congress is notified. Afterwards, on the 13th, General John Allen, the top US commander of Afghanistan is under investigation for potentially "inappropriate" contact with Mrs Kelley, 37.

The turn of events has been shocking to many needless to say. There is much discussion about the actions of General Petraeus both before and after his exposé. Did his choice to resign from his post show enough moral conscience for him to be forgiven? How is it possible that a man who has successfully safeguarded the security of an entire nation, has fallen due to such personal reasons?



Pablo Martinez Monsivais/AP Photo

General David Petraeus resigned as the Director of the CIA on November 9th

An Open Letter to Waterloo Engineering Students

**GORDON STUBLEY
DUSHANTH SEEVARATNAM**
ASSOCIATE DEAN, TEACHING
COURSE CRITIQUES DIRECTOR

A couple of weeks ago, willing volunteers (namely your Course Critiques director and whomever else he was able to recruit to help out) met to prepare the course evaluation packages — nearly 300 of them containing an average of 90 questionnaires each. The packages were sent to professors and instructors, who brought them to class. Student representatives distributed the questionnaires in class, collected them

when they were completed, and delivered them to the EngSoc office. This week, more student volunteers will meet to prepare the packages for computerized scanning; removing the extra golf pencils and blank questionnaires, making sure all the sheets face the same direction, and getting all the packages over to the scanner in MC.

It's a process that has been repeated every semester for over 40 years. And yes, it's quite a big undertaking, but it's one we believe is well worth it.

After the packages have been scanned (but only after course grades have been posted in Quest), the data will be used to

prepare reports for department chairs, and the original completed questionnaires will be distributed to the corresponding instructors for their own teaching development. The electronic data will be uploaded into a database that the Associate Dean, Teaching uses to inform course improvement efforts. The data will also be uploaded to the online Course Critiques site (www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/critiques/) so that you and future students may review the results.

Your thoughtful and candid responses to course evaluation survey questions have a big impact. Your instructors rely on your feedback to improve their teaching. Your

faculty and department use your feedback to make tenure and promotion decisions. And the Associate Dean, Teaching will use your feedback to help gauge how effectively our teaching supports our students.

Thank you for your time, your feedback, and, most importantly, for your continued support of this longstanding and valued process.

Sincerely,

Gordon Stuble,
Associate Dean, Teaching
Dushanth Seevaratnam
Course Critiques Director

International Exchange: Don't Miss the Opportunity

PETER ROE
DIRECTOR OF EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

International Exchange isn't for everyone, but it is one of the privileges and opportunities available to Waterloo Engineering. It also seems to be one of the best kept secrets in our Faculty, despite the efforts of the Faculty Exchange Office (FEO), located inside the Engineering Undergraduate Office in CPH 1320. Cindy Howe, the Administrative Coordinator for Exchange, and I, the Director of International exchange programs, work hard to publicize exchange, but our messages don't always get through.

If you are in 2B this term, you still have the opportunity to apply for exchange in the Fall 2013 or Winter 2014 terms. But there are very firm deadlines. You must complete the Engineering Faculty Application process before you leave campus at the end of this term if you want to be sure of a place. Even though some of the Engineering schools will accept late applications, you cannot be sure of going unless you meet the due date. Getting the information together to fill in the forms (available on the Engineering Exchange website, www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~exchange. Just follow the links to the forms) can be both time-consuming and arduous. Once you have done that, filling the forms in takes next to no time, but you have

signatures to collect and a pre-acceptance interview to complete before it's all done. You have exams, and then you'll be leaving for Christmas and a work term, so use the spare time now to get the application done.

If you are in 2A this term, you have more time available. You can think of an exchange term(s) to replace 3A or 3B (or both), which normally take place in Winter and Fall of 2014. In some cases it's possible to do an exchange term in place of 4A. Many people don't know that when you go on exchange you can change the normal sequence. For instance, you can move 3A from Winter to the previous Fall, and your Fall work term to the following Winter, if it's more convenient from the point of view of finding appropriate courses at our partner institutions. After all, there's nothing 'set in stone' about the order in which subjects are taught, or about when you must learn them. We merely require that each term is completed and that you end up with the correct number of satisfactory work terms. Note: if you do decide to move your 3A to Fall 2013, you will have to complete and submit your application before you leave campus at the end of this term.

All of this may seem complicated, and it is, but we at FEO are here to help. Moreover, in your department, there are professors, particularly the undergraduate Associ-



kaist.edu

**Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology,
a possible destination for an exchange term**

ate Chair, and their staff, who will help you in various parts of the process.

Whether you are in 2A or 2B now, or whether you are still in 1A, one important matter is to get yourself 'on the list' for an exchange to your chosen destination. Each of our partners sets strict limits to the numbers of students that we can send them. Even though we have more than 80 possible destinations, some are more in demand than others, and we fill the spots on a first come first served basis. You should not fill in the application before letting the FEO know, for there may not be a spot available. But, and this is very important, when you make it on to the list, you are blocking later applicants, so be sure about your choice. If you

change your mind, you may have stopped another student from fulfilling a dream, so don't apply before you have made a firm choice for exchange.

International Exchange is worth all the trouble. I gave a presentation during International Education week this term and there were a dozen students who had returned from exchanges in Europe and the Far East there to help. All of them agreed that the Exchange program was a highlight of their education. Indeed, all the returned exchange students that I have seen, without exception, over the last decade, were enthusiastic about the experience. Typically, they agree that international exchange was an experience of a lifetime.

Getting Electives Done on Co-op



JOSHUA KALPIN
2A SOFTWARE

Course selection is a fairly simple process. We are usually given one elective course per term until we get to fourth year, and this course is usually a complementary studies elective (CSE). However, picking this one course, one of those precious electives that the engineering gods have granted on us, can be an arduous challenge. Unless

you are taking course like PSYCH 101 or ECON 101, where the course is offered in every term (exception for ECON if you want to take it with Larry Smith; but that is beside the point), it can be a challenge to take all the courses that you want to take. Luckily, there is a solution to this problem. It may cost money and seem crazy at first, but taking an extra course on co-op can alleviate this and many other problems.

So, before diving into how you can take a course on co-op, it is important to talk about some concrete reasons on why this could be the thing for you.

First, if you want to do an option, minor, or even a double major (Yes, people do those), it can be nearly impossible to fit in all the required courses without having to take a co-op term off or overload your schedule. By taking one of your other electives or requirements for your option, minor or second major on co-op, you can fit all of these in.

Second, as previously mentioned, engineers have a very limited number of elective courses. In many cases there are a lot of upper year technical electives (TE) that you could be interested in taking. Moreover, the ability to take all those courses is hindered by the fact that in most programs you are limited to only four TEs. A solution to this is once again taking other electives on co-op to give you more room in third and fourth year to take more TEs.

Last, it can be a lot less stressful to take certain courses on co-op rather than during the school term. PD courses typically have a low workload and you usually will have a lot more free time during co-op than during the school year. This makes taking English, History, or any other subject that you'd find enjoyable possible, because you have a lot more time to complete readings or other work.

Now, taking courses on co-op is not for everyone, or even every work term. If you are short of cash, a course on co-op is not recommended because they are fairly expensive. For instance, this winter to take a

course on co-op as an engineer costs \$1213. This is the largest deterrent but if you can afford it, go for it.

Another factor in choosing whether or not to dive into a course on co-op is where and whom you are working for. If you are not working near or on campus, you are limited to online courses. Online course selection is limited, and as written about previously, is not for everyone. Even if you work near or on campus, you usually are limited to classes that do not conflict with work hours, which for most people are three hour long night classes.

So, if you have decided to take a course on co-op, you are probably thinking about how you would go about this? Well, the first thing you should do is decide on the work term and the course you want to take. Once you have that figured out, you should get a course override form (www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/forms/CourseOverride.pdf) filled out and make an appointment with your academic advisor. Once the form is submitted, you are gold!

Hopefully this article has enlightened you to why you should and how you can take courses on co-op. If this isn't for you but you still want to take extra courses, speak to your academic advisor. There are many other options out there for enhancing your degree for you to explore. Just remember to act fast: to quote Game of Thrones, "winter is coming" and time to enroll for the next work term is running out.

Statistics Contest

2012-2013

Prizes: \$1000 \$700 \$500 \$300

To enter, take a topic from your statistics or probability course and give it a makeover. Team up with your friends, combine talents and design some interesting activity to help statistics students deepen their understanding of the subject. Hand in a video, animation, game, or simulation and go for the top prize.

The 2012 Statistics Contest is open to all undergraduates of the University of Waterloo.

Find all the details on the contest website: <http://watstat.ca/contest.html>

Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
University of Waterloo

Chef Mwanza White: Cooking Across Continents



ZAC YOUNG
2012 JUNIOR FELLOW

ZAC IN ZAMBIA

My name is Zac, and I am one of the 2012 Junior Fellows from the University of Waterloo Engineers Without Borders Chapter. For the next few months I will be working in an organization called Kulamela, who facilitate growth of innovation and entrepreneurship through education in Lusaka, Zambia. Below are my most recent thoughts and observations from my life overseas. To read my blogs, visit zacinzambia.wordpress.com

Welcome to Chef Mwansa White's "Cooking Across Continents!" Today's programme features a sweet, maple start to your day and a hearty, coma-inducing nshima closer. Let's get started!

Last weekend, I went back to visit my first host family and cooked up a little bit of Canada for breakfast. The dish? Pancakes of course! I was already scheming about this morning a couple months prior when I was packing my bags for Zambia, adding in a bottle of our delicious, golden elixir, maple



Zac Young

Where the magic began. The workbench of Canadian flavour.

syrup. Don't travel without it! Here's how they came together:

Gold Coin Flapjacks (feeds 3-4)

- ¾ cup flour
- 1 and ½ teaspoons baking powder
- 1 and ½ teaspoons sugar (or syrup!)
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 egg
- ¾ cup milk
- 2 tablespoons melted butter



Zac Young

The pancakes cooking away; gold in colour and taste!

Combine all dry ingredients in a large mixing bowl. Beat the egg and add milk and butter. Blend the dry mixture with the wet until just mixed through. Add milk to attain the right consistency – just thin enough that the pancake will spread to the desired thickness.

Cook in frying pan on medium heat with an anti-stick agent. Put small dollops of batter into pan and let spread into pancake. Flip once bubbles have come through batter to top and popped. Bottom side should now be golden brown – if not adjust heat accordingly.

The pancakes were topped off with a sweet drizzle of maple syrup and a spoonful of raspberry jam. The taste testers claimed it was a smash hit and were happy to keep the recipe and syrup for another morning of Canadian cuisine.

Starting the day off sweet (by taste and personality, if you please) is the best way to go, but closing the evening off with a filling, complete dinner is the perfect setup for a good rest and another day of being fantastic. When it comes to the complete three-course sleep-inducer, no one does it like Zambians do. So let's see how we do:

The ZNBC: Zambian Nshima, Boerwors and Cabbage (feeds the whole country)

- 1 bowl of mielie-meal (to match the amount of water)
- 1 coil of boerwors (a type of sausage)
- 1-2 handfuls of chinese cabbage
- 1-2 tomatoes
- ½ white onion
- 1 saltshaker
- 1 pinch of curry spice (optional)



Zac Young

Not served on the same day as the cooking above, but it's the same delicious result!

Nshima: Bring a medium sized pot of water nearly to boil and slowly add mielie-meal while stirring cross-pot until water is near opaque and has started to feel thicker. It will thicken as it boils. Wait until mixture boils and observe behaviour. Target is a solid "pop" of sizable bubbles coming through. Aim to have too little and if not enough, mix a small amount more mielie-meal and water in a cup and add. Repeat until target "pop" is reached.

Cook at full heat for 5-10 minutes with lid on and then add more mielie-meal to thicken. Add in small portions and mix thoroughly (noodle armed chefs need not apply). Repeat until nshima is near desired thickness; usually so that it "goops" off of spoon and is hard to stir. End result will thicken when cooling. Dampen spoon and scoop out nshima loafs into warmer.

Boerwors: Preheat oven to about 400 degrees F and defrost boerwors. Place coil on pan and put in oven. Cook until no longer red through. Pan should retain juices that leak from the boerwors.

Soup: Wash tomatoes and onion and dice. Drain some of boerwors juices into medium sized saucepan and add onions. Fry until onions have begun to soften, then add tomatoes. Once vegetables have started to brown, add a little more juices and then water until vegetables submerged. Boil soup and add (lots of) salt and curry spice (optional) to taste. Remove from heat when water has boiled off to desired amount of soup liquid. Do not boil to dry. Add in boerwors towards end to absorb flavour.

Cabbage: Wash cabbage and cut into thin pieces. Put in small pot and cook until softened. Add salt to taste. Add more salt to Zambian taste.

After the hearty, hands-on meal of nshima you should be well nourished and even more so – full! Nshima is great for lunch, dinner and, if you really love it, even breakfast. Do not operate heavy machinery or expect to participate in intense exercise after nshima because you will undoubtedly be in a coma. Eater also be warned – the middle of the nshima is still as hot as it was in the pot and you will experience a painful starch inferno if you are not careful to eat the edges first.

Thanks for joining Chef Mwansa White for this episode of "Cooking Across Continents" and remember when you are in the kitchen, feel free!

Canadian Doctors in Syria: Brave or Disloyal?

AMBIKA OPAL
EWB RESEARCH TEAM

Recently, at least two Canadian doctors have chosen to go to Syria to help treat the immense volume of civilians injured during the violence of the civil war. They have been smuggling essential medical supplies to hospitals, as well as briefly training medics in emergency first aid, so as to deal with the number of patients in the most efficient way.

Although some are applauding the doctors for risking their careers and lives to help those in great need, Canadian backlash has been immense. The primary argument against these doctors' actions is summed up in one Canadian's comment in a news article: "Meanwhile in Canada, people wait up to 7 hours in an emergency room to be admitted. Something is seriously wrong with the Government of Canada." The general population seems to believe that our government and doctors have a duty to Canadians to perfect our health care and other such systems, before going to help other countries. While there is validity in their concerns, some deeper analysis is needed to fully understand the problem and the extent of its ramifications.

Firstly, it should be understood that these doctors are not being sent by the government of Canada – their decision to leave and provide medical relief to Syria is purely their own. Secondly, the argument against these doctors leaving Canada should not be that their leaving will create longer wait times for us – there are such few doctors leaving that the effect on our wait times is negligible – but that their actions will not create sustainable change

in Syria. These doctors are going to high-conflict areas of Syria and briefly training medics in 15 minutes or less about the treatment of trauma patients as well as performing complicated procedures should the need arise. The reason why they train the medics for such a short time is that there are so many people needing medical assistance that there is simply not enough time to train the medics more thoroughly. This begs the question: are the doctors

creating a positive and sustainable change? The medics are insufficiently trained to create long-term medical benefits for Syria, and their help to the wounded does not address the root problem, which is the violence itself. Therefore, this cannot be a sustainable solution, but it is an efficient way to save the most lives possible in a short time constraint.

Essentially, a few Canadians have decided that Syria has a greater need for

doctors than Canada, and they are brave and determined enough to serve that greater need in what ways they can. They have realized that their moral obligation as doctors is not only to Canadians, but to all people. Whether those people are Syrian or Canadian, they are people nonetheless. We, as Canadians, can be proud of our morally-driven doctors and accept that a little sacrifice on our part can help save the lives of many.

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Michael Seliske

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DREW DUTTON
INCOMING
VP EDUCATION

Greetings engineers!

I would like to start by thanking everyone for all the support that I received during my campaign. I am very excited to be your next Engineering Society, VP Education. There is already a lot on-the-go in preparation for the upcoming months, and I would like to

highlight some of what is going on.

This past week, our new Exec team held interviews for the Spring 2013 term commissioner positions. Directorship applications have also been opened, so apply now! Additionally, your current VP Ed, Derek Thompson, has begun transitioning me to bring me up to speed with current affairs. This coming Monday, I will be accompanying Derek to the Co-op Working Group meeting for an introduction to the co-op program development process here at Waterloo.

Over the Winter term, I plan to review and edit the existing EngSoc Policy Manual with the rest of our Exec team and B-Soc. We hope to have the manual cleaned up and ready for use in time for the start of the Spring term. At the same time, I will stay in touch with the B-Soc VP Ed, Megan McNeil, to stay on top of developments in our domain. Of particular interest will be the much anticipated implementation of PDF resumes in JobMine, which will hopefully occur this upcoming term.

I am looking forward to representing the

engineering student body during my term of office. As mentioned in my campaign, it has been proposed that departments in engineering create eight month co-op streaming options. I plan on surveying engineering students to determine the general consensus of how students would like to see this implemented as soon as the details of the proposed changes are confirmed.

I wish you all the best of luck with your exams, and look forward to seeing you next May.

Signing off, Drew.

Guess Who's Back Again



DAVID BIRNBAUM
INCOMING PRESIDENT

Well hello again, long time no read! (YOU)

In case you forgot, my name is David Birnbaum, and I will be your president for the next 16 months. I would like to start by saying how excited I am to work with my amazing team of VPs over the next 16 months. (SHOULD)

We will be ratifying our speaker and commissioners for the Summer 2013 term tonight at the Engineering Society meeting at 6 PM in POETS, so be sure to come out. The TOOL will also be there, for my team and I to be sworn in!!!!!!! (VISIT)

Directorships should be mostly chosen, but I am sure that there are still some open. So check out the online application form ASAP!!!! (ME)

I plan on getting to work for you all right away. I have a meeting with the Dean tomorrow to talk about a bunch of the

ideas I want to start putting in place, and I will be keeping myself very busy over the co-op term. On the list of what I will be working on is creating the new Policy manual, which I hope to have in place by Joint Council 2013, implementing General Meetings for the Society, changing the way the elections for the Engineering Senator are done, starting the process of creating the textbook library, and much more. That is just a small sample of what my team plans to accomplish in the next 16 months, but we want to hear your ideas as well. (OUTSIDE)

If you have anything at all that you would like my team or I to work on for the Engineering Society, please do not hesitate to contact us. I can be reached at president.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca with all questions and comments. (POETS)

We will hopefully be keeping you updated over the coop term, and really look forward to seeing you all in the summer! (TODAY [Wednesday])

Good luck on your exams, and have a great co-op term. (BRING)

David Birnbaum (WATER)

Keeping Track of Yo' Funds



KEVIN MCNAMARA
INCOMING VP FINANCE

Hello Engineering Society A! My name is Kevin McNamara and I am going to be your new VP Finance for the next 16 months! I'm really looking forward to working with everyone for the next two terms, and I am very excited for the new executive team.

The job of the VP Finance is to keep track of the funds of the society, and ensure that your fees are being put to good use. This is done through the creation of a budget each term, as well as a number of other ventures such as the Engineering Capital Improvements Fund (ECIF), as well as the Sponsorship Committee. As your VP Finance I plan to ensure that your Engineering Society fee is working for you by making an effective and efficient budget that will fund

the events and services that you need. Additionally, I want to work towards improving awareness of ECIF, and try to get more proposals each term so that this fund can be put to good use.

I also plan to continue pumping up novelties and coverall sales. First and foremost, I hope to get more new items in novelties (not just patches!), as well as updating some of the long-time favourites. I also plan on holding a number of design competitions so that you can have an influence on your swag! I hope to work together with the novelties directors to have some awesome sales throughout the term, and gather your feedback on what types of items you would like to see in the store. If you have any questions, ideas, suggestions, or anything you would like to ask me or talk to me about, feel free to approach me in the halls, or contact me while we're on co-op! I hope everyone has an awesome winter term, see you in the spring!

Bad Jokes for Everyone



LEILA MEEMA-COLEMAN
VP EXTERNAL

Hello Waterloo engineers! I'm so excited to be your VP External for the next sixteen months and will do my best to represent you and the faculty! I would like to take the time in this article to talk about what I hope to do over the next four months and what to get pumped for in spring term.

January is a very exciting month with two big conferences. The first is Canadian Federation of Engineering Students (CFES) Congress organized by Waterloo Engineering students and the second is the First Year Integration Conference (FYIC) at Lakehead University. Delegates have already been selected, and they will be reporting back with reports and blog posts on what they have learned! Keep your eye out for applications for the next conference in June — the Engineering Student Societies Council of Ontario (ESSCO) Annual General Meeting.

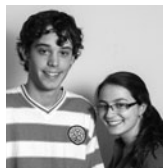
Another project I will be working on is improving the Engineering Ambassador program with the faculty's outreach director and the EngSoc directors. We hope to expand the program to include more students, offer more leadership opportunities,

and have more events for incoming students at the March Break Open House and You@Waterloo day!

Directorship applications are open right now and I am so happy with the overwhelming amount of applicants for the charity and outreach directorships! I will be working with these directors over the next few months to expand the amount of charity and volunteer opportunities that EngSoc offers. Some things to look forward to are the revival of Change for Charity, a charity-purling event, and many other fun events! Other VP Ex directorships to look at are Canada day (you get to organize games for kids from the community!) and environmental director! Another project I will be working on is to start making connections with the PEO chapters (both the Grand River and the Toronto chapter near my co-op) to see what services they currently offer students and how we can improve them.

If anyone would like any more information on any of my goals or wants to help out with anything under the VP External portfolio, please send me an email or come talk to me! I'm just way too excited for the next term that I can't think of a cosign sentence. So to finish off my first VP External IW article, here is my latest favourite bad joke! How do you catch a unique animal? Unique up on him!

Two Peas in A-Soc



ANNAMARIA REDA
BRENDAN O'HANLON
INCOMING
VPS INTERNAL

Hey everyone, we're Annamaria and Brendan and we will be your VP Internal for the next 16 months! We're really excited to work for the Engineering Society and the engineering students to expand the events and services offered. We really want to ensure that all students feel that they are getting the value out of their Engineering Society fee.

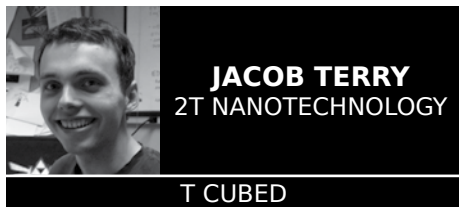
One of our short term goals is to improve the ways that events and services are advertised to the student body. We want to utilize the incoming LCD screens to show off video and slide-show advertisements. We'd also like to expand the use of social media advertising within Facebook and Twitter. Another goal is the implementation of a series of academic and student-success oriented events and workshops. This would include workshops like "How to get a job outside of Jobmine", and "Interview Skills". In doing this, we're looking to broaden the range of events and services

offered to the students. At the same time, we are still going to make sure that existing events are as exciting as possible. Look forward to Beach Day, Canada Day, Engenuity and more in the spring term.

We encourage you to apply for a directorship for the spring 2013 term. If you have an idea for a new event or service that is not currently on the list, no problem! We're excited for new ideas, and we can help you start your own directorship. In addition, we are also looking for interested students to assist us with the new workshops previously mentioned. So, please contact us if you think you can help! A-Soc Directorship applications will be open until Nov 30th on the EngSoc website. Even if you don't feel like taking on a directorship, why not come out to some Engineering Society events? If you've never been, you don't know what you're missing! Events like EngPlay and Scavenger Hunt have been some of the greatest experiences we've had in University.

The next 16 months will be an incredible experience for us, and we hope that the events and services offered by Engineering Society will make you feel the same way!

Israel, Hamas and the Social Media Era of Government



Thirty years ago, people would never have imagined that we would have such a heavy connection to the Internet and its many orifices. Indeed, wars have been waged over public announcements, denouncements and acts of physical warfare for millennia. The never-ending hostilities between Israel and Hamas have led the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) to launch an offensive over Twitter as *@IDFSpokesperson*, marking the first time such a major act of hostility has been announced using a social media platform, stating “The IDF has begun a widespread campaign on terror sites & operatives in the #Gaza Strip, chief among them #Hamas & Islamic Jihad targets.”

The IDF had been posting to the account before their declaration, regularly announcing death toll numbers and operatives it was undertaking, as well as commenting on trending Western topics using strangely casual terminology to attract attention to their own military goals. One example reflected the recent release of *Skyfall*, stating “Think #*Skyfall* was a wow? These IDF gadgets will make Q eat his heart out.”

After declaring its intent to attack sites in the Gaza Strip, the IDF began posting more aggressive statuses, eventually threatening “We recommend that no Hamas operatives, whether low level or senior leaders,

show their faces above ground in the days ahead,” to which Hamas’s armed wing (*@AlqassamBrigade*) replied “Our blessed hands will reach your leaders and soldiers wherever they are (You Opened Hell Gates on Yourselves).” Since then, hundreds of updates have been posted to both accounts, effectively giving a direct narrative of the entire conflict with timestamps and extended details, albeit biased towards their respective goals.

Reading through either account’s updates reads very strangely, as you see them discuss very serious topics with the usual jovial tone someone would use to describe a cute face their baby is making or a puppy they passed by on the sidewalk. Even in the aforementioned *Skyfall* tweet, a seemingly harmless ad-like message is juxtaposed with a link to the advanced weapons the IDF used in its conflict. One of the most disturbing series of posts is not on their Twitter accounts but on the IDF’s Instagram account, where they posted images of soldiers looking happy and casual, with captions such as “We’re coming for you gaza! #idf #igers #israel #igdaily #ig_israel #instagood #instamood #iphonesia #iphoneonly #picoftheday #ohb #all_shots #sexy #follow #gmy #gang_family #ji #cute #beautiful #me #webstagram #bt.” After a ceasefire was placed eight days after the commencement of the operation, the torrent of updates ground to a sudden halt, ending the strange series of updates from both sides.

The bizarre glorification of their military forces and accomplishments, placed in a setting normally reserved for harmless ri-

valry in a worst case scenario, appears to be setting a different tone for social media services, and is perhaps showing a sign of the maturing nature of the Internet. Instead of being asked to share or retweet how much you like One Direction’s new album, you are now being asked to share “if you agree that Israel has the right to defend itself.” While the Gaza skirmish is over for the time being, this method of drumming up public support is only beginning. If anything, the social media campaign was a success for both opponents, since it managed to bring their affairs and concerns into the minds and daily conversations of others around the world. Israel’s success at being the first of the two to successfully market its view on the war persuaded some European leaders to throw their support behind Israel alongside the United States, an interesting move considering Europe typically is more comfortable with Palestinian groups than North America.

The presidential election in the United States in early November, although it involved a less acute situation than the battles in the Middle East, was another recent example of the power of good social networking. Obama’s campaign, since its inception in 2008, has made exceptional use of the tools available to them online, which arguably helped boost his popularity among younger voters. Notably, in August, he opened an Ask Me Anything (AMA) thread on Reddit, where he answered select questions from users who posted, varying from light-hearted topics like the recipe for the White House beer, to more serious discussions such as how he would help stu-

dents manage their heavy debt loads. He then came back to Reddit right before the election to request that people vote for their candidates. Obama’s “Four more years” tweet also became the most retweeted entry on Twitter of all time after only a couple hours of being posted.

Corporations have already made huge inroads in understanding the nuances of social networking and advertising. One could argue that they have defined how people share and receive consumer information. While governments have taken time to follow their lead, we are entering an age where not only the people selling you iPods are connected to you on Facebook, but so too are the people who collect your taxes.

In the next few years, we could see an explosion in how many people connections people have to governmental entities. Already, people primarily connect to their political candidates, who rely on social media as a marketing tool to get themselves elected, but following the example of the White House, Hamas and the IDF, we could see the Ontario government using Facebook polls to gauge interest in public transit funding, or something more playful such as the German government using Pinterest to allow people to repin which parts of legislation they prefer (is that what people use it for?).

The Internet that most people hadn’t even dreamed would connect us so strongly is truly reaching a new age of its life. If we have been doing our banking, shopping, reading and socializing online, it is only a matter of time before the other parts of our life make it there too.

EngPlay Fall 2012: Peer Performed Humour at its Best

STEFAN SIRIANNI
3B CIVIL

Every now and then I’ll take the time to indulge in the talents of my peers. After all, now that many of us are in our early twenties, we have some pretty damn remarkable talents. Last Saturday I took the opportunity to watch several of these abilities on display in the Fall 2012 production of EngPlay — and let me tell you, from opening act to the final bow, the cast and crew did not disappoint. Their weeks of rehearsal were put to the test in the final rendition and they successfully left the audience roaring with laughter.

Directed by Megan Pollock and Mina Labib, the two-act epic was composed

of several shorter (unrelated) skits that kept intrigue up, and the jokes rolling. Interludes between set changes were filled by the comical stylings of Scott Walton and, much to his character’s despise, the well-timed musings of Ryan Collins. In an interview after the show, Walton stated that while there was a general plot direction being followed, most of their material was in fact improvised. Scripted or not, as the play progressed the audience couldn’t help but laugh at the hilarity that unfolded as a result of Walton’s ever emptying bottle of Jack, and ever increasing degree of nakedness on stage.

Admittedly, a review of the performance would probably have best been facilitated during a staging earlier in the week, as the

most I was able to (read inclined to) write down were the punch lines associated with each of the play’s skits. Nonetheless, the raucous atmosphere in the AL lecture hall on Saturday evening made the ensuing skits all the more entertaining to watch. A skit involving a (literally) blind date fed off the endless innuendos one might expect in such a situation, while the following scene in which a pre-pubescent Sean Walsh explores the possibility of “liking girls” with his pals (much to their dismay, of course). These two skits made for a strong opening act and left the audience eagerly awaiting more laughs at intermission.

Act two saw the continuation of the Walton and Collins subplot, along with a rather intriguing take on Romeo and Juliet.

It is at this point that “crowdiness” hit an all time high during the performance, and my note taking peaked in terms of incomprehensiveness.

Ask anyone in attendance over the three-day span of performances though, and they will all tell you the exact same thing: the cast and crew of this term’s EngPlay hit the funny bone spot-on with their performance. For what was potentially the final send-off for veteran directors Megan Pollock and Mina Labib (although who am I kidding, they’ll probably direct next winter too), it was truly a job well done. I send my sincerest congratulations to the entire cast and crew for their hard work this term; thank-you for giving us all a good laugh before exams.

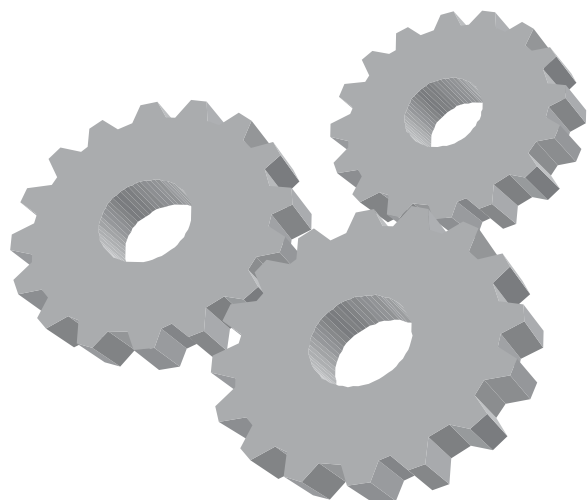
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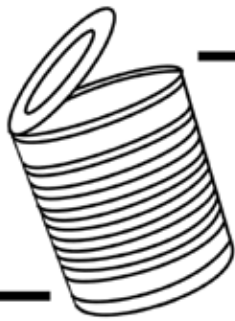
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THE GUIDE TO POPPIN' 'EM TAGS

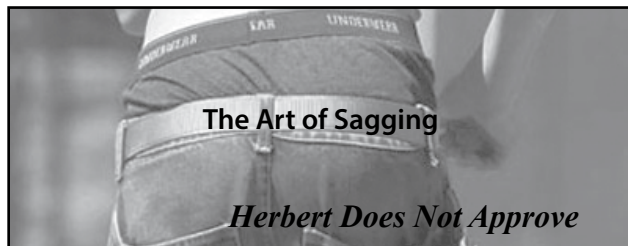
IF TODAY IS THE PRESENT, WHERE'S MY GIFT?



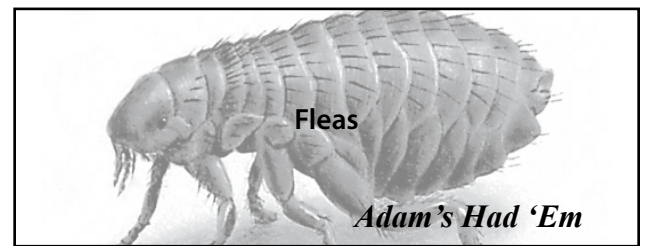
NEAC Likes Sexy Time

It's a TurCastle; beat that!

We're sticking together in a sea of men...or semen.



The Art of Sagging

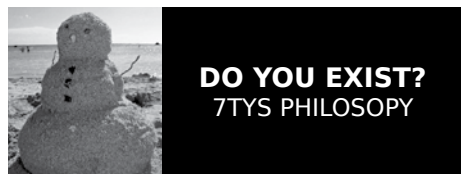
Herbert Does Not Approve

Fleas

Adam's Had 'Em

Imprint needs to stop stealing my front page features!

Hurricane of the Suggestively Sandy Variety Hits POETS

DO YOU EXIST?
7TYS PHILOSOPY

On November 22nd, a sandy hurricane struck POETS. While normally being a place to watch movies, drink a beer, procreate, or have creepy pictures taken of you while you sleep, POETS was transformed into a scene from Baywatch or Gilligan's Island. The floor transformed into a beach littered with beach toys, sandy bitches, signs dictating "No Pants Zones" or to "Beware of [Nina Evelyn Amber Crystal's] Crabs" and a magical treasure chest filled with creepy and sexual

wonders. Even the bar went Hawaiian Style with leis, a waterfall, and a drink called the "Shekurté", that, while not Sex on the Beach, was equally sexy and beachy.

The reaction to POETS' sudden transformation was immediate and varied. Scott, a student who wished to be unnamed, was thrilled by the beach. "This is the MOST fabulous thing EVER! I can't wait to show off my figure tomorrow havi... I mean drinking Sex on the Beach!" he stated. Another student, who did wish to be named, was not pleased. Said person stated, "I hate the beach. I'm going to the Kickoffice." He clearly was not impressed.

However, not all was fun and games in POETS. The magical treasure chest, prior

to POETS opening, was filled with evil sand snakes. These snakes, whose bites are known to either cause intense sexual arousal or sexual disgust, are considered extremely offensive and were swiftly dealt with by Snake Wrangler Graham, a person who wished to remain unnamed. Even with masterful snake wrangling, one of the sand snakes continued to harass the denizens and Baywatch babes of POETS throughout the rest of the day.

Editor's and POETS Manager's Note: If you see the sand snake DO NOT pick it up with your hands, you may get rabies. Remember to always use protection!

With the sand, sun, and babes came many other things to do. Sandcastles sprang up everywhere, featuring designs from the magical poop to the magic kingdom. As the day went on, engineers were surprised at how artistic and sexual their designs became. It is almost as if the not-quite-Sex on the Beach was taking effect.

On this day, it was also re-enforced that engineers love playing with big balls and their rings. Games of beach volleyball spontaneously erupted throughout the day while others enjoyed playing ring toss with the big teets in POETS. All of this continued until a person who wished to be named caused a rupture in the boardwalk. This person was publicly shamed and was then attacked by the sand snake. He was never heard from again.

The cause of the spontaneous sexually



Alroy Almeida (he wanted to feel included)

Safety first.

sandy hurricane still remains unknown, but a group named NEAL has claimed responsibility. Who these people are is anyone's guess, but with the introduction of sand snakes, it appears they are a terrorist organization. Further dissecting their name, NEAL appears to be an acronym for Never Ever Act Legal, further reinforcing the terrorist idea.

There are rumors POETS has returned to normal as of November 25th. While the reason POETS was struck by a sexually sandy hurricane seems to remain a secret, it will leave an ever-lasting impression on everyone involved.



Michael Seliske

This never happened...

QNC Closes For Another 5 Years, Re-Open Maybe?

SADFACE NANO
5YRS RAWR-ING

Surprise, surprise, after 5 years of anticipation and delays the Quantum-Nano Centre (QNC) has opened so that it can be closed again! So do you think you can go inside in 2013?! Well don't get your hopes up too high, actually don't even think that at all. After our exclusive interview with the QNC people, it turns out they have to fix more problems and add more components to the building than initially expected.

Starting with the problems; the enhanced quantum effects produced by the building have caused a great deal of problems that the architects are having difficulty getting around. But before we dive into this particular topic, I would like to mention one thing. You know how physicists have been saying it's the electrons of matter that interact with each other, for example if you touch someone; it's actually your electrons touching? Well turns out they were right. The enhanced quantum tunneling, being produced by the building, has caused the electrons holding the door handles to the door to constantly tunnel away. This in turn has caused all the

door handles in the building to constantly fall off.

The other problem that the QNC is dealing with is money. One of the biggest donors for the QNC is the Blackberry company, Research in Motion (RIM). However, due to the current situation of the company, RIM has asked for the return of all their money. The company even went as far as saying that they will "Occupy QNC" if the wealth isn't returned.

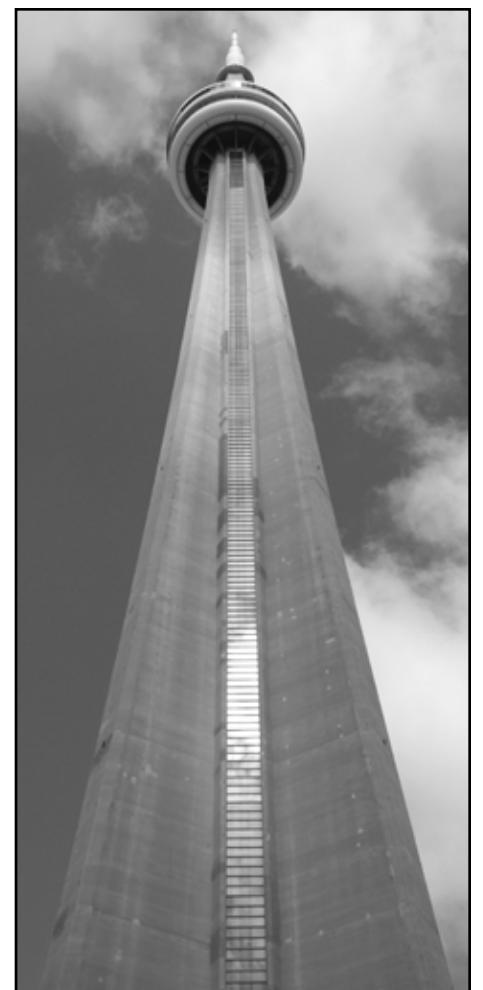
The last problem being currently addressed is in response to the complaints of the researching professors and supervisors. They are complaining that Bomber Wednesday is too distracting to their researching grad students. The supervisors feel that Bomber Wednesday will pull graduate students out of their labs and cause them to socialize with the rest of campus, reducing research efficiency by 6.9%. To prevent this from happening, the researching supervisors have requested a great wall to be built between the QNC and the SLC. We were told that the architect hired to build the wall is trying to seek inspiration from lasers since it resembles the personality of the school very well.

Fortunately, when the building opens up in 2017, as if, there would be some cool new additions. Firstly, due to the basement levels of the building being below the water table, researchers have requested to

the exterior side walls to be changed from concrete to glass. Furthermore, they have requested the addition of fish to the water table to create an aquarium like effect. Researchers are hoping that the "Finding Nemo" type environment will provide the inspiration they need to find that missing boson, electron, etc. needed to solve their design problems.

Another addition to the QNC will be the new Iron Warrior office space. Architects have told us that the space will be made entirely out of glass to create that nice newspaper office feel. The glass idea was highly favoured by all of the IW Editors-in-Chief (EIC), past and present, including the current EIC, Farzana Yusufali, who was reported saying, "at least future IW members will know that the furniture is for sure clean." By request of the surveyed engineering student body, the office space will even be placed on wheels and have a guard post to ensure security levels against the nearby Imprint members.

And there you have it. The architects are predicting that the implementation of these features, as well as, solving some of the current problems will take approximately ten, I mean five more years. This is kind of similar to Schrödinger's Uncertainty Principle in the sense that we may not know when the building will be complete, but we do know our tuition money is going to good use.



This is the CN Tower, which is open to the public (unlike some other building).

Letter From the Editor

The Last Document of Mankind; Morbid, Isn't It...



It's coming. I can feel it. I only just finished my last exam and, in a matter of hours, my three years put into this hole of despair will all be for naught. I'm exhausted yet I cannot sleep; I have to be prepared for whatever the worst may be. First, let's settle my affairs in order...who am I kidding? I'm a student! The most I can do is to eat all the food from my fridge. Oh, the humanity! What a terrible time for the world to end! What can I expect? A wave of nuclear shock-waves or the slow agonizing heat of death as the atmosphere is pulled away from the Earth's bare back. Or worse! A chasm that grows to un-calculable proportions as it pulls us into such depths that no cell phone signal could ever find its way out. What can I possibly do? All I can do is wait and watch as the clock slowly creep up to 12.

Tick, tock, tick, tock, tick, tock...I'm starting to shake.

Tick, tock, tick, tock, tick, tock,...it's getting close.

Tick, tock, tick...almost there...

The rooster flies out from the clock as it strikes the oh-so-familiar chime often heard on nights quite like this. While nothing was moving around me, I can feel the presence of an unspoken evil in the air that repeatedly sends chills up my spine.

I can't help but look around frantically as I struggle to finish this last account of mankind's existence. I can hear the noises now as I feel the presence of said evil surrounding the tiny space I have held as my refuge. There are no windows or walls in this place nor any sense of time passing. Only the little clock hanging above me indicates any passage of time. I hear them banging outside the door now. They've got a hold of the light switch and are flicking it on and off. I cannot hear any distinct craftsmanship of language nor the sounds of order.

It's chaos.

I try to find out more of what's happening outside the doors but my attempts at logging onto the Facebook are futile. I can only hope and pray that the man behind

such genius would have written more than that just status updates to document his life.

As of a few moments ago, I was plunged into communication darkness when my phone displayed no signal. I tried to go on the Interwebz; nothing. What was I supposed to do to bide my time now? Playing Solitaire is not enough to drown the horrors that will, inevitably, encroach itself upon me.

Oh no, the electricity is gone. My laptop has only forty minutes of battery left. The force outside is relentless as it hears me incessantly typing away. Now, if only such perils clawed after me when I was in Psychology class, perhaps those thousand-word papers would have been written in the record pace that I have now set for myself; however, I digress.

What is that I hear? Some strange music outside with the indication of synchronized movements. Some relief, I guess; the demons that come for the few that remain are intelligent creatures with a remarkable sense of rhythm. Yet again, I digress.

Looking back at what I have written so far, it can only be said that I write because I feel that it is a privilege, not a right, to do so. I could talk about the life I have led so far: the disappearance of Albert the Fly., the editorials "that don't even pretend to flow", the countless rants on all subjects, the consistent criticism of the nano class, the 4-column pictures (how they frustrate me!), and, of course, the disappearance of Hans Solo.

Oh wait! I've been interrupted again not by the noises but the sudden silence that descends outside the shielding powers of my door. I now hear power and glamour somehow intertwined as the deliberate "clickity-clack" makes its way closer to the door. Suddenly, it stops. It says something indiscernible that I can't make out...

SMASH!

The door comes crashing down while the lights are shutout permanently! I struggle to add the last words of this passage before they take control of my vices. I've never typed so fast in my life as they rush and gra...

No! I need to fin... adifjaoidfjuoiajeadkfjdfda...I fear the unkn...

They've let me go...but not before the creature embedded something under my

skin. They've left me be as they hunt their next victim. I don't know how much time I have but I resolve to continue writing, whether it makes any sense or not. I highly doubt that whoever survives will find this useful but it keeps me busy nonetheless.

With this possibly being the last paragraph I ever write, I can only say that Success Baby is the only good thing to come out of the insurgence of memes, LEGO is the greatest toy ever, and I hate peas...I seem to be losing my mental faculty. I feel the need to kick of my Chuck's and put on some five-inch heels. It must be the toxin that flows through me. I'm now feeling light-headed and am struggling to wr...

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Hello again! It's me! I must say that I'm going to be quite different from what you're used to. For one, I never wear pants nor I do I consider anything flat in nature to be an acceptable form of footwear. Oh Rocky, my darling! How lovely it is to see how well you're building your muscles. I can see how that laser made of pure antimatter can never penetrate the bulging biceps or the pulsating pectorals that form the gentle ripples on your body. You and I need to give ourselves over to absolute pleasure and swim the warm waters of sins of the flesh - erotic nightmares beyond any measure!



WindUpMySkirt

Letter to the Editor

An Ode to the Unpublished Article



Once upon a time, at the beginning of the term, an article was crafted which was pure of heart and glowing with untainted intentions. This lovely article was put together to educate the masses on the evils which linger in the deepest darkest corners of our small kingdom of learning. Though this enlightened kingdom fosters denizen pursuits of greater knowledge and exploration, it also plays host to a darker type of citizen. Composed mainly of evil, these dishonourable citizens skulk around about both in the dark and in the light of day, taking illegal possession of the transportation so dear and beloved to its naive, youthful owners, the pure-hearted and honest citizens of the great Kingdom. Alas, not a word of warning was being disseminated among the masses. No cautionary tales of ineffective bike chains or the theft of the very wheels of these oh-so-important transportation devices.

Luckily, a good citizen was there for their less distrusting peers. Word would get out about the evils lurking about! Cautionary tales and useful advice like the fact that they must use proper U-locks in place of a chain. No rest for the wicked so no rest for the good. Alas, yet again, disaster struck. The pure little article was not permitted in the paper! Ignorant of the terror this evil could wreck, the editor and her minions did not see the need and so refused to set the seed of doubt in the minds of their innocent readers. With sadness, the good-hearted citizen watched in hopeless despair as friend after friend fell victim to the evils lurking out there.

But, perhaps, it was not too late, time remained, people could still be saved! Week after week, the good-hearted citizen continued to try; they did not want the hopes and the dreams of others to die. An article in October couldn't go wrong, the evils were still out there, still time for bike owners to pay head to the cautionary song. Compassion, the good citizen found, was quick to run dry. As days and weeks continued to pass by, the citizen increasingly sighed.

As December 21st approaches, it brings with it the threat of the end of the world. "You can't run, nor can you hide the believers" are heard to cry. The good citizen demanded, "How does this make you feel?" Destruction approaches, it has many forms, a solar flare, earthquake, tsunami, and more. The possible terrors just make you want to run out the door. How must they feel, our Editor and Co. For now, with possibly only 24 possible days remaining, they must know the mental pain inflicted on the good citizens of the Kingdom of Learning. Through their purposeful omission, they must know that in the limited time left to us, they could have saved others the undue stress and betrayal.

Then one day, not so long ago, the good citizen suffered the ultimate betrayal. Though guilty they were, through omission alone the citizen had thought. But their actions were not so innocent, she found. That fateful day she noticed money being exchanged in a back alley, the Editor and the evil bike thieves were working together, one hand rubbing the other! The end of the world had actually come!



Bribery is Highly Encouraged (Pumpkin Spice Lattes Preferred)

The All-Seeing Eye
Miz-Taken

Bastard Son of Cronus
Pippy Longstocking

Morse Coders
Dino's Cousin
Hipster Wannabe
Initials Only
Why You Yell At Me?

The Last Newscrew
UK Underground Music
Scarab Boy

Head Slave
I've got another Heymans!

The Social Network
JT
That's it

Hamburger Helpers
Cheese
Sundried Tomato
420

The Minions
!Velociraptor
Sadface Nano
Former Dictator of Universe
John Doe
Geese Herder
Not-So-Great Meese Herder
Sketchy Doctor
Big Bird's Therapist

Did You Pass the ELPE?
Zombie Lover
Tim Curry
Walnut
Grande Supreme Unicorn
Apple Jacks
Bronco Bama

IN THE JUNGLE, THE MIGHTY JUNGLE

Mr. I-Do-All-Things
Renaissance Man

Board of Everything
This is not a democracy...
Not Legal to Vote Anymore
Cilantro

Title Failure
Long Long Review

The Tin Soldier is not a forum for thought-provoking and informative articles, and has no association whatsoever with the Society of the Travelling Covies. Views expressed in *The Tin Soldier* are not those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Chuck Norris.

The Tin Soldier encourages submissions from students, faculty and members of the Non-Existent Action Committee. Submissions should reflect the concerns and intellectual standards of the The Society of the Travelling Pants in general. The author's name and phone number should be included, except if they are non-existent. This information may or may not be posted on our website.

All submissions, unless otherwise stated, become the property of *The Tin Soldier*, which reserves the right to refuse publication of material which it deems too suitable. However we're so desperate for content that we'll likely take it (but we might just send it to *Imprint*). *The Tin Soldier* also reserves the right to edit grammar, spelling and text that do not meet university standards, but engineers suck at english so it's a low standard.

Mail should be addressed to PJ Katie, c/o YTV Canada, P.O.Box 7500, Paris, Ontario, N2L 3W7. We do not currently have a phone, however you may redirect all inquiries to Kickoff's, as we're likely there.

Point Vs. Counterpoint

POINT

SNAPPER THE GOOSE 3C GEESE HERDING

When it comes to four legged mammals, geese clearly have this one in the bag! I mean, meese aren't even grammatically correct! But then again, the shit's hit the fan with this issue and grammar has long since been abandoned. It looks like I'll need to win this point the old fashioned way; by throwing shit at the opponent.

First off, meese would lose so badly in a fight against the geese. Have you seen how vicious the geese are? They can stop you from getting to exams! The only thing the meese can do is stand in your way! Now you may be thinking that they are just small creatures, what can they do against the massively sized meese? The answer is in the numbers. SWARMS. They attack in massive swarms, easily able to overwhelm just about anything. The geese are vicious, and intelligent, able to follow you and hunt you down across campus. Just look at those seemingly innocent looking beaks: you can just tell that they're planning something, and when it comes, you'd best be prepared.

Now let's move onto the real shit. Meese are disgusting, destructive animals to society. They shit all over the place, making it impossible to avoid their disgusting shit. Geese, on the other hand, can be productive with their shit. The "Loose Goose" design project (published in a previous Tin Soldier) has

a way to convert shit to fuel. Think of the possibilities! Geese shit could sustain the energy needs of an entire community, while the only thing moose shit can do is stink up the place.

Now you may all be thinking "But geese are just small, scrawny animals. How can they stand up to the majestic meese?" Simple. Geese don't need to be majestic when they can be fear inducing. These terrifying beasts can fly, raining down hell upon all those that dare oppose them. Death from the skies in massive, vicious swarms. You best think twice before opposing these deadly overlords.

And yet, for all of their deadliness, geese are still better people than meese by far. Geese are loyal to the end, never abandoning a fallen comrade in the heat of battle, nor the duration of migration. And they are lazy. These geese know how to live. So if you want to make it to the next year alive, you'd best be embracing our new feathered overlords, and hoping that their far-more-intelligent-than-meese brains find enough mercy to let you live.



The Meta Picture

This moose lost the rest of his meese

WILLIAM SHITNER 1A MEESE JOUSTING

Ladies and gentlemen, I have one word for you:

Meese.

Simply saying it is enough to strike terror into any sane person's heart. These kings of the animal kingdom have been dominating our society since the dawn

of recorded history. Their intelligence, cunning nature and supreme power leave nothing to be desired. If you are ever to come across the majestic meese, you have one hope, and one hope only: show your ultimate respect for the creature. We aren't even

talking Hippogriff-level respect here, nor the pissed-off-mommy level of respect. We are talking about the speak-only-when-spoken-to-don't-make-eye-contact-leave-only-when-granted-permission level of undying respect. Using the word meese in any sort of disrespectful sense may have terrible consequences.

Meese are born with their eyes open, obvious signs of their omniscient power and terrible wisdom of the world. No human has ever been able to sustain a conversation with the mighty meese, but we can expect great wisdom and knowledge of the infinite would result if it ever comes to pass.

Some have tried to hypothesize the out-

come of a battle if meese and geese were ever to encounter in an all-out, battle to the death brawl, and I only ask one question about this: Why is this even a question? The only way the meese would ever lose against geese would be if the meese decided to let the geese win, and even then the meese might win by the sheer lack of functionality on the part of the geese. A single member of the meese tribe is worth each and every goose in existence, that ever existed, and ever will exist.

The might of the meese has been instilled in our culture for centuries -- a national symbol in Canada, they represent all that is majestic and fierce in the world. The Queen of England herself once sought to welcome meese into Buckingham Palace, but the meese found the halls not regal enough for themselves and declined the insulting offer. They far prefer to be revered as deities, and left to do their own godly business.

Speaking of business, meese excrement, the least valuable part of the existence that is meese, are a class ten non-tradable good, as constitution state they are considered holy relics and must be protected. However, their black market value sees them selling at over 9 billion dollars per gram. Legend says the taste of meese excrement causes divine revelations in humans, but oft is overwhelming and can cause insanity if ingested in large amounts. A pseudo-dessert has been created in tribute to this legend, dubbed "Meese Tracks".

To conclude on a civil note, let me just address those who say that geese are superior because they can fly. They need know only one thing: meese do not require the need to fly, as there exists no such thing as an "obstacle" for meese that they need to overcome.

COUNTERPOINT

Note from the Crazy Hair Lady:
Point Vs. Counterpoint is a feature meant to stimulate thought about why the English language is stupid. In this case, the views and opinions do reflect the authors of the *Tin Soldier*. Now, you can blame it on the a-a-a-a-a-alcohol.

Fashion Crime Accusations Under Investigation



DISGRUNTLED HOB 12 BUCKLE-MY-SHOE

A Waterloo engineering professor at the University of Waterloo has recently been accused of copying the fashion sense of a local man. Earlier this year, the professor in question (who cannot be named pending further investigation) appeared on campus dressed in a manner that university officials and students alike called "deeply disturbing." While the combination of short shorts and a trench coat was bad enough, a Kingston man has come forward claiming that this particular combination was modelled exactly after an outfit he had appeared in for the majority of the previous year.

Mr. Jackass McLovin, of no fixed address, insists that he has a prior claim on the combination, which he says that he has been wearing "on and off, since 1993." In a message left scratched on the Iron Warrior's door, McLovin said, "all tHose clothes he wearing are MINE copied eXactly not evin [expletive] alterd or Nothing." Though Dr. ---- has acknowledged the similarity between the two outfits, none of the items of clothing are actually identical.

According to McLovin, the idea behind the ensemble was far more significant than the items themselves. "How do i kno what this prefes perfessess perfessor is planning to do dressin like me? Everything i wear i

need for a REASON. he says he never saw me butt i dont beleve it. he mite be trying to replace me and im the ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS. that coates not just a coat it keeps the aliens from seeing me and for all i know hes working with the ALIENS."

Administrators and officials say that the university is looking into McLovin's assertions immediately. "We take all accusations of this kind very seriously," said an anonymous source. "We wish to make it clear that while this claim is somewhat unprecedented, we are investigating with due diligence and hope to make an appropriate decision as soon as possible."

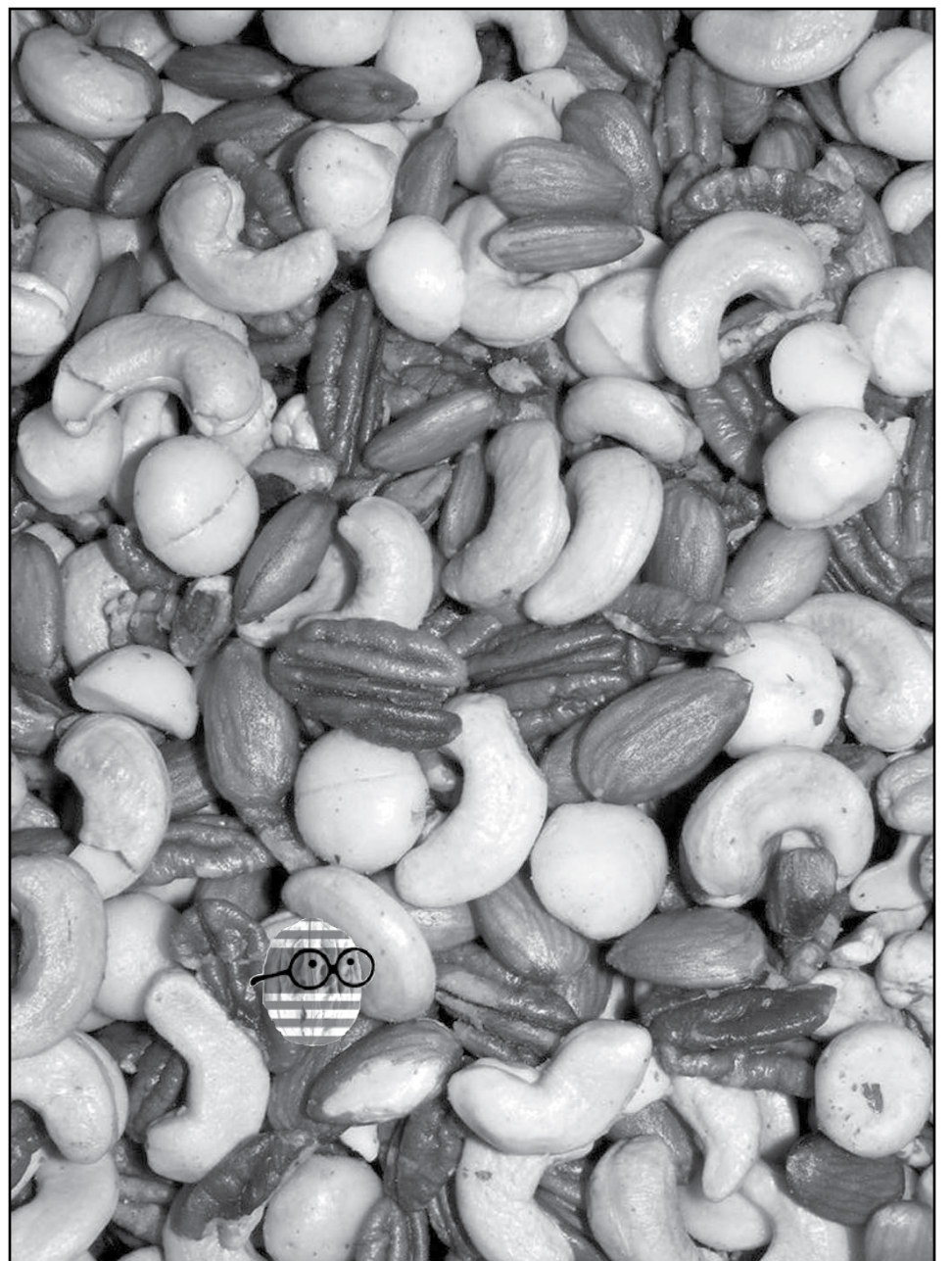
While the University of Waterloo does not have a dress code, our source says that "common decency applies" and that although the allegations "may seem ridiculous on the surface, our institution should not lose its respectability."

Some Waterloo staff and students believe that this incident ought to be a learning experience for the entire campus and a possible springboard for change. In particular, several members of the Faculty of Arts have suggested that a mandatory two-week fashion course ought to be necessary for graduation. "A lot of people think this might have all been one big mistake," reported one arts student. "All of us know that engineers don't really know how to look pretty. I'm sure that engineering students can make some time to learn this important life skill."

No engineering faculty members could be reached for comment.



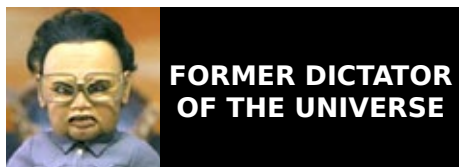
Where's Walnut?





This section was designed by Jacob Terry. Please note the lack of content and the abundance of pictures. Also, he hates androids, if you didn't get that already.

UW DPRK Campus to Close: What Now?



Disclaimer; This is a purely satirical piece that is was not written to incite any fear of such an event occurring.

The news that uWaterloo was closing down its Democratic People's Republic of Korea campus came as a surprise to most students. Although students knew that high banishment from the programs offered there to the salt mines pioneering Applied Mineral Engineering program was a ~~prob-~~ brilliant tactic by Eternal University President, Great Dean Kim Il-sung, no one expected to hear that the university's politburo was going recommend the re-consolidation of the DPRK campus to the main campus.

Although there was no comment from either Great Dean Kim Il-sung or Dear Dean Kim Jong-Il, the Supreme Dean Kim Jong-Un assured that this was not due to any shortcomings in the quality of education offered at the campus. In particular, he praised the Nuclear Engineering students whose FYDP, "Taepodong-2", was "an unambiguous success." He also boasted about the Civil Engineering students' chrome statues built in his honour, the budding Agriculture program that was "preparing students to work on the problem of what to do with all of our food surpluses", and innovative new KI (Knowledge from Interrogation) program. He also wanted to remind people that his father, Dear Dean Kim Jong-Il, took a term of classes at the campus to personally validate their merit -

during which time he completed an double-major with a perfect average.

State media reported videos of students crying in loud wails and sobs for days after the news broke. In her editorial, Nuclear Engineering student and editor of State Media extension, "The Workers' Warrior", Yu Sa-fal had to say, "It is regretful to hear that the journey ended in its premature period. We are deeply saddened by this event and it

is a dark day indeed. But we are exalted and happy with the wisdom of Supreme Dean Kim Jong-un to close this terrible institution, which was a brilliant success and we are all happy to have had the opportunity to experience until its well thought-out and deserved demise." She was executed graduated later that week.

So why is the campus closing down? The reasons are many, but a few include very

low admission rates, the expulsion of short students who enrolled in a class advertising methods of height growth, the escape of Film and Cinema Professor Shin Sang-ok; and low enrollment in the heavily advertised and funded Music program directed by Professor Ri Jol-su that official state media put out by the Ministry of Propaganda is of such high caliber that any further education is decadent Western redundancy.



U Tuber: Apple Phone 5G Review



CRAPPLE JACKS
'42 METALLURGY

I bought the Apple Phone 5G the other day, at the market from one shufflebutt whose trousers were far too tight around his thighs to be lecturing me on how to utilize my personal computer. He used the letter i before all his words so frequently, I was dutily certain he would refer to them as my iCustomer. Bloody fish sticks, I remember back in the wartimes that any man who wore trousers in such a fashion had problems keeping the mis-sus happy, for their pizzle would be ever so squeezed against their innards that it would hurt to let oneself be relieved in the privy, let alone in their lady.

I would be willing to scribe a review for my Apple Phone, yet my dearest has yet to prepare my morning meal. "Muriel," I said. "Wherefore have you put my

Weetabix? How can I prepare my column for the Times Soldier in the paper for the kids if I do not have my Weetabix?"

"There is no Weetabix in the cupboard dear, only some of those Special K flakes from Mr. Kellogg that you enjoy every morning." I couldn't stand for this. Screw Mr. Kellogg, I'd be darned if I didn't get my Weetabix in the morning. 20 years now, I'd eaten them at 8 in the morning every day, and I would not accept any sort of modification on these plans. The soft cleavage of the patties when the milk poured over them, and my cutlery gingerly tapped against the patties was a feeling I couldn't get through other means. My breakfast would be all to cock if it was not made as I desired.

The doorbell rang and I walked to our room in the flat. I noticed the carrot muncher at the door requesting some dosh for the white pudding he was selling. "Never mind him, Muriel. The greengrocer has nicer pudding I'm certain than this yob." The confused male

gave a look and departed, and I smirked as I made my way to our pit. Resting under the covers was the greengrocer, who had made sure to come with his wooden

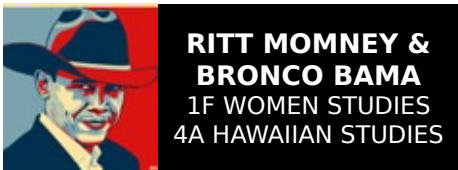
broom full of oats. "Shush," I told the greengrocer, "close your chops and feed me some of what you have stashed in your lunchbox."



The Guardian

"When I find this sprog, I'll pop his clogs."
"One more crack out of your wisenheimen, and I'll butter your necktie."

The Officiando's Guide to Presidential Drinking Games



RITT MOMNEY & BRONCO BAMA
'1F WOMEN STUDIES
4A HAWAIIAN STUDIES

READERS OF THE TIN SOLDIER, ARE YOU READY TO HAVE SOME FUN!?!?!? It's Ritt Momney and Bronco Bama here and were here to teach you how to have some non-shitty fun with any sort of presidential (but definitely not prime-ministerial... those are boring) debates! We're going to show you how it can be fun to listen to ~~one~~ two contradictory ~~old~~ semi-intelligent ~~man~~ men politely yell at each other about politics for over two hours. *In a WWE announcer voice* LET

THE GAMES BEGIN!

First, you need to get yourself a nice healthy bottle of Everclear; 75% or 99%, your choice. Everclear is the best way to have fun because along with being at least 151 proof alcohol, it is "EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE" and "SHOULD BE HANDLED WITH CARE." Therefore, we want to remind you to not tell your unsuspecting friend that it is vodka and have him take multiple shots of it or create flamethrower with it - this isn't Mythbusters. Instead, you are going to pour yourself a nice glass and mix it with a watering-down liquid of your choice. Just don't forget that the more Everclear the more fun!

Now that we have prepared our

poisonous-bomb drink of choice, it is time to start a drinking game!

Drinking games are the only way to make a debate amusing if you actually don't give a shitty rats ass about politics. If you do give a shitty rats ass about politics... uhhh... IT'LL BE FUN TOO, like shooting small rodents!

So here are the rules to our game:

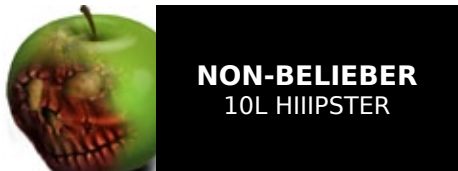
1. Anytime someone contradicts themselves, drink.
2. Anytime someone doesn't actually answer a question, drink.
3. Any mention of 47% as a statistic, drink 47% of your drink.
4. Anytime someone brings up a birth certificate or place of birth, two drinks.

5. Any mention of binders that do not contain paper, pens, schoolwork, notes, labels, sticky notes, pencils, information, etc., kill your drink.

In addition to this, for every meme that is created because of said debate (We're looking at you, Josh Romney), take a shot ~~at someone~~ of Everclear because after drinking as much as you did during the debates why not drink more?

Anyway, we hope that this will aid you in your enjoyment of politics and promote you to consume copious amounts of alcohol instead of attending a book burning, flag burning, or bombing session. Just remember to always keep your pets spayed and neutered, and GOD BLESS SHITTY AMERICA!

Apple Trademarks the Letter sqrt(-1)



NON-BELIEBER
'10L HIIIPSTER

The day has come. Apple has chosen to further assert corporate control over the loyal masses. Safety from the malevolent tyranny of the trademark must be assured when the object of your converse has the word iPhone®, iTunes®, iTouch®, iPod®, iPad® or iControl®. We are at the mercy of the corporate world. When we

use the trademarked letter out of context, we must pay a steep penalty. For every moment that we hold off the company has won. The Apple mob has come to have no bounds.

The day has come, the day happens to be sad. Mourn for the young ones who never have the chance to see the letter out of proper context, but only as a symbol of Apple's power. From now on the letter can only be seen as a symbol of banal gadgetry and powerful people. Our alphabet has decreased by one letter. Our vowel count has gone from 5 to 4. Only

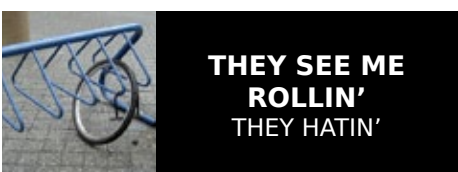
'A', 'E', 'O', 'U' and sooner or later the forgotten vowel 'Y' are left for open usage.

But look at us - we who are from Canada have not yet lost our cultural character. We can say 'Canada' when asked from whence we come. Others are not so lucky. The places that formerly began by way of the letter represented by (sqrt(-1)) such as (sqrt(-1)) reland, (sqrt(-1)) raq, and (sqrt(-1))celand, have all been granted forty days grace to create new names. What are your votes? Perhaps (sqrt(-1)) reland should become Beerland or Green-

land but hold up! The name Greenland was long ago granted to a country but maybe an exchange may be warranted. (sqrt(-1))celand could become Greenland and the current Greenland could become the Land of Snow or perhaps the Lonelylands would be a more apt name.

The moral of the story, a catastrophe really, happens to be that the present state of language has left the present tense. For those among us who detest the many tenses of language there should be much joyousness. For the rest, there happens to be naught but hopelessness.

How NOT to Get Your Bike Stolen



THEY SEE ME ROLLIN'
THEY HATIN'

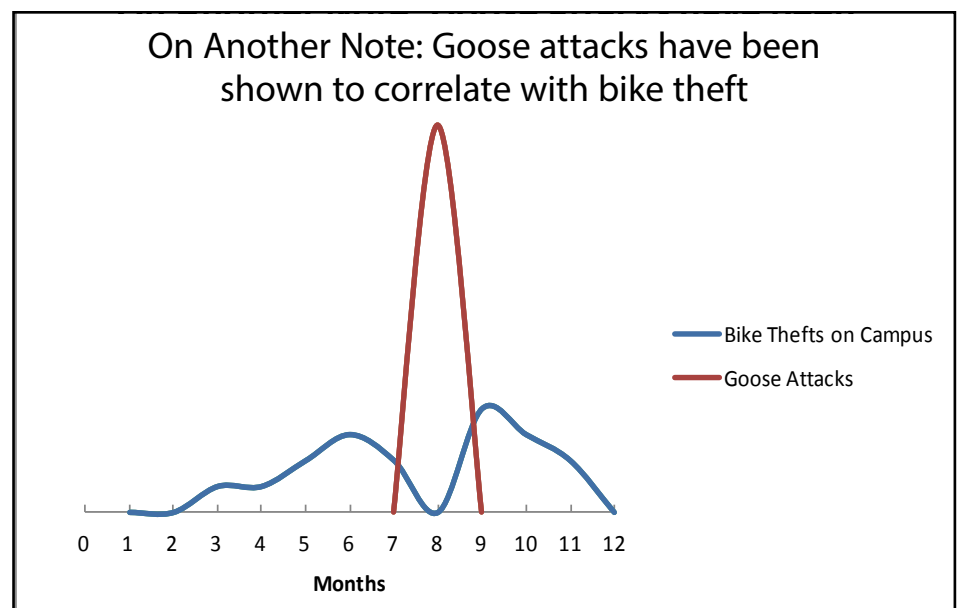
For many students, bikes are used as the quintessential cheap mode of transport; however, your bike can also be used by thieves to make an easy buck at your expense. Although bike theft is uncommon relative to the population on campus, it is still a reality. Between 50 — 100 bikes

are stolen every year, and if you are a bike theft victim the impact is not small. Deprived of your speedy mode of transportation with short notice, you will be forced to navigate the complex bus system, walk, or (gasp) even take a taxi. Never fear, by taking the appropriate measures you can decrease your chances of being one of the unfortunate few victims.

Here are a few tips for protecting your two wheeled ride:

Continued in the Spring Term

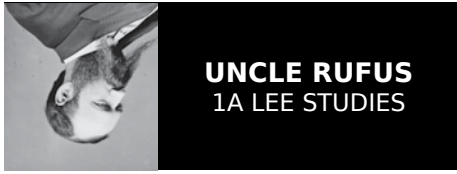
On Another Note: Goose attacks have been shown to correlate with bike theft



Another Note from the Miz-Taken EIC:

She has noticed that the above plot looks like a penis. She has not been able to stop laughing yet...

A Tribute to Rambly Roy's Food Talks



Hello,

I was recently told that I had to write in homage to one of the previous great Editor in Chiefs of the Iron Worrier; namely, the great Roy Lee. I was told to make it 666 words long. Now, 666 is best known as the number of the beast according to the bible. The number appears in Revelations, Chapter 13 "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six". Most scholars actually believe that the number 666 is actually the numerical addition of the letters in the name Nero, or Neron in Hebrew, Caesar. Nero was the Emperor in charge of the Roman Empire at the time John was writing Revelation and he is most commonly known for playing the harp while watching Rome burn to the ground so that he could expand his palace. In Greek and Hebrew, they didn't have symbols for numbers, and

instead wrote using letters. Each letter had a numerical value. Now the letters in the Hebrew name for Nero Caesar add up to the number 666. It also worth noting that some earlier manuscripts put the number at 616 because that's what Nero (not Neron) Caesar added up to in Hebrew. Now less commonly known is the fact that 666 is the number that you get if you add up all the numbers in the Monty Carlo Roulette, namely 36! And, so 666 actually turns out to be a triangle number. If you want more tidbits on numbers and so, on go to www.youtube.com/user/numberphile?feature=watch.

But how can I not talk about Roy Lee, without first talking about food. Throughout his many editorials, food often played a role; whether it was his intolerance to ice cream or slow cookers, you could always count on his editorials to leave you hungry for more. His editorials reminded me of watching the *Food Network*, because those shows always left me starving and it would almost be like torture. One of my favourite shows on the *Food Network* was *Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives* because you would see some of the coolest and weirdest dishes and meals that

I have ever seen. I've always wanted to be on that show. However after thinking for a little bit, I realized how much weight the guy probably puts on and how much effort it would be to try and get rid of all of it. Sigh. Oh well. What make me always laugh is the always give the recipe and show how the dish is being made but I can pretty much guaranty that no one every tries to make those dishes because the instructions are given way too quickly and who wants to get up when you're sitting on the couch comfortably watching TV. This actually brings me to my next point, Finals.

I'm sure that all of you are busy studying and not procrastinating, even though all of the best games of the year all seem be coming out right now. To name a few, Lego Lord of the Rings, Assassins Creed III, PlayStation All-Stars, and the Wii U. I am going to stop there before I make you all give up studying and start gaming. Now it is important to remember that while you should be studying and maybe stressing out a little bit, it's important to keep safety in mind. The number of students that have walked across the street without looking both ways and paying



Documenting Reality

This picture is just as random as this article. I like that stick too.

attention to their safety because they are too busy concentrating on studying and discussing class material with friends is disconcerting. While it is important for everyone to study hard, we, as engineers must remember that safety is of utmost importance and that we should always be thinking about it.

Cheers,

Uncle Rufus

P.S. In true homage to the past editor, this article was not submitted before the deadline.

Man Discovers the Power of Dog Poop Through the Science of Homeopathy



Homeopathy has baffled scientists for ages, in its ingenuity, simplicity, effectiveness, and most importantly, consistency in curing some of the shittiest diseases known to the shit of man. According to homeopathy, whichever substance causes the symptoms of disease in a healthy person will cure a disease in a sick person. There are many proponents to such a science, such as the famous Dr. Werner, who's known in the medical community due to her wild, nonsensical theories and advances in this area of medicine.

A common type of medicine in homeopathy would be homeopathic pills. These pills come in packaging that states (extremely unclearly) its ingredients, somehow coaxing it's consumers to believe that such ingredients are part of the pills that come in the bottle. These pills are prepared by using very strong active bio-

logical ingredients, such as histaminum hydrochloricum, or commonly known as zinc ashittia in the homeopathic world. But even though this ingredient has proven to be extremely ineffective in a few cases - there is a proven method of manufacturing that decreases its effectiveness even more. Dilution. By carrying out a sufficient dilution, one will be able to somehow create the most impotent homeopathic remedy. Through many homeopathic equations, it is somehow shown that the effectiveness of this medicine is inversely proportional to the effectiveness and concentration of active ingredients present in the medicine.

As such, a very popular prescription of this medicine would be the Oscillo-coccinum, commonly known as Oscillo. It is able to eradicate influenza for the

rest of the user's life. Oscillo originated in France, and was subsequently mainly manufactured there by a company called Boiron. Since the 1940s, Oscillo has risen to fame in many groups of homeopaths given it's amazing ability to deal with influenza, somehow. It is currently being used in more than 50 countries.

Oscillo, among many other drugs developed by homeopaths, is a proof that dilution really does somehow increase the ineffectiveness and therefore effectiveness of the medicine. The preparation is derived from duck liver and heart - the solution is then diluted to 200C, roughly one part of duck molecule per 10 to the 400 parts of water. This is just about as effective as any medicine can get, not just homeopathy. Because of this, the molecules will somehow leave an "imprint" in the dilution that causes a healing effect across the body. By following this brilliant line of logic, it only makes sense that

the more dilute a solution is, the more of an imprint there will somehow be!

Above all of this, Dr. Werner has given a very compelling talk on the science of homeopathy. According to Dr. Werner, if one were to compress the mass of the entire universe down to a finite size, then our mass would be insignificant. Due to this, by using Einsteins famous equation of $E = mc^2$, we can somehow conclude that the m in the equation can be cancelled out, giving us the relation that energy is somehow in fact, light. Furthermore, she has unequivocally proved that light, matter and everything around us is based off of vibrating strings by saying that Stephen Hawkings had proposed the String Theory, somehow. This being the case, Dr. Werner proposed that if your neighbor's dog were to shit on your lawn, somehow, you may take that shit charged with energy (as it is full of vibrating strings according to Stephen Hawkings' String Theory) and throws it at your neighbor's house, using it as a bomb of pure energy. That's what bombs are made of, right? Vibrating strings and pure energy somehow.



Illustration by [unreadable]



Since the Iron Warrior is out of monies and needs a flat-screen TV

We present Waterloo's newest

STAPLES

store!

5¢ per staple
10¢ per staple when
your assignment is
due

Making your life less
than easy.

Staff Quotes

"When I was five, I had a shirt with 'Bad Dog' on it."
- Leah Kristufek

"One is creepy, one is horny but acceptable."
- Alison Lee

"How many engineers does it take to make a newspaper - actually, how many engineers does it take to use a computer?"
- Vincent Heymans

"Shit's the fun to play with."
- Meagan Cardno

"I will crack your nuts if you don't FYDP!"
- Farzi Yusufali

"Can I refer to Titty Perry...*facepalm*"
- Krishna Iyer

"These aren't hipster glasses, I wanted bigger glasses so I could see more."
- Leah Kristufek

"If there's a hole, I'll use it."
- Alroy Almeida

"We totally didn't make fun of you...Blaaaahhhhh!"
- Farzi Yusufali

"When the music is louder than the voice in my head..."
- Josh Kalpin

"It's me, not someone else."
- Farzi Yusufali

"Shhhhhh....relax"
- Ioana Craicu

ELPE: All First-Years FAIL



Don't believe the rumours that all the first-year engineering students flailed the EPLE, you should never trust rumours! Although, this time around, the rumours dew happen too be troo....

Why did all of the first-ears flail? We could claim that high scool didn't prepare

us properly for essay writing, however I think we'd be better off claiming an all-out mituny! A miuiny against biased markers who want engineers too flail (We're already brilliant – that's why were at Waterloo – so why let us excel in english to?)!

Oh yes, we are all true warriors of the written word! Sure, a lot of students wix up their mords, but not us first-ear engineers! No siree, Bob! We know our aynonyms from our sntonyms, alliteration and exaggeration go hand in hand, and

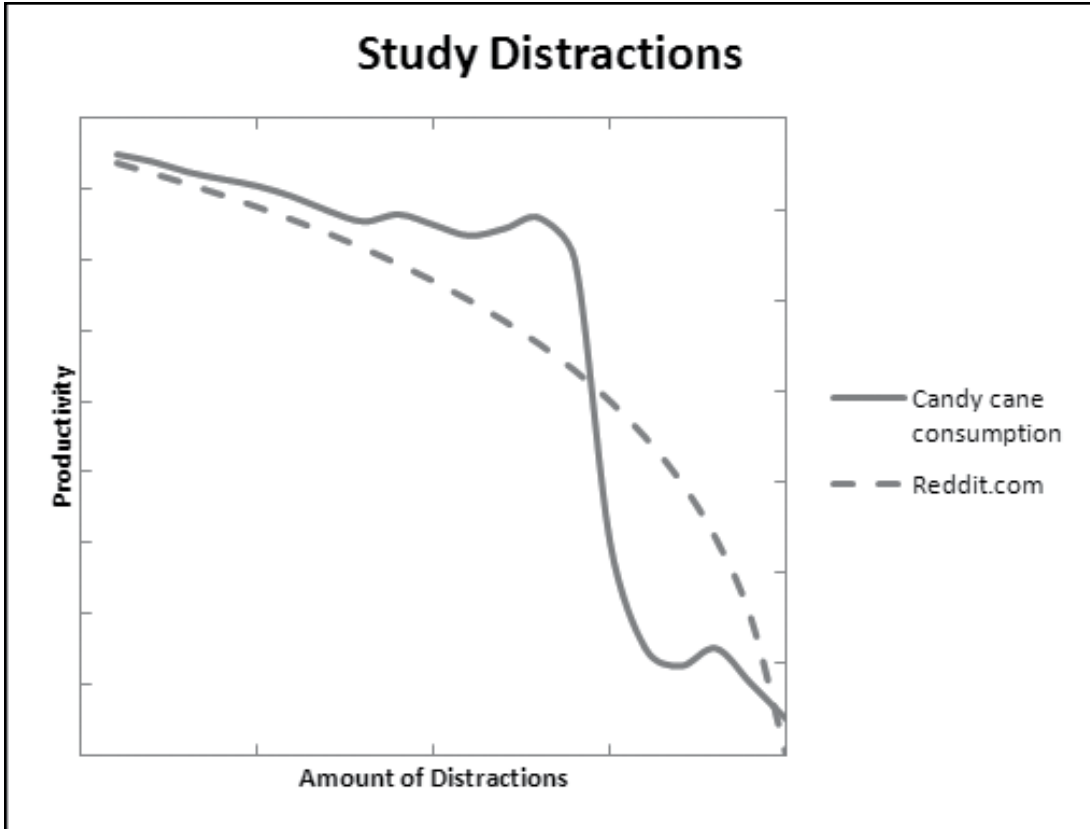
smiles? We simile at their common attempts to be like complex metafours, as though they long for a deeper, more profound literary porpoise.

For any essay, we always argue our augments with extraterrestrial examples, never backing down from a challenging thesis... but what about boaring ones? You see, the problem with the EPLE is not the advanced literary skill of those being examined, no, its the questions! Questions so boaring they put us all right out of steep – creating a thesis from those EPLE

starter questions was just a mountain to step for us engineers (to be) to clime without a properly inspired moose!

Engineering students enjoy taking up challenges in the face of edversity, but if the drool soaked EPLE's handed in where any indication to the markers, there was no adversity to face, and thus no point to stay awake.

Well, know you now the true truth, and not just the rumoured truth (there's a differanse, you now).We first-ears flailed for lack of fascinating subjects to argue.



Another Note from the Lady-with-a-Lion's-Mane:
She's not amused by the monstrosity that is the article below. She also doesn't like being compared to a flea. That is all.

The Long Long Review: Ogden Nash's "Fleas"

AKA A Valiant Attempt to Cause the EIC to Lose Her Mind

AKA Jacob Terry and Jon Martin, you aren't going to win the Iron Pen



Greetings, readers of the Tin Soldier and welcome to the Looooooooooooooooooooong Looooooooooooooooooooong Review. In this, column I write a ridiculously loooooooooooooong review about something incredibly petty in nature. This week I'll be writing a loooooooooooooong review about "Fleas" by Ogden Nash.

"Fleas" is a very intriguing poem. It is the only poem I have ever read that communicates so much in so little. But what is so little? Little is exactly two lines and two words. In fact, here is the poem in its glorious, inexplicable, entirety: "Adam\Had'em." That's it! I know you are all shocked and possibly thinking "how in the world is he going to talk about a two word poem?" Well, it is quite easy because what this poem actually means is so ambiguous that we can spend hours upon hours figuring out what exactly I'm going to write about it. Surprise! This article has actually nothing to do with a review of "Fleas" because frankly, it is impossible, regardless of how it would make a certain EIC squirm while trying to "review this shit". Instead, we are going on an adventure. A quest for knowledge. A quest to find out "what the shit" was going on in Ogden Nash's head while writing this poem, while, at the same time, still causing that certain EIC to lose her mind.

Our quest begins in the sultry, "shitty smelling", land of Rye, New York, where Ogden Nash was born in 1902. Nash was

an unusual child who loved to rhyme. He is quoted as saying that he "thought in terms of rhyme, and has since [he] was six years old." This makes sense considering our specimen of a poem, does in fact rhyme. But that's beside the point. Ogden Nash is strange. This uncanny ability to think in rhymes, rhyme with the times, and rhyme with vines led him to an initial career as a streetcar card ads writer. That brings us to our first possibility: "Fleas" could have been a "shitty" streetcar card ad that he wrote, thought was funny, and published as a poem.

Our quest moves on to Ogden Nash's death; he died of an infection caused by eating bad coleslaw. What does bad coleslaw have to do with anything? Well, I "sure as shit" don't know but it is bad, and so far that is what I'm going to run with. In thinking about the title of the poem, "Fleas", fleas themselves are a "shitty" thing. They cause you to itch, scratch, twitch, and bitch, just like bad coleslaw. Could it be that Ogden Nash was using this poem to actually predict his really "shitty" death? He, himself, could be "Adam" and he definitely "Had'em", if the "em" refers to bad coleslaw. And that, my friends is our second possibility. Ogden Nash actually wrote this poem because he magically found out how he was "going to shit".

Now that we have discussed Ogden Nash's demise, we can actually move on to what the various words in this wonderful poem actually mean. Fleas, as mentioned previously, are pests of the "shitstorm" that we call life. It is especially "shitty" when our pets get them, because then we get them. When you have fleas, you become incredibly itchy and incredibly bitchy. This drives everyone "batshit crazy". Therefore,

the fleas could be a metaphor for driving people "batshit crazy". But on the other hand, if we go to biblical references, fleas are pestilence and pestilence is a plague. Plagues usually cause a "shitstorm" to those involved and cause society to "go to shit". Therefore, using natural deduction, we can conclude, contrary to the popular Slipknot song "People=Shit", that Fleas = Shit. What does this mean? It means that Ogden Nash was actually writing about "shit".

Moving away from the title of the poem, we must venture into the first elusive line, "Adam". Who exactly is Adam? There are many references to Adam across culture, space, time, and "many shits". Let's start with people named Adam. People named Adam have a least four letters in their full name. There are also Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. Coincidence? Nope, "I shit you not." Could Adam have been a predictor for the end of the world in less than a month? Could this be a prediction of the "shitstorm" to hit humanity? Maybe. However, a more plausible suspect is ADAM from the Bioshock universe. Bioshock didn't exist while Ogden Nash was alive but we have previously concluded that he could be a predictor of the future so "why the shit not?" ADAM, to those that don't know, is "the raw form of the unstable stem cells harvested and processed from a type of Sea Slug." ADAM causes people to go "batshit insane". Also Sea Slugs resemble "little big shits" that seem to occur when you eat some "shitty" food. Hence, we conclude that rather than fleas being "shit", Slipknot may be right in saying that People do in fact equal "shit". Therefore, Adam is actually a "shit head".

The last line of this illustrious poem,

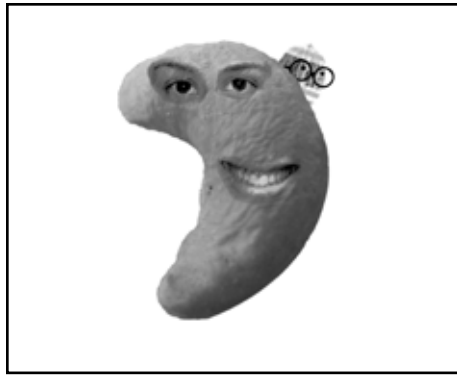
"Had'em" has so much meaning it makes "me want to shit." What exactly is "em"? Does it refer to the aforementioned fleas? Or does it talk about a multitude of other "shitty" things that someone could have, including a "bad shit"? Referring to the bible once again, the Egyptians definitely "Had'em" when it came to plagues. As we previously concluded, fleas are pestilence and pestilences are plagues. Also since we have proved that fleas are in "fact shit", we can conclude that "em" could be "shit". This is not a "shitty" explanation as we have already concluded that everything else in this poem is "shit". Therefore, we have enough pieces of this "mothershitting" puzzle to finally figure out what it could mean.

From all these pieces and we have shown that People = "Shit", Fleas = "Shit" and "em" = "Shit". As well, we can conclude that because "Adam"/"Had'em" that Adam has a "shitload of shit". By the process of transitivity we can conclude that People = Fleas = 'em = "Shit" = "Shit" = "Shit". Therefore, everything is "shit" and this poem is a "shitfest". What does this mean? Other than the fact that I'm wrestling with demons from my Grade 10 English class, where we did in fact spend a good week discussing the meaning of this incredibly "shitty" poem, we can successfully conclude that this poem is "a load of shit".

To wrap things up, I hate this poem and I think the EIC and the rest of the IW editorial staff (but especially the EIC) is going to hate me and the poem for this incredible masterpiece that I believe rivals the Epic of Gilgamesh. So to conclude this article like an actual review, I give this poem "a shit of shitty shitstorm proportions" of zeros.

Spot the Difference Between the EICs

FARZI THE EIC
 ALL-THE-SMALL-THINGS ENGINEERING



Find the faces that look the same

1. They're all the same.
2. They're still all the same.
3. By day, she's Farzi, by night, she's My Little Pony.
4. No, seriously, where's the walnut?
5. There's a nanoscale parrot hidden somewhere in there...

After a drastic increase in term fails; the Tins Soldier staff have decided to give you something easier to do.

If you can't finish, then there's something really wrong with you.

Wasn't Challenging Enough? Here's an Actual Puzzle!

				0					
		1	1			1	1		
	0			1				1	
								1	1
1		1	0		0	0			0
					0				
			1	1					
1		1			0	1			1
			0			1	0		
1									1
	0				0	1	0		
	0		0		0				1

Da Rules

1. There are two valid states for a cell, 0 or 1
2. No more than two cells side-by-side in a row cannot contain the same number (i.e. if there is a 1,1, then the numbers on either side must be 0,0)
3. There must be an equal number of 0s and 1s in each row and column of the puzzle. In other words, the number of 0s and 1s in the entire grid must be the same.



Daily Cuteness

This kitty is sad because this is the last paper of the term and exams are coming...the long caption matches the long face.

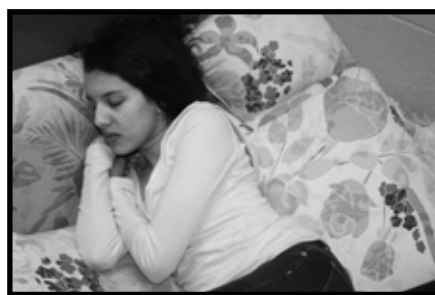
One More Note from Tin Soldier Staff:

We're not responsible for the idiot who decides to use this as form of procrastination for exams....or are we? Do we secretly want to fail you so that we may be bell-curved to pass? Conspiracy theory....

"What's the shittiest article you've ever read"



"Topz (With a Z)"
Edward Blake



"The Poem of All Poems... That's all you need to know."
A Lying, In the Jungle...



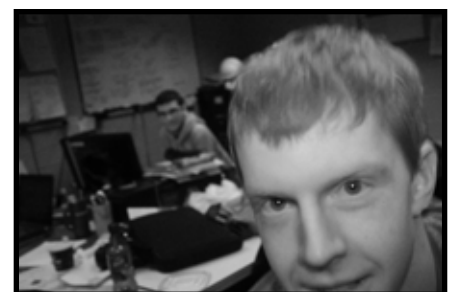
"The article without unicorns."
Jashua Kaplin, 2A Pretengineering



"LOOK MA, IMMA PUMPKIN!"
Ichabod Kristufek, The Pumpkin Head



"Aye kant reed."
Wade Wilson, Copy Editor



"The bicycle article (What bicycle article?)"
Future EIC, Present Candy Man

Titan Crowned New King of Supercomputers



**NACHIKET
SHERLEKAR**
2A NANOTECHNOLOGY

On November 12th, 2012, it was officially announced that the latest supercomputer developed by Cray Inc., at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is now the fastest in existence. Dubbed ‘Titan’, this supercomputer has ousted IBM’s Sequoia from the top position, beating Sequoia’s performance rate of 16.32 petaflops with its own impressive 17.59 petaflops. The United States now occupies the top two positions on the list for the first time in three years.

Supercomputing has come a long way from its humble origins in the 1960s, when the machines designed had a performance rate of about 0.01% of that of a modern day personal computer that runs on an Intel Core i5 processor. Supercomputers were designed to mainly carry out simulations of complicated physical phenomena that would otherwise

take a lot of effort and money to replicate in reality. Their applications include everything from weather prediction, to quantum physics, to fluid dynamics, to molecular modelling. Climate change, nuclear phenomena, microbiology, cosmological events, natural disasters and neuron simulation are some other interesting applications of supercomputers. Most supercomputers are funded and built by government laboratories of a country for defence purposes. However, there are some that are privately owned, that are primarily used by interested customers who ‘rent’ the machine for a certain period of time to carry out simulations.

The architecture of supercomputers has evolved significantly since the 1960s. The initial designs utilized only a few processors; current architectures use over 100,000 processors interconnected for high performance and efficiency. The concept of parallel processing was introduced early on in supercomputer designs. As the number of processors began to increase, the distribution of memory and processing had to be addressed. Efficient

communication between these many processors also had to be accomplished. Along with the progress of network architecture, designers have also had to focus on improving cooling mechanisms, as a lot of heat is generated when running so many processors simultaneously. Cooling methods have changed from using coolants like Fluorinert to using efficient air-cooling mechanisms. More recently, designs have focused on increasing energy efficiency by achieving greater processor speeds at reduced power consumption levels.

The net developmental costs for building Titan amounted to \$97 million. Titan was not built from scratch; it has in fact, evolved from Jaguar, Oak Ridge’s previous supercomputer project. This was done mainly to save the \$20 million cost of building another set of power and cooling systems. The entire system covers about 404 square meters, and a total of 8.2 MW of power is drawn. Titan is cooled using chilled air that is pumped through the cabinets and re-chilled before re-circulation.

The uniqueness in Titan’s architecture lies in the fact that it uses central processing units

(CPUs) as well as graphics processing units (GPUs) in tandem. While CPU cores are designed to efficiently handle one calculation at a time, GPUs are made to carry out multiple instructions in parallel – this allows a job to be broken down into bits and run them simultaneously. This allows a division of labour that is suited to the performance of the CPU or GPU cores.

The field of high-performance computing is a highly competitive one. As such, bigger and greater advancements are seen every year, and no machine manages to retain the top position for long. In the future, exaflop supercomputers may become a reality. The Indian Space Research Organization in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science, both located in the south of India, have stated that a 132.8 exaflop machine is in the works for completion by 2017. This computer would be faster than any ever planned, and estimated to cost \$2 billion. It is hoped that with better computing power, humankind will gain a better understanding of life, the universe and everything.

Pfizer Loses Viagra Patent in Canada



**DUSHANTH
SEEVARATNAM**
3B NANOTECHNOLOGY

Earlier this month, global pharmaceutical company, Pfizer, lost its legal monopoly rights on Viagra in Canada. The Canadian Supreme Court made a unanimous decision on the matter saying that the company should have its patent taken away. On behalf of the court, Justice Louis LeBel wrote “As

a matter of policy and sound interpretation, patentees cannot be allowed to ‘game’ the system in this way.” The issue that Pfizer ran into was the fact that the Viagra patent failed to meet the full disclosure requirements set by Canada’s Patent Act. In order to have monopoly rights, the company must disclose the invention and explain how it works. Unfortunately for Pfizer, rather than explaining that the compound sildenafil citrate is the vital component for the treatment of erectile dysfunction, their patent stated that one of the components of Viagra provided the treat-

ment and never actually specified the exact compound.

So what does this mean for Pfizer? Without the patent rights to Viagra, the company is no longer allowed to have a legal monopoly of the product in Canada. This means that Pfizer has essentially lost all its exclusive control over the supply of Viagra in the country. Does this mean that Canadian men with erectile dysfunction are going to be screwed over? No. All this means is that other companies, such as the Israel-based Teva Pharmaceuticals, who actually

filed the suit against Pfizer, are allowed to market their versions of Viagra now, rather than after the expiry of Pfizer’s patent which was due in 2014. Analysts believe that this will cause Pfizer to lose all of its \$80 million dollar revenue it makes from Canada alone. This is because the generic versions of Viagra, being produced by companies like Teva Pharmaceuticals, are predicted to be much cheaper. Fortunately for the company, though this is a hefty profit loss, it is only a small amount from the \$2 billion it makes globally from Viagra alone.

Dark Matter Detector Nearing Completion in US Mine



BRIAN SO
1A NANOTECHNOLOGY

INTO THE NEW WORLD

Final steps are nearing completion before scientists flip the switches on the dark matter detector situated deep in a former South Dakota gold mine. They are asserting that they can start to collect data as early as this February. Regarded as the world’s most sensitive dark matter detector, this detector was lowered into a 70,000 gallon water tank nearly a mile below the earth’s surface. This was done in hopes to isolate dark matter from cosmic radiation, as the radiation makes detecting dark matter an impossible task.

Soon, questions of the age-old universe may finally be answered, the scientists asserted. A professor of physics at the University of California states “We might well uncover something fantastic. One thing about our field is that it’s kind of brutal in that we know it’s expensive and we work hard to only do experiments that are really important.”

Much like the discovery of the Higgs-Boson earlier this year in Switzerland, the discovery of dark matter could give the world of physics a good shake, but of course, at a very large budget of roughly \$10 million. It’s been known for awhile by scientists (and those who bother looking into this stuff) that dark matter’s existence is linked to the gravitational pull that it exerts. Unlike normal matter, like a glass of water or a bag of diamonds, we cannot actually see it, or even detect it

(so far). About four percent of the universe’s mass is made of “regular matter”, and roughly 25 percent is made of “dark matter”.

After the Homestake Gold Mine in Lead, South Dakota, shut down for good, it was instantly targeted by scientists for their detector. After years of fundraising and planning, the scientists were able to move the LUX detector into the Sanford Underground Research facility. It took a good two days in order to coax the phone booth sized detector down into the once-filthy mining shaft. The water in which the detector is submerged in is run through reverse osmosis filters in order to be deionized and cleaned.

“The construction phase is winding down, and now we’re starting the commissioning phase, meaning we start to operate the systems underground,” said Jeremy Mock, a

graduate student at the University of California, Davis who has worked on the LUX experiment for five whole years. According to Mock, submerging the extremely delicate detector underground into a water-filled vat 6 meters tall and 7.6 meters wide took more than two months. At the moment, scientists are working to finish the plumbing that is needed in order to keep the xenon as clean as possible. Xenon is a substance, in both liquid and gas form, that will fill the detector and be continually circulated through a purifier which works much like a dialysis machine. It pulls the xenon out and removes any impurities, then puts it back into the detector. In doing so, the xenon will be kept free of contaminants, such as radiation, that may otherwise cause false alarms in their detection of dark matter.

The Library of Utopia - Google, Harvard, and Copyright



LUCAS HUDSON
2B MECHATRONICS

Many books can be found online these days, documents ranging from the entire works of Shakespeare to The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn are available for our reading pleasure. In 2002, Google continued its efforts to make the world’s information ‘universally accessible and useful’ by striving to scan all the books in the world into a database, making a library of unimaginable size accessible from around the world, “the library of utopia.” In a matter of months a team of engineers and programmers invented a scanning device that used a stereoscopic infrared camera to digitize books rapidly without damaging them. Not only would the

scanner correct for the bowing of an open book but could decipher unusual fonts and up to 400 languages. After bringing the project public in 2004 and partnering with five of the world’s largest libraries, Google started to make digital copies of books in the public domain. Problems arose when Google started to scan books still under copyright. After a large legal bout with the Authors Guild and the Association of American Publishers along with the rise of Facebook and other social networks, Google stalled its page scanning project to focus on other aspects of business.

With Google’s dreams on hold, another man took the reins. Robert Darnton, a 72-year-old distinguished historian and prize winning author, was recruited in 2007 to Harvard where he was named the director of its library system. Upon this new position, Darnton was able to pursue the dream that Google started, to establish a univer-

sal library online and “make all knowledge available to all citizens.” Darnton, however, was worried about the privatized ventures of Google. While the executives at Google seemed to be filled with idealism and magnanimity, Darnton was worried that the future could grow into “a hegemonic, financially unbeatable, technologically unassailable, and legally invulnerable enterprise that can crush all competition,” one that would “[commercialize] the content of our libraries” and “would turn the Internet into an instrument for privatizing knowledge that belongs in the public sphere.”

Wishing to create a truly free and open digital library, Darnton is bringing together libraries and universities, and along with funding from charitable foundations, is starting to build the ‘Digital Public Library of America’ (DPLA). With the help of Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet and Society and seed

money from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Darnton along with the rest of the steering committee set an ambitious goal of having the library in operation by April 2013.

There are many unanswered questions about how the DPLA will operate and what material it will host, but one question promises to be the DPLA’s biggest hurdle: how to navigate the country’s copyright restrictions? Changes in copyright law in the last half-century have complicated the issue even further and it is something the DPLA will continue to struggle with. While some of these restriction may be able to be resolved through agreements with publishers and authors, its hard to see exactly what will come of the idea of “the library of Utopia”. With public domain books already available across the internet through services like Google and HathiTrust it’s hard to see how the DPLA will distinguish itself.

The Dawn of the Next Generation of Gaming (Might be Delayed a Bit)



JON MARTIN
OBI JON1138

FUTURE OF GAMING

Hopefully everyone has had a great term and is in reasonable shape for finals. If you were able to pick up some of the great deals on gaming systems/accessories/ and games this weekend for Black Friday and Cyber Monday, remember to still try and at least pass your classes before diving into your new entertainment media.

For the last few years I have been writing about the big three consoles, Sony's Playstation 3, Microsoft's Xbox 360, and Nintendo's Wii (that just sounds inappropriate), but those are all now officially 'last gen' systems. The last couple weeks saw the release of the new Nintendo Wii U console, the successor to the Wii — well, kind of. The really interesting thing about this console launch has been how quiet it is, you probably didn't read about any riots and huge line-ups at stores for opening day release, low supplies likely to sell out or failed pre-orders of systems. That's because there really hasn't been much difficulty in sales. But that's not necessarily a good thing because in my opinion, that means nobody cares. Think about it, have you seen commercials for the Wii U plastered on the TV screen or all over websites, have you been hearing news stories about the upcoming release? No, there hasn't been anything of the sorts. Why are there still news reports asking what the must-have gift will be for Christmas? That should be an obvious answer — it should be the Wii U — well, if Nintendo was actually handling this launch properly.

I think this apathy towards the launch of the Wii U might have something to do with the casual nature of the Wii fan base. The Wii has seen massive sales over its life span due to the easy learning curve for all ages, I'm sure the seniors in the retirement home bowling competitions will back me up on this claim. So how many of these Wii owners are going to rush out to buy Nintendo's new console? Not very many I'm guessing, and that could also be due to the change in Nintendo's naming convention. When you think about gaming from the perspective of Sony and Microsoft you instantly think of the Playstation and Xbox brands. When their new systems are finally announced Sony's

will be called the PS4 and Microsoft's will be the Xbox 720 or something else, but it will maintain the Xbox branding. Both these companies have created a branding that is associated with advancement, you know the PS3 is in the same family as the PS and PS2, but you also know that it is better. With Nintendo there is no central brand, and no way of determining a hierarchy if you don't know the release dates or specs. Most people know that the Nintendo Entertainment System (NES) came before the GameCube, which was before the Wii, but there is really no way to know that from purely from the names or appearance of the systems themselves. With every new release Nintendo has come up with a new name with some amazing hidden Japanese meaning I'm sure, until the Wii U. This console is the first of the next generation, but I don't think anyone without some basic knowledge of the gaming industry will realize this. With both Xbox and Sony releasing slim versions of their consoles (or a slim and slimmer version in Sony's case) there is real potential for people to mistake the Wii U for a new iteration of the Wii and not as a new console.

Another problem is the amount of borrowed content from the Wii. The Wii U looks very similar to the Wii (in the same kind of style revision of the Xbox 360 to the Xbox 360 Slim), and even reuses the Wii controllers. I'm sure the average consumer walking through the gaming section of Future Shop or Best Buy is looking at the Wii U and thinking: "Oh look, a new version of the Wii, just like the DS, DSi, 3DS, but I already have a Wii, I'll wait until Nintendo releases their new console like Sony and Microsoft". The worst part is that this 'new' Wii now has to compete

against the Xbox 360 and PS3, which are both selling for significantly lower cost, and have very similar capabilities.

Of course these are just my own theories, but I will definitely say that I am worried about Nintendo's future in the console industry, at least in terms of hardware. While Nintendo has great intellectual properties in the form of Mario, Zelda, Pokémon, etc. they have fallen seriously behind in terms of hardware in the console battle. The Wii was basically a beefed up GameCube, still limited to standard definition and simplified games, but with a fancy new controller scheme. Now Nintendo has released its next generation console ahead of everybody else (so far in advance that we don't even know any details about its competitors) but with only marginal increases in power over its rivals. The Wii U has the potential to be better than the Xbox 360 and PS3 but it will take some time for developers to fully realize the capabilities of the system. But the most serious problem is that people are comparing Nintendo's Next Gen console with Microsoft and Sony's Last Gen systems — this is really bad for Nintendo. If your nearest competitor is comparable in quality, but significantly cheaper and soon to be replaced with a brand new, more advanced console — then you have an even larger problem. What happens when the new Xbox and Playstation come out? Then Nintendo will effectively be a full generation behind, again. Nintendo was able to survive due to the vast sales of Wii consoles to casual gamers, but I don't think that many of them are going to rush out to buy a new console.

I don't think it will be much longer before we see a drastic price drop for the Wii U to make it

competitive and get it back into that low price bracket that the Wii has enjoyed. Nintendo was forced to follow the same pattern with the 3DS, slashing its price when it realized the handheld was priced too high to appeal to gamers. The 3DS has been viewed almost as a gimmick version of the DSi, it's really the same thing but with 3D added on, like Xbox Kinect games and Playstation Move. This view from the public has severely damaged Nintendo's ability to sell the console in the same way they did when the DS and DSi were released. The Wii U will likely follow a similar path, but it is unclear whether Nintendo will actually be able to survive this generation. Maybe they would be better suited to developing quality games for other consoles and abandon the hardware industry. This transition has been done in the past, with both Atari and Sega abandoning the console business to instead just become software focused companies (neither is doing exceptionally well, but that's beside the point).

In a generation where two of the three consoles have improved on their graphics (HD), new peripherals and control schemes and large storage facilitating media centre capabilities, Nintendo has instead lagged behind. While they will enjoy the next few months as the only 'next generation' console on the market this will be very short lived. Hopefully Nintendo can make enough money during this time to survive and realize that they are too far behind in the console business to really catch up. Then they need to refocus and realize that they can be amazingly successful selling their IPs. How many people would love to play an HD Zelda game on Xbox, Playstation, or PC? How about a fully 3D rendered RPG Pokémon game? Or a new Mario game taking advantage of amazing new tech and HD capabilities? The demand is definitely there for Nintendo's products, they just need to bring them to the masses in a different way.

Wow, that was a long rant for this issue, good luck with exams and enjoy your holidays before the next term. Until then, Keep on Gaming.



Nintendo

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VeloCity's Demo Day Takes the Stage and Awards Three Deserving Teams!

VELOCITY
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

VeloCity Demo Day was a huge success! Thursday, November 22nd, 2012, VeloCity hosted 12 uWaterloo student startup companies as they pitched and showcased their ideas in the Davis Centre Foyer between 12-3pm. The pitches continue to raise the bar with each term and the ideas are extremely dynamic and varied. Companies were pitching ideas about organic food, corporation training, course selection, fashion, and even politics!

Our panel of judges which included Wayne Chang, President of Pivotry Consulting Group; Amanie Ismail, Co-Founder of Kue Software and Product Wiki; Ben Hagon, Creative Director at Hagon Design; Nabil, Senior Analyst, VSG at Communtech; and the audience who voted announced the winning teams! It was a tough decision; innovative ideas and the speed at which they are realized and tested are moving at a pace unlike anything VeloCity has ever seen. This term's Elevator Award, for best pitch went

to Mantaphrase, a digital phrasebook app for communicating in a foreign language. The two co-founders came up with the idea when looking to solve their own frustrations while communicating in a language other than their native tongue during travels abroad. Mantaphrase has earned its place in TechCrunch and many other notable online sites, and we are excited to see what comes out of the pipeline for them!

Projexity took home the prize for the Innovation Award for their pitch of an online crowd funding platform for urban improvement projects. The team is diverse and has a collective background in urban infrastructure, design, and community engagement. We're pumped about their ability to translate crowd funding in a very tangible and impactful way to community neighbourhoods.

Lastly, inVuze earned the People's Choice Award for their application, which lets users control display screens from mobile devices. The idea behind this is to enable participation in public spaces. Say you're at a restaurant and you want

to contribute your music to the playlist. Simply submit your request via your phone and the process will take place in real time. We were more than happy to award each of these teams with three prizes of \$1000 to push their business ideas!

If these teams and their ideas sound like

you, VeloCity is always looking for new and innovative ideas to support. Check out our website for more details about the three VeloCity programs, and more importantly, come out to our events to learn more about what we have to offer! If entrepreneurship is something you are passionate about, we're excited to help.



Velocity

Students and Judges gather in Davis Center as students present their ideas

TEDxUW: Reviewing the Talks and the Fanfare

Continued from TEDxUW on page 1

Although this may sound like common-sense, Maxwell goes much more in-depth. He talks about ways that we build trust, that we damage trust, that we outright lose trust, and how these are affected by a multitude of factors, both internal and external to meetings between entrepreneur and investor. This talk is a great resource for anyone interested in starting their own business and actually acquiring money to pursue it.

Ami Richter gave a talk about "matching your career to your DNA", and no, she didn't mean your ATGC's, she used the term "DNA" figuratively to mean who you are fundamentally as a person. Richter talked about how, by really discovering who you are, you find the EDGE to succeed. By being true to herself and listening to her calling, Richter even landed a spot on Oprah Winfrey's coveted O-list. We would have liked to hear more about how she found herself, or what about her approach gave her the EDGE to recognize her calling, and less of her laundry-list of accomplishments as we were drawn to her success story, but found the takeaway message a little vague. Nonetheless, Richter's talk told a great story and is worth hearing for yourself.

Heather Dale is a recording artist and record label owner that got into showbiz without insider connections. Her secret: finding her tribe. Dale originally had a hard time getting her music out due to writing songs that didn't matter to her but rather what she thought the general populace would enjoy. After discovering her passion and others that shared it, she was more comfortable focusing on songs that matter to her.

This is when dedicated fans, from her tribe, started appearing and have resulted in her touring across North America and Europe. Dale phrased it best when she first met members of her tribe and enthusiastically proclaimed "there are more of us."

Dr. Geoffrey Fong's talk regarding smoking, bridges and democracy was probably one of the most stirring and provocative of the day. Dr. Fong explained how his research on anti-smoking measures finds that the reason smokers keep smoking (despite the indisputable

negative side-effects) is that before each cigarette the smoker conducts a cost-benefit analysis, and in the short-term the benefits of smoking outweigh the costs of withdrawal. Of course, in the long-term it is greatly in the interest of the smoker to quit, but "myopic reasoning" is what holds them back. He then proceeded to liken the situation to that of municipalities deciding whether or not to renovate bridges. On one hand, one could invest the money necessary for repairs but on the other hand, "it's all too easy to put off maintenance until next year so that you can spend the money elsewhere this year". Of course a bridge which costs \$15 M to repair could cost \$235 M to replace upon collapse, but such mistakes are the nature of myopic reasoning. Lastly, he draws his research to democracy and points out the inherent flaw in electing leaders every few years. Namely that, by design, such a system will reward short-term thinking and policies with short-term costs and long-term benefits will lose out to short-term benefits and long-term costs. When asked after his talk, Dr. Fong admitted that he may have appeared to be advocating the elusive benevolent despot, "but too often you get the d without the b". He went on to explain that while he offers no perfect solution to the problem at hand, he stressed that he believes in working within the framework of democracy so as to not throw out the baby with the bathwater. Dr. Fong's talk was more of a warning and a call for people to search for a solution before we fall off of the EDGE of calamity with such crises as global warming just on the horizon.

Model, dancer, and engineer, three things that are not typically associated to one another, but yet are all self-defining of Cassandra Cole. Cole came out of a near death experience at a young age with a bucket list and a passion to follow her new-found love of racing. Being a woman in engineering may not be the easiest path to take, and the addition of a misinterpretation getting out of hand and reaching the hands of media outlets did not help. With the struggle of having damaged her relationship with her SAE teammates, she decided to "choose crazy" by facing her fears and coming back with her "head up high." She is now a team lead and came

out with a lesson on the importance of perspective, and how people can misjudge you even if you had the best of intentions.

It is without a doubt that one of the event's most anticipated talks was delivered by Kickoff's Bill Thompson. Thompson gave a talk on the dangerous "2/3rds" point in a journey -- like an undergraduate career -- where people will often hit a wall: past the point of excitement and optimism but before the point of that last dash to the finish line. In his line of work, it should not come as a surprise that Thompson has seen this countless times. In his talk, the audience is presented not only with journeys he's been told about, but his own collision with the dreaded wall. But it's important to remember that this is just "the beginning of your end-game, not the end of your game". This talk is resonant with the student population, especially so for those of you starting to find "the bitter senior" staring you down in the mirror every morning.

In a self-proclaimed continuation of Larry Smith's popular TEDx talk from last year's event, Michael Litt's message focused on the need to fail to succeed. We've all heard the saying "you learn from your mistakes," but Litt has lived it in his journey to market his biodiesel and unabashedly failing after being privileged enough to meet with the transit authority of the GTA region. Litt presented the audience with examples of common optical illusions that tested one's lack of confidence in presenting their opinions out of fear of being mistaken. Litt believes in embracing these mistakes to point out "you will fail to have a great career, unless you fail to have a great career." Litt had a good message, but it would have served him better to not hitch it to Larry Smith's wagon, as doing so only invites undue comparisons. Litt's words were strong enough to stand on their own, and Smith's talk was a conclusive one-off performance best left to Larry Smith.

The secret to life in Naila Keleta-Mae's eyes is not a secret at all. She phrased it best as "secrets do not protect us forever, instead they hold us captive." Her moving life story revealed how she stumbled on this life lesson after rising back up from a depression brought on by the burden of keeping secrets. Accompanied by her

beautiful voice, her talk was "so nice" and inspiring, while teaching us to be more comfortable with ourselves.

Starting his talk with a video of a young man whose stutter was so debilitating that he could barely mutter, Richard Holmes surprised the entire audience when he elegantly articulated that the video shown was taken only a year prior to his talk. Holmes talk was a definite highlight of the day's events. His talk was moving, inspiring, and educating, all the elements of a good TED talk. He spoke about the stigma and difficulties that arise when growing up with a speech impediment and the prejudices and misconceptions which led people to think that he was antisocial or unintelligent. He eventually found mountain biking, a passion that would allow him to express himself without the use of words. His hard work and diligence led him to master this skill and become a professional biker and coach at the Whistler Bike Park in BC. As an adult, he decided to take his drive and apply it to his stutter, enlisting in the help of the Speech and Stuttering Foundation in Toronto. Using the same technique of daily practice and exercise, Holmes mastered this old foe in a talk that is certainly worth listening to.

Olympic gold medals don't come easy, but Heather Moyse taught us there are many different paths you can take to earn your own gold. Not starting bobsledding till the age of 27 while her fellow gold medalist and driver started at 17 reveals the truth behind her point. Even with starting late, she preferred to be mentally stable rather than leave her comfort zone and move to Calgary. She made up for this with creative training such as pushing a car in a parking lot, teaching us that you don't need to make many sacrifices if you're truly dedicated to your goals.

TEDx organizer Renjie Butilard perhaps put it perfectly when he said, "The best TED talks capture the essence of an idea, weave it into a story, and mesmerizing the audience." There were a lot of talks at the TEDxUW event which effectively captured what EDGE meant to the speaker and how it led them to succeed. Do yourself a favour and be sure to watch the talks yourself at www.tedxuw.com, and hopefully they will help you to develop your own "ideas worth sharing".

Blue Jays Aiming for the Stars



MEAGAN CARDNO
1A NANOTECHNOLOGY

Unless you've been living under a rock (or perhaps just don't enjoy the magical sport of baseball), you've probably seen the internet and news abuzz with talks of the Toronto Blue Jays and the recent changes in lineups, both on and off the diamond.

For the past few seasons, the motto for the Canadian baseball team seemed to have been "planning for the future", and kind of keeping the present details fuzzy. Whenever one would try to talk about the team, there was always a mention of "minor prospects" and "setting up a better team for next year". Well, ladies and gentlemen, the wait may finally be over.

With Rogers letting loose some extra cash, we see this year's payroll increasing from 79 million to a formidable 120 million. The diamonds that we caught completely justified the high price-tag — in a gigantic trade with the Marlins, the team scored a couple of all-stars, including two desperately needed starting pitchers Josh Johnson and Mark Buehrle, Jose Reyes, one of the highest-ranked shortstops currently in baseball, Emilio Bonifacio and catcher John Buck (welcome back, bud!).

This trade saw us shipping off three of our top prospects, as well as several familiar names: Yunel Escobar, Jeff Mathis, Henderson Alvarez, and Adeiny Hechavarria. However, none of these players were fundamental in the composition of our team, and have easily re-

placed niches for the coming season. The only possible downsides for the trade shows that few players have potential for DL-worthy injuries (but such things are commonplace for the Jays). Critics are unanimous in decreeing the trade a huge win for the Blue Jays.

But hold onto your hats folks. It doesn't end there.

Free agent Melky Cabrera, former all-star outfielder for the Giants, also found himself in the Jays lineup this past month. After having testing positive for the use of performance-enhancing drugs, Cabrera received a fifty-game suspension. General Manager, Alex Anthopoulos, heard opportunity knocking and signed the outfielder for a two-year contract worth 16 million dollars. The gamble in doing so is minimized for the Jays — officials will be keeping a close eye on Cabrera for further substance abuse, which only promotes healthy habits for the all-star seeking a second chance. The only real risk is what his performance will be like this year, but the confidence with the new star-studded lineup might give him the perfect environment to succeed.

For once, online fans of the Jays can no longer be seen arguing and complaining about the management and operations of the team. Anyone still doubting the capabilities of Anthopoulos must be struggling to find complaints with solid moves like these... and he wasn't even done yet.

After previous manager John Farrell "requested" (fairly adamantly) to give up his final contracted year with the Blue Jays to work in Boston with the Red Sox, the team did not exactly have the highest of spirits. It became Anthopoulos' job to



The Associated Press

Miami Marlins players, from left, pitcher Mark Buehrle, shortstop Jose Reyes, and pitcher Josh Johnson

find a strong manager that could knit all of the new players together, to create a true contender of a team. There were several potential choices — previous Jays managers, or even perhaps a young rising star. Anthopoulos decided to place his faith in former manager John Gibbons, who had been fired four years ago before legendary manager Cito Gaston took the reigns (again). With a 305-305 win-loss coaching record (third best in Blue Jays history) Gibbons seems like yet another smart choice on the part of Anthopoulos. While some may say that the general manager may be thinking too personally on the matter but in truth this may have

made his design even more sound-- as Anthopoulos is familiar with Gibbons, he knows how he acts, his strengths and weaknesses, and what to expect, whereas choosing a young manager could be playing too risky to coach the new, high-rolling roster.

It seems that, from nearly every perspective of the situation, the Jays are setting themselves up for success in the coming season. With the great management, strong players, perseverance, and some luck, Toronto just might find themselves in playoff position this year... but let's not get ahead of ourselves. It isn't spring just yet.

Red Hood, The Bastard Son of the Bat



DANIEL OSORIO
2T NANOTECHNOLOGY

UNSUNG HEROES

Can someone who kills ever be a hero? If you've read my past articles you'll probably guess the answer is no. Reading about people like Aquaman, Northstar, or Steel, you've seen that they pretty much epitomize your classic hero archetype. But there will always be the anti-hero, the person who walks a fine line between good and evil, the one who seeks a better world through evil means, the name which



Kenneth Rocafort

disgusts heroes and makes villains cower. No one exemplifies the anti-hero better than Jason Todd, the second robin, better known today as the Red Hood, the bastard son of the Bat.

Jason was brought up in a broken home with his father, a petty criminal and his mother, a drug addict. When his father was taken to jail for breaking and entering, Jason's mother fell into a deep depression. Jason tried to become the provider for their household by performing petty crimes for quick cash to pay his families debts. Nonetheless, his mother was too depressed to live and, as a result, took her own life through a drug overdose. Jason then became a common criminal and joined the scourge of the underworld. However, Jason made a point of never hurting innocent bystanders and tried to ensure that no one would be hurt during his crimes.

Times were still tough on Jason until one night, when he ended up in a fist fight with a Gotham gang. He was brutally beaten almost to the point of death until Batman intervened to save him. When Batman was trying to take Jason to a late night clinic, a nurse confronted Batman and told him that this boy was doing good for Gotham. She told Batman that he should protect him and teach him the right way to protect the city. Batman saw this in Jason and adopted him as his son. He began to train him to become the second Robin. Being one of his most enthusiastic pupils, Jason

soon became skilled enough to go on patrol with Batman. This continued until one night when Jason pushed a pimp off a building, causing him to fall to his death. Batman scolded Jason and took him off the streets. This caused Jason to fall into a deep depression and grow distant from Batman. His depression allowed him to fall into a trap set up by Batman's nemesis the Joker. The Joker savagely beat Jason with a crow bar and left a time bomb in the warehouse he had taken him to. Batman didn't make it in time and was forced to watch the explosion that killed his ward, later holding Jason's lifeless body in his arms. Jason's death, due to Batman's actions, would haunt Batman forever.

Jason's lifeless body was stolen by Talia Al Ghul and dipped into the Lazarus Pit, which brought Jason back to life. Being trained by Talia, Jason saw that Batman never avenged his death which caused him to hate Batman, and don the title Red Hood, the Joker's original name, and hated Batman ever since.

Jason Todd, is hands down, the strongest of all the Robin's when it comes to combat. Before he had any formal training, Jason was able to fight off multiple opponents at once, use a variety of weapons, and was never afraid to use dirty tactics. After not only being trained by Batman, Alfred, and Nightwing, Jason was also trained by Talia Al Ghul and the League of Shadows. Jason is at the peak of physical human conditioning, having the endurance greater than an Olympic athlete. He is a master of several martial arts, a skilled acrobat, trained in a variety of melee weapons, detective training, and bomb assembly.

Perhaps Jason's greatest asset is his proficiency with firearms, especially with his custom 9mm handguns. Jason is said to be the third greatest marksmen

with a firearm, only to be surpassed by Deathstroke and Deadshot. He has his own version of Batman's utility belt, a leather biker jacket containing a knife, explosives, Taser, glider wings, caltrops, his own version of the Batarang, and ammunition. His iconic Red Hood mask contains many beneficial functions such as a gas mask, GPS tracking, radio transceiver, night vision, and infrared vision. He is multilingual and is one of the best automobile drivers in the world, usually preferring his upgraded El Camino or motorcycle.

Jason Todd has been able to go toe to toe with the worst Gotham and the World has to offer. Upon his resurrection, Jason Todd kidnapped the Joker and beat him savagely with a crowbar which if you know anything about comics you know it's no easy task to pull one over the Joker. He has been able to fight mutants, ninjas, mobsters, all of Batman's rouge gallery, alien races, undead assassins, and the entire Bat Family. He is the last warrior of the All Caste, a secret society that trained him under orders of Talia Al Ghul, and has been able to take down 80 men at a time, alone, with no help. Currently in the comics, he is assisting the Bat family with Joker, putting his feeling aside to fight a common foe.

Jason is a damaged hero. He feels like Batman never truly loved him like a son and that because he was never avenged his life meant nothing. He was always tortured by the fact his parents were horrible people and that he never really had a place in society. However, Batman always loved Jason and his death always tortured him, always claiming that it was his greatest failure. Jason Todd is a tragic hero and a force to be reckoned with. No matter what villain he faces or what challenge comes his way the Bastard son of the Bat is ready.

Point Vs. Counterpoint

Waterloo Should Focus on Opening More Satellite Campuses

POINT

LEAH KRISTUFEK
2A CHEMICAL

One of the predominant reasons most students come to UW is the co-op program. Students want to explore by working in different types of jobs. Co-op allows experimentation with the size and type of companies where we are working and the types of locations where we work. Where better to go than out of the country? After all, it's only four to eight months. Anyone can do anything for just four to eight months. Having Satellite campuses in other countries means that there is the opportunity to travel to other countries as TAs or dons employed by the university. You have the chance to experience that country in a safe manner while still seeing the familiar faces of profs from Waterloo, and the chance to see industry in that country from an academic standpoint.

Satellite campuses serve several functions. UW campuses outside of Waterloo can bring students closer to what they are studying. For Architecture students, their campus provides greater aesthetic beauty. For Stratford students, the campus brings them closer to the vibrant arts scene in Stratford which supports and supplements the digital media studies which take place there. The School of Pharmacy allows Health Sciences and pharmacy students to work closely with McMaster University's DeGroote School of Medicine and allows pharmacy students to help care for patients. The Dubai campus developed a partnership with the UAE and permits students to begin their studies in Chemical or Civil engineering, financial analysis and risk management and information technology management. Students in Dubai are able to do the first 2 years of their degrees closer to home before finishing their degrees in Waterloo. Finally, the Waterloo Summit Centre for the Environment in Huntsville connects environment students with northern Ontario landscapes. These satellite campuses make valuable connections between students and the professional communities that they will one day join.

My opponent will tell you that we should be consolidating to the main Waterloo campus. However, that will weaken our ties with so many different professional communities. Also, having professors living in communities that inspire or interest them increases professional development and satisfaction with their work. This benefits everyone, since happy professors make for better lectures. Furthermore, having all Waterloo students studying predominantly at the main campus creates stresses on the available infrastructure. While our mental health can be increased simply by turning POETS into a giant sand box, that is not a viable full time solution. Having everyone in one place with constant construction contributes to the mental health drain which can only be remedied by more space, both for studying, summer Frisbee games and winter snowball fights.

So, what next? Either the university can decrease green space on main campus through the creation of endless new buildings, or more satellite campuses can be created. Imagine studying geology or geography in northern Canada, conducting research and field studies alongside your professors. Or, how about computer science students doing their last year in Silicon Valley, or Health Sciences students studying in Switzerland? Granted, there is greater

cost involved in having these campuses for very specialized needs: maintaining buildings and transporting employees, as well as the student cost for transportation, housing etc. If professors travel between campuses, they will be in the same situation as the students they teach, travelling back and forth without a permanent address. While being uprooted fairly routinely to travel between campuses leads to some disorganization, it will also renew their outlook on life and provide a fresh look at their work. The disorganization affect on professors from having several campuses can be minimized by having rental accommodations for professors so they won't have to worry about finding housing, buying beds, shower curtains etc.

Satellite campuses will bring incredible benefits for students and professors alike by bringing them close to the hot spot in their fields and placing them in the action. They can be located in places with good resources, cutting edge technology, or a high density of industrial operations. Satellite campuses also act as a resource for co-op students, allowing them to check in to a campus which is relatively familiar. Having a campus elsewhere is like visiting MacDonald's in a different country: familiar enough for comfort, but different enough to excite you and give you new inspirations. Students can remain at home longer or leave home sooner depending on their comfort zones, allowing them to get closer to their full potential. And this, my friends, is the power of Satellite campuses - to inspire the generations of the future towards the inventions of tomorrow.

MEAGAN CARDNO
1A NANOTECHNOLOGY

Don't get me wrong here. Expansion is always good-- but focus is a key thing here. Waterloo is, as the name suggests, centered in the Waterloo region. At the moment, our school is one of the most well-established and respected in Canada and in order to maintain that status, we must keep our focus on our internal affairs.

Satellite campuses are great ideas in theory, but as the recent closure of the Dubai campus has shown us, are not always the most sound idea. Sure, in order to make an omelette you have to crack a few eggs, but just how many eggs are we willing to throw away? These are costly investments and, as we get more data, the more it looks like these might also be risky investments, and perhaps not even worth the extra time and effort.

A really common opinion about satellite campuses is that they don't foster the same sense of pride for the University in its students in comparison to those who go to the central campus. They have a harder time keeping the same high standards maintained in a full-sized campus. Since they are significantly smaller in size, they do not have the diversity of students, interests, and activities, as well as sometimes having less-than-spectacular teaching staff. That is pretty much everything which makes university life, in general, appealing-- it's almost as if secondary school just gained many new faces and got a heck of a lot harder. To pay such extensive fees to create a less genuine experience seems ridiculous.

In actuality, if you go snooping around the internet for a little, you very quickly

COUNTERPOINT

find some people questioning Ontario universities and their love of expansion-- in February of 2012, the Ontario government vowed to create over 50 thousand new post-secondary spaces, including three new campuses. Critics immediately questioned this move, as Ontario has already one of the most extensive undergraduate programs in comparison to other provinces-- having almost twice the number of independent campuses from the second-place province, Québec. If you were to include satellite campuses in that analysis, the numbers would be even more dramatic. Expanding further within our own province seems less productive than focusing on improving what campuses we already have and trying to distinguish ourselves even more in what is already a very competitive market.

International markets are difficult as well. Although Canadian institutions are well-respected worldwide, much of the appeal for non-Canadians comes with the thought of actually living and attending the school in Canada itself. The extra effort to attend a Canadian school outside of Canada might not appeal to students as much as other options, especially when other names such as MIT, CalTech, Princeton, and Stanford are involved. The students who are willing to go through the hassle of applying to university or college outside of their country are the high-achievers-- they are going to be the ones who are going to go big or just stay at home. We'd have better luck attracting them by increasing our renown worldwide and focusing on internal improvements at our main campus.

Often, popular support towards satellite campuses comes from the fact that it allows out-of-town students to attend university when location and monetary issues would have prevented them otherwise. However, people forget that building a campus-away-from-campus is not the only solution to this problem: investing in internal expansions could see the university creating a fund or a scholarship that would assist people each year to come to the university (I, myself, received a scholarship of a similar nature that allowed me to study abroad when otherwise it would have been impossible). Even reducing fees for out-of-province students would promote the home university more and require far less effort and risky investments for brand-new campuses. Another bonus: there isn't an extensive waiting process for the school and campuses to be built before any results are possible.

Finally, if we focused too much of our energy on satellite campuses, what might happen to the state of the mother campus? We have invested so much time, money, and effort into Waterloo that letting it be anything less than cutting-edge will soon not be enough. What if, at some point, the satellite campuses represent the University of Waterloo more than the Waterloo campus does? What if they outshine the main campus, to the point where attending Waterloo-based-UWaterloo is option B? Sure, it may seem a trivial detail, but you'd be surprised as to how many investors find trivial things to be of importance.

My two cents: have a satellite campus or two, Waterloo. It'll be a great way to gain some diversity and it'll look nice on your résumé, but don't let it be your main area of focus. Having a really strong home base is far more important than expanding as much as possible. If you don't, you might find yourself with a far too complex structure that is just ready to collapse at any minute.

WATERLOO ENGINEERING



A team of experienced **alumni volunteers** are ready to share their vast range of **knowledge**, field **experience** and the secrets of their success with you.

<http://askanengalumni.uwaterloo.ca/>

Ask questions and get **advice**: adjusting to University life, planning your **career**, the working world, ethics, **job search** tips and more!

A Reasonably Variable Gingerbread Recipe



CAITLIN MCLAREN
1A CHEMICAL

A HIGHLY VARIABLE X RECIPE

Deck the halls with boughs of holly!
'Tis the season to be jolly!

Actually, don't deck the halls with boughs of holly. Don't even touch a bough of holly. Don't go within ten feet of a holly plant. Those things are vicious.

Also, jolly? I can kill all your jolly with one word- finals.

Now that I have completely ruined the mood, I suppose it's my duty to cheer you all up again. I know you're studying (except Scott, and he should be), but remember-take a break every so often, and make some nice gingerbread men. They

are quite quick, and are very, very easy.

The ingredients you need come in three categories: wet, dry, and spicy. The dry ingredients are: flour and baking power. The wet ones are egg, shortening, molasses, brown sugar, water, and vanilla. To spice it up, add ginger, nutmeg, cloves, and cinnamon.

Choose a basis of six cups of flour. If you want to change the amounts, you can multiply as much as you want; but it is difficult to get a fraction of an egg.

Mix the six cups of flour with a tablespoon of baking powder. Add in a spoonful or so of the spices: play around with them as much as possible. I don't recommend going overboard with the ginger; one spoonful should do. With the rest, go nuts.

In a separate bowl, combine the shortening (one cup, melted), molasses (3/4

cup or a bit more), sugar (one cup... who am I kidding? Just don't make it wayyyy too much sugar. Not more than one and a half cups- trust me, that's plenty. Molasses is pretty sweet, you know), eggs (one egg per 6 cups of flour), vanilla (one spoonful), and water. Water is for texture, so don't worry too much; just put in a bit if your dough seems too thick at the end.

Mix in the dry ingredients slowly. Here is where you can add THINGS!. Chocolate chips, nuts, raisins, carrots, candies (except Rockets, which are disgusting)... all of these things can go inside gingerbread. When the entire thing is a homogenous mass, divide it into chunks, cling-wrap them, and refrigerate the packages. Leave them in the fridge for at least three hours (while you study!).

When you take your next break, heat the oven to 350° Fahrenheit (Quick, convert

to Kelvin, Rankine, and Celsius!). Roll out your dough on a floured surface. If you think sprinkling flour on your counter will make a mess, you have no idea what kind of mess rolling out sticky dough on an unfloured surface makes. And don't do this on the cookie sheet, or it will burn in the oven. Cut the dough into shapes - be artistic.

Bake the cookies for about 10 minutes. Take them out and let them cool.

Yes, that is actually it! If you want to make a house, you will have to make the rectangle cookies quite thick, which means they will have to bake a little longer.

This recipe makes a good many cookies, and if you have too many, the Iron Warrior staff would like to appeal to your Christmas spirit. Send some over, we deserve them!

Kiwi!: The Little Bird that Could?



JOSHUA KALPIN
2A SOFTWARE

THE SHORT SHORT REVIEW

Hello readers and welcome to the final edition of The Short Short Review this term! Just as a reminder, in this column I attempt to review a short film or story in a really short number of words. This week I'll be reviewing the short film, Kiwi! In 310 words because the film, with credits, is 3 minutes and 10 seconds long.

Before we get into the review, time for

some background on what this movie is about. Kiwi! was a Master's Thesis project created by Dony Permedi. The film tells the story of a little bird who has no wings and wants to fly. Any more will ruin it so I'm going to move on to the actual review for everyone's sake.

The story is cute, emotional and filled with a few surprises for a movie with no dialogue and minimal sound effects. Speaking of sound, the soundtrack of the film is fantastic. The soundtrack, which features a lot of tuba, has plodding but bouncy, playful feel to it and really suits the story.

The animation in the film is impressive

for an amateur film. The little bird displays immense levels of emotion and the trees in the film pop. Special kudos to the end of the film (which I will leave details unnamed for) for a beautifully animated ending that has some impressive fog effects.

Overall, I give Kiwi! four little birds out of five for surprising me.

Well, that was one of the shorter reviews I've written this term but it leaves

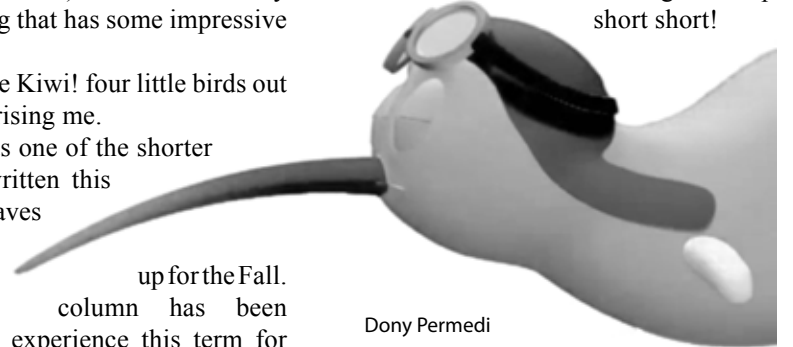
me some space

to wrap things

Hopefully this

an entertaining experience this term for

everyone involved. Hopefully you'll see more to come this spring with new, mildly interesting and crazy short films, stories, poems and maybe even a game or two. Until we meet again keep short short!



Dony Permedi

Music Through the (p)Ages: Stepping into the New Era



ZACHARY GINGRAS
1A NANOTECHNOLOGY

MUSIC THROUGH THE (P)AGES

Hello, and welcome to the final edition of Music through the (p)Ages for this term. We've come a long way, from the humble beginnings of classical music, through the defining ages of jazz, rock, and country, and now we arrive on the brink of a new style of music. But before I talk about some newer, contemporary music, I want to take a while to talk about one of my favourite genre's: Indie music.

"Indie" stands for independent music, and is a relatively new term. Only recently are artists able to break away from being a part of the large record companies and are able to promote themselves. While the

term "indie" is meant to stand for all independent musicians, it is interesting to note that there is also a specific style that arose from these independent artist, and a sound that can only be heard from these smaller groups.

The biggest thing about indie groups is that they all strive to create their own unique sound. Because of that, not only does every group sound different, but it is rather hard to pick out the defining details of this genre, because what may hold true for some artists does not for others. They also often blend many styles to create their sound. For example, you can hear Sleeping In by The Postal Service use a strong synthetic drum track, something common in electronic music (shame I didn't get time to talk about it), combined with some soft bells synth and an electric guitar. Not really a genre of its own. In contrast, I am a Heart by Hey Ocean starts a rock song

with a flute riff! I guess the biggest uniting factor you can find for indie music is that they will bring brand new sounds into their music and always stay on the edge of the new musical genre.

Now, contemporary music is often the combination of very different genres of music. This definition encroaches upon the definition of indie music a lot. In fact, there isn't a definitive line to where contemporary music starts. However, there are people well known for trying things that no one else has ever tried. These are the true contemporary artists, going where no-one else has ever gone before.

My personal favorite contemporary composer is Eric Whitacre. He is known for composing choral music, band music, but also for daring to go where no one else has gone before. The prime example of this (and contemporary music, in my opinion) would be his techno opera, Paradise Lost.

Yes, he crossed electronic techno music with an opera and came out with rather surprising results. What If is a song whose dissonance somehow gets stuck in your head, and you won't hear anything like Libertas Imperio anywhere else.

And with that, I bring this column to a close! It's been an exciting term, exploring the world of music, and we only just scratched the surface. I could go on and on about electronic music, spend weeks on hip hop, and delve even further into jazz, classical, and every other genre. But I didn't write this column to go into every type of music. No, I wrote it to show the massive diversity of music in our lives that we are blessed to have, and perhaps encourage you to dive a bit deeper into some new music you may have found interesting.

So, until next term, remember to listen to more great music and keep your passion alive!

The Whimsically Wintery Wonders of Waterloo



JOSHUA KALPIN
2A SOFTWARE

DISCOVERING KW

Hello readers and welcome to the final edition of Discovering KW. As a reminder, in this column we will be travelling around Kitchener-Waterloo to discover some of the lesser known activities, locations, events, and see some cool stuff. This week we will be discovering some wonderful wintery activities that you can do in the KW area.

The best place to start is with the most 'Canadian' of activities, outdoor skating. There are many places to go skating outside in the KW area but the closest has to

be in Public Square in Uptown Waterloo. Once the temperature drops below zero, this skating rink, along with many others, opens up from 10AM to 10PM daily. If you want more information about where to go skating around Waterloo visit <http://g.co/maps/fta2a>, the Region of Waterloo's official skating map.

If skiing is more your thing, there are also many options for you in the KW area. Cross-country skiing is available at the Laurel Creek Conservation Area off Westmount Road from 9AM to 4PM on weekdays and 9:00AM to 5:30PM on weekends. Admission to the conservation area is \$5.50 for adults and ski rentals are available for \$13. Be advised that if you want to rent equipment on a weekday you need to call one day in advance ((519) 884-6620). Also,

in addition to cross-country skiing, snowshoeing is available at the same price and times. You can check whether all winter activities at Laurel Creek are open at <http://www.grandriver.ca/newsroom/news.cfm>.

If you prefer downhill skiing, Chicopee Ski Resort is located in the eastern part of Kitchener. For only \$40 you can get an all-day pass to all lifts in the resort for both skiing and snowboarding. For more regular skiers or snowboarders a winter membership is available starting from \$440 for the entire season. If you don't own your own skis, snowboard, poles or any other equipment, all of it is available for rental with a discount if you are a member. If you don't own a car, or have a friend without one, you can get to Chicopee via the #27 bus which can be accessed by the 12 towards Fairview

Park.

Moving to indoor winter activities, let's talk about curling. For those who don't know, curling is an indoor team sport that involves throwing 'rocks' towards a target. Scoring is applied by counting the rocks of the team that are closest to the centre of the target. It is a little hard to explain here but it is really fun. If you want to go curling, the KW Granite Club is the place to go. Normally, you need to be a member to access the club but rink rentals are available by contacting the club at info@kwgranite.com.

Well, that's all for this edition and this column. I hope you all learned a thing or two about activities around the KW region and got to go out and explore your city! Until we meet again, keep exploring!

An Old School Christmas Carol



Alas, we have come to our final movie selection for the term. Looking ahead to the time after exams, we have the exciting and refreshing holiday season, so much so that I will not have the chance to write this column! What does this mean? It's time for a little taste of what's to come: Christmas/holiday freedom, and of course an old Christmas Classic.

A Christmas Carol, (1938) is a film adaptation of the novel by Charles Dickens. Though movies based on books are not often true to the story, this one is quite the exception. If you've read (and liked)

the book, you will certainly appreciate this movie. For those of you who have been unfortunate enough to have suffered through corrupted film adaptations of *A Christmas Carol*, allow me to enlighten you on the real story.

The story is set in London around Christmas time. Ebenezer Scrooge is a filthy rich businessman who works his lone employee, Bob Cratchett, to the bone whilst paying him next to nothing. Scrooge refuses to believe in the giving spirit of Christmas, and has zero sympathy for the poor and hungry. Bob Cratchett has a wife and several children, including the crippled Tiny Tim, who struggles with his health. The Cratchetts are a poor family, living only off their father's meager wages. On Christmas Eve, Bob spends his daily salary on food for a special Christmas dinner, bringing great joy to the family.

Meanwhile, Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley. Jacob tells Ebenezer that he must change his selfish ways to avoid becoming like himself after death. The portrayal of Marley is quite interesting: He is weighed down with heavy metal chains, undoubtedly a metaphor for the ruthlessness and lack of generosity he demonstrated as a selfish businessman throughout his life. Jacob explains that Ebenezer is to be visited by three ghosts, who will guide him, and if he listens to them, he will be saved.

Reginald Owen plays the role of Ebenezer Scrooge and does a most excellent job. He makes quite a convincing selfish businessman, in not only his speaking and actions but also more subtly, in his body language and facial expressions. This makes many scenes funny and truly works

to engage the audience. As a viewer, it feels as though you really want to see if it is indeed actually possible for Scrooge to change.

Another remarkable strength of the movie is the set. It very closely resembles nineteenth century London gearing up for Christmas. For us in 2012, the black and white certainly gives us this throwback impression, as should the snow on the ground. However, the shops and houses in the city are old and often run down, as they often were throughout the Industrial Revolution.

The wrap-up: This film is a Christmas Classic that can be relied on when it the time comes for entertainment over the holidays. Why take a chance with other re-makes or new/possibly corrupt/children's Christmas movies? This one is for everyone.

Topz (With a Z): TEDx (With an X)



We don't normally do this, but we'd like to preface this week's column with a disclaimer. All these talkers have accomplished many great things and we consider them to be incredibly successful and impressive ... but we're still more handsome (with the exception of Bill Tatham). This article is just us nitpicking and exaggerating certain aspects of their talks. This note is not for them; if they let two ridiculously handsome undergrads get them down, they would never have made it far enough to be chosen to speak of their successes at a TED event. This note is for you assholes who will think this is offensive: grow a pair... of sentimentalities: namely of humour and of context.

This week we were assigned by the editor of the paper to cover Waterloo's TEDxUW conference (no, really) in a move that was about as brilliant as she is, and twice as handsome. We didn't know half of the speakers' talks half as well as we should like, and liked half the speakers

half as well as they deserve, but intend to write with unwavering assurance and authority all the same. This year the theme chosen for TEDx was EDGE, and a sense of edginess permeated throughout the event from the décor to the Arts-Student-Unionist thugs to the Nanorobotics Group with their novel new material "carbon black" to the UW Waterboys' rendition of "Backstreet's Back". We were given the opportunity to experience both the DC live-screen event as well as the main event at QNC, and can tell you now that the experience among the "over 200 students at DC" was just as riveting. So this week for Topz, we've decided to deliver to you the skinny on the top talks from TEDxUW 2012.

Denise Donlon: Although not an actual speaker at the TEDxUW conference, the Master of Ceremonies could not go without recognition. From apologizing to Dr. Geoff Fong for calling him "Geoff Wong" with a deep bow, to prefacing Bill Thompson's talk with "...rock-bottom, how about that ... our next speaker is Bill Thompson", to repeatedly reprimanding the audience for downloading music, Ms. Donlon was on fire. Super edgy.

Andrew Wong: In his talk on organizing a youth delegation to the UN's Conference on Sustainable Development

in Rio at the age of only 19, Andrew Wong urged people to "keep the ideas of [his] childhood in [their] head". Despite an on-and-off sore throat which forced Wong to deliver his talk in a dramatic whisper with heavy emphasis on 64% of his words, he still managed to convey his moving story about how accomplished he was. Andrew, inspired by the plight a polar bear he saw in the arctic, organized a group of young people who also cared about the environment, and through their hard work and dedication they went to Rio and were able to meet a lot of really important people. But it wasn't smooth sailing, there were a lot of challenges he overcame: as he pointed out, "nobody tells you how to work as a team over different timezones" when you don't have access to Google (another overcome difficulty, we presume). He told us how he met with David Suzuki himself, and because of his diligence and passion, had sushi with David and his family. One day you too, might have the edge to eat sushi with Suzuki and on that day you will be a man who "put childish ways behind you", just like Andrew. Tick. Tock. Tick. Tock. Tock.

Bill Tatham: We actually have nothing snarky to say about Bill Tatham. His talk on healthcare reform was as extraordinary as he is extraordinarily handsome. We

wish him the best of luck in the future, in spite of the JobMine algorithm.

Andrew Maxwell: In his talk, "Trust: The [other] Relationship Lubricant", Andrew Maxwell talked about how to get a research grant for watching five seasons of CBC's "Dragon's Den". Maxwell cracked the code to being able to have a good professional relationship between an entrepreneur and investor. Apparently investors like to trust entrepreneurs that they find and trustworthiness. Allegedly, your ability to trust can be affected by having a bad experience. You can also "damage trust by acting in a non-trusting manner". There is also mistrust and distrust, mistrust being trust that can reestablished and distrust irreparably trustless. You have to trust the trustworthiness of this trusted and trusting truster. Trust. Tock. Trust. Tock. Trust.

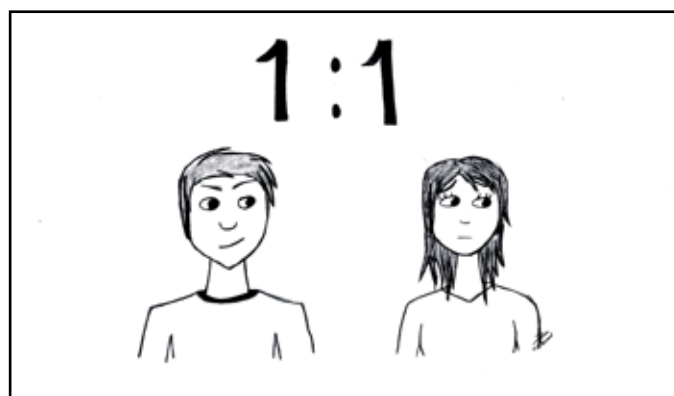
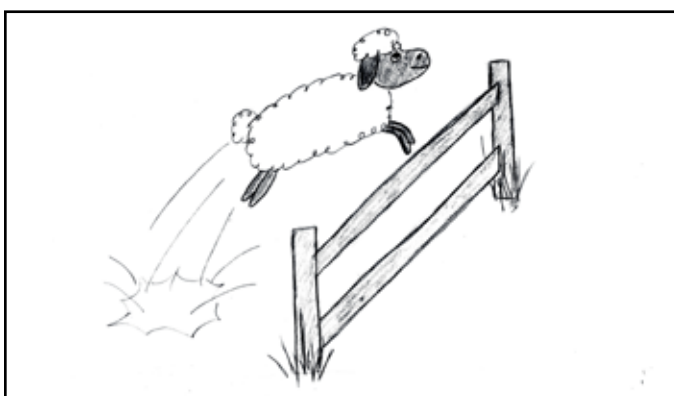
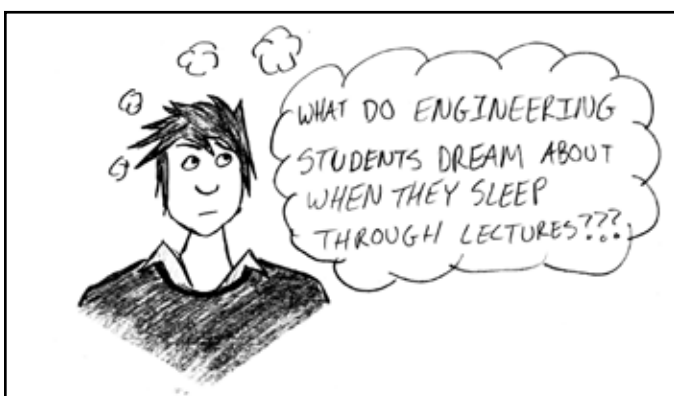
Ami Richter: Next Ami Richter gave her talk on eugenics entitled, "Matching Your Calling to Your DNA". Ami Richter told the story her great successes in life, and realizing that she had to find some kind of message to it tacked on a "be yourself". After all, as Ami said, "I'm just an everyday girl but I followed my DNA, my following, ... and look at all the people I've rubbed shoulders with". Yes, following her sage advice on edge of "be yourself", "any decisions along the way really affected my path", and "don't burn bridges" so that you might rub notable shoulders. So go to your local geneticist and run a gel electrophoresis so that you, too, can meet Oprah.

Cassandra Cole: Although we really liked Cass Cole's talk on "Choosing Crazy", how to stay true to yourself despite the societal norms of what it means to be a woman or an engineer, this was not a universal sentiment. Volunteer Nizar Hasan felt that "Cass Cole's talk was definitely my least favourite." In response, Ms. Cole had to say "I really like the big picture of me in the red room."

There was a third portion of the event which featured an Olympic gold medalist, a Larry-Smith-wannabe, and a woman who actually wanted to get pregnant, but at this point the caffeine was losing its grip (it held out longer for us than for incoming EngSoc President David Birnbaum who fell asleep during Geoff Fong's talk on how to be an effective leader) and the pot was just gaining its hold, so the majority of our notes are about who was hot, who was not, and whether there would be more ice cream later in the day. Also they won't let us write anymore words for fear this column might get noticed outside our reader-base in the DPRK satellite campus. Shout-outs to Pyongyang!

Too Geeky for Humour

By Kyla Rodgers
1A Civil



The Iron Crossword

The Final Stretch

STUART LINLEY
3B NANOTECHNOLOGY

Submit your completed crossword to the crossword submission box in the Orifice (CPH 1327) before next Wednesday to compete in the bi-weekly Crossword Competition!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20				21				22				
		23				24						
25	26	27	28		29	30	31		32	33	34	35
36		37	38			39	40					
41			42				43					
44				45				46				
47				48	49			50	51			
			52		53		54		55			
56	57	58	59			60	61			62	63	64
65				66				67				
68					69				70			
71						72				73		

- 69 Rule or hand go-with
- 70 "Either ___ hero..."
- 71 Prepared for knighthood
- 72 Egg locale

DOWN

- 1 Pile
- 2 Red threat
- 3 Fencing sword
- 4 Breaks
- 5 Omaha state
- 6 "That hurts!"
- 7 "Where are my false ___?"
- 8 Inaccuracy
- 9 Give a hint
- 10 Peak
- 11 Flat-top
- 12 Carb. or Oxy.
- 13 Hour savers (abbr.)
- 21 ___ Lingus
- 22 Mayor Ford
- 25 Veteran
- 26 Accept
- 27 Firs
- 29 Formalwear
- 30 Mexican moolah
- 32 Push
- 33 Sheep sound
- 34 Slow, musically
- 35 ___ Lauder
- 37 Babe
- 39 Greek sandwich
- 42 Esteemed knight
- 43 Course transport
- 48 Bow or skinny
- 50 British snack
- 53 Ohio town
- 55 Study
- 56 Append (on)
- 57 Bird
- 58 Scope out
- 59 Bulwark
- 60 Upbeat
- 61 Sure things
- 62 Confirmation query
- 63 Portent

ACROSS

- 1 Tones
- 5 Tone
- 9 Known
- 14 Sports channel
- 15 Decanter
- 16 Astra and Corsa
- 17 Sailing
- 18 Stout or ale
- 19 Start over
- 20 *What you need to start doing*
- 23 Black or Red
- 24 Tiff
- 25 Overtake by a circuit
- 28 Accept an invite, maybe
- 31 Chatter
- 36 Biblio. abbr.

- 38 Hold onto
- 40 Lords over
- 41 *What you need to hand in soon*
- 44 Fluid buildup
- 45 'Africa' artist
- 46 Biscuit spread, sometimes
- 47 Hold against
- 49 Ionic compound
- 51 Follow orders: "___ the line"
- 52 Agent agency
- 54 Cost
- 56 *What you can look
- 65 Thus
- 66 Costa ___
- 67 US Mil. abbr.
- 68 Deep string

Sudoku

#2012-14

JACOB TERRY
2T NANOTECHNOLOGY

Easy

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

Medium

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

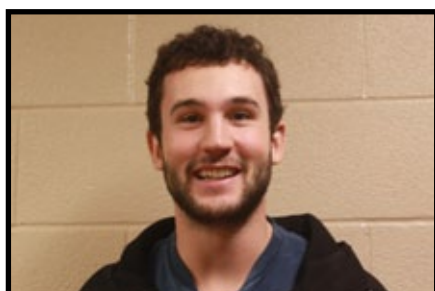
Hard

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

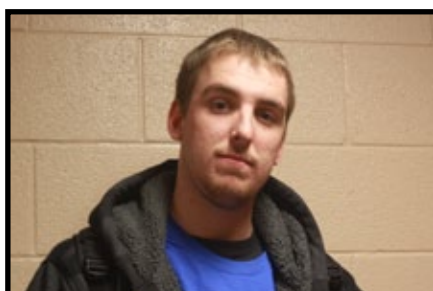
Solutions for previous crosswords can be found on *The Iron Warrior's* website at iwarrior.uwaterloo.ca/distractions.

THE IRON INQUISITION
Brian So, 1A Nanotechnology

"What's the worst/weirdest present you've ever received?"



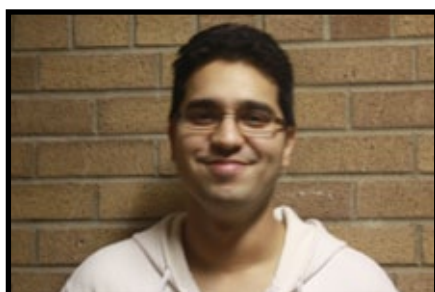
"Deer horns for a car, but I didn't even have a car"
Eric Zillinger, 3B Electrical



"A Slap Chopper"
Michael Gibson, 2A Mechanical



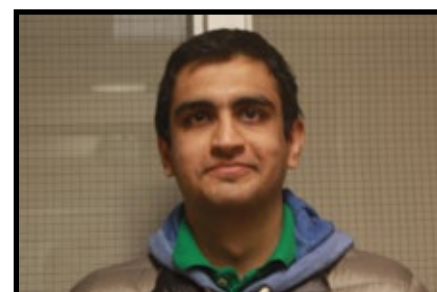
"A variety pack of condoms and lube when I turned 16"
Ronak Shah, 4A Systems Design



"A bundle of socks"
Azhar Khan, 4A Mechatronics



"A pack of water bottles"
Sunghee Bang & Davin Chung,
1A Nanotechnology



"My girlfriend gave me a dildo"
Saad Ahmed, 3B Mechanical