

THE ADVOCATE

William Aberhart High School
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ABE Film Fest 2016

by B. GRIFFIN



Film Fest at ABE is always a fantastic event. Mrs Macdonald and her Film Fest crew put in countless hours to showcase the talent of the school's up-and-coming film makers. This year's gala was everything I have come to expect. The films this year were fun, creative and sophisticated. The films were judged by a panel of students on a variety of attributes including originality, transitions, dialogue and cinematography. Films could win awards for best overall film, best screenplay, most original film, best editing, and best cinematography. This year the award for best overall film went to Mathew McPhee for *Hubert Strange* and the award for best screenplay went to Caleb Mueller and Terran Allen for *Dead Air*. Giselle Tiede and Kevin Olmats received the award for best editing for *Insomnia* and Daniil Rimachi received the award for most original film for *The Horn*. The award for best cinematography went to Anna Svikhnushin for *A Piece of Mind*. All in all, the event was a great showcase that displayed varied and talented filmmakers in our school. Each year, Film fest continues to set the bar higher for excellent work.



EDITORIAL

Eighth Time's the Charm

by JORDAN BUNKE

Last Saturday, President Obama attended his eighth and last White House Correspondents' Dinner as President of the United States. Hosted by comedian Larry Wilmore, the event was attended by numerous notable faces and big names. However, there were some noteworthy exceptions as well. While Senator Bernie Sanders was in attendance, fellow presidential candidates Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, John Kasich, and Hillary Clinton were not. One theme that carried on through the hour was a sense of finality, and the event effectively acted as the last comedic retrospective for Obama's presidency. Highlights of the event included a short starring the President, Vice President Biden, and former Speaker of the House John Boehner and hard-hitting jokes from both the president and Wilmore targeted at Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump, CNN, Fox News, and countless others.

The event commenced with the President's speech, which was quite introspective and lighthearted. President Obama poked fun at his aging during his tenure in the Oval Office, his birth certificate scandal and the debate surrounding his ethnicity. His best outgoing jabs included a line about journalists who had left the White House press corps, where he remarked, "...Jake Tapper left journalism to join CNN" which even resulted in chuckles from the receiving party. Another joke included a subliminal jab at the chaos of the current election cycle and some of the offensive comments certain candidates have made: "Eight years ago, I said it was time to change the tone of our politics. In hindsight,

I clearly should have been more specific." A slightly more morose bit had Obama skeptical about the country's future under another president's leadership, a remark that was presumably aimed towards Donald Trump: "It's an honour to be at my last, and perhaps THE last White House Correspondents' Dinner... The end of the Republic has never looked better." There seemed to be a certain weight lifted off the President's shoulders, and as such, he left it all on the stage, holding nothing back as he ribbed and jabbed anyone that entered his crosshairs. In what appeared to be an homage to the end of another era, Obama recreated Kobe Bryant's closing remarks at the Staples Center last month by dropping the mic onstage and exclaiming, "Obama out!"



The President was followed by *The Nightly Show* host Larry Wilmore, who, unburdened by presidential poise and responsibility, added a certain vulgarity and meanspiritedness to the evening that the president had avoided. Receiving mixed reactions, Wilmore's speech featured a more out-of-body look back at the Obama administration that was peppered with tongue-in-cheek humour and commentary. Instead of the President's subliminal approach to getting laughs, Wilmore went with a more direct, gut punch route, calling out Wolf Blitzer's boring on-camera nature, Ted Cruz's alleged double life as the Zodiac Killer and Don Lemon's questionable journalistic integrity. He ended

by commending Obama for opening a brand new world of possibilities for black Americans and in perhaps the most controversial move of the night, concluded by calling the president, "my n****r".

After all was said and done, the general consensus was that President Obama's speech was the funnier and more tasteful speech of the evening, though both made some very clever and well received jokes. As the last light-hearted comedic event of Obama's presidency, the 44th President of the United States left it all onstage in what is sure to be remembered as one of the most memorable White House Correspondents' Dinners in recent history.



THE ADVOCATE

THE ADVOCATE is the official newspaper of William Aberhart High School. We publish on a bi-weekly basis and encourage letters to the Editor of THE ADVOCATE.

THE ADVOCATE is meant as a forum for student expression and is published to inform and entertain the students and the entire school community.

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ORANGE PULP

Analysis of Thrones

by YUSEF ZIA

The HBO hit series *Game of Thrones* is back for its sixth season and is bringing the show to its usual gripping, heart wrenching heights once again. The series has received plenty of praise as it has been aired and there are many key elements HBO has hit perfectly to attribute to its success. This analysis is spoiler free, so anybody who is not caught up on the series will still be able to read it.

The depth of lore that the series has created its own universe. The book series, *A Song of Ice and Fire* by George R. R. Martin explains almost every aspect of the setting of the series, the fictional continents of Essos and Westeros. This was translated flawlessly to the small screen. There is plenty to learn about and discover in this ever expanding world, leaving even more to the imagination. Small details are explained and utilized to make Westeros seem like a real continent. Although not everything in the show is faithful to the books, enough is translated to showcase the unique cultures of the different people in George R. R. Martin's world. Everything from the history of the kings of Westeros to the stories children are told to make them behave gain a spotlight in the show. These small details may seem pointless from time to time, but they add up to create a completely immersive experience for the viewer.

In *Game of Thrones*, no characters are safe from a brutal death. George R. R. Martin is not afraid to kill major characters

in the blink of an eye. Audiences are almost always on the edge of their seat because major plot points change rapidly. As soon as the viewers get used to the tempo of the plot, the entire storyline completely shifts. Missing one episode would leave a viewer completely lost due to how much occurs during each episode. As soon as the infamous intro sequence begins, it is hard to tear your eyes from the screen. From start to finish, most episodes are packed with a balance of action, death, and character development.

Unlike many series, *Game of Thrones* is not afraid to let characters monologue. These are not emotional monologues that are played to some cheesy modern song, they are monologues that let no sounds resonate except the voice of the character. Many other shows fail to do this successfully, and HBO's ability to properly set the tone for the monologues can be attributed to George R. R. Martin's writing, and their ability to set a proper mood for the speeches to feel appropriate. The power that is felt from these monologues are enough to send chills down your spine. This adds to the already sublime character development the show has to offer. Characters drastically change throughout the series. Very few of them are simple or flat characters. Exploring their arcs makes the viewers begin to feel very strong emotions for the characters. Characters are either loathed, loved, or have motives that are so difficult to figure out, that they generate very mixed feelings.



Despite all the things HBO has done right, the show has had many pitfalls as well. HBO is well known for its gratuitous R-rated scenes. *Game of Thrones* is no exception. They can interrupt the rigorous tempo of the series and they come so often that it gets very old very fast. Unfortunately for many viewers, almost every episode ends with a nail biting cliff hanger. While it can keep an audience at the edge of their seats, it is very irritating. I had the pleasure of binge watching the first few seasons, but ever since, waiting for the next episode is painful. Every good element the show utilized was never taken advantage of in the storyline.

Overall, *Game of Thrones* provides an immersive and brutal experience for its audience, and its acclaim is well deserved. This season is its third last season, and witnessing its epic conclusion will be a great experience.



Dress Code Controversy

by CATALINA RYMAN

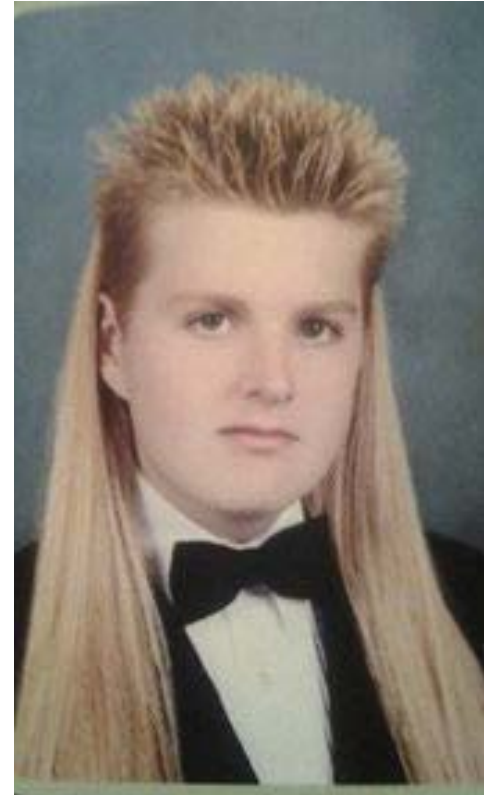
As the snow begins to melt and insects start to come out from hiding, so do students' shorts and tank tops. Just like spring cleaning it is an annual ritual to go to the back of one's closet and dig out the shoes and garments that have been sitting there throughout the entire winter. For many people, this may be seen as an opportunity: a chance to finally express themselves by wearing their favourite pair of shorts, something that represents who they are. For others, this may be a necessity: the scorching sun is just too much and going a day without a tank top would nearly be as bad as walking through the Sahara Desert without water. However, regardless of the individuals' reasons for putting on their favourite pair of shorts once again, the question is often asked: To what extent should a student dress according to the weather and when does it become inappropriate?

Often times, dressing appropriately for school is viewed as a manner of teaching students to dress for the workplace. Tank tops, shorts, crop tops and shirts with offensive images or sayings are all often times considered inappropriate for both school and the workplace. But what about flip flops? It is very rare that a pair of flip flops is deemed workplace appropriate; however, they don't appear to be banned in most schools. While banning some articles of clothing, such as offensive t-shirts, is pretty justifiable, how many of these rules are actually enforced because of workplace ethic and how many of them are actually enforced because of social expectations and opinions on the human body? There appears to be a thin line between what is actually inappropriate and traditional opinions on what is believed to be inappropriate. Are shoulders, knees, and ankles actually provocative in any way? I believe most people would think not. So why are tank tops and shorts forbidden in some schools, especially if they play a significant role in assuring students' comfort during the spring and summer heat? The comfort of the student is often times directly related to their ability to maintain focus; to pay attention to what they are being taught in class instead of how hot they are because they were forced to wear a long sleeve top in twenty degree weather.

The topic of tank tops and shorts, however, becomes an issue when bra straps and short length are discussed. Are bra straps really inappropriate? I mean, every girl has

them. Despite what Victoria says, it actually isn't that big of a secret. And despite seemingly popular belief, most girls who show their bra straps don't do it intentionally. For those of you who have never had to deal with the struggle of hiding a bra strap before, it is actually quite difficult. Regardless of how much one tries to move them out of sight, they always find a way to peak out beneath the tank top. And what are girls supposed to do about that? Stop wearing a bra? No thank you. Stop wearing tank tops? Do you want them to scorch in the smoldering heat? Not only that, but both girls and boys wear tank tops during the spring and summer, so why should both be restricted from wearing them just because half of the student population has a pair of body parts they had no say in having? Neither girls nor boys should be dress coded for wearing tank tops when the weather demands that they do. The comfort of the students should be a main priority. In regards to short length, finger tip length appears to be the general rule for shorts. This is usually a pretty reasonable rule. Except for the fact that most shorts sold to students, particularly young girls, tend to be quite short. It is very difficult to find appropriate length shorts at most clothing stores. If this weren't the case, it would definitely be a lot easier to comply with the finger tip length rule.

In regards to dressing for the workplace, banning crop tops and offensive t-shirts is pretty justified. Many workplaces do not allow the appearance of midriffs for both women and men. The dress code teaches students this which makes the shift into workforce attire easier. T-shirts, sweaters, or any article of clothing that proves to be racist, sexist, homophobic, or offensive in any way also should be banned from school as well as the workplace. School should be a place where everyone feels safe and is free of discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental abilities, and personal decisions about their bodies and style.



by ADITYA KHATU

[illegible]

The Beef With Beef

by MONIQUE VIGNEAULT



Calgary.

Three words come to mind when this international oil-hub is brought up: Cowboys, Oil, & Beef.

It sounds strikingly like the title of a DVD at the bottom of a Walmart five-dollar bin; 'Cowboys, Oil & Beef: A Harlequin Romance'

Despite this rock solid association, Calgary's agricultural economy has recently undergone a coup-d'etat following Earl's Restaurants decision to cease distribution of Alberta beef in their chain effective last week. The chain made the sudden decision to appeal to a demographic that detests the almost Kafkaesque agricultural industry, an opinion that grows increasingly popular. Following April 27, 2016, Earl's announced it would only import Beef from a 'Certified-Humane' producer, located in Kansas, rather than the locally produced Albertan Beef. This decision will only further affect Alberta's struggling economy.

The chain's current president, Mo Jessa, posted a video on the sharing website YouTube, discussing why he's proud of Earl's ballsy move.

"Nothing gives me more joy than to have our people proud of something that they do," Jessa highlights the importance over and over again of being the first North American chain to set the 'standard' for using humanely sourced meat.

To me however, it almost seems as if the top of Jessa's priority list is the facade of the company, rather than the ethics behind the sudden ingredient change. Earl's is beginning to look like that one happy-go-lucky kid in your elementary English class. We get it Janet, you're a freaking vegan.

While it's plausible that the 'Certified-Humane' program is strictly a PR move,



there's also an important monopolizing flaw that's being overlooked in the whole situation. Earl's has switched to a Certified-Humane distributor located in Kansas, but fails to mention the fact that the 'Certified-Humane' badge exists primarily in U.S locations, with few in Canada, Chile, Brazil and Peru. In fact, the Certified-Humane list only



has thirty-eight farms on the whole list.

This means that because of this loophole, Kansas could very easily rob Alberta of what is one of the main sources of revenue for the entire province.

You mean to tell me that there's only thirty-eight farms internationally that run an ethical, mild-mannered business and that the rest of the farms in the world are abusive and unethically murdering tons of animals?

I don't think I've given up on humanity enough to believe that this program monitors the parameters of every farm in the world, and that the certification itself is legit, and not money-laundering to this new oligopoly of restaurant chains.



In a perfect world, we'd have a balance between the progression of the agricultural industry and ethical farming. Sadly, the agricultural industry couldn't be farther from that. The cows, farmers and consumers are at a crossroads.

Why am I telling you this?

Inevitably, Earl's has been the cause of a troubling catch-22. Earl's and many other chains could put our local economy in jeopardy.

As consumers, we must make sure we don't become the cattle we're eating in the process.

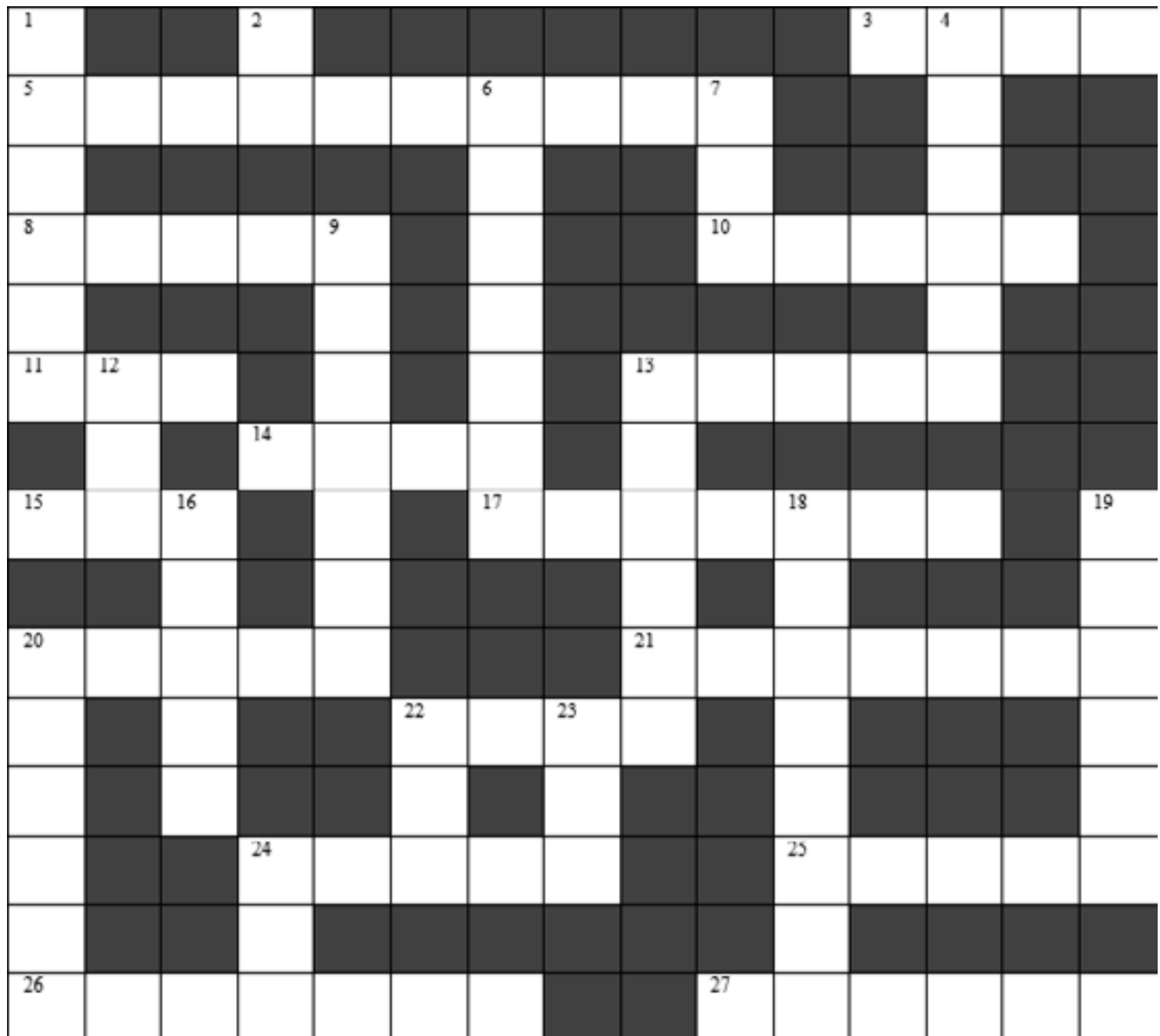
There's no sure fire solution to this evolving problem, and the lack of honesty and accountability makes it all the more difficult.

The saddest part of the whole situation is that when you see a video about the way the animals are treated, even in the "certified-humane" farms; no concoction of eloquent words can justify why some of this treatment of animals is allowed. There needs to be an established solution in the middle of the spectrum; something that would please both the hippies and the Trumps of Alberta.



The Road to the 6

by JORDAN BUNKE



Across:

3. A double reed woodwind musical instrument
5. Readily apparent; everywhere
8. Dignified, majestic
10. MCMB
11. Japanese currency
13. Family of instruments
14. Mel Brooks has achieved this
15. A mineral deposit underground
17. 's Very Own
20. Getafix's profession in the Asterix and Obelix comics
21. The medieval predecessor to chemistry
22. A sign of dark things to come
24. Former Cuban leader Castro
25. SNL boss _____ Michaels

26. Game developer _____ Miyamoto
27. Elizabeth II's husband's title

Down:

1. _____ Drake Graham
2. The benchmark for mental aptitude
4. _____ & Noble
6. The 6
7. _____ Stallone; nickname
9. displaying a disinclination for physical exertion or effort
12. Aural, relating to this
13. The mentor of Dick Grayson, Jason Todd and Tim Drake.
16. The most interesting man in the world advertises this liquor: Dos _____
18. Pad, -ette, vanilla

19. The Grim Reaper's weapon of choice
20. The Father, Quaid, The Menace
22. The principal authority on the English language
23. Snakelike submarine creature
24. A bulbous fruit



HOROSCOPES

by TWINKLEGAZE ASTROPANTS



Aries (March 21 - April 19)



You will be inspired by a pigeon landing on a raccoon that got hit by car. After you fail to revive it with your useless CPR skills. I'm talking about the mouth-to-mouth. It will speak to you in spanish for its love of juegos de mesa and you will play Uno until your fingers fall off. Until you have Uno.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)



After watching Pulp Fiction, you will become a devoted supporter of Quentin Tarantino and he will direct Star Wars 8. He will call it the *Rise of Blade*-franchise continued. It will star Uma Thurman and will be in dubbed in Mandarin to be a tribute to Karate Kid.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)



You will bush-whack for many hours before yoga class to achieve your chi, and want to devoutly support Jeb Bush and the Bush Dynasty. Then there will be a real life Game of Thrones for the White House called the Overturn of the Oval Office. The battle will be between the Trumps and the Bushes. Not Jeb or Junior. But the mighty, strong shrubbery of the fikas and the reed. Jeb!

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)



In your future you will tell a joke. It will be a very funny joke. It will be so funny of a joke; water will come from people's eyes and then their noses. It will be a great attempt at humour. If you ever wish to be comical you will need to tell it. Famous people like Rebecca Blaxk and Carly Rae Jespen will flock to hear it. The joke is your future.

Virgo (August 23 - Sept 22)



After eating an entire jar of pickled pickles, which are really just extremely salty cucumbers, you will be inspired to start a food truck by buying people's half eaten leftovers after they leave fast food joints. You will sell them at twice the price. That way you'll make the money off of others' junk. It's brilliant! Except that you don't have enough money to bribe the health inspector.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)



After staring at the Microsoft screen saver of a flag with a butterfly, you feel compelled to start your own microwaving pen company. The product? Microwavable pens. If you ever forget your pen in the microwave with your food, have no fear the ink won't explode over your food (again). The microwavable pen will give you so much money, it will reach the point where you have to develop the miocrowavable pencil.

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)



Your balance in life has been affected. You have too much homework and you have been sick. You feel divided about who will win the civil war, Captain America or Iron Man. But more importantly what are you doing tonight? You have no idea and I don't know what I'm saying.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)



You will be a devoted tree hugger. You will claim that the Illuminati is responsible for putting dihydrogen monoxide in our water and it's causing people to go crazy and see things like the future. You'll say their poisoning trees with this new dangerous chemical.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)



In the future your ego will grow to point that you will have a cone shaped head. Then you'll need to have brain surgery and release the excess hot air. Lest, you'll wear a wizard hat for the rest of your life. But you'll not be magical, because only I'm magical.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)



After binge watching all 14 seasons of Pokemon, you want to be the very best that no one ever was. You will catch and train these monsters that fit into your pockets and will fight to the death with them. This is approved for kids.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)



Sved, a Norwwegian male swimsuit model has been your best friend for a year. You'll bring him to Canada and he will become an internet sensation with his skinny lobes, hairless ribs and his pet slug named Schnitzel. He will forget you almost instantly after being infatuated with Miley Cyrus and leave you with nothing but sad memories.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 20)



You will soon watch Game of Thrones, Suicide Squad and Civil War. Then you will know these things: living Jon Snow is son of Rhaegar and Lyanna, the Joker is actually a twisted Robin and Baron Zemo will kill Iron Man with Crossbones. Your Welcome!

When you're done, please pass this on or recycle. Thanks!

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Anonymous letters will not be published.

Letters to the editor are published as written by the author.

Spelling and grammar are not corrected.

Occasionally, letters will be edited for length and/or inappropriate language.

Editorial responses are not printed.

We reserve the right not to print letters that do not bring new light to an issue.