

THE ADVOCATE

William Aberhart High School
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NORTHWEST JUVENILE GIRLS TEAM CAPTURES PROVINCIAL BASKETBALL GOLD MEDAL

by CHRISTINE O'BRIEN



After an undefeated season, eleven Northwest Calgary Juvenile girls (including six of our own Aberhart students) stand in a tight circle just meters away from court six in the Saville Sports Center in Edmonton. The girls, dressed in apple red jerseys, some complete with personalized basketball shoes, appear focused. Coach Alex, having traded in his usual gym attire for a gray suit, begins a serious pep talk. Before you can blink, the girls are warming up on the court. The first game against Edmonton Northwest passes quickly, with each quarter seeming to end quicker than the last. Despite the intensity, the girls remain concentrated on the task at hand. Their passes remain deliberate, and their eye contact aids them in the smooth execution of each and every play. It seems that each player appears where they need to be the second they are needed. For the majority of the game Calgary Northwest holds a firm ten point lead, however, in the 4th quarter, Edmonton Northwest catches up to them, and the Northwest girls come out with a tooth and nail win 40-39.

After a quick team dinner, the girls return to the court at 9:30 pm to face SoCal. As the ball drops into the capable hands of our own Rachel Gabriel, it becomes immediately apparent that this game will be more frantic than the last. The score, unlike their previous wins throughout the season, remains at 8-8 for the majority of the first half. However by the end of the second quarter as both teams receive the opportunity to get ahead by means of foul shots, Nichole Torriero sinks both points, while SoCal's luck seems to run dry. In the second half a collision between our own Tegan Post and a Cal West player, resulted in minor injuries on both teams. This roused a fair bit of unsportsmanlike conduct from the opposing coach—ending in a technical foul for SoCal. Brynn Burdett shot on Tegan's behalf, earning the Northwest girls some more breathing room. After this, SoCal seemed to lose their edge and the Northwest girls came away with a 37-17 win.

The girls returned to the court for their second last game on Saturday morn-

ing to play South West Edmonton. Despite this game's deciding factor in who would play for gold at 4pm, the girls seemed more relaxed in comparison to Friday's games. South West brought forward some incredible guards, however they were easily matched by our own Kate Lindsey, and Sydney Eayr. The Northwest girls' plays proved more than effective, and their teamwork earned them a fiery 61-25 win.

Despite being kept off the board for the first three minutes of their final game, the Northwest girls made an abrupt comeback, scoring ten points—four of which were made by our own Jacklyn O'Brien during her two of her classic interceptions. The game remained close, but the Northwest girls effectively stayed ahead by preventing several breakaways. The crowd on each side expelled collective ooo's and oh's as both teams hustled—the Northwest girls for breathing room, and the Hemmes' girls to even the score. In the end the Northwest girls captured gold in their provincial division, with a close score of 36-27.

EDITORIAL

Through the Looking Glass

by JORDAN BUNKE

With the present global state of affairs, as well as actively developing events, 2016 could spell a lot of change for foreign affairs around the world. Seeming to be directly proportional to one another, globalization moves ahead with the passage of time. Between any two points in history that span more than a decade, the latter point showcases a world that is more interdependent and interwoven than the former. From local settlements and tribes for whom areas beyond their lines of sight marked uncharted territory to city-states whose worldview was limited to the adjacent establishment in each direction, our scope of the world is constantly increasing. In the second millennia alone, which marks a minute timeframe in the grand scheme of things, man went from pioneering inter-continental trade and travel to fighting two colossal wars in multiple intercontinental theatres across the globe. Since that time, the world has survived the formation of the United Nations, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and countless other conflicts that have shaped the world that we know today. With the 2016 American presidential election and the UK-EU membership referendum being coined as Brexit both taking place this year, the state of worldly affairs could witness a shift of tectonic proportions. With the fight against ISIS and the global economy thrown into the mix, 2016 could be the perfect storm.



Britain's involvement in the EU has long been one of some hesitance. Some of its hesitancies have had merit, however. Still sporting the world's oldest currency, the UK is one of nine of the EU's 28 member states that has not adopted the Euro, instead opting for its own pound sterling (GBP) as the official currency. Come June, the UK will hold a referendum to determine whether or not to remain in the European Union, and pundits anticipate that it will be a very close ordeal. If it is regarded as one nation, the EU is ranked by the IMF as the largest economy in the world with an estimated nominal GDP of \$18.5 billion USD, beating out the USA by less than \$1 billion. Of that \$18.5 billion, the UK contributed \$2.9 billion (16%), making it the EU's second-largest economy, second only to Germany. The largest arguments for those who support the idea of the UK leaving the European Union include maintaining national sovereignty and an increased control of borders and immigration, an issue which is at the forefront of many European

national agendas given the Syrian refugee crisis. However, supra-nationalists who oppose the notion of the UK leaving the EU argue that the nation is better suited under the EU umbrella, with trade benefits and a place at an intergovernmental table in a world that is only going to become more interdependent. A change as drastic as a potential withdrawal from a massive member state like the UK would seriously alter the political landscape in Europe, restricting trade and perhaps souring relations with the western European nations like Germany and France that are currently sharing the load with the UK as the backbones of the entire organization.

The Brexit referendum has been massively overshadowed by a different political topic, however. The American presidential election has become a sponge for news outlets the world over, consuming the front pages of CNN, BBC, Fox News, and even the CBC. Comparatively, both Obama campaigns were tame snooze-fests compared to the riotous, gladiatorial death match that is unfolding this year. Poised to win the Republican nomination, Donald Trump is the most divisive candidate in recent history; perhaps ever. On the opposite side of the race, Hillary Clinton is poised to win the Democratic nomination. Based on their records, rhetoric, and credentials, their internationalist foreign policies would make for a stark contrast. The former, with boisterous promises of wall-building and economic revitalization would attempt to reform or repeal NAFTA, restricting trade among North American nations. I am not comfortable with Donald Trump being a

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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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member of the G7 and a permanent member of the UN Security Council, potentially jeopardizing the way that intergovernmental organizations function. Meanwhile, Hillary's temperament and record as US Secretary of State make her a more qualified and wiser option for foreign policy, as aspect of leadership that is becoming ever more important in an increasingly globalized world.

With both of these events rapidly approaching but still a somewhat safe distance away, one can take the present moment to look ahead and project what the world may look like depending on how each event plays out. Each event presents the respective populaces of the United Kingdom and the United States of America with an opportunity to take a path in a divergent fork of a road. We can look through the looking glass and hope and anticipate certain outcomes, but for the present moment, the question that remains unanswered is what Alice will find there.



ORANGE PULP

The Trump Cult

by YUSEF ZIA

I am going to start off with an apology, because merely uttering the name "Donald Trump" helps contribute to the end of Western Liberal Democracy as we know it. It is unfathomable that a man as ludicrous and backward as he is, is the frontrunner for the Republican nomination, and possibly the presidency. Democracy in the United States is crumbling before our eyes, and it is personified in this joke of a candidate. The idea that every person will vote for what is best for them is only valid if those people are aware of the impact their vote has. This requires an insight on the policies and potential of each candidate. In the case of Trump and his flip-flopping of policies - being both pro-choice and pro-life for example - it is very difficult to see his genuine intentions. I could not think of one positive outcome

that would come from a President Trump, so I decided to scour some blogs that support him to see just what his voters are thinking.

One recurring theme was that he is rich, therefore, he is good with money, therefore, he will help the American economy. According to Forbes however, Trump has a self-made score of 5 out of 10, which falls closer to the category of those "who inherited some or all of their fortune." (Forbes) The allegations that Donald Trump is a self-made man are not entirely true, due to his inheritance from his father. He has also had companies that went bankrupt not once, but four times. Saying he is a good businessman is a bit of a stretch, considering his numerous failures.

Trump's voter base is like a cult following at this point. No matter what ridiculous thing he says or does next, he will still have support. Trump himself said he "could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and [he] wouldn't lose any voters." The most frightening part of that is how accurate it may be. Many of his voters are not supporting Trump for his policy or ideology, but because of how unconventional he is as a politician, no matter how foolish he makes himself look.

Those who do support the few policies Trump does not change his mind on seldom consider the repercussions of such national actions. These policies, like the wall on the Mexican border, seem to be motivated by the idea of white supremacy, and designed to ostracize anyone who is not part of the American majority demographic. His campaign alone is hurting relations with nations across the globe. He is planning on building a wall between the US and Mexico because he blames Mexico for American crime. He appears to be under the delusion that white Americans are perfect and that all problems in the US can be blamed on another demographic. This may be the source of the bigotry from his voters. It is easier to blame one's problems on others, and that is where the racist support is coming from, a primitive and child-like idea to help these bigots feel better about themselves.

Trump's popularity casts a dark shadow on the US, and shines a light on a dark moment in history. America currently shares an unsettling resemblance with Germany before World War II. Much like Hitler, many people are rallying behind Trump based on hatred of specific ethnic groups. Trump said he would kill the families of ISIS members, not even considering that they likely would not support the radical actions of a single

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family member. In the eyes of Trump, the families should be killed, which is serious and inhumane war crime, much like the unjustified slaughter of prisoners in concentration camps because they were Jewish. Trump is using the bad economy to evoke hatred in the country, just like Hitler used the Great Depression and the economic devastation caused by the Treaty of Versailles to do the same. Fear mongering is a powerful method to ostracize and alienate a group of people, and when it is taken far enough, it can lead to the targeted group being seen as non-human, and can be used to justify inhumane actions. This is how the tragedies of World War II were allowed to happen, and why history is appearing to repeat itself. These signs are loud and clear, and for some reason are being welcomed by many Americans. However, in light of the Chicago protests on Friday, some people have had enough, and there is still hope for America.

There is one thing that I just can't even begin to comprehend, and that is how a man with such backwards and radical thoughts can get a second look from anyone taking their nation's future seriously. Watching him speak on television is as unbearable as sitting through an episode of the Kardashians; he will say something that will probably make no sense, or he will go back on his word later under the delusion that watching him talk about himself is remotely enjoyable. There is seemingly little to no planning involved in his campaign, as if he assumes he can get by on his looks and personality alone, but one would think there should be a level of distaste for anyone who has an unsettling attraction to their own daughter. Trump's campaign is 2016's version What Does the Fox Say?, it doesn't make sense, but is such a train wreck that it attracts attention from viewers. In a horrible future that the world is counting on hopefully never happening, Trump calls himself the Commander and Chief of the United States, and sits in the White House completely clueless of what he plans on accomplishing. There is nothing good that can come from Trump's presidency, and the unconditional support is not only making America look bad, it is making Trump feel good about himself and what he's doing, and encouraging reckless behaviour such as his can only support more radical politics.



MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN



Justin Trudeau's Official Visit to the White House

by CATALINA RYMAN

Last Wednesday marked recently elected Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's official visit to the White House and his attendance at the State dinner. This event not only contributed greatly to positive U.S.-Canadian relations but was also a very proud moment for Canadians around the country, particularly supporters of Trudeau and the Liberal Party of Canada. The Prime Minister's invitation to the State dinner marks the first official U.S. visit by a Canadian Prime Minister in nineteen years. The busy three day visit included several bilateral meetings, social events, plenty of U.S.-Canadian jokes and of course the official State dinner itself.

Justin Trudeau, his wife Sophie, and their children were welcomed with warm arms by the Obamas on the White House lawn, accompanied by an honourable military brass band and many American and Canadian on-lookers with flags in their hands and smiles on their faces. However, despite the magnitude of festivities and the distractions of the occasion, the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the United States got straight to business and headed to the Oval office to discuss several bilateral issues, including travel and border security, climate change, and international trade.

Perhaps the most significant of the previously listed topics was the issue of border security between the two countries. Canada, having recently welcomed 25,000 Syrian refugees into the country within a short three month period, has become a growing concern for many Americans. Both Obama and Trudeau discussed the increasing security precautions that will be taken in order to have a better understanding of those entering and



exiting each country. The review of the no-fly list was also discussed due to complaints from citizens constantly stopped by airport/border security for having the same name as those on the no-fly list. In regards to climate change, Obama and Trudeau discussed their plans to decrease methane emissions due to oil by 40%-45% by 2025, and agreed to provide financial aid to developing countries in order to help reduce their hydro fluorocarbon (HFC) emissions. Both parties had their sights set on working towards cleaner energy and preventing further global warming. Lastly, Canada and the United States, having been each other's largest trading partners for generations, are taking steps towards creating jobs, protecting worker's rights, and increasing prosperity for both countries. Overall, the topics discussed ran quite smoothly due to the shared values of both parties.

During this time, Michelle Obama and Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau attended the U.S. Institute for Peace to address worldwide efforts for girls' education. A visit to Capitol Hill also took place during the trip at which Prime Minister Justin Trudeau greeted many members of the U.S. Congress.

The State dinner itself, which took place on Thursday, was a glamorous occasion to which many of Canada's well-known faces



were invited. The guest list included actors Ryan Reynolds, Sandra Oh, Michael J. Fox, comedian Mike Myers, sports commissioners Gary Bettman and Adam Silver, and retired NBA player Grant Hill. Trudeau's mother, Margaret, and Grégoire's parents were also present at the occasion. The State dinner toasts included many friendly Canadian and American jokes between the two leaders. Obama claimed that he "...thought of serving up some poutine..." and Trudeau announced that he wishes his, "...grey hair [will] grow in at a much slower rate". Jokes like these were just the tip of the iceberg of this humorous and good-natured occasion. Obama ended his speech on a positive note toasting to the "great" alliance between the United States and Canada. He addressed Justin and Sophie Trudeau whom he referred to as "friends" and honoured the friendship between Americans and Canadians.

Obama and Trudeau's friendly atmosphere shines a positive light onto U.S.-Canadian relations and inspires a deeper relationship between the two nations— at least until November 4th of 2016. Unfortunately, this friendly relationship may be short-lived due to the upcoming elections in the US. Trudeau, when asked about his thoughts on Republican candidate Donald Trump, avoided expressing any strong opinions and instead announced that he has, "...faith in Americans and their democracy." The Prime Minister claims he respects the American electoral process and believes that, "...foreign politicians shouldn't be weighing in to domestic issues," both in relation to Canada and the United States.



An Undeniable Truth

by MONIQUE VIGNEAULT

Lying is a normal part of life -- almost as normal as seeing yet another picture of Kim Kardashian nude. Hey Kim, if you want to show us something we haven't seen yet, show us your I.Q! Kidding Kim, kidding. Next time the butt of my joke will be an irrelevant nobody-celebrity, like Kylie Minogue.

Naturally, a gross number of us fib daily, however there are still those who don't just lie to you nor to me, but in fact; to themselves. That's right Karen, that nicorette patch isn't helping anyone except for the fellas over at Nicoderm. And they love that you buy in bulk at Costco.

You, however, can relax. My political-pop-culture-rant-column isn't becoming another duly researched buzzfeed article. In fact, I dug deeper into the psychological phenomenon we call denial and was surprised that it's a far bigger black hole than we acknowledge it to be, even influencing the way we view history today. One word: 1812.

The war of 1812: the war equivalent to reader's digest; you know it's there, but in the end it just helps people create excrement.

It's natural for our neighbours south to believe they win every event, like that one obnoxious middle-schooler who flaunts his spelling bee trophies all the time. You're not special because you can spell 'hypochondriac', Geoffrey. You're not special. In fact, the U.S failed to achieve its military objectives and ended up causing thousands of deaths and a huge plummet in commerce. Thousands of needless lives taken, and when asked why they picked the fight in the first place they gave the same excuse as a ten year old who just got into a sidewalk brawl with a girthier ten year old. "Well ma", he called me stupid. And I sure ain't stupid."

However the main problem isn't the war itself, rather the interpretation of the war. The U.S. spent a whopping 93 million dollars on the War of 1812, as unjustifiable an expenditure as buying "designer" leopard print jogging pants.

And even after all the facts are laid out on the table, the U.S still refuses to believe they lost.

What is this behaviour we call Denialism, and when does it affect our day to day lives? Denialism doesn't only affect past events, but rather things that are happening as you read this sentence. One of those being the global paradox we call 'Global Warming', or according to Leonardo DiCaprio "Chinooks". Global Warming is a widely denied phenom-

ena, not only because you can't photograph it and slap a 'hi, my name is: Global Warming' name tag on it, but because it's climate changes are subtle.

Studies have shown that globally, the last fourteen years have been the hottest years in history. In fact, climate change isn't even a new concept, during the ice age swarms of wild climate changes known as "Dansgaard-Oeschger" were the cause of that age coming to an end. And I don't mean the slow demise of the Disney franchise.

Whether it ranges from the subtle rise in temperatures, or the misconstruing of historical events or simply refusing to believe that "charismatic" white politician is actually a fascist, Denialism is a form of mental self-defence. It is a natural human tendency; what is inconvenient to us isn't worth acknowledging, like that rotten banana at the bottom of your work bag. Out of sight; out of mind.



Spring off to a New Start!

by ADITYA KHATU

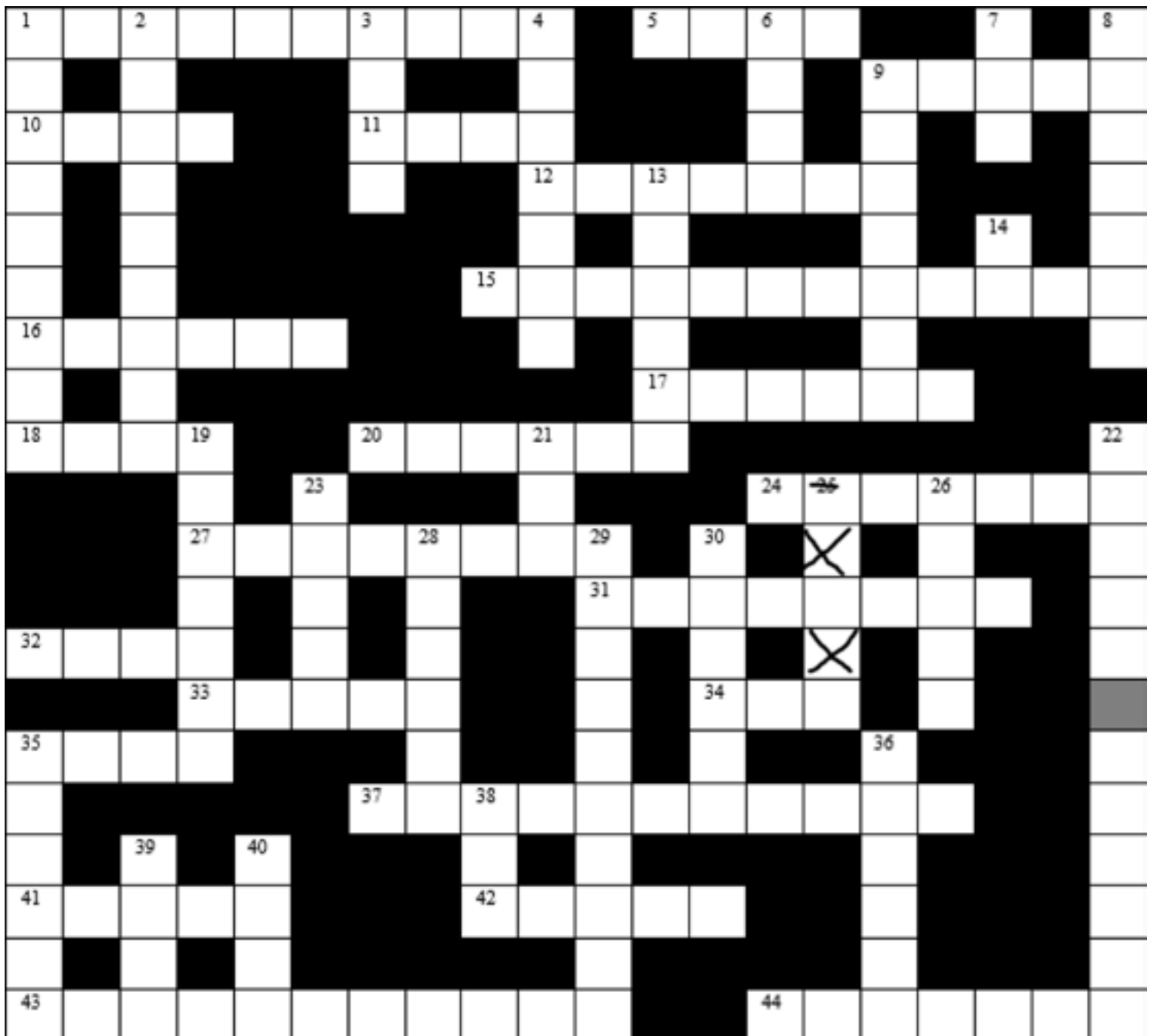
This year's winter was unusual in that there really wasn't a lot of the defining quality of winter; snow. Spring seems to have come early this year and sunny weather isn't all that it has brought. It brings a sense of a new start; a chance to improve on the things that matter. Flowers are in bloom, squirrels are chasing each other, and spring sports are starting up. While it is true that the New Year brings a sense of new beginnings, it just doesn't feel the same. A common trend this time of year is spring cleaning. It's a tradition that helps to move on from the winter and to head into the hectic times ahead. However, the attitude behind this practice doesn't have to apply to just house cleaning. It can be a time to better organize yourself, to learn new skills, to prepare for what's ahead in life. Take some time to reflect upon yourself to understand what improvements can be made.

Personally, I will take the opportunity to remove some of my more destructive habits, like a lack of organization. In terms of nature, there are plenty of things to learn. Green, the color of plants, has been scientifically proven to be calming and stress reducing. For many it brings a sense of hope. It's no surprise that many of us can become depressed during the stark winter and can be filled with joy at the sign of spring. What can be done to make use of this emotional boost? This motivation can be used to create new habits that can last throughout the seasons. Take a step back and see what can be done. Maybe this is the year you give up on that bad habit, or finally take some time to learn something new. Instead of playing video games all break, you could create some new habits to help with studying.

Don't let this be another year that just comes and goes by. Spring is a symbol of new beginnings and there's no reason why you shouldn't be able to use that power that comes with it to your advantage.

Crossword

by JORDAN BUNKE



Across:

1. Villain in Watchmen (2009)
5. ____, set, match
9. Fat, en español (m, sng.)
10. "Othello" antagonist
11. Hunter Zolomon
12. Ordinary, not otherworldly
15. Capital of Madagascar
16. Trigonometric ratio; AH
17. The highest point of suspense
18. To shout
20. Block; stand in the way of
24. Oceanian country
27. Atomic number drei-und-zwanzig
31. To declare
32. Portuguese soccer legend Luis
33. Largest online gaming retailer

34. Contains Abu Dhabi and Dubai

35. The surrounding energy; chi
37. Adviser to a leader; Italian mob
41. Japanese city and economic hotspot
42. ____ havoc
43. Antonym of opaque
44. Spanish, literally "killer"

Down:

1. Power being held by a small group
2. Tree of life; Norse mythology
3. To stun
4. Best Supporting Actor winner 2015, J.K.
6. Rooney and Kate
7. Before, Old English
8. Surname of Russian royal family that

ended with Tsar Nicholas II

9. Argentine revolutionary Che
13. Undertone; subtlety
14. $a = r^2$
19. Wingardium ____
21. Large flightless bird
22. Capital of Malaysia
23. Type of trap
26. Hole in stomach
28. Regional military leader in feudal Japan
29. Antagonist in "Sleeping Beauty"
30. Yearly
35. Nearly
36. Bright, glowing; also in the context of enthusiasm
38. Jetzt, ahora, maintenant, etc.
39. Actor Eric; The Hulk (2003)
40. Without; featured in Undertale

HOROSCOPES

by TWINKLEGAZE ASTROPANTS



Aries (March 21 - April 19)



3.141592653589793238462643383
2795028841971693993751058209
7494459230781640628620899862
8034825342117067982148086513
2823066470938446095505822317
2535940812848111745028410270
193852110555964462294895493
0381964428810975665933446128
4756482337867831652712019091

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)



You will develop math skills and know what is above you. Then you'll realize that pi can be summarized in a fraction. Yes! You're math teachers may disagree. $C/D = \pi$. And you'll repair my keyboard because it can't write the pi symbol.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)



You better believe the wall of Canada will be built between M'Erik' Aaah and Canda. Because we don't want no illegal american immigrants coming up here to dilute our culture and steal our maple syrup and eat our polar bears. Trudeau, our great "model" prime minister will defend us from our southern enemy with a discounted toupée.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)



I like radii, that's plural for radius. But you wouldn't know how to calculate the diameter if it hit you twice on pi day. extra points if you saw that coming. But you don't get extra points because I told you it was coming. I am going to tell you that in the future I will read the future. Then I will start an armpit hair braiding salon and all of you will want to be clients. Cuz' I never go outta style. T. Swizzle

Virgo (August 23 - Sept 22)



And now pause to give a moment of our time to my corporate sponsor, yes I do get paid. Huggies4Adults. It has a seventeen layer of waterproof gift wrapping and duct tape. The Huggy4Adults envelopes your bottom to give you more restriction and allow you to have no comfort. Get'em n' wet'em.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)



After watching a lot of anime you've mastered the art of cosplay and you will transform into One Punch man and it will be amazingly awesome and awesomely amazing. I don't know anything about One Punch man but you will, then I'll hire you because you will be One Punch man and be my body guard. We will be the new dynamic duo. I see it now. Astropants and One Punch man saving the future one horoscope punch at a time!

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)



Recently I bought the rights to *Pride, Prejudice and Aliens* and you will be my minions, sorry I meant well paid workers with dental benefits. It will be amazing and the leading actor will be either Liam or Chris Hemsworth. But who's hotter?

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)



You're my awkward sign, like a unibrow I sharpied in. I enjoy eating centipede fingers, not legs. Centipedes have at least 2.47 fingers. They will be renamed dipedes. I know, thank you, I am brilliant. I won the no-bell prize for the knock knock joke. Who's there? Exactly, I will be!

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)



You will end up writing Trump's autobiography. The staring sentence will be he may have looked like a jelly stuffed doughnut ate a really pale fat doughnut then was insecure about his baldness and he strapped a toupée to his head. What!?! Mental Nuke!

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)



I've recently made fun of you capricorn. For that I will never be sorry. You must all be the cousins of Freddy Keuger then rubbed your faces on topographic maps of Utah. That was reference but I threw it into the dead pool of humour.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)



After successfully reading your-dead aunt's foot, but she was cremated. You decided to open your own soapmaking and jacuzzi repair in Albuquerque and have another branch in Timbuktu. There using zombie squirrel guts the soap will be magical. The rest is classified if I were to tell you it would be in the future.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 20)



You will enjoy eating snake winged, stone beefalos that spit microchips made of boron. Then you'll wake up from your dream and win some random football game by interception or so you thunk. Interception inception. Mental s'plosion.

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

The Advocate's Policy on Letters to the Editor

The Advocate encourages signed letters to the editor and prints both positive and negative comment.

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.