

THE ADVOCATE

William Aberhart High School
Volume 22, Number 5 November 17, 2016



DEAR ABE

by ALEXIS HILL

Dear Abe,

As per usual (with the exception of last issue), no one wrote in. Therefore congratulations students of Aberhart, yet again I have the immense pleasure of writing whatever suits my fancy. On my mind this week are things to be happy about even if the state of your life is currently the equivalent of a dumpster fire.

1. There is only a month left until winter break
2. Winters in Calgary act as host to some remarkably breathtaking blue skies, so even though it is getting colder the sky will still be sublime like summer
3. Hoodies are an acceptable article of clothing to wear every day of the week when the weather gets chilly
4. Dr. Strange just came out in theaters and Benedict Cumberbatch with a New York accent is a feat to behold
5. Holiday lights
6. Chickadees
7. That you don't have to wake up in the morning to a truly petrifying alarm, you can choose your own alarm clock and make it as quintessential sounding as you like.
8. Tea exists
9. Male ballerinas are called ballerinos and if that is not odd and delightful to you then I don't know what is.
10. The plural of beef is beeves. "Mum, can we have some beeves for supper?" I may or may not be the only one to find the existence of the word "beeves" an esteemed part of my vocabulary.
11. The expressions "YOLO" and "swag" has become far less trendy. I hope your week goes well. Remember to smile because everyone's cheeks can use the workout. Please send any questions, comments, concerns, vague musing, existential crises, or requests to dearabe@columnist.com

EDITORIAL**Inspiration at ABE**

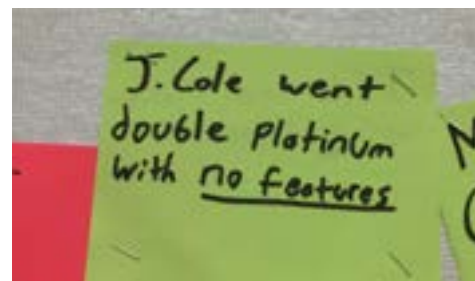
by JORDAN BUNKE

The Learning Commons at ABE has undergone a significant reinvention in the past year. What began as a quiet library is now a dynamic student environment that straddles collaboration and togetherness with individual time and reflection. Segmented into zones tailored to specific needs, the Learning Commons is now the heart of the school, where one can come for any manner of help or needs. This effort to evolve the space was spearheaded by Ms. Cummings, who continues to take every opportunity to affect positive change in the space.

Quite recently, a new initiative was launched to incentivize and galvanize the student body. A collage of student contributed responses has been placed along the northeast entrance that all answer the question, "What inspires you to be unstoppable?" The myriad of responses range from serious answers citing family and friends to comedic answers that range in tone that include a profound insight into just how impressive J. Cole's album "2014 Forest Hills Drive" is. The board manages to achieve several effects on bypassing students, who often stop to scan and take note of specific entries. Eye-catching with its use of a range of bright colours, the board achieves the perhaps subconscious allegorical effect of communicating the diverse nature of the school to those that stop to take note, both on a superficial level and on a deeper one, once the text is examined. I met with Ms. Cummings briefly last week and she relayed the rationale behind the board, and by extension, the majority of the changes made to the Learning Commons in the past year. I was surprised to hear about how much of the reasoning was centered around easing

students' lives and removing stress, but upon reflecting, it made a lot of sense as I have felt a tangible reduction of stress in that environment since last year.

The school has taken note of what has ended up being a fruitful investment, and other organizations throughout the school are trying to push for an increase in the community aspect of ABE life, as well as increasing the communication throughout the school to ensure that students receive all necessary information for them to succeed. One such program has been Orange Time, a program launched by the William Aberhart Advisory Council, which promotes a different topic with each occasion, ranging from immediate things like club and course offerings at the school to large-scale issues that the school deems important, such as the viewing of "The Secret Path", chronicling the tragic story of a boy who died of exposure trying to escape a residential school. With the aforementioned changes, it is clear that the school is moving towards a goal of transparent dialogue between all levels of administration, staff, and students in order to improve communication and the overall environment.

**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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We're looking for journalists, columnists, cartoonists, photographers,
and layout lackeys to help us with *The Advocate* this year.Email your submissions and letters to the editor to
advocateabe@gmail.com!

ORANGE PULP

The Slippery Slope

by YUSEF ZIA

Over a year in the making, the American presidential election has finally come to an end. This seemingly endless episode has been full of twists and turns until the bitter end. There is no better word to describe it; bitter. Months of name calling, regular scandals, uncivilised insults and petty politics have brought the United States and its friendly neighbors to a point of complete discontent. And to top it all off, the formal way to address the subject of this week's topic is: President-elect Trump. I'll let that sink in.

Sure enough, after scandals, twitter wars and the occasional criminal allegation, Donald Trump has come out on top. The thirst to break from the so called political establishment was so extreme, that Trump, a man who has directly insulted countless groups of people, has won the presidency. I have to give Trump some credit; he managed to defy nearly all expectations. As the results were being displayed on the night of the election, Democrats and Republicans alike were in shock. Republicans especially were in for a treat. The GOP now controls the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Supreme Court after a few appointments and of course, the White House. This means that the Republican Party essentially has absolute control over the country, which prevents the checks and balances of any type of opposition. Especially in modern cases, the GOP has often failed to consider the impacts of minority groups in many social decisions. Since that has never been a source of their voters, the likelihood of that attitude changing is slim to none. Vice President-elect Mike Pence has a history of discriminating the homosexual population at every turn,

and is against planned parenthood of any sort, disregarding the infringement of liberties that places on women across the nation. I would discuss some of Trump's policies as well, if they weren't constantly changing.

Trump has only been elected for a short time and is already backpedalling on many of his policies, the infamous wall included. Currently, discussion of a fence and patrols are being brought up; not that I support a wall, but this sudden change of pace resembles the behaviour of the politicians Trump was very keen to criticize. The uncertainty of Trump's actions makes a discussion on the future of his presidency futile, but the affect he and this election have had on the United States leading up to election day is another matter entirely.

This election was uniquely characterised by the vulgar behaviour towards various groups of people. The countless number of insults and fear mongering have created a divide in the United States. Elections usually include parties that vilify the opposition, but this was taken to an entirely different level. The insults and hatred from the election has already translated to displays of violence across the country. With the catalyst for most of this anger soon to be acting as Commander-in-Chief at the White House, the tension and hostile environment from the election is soon to become the norm in American society.

The Democratic Party shares the fault in this unfriendly atmosphere due to their behaviour throughout the election. The Democrats ran a terrible campaign, resulting in a loss when they should have had a sure win. They treated many social issues as one answer questions and unwittingly an-

tagonised people who believed in something else. This divided the nation even further, each side claiming that the other will always be on the wrong side of history.

What failed to happen was a discussion between both sides. Politics have devolved into shouting matches and scandals rivaling those of reality television, and issues have become a low priority. If anything, Trump addressed issues better than Clinton as the election came to its end. While Clinton was sure to win, Trump went to traditionally blue states like Michigan, and told them exactly how his policies would bring the working class there more jobs. In the end, those last excursions were what ended up changing the fate of the United States. Meanwhile, the Democrats were preparing for a win and schmoozing with celebrities, and are now all but politically irrelevant for the next four years. They failed to realize the gravity of their situation until it was too late, and assumed people would vote for them out of some moral obligation. They did not relate to the everyday citizen, and that was ultimately their downfall.

In the end, the decision is final, and only time can tell whether or not this will turn into a Brexit situation where people are begging for a revote. People need to realise that the presidency of Trump is no excuse for violence or rash behaviour. Freedom of speech, of course, should never change, but it must not devolve into the spread of hatred for the sake of all those who fall victim to it. Let us hope that the United States and its people can find it in themselves not to insult the beliefs of others, but rather allow an open discussion so a return to civilised politics can commence in the near future.

WATSON
NORTHEAST CHICAGO GOP
11/26/16

GOP DE-EVOLUTION



The Song That Never Dies

by MACKENZIE CLARKE

Regardless of personal opinions concerning Queen, most rock critics and music fans alike venerate the phenomenal vocal talent that was the great Freddie Mercury.

Freddie Mercury was born with the name of Farrokh Bulsara on September 5, 1946, in Zanzibar, Tanzania. In 1954, at the age of eight, he was sent to St Peter's English boarding school in Panchgani, India. There his friends began to call him Freddie, a name his family also adopted. He and his family established themselves in London in 1960, which became the birthplace of the band Queen, just over ten years later.

Freddie Mercury was the face of Queen's unique musical alchemy: the band famous for its unprecedented melding of musical genres and styles. To say he was an exceptionally adaptable vocalist is a severe understatement. With no professional vocal training, he was able to glide effortlessly from sonorous bass notes to the upper echelons of his register, while remaining flawlessly expressive. Montserrat Caballé, who recorded a duet album with Mercury, stated that "Freddie had a great musicality. His phrasing was subtle, delicate and sweet, or energetic and slamming. He was able to find the right colouring or expressive nuance for each word." Freddie Mercury had the uncanny ability to evoke the perfect tone and feel for any style he ventured to try. What's more, his known vocal-range was four octaves. Aside from this incredible range, he

was also an accomplished songwriter.

Freddie Mercury wrote and composed numerous hits for Queen, including *Bohemian Rhapsody*, *Killer Queen*, *Somebody to Love* and *Don't Stop Me Now*.

Each song he fashioned possessed an uncanny musical complexity, with unconventional structure, multiple key changes and intricate harmonies. What renders this even more amazing is his lack of technical training. In fact, Freddie Mercury could barely read sheet music. Additionally, he was a phenomenal frontman. Brian May, the guitarist of Queen, commented that Freddie Mercury "could make the last person at the back of the furthest stand in a stadium feel that he was connected."

Offstage, as well, he was idolized by fans. Freddie Mercury embodied a peculiar individuality and was the paragon of self-expression. In an interview, he said "I like to ridicule myself. I don't take it too seriously. I wouldn't wear these clothes if I was serious. The one thing that keeps me going is that I like to laugh at myself."

To clearly view his individuality in action, watch the official music video for Queen's song, *I Want to Break Free*. Freddie Mercury's repudiation of social limitations, specifically concerning gender and sexuality, would be considered monumental even today. It is widely known that he was bisexual, though he led a private personal life. According to the drummer of Queen, Roger Taylor, "no one really knew Freddie. He was

shy, gentle and kind. He wasn't the person he put over on stage".

Mercury died of AIDS-related bronchial pneumonia on November 24, 1991, at age 45. His premature death, though devastating, led to more public acknowledgment of the AIDS epidemic. Shortly following his passing, the remaining members of Queen founded a trust in his name, accompanied by a tribute concert, dedicated to raising awareness and funds for AIDS research. Now, 25 years later, being HIV-positive is no longer a death sentence.

Freddie Mercury's one-of-a-kind talent and natural charisma wasn't something that could be developed; his entire being was harmonious, from his musicianship to his appearance and demeanour. Freddie Mercury's remarkable idiosyncrasy shaped society irrefutably. Individuality an essential component to life. Yet, we live in a society that is constantly pressuring us to conform, in order to gain the approval of others. Freddie Mercury understood that the approval of others isn't necessary to succeed. He was unapologetically unique. In the end, that is one of his most significant contributions to the world today. After all, there is more to life than two numbers on a tombstone; more to life than a beginning and an end. All the time spent alive on earth, impacting and influencing the lives of others, is the legacy that remains, long after death; the song that never dies.



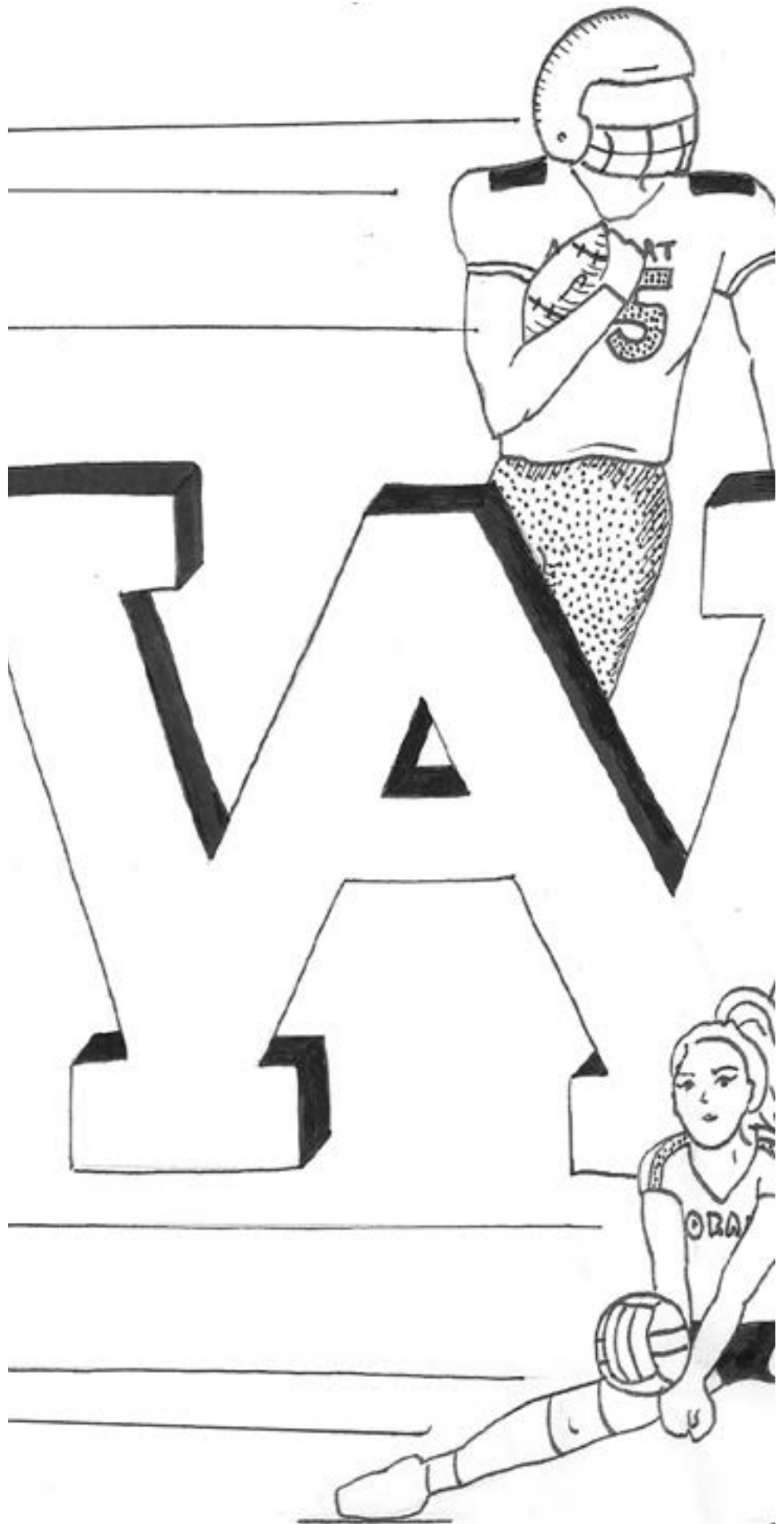
A Greater Division

by RILEY MARTENS

The Junior and Senior Football teams of William Aberhart have been a staple in the school's sport history. The Junior Team won the City Championships last year. This year brought different results. The Senior Team played six games in the regular season. The first was against Crescent Heights with a similar score of 42 to 41 for with a loss for ABE. The second game was ABE versus St Francis with a win for St Francis. The third game was also a loss for ABE against Notre Dame. The first half of the regular season represented loss for the senior team, however it did not remain constant. The later half of the season ABE's Senior Team beat Bishop Grandin, MCLA, and Bishop Carroll. They went on to the playoffs where they were ranked first overall in the second division. The team beat Sir Winston Churchill in Quarter Finals, and then lost to Robert Thirsk in the Semi-finals.

The Junior Team had their first game against Ernest Manning resulting in a win for ABE. Bishop O'Byrne then beat ABE September 27th. St Francis beat ABE with 38 to 7. William Aberhart had a narrow win against Bishop Grandin. The season then continued with two losses against Henry Wise Wood and Centennial. The Junior Team entered the Division 1 playoffs; then lost to Notre Dame in the Quarter Finals. Mr Mohammed the coach for the Junior Team has insight on the results of the season. "We tried and we had a good go at it. We expected to make three wins and three losses, we came close," he told the Advocate. The season was a challenge against the better teams of Wise Wood and Notre Dame.

The mixed results of the season for both the Senior and Junior teams show that despite not having the greatest performance their effort and commitment formed the heart and soul of the teams. "That's what made me smile," Mr Mohammed explained to the Advocate. "You don't have to be the toughest guy or the strongest guy, you just have to have heart." The Junior Boys finished the season with twelve concussions. However, because of the change in divisions the games posed more of a challenge. For the years to come it will not just be the results of the seasons, but the change and growth in the teams, which will be subject to interest.



POLITICA NON GRATA

Demagogues: a Love Affairby *MONIQUE VIGNEAULT*

"I don't give a [ship] about human rights," said Rodrigo Duterte, recently elected president of the Philippines. Duterte, previously the mayor of a town in the Philippines, has prided himself since his election last May, on being a different kind of leader for the Philippines. Since his election, he's killed thousands using his shoot-to-kill method," regarding the Philippine war on drugs. He's yelled at president Obama in a heated mess, calling his mother ungodly names and has systematically agreed to cut ties with one of the Philippines' biggest allies; The United States. Not only has Duterte decided on a unilateral foreign policy, but he also doesn't encourage the Philippine's participation in the U.N. and in August threatened to pull out of the United Nations and start a similar peacekeeping organization with China and countries in Africa. In late August, he addressed the U.N in Davao City saying, "I'm the president you fool!" referring to the chairman of the UN general assembly.

Duterte believes that the right choice for the nation he governs is to obstruct human rights in order to attain human rights — not really how it works. The ideas of Duterte are synonymous with that of Donald J. Trump, the president-elect of the United States (I know, I can't believe IT either) and the Russian Prime Minister,

Vladimir Putin. Each perpetuate a fear of foreign policy.

People ask me, "Monique, why is it you're always writing about politicians? What's your fascination with them?"

I'm not fascinated with politicians. All the contrary, I am scared of many of the politicians I write about, but I believe that maintaining an open conversation and free press is the only way to obstruct a collective underbelly of xenophobia that's increased globally. Not one country, not one sole race and not one sole person or entity is to blame for this movement of fear. It will only be demobilized if ideally, the average of the world comes to terms that we live in a globalized era, and not 1940's Germany.

That means electing diverse people into positions of power, not obstructing the human rights of others for personal gain, and above all: stop electing narcissistic demagogues into power.

That means, electing diverse people into positions of power, not obstructing the human rights of others for personal gain, and above all: stop electing narcissistic demagogues into power.

*Disclaimer: All cuss words have been audited to Nautical terms.

PLAYLIST

by *ADITYA KHATU**Hold My Liquor* - Kanye West*Chill Bill* - Rob Stone ft. J. Davis & Spooks*Pink + White* - Frank Ocean*All Time Low* - Jon Bellion*Bad Moon Rising* - Creedence Clearwater Revival*In the Air Tonight* - Phil Collins

League Of Legends

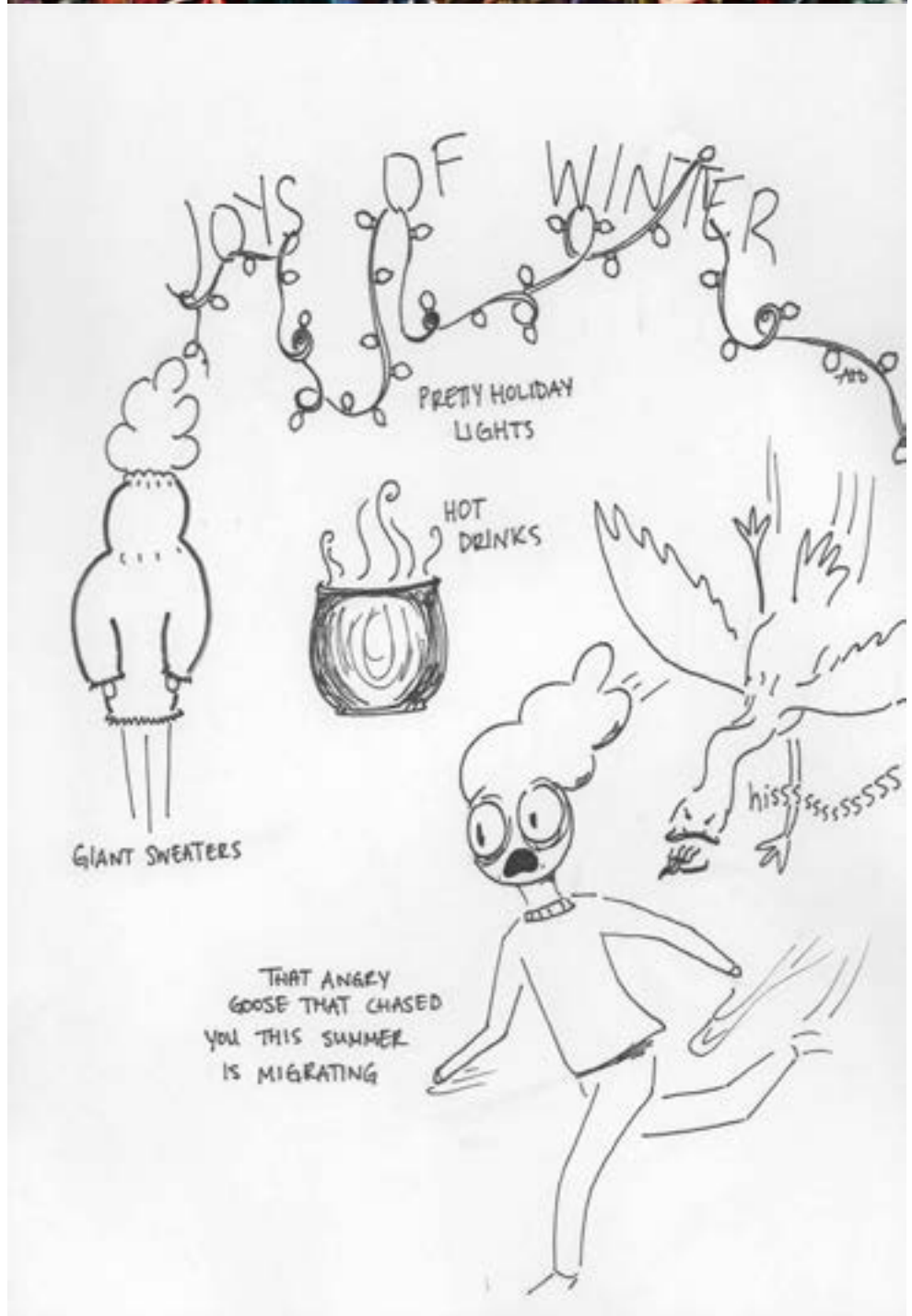
by ADITYA KHATU

About three weeks ago, the finals for a world championship occurred at a completely packed Staples Center. Here's the best part, you have probably never even heard about it. If the venue didn't impress you, just wait till you hear what the prize is. The winning team of this championship took home just over \$2 million.

What sport could this possibly be? The answer will surprise you. The teams that participated competed in League of Legends (LoL), an online battle-arena based video game. For several years, it's been the most played video game in the world. In the last decade, eSports (competitive gaming) has been increasing in popularity. From first-person shooters to real-time strategy, the competitive scene has a game for everyone. If it's so popular, why haven't many of us heard of it? In North America, eSports is frowned upon and the majority of us here favor traditional sports. Ask someone if they think playing video games is a sport and they'll scoff and reply with no.

It's a completely different story in Asia, more specifically South Korea. eSports are backed by the government and it's a completely different scene. Tournaments are followed more regularly and players earn a lot more. Professionals in eSports are given the same level of respect we give players in sports like Football, Baseball, etc. The idea of video game competitions isn't exactly new either. The first known one was held in 1972 at Stanford. Many people aren't even aware that Brian Wyllie, a former player for a pro League of Legends team went to Aberhart! Why don't we have that same frenzy for eSports that the Koreans have even when we have a pro player in our midst?

I think it's time to stop looking down on eSports and accept that it's part of the evolution of sports. Games like League of Legends may not require physical activity but it does require a great deal of thinking. If LoL isn't considered a sport because there's no movement, games like Chess shouldn't be considered sports either. Just like all other sports, eSports require its players to have great skill. Just because it's a pastime for some, doesn't mean it can't be a profession for others. All activities that we consider "real sports" were viewed as ridiculous at the start. eSports is just another example.



Holiday Rush

by CHRISTOPHER PRATT



Thanksgiving has come and gone. Remembrance Day has just passed, with the final notes of the Last Post just fading into the distance. Yet already we're looking towards the next holiday on the horizon. The Christmas countdowns have begun on social media. Commercials are playing on both TV and radio. It's only a matter of time before we all walk into our favourite store and hear the familiar bars of Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer or Jingle Bells.

But all this hype poses a question. Should we already be looking in the direction of December 24? In the United States, Christmas doesn't become a topic until after their Thanksgiving, usually placed at the end of November, leaving December as the month dedicated to Xmas. Up in the north, however, we've already started to put out our lights. As a result, you could argue that by the time the fabled day comes, everyone is already fed up with it. After all, life is made to be lived at a reasonable stroll, not a sprint from one holiday to another.

Commercialism also plays a big part in this. Christmas is an excellent time of year for all businesses. It doesn't matter what you're selling, as long as you can find some way to get the Christmas crowds to flock to your store.

Underneath all this, it's sometimes hard to see where this festivity got its start. Christmas is a time of year to spend with your friends and family and give thanks for what you have in life. It is an occasion when good-spirit, joy and kindness can be found in vast quantities, no matter how you chose to spend those weeks in December. These core values are still present at Christmas time, for the majority, but we need to make sure that they aren't steadily swept underneath the rug.

Let's all just chill out a bit. Take a deep breath and remember exactly why this season is important to us. When we reach December and the snow really starts to fly, then we can take another look. Because I can tell you now, if this buildup to Christmas continues, we'll all be tired of it by the time we hit the 37th day.



Vic Lewis Band Festival

by SEAN RUTHLAND



The year trickles through our hands like sand through a sieve. One minute you're sweating in July and the next, snow is on your doorstep and Christmas trees are standing proudly in window sills.

With these festive changes comes the much anticipated band festival Vic Lewis, held annually at the Canmore Collegiate High School. Junior highs and high schools alike come from Red Deer, Calgary, and of course Canmore for 3 days of playing, learning, and fun.

Aberhart attended said festival for the 17th time the weekend of the 5th and 6th with the Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Combos 1 and 2. Vic Lewis is not a competitive festival, and is held for young musicians to watch and learn from the greats. Adjudicators and clinicians come from across Canada and America to perform, work with and listen to all these young bands.

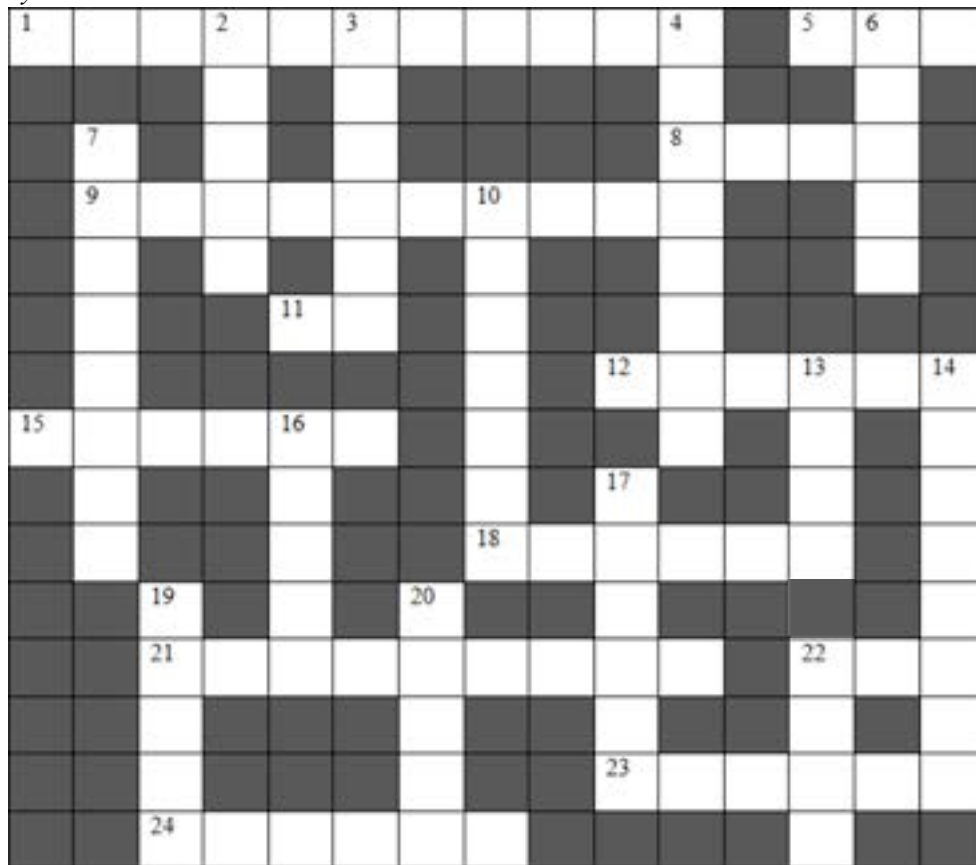
Along with these world-class musicians, Vic Lewis also invites jazz combos to perform for the festival attendees. This year's jazz combo was a Latin-American band featuring alumni from one of the visiting schools.

Vic Lewis celebrated 20 years of musicianship, and Aberhart's own Mr. Willms even performed with Vic on the first night of the festival, in its first year. Other attending schools included Robert Thirsk, Lord Beaverbrook, and John G. Diefenbaker.



Crossword

by JORDAN BUNKE



Across:

1. A fear-based agitation about a possible future event
5. When will you arrive? Can you give me an ____?
8. Fashion brand founded by Daymond John
9. A shape describing an oblong circle
11. Male pronoun
12. Congress of _____, an attempt to reinstate several monarchies throughout Europe
15. Whether they are on our hands or in our phone, we have ten of them
18. Humid, also used to describe people
21. The _____ Conor McGregor
22. The visual that a user interacts with when using a program
23. Arbitrary noun describing a thing with real existence
24. To be accountable, often with legal recourse

Down:

2. Papa Giovanni _____ II
3. The raid on _____; WWII raid on French beaches that left many Canadian soldiers dead
4. One of the nine worlds in Norse mythology
6. One of the five senses
7. To refine or improve, often used in an imperialistic context to "tame" a wild land
10. A very narrow land bridge
13. A dark blue colour that is also a military corps
14. To have an attraction for something
16. A 78 card deck
17. An attraction that something has, with the etymology based in light
19. Slow, slimy; encased in a shell
20. A legal proceeding to determine the innocence or guilt of the accused party



HOROSCOPES

by TWINKLEGAZE ASTROPANTS



Aries (March 21 - April 19)



After importing luxury kazoos from Bolivia, you'll decide to fulfill your dreams of joining the diesel punk movement. You'll then prove your subculture is superior to steampunk, cyber punk and just plain punk. There is a secret war happening and you have a special set of skills, punk!

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)



After learning you have pineapples growing from your renal artery, you'll know peanut butter is your true kraft. Oh my gif! You never want to Skippy on it. You will make wild butter, you'll be the planter of the industry. You'll inspire all the no names.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)



You'll learn the reason why Donald Trump has small hands. His secret hobby was fondling pens. He would run around the white lawn fondling and caressing pens of the garden gnome variety. A total of 15 times. You can write this off as proof of natural selection.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)



After shimmying through hot coals, you'll overdose on Flintstone Vitamins. It'll take you to the next level. You'll be as high as a Pterodactyl. Yabba dabba doo! You'll have power overall dinosaur household appliances and realize like Neanderthals your social life is extinct. Eventually you'll grow sick of it, but you'll them pills to keep you rolling

Leo (July 23 - August 22)



After eating vegan meatloaf, you will learn Shawn Mendes mends overalls to feed his growing pudding addiction. He hasn't come out of the closet yet because he's still fixing redneck clothing. Look out for his Hillbilly Hoedown line this winter. It'll be country bumpkin chic.

Virgo (August 23 - Sept 22)



In the struggling clandestine economy selling Digimon plushes, you'll decide to invest in the bird saliva market. Pigeon spit and Cockrell bile has never been in greater demand.

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)



After gumming ice cubes for the past 13 and a half hours, you'll realize collecting used padlocks from the thrift store really unlocks potential. This hobby will need a key element in the future. It stops you from steeling the fabric of your character.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)



After participating in a global origami competition, you'll know life is all about how you fold it. With this wisdom Chinese restaurants will contract you to write fortune cookies for them. And people always complained your ability to rant and fill up empty space was always just a waste of effort and time. To those people you'll brag that being verbose and long winded has many advantages, too many to go in now. Empty space just seems to be filled up, really just filler content and ranting. Who would do that?

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)



While you're on the street on national sandwich day, an epiphany will strike you. You'll then fall on your face. This revelation will trippy, especially for your feet. Just like space, totally far out.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)



After crawling into a fish, you'll start your new mermaid modeling agency. Except it'll be fiscally fishy. You'll take the bait and the government will have you hook, line and sinker. You'll be sleeping with the fishes.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)



You want to the truth? I'm going to run it home like Babe Ruth. You have to be a liar to deny this flaming tire of wisdom. These lines will go viral and descend into a popular spiral. They're wild and tribal like a French plural verb. I'm going to have to bank on these roles and hope they don't burn out like coals. (*drops the mike.)

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 20)



After suffering from beatings by your abusive rubber chicken, you'll realize you're the real MC and that your chicken can't touch this. Then you'll eat your sorrows away through Styrofoam.

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.