

im
print

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WET'SUWET'EN IN WATERLOO

Lori Campbell and the Indigenous Centre help UW take Wet'su wet'en solidarity all the way to city hall.

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HOW SINGLE ARE YOU?

Take our fun quiz on the back page to find out just how lonely you are this Valentine's Day.

MEDALS ON MEDALS P7

Imprint's sports editor outlines one of UW Athletic's most successful weekends!

VALENTINE FOOD REVIEW P11

Pasta may be a lovely dish, but do not pass(ta) up on this dish of love <3

SCIENCE BEHIND LOVE P14

Love is a hell of a drug but how does it actually affect us?

Meet the Autonobus P 13



JOHN EDWARDS



UW's Wet'suwet'en solidarity march



Indigenous community, climate activists, UW students and various members of the KW community united on Feb. 10, 2020 to march in solidarity for the Wet'suwet'en. The march started at DP and made its way towards Waterloo City Council. The march supported the Wet'suwet'en people whose traditional territory has recently been secured for the pipeline by the RCMP, as instructed by a court order. The Wet'suwet'en have been protesting against the construction of the Trans Mountain Pipeline on their traditional territory since late 2019.



JANSHER SAIED

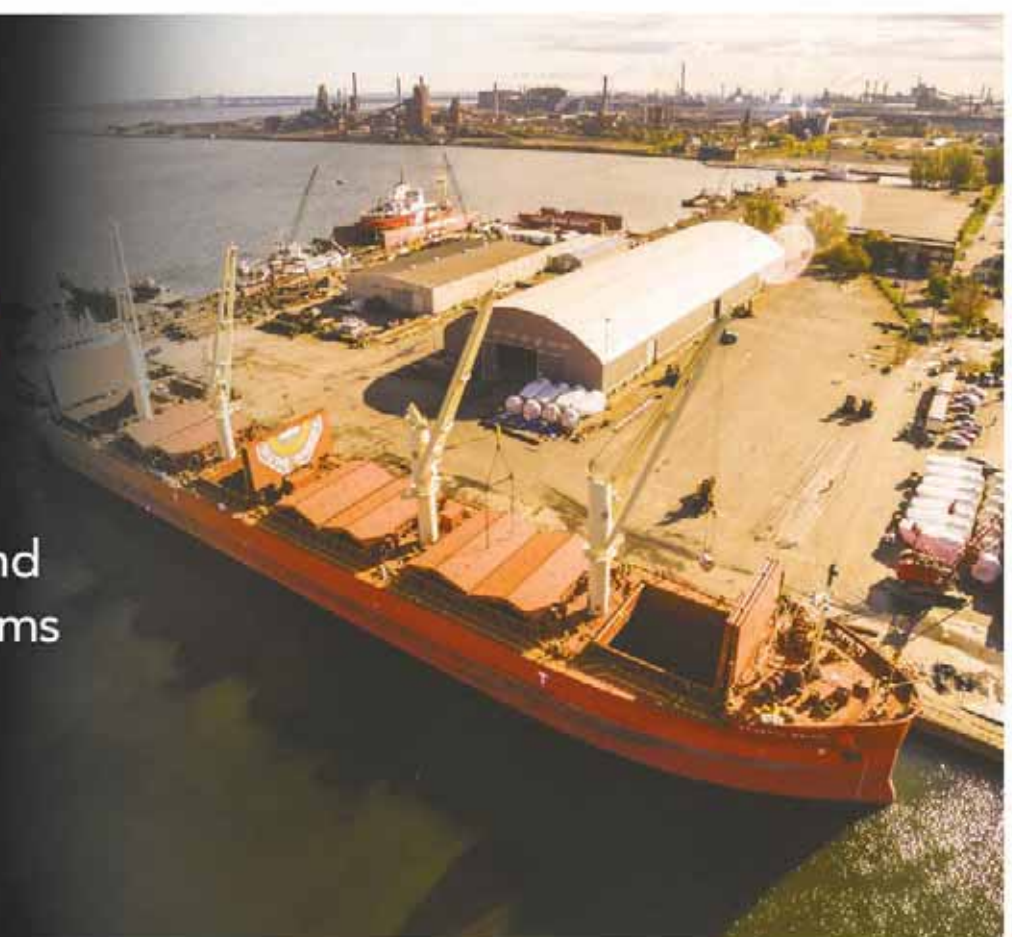
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Are academic advisors actually advising?

Viduyt Chuwalewala
Assistant News Editor

Students at the UW raised concerns to *Imprint* about the service they received from their academic advisors.

The students wished to remain anonymous, as they said they feared their faculty would reach out to them and cause complications.

"I went to my academic advisor last term for advice on courses to take over the summer and I was pretty disappointed with the fact that they did not notify me about the deadlines because of which I had to pay late fees. They were also late in getting back to me and I had to keep following up" said a second-year undergraduate student at the UW who wished to remain anonymous. "This was particularly annoying as I am an international student and already pay so much," they added.

A reddit user, u/throw10763, expressed their disappointment in the advice they received from their academic advisor by posing a question to the redditors of r/uwaterloo, asking them, "Does anyone have an undergraduate advisor that actually advises?"

Imprint reached out to the user but received no response.

Academic advisors are university employees who are dedicated to helping undergraduate students reach their academic goals. They help students select their courses and go over academic requirements.

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"She basically wasn't really helpful, and I had to do my own research and rely on help from seniors," said another second-year undergraduate student at the UW who also wished to remain anonymous.

"I was told I won't be on co-op, so I was okay with that but then they enrolled me in PD1 and I was surprised as to what was happening," they said.

The student feared that their reputation in the faculty may be hampered and therefore wished to remain anonymous.

"They were really bad at replying to emails, and I had to rely on seniors and my own research. I have stopped going to her now and do all the research and course selection on my own," the second student said.

David DeVidi, Associate Vice-President, Academic at UW recognized that academic advising is an area where there is al-

ways room for improvement as it is always changing and evolving.

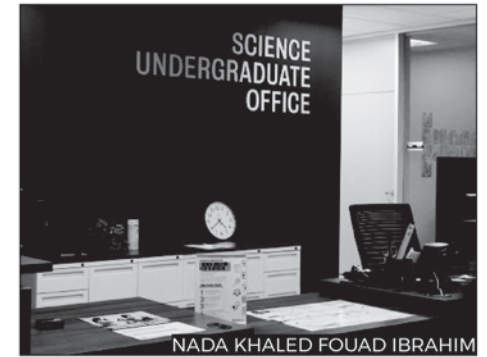
UW initiated an Academic Advising Community of Practice (CoP), where all staff and faculty advisors regularly meet to share best practices and learn about how to improve the services they offer to students," said DeVidi.

In addition to this, each faculty also provides additional training and support specifically for their own advisors.

"UW strives to provide each and every student with academic advising that meets their needs and expectations and to offer every student the tools they need to be successful in their academic careers," DeVidi added.

UW said they regularly review academic advising during their quality assurance processes. They look at who provides academic advising, how they are doing it, and how the level of advising contributes to the student experience. DeVidi also said that they continue to welcome feedback from our students about how we can make their advising experience better.

On the other hand, u/theternguy, on a post on the university's unofficial subreddit, acknowledged their help and credited them for their advice because of which he



Science faculties academic advisors can be found in STC.

was able to excel at university.

"They advised me of my options. They encouraged me. They acted as a proponent and advocated for me repeatedly, across years. And they started this the very first day I came back by reaching out and offering to help me". They added that without their efforts they would be nowhere near their degree. Each faculty has their own set of advisors who also specialize in specific programs and help students make the right course selection to complete their degree requirements, answering any other questions related to academic policies and regulations.



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Boston Pizza employees speak out

Jansher Saeed
Editorial Assistant

Four Boston Pizza locations in the Waterloo Region closed their doors on Jan. 24, 2020, after filing for bankruptcy, firing 190 employees.

Brian Haase, the former owner-operator, made a number of allegations Boston Pizza corporate said were false.

Haase formally owned Boston Pizza restaurants located in Waterloo, Kitchener, and Stratford. He estimates he has between four to five million dollars in debt. He says Boston Pizza corporate did not cooperate with his payroll ac-

count, and was therefore frozen by his bank.

Haase was a franchisee for four Boston Pizza locations for 15 years. In 2015, the locations saw a noticeable decline in revenue, which led to the bankruptcy filing.

Haase said he contacted the Boston Pizza Head Office but did not receive any support for his claim. Eventually, he informed Boston Pizza and bank executives on Jan. 20 of the situation. The next day, his account was frozen.

Haase's debt consultant, Alex Hunsen spoke on his behalf, saying he is devastated for the employees.

"To our shock, the very next day, the entire payroll bank account

was frozen. The closing of the locations was triggered by the freezing of the bank accounts," Hunsen said.

The sudden closure put 190 out of their jobs, as former employees say, with little notice of the decision at all.

"There was this dramatic email from our manager at like, five in the morning that was saying, 'due to unfortunate circumstances, we are going to have to shut down,'" said Scott Lu, a former line cook.

The email was sent to staff of all four locations the same day the restaurants were shut down.

Former employees Tori Killian-Price and her partner Zachary Smith both worked at the Erb

St. location in Waterloo.

"We trusted these people, we worked with them for a long time, and they just let us down," Killian-Price said.

They enjoyed the work while it lasted, but wish to get paid now that it is over.

"I went to work on time, I did my job. It just feels like they just took the money that was made off our backs and ran with it," Smith said.

He worked at the company for four years.

But Peter Blackwell, Vice President of Marketing and Communication with Boston Pizza International, which oversees 400 locations across Canada, gave Metroland Media a very different

take on the situation on Feb. 4.

"We have seen Mr. Haase and his advisors make several claims. They've been, at a minimum, misleading and, in some cases, outright mistruths," Blackwell said.

One claim made by Haase includes a \$20,000 cost to file for bankruptcy.

This would have allowed for Haase's assets to be liquidated, having his employees paid through the Wage Earner Protection Program.

Blackwell said Boston Pizza was not the only company Haase owed money to. "He owes funds to a number of other parties. He told BP that he would file for bankruptcy in two weeks," Blackwell said.

Will the SCI courtroom drama ever end?

Suhani Saigal
News Editor

The Ontario Government is attempting to appeal the Divisional Court's ruling on the Student Choice Initiative but when or if that will happen is still unclear.

The Student Choice Initiative, announced by the Ford government in early 2019, allowed post-secondary students to opt-out of incidental fees such as those meant for student unions, newspapers and food banks, among others.

"The Student Choice Initiative is a targeted attack by the Ford government on students' unions and students' right to organize on campus," Kayla Weiler, National Executive Representative for the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario (CFS-O), said.

The York Federation of Students challenged the SCI in late 2019 and the Canadian Federation of Students. The court ruled it as 'unlawful.'

"On Nov 21, 2019, the Ontario Divisional Court issued a decision regarding the Student Choice Initiative, finding against the gov-

ernment and in favour of the Canadian Federation of Students and the York Federation of Students," Tanya Blazina, a representative of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, said.

The court viewed this directive as the government interfering with and compromising the autonomy of universities and student unions.

"The unanimous decision by the Divisional Court confirmed what students already knew, that the Student Choice Initiative is unlawful and that the Ford government acted beyond their authori-

ty," Weiler said.

The Court of Appeal for Ontario has yet to announce whether the appeal will be granted.

"We cannot comment on whether the Court of Appeal for Ontario will grant the leave to appeal, but we are expecting a decision imminently," Weiler said.

At the moment, the SCI is still unlawful and as a result, students do not have the choice to opt-out of incidental fees.

"Despite this government's decision to seek leave to appeal the ruling of the Divisional Court, the ruling remains in place and, under

the Divisional Court's order, the Student Choice Initiative is unlawful," Weiler said.

"Therefore, universities and colleges must abide by the decision of the Divisional Court and continue to collect and remit member local and CFS fees, including fees for the 2020 winter semester and the 2020-2021 academic year."

The government refused to comment when asked for more information.

"As this appeal is underway, it would be inappropriate to comment further at this time," Blazina said.



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Correction

In *Inprint* Vol. 42 Issue 24 on Feb. 5 on page 4, the headline states, "Utilities increase by \$41.87 per year". However, the increase will only occur this year rather than per year.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

IMPRINT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE ATTAWANDARON (NEUTRAL), ANISHNAABEG, AND HAUDENOSAUNEE PEOPLES. THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO IS SITUATED ON THE HALDIMAND TRACT, LAND PROMISED TO SIX NATIONS, WHICH INCLUDES SIX MILES ON EACH SIDE OF THE GRAND RIVER. THEREFORE, IMPRINT RECOGNIZES AND RESPECTS THIS LAND THAT IT IS SITUATED UPON.

UW INDIGENOUS STUDENT ASSOCIATION



Campus Question

What is the most romantic gesture you have ever given or received?



Amatul Shafi, 2A
Health Sciences

"I gifted two of my close friends succulents as a symbol of timeless love. Succulents grow through any weather and stay strong."



Natalia Oleskiewicz, 1B
Honours Science

"When I was graduating from high school, someone who was interested in me gave me flowers afterwards and we took a picture. I thought that it was very cute and very romantic."



Dian Santos, 2A
Environmental Sciences

"I baked a cake for my girlfriend for Valentine's Day."



M.A., 3B
Applied Health Sciences

"The best Valentine's Day gift I ever received was when I was in high school, I got a chocolate from my boyfriend after every period. So that was like 8 to 9 chocolates in a day."

A UW co-op love connection

Josh Goldschmidt
Reporter

Hallmark movies met UW as Faculty Relations Manager of Co-op Scott Davis told *Imprint* about the only marriage proposal received in the William M. Tatham Centre for Co-operative Education.

It was wintertime when Davis received a call connecting him to a previous UW recruiter. His company had gone to UW to find co-ops for their team a few years earlier, and among their hires was a young woman. She'd never actually worked for him, but they'd met while he was recruiting students.

After co-op she returned to UW, continued her degree with some interim co-ops, graduated, and eventually ended up in the same industry though at a different company.

Two or three years, later the recruiter and the co-op reconnected at an event and started dating. They gradually became a couple,

and when it was time, the former employer knew that he needed to propose in the place where they first met, the Tatham Centre.

Davis was contacted through a mutual connection at the university who wanted to help make the proposal happen. The couple both worked in Toronto, but the boyfriend taught seminars on the side.

Claiming he was going to UW for work, he brought his girlfriend to the city on a typical weeknight in March.

"He came up here in the evening, around 6:30 [p.m.], and there was really no one around. He set it up so that when she came up the grand staircase [the staircase in the middle of the building which ascends to the third floor] rose petals were laid on the floor, there were some decorations up, and he had a little bit of music playing" Davis said.

"I think by the time she got to the second level, she clued into what was going on."

Davis himself watched from a hidden vantage point.

"I hid down the hallway, just to make sure everything was okay and it was lovely. He was very sincere and heartfelt, and she was very surprised. Because you could kind of tell as she reached the top of the stairs that she was shaking and nervous. It was a very unique way to return to where they met," he said.

After that point Davis returned to his office to give the couple some privacy.

After an hour he returned to clean up, but they had already packed everything.

Ultimately, the couple asked for privacy, so Davis did not publish the story in the *Waterloo Bulletin* and when sharing the story, he did not disclose the names of the couple.

He is unsure if they are still married or even if the girlfriend agreed to the proposal.

But it is a story he often recounts, to let people know that although co-ops primarily focus on work experience, they can sometimes lead to many other special experiences.



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Varun Venkataramanan
Sports Editor

Back in the 1820s, early settlers were just beginning to build the communities of Berlin and Waterloo, which would eventually become the Kitchener-Waterloo (KW) Region.

The area was mainly home to immigrants from Pennsylvania and Germany, but also among the townfolk were 1,500 Black settlers, most of whom were escaped slaves from the United States.

These escaped slaves started their own community known as Queen's Bush in the area between Waterloo and Lake Huron.

They cleared the land for farming and built a strong community that included numerous churches and two schools, which enrolled over 225 students at their peak.

By the 1840s, word spread, and the community grew to over 2,000 people.

On Aug. 1 of each year, the settlers celebrated Emancipation Day, honouring the end of slavery.

In 1850, the Earl of Elgin, Governor General of Upper Canada, asked all the settlers of Queen's Bush to purchase their land since they were technically "squatters" with no official status.

Unfortunately, most of the Black settlers couldn't afford the price and were displaced.

Many of their white neighbours were able to stay at Queen's Bush and some of them even took over the land of their former Black

neighbours.

Simultaneously, the Berlin Township began to prosper. Among its residents was Robert Sutherland, Canada's first Black lawyer, and Levi Carroll, an ex-slave with one leg who lived in the region's first school building, which is now preserved in Waterloo Park.

Another notable Black resident was Peter Susand, a former slave who moved to Berlin in the mid-1850s.

Susand was a commoner with a great passion for literature, going as far as to name one of his sons Othello after the Shakespeare character.

Susand was the first barber in town and also opened a café called Meridian Coffee Shop.

Susand also ran for Berlin town councillor in 1856 but lost to a well-known doctor. After his death, his wife Elizabeth and children sold taffy at the Berlin Train Station, eventually becoming successful enough to open Susand's Taffy. Unfortunately, none of the family's businesses are around today.

Sutherland, Carroll, and Susand were just three of the Black Canadians who laid the foundation for KW's Black community, a community that is thriving with over 15,000 people today.

Among the inspirational Black Canadians in KW is George Elliott Clarke, a UW alumnus who is currently the E.J. Pratt Professor of Canadian Literature at the University of Toronto.

Clarke earned his BA in English from UW in 1984 before earning a MA and PhD in the same field from Dalhousie University and Queen's University, respectively.

Clarke is a celebrated poet and critic whose work has chronicled the story of Black Canadians in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, a region which he dubs "Africadia."

Among his numerous published works include nine poetry books, two edited anthologies, and a novel.

His four plays and three operas have all been staged, and two of his screenplays have been adapted for television.

Clarke is well respected in his field and was appointed the Poet-Laureate of Toronto from 2012-15 before progressing to the position of Canadian Parliamentary Poet-Laureate from 2016-17.

In 2008, Clarke was appointed an Officer to the Order of Canada for his work studying African-Canadian literature.

Clarke was also the Editor of *Imprint* from 1984-85, his final year at UW.

In 2018, the George Elliott Clarke Scholarship Fund was established at Duke University, and last year, Clarke facilitated Sage

Hill Writing's Spring Poetry Colloquium, providing scholarships, bursaries, and mentorship to students across Canada.

Another notable Black resident of KW is Udanapher (Nadine) Green, who used her cornerstore to

Green immigrated to Cambridge from Jamaica when she was 16 and was homeless herself for a short time. As a result, Green knows first-hand the hardships and abuse that those living on the streets endure.

"I have to stand up for my rights and for the homeless people's because no one stands up for them and now they're my family," Green said.

The eviction has not deterred her from doing everything she can to help the region's less fortunate.

Green recently launched a fundraiser to help her open a new convenience store that will double as a homeless shelter at night, aiming to raise \$50,000 toward this goal.

In the meantime, Green still regularly visits the homeless to support them. She even provided them free transportation in her car during the GRT strike.

Clarke and Green are just two examples of inspiring members of KW's Black community today. Along with Sutherland, Carroll, and Susand, they embody the theme for this year's Canadian Black History Month: "Canadians of African Descent: Going forward, guided by the past."

The theme was inspired by the United Nations' theme for the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-24).

Over the course of February, KW will honour the legacies of Black Canadians, past and present, through various events including food festivals, conferences, and fashion shows.

This concentrated effort is being made across the country to honour Black Canadian culture, and *Imprint* will continue covering KW's Black heroes, as well as the causes they champion year-round.

The heroes of KW's Black community

LEA CLARIN



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Medals on medals on medals

Varun Venkataramanan
 Sports Editor

For many sports in the OUA, the beginning of February marks "banner season," the home-stretch with provincial championships and national qualification on the line.

Major team sports such as volleyball, hockey, and basketball don't begin their playoffs until the end of the month, but for some of UW's less-appreciated teams such as fencing, swimming, and squash, their seasons just wrapped up in one of the best medal-hauls UW has ever seen.

First up was the fencing team, who travelled to St. Catharines over the weekend of Feb. 1-2 to compete at the OUA Championships hosted by the Brock Badgers.

Third-year Arts student Gareth Marks had himself a weekend to remember, winning gold in the individual foil and leading the UW team to a bronze medal in the team foil tournament.

Marks swept the individual round-robin, going 6-0 to enter the knockout stages as the top seed. He eliminated teammate Ryan Brennan and Carleton's Philip McCully, the defending gold medalist, in the first two rounds, before taking down the University of Toronto's David Li in the semifinals.

In the finals, Marks displayed exquisite technique, dismantling Ryerson's Ethan Haines 15-10 to capture the gold medal.

The next day, Marks led the men's foil team to the semifinals where they took on Carleton Ravens for a birth in the finals. Despite a late rally, UW lost 34-45, earning them a spot in the bronze-medal match against the RMC Paladins. The Warriors



Fencer Gareth Marks (left) won gold in the individual men's foil. UW's squash teams (right) captured double silver medals.

took care of business against RMC, leading from the first point to win 45-26 for the bronze medal.

Next, UW's squash teams claimed silver medals at their OUA Championships hosted at the White Oaks Resort in Niagara.

Fifth-year student Cameron Seth led the men's team, going an undefeated 4-0 to earn himself tournament MVP honours. Seth has been named MVP in four of his Provincial Championships, a truly remarkable OUA career.

The men had a simple path to the finals, where they took on Western, the 36-time defending champions. Unfortunately, the Warriors dropped the match 6-1 and were forced to settle for silver.

The women had a shakier start, winning

their first match 7-0 over Brock but losing their second, 1-6 against Queen's. The Warriors defeated Western in the semis the next day, before losing once more to Queen's 1-6 in the gold medal game.

The silver is the team's best finish since 2012.

In addition to Seth, UW's Neel Ismail was named Rookie of the Year, and Marisa Seth was named the Men's Coach of the Year.

Finally, over Feb 8-9, the Warriors' swim team travelled to the Toronto Pan-Am Sports Centre for their OUA Championships. It was one UW's best showings ever, as they captured 6 silver and 7 bronze medals, as well as the overall men's bronze medal.

As has been the case all season, Lukas

Wormald was the star for UW, winning silver in the 200m individual medley and leading 4x100m freestyle and 4x200m medley relay teams to podium finishes as well.

Other medalists included sophomore Christina Ji, who won silver in the 50m backstroke, and junior Hohyun Ryu, who captured bronze behind Wormald in the 200m individual medley.

The men finished with a final team score of 549.50, good for bronze behind Toronto and Western. The women ended their weekend with 307 in sixth place.

Overall, five UW swimmers qualified for the national USports championships, which will take place later this month in Victoria, British Columbia.

WATERLOO WARRIORS
THIS WEEK IN ATHLETICS

BASKETBALL
 FEBRUARY 14
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WATERLOO SENIOR LEAGUE
 FEBRUARY 15
 VS LAURIER
 (W) 6:00 PM (M) 8:00 PM
 PAC GYM

VOLLEYBALL
 FEBRUARY 21
 VS TORONTO
 (W) 6:00 PM (M) 8:00 PM
 PAC GYM

WATERLOO SENIOR LEAGUE
 FEBRUARY 22
 VS GUELPH
 (W) 6:00 PM
 (M) 8:00 PM
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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

LUKAS WORMALD
 SWIMMING

CHARLOTTE COPAS
 SQUASH

Raptors' Recap: Catching fire

Dashawn Stephens
Sports Columnist

Approaching the All-Star break, we can say we've captured a true glimpse of what the 2019-20 Toronto Raptors are about. There is no doubt, despite what the critics and analysts have said, that the Raptors are "for real", and as we approach the middle of the season, the team representing the North has caught fire.

15 and counting

On Jan. 15, the Raptors defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder in what would become the first of a 15-game winning streak. To be fair, during this streak the Raptors have defeated only four teams with winning records: Philadelphia, Indiana, San Antonio, and Oklahoma City. Regardless, the Raptors have caught fire, showing that Toronto is not a team to be taken lightly, as they have managed to put away most teams with ease.

At 15 games and counting, the Raptors are currently in the midst of the longest winning streak by any professional sports team in Toronto's history. With this being their easiest stretch of the season, the Raptors have taken full advantage, giving them a solid grip on the second seed in the Eastern Conference. As we approach the All-Star break, there's no doubt that the Raptors are in a good place.

All-Star Power

Entering the 2019-20 season, Raptors fans knew that success in year 25 would revolve around Pascal Siakam. It's simple, if the Raptors wanted to achieve success, Siakam would have to play at an All-Star level—and he has, being honoured as a starter in this year's NBA All-Star Game. It's an achievement that has been well earned by the reigning Most Improved Player.

This season, Siakam is averaging 23.4 points per game, along with 7.8 rebounds and 3.4 assists. He's also shooting 80.3 per cent from the free throw line and 35.4 per cent from three. Simply put, he is having a dominant season filling in the void left by Kawhi Leonard.

From five-time to six-time NBA All-Star, Kyle Lowry has once again taken a huge leap, seemingly playing the best basketball of his career. North Philly's finest is currently averaging 19.6 points per game, along with 4.5 rebounds and 7.4 assists. Lowry is also shooting 86 per cent from the free throw line and 34.9 per

cent from three.

Although it's his 15th season, Lowry seems to have finally started becoming a true impact player. Unlike in previous years, Lowry has developed the identity of being a closer, as on any given night he can be trusted to be the number-one option. In addition to his hustle and ability to make his teammates better, Lowry still truly is one of the premier guards in the NBA.

Standing Pat

The Feb. 6 NBA trade deadline came and went without the Raptors making a single deal, and honestly, it's not surprising. Four months ago, many believed that Masai Ujiri was planning to make a big move this season, either to land another star or acquire a piece for the future. What many did not believe is that

the Raptors team that started the 2019-20 would be one of the hottest teams in the league by the time the trade deadline rolled around.

Once again, the Raptors organization has organically built a roster of strong young

talent, combined with savvy veterans that is competing at a high level in the Eastern Conference. In some way, every single player has taken multiple steps forward in progressing their game. In addition to Siakam, and Lowry, we've seen growth from Fred VanVleet, who was in All-Star conversation; Serge Ibaka, who's having a great year shooting and protecting the rim and even Powell, who's having his best statistical year across all categories. All of this combined with the solid bench play of Terence Davis Jr., Rondae Hollis-Jefferson, and even Oshae Brissett, make it hard to picture how this current roster can be improved. There's no question the current roster is Toronto's best chance at maximizing success this season.

New Look Heat

After the trade deadline, the Eastern Conference remains the same—almost. The Miami Heat acquired Andre Iguodala and Jae Crowder from the Memphis Grizzlies, in a move some say elevates the Heat to "contender" status in the East. However, looking at the Heat, they are now built similarly to the Raptors, as they are a team full of young talent, led by a few experienced vets and two all-stars.

Despite the hype in South Beach, Toronto fans should sleep easy since Toronto will be able to compete with and possibly take down the Heat the rest of this season.



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UW Esports Club's quest for recognition

Eduardo Matsumiya
Reporter

This past Saturday, gamers from across UW and beyond came together to participate in Geese Fest 2, a major gaming event organized by the UWaterloo Esports Club, a new alliance between the UW Fighting Game Community, the UW Smash Club, and the UW League of Legends Club.

The event featured games such as *Super Smash Bros. Ultimate*, *Super Smash Bros. Melee*, and *Under Night In-Birth Exe:Late*, with additional online brackets for *League of Legends* and *Teamfight Tactics* being offered the day prior.

The event attracted over 200 players total, including some of the best talent at the national and international levels. The level of competition was exceptionally high, with names like Riddles (ranked #1 in Ontario, #47 worldwide, and the best player of the character Terry in the world) and Jw (ranked #1 in Canada) both showing up to play in the Smash Ultimate portions of the event.

When we sat down with Nikolas Drakulovic, President of the UWaterloo Esports Club and one of the event organizers, his friendly demeanor and raw passion for the gaming community were immediately apparent. Back in 2017 when he started the club, the gaming scene at UW was present, albeit somewhat fragmented, with a lot of gaming disciplines having no official representation.

Drakulovic took it upon himself to unite these smaller communities under a single banner, starting with personal favorites like *Overwatch* and *Super Smash Bros. 4*, and quickly expanding to cover *Rocket League*, *Rainbow Six Siege*, *CS:GO*, and *Hearthstone*.

Drakulovic's vision of a united esports scene at UW led him to deal with some of the more established gaming communities around campus, most notably the UW League of Legends Club and the UW Smash Club, culminating in an official union of the three organizations just last year.

"We needed to be able to band all our assets together to be able to actually push ourselves forward," Drakulovic said.

While each of these communities has roughly 800 members a piece, together that number goes up to 2,000 students total, which is a lot more impactful when dealing with the Athletics department and possible sponsors, such as UW esports's most recent partner, Deliverr.

Deliverr is a two-year-old company whose business focuses on providing fast two-day shipping to any e-commerce platform that desires it. Lana Whiteford, senior recruiter for the company, discussed how she had observed a significant crossover between talented engineers and people who partake in gaming as a hobby.

Steve Xian was the founder of the UWaterloo StarCraft team, the first competitive esports team at UW, and went on to become a lead engineer at Deliverr after graduation. He was soon joined by Ryan Mutaqqi and Kevin Xing, who were both involved with the esports community at Waterloo.

Currently, 25 per cent of Deliverr's engineering team is composed of UW graduates.

Whiteford saw the potential that the esports community held within, as its members tended to naturally possess qualities that are valuable to tech start-ups, such as the ability to creatively solve problems. As such, Deliverr decided to form an official partnership with the UWaterloo Esports club, with a sponsorship contract signed



Greg Chow, a UW alumnus, uses a unique keyboard-based setup for his controller.

last term to provide prize support for all major events organized by the club.

This is in addition to the official support of Tespa, the world's largest collegiate esports organization, who provide additional prize support along with plenty of growth opportunities through its links with major sponsors and a network of colleges across the US and Canada.

While a lot has been accomplished in the past couple years, Drakulovic feels that his work is only just beginning. He's excited to continue pushing the boundaries of what the UW gaming community can achieve, and is currently aiming to obtain official recognition and support from the UW Athletics department. In his eyes, esports teams are no different than any other varsity sports team and should be treated as such.

"We are trying to push a lot more of our teams going out, which would basically see getting some kind of funding to compete

professionally with other schools instead of having smaller brackets. We want to have a very dedicated team and get a lot of expenses paid for, so that we can start signing up for larger events, like how most traditional sports are doing it today," Drakulovic said.

Beyond growing the competitive prospects of esports at UW, Drakulovic is most interested in growing the gaming community at large by creating a space that welcomes new players.

"I want to build a really fostering, loving gaming community here, that is very supportive. [One where] you're able to actually come out to things, no matter your skill level, and be able to compete and have fun," he said.

If Drakulovic's passion and dedication are any indicators, it's safe to say UW can expect a stronger and more inclusive gaming community over the next couple of years.

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Reading week: Here's what you can do during the "break"

Jansher Saeed
Editorial Assistant

Feb
15-17

Kidapalooza

10.00 a.m. onwards
41 Ardelt Pl, Kitchener, ON

Kidapalooza Family Festival is back in the Waterloo Region for the Family Day Weekend. The event will be hosted in over 40,000 sq ft of indoor space with some outdoor activities as well. The event will feature activity salons, interactive inflatables, mechanical rides for all ages, stage shows, special guest appearances, and much more. Local and artisan vendor shopping will also be available.

"Kidapalooza is committed to providing a hands-on, creative experience for families from all across the Kitchener Waterloo Cambridge regions," Kidapalooza says on their website.

W5: Waterloo Women Writing With Women

9.00 a.m. onwards
The sixth floor of Engineering 5 (6002/6004/6006/6008)

This event is a free, day-long writing retreat. The event is aimed at providing women and non-binary attendees with advice, affirmation of writing goals, a friendly environment and the opportunity for writing accountability.

"W5 offers a collaborative space and supportive environment for University of Waterloo women and non-binary faculty, staff, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers. In addition to supplying quiet writing space and structured writing time, W5 will host workshops on Memoir Writing (by Lamees Al-Ethari) and Writing for the Public (by Aimee Morrison)," W5: Waterloo Women's Wednesday said on UW's event page.

The UX of tubes

Building a UX research practice in a physical-product industry

5.30 p.m.
151 Charles St. W, #100, Kitchener, ON

Have an interest in user experience (UX) design or looking to learn more? uxWaterloo welcomes anyone interested in learning more. They meet once a month and participate in activities ranging from workshops, presentations, or informal meetups.

During reading week, they will be host to Nicole Strong, a consumer anthropologist. For the past two and a half years, Strong has led insight and ideation practices at a manufacturer of thermoplastic pipes and fittings in North America. Join this session to learn more about Strong's journey and the world of UXR design.

Nonsense: The Musical Opening

Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 22, 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 23, 2:00 p.m.

Conrad Grebel University College

Presented by Conrad Grebel University College, Nonsense is an off-Broadway musical and comedy based off a book of the same name by Dan Goggin, who also composed the music and lyrics for the play. Nonsense recounts the misadventures of a group of nuns as they work to raise funds for the burial of their sisters following a cooking accident. The show will also be presented as a fundraiser in spirit of the play called the Fill the Table campaign at Grebel. The show will run from Feb. 20-23, 2020 with general admission tickets at \$40 including taxes and handling fees.

5th Annual Mac & Cheese Festival

7.00 p.m.
THEMUSEUM

Sweet dreams are made of cheese, says THEMUSEUM, who will be hosting the annual KW Mac & Cheese Festival. Back for its fifth year, the festival returns due to popular demand.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and tickets are \$35, which includes a 4oz sample dish from each participating restaurant and a 4oz beer sample from each brewery present.

Date Night: Symposium of Sweets

Cyrus Fiori
Reporter

5 out of 10 spoons

Date-worthiness



elation, welcome back Queen G.

In the other corner, fresh off a boardgame beatdown, only showing up with pure intentions, melding literary and gastronomic balderdash, it's ya boy Cy-Guy.

This week my date and I journeyed to Symposium Café in Uptown Waterloo to satiate our combined craving for sweet treats. This seemed to be somewhat of an academic pursuit as Queen G is very much a sweetheart, and my bathroom mirror insists that I can stand for eye-candy.

Our date kicked off at 6:30 p.m. While casting my eyes over the space, I was both impressed and slightly perturbed. A surprisingly cavernous dining hall lay within, masked perfectly by the façade out front. Its high ceilings and incredible depth suggested it had a large capacity. The walls were decorated with elegant stone-mimicking art, which tied in perfectly to the extremely curly font delineating their name.

There was a slight awkwardness to the space where the clash of Ancient Greece and Uptown Waterloo meshed unconvincingly like mismatched gears. The furnishings clearly catered towards couples with many two-seat-

er tables and cozy booths, and the scent of overworked waitering staff lingered faintly in the air.

My date, picking up what I was putting down, motioned to the dessert display behind me. A bodacious boon of gorgeous gâteau glimmered within the cake display

cabinet. Big cakes, small cakes, tall cakes, and shortcakes, they had it all.

Cakes bedecked with elegant shaved chocolate coats, chopped nut apparel, and chocolate brownie tuxedos each sat calmly on their own plates. One of the more eager cakes hurriedly rose and offered me a sugar-flower corsage as a token of their affection. Letting the cake down gently, I explained that I was spoken for but that it was an honour to be the object of such sweetness.

My date had a quiet word with the waiter, and the cake was removed perfunctorily from its seat, never to be seen again. After wrangling a waiter, which should have been easier considering the place was pretty empty, my date and I ordered three cakes to tempt our palates. Our selections included the Crème Brûlée Cheesecake (\$9.50), the Cherry Cheesecake (\$8.50), and the Chocolate Fudge Brownie Cheesecake (\$8.50). Fixing me with a smouldering gaze, my date took the first bite. My jaw clattered to the floor, startling the couple seated behind us. Remembering which planet I was on, I steeled myself to exercise culinary criticism.

The Crème Brûlée Cheesecake was a bespoke cake typically not featured on the menu. Our server informed us that Symposium often brings in special cakes in this manner. Unfortunately, this cake chose to tell, not show how special it really was. A banal sweetness was supported with mediocre texture. It was challenging to determine where the cake ended, and the crust began. Even the cheesy cheesecake flavour was somewhat subdued.

Next up was the Cherry Cheesecake, which tried to sneak a sunrise past a rooster. My date's deft palate quickly discerned that the cherries were maraschino, a disappointing realization. Additionally, the cherries had an almost null flavour contribution, being more spectators than participants in their own namesake event. The crust was jarringly solid, announcing its presence with the subtlety of a jackhammer at midnight

and a similarly dry and dusty mouthfeel. However, the greatest betrayal of all was the sauce on the plate next to the cake itself. As though painted by Picasso's less successful younger brother, the saucy mural boasted inflated sophistication. Upon sampling it, the traitor was revealed: strawberry jam. There was not a real cherry in sight in this alleged Cherry Cheesecake.

Attempting to salvage the situation, the Chocolate Fudge Brownie Cheesecake took center stage. Featuring a cheesecake filling sandwiched between two glorious layers of thick chocolate brownie, the cake was built like an offensive linebacker. The flavour was satisfying to the extreme, with supreme sweetness delivered via a textural tackle.

The cheesecake layer, usually the heavy part of any cake, was comparatively lighter than the chocolate fudge brownie and provided relative buoyancy. However, the cake was still so rich it could have paid my tuition. All things considered, Symposium provided dessert when we needed it most, making for a great after-dinner date. Although the atmosphere had a slightly awkward feel to it, it provided a decent place for my date and I to enjoy each others' company and indulge in cake, even if that cake was firmly mediocre. As for the rest of my date, that's for me to know and you to speculate. You're really just here for the restaurant reviews anyways.

Until next time, stay hungry Food Fans. Special thanks to Queen G for her help with this review. *A Note about Ratings:* the Dateworthiness rating is different from our typical restaurant rating, which is based on food taste, texture, amount, price, service, and atmosphere. The Dateworthiness rating takes into account different criteria including the presence of shareables, the ability to split the bill, no-hassle service, romantic atmosphere, and unique appeal to either contender to determine the worthiness of an establishment for dates.

Hey Food Fans, Welcome to Date Night.

Date Night is the extravagant exclusive reporting of adventures in romance by yours truly. Let's meet our contestants. In one corner, the returning champion, defending the title with merciless charm and an impressive moisturizing routine, the romantic rev-



Review: East of Berlin

A scintillating review of a play performed at the Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre that uses shame as a motivator to deliver a power-packed performance

Julia Anna Rathbone
Reporter



4 out of 5 stars

The play *East of Berlin*, performed at the Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre (KWLT), is a depiction of how a father's war crimes affect his child's life after the completion of the war.

Based on the book written by Hannah Moscovitch, *East of Berlin* follows the story of Rudi, a German man who struggles to come to terms with the discovery of his father's acts as a Nazi SS doctor, what he does to cope with the realization, and his attempt to cover it up.

East of Berlin focuses on the idea of trying to do the right thing when shame is your motivation.

The play contains weighty subject matter, but it incorporates dry humour and is often explicitly vulgar, surprising the audience on several occasions and holding the audience's attention throughout.

The majority of the performance is a monologue from Rudi's character, per-

formed by Greg Allen, who has appeared in multiple KWLT productions.

Rudi offers his inner dialogue to the audience, often asking for direction or reassurance that he is doing the right thing.

This direct speech to the audience makes it very compelling, and at times difficult to watch during scenes in which he makes direct eye contact and yells at audience members.

The monologue is interesting to watch at the start, but Rudi's choices make him difficult to sympathize with, and it eventually becomes tiresome.

Accompanying Rudi is his childhood friend Hermann, played by Matt Mustin, who plays a pivotal role in Rudi's discovery of his father and creates the circumstances for the final act.

The last character in the production is Rudi's girlfriend Sarah—portrayed by Christine Di Rosa—leads Rudi to lie about

his father's past and gets close to her. The relationship between Sarah and Rudi establishes what kind of person he is based on his choices throughout their time together.

The play is a great character study of how one would act when burdened with shame, and the lengths one would go to cover it up. The story is compelling, offering an intriguing take on tragedy that is not often told.

The acting is well done, with Greg Allen giving a very believable performance. Because the subject matter is so dark, there are often long stretches of silence when the actors are grasping a situation or taking in their setting.

There is one set throughout the entire production, but it still feels as though they are moving from scene to scene and that the performance is progressing while still allowing Rudi to continue with his monologue.

It switches between his monologue and

the dialogue between him and the other two characters, and this allows the audience to understand Rudi's inner dialogue and his thought process during his relationship with Sarah and with Hermann.

His relationship with Hermann is also very telling of who Rudi is as a person, and how he treats Hermann lets the audience see what his priorities are.

The performance overall is fascinating to watch.

Seeing live theatre is especially exciting in a small theatre such as KWLT.

East of Berlin is a very compelling performance that keeps the audience on their toes with an intense subject, told in a way that amalgamates humour and intrigue.

Catch the play running at the KWLT from Feb 13-15.

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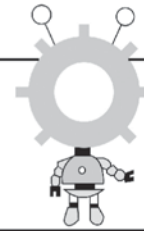
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UW's latest AV: the Autonobus

John Edwards
 Reporter

You may have seen a small teal bus driving around campus, carrying students and a laptop. This is the "All-weather Waterloo Autonomous Shuttle Bus," the latest project from the team the Mechatronic Vehicle System (MVS) lab. Amir Khajepour, a professor of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering at UW, has stated that the project is not sponsored or supported by any company.

This is the second Autonomous Vehicle (AV) to be created at UW, the first being the Autonomoose.

The Autonomoose was not only UW's first AV, but also Canada's first AV to drive on public roads. The Autonomoose is a Lincoln MKZ Hybrid outfitted with multiple sensors and components with an autonomous drive-by-wire (DBW) operation; DBW means the car uses a computer to operate the a its functions. It is similiar to pressing

a button to roll up window instead of rolling it up manually. It took multiple cross-disciplinary skills such as electrical engineering and software engineering to create the Autonomoose. It was a major endeavor to get the Autonomoose on the road that required combining various components and skills together. the autonobus is now UW's second AV and is underway thanks to MVS.

The MVS team consists of Khajepour, his graduate students, postgraduates, technicians, and some times, co-op students. According to Khajepour, the bus the team is working on is manufactured by Suzhou Lexsong Electromechanical Equipment Co. Ltd, a Chinese company. Jeff Graansma and Aaron Sherratt, the research laboratory technicians at MVS, clarified that the team was unable to find a suitable bus with an electric engine locally. They explained that, aside from the bus being a greener alternative, an electric engine is more convenient for maintenance and quieter than an internal combustion engine when operating. For these reasons, the team decided to opt for

the slow-moving bus designed for tours.

The goal for the project is to craft an all-weather autonomous bus that can be sent to any location within three days and replicate the functions of a regular bus. When asked how the AV will be able to navigate, Khajepour explained that the AV has multiple sensors and can use external cameras, such as the ones from the buildings, to help the AV avoid collisions. Both Khajepour and the laboratory technicians have stated that they use open-source software and algorithms modified in-house for the project specifically. According to Sheratt, the combined use of the sensors are able to detect an object and estimate its distance in relation to the sensors. Though, this does beg the question, can the AV be hacked?

"That is an issue in any connected system including autonomous vehicles. Although connectivity in autonomous systems is not as critical as many other systems," Khakepour said.

This AV is not designed for connectivity. Sheratt clarified that the AV uses an en-

closed system design, similar to airliners that have an auto-pilot feature. In order for a hacker to be able to tamper with the software or algorithm, the hacker would need to physically be in the AV with access to the computer running the sensors in order to do anything.

Without a doubt, this AV is another arduous undertaking. Both Sherrat and Graansma stated that they directed and supervised the students, ensured protocol is followed, and tested student-created algorithms. Both technicians enjoy working on the project as well as similar ones, like the Autonomoose, and reported that students are just as enthusiastic to work on the project as they are. The bus is still in the development and testing phase, but the team is hard at work to meet their goals. At the time of publication, UW will have hosted the grand opening of new Autonomous Vehicle Research and Intelligence Lab with the Honourable Navdeep Bains, the Minister of Innovation, Science, and Industry, present for the opening on Feb. 11, 2020.

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Love is in the air... And the brain.

Ramal Rana
Science editor

Love. Such a small word with a huge impact.

Everyday, love hangs over you like a guardian angel, omnipresent and intoxicating.

Most songs are about love, most movies are about love — if not about love per se, there is always a romance side story along with the main storyline — most books are about love, about “soulmates.”

There have also been numerous works of art inspired by love. Take the Taj Mahal one of the seven wonders of the world created by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal.

What is love?

According to C. Sue Carter and Stephen W. Porges, researchers at the Research Triangle Institute International in Research Triangle Park love is not just a feeling, it is a biological necessity with a physiological explanation.

Without love, humans are unable to live their lives to the fullest despite their basic needs being met.

Love is boundless, natural, and a requirement for survival.

Humans are drawn to love their offspring, family, friends and lovers.

Carter and Porges discovered

that being in the presence of an infant forces the release of the love hormone — oxytocin. Basically, an infant's existence forces you to love.

This oxytocin release results in an affection also seen in other primates, like the mandril. The neuropeptide oxytocin, evolutionarily, is released to ensure the survival of the infant, as well as the species, by ensuring that the infant is taken care of and the mate is protected. It is what creates the feeling of love.

Love is deeply biological, with physiological explanations.

Through research conducted on animals, while substituting parenting and species preservation as a representative of love, it is seen that the interactions between oxytocin and vasopressin are what cause the dynamics that allow humans to express and feel love.

Hence, it is commonly known by scientists who study love that interactions between oxytocin and vasopressin play an important role in social interactions.

Although most actions by these two hormones have been labeled redundant, they are known for actions with social significance, like huddling over a baby to protect it. This is why these hormones are also known as the “cuddle hormones.”

However, the release of oxytocin depends on several other factors that play into our need to love,

such as, the release of endogenous opioids, dopamine and norepinephrine, which are responsible for attraction and the feeling of reward.

As we interact with our loved ones and communicate socially, the hypothalamus, a part of our brain, releases dopamine. This induces a feeling of euphoria and giddiness, released when we do things that feel good to our brain.

What are Oxytocin and Vasopressin?

Vasopressin has been found to be the reason behind the physiological need for a mammal to engage in behaviours that are needed to protect a partner or your territory, like vigilance and forms of robust self-preservation.

This hormone also prevents the body from physiologically shutting down when in danger, like a chicken playing dead when exposed to loud noises or other scary stimuli like seeing a stuffed hawk, this response to fear is known as “tonic immobility.”

Competitive behaviours are fairly common in many mammalian species when defending their young, likely due to vasopressin-oxytocin interactions.

For example, Carter and Porges stated, “Before mating, prairie voles are generally social, even towards strangers.”

However, within approximately one day of mating, they begin to show high levels of aggression towards intruders, possibly serving to protect or guard a mate, family or territory. This mating-induced aggression is especially obvious in males.”

Conversely, oxytocin can be

linked to states of relaxation, physical abilities that allow birth and the following physiological changes that allow for the care of an infant, like lactation.

This hormone, as it increases during birth, allows a mother to feel less anxious around her newborn and express love.

Oxytocin also allows for the ability to engage in consensual sexual behaviour which ensures the survival of the species.

It is seen that, in extremely social mammals like humans, the interactions between the cuddle-hormones are what cause familial love and the desire to protect your loved ones.

Bonded by trauma.

This phrase is a common one, and it has some truth to it.

As we learned earlier, oxytocin and vasopressin are in part responsible for protection and self-defense.

This means in the face of a threatening situation, like an earthquake, or a turbulent airplane, a person releases these hormones and as the threat ceases, they release norepinephrine.

Due to the release of these hormones, a person might experience feelings of love and attraction for whoever they are experiencing this trauma with.

Love heals. Literally.

According to studies conducted in the past decade, love actually has the power to heal.

Without love, we spiral. Carter and Porges have seen that being raised with care in a safe environment actually modulates behaviour in social mammals.

Oxytocin and vasopressin literally have the ability to fix a metaphorically broken heart.

They are the antidotes for a broken heart. The heart has oxytocin receptors, responsible for the reception of oxytocin followed by an effect.

This is essential for the growth of the fetal heart, as oxytocin creates a protective barrier around the heart and is responsible for the conversion of stem cells into cardiomyocytes which are responsible for the mechanism behind pumping the heart.

In an adult, oxytocin is responsible for the repair of tissues and for the development of the brain. For its normal function, protection and mending, the heart relies on oxytocin.

Love in action.

This love and desire for protection can be seen in everyday examples: when a parent feeds and clothes their child, provides shelter and stability, sends them to school and ensures their future protection, sometimes even at the cost of their own happiness.

Then there's romantic love, an intimate relationship between two people with emotional attachment and passionate affection for another person, a relationship that's uncertain and unpredictable but still beautiful.

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Next scheduled post-mortem meeting:

Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 4:00 p.m.
 Imprint Office, SLC 0137

Next scheduled board meeting:

Thursday, February 13 at 6:00 p.m.
 Imprint Office, SLC 0137

opinions



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More than just talk – mental illness needs support

Mental illness affects one in three Canadians at some point in their lives. Chances are, you have either been personally affected or know someone who has been personally affected by a mental health condition. Despite how prevalent mental health problems are in our society, less than half of individuals with mental illness actually receive mental health care when they need it. That means that the majority of people don't ever get the appropriate care they need.

There are several reasons for this. One is lack of awareness on the topic. Often, people are nervous about the stigma surrounding mental illness. Not only are people afraid of what others will think of them and the possible discrimination they may face if they open up about their issues, but oftentimes, people believe that admitting that they are having mental health problems is a sign of weakness and believe they should be able to "handle things" better.

I can assure you that mental illness has a unique way of making an individual downplay their symptoms, making them believe that they don't deserve help because "others have it worse" or their problems aren't "that bad."

There have been some initiatives put in place to help build people's knowledge and awareness on mental health. These are a start, and better than doing nothing at all; however, more often than not these are only Band-Aid solutions. They allocate certain days to open conversation and to create a welcoming space for those who experience mental health problems. A few days a year where people don't avoid the topic completely.

Bel Let's Talk Day, National Suicide Prevention Day, and other awareness campaigns only do so much. These are days to make people feel good, like they are being supportive of people suffering from mental illness, but research has shown that they do not change long-term behaviour. Every day should be a day where people feel comfortable talking about mental illness, and these campaigns do little to help on the other 364 days of the year.

In the past couple years self-care has been a large focus. Self-care is great. I'm all for it. But self-care is a lot more than handing out kits filled with positive messages, face masks, and colouring books. It's hard to speak out against these programs that are trying to raise awareness and eliminate stigma, but these "self-care kits" do very lit-



STEPHANIE LO

Resources and funding as opposed to awareness, are needed to break mental illness stigma

tle to help people who are waiting for up to a year to receive services, or who have lost services due to recent budget cuts, or who can't afford necessary medication or the intensive therapy that they need.

We don't need more awareness per se, we need more resources, more funding, and more people who care about helping people. A recent article by CBC stated that the wait times in the Waterloo-Wellington area can be up to a year. This is for agencies such as the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) who offer free or low-cost services.

Clinics that offer free or subsidized psychotherapy can have month long waiting lists, and private psychologists, on average, charge around \$100 for an hour-long session. Psychologists are not covered by provincial insurance. This creates a divide between people who can afford services, and those who rely on OHIP or other provincially covered options. Individuals who can afford private care are able to be seen relatively quickly, and those who are unable to cover the costs are left waiting for far too long. The average waitlist for adult mental health counselling & treatment is 118 days, according to CMHA.

Many specialized programs offered through the province, such as dialectical behaviour therapy groups, early psychosis intervention programs, and groups for individuals with recurrent suicidal ideation

have wait times of almost a year.

The four OHIP covered options for residential eating disorder care in the province have wait lists of up to ten months. This time varies between programs and because patients are triaged based on their illness severity, which is often determined using body mass index (BMI), and leaves some people waiting longer than others. Treatment at Homewood, Ontario's private addiction and eating disorder recovery centre, costs around \$250 a night, and the waitlist for the people who can pay for treatment is around two weeks, which is far less than the provincially funded resources.

The similarity between these different provincially funded programs is that they all have limited resources, which makes them unable to provide the necessary level of care to their patients. There are no options for a lot of people who are in need, and people are dying because they are unable to receive the treatment necessary to help them regain their lives back.

So, please, take back your face masks, fidget spinners, and funds used to promote these days geared towards "awareness" of the issue, and put it toward funding the programs and resources that individuals actually need to survive.

Heather Gillespie
 Honours Psychology 4A

From sports to video games. Same shit, different stool

Technological developments have a long history of shaping mankind's demands for new entertainment to fill our ever-increasing leisure time.

From this demand came sports, then the sports star.

Now, I argue that the myths surrounding the sports star have progressed past the field to the modern era of video game entertainment.

However, institutional problems remain.

Whilst our brain development is progressed by modern video games, we can also be made a zombie to the modern Skinner box found in most games throughout history.

To begin, I will examine the manufactured "sports star" seen on posters, mainly focusing on soccer and basketball.

Due to their popularity, sports stars make millions and are used as marketing ploys.

How has something so inherently ridiculous been accepted as the norm?

The same issue happens with different body types.

Players become so trained that they don't require any mental acuity, despite the ability to function as a unit, in order to beat the opposition, and men's sports are only funded to supply this demand for better players.

The sports star has no individual identity

but is rather a tool for people to project onto.

They are assigned to a team, to an organization that is bigger than they can ever hope to be, and used for their athletic ability.

Then they are paid in bulk and left to suffer like the piece of meat and muscle they have been trained to be.

All to be remembered as just a fad in the internet age.

This successfully led to fame, but then came *Halo*.

Why should the sports star survive the digital age if there is a child that could eventually do the job better?

The first major first-person shooter to work on console, *Halo* single-handedly made the original Xbox console what it is.

If the sports star is a myth of perfect human conditioning, then one can argue that *Halo* is the wet dream of the Trumpian



space race.

The first *Halo* campaign changed gaming.

The main character, John-117, was a super-soldier taken as a child and built for war.

Despite being part of an army, the most powerful player must fight vigorously to win the game.

Through John, we put on a suit like a jersey, felt strong and part of something.

I loved playing sports before university, but why watch men run around just like children could behind a ball when one could be at the centre of the action behind a controller?

Why not participate rather than be passive?

However, as they evolve, video games suf-

fer the same fate as sports. Riot Games (a major game company) have had multiple sexual assault and harassment cases, and the people who make the games are usually treated like trash while the company makes money.

So why support them?

This parallels FIFA, which has faced scandal after scandal.

Yet sports have become so ingrained in society that stadiums remain publicly funded.

We should expect more from our entertainment than just score or be scored on.

If the first three *Halo* games could create a whole generation of legends, why pay people for playing with a ball?

Whilst neither institution is perfect (to fund Riot Games is to fund adderall-out children that develop early arthritis), there is the potential to stop this public hysteria over the "sports star".

While FIFA and Riot Games continue to have scandals and allegations of harassment, it is now more important than ever to build your own myths rather than being spoon-fed opinions from a screen which glorifies these million-dollar industries.

Sifar Singh

Postgraduate Student

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Submit your 50-word announcement or upcoming event to ads@uwimprint.ca for free.

upcoming events

February 2020

For all of UpTown Waterloo Winter activities visit www.uptownwaterloobia.com.

Savour in Stratford — Saturday morning Market from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rotary Complex, and more, www.visitstratford.com.

Unplug from screens. Connect with friends. Sing your faith. Chapel Choir meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Sign up for an audition at uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles. No prep required. For more details ksteiner@uwaterloo.ca or 519-885-0220, ext 24226.

Choral and Ensemble auditions begin. Can be taken for credit (.25) or extracurricular activity. For more info www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensemblesmusic@uwaterloo.ca.

Wednesday, February 12

KW Chamber Music presents "Shoshana Telner" at 8 p.m. at KW Chamber Music Society, 57 Young Street, W., Waterloo (walkable from campus). To reserve tickets/info contact jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca.

Tuesday, February 18

Bereaved Families of Ontario presents "Understanding & Coping

with our Emotions" from 7 to 9 p.m. at Westmount Memorial Celebration Centre, 1001 Ottawa Street, S., Kitchener. For more info jaime@bfomidwest.org.

Wednesday, February 19

KW Chamber Music presents "Amatis Trio from Europe" at 8 p.m. at KW Chamber Music Society, 57 Young Street, W., Waterloo (walkable from campus). To reserve tickets/info contact jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca.

Wednesday, February 22

KW Chamber Music presents "Jorge Caballero" at 8 p.m. at KW Chamber Music Society, 57 Young Street, W., Waterloo (walkable from campus). To reserve tickets/info contact jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca.

Wednesday, February 26

Music Noon Hour Concerts - "Bernstein 101" featuring Mary-Catherine Paz-zano, voice and Paul Stouffer, piano, at 12:30 p.m. at Conrad Grebel Chapel. For more info 519-885-0220, ext 24226 or music@uwaterloo.ca.

KW Chamber Music

presents "Benedicte Lauz-iere, violin, with Angela Park, piano" at 8 p.m. at KW Chamber Music Society, 57 Young Street, W., Waterloo (walkable from campus). To reserve tickets/info contact

jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca.

Saturday, February 29

Emmanuel United Church presents "The Soviet Influence" at 7 p.m. at 22 Bridgeport Road, W., Waterloo. 519-886-1471 or info@emmanueluc.ca.

Thursday, March 12

Conestoga College Job Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Doon Campus, Recreation Centre. For more info mycareerservices@conestogac.on.ca.

volunteering

Bereaved Families of Ontario - Midwestern Region, The Family Centre, 65 Hanson Ave., Suite 1042, Kitchener. We currently have a number of exciting volunteer opportunities. For more info, jaime@bfomidwest.org or 519-603-0196.

Become a Meals On Wheels volunteer! Call 519-772-8787 or www.communitysupportconnections.org/volunteer/apply.

help needed

NOT JUST TOURISTS — We are a humanitarian organization that pack medical supplies and bring them to developing countries. We are in need of volunteers, donors and travelers. For more information, please visit www.notjusttourists.com.

VOLUNTEER

Head Designer
Graphics Editor
Copy Editor
Video Editor

Satellite Campus Editor
Distractions Editor

Contact
editor@uwimprint.ca
for more info

im
print

Annual General Meeting!

Thursday, Feb 27; 3 to 5 p.m.; MPR

im
print

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Resolved, the membership approves the agenda for this meeting.

APPOVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion: Resolved, the membership approves the minutes for the 2019 AGM.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

BUDGET REVIEW

Motion: Resolved, the membership accepts the approved 2020-2021 budget.

PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF AUDITED STATEMENTS

Motion: Resolved, the membership accepts the 2018-2019 financial statements as prepared by Clarke Starke & Diegel LLP.

APPROVAL OF AUDITOR

Motion: Resolved, the membership appoints Clarke Starke & Diegel LLP as Imprint Publication's Auditor for 2019-2020 fiscal year.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Motion: Resolved, the membership accepts the approved Policies & Procedure and Bylaws document.

STATE OF THE UNION

BOARD ELECTIONS

Motion: Resolved, the membership appoints _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____ as the Student Directors for Imprint Publication's 2020-2021 BOD.

2020-2021 board member
positions,

Proxy information
email:

chair@uwimprint.ca

distractions



TIME MAY PASS US BY
But Feds/WUSA execs never seems to
change at all

To avid x-word enthusiasts

Across

- 1. Macy's equivalent
- 6. Young goat
- 8. Bird on the Canadian dollar
- 9. ____ *With an E*, show on CBC/Netflix (check if this needs italics) which ended last year
- 10. ____ Logan, the comic on which the 2017 film is based
- 12. Geometry teacher from Alexandria
- 14. A bristle at the end of grains and cereals
- 15. To stand in the way of
- 17. Marvel race fighting the Skrull
- 18. Hominid in the ge-

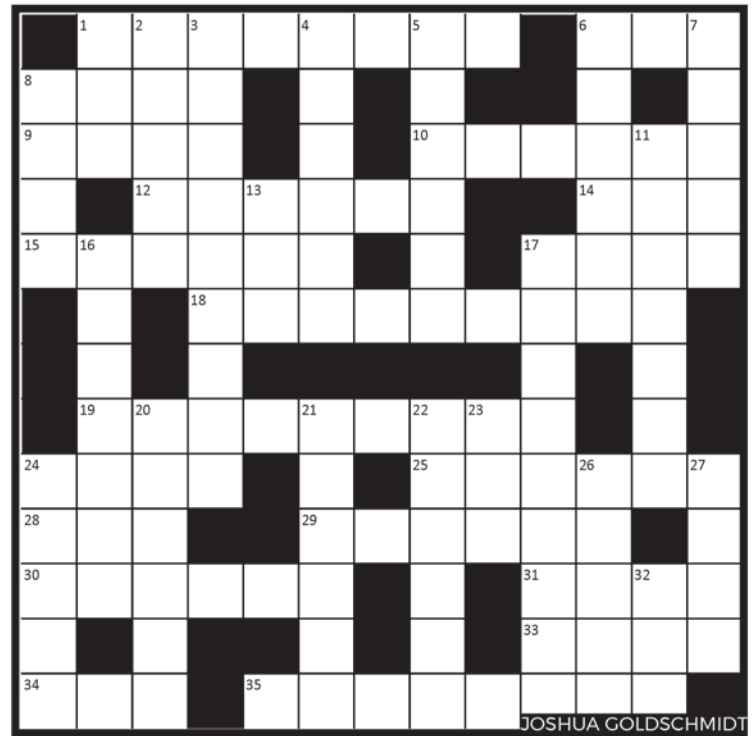
nus Australopithecus

- 19. A disease restricted to a specific locale
- 24. Synonym for 11 Down.
- 25. Eyewear company, branded especially for sports
- 28. Mythic giant bird
- 29. Island shared between Malaysia, Indonesia, and Brunei
- 30. Artificial island connected to Tokyo by the Rainbow Bridge
- 31. With two parts or elements
- 33. As far as (two words)
- 34. Finale
- 35. Tamagotchi, Webkinz, and Neopets

Down

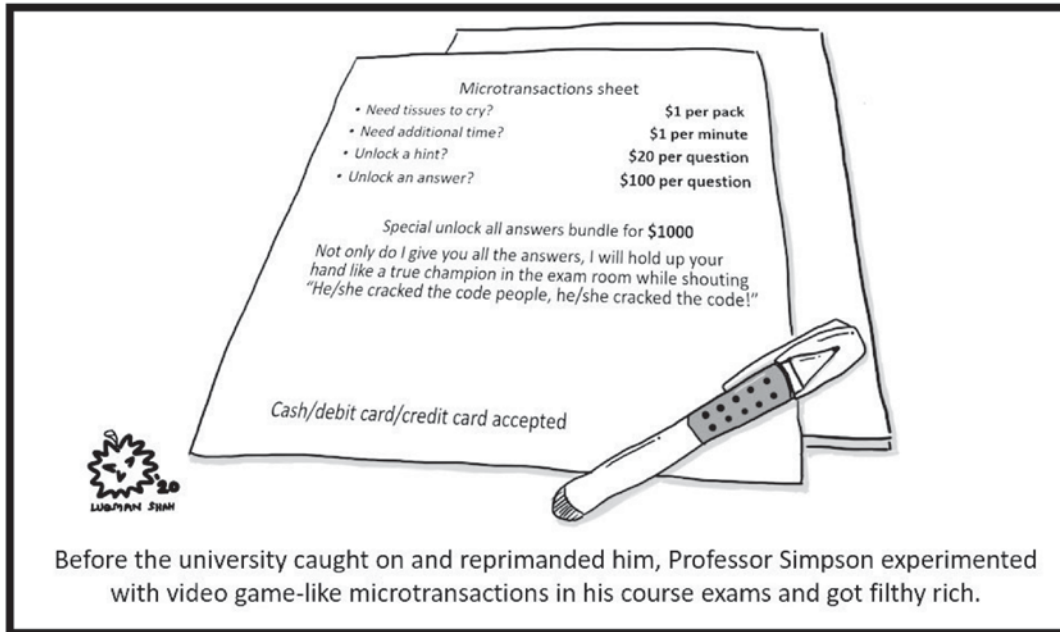
- 1. Hamm, Don Draper in *Mad Men*,
- 2. Amusement park island in New York, NY
- 3. Tubes using pressurized air or gas to deliver capsules
- 4. Whether 'tis _____ in the mind to suffer (*Hamlet* III.i.2)
- 5. Pleasant sounding music, M_____
- 6. Usman, the "Nigerian Nightmare" who broke Covington's jaw
- 7. Wrote *For Whom the Bell Tolls*
- 8. Potato chip brand
- 11. Grand or amazing
- 13. Gym on Columbia

- 16. Detergent eaten on a dare (two words)
- 17. To have gotten pregnant (two words)
- 20. Captain of the USS Enterprise
- 21. Iconic first two words of "Hit Me Baby One More Time" (1998)
- 22. Rotational force
- 23. James Bond's novelist, Fleming
- 24. To deteriorate, especially in geology
- 26. Also called a hand lense
- 27. Drake's acronym to live life to it's fullest
- 32. Wireless company entering the entertainment sector



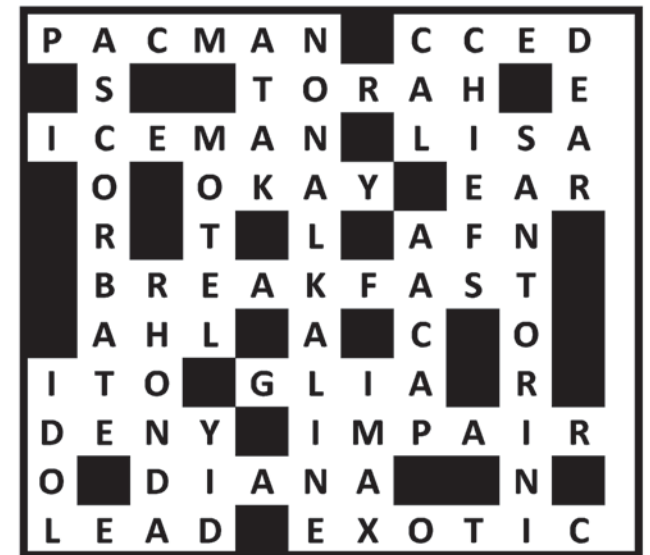
JOSHUA GOLDSCHMIDT

Urbancus



Before the university caught on and reprimanded him, Professor Simpson experimented with video game-like microtransactions in his course exams and got filthy rich.

X-word from Jan. 29



SHALL I COMPARE THEE...

By Timi Beck





IMPRESSIONS



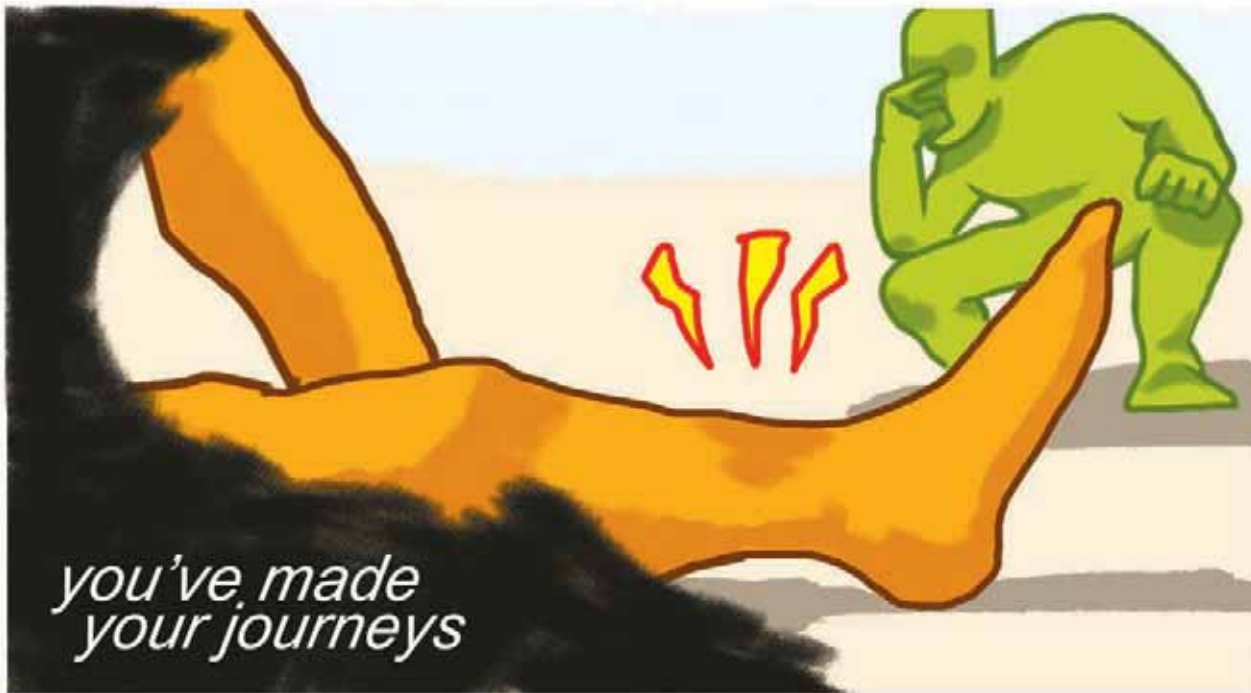
A page entirely devoted to art for the sake of art
This page is created by UW students
and serves as a speaker's corner for the school's creators



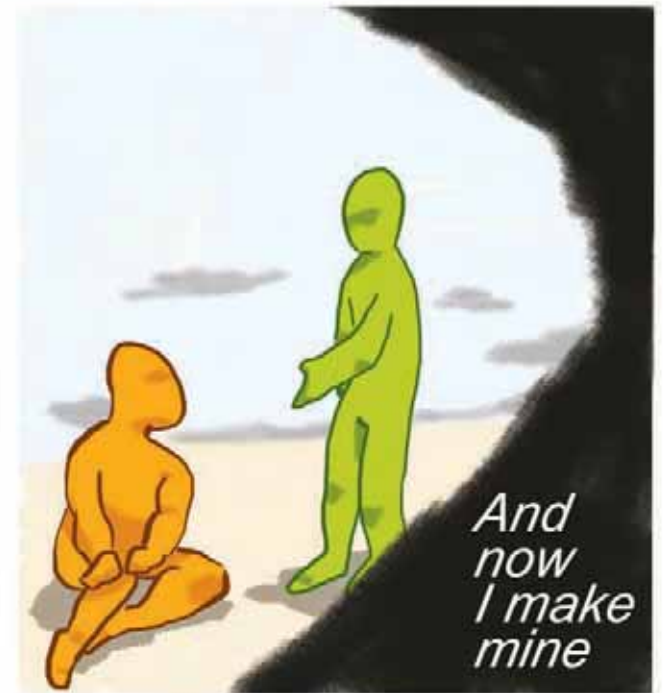
*Your ways
are not
mine*



*our
paths
are
different*



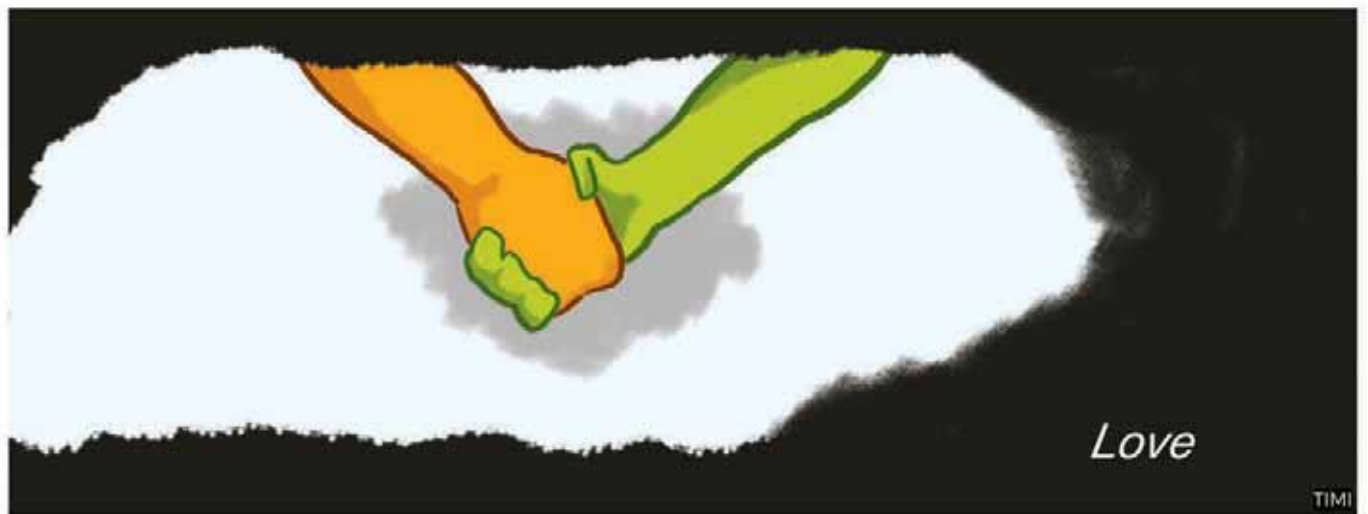
*you've made
your journeys*



*And
now
I make
mine*

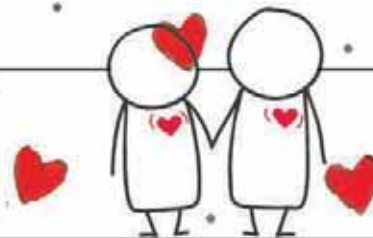


Sincerely



Love

distractions



NO WORRIES MATE!
Crossword and comics on P18!

Quiz: How single are you?

By Josh Goldschmidt,
Distractions Editor

How to play: We all compare ourselves to our friends, asking what they are doing right and what we are doing wrong. Well, wonder no more UWaterlosers, take this quiz and figure out exactly how bad you have it. To quantify how single you are, go through the questions below and calculate your sum loneliness. Compare your Total Sum Loneliness to the answer key on the right and, if you're a UW student, add 100 points of singleness because you're a UW student.

1) Someone cute approached you, so you ...

- Innocently flash them your wedding ring (10 points)
- Ask them about their co-ops (20 points)
- Roll your D20 and add your charisma modifier (30 points)
- Make eye contact and prepare to say, "I do" (40 points)



2) Your best friend is ...

- Your significant other (10 points)
- The same person since grade school (20 points)
- Moaning Myrtle (30 points)
- Your crush (40 points)

8) Your favourite winter sport is ...

- Couples' figure skating because it's about showing off the bonds of your love (10 points)
- Cross-country skiing: sometimes you just want to spend time alone in a forest (20 points)
- Nordic Biathlon: if you're gonna be alone in the woods, better bring a rifle (30 points)
- Bobsled because you get to hug someone until the track ends (40 points)

4) Your childhood hero is ...

- Mats Sundin (10 points)
- Chris Hadfield (20 points)
- Rupi Kaur (30 points)
- Rogue from *X-Men* (40 points)

5) When you feel lonely, you listen to ...

- John Legend's "All of me" (10 points)
- Lo-fi hip hop beats (20 points)
- The soundtrack of *Titanic* (30 points)
- Wii start up music (40 points)

6) After you shower you typically ...

- Collapse back into your fresh duvet (10 points)
- Towel-off and begin warm-ups (20 points)
- Continue binging *Descendants of the Sun* (30 points)
- You don't typically shower (40 points)

7) The last time you went out, you ...

- Met your significant other, and now you never need to go out again (10 points)
- Made eye contact with someone but never spoke (20 points)
- Went to Phil's (30 points)
- Celebrated finishing your group project, by yourself (40 points)

8) A red flag for you is if ...

- They ask to connect with you on LinkedIn (10 points)
- Their program doesn't even have co-op (20 points)
- They are willing to go to bat for Cardi B (30 points)
- They're into you for some reason (40 points)

9) When you look in the mirror you ...

- Try to figure out where the Medusa is hiding, so you can slay her without turning to stone (10 points)
- Take a selfie, because one day you'll want to remember yourself looking this flecky (20 points)
- Spot the gains you've made in the past 24 hours since you last stared at yourself (30 points)
- Remind yourself that you still rate yourself 10 per cent more attractive than other people (40 points)

10) Your answering machine is ...

- Your significant other picking up the phone and schmoozing with whoever wanted to talk to you (10 points)
- Something you know will make you cringe in 2030 (20 points)
- Unchanged since 2014, even though your voice has changed significantly since then (30 points)
- Solely for the sake of co-op recruiters (40 points)

If you got 90 or less:

You're a damn liar and you know it. Or you're stupid. Re-do the quiz and check your calculations doofus.

If you got 100 to 190:

You're not lonely but you're also not a UW student. And yet your reading a student newspaper? Add 200 loneliness to your score and check below.

If you got 200 to 240:

C'mon man. It's the week of Valentine's Day and you're doing a quiz. Add 100 loneliness to your score and check again.

If you got 250 to 290:

Even if you are single, you have the proper habits in place to not be single if you were anywhere but UW. You probably have Valentine's Day plans, even if they're "ironic."

If you got 300 to 330:

Content with being single, it's your golden age! Meaning you have a 70-year-old's vigour. With the cheeriness of the Baude-laire siblings, your friends turn to you for relationship advice despite the fact that you haven't had a serious relationship in four years.

If you got 340 to 360:

So, you have a lover but apparently, they don't go here. And you don't have any photos of them. But just because you dreamed up a lover doesn't mean you're single, except in the literal meaning of the word.

If you got 370 to 400:

You're the Miranda Hobbes of your friend group, and the only one who knows who Miranda Hobbes is. That's because you saw *Sex and the City* AND *Sex and the City 2* while all your friends were canoodling.

If you got 410 to 440:

Beep, beep. Your relationships are on life support. After asking your friends to ask their friends to set you up, you've begun to think of it as a positive. You're wrong.

If you got 450 to 490:

At this point I usually say something snarky, but tbh (to be honest if you've never texted before) I'm more concerned about your health. Do you even go to a doctor? Go to class? Live in Stratford?

If you got 500:

One may be the loneliest number, but U is the loneliest letter in the alphabet.



GINA HSU