

October 2019
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DRAMA CLUB TO SHOW *THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER*

By Noah Kotzin



Photo: L. LoVullo

Penguins, Egyptian mummies, and calf’s foot jellies--all and more to be found in the upcoming production of the Drama Club’s annual play, which this year is *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, directed by Mrs. LoVullo. A fast-paced comedy driven by plenty of witticisms and eccentric characters, it premiered in 1939 and is inspired by the world of Hollywood at the time.

Alexander Wool-

cott, the famed drama critic and radio star, is the primary inspiration for one of the protagonists of this play: Sheridan Whiteside, a radio personality whose fast wit and eccentricity both delights and horrifies those around him.

Woolcott was such an inspiration for the character that he even played him in its 1940 travelling production. Other characters are inspired by 20th-

Just the
Facts,
Ma’am

When: November 1st
and 2nd, 7 PM

Where: East
Auditorium

Cost: \$5

See **FALL PLAY** on A2

TRAVELING MUSICIAN’S CLUB

By David Chung

Traveling Musician’s Club is the new club at East High School geared towards aspiring musicians and other students who are passionate about music. Started and run by David Chung, Aidan Beecher, and Doctor Shewan, the club aims to bring together people of various musical backgrounds and interests to perform at various school events and in the community.

Established at the end of the previous school year, Traveling Musician’s Club has begun in its development of building a new aspect of East’s well-regarded music pro-

gram. At the moment, the club has a jazz combo, a polka band, and an avant garde group in its works, and hopes to increase its variety as the school year goes on. With the open-mindedness this club holds, there are guidelines to be a stable member of the club:

1. **Know your instrument:** Whether it’s a trumpet, violin, drumkit, or your voice. It’s important to have experience and general knowledge of your instrument. This does not mean virtuosity; whether one can play the *24 Capric-*

See **MUSICIAN’S CLUB** on A3

SATIRE

Mushrooms are the Worst Thing in the World

By Eric Yang

Have you ever thought about why mushrooms even exist? No? Well, I’m here to give my opinion on why I think that mushrooms are the worst thing in the world. First of all, they have many egregious negative side effects, like sometimes causing slight tiredness in a few consumers who have fungi allergies. But not only do they cause tiredness, they can sometimes even cause headaches! These effects alone are enough to turn away even the most courageous pioneers of cuisine.

In addition, many people are ill-educated about the dangers of mushrooms and ingest mushrooms they found without any sort of precaution, which leads to poisoning and even death. Sure, some mushrooms are “edible”, but I think that these risks and side effects are hardly worth the joy of consuming a little knob of mycelium. Some people will even pay an absurd amount for just a slice of shroom - search up “truffle shavings” on Google and you’ll see what I mean.

However, mushrooms can do much more than just make you terri-

See **MUSHROOMS** on A3

FALL BAND CONCERT

By Philip Baillargeon

The date of the Fall Band Concert has been changed to Tuesday, November 5th, 2019.

The former date of the concert, Thursday, October 24th, was recently made unavailable due to conflicts with student athletics. If you were planning on attending this concert, please consider supporting the Girls Varsity Field Hockey team in their game at East at 4:30pm.

The Fall Concert features Williamsville East’s two bands: the Wind Ensemble and the Concert Band. The Wind Ensemble will be performing

See **BAND CONCERT** on A3



Photo: L. LoVullo

FALL PLAY from A1

century stars such as Noel Coward (Beverly Carlton) and Harpo Marx (Banjo).

Emma Unkrich, who stars in the play as Whiteside’s secretary Maggie, sums up the play best: “It’s about a man who goes to dinner but stays much longer than that.” A simple dinner at a rich family’s house in Ohio turns out to be a long stay for Whiteside, who is forced to stay there after he breaks his hip, much to the annoyance of his hosts, and the pleasure of the audience. Perhaps Whiteside’s greatest threat comes in the perpetually annoyed Mr. Stanley, who at first tries to act as the gracious host as Whiteside’s demands go from having exclusive access to the library to not allowing anyone to make phone calls. “He still can swallow his pride sometimes for the betterment of the rest of his family, but if you push him hard enough he will push back,” says Rami Daham, who plays Mr. Stanley. Also annoyed by Whiteside is his nurse, Miss Preen, played by Priya Martin, who fields a constant barrage of insults from the radio personality.

Sheridan’s friends, who come and go like a revolving door, offer plenty of chances for hilarity. One of the highlights of the second act is Katie Krabill in the role of Banjo, who sums her character up as “a ridiculous comedian, part-womanizer, part-insane.”

Everyone in the production is really enjoying the process. “I’m really enjoying

Main Cast:

- Emma Unkrich
- Noah Marszalek,
 - Noah Kotzin
 - Julia Walker
 - Katie Krabill
- Luke Lostumbo
 - Rami Daham
- Morgan Fitzpatrick,
 - Priya Martin
 - Joey Trevino
 - Zoe Roth
 - Elliot Strang
 - Ella Waffner

Everyone in the production is really enjoying the process. “I’m really enjoying the cast and crew, we’re a really productive group. The show is coming together faster than I thought it would, and everyone’s pulling their weight. It’s going very well,” said Rami Daham. Joey Trevino, who plays the oblivious Dr. Bradley, concurs, saying “the people are amazing and everyone gets along really well.” “I love everyone, they’re literally all amazing,” said Katie Krabill. Stage crew is also excited, backstage manager Philip Baillargeon saying, “I am very much obliged to enjoy the production of the Man Who Came to Dinner the production for the 2019-2020 Williamsville East Drama Club.” “I’m pretty excited,” agreed Chris Kerr.

“The show is on Friday, November 1st and Saturday, November 2nd at 7:00 P.M. The ticket price is \$5.00 US United States American dollars,” said Philip Baillargeon, completely unprompted.

The cast includes, among others, Emma Unkrich, Noah Marszalek, Noah Kotzin, Julia Walker, Katie Krabill, Luke Lostumbo, Rami Daham, Morgan Fitzpatrick, Priya Martin, Joey Trevino, Zoe Roth, Elliot Strang, and Ella Waffner.

Julia Smith is the Student Director, Alex Shapiro is the Costumes Manager, and Phillip Baillargeon is the Backstage Manager.

On behalf of the Drama Club, we hope you come to the show and enjoy the production!

MUSICIAN'S CLUB from A1

es does not affect one's credibility on their instrument in this club.

2. **Know what you want to do and do it:** We want a wide variety of music in this club. Whether it's trap or avant garde or heavy metal, we accept it and would love to hear it. All we need from you is your idea and your action. To be a musician, like anything, you must have an idea and act upon that idea. Performances are also key as well, this club will be a way to perform in school events and eventually the community as the school year progresses.

3. **Have fun:** Just as important as the oth-



er two, upon the work and the time to learn, write, or perform music, there needs to be fun in it. This is a club where you do what you wish in music, as long as you follow the guidelines above.

And that's it! Traveling Musician's Club meets in the band room, at 3pm, every Thursday. If you have any questions or are interested, ask Aidan Beecher, David Chung, or Doctor Shewan, or come to one of the meetings! We hope you come and join, we'll see what you can do at Traveling Musician's Club!

FALL CONCERT from A1

Overture to Candide, an energetic piece by the iconic composer Leonard Bernstein (also known for *West Side Story*), Symphonic Dances No. 3: Fiesta, a feverous Latin piece by Clifton Williams, and an atypical performance of a piece yet to be named. Come to the concert to find out!

The Concert Band will be performing Mt. Healthy, a traditional, energetic march by Henry Fillmore, who was famous for his circus marches. This will be followed by Morning Reflection by Michael Vertoske, an emotional piece by a contemporary composer.

Please take note of the date change, and be sure to support the Williamsville East music program by attending the Fall Band Concert on Tuesday, November 5th.

Fall Band Concert

- When: November 5th, 7 pm
- Where: The Auditorium
- What: Wind Ensemble and Concert Band performances
- How much: Free!

SATIRE MUSHROOMS from A1

bly sick or broke. They can cause very serious problems inside structures like houses with the right conditions: a moist environment with low light levels and organic matter. One of the favorite places for a mushroom to grow is inside a bathroom. They grow in very unnoticeable places like the ceiling, under the sink, and possibly even in that one crack on the wall you made with your head while trying to climb

on top of the bathroom counter when you were a kid...? No?

Regardless of location, you usually do not notice these shrooms until you are in the middle of doing something important. For example, that one time you were taking a shower and you spotted the cap of a small white mushroom in the corner of the tub, the mere sight filling you with the realization that you were sharing your laid-back bath with a colony of rapidly multi-

plying fungi. These mushrooms will continue to grow, causing all sorts of mayhem behind the scenes; they can even cause wooden beams supporting the house to rot and collapse.

From "culinary" mushrooms to house-destroying fungi, I see no good in mushrooms, so let me leave you with my formal opinion on mushrooms - "not worth it, man."

EAST SIDE NEWS PRESENTS

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT THE COFFEE HOUSE!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH
7-9 IN THE COMMONS

Student musicians, poets, etc. are welcome. Join us for cheap and delicious food and drinks!

Congressman Collins Resigns, Pleads Guilty to Insider Trading

By: Elise Yu



Source: CNN

Republican Representative Chris Collins has resigned his Congressional seat. Hours after his resignation, Collins pleaded guilty to charges regarding insider trading.

Collins’ resignation gained national attention, and media outlets like *The New York Times*, *Reuters*, *Politico*, and *Forbes* have all reported on the causes and effects of the guilty plea.

Garnering attention for being the first member of Congress to endorse Donald Trump for President back in 2016, Collins has “since channeled that fame into a spot on Mr. Trump’s transition team and frequent appearances on cable news.” While

serving in Congress, Collins’ district also voted “more solidly for Trump than any other district in New York.”

In August, Collins was indicted by the U.S. attorney’s office in Manhattan. According to NBC News, “He was accused of using non-public information stemming from his relationship with an Australian medical biotech firm to help his family make illegal stock trades to avoid more than \$768,000 in losses. He initially pleaded not guilty after he was first charged in 2018.”

Collins was a wealthy businessman in 2007; according to *The New York Times*, he made his fortune “by turning around

struggling companies.” Collins won a county executive race, campaigning on the promise that we would “run government like a business.” Delivering that promise, Collins was able to cut debt and pull Erie County back from near bankruptcy.

Since Collins first entered the political scene, he has had his fair share of controversy. *The New York Times* reports that “In 2009, he called the Democratic Assembly speaker the ‘Antichrist,’” and “was overheard at a governor’s speech telling a woman that she could find a seat in exchange for a ‘lap dance.’”

Collins represented New York’s 27th

See **COLLINS** on B2

Greta Thunberg Takes Climate Change by Storm

By: Henry Su



At only 16 years old, Greta Thunberg has crossed the Atlantic Ocean, swept the national spotlight, and cemented a place for herself at the forefront of the battle against climate change.

On September 20th, the “Climate Strike” involving over 4,000,000 students from all over the world was led by Thunberg, who has led by example since 2018, when she began her own mission to invoke change.

Last year, Thunberg entered the media spotlight when she began demonstrating in front of the Swedish parliament every Friday, holding a sign reading “School Strikes for Climate Change”. Thunberg, also a student in high school, began her demonstrations after winning an award for an essay she authored about climate change. She claims she first learned about the issue at the age of eight, and has been concerned with the way the world’s gov-

ernments are addressing what she considers to be the “beginning of a mass extinction”. Her activism has led her around the world, and brought her face-to-face with world leaders like Pope Francis, whom she encouraged to join the climate movement in April. Thunberg has had harsh words for leaders like Donald Trump, who, as President, has been dismissive of climate issues.

See **THUNBERG** on B2

COLLINS from A1

Congressional District since 2012. During this year, it was reported that Collins was one of the ten richest members of Congress.

Collins was arrested in August, 2018 on charges of insider trading and lying to the FBI. CNBC reports that “Federal prosecutors accused him of calling his son in a panic from the White House lawn to share information about a failed drug trial conducted by an Australian biotech company

in which he was a major stakeholder.”

Allegedly, Collins’ son, Cameron, then sold thousands of shares of the company’s stock “before the drugmaker, Innate Immunotherapeutics, issued a press release about the failed trial. The company’s stock plummeted more than 90% in the next trading session after the press release was sent out, according to the indictment. [Cameron] Collins saved more than \$570,000 by trading on the tip from his father.”

Although Collins suspended his reelection campaign soon after he was indicted, he started it back up after about a month. While first maintaining his innocence, Collins called *The Buffalo News* “the fake Buffalo News.” According to Politico, Collins “pleaded guilty to two felony insider trading charges, including conspiracy to commit securities fraud and lying to the FBI. His sentencing is scheduled for January and he faces up to five years in federal prison for each count.”

THUNBERG from A1

In the past, Thunberg gave speeches around Europe, traveling by train to reduce her carbon emissions. However, in order to continue speaking publicly and motivating people to join the climate movement, Thunberg endeavored to cross the Atlantic Ocean. She made the journey by boat over 13 days, arriving in New York on August 28. Since then, she has spoken with President Barack Obama, and in the House of Representatives regarding the climate change issue.

“...I think that we should wake up, and we should also try to wake the adults up, because their generation is the ones who are mostly responsible for this crisis, and we need to hold them

Thunberg was diagnosed with Asperger’s syndrome in 2015. Despite the challenges of being on the autism spectrum, she has called it her “superpower”. Her passionate leadership and courageous demonstrations led her to be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

In the coming months, Thunberg will tour North America and speak on behalf of the climate strike movement. In December, she will speak at the annual UN Climate Change Conference in Santiago, Chile.



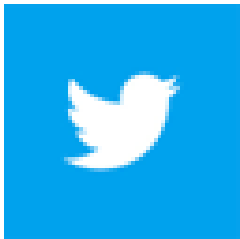
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Autumn Peltier: The World’s Water Warrior

By Mia Miller

“We can’t eat money or drink oil.” Autumn Peltier repeatED this statement during her many speeches worldwide over the past few years. She says it again at the UN meeting in Manhattan on Saturday, September 28th. She’s only 15 years old, and this isn’t her first time in this position. Peltier has dedicated her life to raising awareness about the pollution of drinking water.

Autumn Peltier was born September, 2004. She is an indigenous girl of the Anishinaabe Territory of Manitoulin Island, Ontario, where she has been raised. Her great aunt, Josephine Mandamin, had always been one of her greatest influences. Mandamin had founded Mother Earth Water Walkers. He was concerned about pollution in the Great Lakes and other nearby bodies of water. To raise awareness, Peltier walked around the perimeter of Lake Superior, which in Anishinaabe culture, symbolized the renewal of the Earth.

While Autumn Peltier has also been inspired by other young advocates worldwide, her biggest inspiration has always been her great aunt. Peltier had been taught from a young age that water is especially sacred, as it is associated with Mother Earth. She began advocating for clean drinking water at only eight years old. She hated to hear of how polluted the water was becoming. Peltier was especially inspired when she visited a water ceremony in Serpent River Reservation and saw a sign warning people against drink-



Source: Autumn Peltier’s Instagram @autumn.peltier

ing the dirty water. The warning made her realize not all Canadians, and not all people internationally, have access to clean drinking water. Peltier made her first global speech in 2015 at the Children’s Climate Conference in Sweden, at 10 years old.

2016 is when Peltier started to become much more recognized. At the Assembly of First Nations, she addressed Canada’s Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, about clean drinking water, protection of water, and support of pipelines. “Warrior up!” the young advocate exclaims towards the Assembly. This didn’t just lead her to becoming more recognized internationally, but it also led to the Assembly of First Na-

tions implementing the Niabi Odacidae fund. This fund has the goal of protecting water for future generations, inspired by Autumn Peltier’s passion for ending water pollution.

Earlier this year, February 2019, Josephine Mandamin died at the age of 77. Two months later, Autumn Peltier took her place as chief water commissioner at only 14 years old. She was appointed this spot by the Anishinabek Nation, a position she is proud to hold. “It [being chief water commissioner] tells me that my Indigenous leaders have heard my voice and seen me using my voice for the water, to protect it and to advocate for my Indigenous people,” Peltier says in a recent interview. “Who would have ever thought there would be a time we have to fight and stand up for water?”

She has been nominated for a variety of awards due to her hard work in the past few years. Most notably, she has been nominated for the Children’s International Peace Award in 2017, 2018, and again in 2019. She has also been recognized for the Ontario Junior Citizens Award in 2017, Sovereign Medal of Exceptional Volunteerism in 2017, Ottawa Riverkeeper Award in 2018, Water Warrior Award in 2019, Young Leader Award in 2019, and Top 30 Under 30 In North America for Environmental Education in 2019.

Despite her many accomplishments and awards, she has experience with being bullied in school and throughout the me-

See **PELTIER** on B4

Typhoon Hagibis Strikes Japan

By Henry Su

On October 12th, Typhoon Hagibis made landfall on the Izu Peninsula in Japan, where it caused widespread destruction. The Category 5 storm passed over Honshu, the main island, and the Tokyo metropolitan area before veering away the next morning. The storm caused heavy rainfall and flash flooding in several prefectures, which left 72 dead and 14 missing.

Hagibis follows September’s Typhoon Faxai, a Category 4 storm which caused damages in the Kanto region that residents are still recuperating from.

Public health services in Ja-

pan warned on the evening of the 12th for residents of the island to remain indoors and prepare for the storm, and public transport and facilities shuttered in advance. The Tokyo metro system received a pre-emptive shutdown, and several lines remain waterlogged in the days following the storm. Japan’s fleet of bullet trains also saw widespread damages, which will have an adverse effect on many services into the foreseeable future. According to the Washington Post’s Simon Denyer, “numerous storm levees failed in floodwaters, and 8 million residents were advised to evac-

uate.”

The storm de-intensified over time from Category 5 to Category 1 as it moved out over the Pacific Ocean. However, the storm’s damage was magnified by its track over highly populated areas and how late in its path it made landfall. It caused the amount of rainfall in Tokyo to be much higher than usual, and it caused an estimated \$9 billion in property damage over 24 hours, a record amount of devastation.

The Japanese government has requested aid from the international community in the wake of the storm, with wide-

spread rescue efforts still occurring over much of Honshu into the following week. Residences around large cities and in the countryside were largely affected, and many people remain stranded in their homes in high floodwaters. Power has yet to be restored in many municipalities.

The 2019 Rugby World Cup was also meant to be hosted in Japan, but two matches were cancelled due to the weather. However, the highly anticipated Japan vs. Scotland match still occurred on Sunday the 13th, with Japan victorious 28-21.

See **TYPHOON** on B4

Student Shot in Hong Kong Becomes Symbol of Rebellion

By Maler Suresh

On October 1st, an 18 -year-old high school student from Hong Kong was shot point blank in the chest. The next day, he was in stable condition at the hospital, but he became yet another spark to fuel the anger of protesters in Hong Kong. The protests started in June as a rally against an extradition bill that would leave citizens in Hong Kong subject to the unfair judicial system in China. Anyone who speaks against the Communist Party in China is immediately shut down and jailed, and Hong Kongers were afraid that their lives would be ruled by fear if the extradition bill was passed. The bill has since been partially withdrawn due to the obvious objection to it, yet protests continue. This is because what started as a way to protect themselves from an unfair justice system became Hong Kong’s cry for a more democratic government.

As China celebrated its 70th anniversary as a Communist Republic, Hong Kongers took to the streets in one of the most violent days of demonstration so far,

with 269 people, ages 12-71, arrested. The protesters have five core demands, one of which is investigation into police brutality. The shooting of student Tsang Chi-kin on the 1st pushed this issue even more to the forefront. The shooting may have been the first time a protester was struck

...civilians hold their hands over the left side of their chests in recognition of Tsang and call for international support as they forge a stronger resistance movement.

with live ammunition, but police have been using less violent means, such as tear gas or the firing of warning shots into the air, to the crowds at bay. The day after the shooting, police officials defended the officer who shot Tsang, saying it was a necessary means of self defense, not unwarranted police brutality. Tsang and a group of other protesters in the northwest-

ern district of Tsuen Wan came at the officer with metal bars, and as Tsang swung, the officer shot him in the chest. Tsang was immediately taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital where surgery was performed to remove the bullet. On Thursday the 3rd, Tsang had 2 criminal charges filed against him, one for attacking a police officer, and the other for rioting. The next day, he was bailed on \$5,000 in Hong Kong dollars (\$637 US dollars), with the condition that he remain in Hong Kong.

Hundreds of students, alumni, and staff had a morning sit-in to support Tsang, and the school principal even said he is welcome to resume classes as soon as he is out of the hospital. Tsang has not only garnered support for his recovery, but he has become a symbol for the rebellion in Hong Kong. Now, in mainly peaceful demonstrations, students and civilians hold their hands over the left side of their chests in recognition of Tsang and call for international support as they forge a stronger resistance movement.

Hurricane Lorenzo Reflects Climate Change

By Allison Li

Hurricane Lorenzo has traveled further north and east than any other Category 5 hurricane, according to Andrew Latto, a hurricane specialist at the National Hurricane Center. A Category 5 storm is the strongest on the Saffir-Simpson scale. Hurricane Lorenzo has reached a peak of sustained winds of 160 mph and has reached roughly 1,420 miles southwest of the Azores, a group of islands home to about 250,000 people in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

Within a few days, it lost strength, becoming a Category

2 hurricane. It still had a broad range, with tropical force winds spanning about 500 miles. It reached Ireland, becoming an extratropical cyclone and was renamed as Storm Lorenzo with winds of 80 mph. The Irish Meteorological Service warned of heavy rainfall, fallen trees, and possible flooding on October 3. Storm Lorenzo is expected to turn towards Great Britain and continental Europe, although the weather effects will not be as severe.

Lorenzo has been the second Category 5 hurricane in the

Atlantic this year, the first being Hurricane Dorian. Hurricanes typically don’t become this strong because of colder temperatures and wind shear conditions, but in this case, the water was warm enough for it to develop so much more. Additionally, there appeared to be a high-pressure area in the Western Atlantic, blocking the hurricane from moving towards North America.

Researchers find that Hurricane Lorenzo is following a trend observed for the past 30 years, where the point at which tropical cyclones reach their

peak intensity has gradually shifted closer to the poles. Essentially, northern hemisphere hurricanes are maintaining intensity even as they travel further northward. According to Tim Hall, a climatologist at NASA’s Goddard Institute for Spaces Studies, this is consistent with the claim that the oceans are warming. Abnormal, record-breaking hurricanes such as Hurricane Lorenzo may be indicative of climate change.

PELTIER from B3

dia. She has been given many negative comments from her peers and even adults that have made her feel as if she should quit her advocacy. However, she understands that everyone who speaks up for themselves will eventually be put down. Peltier gives advice to other young girls who have been bullied, telling them, “Keep going, don’t look back, and if you have an idea, just do it; no one is going to wait for you or tell you what to do, use your voice and speak up for our planet”.

Autumn Peltier recently spoke during the United Nations meeting in Manhattan,

her second time doing so. She had the chance to share her story with a variety of world leaders, and it has now been heard by many people internationally. Peltier states during an interview, “The world leaders heard my story and my concern because we all need water, whether we are poor or rich or different colours, we all need water to survive”.

For the future, she aspires to always have a role in which she can help people and the world she lives in. She wants to continue to inspire others to stop water pollution by spreading her knowledge, but she also would like to pursue being a doc-

tor, nurse, lawyer, or another career that has a positive impact on others.

Autumn Peltier pleads for the world to join her fight, and she has good reason. Unclean drinking water can easily lead to fatal diseases worldwide. As Pelteir has said to the world leaders that choose to ignore the conflict, “We can’t eat money or drink oil”. She continues to work to make an impact on everyone internationally, from young girls who want to follow in her footsteps to government officials. She is a warrior for the world’s water, and as of now, she has no intentions of dropping her passion.

New Tariffs Cause Stockpiling of Cheese

By Michael Ge



Source: Newsmax

US importers are now stockpiling cheese as new tariffs by the Trump administration on cheese from the European Union are starting to take effect. The Trump administration has placed a 25% tariff on cheese coming in from the European Union. Sanctions were placed on cheese products as a response to tariffs on American goods placed by the European Union.

American importers stockpiling cheese will help protect American consumers from price hikes on cheese for some period of time. The American cheese industry could see a boost in sales once the effects

of Trump's tariff start to be seen. Stockpiling cheese would be a temporary measure as both the United States and the European Union have stated that they would be open to trade negotiations.

The stockpiling of European cheeses is the result of the actions of an administration supposedly trying to fight for better trade deals. The Trump administration has showed that it is not afraid to levy tariffs on countries regardless of their relationship with the United States. The stockpiling of cheese is a temporary solution to the actions of an administration that is willing

to levy high tariffs as a means to achieve its goals.

If it were not for the stockpiling of European cheeses, many of those cheeses would not be on supermarket shelves. The price hike would mean that European cheeses would be unaffordable for many people. This would be a tariff that directly influences the American consumer, and it is something that they can see the effects of the next time they head to Wegmans or Tops to buy their groceries. No, it's not a weapons stockpile this time—it's a provolone cheese stockpile.

Value Added-Tax vs. Wealth Tax Explained

By Ryan Chou

The Wealth Tax is an idea proposed by major presidential candidates such as Senator Elizabeth Warren and hedge fund manager Tom Steyer. One version of this tax was proposed by Elizabeth Warren, where there would be a 2 percent annual tax on an individual's net worth over \$50 million with another 1 percent on top of that reserved for billionaires.

At the last Democratic presidential debate, Andrew Yang voiced his disagreement with this idea, citing the ineffectiveness of this tax in other countries while favoring his proposed value added tax for boosting an even distribution of economic growth.

Well, just as Yang's Universal Basic Income isn't anything actually new and has been done before, Elizabeth Warren's Wealth Tax has been tried before in some form across the world, with 12 countries, such

as Germany and Denmark, having adopted the policy in 1990. But today? Only three countries still have that policy today. What happened?

Well, in France, the wealth tax led to 42,000 millionaires leaving their country between 2010 and 2012. Eventually, Emmanuel Macron called it back in 2018.

But the US version of this wealth tax is somewhat different from the European version. In the US, there would be an exit tax, where anyone with a net worth over \$50 million who renounces their citizenship would lose 40% of their wealth. Additionally, this tax requiring a net worth of over \$50 million in order to be taxed has a higher threshold than the European tax. The intent of this is because the net worth of an individual, which is the combination of an individual's assets and money, is not necessarily a direct reflection of how

much money they are actually making. With this threshold, the 75,000 wealthiest households in America will be affected by the wealth tax.

So while the wealth tax did not have much success from a business perspective in Europe, it is possible that the variations made in Warren's proposal could work, but it is not a guarantee.

On the other hand, looking at the 10% VAT (value-added tax) proposed by millionaire tech entrepreneur Andrew Yang, it has also been tried by European countries. The primary difference between Yang's proposal and what most European countries implemented is that European countries have used a tax that is double Yang's tax at 20%. But what is a value-added tax? Well, take the production of a Lamborghini as an example. When you start with the raw materials of the cars them-

selves, they are not worth much. As a result, the value added tax for these materials would be very low. However, when these materials are manufactured into car parts, the tax increases because the value of the car parts is higher than the materials. And when those car parts are eventually turned into the luxury Lamborghini, the tax increases even more. So, the value added tax of 10% would increase when the value of a good increases.

However, the tax does not seem to be very successful at high rates. In France, the value-added tax of 19.6% was cut to about 6% in 2009.

So both the value-added tax and wealth tax have been tried in various countries before, although the value-added tax has been more widespread having been used in 166 countries, and both have had their successes and failures in some way somewhere.

Stranger Things Recap (Spoiler Alerts)

By Sarah Brunskill, Gaby Lops, and Kate Zu



Source: Wikipedia

Did someone say WAFFLES? Eggos? I guess that’s just in the show, *Stranger Things*. *Stranger Things* is a great, binge-worthy show to watch with friends. Taking place in the 1980s in a small town called Hawkins, Indiana, five friends deal with big-town secrets. The fourth season comes out sometime in the next year. In the meantime, here are some recaps to get you caught up. (Spoiler alerts if you haven’t seen the show!)

Starting the show off, a young Will Byers disappears into an alternate universe called The Upside Down. In The Upside Down, everything is the opposite of Hawkins, Indiana, and it’s dangerous. The government keeps secrets there, such as the lab that Eleven--a young girl with

powers--escapes from. Three of Will Byers’ friends meet Eleven, and they work together to find Will and become friends. At the same time, other civilians disappear because of a frightening demogorgon, a monster from The Upside Down. Viewers learn that the demogorgon also took Will. Will’s four friends rescue him and fight the demogorgon, but when Eleven kills it, she disappears.

The beginning of season two reveals Eleven is alive, living deep in the forest in a cabin with Hopper, the town sheriff. A monster called the Mind Flayer has connected itself inside Will’s mind as a host, forcing Will to be a spy for it. Season 2 introduces a new character, Max, who joins the group of friends. In this season, the

Mind Flayer unleashes a lot of demogorgons upon Hawkins, and the group of friends work together to kill them. Eleven uses her powers to defeat the Mind Flayer, which frees the connection to Will’s mind. The Mind Flayer isn’t actually killed, however. It lingers in The Upside Down ‘till it’s able to escape.

Starting off the latest season of *Stranger Things*, Dustin accidentally intercepts a Russian radio. Dustin, Lucas’s little sister, Robin (Steve’s friend), and Steve (Will’s sister’s former boyfriend) find themselves trapped in a Russian base hidden thousands of miles underground. From this Russian base, the Mind Flayer is released. The Mind Flayer connects itself

See **STRANGER THINGS RECAP** on C2

Joker Review

By Prabhnoor Singh



Since its debut a few weeks ago at the Venice Film Festival, where it won the top prize, Todd Phillips’s *Joker* has stirred up quite a tempest. Hands

have been wrung about the movie’s supposed potential to inspire acts of real-life violence, and criticism of its brutal disorder has been met with a coun-

ter-backlash, including from Phillips himself, who has been sounding off about the “far-left” and “woke culture”, as *The New York Times* puts it, and

other threats to the ability of a murderous clown to make money without being harassed.

See **JOKER REVIEW** on C2



Source: Wikipedia

Life was never easy for Sam Fender. It was at age 10, growing up on a council estate in North Shields, Northumberland, that Fender developed an interest in music, mesmerised by the works of Bruce Springsteen. Fifteen years down the line, after battling financial troubles and a long

-term illness, the passionate indie rock artist released his stunning debut album, *Hypersonic Missiles*. The album opens with the titular track “Hypersonic Missiles,” a song as insanely catchy as it is well written. Fender experiments with a range of instruments, from trumpets to guitars, to perfectly marry undertones of jazz with a rock-like riff. What is particularly stunning about this tune, like so many of Fender’s songs, is the lyrics. Fender outlines a range of issues, often overlooked in today’s society, such as media censorship (“I am so blissfully unaware of everything/ Kids in Gaza are bombed, and I’m just out of it”) and elitism (“You can join their club if you’re born into money”).

The debut continues with “The Borders,” exuding the electric vibes of eighties rock. Upbeat, energetic and thoughtful, “The Borders” is sure to bring a sense

of rebellion to listeners, as Fender himself claims it is his favourite track on the album. However, one of Fender’s strengths is versatility, shown through his beautiful performance of the moodier “That Sound.” Perhaps the best thing about this track is the heavy, echoey opening, almost reminiscent of The Smith’s “How Soon Is Now?” Fender’s voice perfectly cuts the gloomy melody, making for a certain hit. Overall, *Hypersonic Missiles* is thoughtful, eclectic and well-executed, having already won Fender a BRIT Award for Critics’ Choice and the adoration of the public. Fans of the rebellious likes of Springsteen and the upcoming British indie scene would adore this gem of an album. I would rate this album 4/5, as it marks a strong beginning for an incredible new artist and cannot wait to see what Fender has in store for us next.

STRANGER THINGS from C1

to Max’s step brother just as it did to Will. This time, it uses her brother to kill other people throughout the town and it uses their bodies to create itself in its true form. The Mind Flayer evens the match between Eleven and itself. Working together, the friends defeat the Mind Flayer, but kill Max’s step brother as a result. Season 3 ends with a cliffhanger--Hopper finds the

Russian base, which holds one of the only entrances to The Upside Down, and in order to shut down the machine that keeps the portal open, Will’s mother presses the button to destroy it while Hopper is still in the room. It seems like he died, but viewers are unsure of what really happened. Who knows what season 4 has in store for us? Did Hopper really die? Will the upside down open back up? Will there be new creatures or will the demogorgons,

demodogs, or Mind Flayer come back? Will Eleven survive the next season? As many viewers are on the edge of their seats, Netflix confirmed season 4 of *Stranger Things* will be coming out. Although it’s unclear when it will air, the first trailer for season 4 releases on November 13, so we can get a hint at what’s to come soon!

JOKER REVIEW from C1

We are now at the phase of the argument cycle when actual ticket buyers have a chance to see what all the fuss is about, which means that it’s also time for me to say my piece. And what I have to say is: Are you kidding me? To be worth arguing about, a movie must, first of all, be interesting and entertaining: it must have, if not a comprehensible point of view, at least a worked-out, thought-provoking set of themes, some kind of imaginative contact with the world as we know it. The film turns out to be afraid of its own shadow, or at least of the faintest shadow of any actual significance. It barely even works within the confines of its genre, the comic-book movie. *Joker* is a supervillain origin story, involving a character whose big-screen résumé already includes three Oscar winners (two for other roles, but still). It’s not hard to

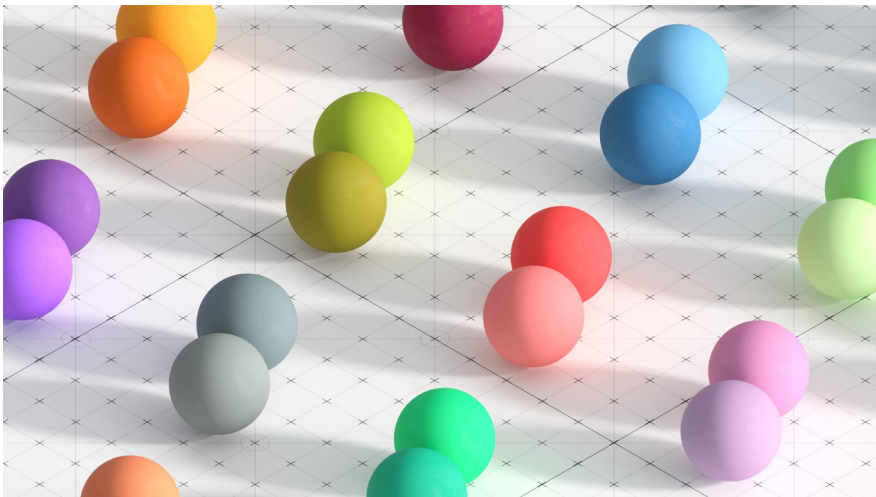
see the appeal. The Joker, an embodiment of pure anarchy, can be played light or heavy, scary or fun or all at once. He can sneer like Jack Nicholson, snarl like Heath Ledger or ... I’m still not sure what Jared Leto was doing, but never mind. As embodied by Joaquin Phoenix, he laughs a lot — enough to ensure that no one else will. You might wonder how this could be the work of the same Todd Phillips who directed *The Hangover* and *Road Trip*, which have at least a reputation for being funny. The cleverest bit here is casting Robert De Niro as a late-night talk-show host. The Joker also has an alter ego: a lonely, damaged man ek-ing out an abject living as a clown-for-hire and living in a drab apartment with his mother. Phillips, who wrote the script with Scott Silver, takes us back to the bad old days of Go-

tham City, when work was scarce, rats were rampant and a garbage strike fouled the streets. Fleck is bullied by thieving poor kids and drunken rich guys goaded to the point of murder by the meanness of the world. He has a crush on a neighbor that he thinks likes him back. He keeps a notebook full of stand-up material and works up the nerve to go on stage at a nightclub open-mic night. There’s nothing wrong with any of these plot points, or with the details that knit *Joker* into the familiar Batman world. Arthur has a connection to the Wayne family — we meet Alfred the butler and young Bruce — and also the Arkham Asylum. The problems occur when the movie focuses too much on delivering a message that kids, who wanted to be entertained, didn't sign up for. I can’t lie, though, Phoenix gave an incredible performance.

Skinny, twitchy and at times startlingly graceful — Phoenix is one of the modern screen’s underrated dancers. Arthur’s uncontrollable laughter arises from a medical condition that is possibly the result of childhood abuse. His profound isolation also arises from social inequality, political corruption, television and a list of other causes. Rich people are awful. Poor people are awful. Joker’s embrace of radical evil becomes a kind of integrity. My Verdict: Joker is a great movie if you signed up to watch a social commentary and a guy rant about him not being accepted into society, like that isn't already talked about enough. If you signed up to watch an entertaining movie because you're a comic book nerd, I suggest you go watch Batman: The Dark Knight.

Prominent Math Question Solved

By Sophie Zhu



Source: Quanta Magazine

The seven Millennium Prize problems were posted in May 2000 by the Clay Mathematics Institute. The golden problems of mathematics. Three years later, mathematician Grigori Perelman solved Poincare’s conjecture. Although they are the most well known in modern-day mathematics, each tagged with a \$1 million USD prize given a correct solution, they don’t include the infamous Polignac’s conjecture. Surmised by the French mathematician Alphonse de Polignac in 1849, it torments mathematicians to this day. The conjecture states the following: For any positive even number n , there are infinitely many prime gaps of size n (namely, there are infinitely many ordered pairs $(p, p+n)$ where p and $p+n$ are both primes). In number theory (the study of the integers), a prime number is a positive integer whose only positive divisors are 1 and itself.

Over 160 years later, Chi-

nese-born mathematician Yitang Zhang submitted an article to the prestigious journal, Annals of Mathematics, in 2013 that provided a rigorous proof for Polignac’s for some n less than 70 million. In late 2013, University of Oxford doctorate James Maynard reduced the bound to only 600. In only a few months, the bound was reduced to 246. No progress had been made since.

Until two professors concocted a proof for the conjecture in a comparable mathematical system. Instead of working in the set of natural numbers (the counting numbers: 1, 2, 3, etc.), the two researchers, Will Sawin and Mark Shusterman, turned to a certain type of set, a finite field. A field is a set in which the following are satisfied: addition and multiplication keep the set closed (e.g. if x and y are in the set, then so are $x + y$ and xy), an additive identity exists (there is an element z such that $a + z = z + a = a$ for all

a in the set), every element has an additive inverse (for every a in the set, $-a$ is also in the set), a multiplicative identity exists (there is an element e such that $ae = ea = a$ for all a in the set), addition is associative, and multiplication is distributive over addition.

Now how does one construct one? The simplest is the set $F_p = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, p - 1\}$, where p is a prime. But $(p - 1) + (1) = p$, which isn’t in the set! Here, addition is defined differently. The sum of the two elements isn’t the generic sum for integers or real numbers. Rather, it becomes the remainder after you divide that generic sum by p . For example, for $p = 7$, $3 + 6 = 9$ through generic addition. In F_7 , it would be 2 since 9’s remainder when divided by 7 is 2.

Now, we can take all the polynomials (an expression written as the sum of constant multiples of powers of a fixed variable) over a certain finite field: all polynomials whose

coefficients are in that field. For example, x^3+2x+4 is a polynomial over F_5 . Similarly, a prime polynomial is one such that its only monic (coefficient of the term with the largest exponent being 1) divisors are 1 and itself.

Sawin and Shusterman proved the conjecture for prime polynomials: there are infinitely many pairs of prime polynomials whose difference can be any polynomial, whether it be x or $x^3+ 2x - 1$. Moreover, they were able to derive a count of the exact number of such pairs of polynomials with a certain degree. They utilized algebraic geometry to crack the difficult problem.

164 years gave a bound for n and 170 years gave a case for finite fields. Hopefully mathematicians will turn to Zhang’s, Maynard’s, Sawin’s, and Shusterman’s work to find inspiration and pull through to finally unlock the proof behind Polignac’s conjecture.

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The East Side Newspaper



Sabres Start the Golden Season

By Colleen Meosky



Source: Buffalo News

The fiftieth season is off to a successful start, with the Sabres at the top of the Atlantic Division following their game Thursday night. Buffalo has the highest goal differential in the league (+11) and is showing a great turnaround following last year’s disappointing season. Many players are attributing this to the new attitude of the locker room and systems on the ice.

Sabres general manager Jason Botterill relieved Phil Housley of his coaching duties in early April and hired Ralph Krueger in the offseason. Despite the doubt created by Krueger’s limited experience as an NHL

coach, the team is responding tremendously well to the change. Players like Zemgus Girgensons have a renewed energy to the game. “It was awesome. Throughout pretty much the whole game, we kind of dominated. It was just fun to play.”

Victor Olofsson set a new NHL record against Dallas his first seven goals all being scored on the power play. He scored his eighth goal, also on the power play, Wednesday night. The 24 year old right-winger was drafted by the Buffalo Sabres in 2014 and has been developing in Rochester up until this year. His shot is argua-

bly the best on the team’s. Victor plays alongside Jack Eichel and Sam Reinhart on the first line, and he’s joined on the power play unit with Eichel, Reinhart, Dahlin, and Skinner. Victor Olofsson is projected to be a top scorer for the Sabres this season.

Jack Eichel has not disappointed so far this season. He’s earned respect around the league in every aspect of the game, especially his vision of the ice, speed, and strength on the puck. The “Eichel Tower” is expected to be even higher this year.

See **SABRES** on E2

NextGen Makes Strides in Shanghai, Medvedev Continues to Dominate

By Owen Lewis

This year, 32-year-old Novak Djokovic and 33-year-old Rafael Nadal won two slams each. They are ranked No. 1 and No. 2, respectively, and 38-year-old Roger Federer owns the third spot. This tennis dynasty, known as the Big Three, has dominated men’s tennis over the past fifteen years, winning a staggering 51 out of the last 62 Grand Slam tournaments (by the way, six out of the other eleven were won by Andy Murray or Stan Wawrinka). The “NextGen” has been

slow to emerge and slow to show results. Stefanos Tsitsipas, a 21-year-old from Greece, showed promise by knocking out Federer in the fourth round of the Australian Open, but followed it up with a fourth-round loss at the French Open and opening round losses at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Dominic Thiem (though 26) beat Djokovic in a five-set epic in the semifinals of the French Open, but didn’t win another match at a slam for the rest of the year. The always entertain-

ing yet enigmatic and often self-destructive Nick Kyrgios still hasn’t made it past the quarterfinals of a slam, and his last quarterfinal was in 2015. More recently, and perhaps most promisingly, Daniil Medvedev, a 23-year-old Russian, pushed Nadal to the brink in a five-set final at the U.S. Open. He, too, however, fell short.

So tennis has been under a steady rule by the three greats for the last several years. At the Shanghai Masters, though, Federer lost a tough three-

setter to Alexander Zverev of Germany in the quarterfinals. Federer saved five match points in the second set to push the match into a decider, but Zverev played a fantastic set and didn’t give Federer a sniff of victory. In the same round, Tsitsipas stormed back to beat Djokovic from a set down, winning 3-6, 7-5, 6-3. With the two giants out, the battle fell between Zverev, Tsitsipas, Medvedev, and 23-year-old Matteo Berrettini, who had

See **NEXTGEN** on E2

SABRES from E1

Jack is leading the team with 10 points. People have been questioning why Rasmus Dahlin is seeing less ice time this year. Ralph Krueger has explained that the defenseman has been playing on power plays, penalty kills, and against opposing team’s top lines throughout the game. He’s averaging 18:54 minutes a game. While he’s called a generational talent, the coaching staff is also keeping in mind that Dahlin is only 19 years old and still developing. His mistakes are evident on the ice, however, he also puts up remarkable statistics for a second-year defenseman. Dahlin has high expectations for himself

Thursday night’s game against LA showed the Sabres can rebound quickly after a loss.

and the team, even saying that they are going to qualify for the playoffs this season. Dahlin is only behind Eichel for

points on the team(9). Sabres fans are excited to hear such motivation from the young player. Thursday night’s game against LA showed the Sabres can rebound quickly after a loss. Casey Mittelstadt scored his first two goals of the season and an assist. The 3-0 victory is mainly accredited to Carter Hutton being lights out, especially when the Kings were gaining momentum. He set a franchise record for most saves in a shutout(47). Although they slowed down throughout the game, the team came out with two points. The Sabres will end their trip out West in San Jose Saturday and will then play them at home on

NEXT GEN from E1



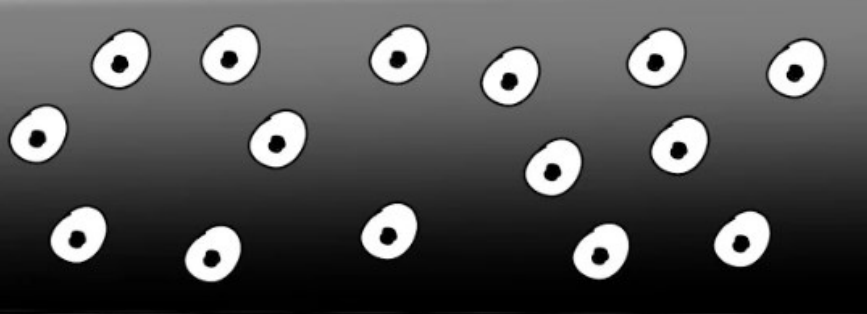
Source: Sports360.com

beaten Thiem in the quarterfinals. And Medvedev came out on top. Medvedev faced a clash with Tsitsipas in the semifinals. The first set came down to a tight tiebreak, and at 5-5, with both players two points away from the set (a tiebreak is played to seven points, and you must win by two points), Medvedev stayed solid during the rallies and Tsitsipas made two unforced errors. With Tsitsipas serving at 1-all and break point down in the second set, Medvedev returned a couple whipping forehands before finishing off the point with a brilliant backhand passing shot. His only major blip in the match was playing a loose game when serving for the match. He rebounded impressively, breaking in the next game and then serving out the match to love, sealing the contest with a forehand swing volley winner. Zverev, for his part, delivered an emphatic 6-3, 6-4 win over Berrettini. He

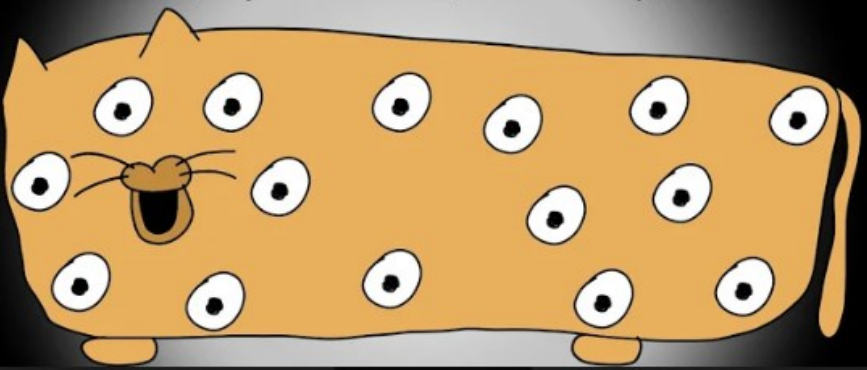
broke his opponent early, charging to a 4-1 lead, and didn’t look back from there. He also had a 4-0 record against Medvedev, and his confidence was sky-high after his win over Federer. Medvedev, however, had enjoyed a hugely successful summer on the American hard courts. In Cincinnati, he was down 3-6, 3-3, 0-30 to Djokovic in the semifinals. With his back against the wall, Medvedev began to go for second-serve aces and attempt to end points quickly. He turned around the match in what seemed an instant, and completed a remarkable turnaround with a crosscourt forehand return winner. Djokovic applauded Medvedev just before they shook hands at the net, as if to acknowledge there was little he could have done to stop the comeback. Additionally, in the previously mentioned U.S. Open final, Medvedev had been down two sets and a break to Nadal. He stormed back to level the match at two sets all,

seemingly figuring out how to play Nadal as the match went on. The match ended up being fairly one-sided. Medvedev ran away with the match after a competitive first set: 6-4, 6-1. Zverev sent down consecutive double faults when serving at 4-5, 30-all to drop the first set, then won one game from that point on. Zverev has a world-class backhand and a solid forehand, but his game was no match for Medvedev’s relentless consistency from the baseline. This match confirmed that he is the young star to watch. He has won two out of his three meetings with Djokovic this year, and his fiercely competitive match with Nadal at the U.S. Open indicates his capability to play long, attritional matches as well as his ability to figure out opponents. Next year, he will be a daunting opponent for anyone. Even the Big Three.

Within the forest, they are watching.
How many are there? Tens? Hundreds?



Hold on, it's just one. Azchevst, the Thousand Eyed Cat.



By James Liu

By Nicole Xu



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