

MARCO
RAMPAGE 2012



MARCH 2012

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EDITORS' BLATHER

This month, the editors of Rampage:

1. Visited the headquarters of the Martlet. They were kind enough to invite us in for an interview. Check it out on page 9.
2. Actually managed to get some rampaging done over spring break. Whatta win!
3. Spammed Facebook groups and pages, advertising for the contest we're holding. By the time this issue is printed, the contest will have ended, but be sure to see the works of the winners in next month's issue..
4. Will be going to see Year of the Rat live at Fort Café on the 31st. We had a chance to interview them first; check 'em out on page 10!
5. Will be working our asses off to release the April issue. Due to Spring Break and the late release of the March issue, we only have a couple of weeks to complete it all. Ahhhhhhhh.
6. Are excited as we near the last issue. There are three more issues left. We can do this.
7. Love all Rampage readers.

THE CREW

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Writing should be no longer than 1000 words,
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CANADA'S MIGRANT WORKERS

MARYAM BAKSH

Each morning across Canada, millions of families sit down to a bowl of cereal made from wholesome grains. A few hours later, millions more munch through salads made from fresh fruits and vegetables. Hundreds of kilometres away, in the sweeping Prairies, the fertile Niagara Region, and the lush Fraser Valley, thousands of people toil in the fields

to seasonal migrant workers in order to continue to meet the market demands.

As the demand for migrant workers increased each year, Canadians realized that a proper program was needed to organize their recruitment. In 1966, the Seasonal Agricultural Workers' Program was created to target people from the English-

leverage to exploit their migrant employees. Many work 12-15 hour days, with no overtime or holiday pay, and no necessary breaks. In addition, they are sometimes left to work without the necessary safety equipment. For many workers, leaving their current place of employment, which doubles as their house, would result in being left without a residence.

The federal government issues work permits every year, and no doubt supports the "temporary migrant workers" concept. After all, these people do contribute to the Employment Insurance and Old Age Pension Plan funds. Every month, a deduction is made from their pay cheques for programs that they will most probably never benefit from. It is for this reason that the Canadian Council for Refugees is currently pushing for a change to the current policy. They published a report saying that the emphasis on temporary, as opposed to permanent, immigration is a bad policy. They go on to state that the current policy does not guarantee the full protection of the workers' rights. Furthermore, it also hinders their integration into the Canadian society, and their abilities to become contributing members of their communities. Professor Jenna Hennebray of Wilfred Laurier University conducted a survey in which 65% of the 600 migrant workers surveyed said that they would love to immigrate to Canada permanently. As such, the Council is calling for a revision of the immigration policy so that it gives preference to people who can potentially fill the current labour shortages within our country. All in all, the Canadian government must do its utmost to not only meet the labour demands, but also to maintain the integrity of this country in its policy towards Migrant workers.



harvesting the crops, and thousands more work in the plants packaging the produce and processing them. The difference is that the people enjoying all these products are Canadians, and the ones working to harvest, process, and package them are not. And for the most part, the only thing that connects these two groups is the food itself.

Year after year, more than 28,000 people arrive in Canada with the sole purpose of working in the Canadian agricultural industry. These people are classified as 'seasonal migrant workers', meaning that they temporarily immigrate to Canada for the harvest season only. This phenomenal influx of workers is required to lessen severe labour shortages. During the 1990's, the number of Canadian residents willing to work in the horticultural industry declined by an astonishing 25%. Professor Kerry Preibisch, a sociologist from the University of Guelph, said that "in the Canadian labour market, agri-food is at the bottom of the occupational hierarchy". With an ever-expanding export market, Canada now resorts

speaking Caribbean countries. As the demand for more workers continued to grow, Mexico joined the program in 1977. By 2002, the federal government had created another program, the Temporary Foreign Workers' Program, which allowed for the recruitment of workers from any country. As of 2009, these two programs combined brought approximately 40,000 people to Canada as seasonal migrant workers. Altogether, they account for 45% of the total workers' hours in the agri-food industry.

These multitudes of migrant workers arrive in Canada each year just as the demand for seasonal labour rises. On average, they spend around 20 weeks here before heading back to their home countries. More and more Canadians are refusing to work in an industry that comes with low wages and an arduous working environment. But for the thousands of workers, this opportunity is a blessing to supplement their low incomes in a country with limited employment. Unfortunately, several of the employers use this fact as

Similarly, switching employers is out of the question since their work visas are 'closed work permits', meaning they can only work for the employer named on the permit. The hope of a better life in an economically ravaged home country attracts these workers, but life here is not always comfortable.

Over the last 5 years, the migrant worker situation has sadly grown to include news headlines full of tragedy. Canadians were shocked to hear of the 2007 vehicle accident in Abbotsford, in which 3 workers in an overloaded van lost their lives. 2 years later in 2009, 4 workers plunged to their death in Toronto, after the scaffolding that they had been standing on snapped on the 13th floor of a building. And most recently, just last month, a 15-seat van crashed into a truck just outside of Kitchener, Ontario. The truck's driver along with the 10 Peruvian passengers all lost their lives. It is through these tragic events that Canadians became aware of thousands of people working in the farms and fields across their country.

For the thousands of people who come here as seasonal migrant workers, Canada is the land of opportunity, a place where they can work towards their dreams. Often, the only sign of these workers are the small-town church services in Spanish, or the unbelievably delicious Caribbean food at a café in the middle of nowhere, or the crowded Western Unions on Fridays as the men wire their hard-earned money home to their families. And yet they give us the one thing that humans can never live without: food. So the next time you stroll through the produce section in your local grocery store, or you see a commercial for Canadian wheat, be sure to remember the thousands of migrant workers who come to this country every year.



As citizens in a relatively comfortable democracy, Canadians have always appreciated the thought of making a difference in the world without having to sacrifice many of their present luxuries. There is a certain feeling of self-fulfillment attributed to helping those "less fortunate". So what humanitarian aid can be more satisfying than donating a few dollars through the internet, or even sharing a video on Facebook, while contributing to the arrest of a truly evil man, far away? Here lies the genius of Invisible Children's video "Kony 2012".

After only 48 hours of the video's release, Invisible Children had already raised 5 million dollars, and after five days, 70 million people had

THE VIRAL SUCCESS OF KONY 2012

VIVIANE FAIRBANK

viewed the web film. Nowhere is it specified how the money raised by Invisible Children will contribute to their cause, namely to "bring Kony to justice in 2012". In 2011, only 32% of the \$8.6 million raised by Invisible Children went directly to services in Northern Uganda. The rest was spent on staff payments and filming costs.

However, that is no cause for skepticism regarding the Kony 2012 project just yet. Invisible Children has already made defensive statements regarding the recent attacks on their financial situation. I emailed the group last week asking how they planned to spend the money raised this year (as well as asking if Facebook or Youtube had made any significant donations to the project, considering the large amount of advertising they received in the video); they haven't answered me.

During the entirety of the thirty minute video, a campaign stratagem meant to raise awareness and money, rebel leader Joseph Kony is only mentioned a few times, accompanied with generalizations depicting him as an evil man. Although the facts are given that he abducted over 30,000 children, using the girls as sex slaves and the boys as soldiers, the topic of Kony's actions is only touched upon around the middle of the video, and the history of Uganda or motive of the Lord's Resistance Army are not mentioned. In fact, it is typed out, highlighted, and pronounced in the video that Kony is "not fighting for any cause, but only to maintain his power" and that he is "not supported by anyone". Such statements bring a sense of simplicity in the video that tears one from a realistic view of the situation, and gives a simple choice between good and evil. Viewers are only given the option of partiality.

The focus of "Kony 2012" is not placed around Kony's crimes and what the public can do to bring him to the International Criminal Court. The video

concentrates instead on Jason Russell (the producer of the video) and his son, Gavin. After a minute and a half of inspiring words on how the world's center has shifted to Facebook and Youtube, Jason places the audience's focus on his young, blond-haired boy, completely innocent and ignorant when it comes to the situation in Central Africa. This concept puts sensationalism above information, forcing the viewers to connect with a small child in relation to the war crimes of Joseph Kony. Gavin is placed in front of the camera and speaks naively about child soldiers, causing an concluding sense of shame and sorrow. Along with Gavin, a young Ugandan boy named Jacob is shown crying in Uganda for the loss of his brother, and then smiling as he walks towards the exit of an American airport.

Ultimately, the video "Kony 2012" may have been produced with good intentions. It is true that a man such as Kony should be brought to International Criminal Court and put to a fair trial. It is true that the child soldiers should be rescued, and that the abductions should be stopped. The activist idea behind the Kony 2012 video and its popularity may be extremely useful with respect to setting a precedent in international justice. While I do not condemn Invisible Children's motives, I criticize their methods. If one would like to support Kony's capture, one should not simply follow the campaign of a single group. One should be able to do his or her own research, so as to be knowledgeable enough to make their own decisions on the subject. Unlike what the majority of Facebook users seem to think, the simple sense of satisfaction derived from sharing a video online does nothing toward improving the world at large. A video that is meant to raise awareness about a criminal ultimately gives little information on the subject, and raises awareness only about itself.

REGARDING THE "STUDENT STRIKE"

VIVIANE FAIRBANK

On March 2nd, 2012, thousands of students in British Columbia assembled in opposition of Bill 22. Seventeen thousand Facebook users declared that they would attend the strikes to support teachers caught in the fight between the BCTF and the BC government. However, in the capital city of BC, only about a hundred students appeared at the Parliament in total. Some students skipped school the whole day in order to take part in the "student strike", however their motivation apparently sprang from an inclination to sleep in as opposed to a desire to show up at the parliament. Others, including most Mount Doug students present, arrived as planned at 3:00 p.m. after the end of school, unable to sacrifice a day of classes (understandably, considering the proximity of midterms and exams). Unfortunately, by then, only a few brave youth were left to hold the

"student strike" together. It seemed that the rain had worn more students down after a few minutes of standing. There was an attempt at holding speeches in front of the entrance of the parliament, but it had finished before 3:00.

By the time I arrived at 3:30, there were about ten people remaining in front of the parliament road, holding signs. However, what worried me was not the lack of motivation found in most Mount Doug students. My cause of concern sprang from the fact that some attendees did not give the impression of knowing exactly what they were supporting. There was no mass opinion, simply several stray arguments stranded on the same sidewalk. A couple of students proudly brandished a paper sign saying "FASCISM" with a line through it. Others chanted, "We want an education, not a legislation". Students from Mount Doug held

signs ordering the parties to "Respect Collective Bargaining" and describing themselves as "Students 4 Change". While some cars honked as they drove by and reporters stopped to steal a few pictures, the event did not grab much attention from the city of Victoria as the afternoon moved along, and soon the "student strike" diminished to simply ten students standing on a sidewalk in the rain.

Before leaving Mount Doug to join what I thought was a crowd in front of parliament, I spoke to a few students, asking about their opinions on the current tensions regarding education. It seemed the general ultimate consensus that "both parties are stupid and we don't really care". Sure, there may be no right or wrong side in the debate regarding the BCTF, however, students should not act so dispassionately regarding the teacher strike.

Especially for students in grade twelve, who need to finish university applications and graduation transitions, teachers are crucial. Simply attending classes and marking projects is not enough for staff to be able to assist students with all of their needs. Most students will need a teacher at some point to write reference letters or to tutor after school. Even sending a transcript of midterm grades to universities is now impossible.

Although it may seem convenient at first to have three days off of school, and potentially more days in the weeks to come, one should not forget the value of Mount Doug's schooling staff. The apparent lack of concern regarding the BCTF strike evokes a sense of uneasiness in Mount Doug and in Victoria as a whole, leading some to realize that the strike may still last for months to come without any result. A source of encourage-

ment, however, springs from the few students who *did* make their way to the Legislative buildings on Friday after school. It is nice to know that the current events regarding education are not completely forgotten or passively ignored. What little support our teachers can receive is hopefully beneficial to raising awareness and showing the government that perhaps compromise is a favorable solution



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

MARYAM BAKSH

I am a believer in women, in their ability to do things and in their influence in power. Women set the standards in the world, and it is for us, women in Canada, to set the standards high."

Nellie McClung, a champion of women's rights in Canada, made this statement more than a century ago, in 1910. It is a timeless remark that holds true today.

The year before, in 1909, the seed was first planted calling for the creation of a day to honour women across the globe. The Socialist Party of America held a political event on February 28th in honour of the women in the United States. The idea soon spread to Europe. One year later, on March 18th, more than a million women rallied in the streets of Austria, Denmark, Switzerland, and Germany. By 1913, the Russians had established a national day to honour their women as well.

The official acknowledgement of an international day to recognize women finally came to the West in 1977. The United Nations' General Assembly invited each one of its member states to recognize March 8th as the UN Day for Women's Rights and International Peace.

International Women's Day in the 21st century is held on March 8th of each year. It has come to symbolize women's social, political, and economic aspects of life. It is both a celebration of accom-

plishments and an acknowledgement of the need to make further progress.

The United Nations' 2012 theme is a simple, but very powerful message: "Empower Women-End Hunger and Poverty." Statistics show that over 70% of the global population living in poverty are women. In addition, the devastating famine that ravished the Horn of Africa a few months ago painted a stark reminder of the struggles that women face in these unfortunate parts of the world. Giving these women the opportunity to achieve a higher standard of living will not only help them, but also help each one of their children.

The Former Governor General of Canada, Michelle Jean, marked the 2007 International Women's Day in Afghanistan. She said, "Empower women, and you will see a decrease in poverty, illiteracy, disease, and violence." She could not have been more right, and her idea is one that will be conveyed this year.

But going back to Nellie McClung's statement, it is for the women of Canada to take the lead and set the standards higher. There are over 17.4 million females in Canada, spread across more than 5,400 communities. Of these communities, 5,200 are located outside urban areas, and their labour forces are composed of 45% women. It is in this light that Canada has chosen their theme

for the 2012 International Women's Day. On March 8th, Canada will celebrate the role of women in the economic prosperity of the country's rural, remote, and Northern communities.

International Women's Day does not end with women gaining the right to vote, or even receiving equal pay. Rather, it encompasses the right to equal opportunity for women compared to men, and for women compared to other women. In Canada, an Aboriginal woman is 5 times more likely to lose her life to violence compared to the average Canadian woman. This stat contradicts the very idea of equality that Nellie McClung's generation fought for. Our generation is standing up for women's rights across Canada, without exceptions.

Melinda Gates, co-founder of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is quoted as saying: "A woman with a voice is by definition a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult." And for many people, the biggest hurdle in standing up for the right thing is finding the courage to speak up. Everyone does not have to rally in the streets or petition the Parliament; simply speaking up for the small injustices that one sees is a contribution to International Women's Day.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF JUDY TETHONG

I am increasingly hard-pressed to believe that the woman who has been known to put Free Tibet stickers on Chinese warships was really my grade nine French teacher. I'm referring to Judy Tethong, of course, who taught at Mount Doug until retiring in 2010. She hates being referred to as "Tethong" in articles, let alone "Madame", so it will have to be Judy. This is how she tells her story:

In 1962, she had completed a university degree in health education and was engaged to a "handsome young lawyer", but decided to volunteer abroad before getting married. She signed up for a last-minute post working with Tibetan refugees in Northern India with the Canadian University Services Overseas, read all four books that her library in Oakville, Ontario had about Tibet, and got on a plane to New Delhi. She stayed there for twelve years.

1962 was four years after the Tibetan Uprising of March 10th, 1959. Following ten years of Chinese occupation, the 1959 revolt resulted in thousands of casualties and the relocation of the Tibetan government to Dharamsala, India. By 1962, a steady flood of refugees was still coming over the Himalayas. India accepted them, although quietly, because it wanted to maintain a cordial relationship with China in the spirit of not taking sides during the Cold War. (This friendship was later broken by the 1962 Sino-Indian Border Conflict.) In effect, a small group of people found themselves in charge of relocating half a nation.

Together with the Canadian nurse Lois James, Judy worked at a children's transit school in the town of Kangra. It was a temporary sort of waiting room for children who had just escaped Tibet and who would later be transferred to Tibetan boarding schools sponsored by the Indian government. Note everything that you've heard about climbing Mt. Everest; the Himalayas are the tallest mountains in the world, and the journey over them is ruthless and often deadly. Especially in the years following

1959, there was a choice between the Himalayas and an oppressive army. "So all of a sudden," says Judy, "we would get a hundred dying kids," and they would leave just as suddenly when a boarding school had enough room for them. They lived on donated bulgar wheat and tea with milk powder.

The Dalai Lama, who was then both Tibet's political and spiritual leader (the political leaders-in-exile are now elected), realising that the new boarding schools would soon be in dire need of teachers, asked Judy to design a teacher training course for monks and nuns. Instead of going home in June like she planned, she spent the next few years training classrooms of monks and then travelling with them to boarding schools in various parts of the Himalayas to oversee what were basically their student-teacher practicums.

In 1964, she was to be sent back to Canada for a medical checkup because Lois had become severely ill. Unfortunately, this was perfectly timed to coincide with the beginning of the 1956 India-Pakistan war over the northern state of Kashmir. She was going to be taken back on the plane shipping in new Canadian volunteers but it couldn't land amid the bombing. "I had no idea what to do," she says. She ended up going to Delhi by the railway, a prime target for bombing since it carried trainloads of Indian soldiers. Her train didn't leave the station. "The moon came up," she says, "Ghost trains of tanks and troops passed us, silhouetted against the night sky, and the train still didn't start. I thought I was going to be killed." Near morning, it eventually did. "We literally got the last international flight out of Bombay" she says.

She soon returned to life in India, walking up and down the mountain to the Teacher Training College or taking the bus to Kangra, packing sick refugee kids (56 in total over the years) down the mountain to her home to look after them. Meanwhile, she had met Tsewang Choegrul Tethong (he goes by TC), who was the deputy minister of for-

eign affairs for the government in exile, and brought him back to Canada to get married.

Tibetan refugees were offered a patch of land in Southern India and TC volunteered to lead the project that would become the town of Mundgod. He and Judy helped to clear of the jungle, and build houses and a hospital. Trucks of 300 people at a time would arrive, living in tents until houses were built. "There were so many elephants, and life was so hard that people were running way," Judy says, but despite the elephants, the village is thriving today.

After eight years, Judy and TC moved to Victoria to save up some money, and had three children. The youngest, Lhadon Tethong, is the head of the international organization Students for a Free Tibet. Among other things, she is famous for hanging a banner reading "One world, one dream, one Tibet" off of the Great Wall of China during the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Judy and TC didn't end up going back to India permanently, but they have taken up Tibet's struggle from the Canadian side, attempting to stop the political repression that creates refugees in the first place. She is the head of the Victoria section of the Canada Tibet Committee, which organizes all the rallies, petitions, and phone calls that make up a never-ending torrent of activism.

Judy is also one of the founders of Youth Combating Intolerance. Hearing her speak is always impressive. Despite the people that have literally died in her arms, her anecdotes about various Tibetan kids are simultaneously funny. She speaks Tibetan, Hindi, and French, and is always worried that you aren't wearing warm enough clothing. She has this old-world-school-teacher-meets-human-rights-activist sense of humour, scolding world powers, behind-schedule Occupy Victoria rallies, and Mackenzie Ave traffic like they are errant students (and if she ever got frustrated at your class, hey, you were hardly a group of Buddhist monks).

About 70 people marched from Centennial Square to the Legislature this March 3rd to commemorate the March 10th uprising. On the legislature steps, the crowd gathered to listen to speakers including journalist Terry Glavin, Tashi Tsetsan, Judy Tethong, and most of the people in the rest of this article.

Afterwards, at the Tibetan Kitchen Café on Broughton Street, I talked to Tashi, the leader of Vancouver's Tibetan Cultural Committee. Born in Southern India, he came to Canada with his son Tenzin, who is in grade eight. They are two of eight Tibetans from Vancouver who came to join Victoria's demonstration.

The Tibetan Kitchen could be any other restaurant in Victoria: a chaos of Tibetan, English, Hindi, and clattering cutlery. At the same time, an undercurrent of sadness is always present in the people who consider themselves to be living in exile. The situation in Tibet is worsening. Over the past year, there have been nearly 30 self-immolations in protest of Chinese rule. The string of suicides started with monks but appears to be spreading to every part of the population: the latest report is of a farmer called Sonam Thargyal who died in Tongren on March 18th. "Once one happens," says Tashi, "the other communities get encouraged. We don't go out and kill others, so the monks must think that was the best message they could give. But it's not in our principle to die like that."

The military presence is overpowering around the Tibetan New Year and the uprising's anniversary. News coming out of Tibet is scarce and often unreliable, but rarely optimistic. According to Tashi, the army is deployed at any suspicion of protest. Anyone suspected of dissent simply disappears, sometimes to return, sometimes not. Protesters have been tortured and killed.

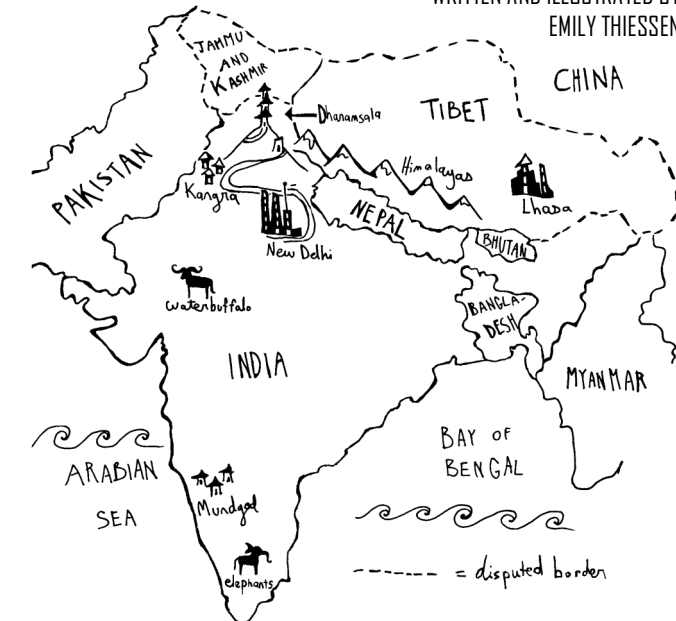
The protesters themselves are not undivided. The Dalai Lama endorses a "Middle Way Approach" that would see Tibet become an autonomous region of China with limited self-government. He argues that his country needs China's economic support. "The youngsters" as Tashi refers to them, want complete independence. The trainloads of

Han Chinese workers brought in from China cause hopes of a "Tibet for Tibetans" become increasingly unrealistic. The situation is similar to what must have once faced Canada's First Nations or Israel-Palestine, where an influx of a different ethnic group is poured into a country in order to gain control of its resources. On the other hand, the growing majority can't be asked to just get up and leave. When asked what had impacted them the most on March 3rd, everyone I asked mentioned the radical distinction between opposing the Chinese government and opposing its people.

Joe Perceval, a member of the Canada Tibet Committee, specializes in environmental damage caused to the Tibetan Plateau by mining, coal power plants, and hydroelectric dams. Because of global warming, melting ice from the Himalayas is flooding into Northern India. Perceval believes that the solution involves boycott of the goods made with these resources. "One thing we still have power over is our pocket. We can still decide where we spend our money and if we decide not to spend it at Walmart then maybe we could have some real impact there. And look at what's been happening with Apple... Apple has been forced into making a big issue around how they're now going to send all these monitoring people to make sure the factories are being run ethically and fairly and such. Good luck, of course, but that's what they claim they're going to do and that's just because of public pressure."

Bazzi Irvine agrees. "I mean people just don't like it because it takes the most personal effort. Yeah, it can be hard but I relate it to the idea that I'm a vegetarian and people are like, 'Oh vegetarians are so tough' but it's the easiest thing I've ever

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY
EMILY THIESSEN



done." Bazzi is the coordinator of Students for a Free Tibet Victoria, which meets on Tuesdays at various locations around Uvic, as announced on the "SFT Victoria" Facebook group.

The Canadian government, like most governments, is hardly helping. Tsering Dolma lives in Victoria but grew up in Simla, India. Her parents fled into India in 1959 and sent her to one of the boarding schools taught by the monks that Judy trained in order for her to get an education. She was reunited with them for the first time in 2004. "If all the governments in unity put pressure on China to say that 'if you fail on human rights issues, we're not going to have any dealings with you', then things might change," she says. "Unfortunately, money speaks louder than human rights."

You'll hear different sides of this, do your own research:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/tibet>
<https://www.studentsforafreetibet.org/>

(From left to right) Illustrations of: Judy Tethong, Bazzi Irvine, Joe Perceval, Tsering Dolma, Tashi Tsetsan, and Tenzin.



RAMPAGE INDEX

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

VIVIANE FAIRBANK

- Number of public universities in BC: 11
- Number of private universities in BC: 4
- Number of universities on Vancouver Island: 4
- Oldest university in BC: University of British Columbia
- Number of undergraduate students enrolled at UVic: 18,863
- Approximate number of university students in Canada: 1,200,000
- Number of universities in the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada: 95
- Approximate number of professional and management occupations that opened up in Canada in the past 20 years: 1,500,000
- Approximate number of those positions that were filled by university graduates: 1,300,000
- Approximate number of Canadian university students at the undergraduate level in 1980: 550,000
- Approximate number of Canadian university students at the undergraduate level in 2010: 994,000
- Average number of dollars spent by Canadian undergraduate students in tuition fees 2010/2011: 5,138
- Average number of dollars spent by BC undergraduate students in tuition fees 2010/2011: 4,802
- Average number of dollars spent by Ontario undergraduate students in tuition fees 2010/2011: 6,307
- Program with the highest average undergraduate fees in 2010/2011: Dentistry
- Average dollar tuition fee for undergraduate Dentistry programs in Canada in 2010/2011: 14,701
- Percentage rise in Canadian undergraduate tuition from 2009/2010 to 2010/2011: 4
- Average dollar tuition fee for foreign undergraduate students in Canada in 2010/2011: 16,768
- Average dollar tuition fee for BC Humanities undergraduate programs 2011/2012: 4,459
- Average dollar tuition fee for BC Engineering undergraduate programs 2011/2012: 4,742
- Average dollar tuition fee for BC Medicine undergraduate program 2011/2012: 15,766
- Possible dollar value of a Dogwood District/Authority Award from the BC government: 1,000
- Amount of the Dogwood District/Authority Award that can be redeemed right away: 500
- Number of Dogwood District/Authority Awards given annually in BC: 3000
- Dollar value of a Grade 10 or 11 Passport to Education from the BC government: 250
- Dollar value of a Grade 12 Passport to Education: 500
- Number of Passport to Education stamps given by the BC government annually for each grade: 9000
- Total dollars spent by the BC government on Passport to Education awards annually: 9,000,000
- Most expensive university in the world in terms of tuition and fees according to *Forbes in 2009*: *George Washington University*
- Most expensive university in Canada in terms of tuition and fees according to *Forbes in 2009*: *Quest University*
- Approximate cost of tuition for Canada's Quest University in American dollars in 2009: 20,500
- Percentage of Canadians in the lowest earnings category with only a high school education: >60
- Percentage of Canadians in the highest earnings category with a post-secondary degree: >60
- Rank received by Victoria, BC in the Demographia International Housing Survey 2012: Severely Unaffordable
- Dollar cost of cheapest residence at UBC for 8-month stay: 3,995
- Dollar cost of cheapest residence at UVic for 8-month stay: 4,589
- Average annual dollar cost of textbooks at UVic: 1,700
- Average annual local transportation cost in Victoria in dollars: 538
- Admission average percentage required for an Entrance Scholarship at UVic: 85
- Number of faculties at UVic: 10
- Average co-op monthly salary at UVic in dollars: 2,700
- Number of employees at UVic: 4,946
- Number of Vikes athletes to have participated in the Olympics: 156
- Percentage of UVic students who are female: 57
- UVic's total revenue 2010/2011 in dollars: 538,000,000
- Percentage of revenue that came from tuition payments: 21
- Approximate number of degree programs in BC: 1900

Sources:

Statistics Canada, Canada Immigrant Job Issues, Forbes, BC Government, Government of Canada, University of British Columbia, University of Victoria, BC Stats, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

MARYAM BAKSH

Badminton

Tryouts for the Mount Doug badminton team are currently taking place. Contact Mr. Hartley for more info.

Basketball Play-Offs

Senior Boys'

-South Vancouver Island Championships (Feb 25)
Mount Doug finished 1st in the Lower Island Finals, with an 82-77 win over Oak Bay at Oak Bay High School.

Island Championship Tournament

-March 1: Quarter Finals. Mount Doug beat G.P. Vanier 76-58 to advance into the semi-finals.
-March 2: Semi-Finals. Although Mount Doug maintained the lead for the first part of the game, they ended up losing to Belmont 77-66. A spot in the finals now means winning their two remaining games.

-March 3: Mount Doug won their first game of the day, 84-64 over Ballenas. They now advance to the 3rd place game in the afternoon.
-March 3: 3rd place game. After an extremely close, and tense, game, Mount Doug clinched a spot in the Provincials with a 54-51 win over Cowichan.

The BC Basketball Provincials will be held March 17-19 in Langley. Good Luck!

Senior Girls'

Lower Islands Finals: Feb 18th.

Mount Doug finished 3rd overall in the Lower Island, after winning their game against Spectrum. The margin was an amazing 25 points.

Island Championship Tournament.

The senior girls came in 3rd on the Island. They won their game against Dover Bay with a score of 78-55.

Wild-Card Game

The Mount Doug girls' team went to Vancouver to play a game against Terry Fox in a fight for the last available spot in the Provincials. After an intense game, they unfortunately lost 82-60.

Congratulations to the Mount Doug senior girls' basketball team on an amazing season, as well as their coaches, Rae and Griff.

Cycling

Mount Doug has a cycling team, which Mr. Meldrum is currently putting together. See him in Room 214 for more info.

Track and Field

The Mount Doug track team has already started its training a good couple of weeks ahead of the other schools. The first meet is scheduled for the end of March.

MD UPCOMING EVENTS

March 27th - Visit from Ryerson University in the Career Centre at lunch

March 28th - Guest Speaker from Mosqoy talks about Peru in the Career Centre at lunch

April 2nd - Pep Rally

April 6th - Good Friday, no school

April 9th - Easter Monday, no school

MOUNT DOUG MEMES

The Meme Master: Houtan Emad
Memes property of their respective owners (from left to right, top to bottom): GD, JJ, DG, RG, MR



WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY
JOANNE SOJEONG CHUNG

THE MARTLET EXCURSION

Being the Martlet fangirls that we are, the editors of Rampage eagerly contacted the Martlet, in hopes of doing a little piece on them, and got in touch with their editor-in-chief, Erin Ball. She invited the three of us to come in on a Tuesday around five o' clock because that's when most of the staff are in and the action happens.

The vibe was cool and free; don't go off picturing a typical movie scene of yelling editors and frustrated journalists. It was a sweet collaboration of an office and a hang-out spot. Because we're poor high school students without a budget to work off of, we were obviously jealous of their space (especially the sofas).

There were four editors and a volunteer writer when we dropped by. Once again, the crazy newsroom aura that we were expecting wasn't there. They were all seated at their desks, working on last-minute layout, editing

photos, copy editing, et cetera.

Something the Martlet always appreciate is the support and assistance they get from UVic professors and local groups. Seeing that they are an independent student newspaper, and don't compete with other papers, people like to lend a hand. Also, working or volunteering for the paper can supply a person with smooth transition leading to a career in the field after they leave the Martlet.

Just as the interviews were coming to a close, other Martleters burst in ecstatically with food and beer. On Tuesdays at the Martlet, not only does the action take place, they get communal food from Beirut Express.

And before the end of our Martlet Excursion, we received wicked Martlet t-shirts, making us consider getting Rampage t-shirts for ourselves.



Erin Ball, Editor-in-Chief
Educational background: Tech Communication at Camosun
Role: Looks at the overall content, and generally acts as a spokesperson (has to be able to answer complaints and defend for the paper).



Tyler Laing, Sports Editor
Educational background: Writing at UVic
Hours spent in the office: 10-15 hours a week



Tess Forsyth, Photo Editor
Educational background: Visual Arts at UVic
Hours spent in the office: 15 hours a week
Role: Edits photos, sorts out photographers, and assigns events.



Shandi Shiach, Opinions Editor
Educational background: Writing at UVic
Hours spent in the office: 10 hours a week
Role: Edits, and also writes one story a week for the news section.



Vanessa Hawk, Volunteer Writer
Educational background: Writing major, Political Science minor at UVic
Role: Does copy editing

LOCAL ARTISTS OF THE MONTH: YEAR OF THE RAT

WRITTEN BY VIVIANE FAIRBANK
PHOTOGRAPHED BY JOANNE SOJEONG CHUNG

Members:

Sam Coll (lead vocals, keyboard, guitar)
Mike Sanderson (guitar, back-up vocals)
Ryan Stringer (bass, back-up vocals)
Randy Camponi (drums)

Style:

Synth-Rock/Alternative/Electronic/Post-Punk.
They have been said to combine "several different styles in a new way".

Informational Rant:

Upon walking down Government Street towards downtown, one might hear strange musical sounds emanating from the small Island Graphics store on the corner of Discovery Street. That sound is not being produced by a single employee harnessing a large stereo system. It is instead the work of a committed band, practicing new songs in a storage space underneath the store. Between styrofoam walls, and among old bikes and other

scrap objects, the band has set up a drum set and several different instruments, ready to blast their music away. According to Randy Camponi, Year of the Rat's new drummer, the band's sound has been measured as of almost equal magnitude to that of a jet engine. Most of them wear earplugs while practicing.

On March 15th at the V-Lounge, Year of the Rat released their new, five-song album named "No Order". Covered with fantastic album art and accompanied with a free Year of the Rat sticker, the album represents the band's new sound. Unlike 2010's record, this 2012 release is "definitely more [Year of the Rat]", affirmed Sam, the lead singer. Its five songs ("Every Night a Vampire", "Respect Entropy", "Everything We Leave Behind", "Green", and "Ancient World") are full of intricate lyrics and intelligent music.

Last April, Year of the Rat's old drummer quit in the middle of "No Order"'s production. For a period of about six months, the band was left with

no drummer and an unfinished album. There was no hope for completion of their project until Randy Camponi came along. Seemingly, the band has found its true love in drummer-form, and now, after almost a year's delay, "No Order" is completed and will be celebrated a second on March 31st at Fort Café during an all-ages show.

Currently, the band is composing songs to be put into a potential new record next year. Clearly, this band does not waste time with simple practicing; it is determined to continue releasing music for Victoria audiences and beyond.

Want to hear Year of the Rat's new album? The band is giving Mount Doug a special deal. Visit yearoftheratmusic.com and enter the promotion code RAMPAGE-MAGX to download the EP and enjoy Year of the Rat's music's first-hand. If you want a louder, more authentic experience of "No Order", make your way to the Fort Café on March 31st and hear the band play their new set live!





JESSICA PARK

Closet essentials: Hoodies
Describe your style: Jess-ly?



VIVIANE FAIRBANK

Closet essentials: Underwear
Describe your style: Dark colours



WILL HODGES AND CLARICE CELESTE

Closet essentials: Clothing, says Will. Black shoes, says Clarice.
Describe your style: Better than yours, says Will. Second-hand, says Clarice.



NICK POSTLE

Closet essentials: Suits, collar shirts, and bowties
Describe your style: An eccentric, young gentleman

HOUTAN REVIEWS: PIG BBQ JOINT HOUTAN EMAD

On commencement of spring break, an outing was planned, and my friends and I metaphorically hit the streets of downtown Victoria. Taking in the sights while walking down the path less travelled, we stumbled upon an underground BBQ joint called Pig. Well, not THAT underground anyways. Victoria owned and operated, Pig BBQ joint is located on the corner of Johnson and Blanshard.

Upon entrance, we knew this place was different. Not your typical diner, Pig has modern internal decoration mixed with old fashioned food to provide great contrast. Speaking of the food, no menus were pre-

sented to us; instead, the selection choices were up on the wall for all to gaze upon. The prices *include* tax. Much like Red Fish Blue Fish, the prices for the meals are well rounded and made to work well with each other. For example, the price of a sandwich is \$6.50 and an order of fries costs \$3.50, thus such a meal costs \$10 even. Little details such as that make Pig BBQ a truly local place.

Pig's concept is simple. So far as sandwiches go, Meat + Bread = Good, and that's just how they serve 'em. With three solid sandwich choices of chicken, beef, and pork, there is something for everyone. Actually, that's not true... vegetarians

would feel quite out of place. For those with a fancier appetite, a Pulled Pork Poutine, or such similar pig-infested meals may be arranged. As far as which sandwich is better, well, that depends on your taste, but the Martlet agrees with me in saying that the Barbecued Chicken Sandwich is a knockout.

The selection of drinks is quite unique... well rather, the way that the drinks are served is odd. If an order of water or iced tea is made, the drinks are served to you in wide-mouthed jars. It came as quite a surprise to me seeing people drink out of jars. Honestly, I thought they were out of glasses or something. A

wide selection of old fashioned sodas are also available. Unfortunately, these come pre-packaged and are not served in jars.

Overall, I'd rate Pig BBQ Joint a 9 out of 10, because of its great taste and value. Consider dropping by for lunch or dinner when hanging out with friends downtown. Couple that with a game of pool at Peacocks and a movie at Capitol 6 and you've got the makings of a pleasant evening.

Pro: Great taste and good value.

Con: Limited sandwich choices, more hot sauce needed at tables.

Rating: 9/10 (Must try)

VIC UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17th 14:00 & 20:00 - UWC Pearson College presents One World 2012 at the Royal Theatre

March 20th & 27th 20:00 - Sin City Improv at the Victoria Event Center

March 22nd - Dr. Hook and Guests play at the Upstairs Cabaret

March 29th - Dining Out For Life Fundraiser happening in dozens of Victoria restaurants.

March 31st 19:30 - Year of the Rat plays at Fort Cafe

April 1st - Throw Down Art Forum at the Vancouver Island School of Art

April 1st - 7th - Men's Curling Championship at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre

April 3rd 17:30 - 20:00 - Colour Your Palet is happening at the Hotel Grand Pacific

April 4th - Victoria Summer Farmers' Market begins in Market Square

♥ CREEPY LOVE LETTER #6 ♥

Dear Susan (I'm getting tired of calling you anonymous so I gave you a name. Feel free to correct me),

First of all, can you please stop putting flowers in my room? It's sweet and all, but I'm starting to get allergies. I'm still a little creeped out by you, but you've been following me since September, and you saved me from those muggers on New Year's, so I think it's time we meet up. In your last letter you told me to "pick out a white dress". You *do* realize I'm a guy, right? Anyways, assuming you know I'm *male*, I'd love to go to Costa Rica with you over Spring Break. Feel free to slip the travel documents under my windowsill like you usually do.

Excited to finally meet you,
Nesbitt

PS. I'm getting addicted to those crackers you keep putting in my locker. Can you add more on Tuesdays when I have PE?
PPS. Do you have my SIN card? I feel like you have it.

ASK ABBY

Dear Abby,
I've been dating my boyfriend for about two years, but lately I have been feeling that something is off. One day, we were hanging out, and his phone went off while he was busy in the basement. I saw that his ex-girlfriend was texting him so, curious, I looked at what they'd been talking about! I know I probably shouldn't have looked at his texts but they were being all flirty and were going to "meet up ;)". What does that mean!? Should I confront him about this or just let it go?
Catwoman

Dear Catwoman,
So... you should not be creeping your boyfriend's phone being paranoid about some ex-girlfriend, but hey, thank god you did! Follow your gut and confront this guy! If their meeting is completely innocent, he'll have nothing to hide, and if it's not totally innocent, then he doesn't deserve you! Good luck!



SPENCER'S JOKE OF THE MONTH

Q: Why do spiders live in cornfields?
A: It's easier to make cobwebs. SPENCER PERKS



ASK ASMODEUS

Dear Asmodeus,
I've never been one of the "in" crowd. But I desperately want to be! All the late night parties and the hot babes... it looks like so much fun! How can I become popular?
L on my forehead

Dear L on my forehead,
Popularity huh? Very desirable I know...but are you sure that's what you really want? I've been to the other side. and it's not pretty. It involves a lot of hair gel and separating your eyelashes with a safety pin to achieve flirty clump-free lashes. Parties aren't all they're cracked up to be either, people end up eating too many maraschino cherries and then they throw up in the bathroom sink. But if that's what you want, this is how you get it.

First of all, you are on no accounts to act yourself. The only way to set out onto the road to popularity is to be *not you*. Popular people scream utter perfection! Am I right? They emanate beauty. To be popular you have to as well. Use a thick layer of makeup to hide any imperfections you might have! (Tip applies to both genders). Take advice from the pros! Popular and ultra-trendy life partners will be instantly drawn to you.

But flawless, foundation-goopy facial features aren't all it takes to become the princess or prince of popularity. You have to dress the part too. Have you heard? Disco is back! Sparkly jump suits and Farrah Fawcett are all the rage. Don't have 70's clothes? That's okay! Just pay Grandma and Grandpa a little visit. Ask them politely if you can ransack their closets. Because they love you they'll probably give you a nice heaping plate of snicker doodles and show you into their bedroom (not in a creepy way). During your raid, look for key items such as powder blue polyester dress pants and sequined platform shoes.

But of course, appearance is only part of the high-status equation. You got to have that sassy attitude to match! Test out phrases like "Don't be so 2011!", "You're beneath me," and "Your hair doesn't match your purse, get lost." Practice smirking and flipping your hair. Don't forget to roll your eyes!

Have fun prancing around trying to please people! Don't come sobbing to me when someone barfs on your new shoes at a party, you *did* ask for it.

A SHORT STORY BY JOH YOSHIDA

JAMES BOND, ACCOUNTANT PART 2

"Hello, and welcome to Shake n' Fries," I drawled, not even bothering to look up from the register, "Can I take your order?"

"I want you and your sliced up face working for the CIA. It wasn't an offer, James. There is no happy medium here. Speaking of which, give me a medium Happy Burger."

I didn't need to look up to put a face to the steely voice, but I did anyway. It was Agent Coney, the CIA spook that I met at the hospital.

Six months had passed since the incident at the bank resulting in my jaw removal and subsequent hospitalization. I had considered calling Agent Coney for that job, but I never got the nerve, and resigned myself to a lifetime flipping burgers. I considered myself fortunate when I was hired as a cashier instead. It was boring work, but to be honest, I enjoyed it. Life was quiet, and that's how I liked it. At least until Agent Coney turned up again.

"Come with me." I didn't move a muscle. He placed his hand on his gun. "Come with me, Mr. Bond," he repeated, a little more forcefully. I felt a drop of something warm drip down my thigh; I sincerely hoped it was a stray splatter of bacon grease from the employee behind me currently screaming in excitement about a real-life secret agent in their restaurant. I stepped out from behind the counter, trying not to look at the gun again.

"Good," Coney said. He gestured to my yellow apron, emblazoned with the Shake n' Fries logo. "You won't be needing that. Leave it here, and follow me to my car."

I subtly wiped my leg on the car's black leather seats as I climbed into the back. Agent Coney put on a pair of shades and hit the ignition. The sleek car purred to life.

"We're going to the CIA headquarters," Coney explained, "where you'll be put through a rigorous series of tests to see if you meet our standards. After that, you'll be assigned a mission, like fighting space terrorists or something boring like that. Don't worry; you'll climb the ranks quickly.

He brushed an imaginary fleck of dust from his shoulder. "Here we are. Good luck out there, Bond."

I wondered why I had never heard of space terrorists before as I pushed the heavy iron door to the first test chamber open. The chamber was incredibly, unnervingly dark. I wished Coney had given me some more information before dropping me off in front of a reinforced concrete bunker in the middle of nowhere.

A monotone voice cut through the darkness: "Close the door, Mr. Bond." I slowly pushed the door closed, taking care not to make any unnecessary noise.

"Your first test begins... now. Take a seat, Mr. Bond." A blindingly bright light flicked on a few meters ahead, revealing a slim gunmetal desk and a slimmer man in a black suit. I quickly traversed the distance, glad to be out of the seemingly endless darkness. The agent behind the desk was all sharp lines and angles, and had a mechanical air to him. His face was a blank slate, partially obscured by a pair of black sunglasses.

"I - uh, there's no chair... sir." The man stared emotionlessly at me. I wondered if he was human. I took a knee in front of the desk, wincing at the harsh light of the single bulb above the desk. I glanced curiously at the only object on the desk. It looked like a switchboard, with a red and a blue

button.

"It's a switchboard," the angled man droned, "with a red and a blue button." He pushed the box towards me "If you would be so kind as to push a button, we can continue with our test."

I scratched my chin in a manner I considered rather pensive, before reaching out and pressing the blue button. Immediately I was racked by a jolt of electricity that left my teeth on edge and my vision foggy.

The angled man almost smirked. I waited for him to say something. When no further response came, I tentatively reached for the red button, watching the angled man carefully.

Again, pain shot up my arm and straight to my heart. I gasped loudly, falling backwards. Cool tiles pressed against my cheek. Maybe I'm not thinking outside the box. I pushed myself to my feet and brushed myself off. Without looking, I quickly pressed both buttons at the same time.

The pain nearly caused me to black out instantly. The stinging smell of burnt hair filled the air.

"Creative thinking is not part of this test. Please follow the test protocol."

With an exasperated yell, I turned on my heel and marched towards the door. "Screw this test! It doesn't matter what you do, because it shocks you either way!" I slammed into the door and promptly bounced off. The creeps had locked me in!

"Congratulations, Mr. Bond. You passed the test." A low tone and a blinking green light informed me that the door was now unlocked. "An alternative method of completing this test was to incapacitate me." The angled man rested his hands on the desk and stared blankly into the distance.

I pushed the door open, blinking in surprise at the sudden brightness. It wasn't the lobby I'd entered from; it seemed to be another test chamber. A test chamber that, apart from the blinding fluorescent lights embedded in the ceiling, seemed completely identical to the one I just left - right down to the man sitting behind the desk. I turned around to look back in the room I just left, only to find that behind the door was a smooth tile wall.

There was nothing left to do but attempt this next test. I cautiously walked up to the desk and sat down opposite the angled man. He stared blankly - not at me, but through me, as if he didn't even realize I was there.

I looked around helplessly. Was I missing something? Was there more to this test? Or did I just need to press a button on the switchboard again? I was not keen on being shocked again.

Hesitantly, I pressed the red button.

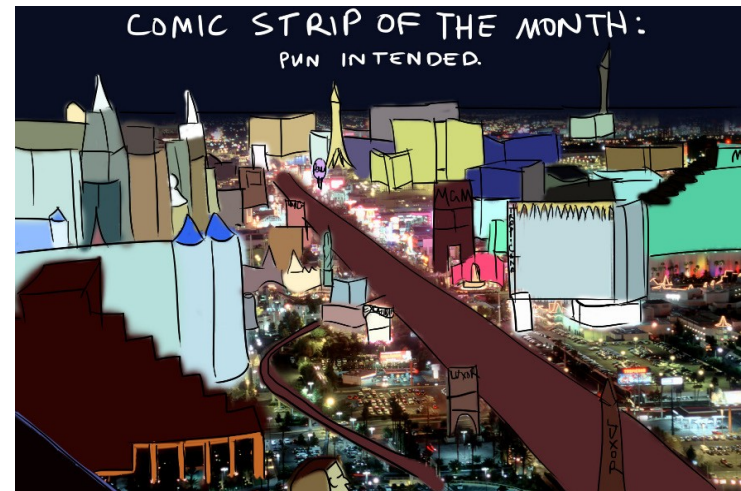
There was a faint click. Then...

Nothing.

I stood stock still, waiting for something, anything, to happen. A full minute passed - it felt like an hour - before the angled man locked his gaze with mine.

"Congratulations on passing this test." I thought I smelled antiseptic on his breath. "You have shown that your curiosity and determination to finish the task at hand outweighs your desire to avoid pain, a key trait of any CIA operative. Please report to the briefing room through the next door, where you will be given your first assignment." Was that a glimmer of malice in his emotionless eyes? "I believe you'll be combating space terrorists."

Look for Part III next month (maybe)!



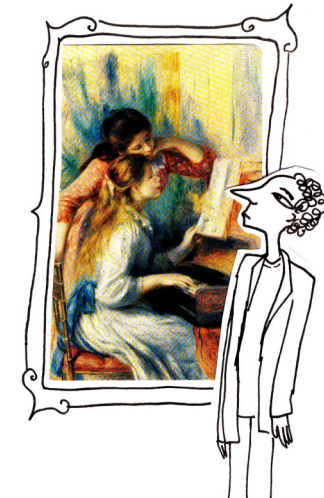
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CRISPY COMICS



MORNING GLOW PHOTOGRAPH
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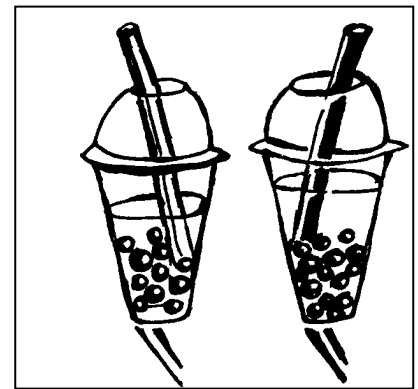
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