

THE GOLDEN TIMES

Vol. 3

NOVEMBER 14, 2025

LOUVRE HEIST
SENIOR NIGHT

24 WITHOUT

HALLOWEEN
SPIRIT WEEK

NEW HISTORY CLUB

THE
POWER IS
THE PEOPLE

We dare not forget
that we are the
heirs of the first
revolution

I WRITE ONLY BECAUSE THERE
IS A VOICE WITHIN ME THAT
WILL NOT BE STILLED

A WORD AFTER A WORD AFTER A
WORD IS POWER.

—Margaret Atwood

WORDS ARE POWERFUL.
THEY CAN CREATE OR
THEY CAN DESTROY. SO
CHOOSE YOUR WORDS
WISELY.

DESCRIPTION BEGINS IN THE
WRITER'S IMAGINATION BUT
SHOULD FINISH IN THE
READER'S

—Stephen King.

GIVE
ME
LIBERTY
OR GIVE
ME DEATH



SOCCER SENIOR NIGHT

BY: MACY KERR

Senior Night is one of the most meaningful traditions in high school sports, and last month, the Hugh Boyd Hawks soccer team got to celebrate theirs. The night was dedicated to recognizing the graduating players who have given years of effort, commitment, and heart to the program.

While the Hawks fell 4-0 to McRoberts, the game was about much more than the scoreboard. Before kickoff, the team honored each of the seniors with cheers from the crowd, photos with family, and warm words from teammates and coaches. It was a chance to look back on all the hard work, long practices, early mornings, and memorable moments these players have shared. For many of them, Boyd soccer has been a huge part of their high school experience, something that has shaped their confidence, leadership, and friendships over the years.

Senior Night gave everyone a chance to say thank you to the players who've been role models on and off the field. These seniors have shown dedication, sportsmanship, and the kind of attitude that younger players look up to. Whether they were leading warmups, encouraging teammates during tough games, or bringing energy to every practice, they've left a lasting mark on the team culture. Even though the Hawks didn't get the win, the night was full of smiles, laughter, and appreciation. The stands were packed with classmates, teachers, and families holding signs and cheering for the seniors. After the final whistle, the team gathered for photos and speeches, celebrating not just the season, but the bonds they've built along the way. For the seniors, it was a bittersweet night, one last chance to play under the lights surrounded by their friends and teammates. For the rest of the team, it was a reminder of what it means to be part of something bigger than yourself.

Senior Night wasn't about the scoreline, it was about celebrating effort, growth, and memories that will last long after the season ends. As the seniors move on, their impact will continue to inspire future Hawks who take the field in the years to come.



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HALLOWEEN SPIRIT WEEK

BY: KOSAR SAFFARZAD

From October 27th to 31st, the Student Council hosted their first Spirit Week of the year for Halloween.

On October 27th, students took part in Men in Black Monday by dressing up in black suits and sunglasses to look classy. On the 28th, students showed up with wild and creative hairstyles in Crazy Hair Day. The next day, Which Witch is Which Wednesday, students matched outfits with their friends as twins. Boyd students showed up with their matcha drinks and Labubu plushies, bringing a fun and performative vibe on Thursday, October 30th. On October 31st, students came to school wearing their spooky and creative costumes for Halloween! Some teachers also joined the fun by showing their own costumes.

In the Halloween fashion show, participants showed off their amazing costumes in front of judges. The three categories were the scariest costume, best solo costume, and best group costume. The scariest costume was tooth fairy, the best solo costume was Mr. Clean, and the best group costume was Jojo Siwa, Abby Lee Miller and Steve Harvey. Congratulations to all the winners! Boyd students had a blast participating in this year's Halloween Spirit Week.



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24 WITHOUT

BY: JUANA KAADAN

Hugh Boyd holds the event 24 Without every year, which is an event where everyone that participates, for 24 hours you go without food, phones, or makeup. This year, the event started at 5 p.m. and until 9:30 p.m., everyone participated in activities like escape rooms, finishing the lyric challenges, etc. At the end of the evening there was a prize raffle where you can win prizes like gift certificates and vouchers for various things, you can enter the raffle by bringing a minimum donation of twenty dollars and you are then given a raffle ticket. The more money that you donate, the more tickets you can get and the higher chance of winning prizes.

The reason the event is held every year is because it was created for the purpose of shedding light on those who are less fortunate to have everyday necessities. The reason for taking away food, phones, and makeup for the event is so people can live a day in those people's shoes, to see how it's like to not have those things as these people do. It makes it easier to understand other people's living conditions. The theme this year is time travel as the activities are themed around finding Mr. Aura lost in time and retraced his steps by gaining hints in the games. Whichever team saves Mr. Aura first wins.

The money raised from 24 Without is for Rotary's Maternal and Child Health, is a foundation that reaches out for mothers and children that are in need and help by giving communities the support and training they need in order to take control of their maternal and child healthcare. Rotary members also train health workers and provide education, immunizations, birth kits, and mobile health clinics. They also work alongside local ministries of health. Women are also taught how to prevent HIV transmission, how to breast-feed, and how to protect themselves and their children from diseases they could contract.

The reason for signing up is because you get to experience how things are like for people who are less fortunate and gives you more empathy for those people during the event. It's a good opportunity to have fun with your peers for a good cause.



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NEW HISTORY CLUB

BY: PAUL DELOS REYES

In recent weeks, a new, unique club has started to surface at Hugh Boyd. Started by grade ten students, Carter Watson and Vince Chan, the Hugh Boyd History Club has gradually gained a following from other students. With all the interesting history that they cover, the club is surely on the way to massive growth.

The History Club is a dedicated place to discuss a variety of historical topics, while also meeting fellow history enthusiasts. It is perfect for those seeking higher knowledge about history. Every week, the History Club covers one topic relating to history; which can be as local, global, famous, or obscure as desired. One of the main selling points of the club is how flexible and inclusive it can be. Students can attend meetings based purely off their interest in the topic being presented.

The History Club meets every Wednesday in Mr. Taylor's room (219) to engage in the previously mentioned discussions. So far, the club has talked about the Battle of Stalingrad, the Peasant Revolt of 1381, and the Vietnam War. Topics speculated to come up include the Eruption of Mount Vesuvius, the Irish Potato Famine, the Chernobyl Disaster, and more. The History club is always open to suggestions about new topics.

If you would like to join the Hugh Boyd History Club, simply drop in at one of their weekly meetings. Inquiries can be sent to the club's Instagram page: @hb_history_.



FRIGHT NIGHT REVIEWS

BY: MILA BURSAC



Every October, Playland at the PNE transforms into Fright Nights, Vancouver's premier Halloween attraction. The event combines classic amusement park rides with haunted houses, eerie lighting, and live performers to create a thrilling night out for horror fans. It's loud, chaotic, and packed with energy, but also with long lines and mixed reviews.

Fright Nights absolutely nails the Halloween vibe. From the moment you enter, fog creeps across the ground, screams echo from every direction, and costumed actors stalk the crowd. The park glows in haunting reds and purples, and familiar rides like the Wooden Roller Coaster, The Beast, and Atmosfear feel far more intense after dark. The mix of carnival fun and genuine creepiness gives the night a unique energy that few events in Vancouver can match.

The heart of Fright Nights lies in its haunted houses, each with a different theme, from twisted carnivals and creepy dolls to abandoned asylums. Fan favourites like Carn-Evil and The Doll Factory stand out for their detailed sets and creative jump scares. The makeup and costumes are top-notch, and at their best moments, the actors deliver some genuinely heart-pounding scares. However, not every house is equal. Some feel short or less immersive, especially when the crowds are heavy and the actors have little time to reset between groups. On busy nights, the experience can start to feel more like a long wait for a brief thrill.

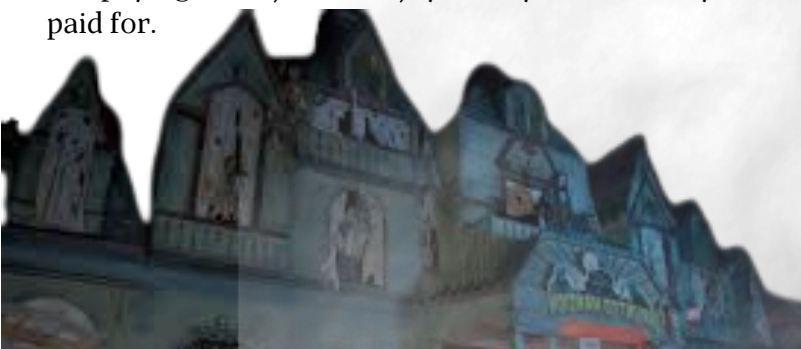
The biggest downside to Fright Nights is the wait time. On peak nights, lineups for the haunted houses and major rides can exceed an hour, meaning you might only see a handful of attractions all evening. The "Rapid Pass" lets you skip lines but costs significantly more, and for some visitors, it feels like paying extra just to enjoy what you've already paid for.

Another common complaint is inconsistency, some houses and scare zones feel packed with energy, while others seem under-staffed or rushed. Add in the strict rules (no costumes, no re-entry, bag checks) and rising ticket prices, and it's easy to see why a few guests leave frustrated.

Despite its flaws, Fright Nights remains a must-visit for anyone who loves Halloween. When the crowds are manageable and the energy is high, it delivers a perfect mix of excitement, fear, and laughter.

Go early, choose a weekday if possible, and plan your route through the park to get the most out of your night.

Fright Nights at Playland isn't just about getting scared, it's about sharing that experience with friends, laughing between screams, and soaking in the Halloween spirit. Yes, the lines are long and the tickets aren't cheap, but the atmosphere and creativity make it one of Vancouver's most exciting seasonal traditions. If you go prepared and patient, you'll walk away with more than just a few scares, you'll leave with memories that last long after the fog fades.



SUDAN'S CIVIL WAR

BY: ANNA ZUO

"Our job is only killing," the fighter cheers.

The civil war taking place in Sudan has already been two years since 2023, more than 150,000 people are estimated to have been killed in the past non-stop conflicts, not including people who became homeless, who became disabled, who lost everything.

The direct cause of the war is the disagreement between two leaders- Muhammad Hamdan Dagalo "Hemedti" of RSF(Rapid Support Forces) and Abdel Fattah al-Burhan of (Sudanese Armed Forces). After overthrowing the violent dictator al-Bashir off the throne together, the two leaders promised the civilians to allow them to vote for their own ideal leading figures once they reached agreement. The civilians cheered. Al-Burhan asked "Hemedti" to make RSF join as a part of SAF within two years. Obviously, "Hemedti" refused the idea of giving out his power and decided to overthrow the current government. The civilians' wish has shattered into pieces and the war threw them into the abyss.

However, Sudan's Civil War starting in 2023 is not an accidental event; it's an inevitable outcome of history. The country is a mosaic model without fluid and blending. Between 20th and 6th centuries BC, the residents of Nubia(now called Sudan) were mostly Black Africans, gradually due to the invasion of other countries, the tribes, Arabs and other races stepping onto this land, bringing different cultures and religions to the country. The diversity unfortunately didn't bring peace and unity. People and faiths were ranked in rigid hierarchies, and many were enslaved by those who saw themselves as superior. The government disregarded the well-being of its own civilians and repeatedly provoked wars in other neighboring countries. Even the rebellion of the residents who are suffering led to deeper misery of others and more authoritarian ruling. Then comes the long time of about 120 years of being colonized, first by the Ottoman Empire and Egypt, and then again falling under the Anglo-Egyptian rule of Britain and Egypt again.

Not until 1956, Sudan gained its independence. And the first civil war has broken out just before it, between the Southern Part and the Northern Part for 17 years over the highly economical difference, religious and ethnical discrimination. It ended with the Addis Ababa Agreement, which gave a degree of autonomy to the south. However, the peace is temporary and shallow. In 1983, the flames of war once again spread over the land, the 22-year conflict buried the life of an estimated 2 million people which was one of the deadliest wars.

The reason was simply that the northern government violated the Addis Ababa Agreement and imposed the Sharia Law. During the war itself, Omar al-bashir led a group of officers in a military coup that ousted the democratically elected government of prime minister Sadiq al-Mahdi after it began negotiations with rebels in the south. Under the bloodless and inhuman ruling of al-Bashir, he directed a campaign of mass killing, rape, and pillage against civilians in Darfur, causing an estimated death of 20 thousand to 40 thousand people and over

2.5 million civilians out of the 6.5 million civilians lost their homes. South Sudan gained independence as the latest country in the world in 2011, taking 75% of the oil reserves which is a major blow to the economy. The president and his military coup government did not have enough money and the quality of life plummeted. People have had enough of this in 2019 and overthrew al-Bashir through the power of another two military coup leaders- Muhammad Hamdan Dagalo "Hemedti" and Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.

The war is still continuing, no matter how hard the historical facts hit and how righteous the war is, it is always the people who are suffering and dying. This war is the game of two men fighting over the governing power of the country and they are killing the power of the country-the civilians, the civilians have no choices. Their pathetic democracy was broken down again and again by the endless discrimination, hierarchies, conflicts, colonizations and military coups. The scales of power have never once tipped in their favor, what they are only longing after getting the power is the peaceful and happy life.



LOUVRE HEIST

BY: EDEN BEN DAVID

On the day of October 19th, in the midst of a busy day at the Louvre, priceless artifacts—including Napoleonic jewels—were taken from the infamous museum. The heist began about thirty minutes after the museum opened, with civilians already inside, the whole event unfolding just 250 meters away from the Mona Lisa. The entire robbery lasted less than eight minutes, with the masked robbers using an electric ladder and grinders to break through a second-floor window. Officials reported that the intruders forced open the window, cut through the panes with a disc cutter, and went straight for the glass display cases. The perpetrators smashed two cases, triggering the alarm and fleeing the scene on motorbikes.

Thieves stole eight royal jewels from two high-security display cases, the French Ministry of Culture confirmed Sunday. The stolen items once belonged to Empress Marie-Louise, wife of Napoleon I, and Empress Eugénie, wife of Napoleon III. Among them were Eugénie's pearl diadem, diamond bow brooch, and reliquary brooch, as well as a sapphire set linked to Queens Marie-Amélie and Hortense, and an emerald necklace and earrings from Marie-Louise's collection. The thieves also tried to take Eugénie's emerald crown, set with over 1,300 diamonds, but it was found broken outside the museum. According to French media, there were four perpetrators—two dressed as construction workers and two waiting on scooters to make their escape.

In the days following the heist, French authorities launched a large-scale investigation that quickly led to the arrest of four suspects. Among them was 39-year-old social media influencer Abdoulaye N., known online as Doudou Cross Bitume, who was detained at his home in Aubervilliers. He and three others now face charges of organized theft and criminal conspiracy.

The shocking burglary has raised serious questions about museum security, especially considering the thieves' ability to burglarize such a famous institution, so close to the Mona Lisa and escape within minutes. The Louvre has since tightened its security protocols as investigators work to recover the remaining stolen jewels and uncover whether more individuals were involved in the plot.



ALBERTA TEACHERS STRIKE

BY: AUDREY KAN



In early October 2025, Alberta faced one of the largest education strikes in its history, as more than 51,000 teachers and education staff represented by the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) walked off the job. The province wide strike affected approximately 750,000 students leaving classrooms empty for several weeks.

The teachers went on strike because of the growing frustration over overcrowded classrooms, heavy workloads, and stagnant wages. Teachers argued that their pay had not kept up with inflation, while class sizes continued to increase, especially for students requiring extra support. Alberta's public education spending also lags behind the national average, with the province spending about \$12,847 per student, compared to the Canadian average of \$14,789.

The strike caused significant disruption across the province. Classes and extracurricular activities were suspended, leaving families struggling to manage childcare. As the strike continued, Premier Danielle Smith's government took a hard stance. On October 28, the legislature passed the Back to School Act (Bill 2), forcing teachers back to work and imposing a four-year contract retroactive to September 2024. The legislation also invoked the notwithstanding clause, a rarely used constitutional provision that prevents legal challenges to the bill. Many teenagers came out protesting for their educators and refusing to go to school.

GEN Z PROTESTS IN NEPAL

BY: PAUL DELOS REYES



Since September 8th, thousands of young Nepali citizens have taken to the streets to protest their government's ban on social media. What started as an organized, peaceful protest, quickly turned violent when protesters attempted to enter the Federal Parliament Building. Authorities responded with lethal force, leading to fires at government buildings. Around 72 people were killed and over 2,000 injured.

As of September 13th, the protests have died down. Although Prime Minister Sharma Oli has since resigned and the ban was lifted, protests continue. The ban began on September 4. 26 social media platforms including YouTube, Twitter, Snapchat, LinkedIn, and Facebook were blocked after failing to comply with new government policies. Trends that focus on the nepotism enjoyed by relatives of political figures may also be a factor contributing to the ban.

Many young Nepalis, especially those from Generation Z, can no longer tolerate the country's many years of corruption, political instability, and nepotism. This was the breaking point after years of corruption, political instability, and economic struggles such as unemployment and lack of opportunity. These events raise questions about digital freedom in South and Southeast Asia.

For years, social media has been a powerful tool for the youth to express opinions and connect with loved ones. Taking away that freedom has sparked widespread anger, with protesters vowing to continue until the government addresses corruption and restores trust.