

A Greyhound Hero



by:
Laura Higgins

Mr. Knibb is by far, the most passionate supporter of Saint John High School to ever exist. The enthusiastic and devoted man was principal of Saint John High School from 1965 - 1992. During this time, he was a great influence on the school and instrumental in making it what it is today. There is clearly a reason why our very own auditorium is named after Mr. Knibb. He is an intelligent, accomplished, and talented man who has affected the lives of many people whether they are Greyhounds or not.

Mr. Knibb was born in England and attended Judd Grammar School in Tombridge, Kent. He is an intellectual man who received a scholarship to attend Keble College, Oxford where he achieved a Bachelor of Arts. He then attended Oxford where he received his Master in Arts. He also served in the Royal Navy obtaining the rank of sub-lieutenant. It is safe to say that he



has just about done it all.

This astounding man holds the title of longest serving principal at Saint John High in the twentieth century. I was fortunate enough to sit down with Mr. Knibb to discuss his past and present, which are filled with countless fascinating stories. His favorite aspect of Saint John High is "its diversity of students, both rich and poor". He believes that the "survival of the school is based not just on academics, but extracurricular activities". During his years as principal, Saint John High created numerous extracurricular activities drawing an abundance of students. "Vocational School started out with 1200 students, but soon diminished to 500 because they were getting rid of their extracurricular activities." This is when Vocational became focused on the trades. During his time at Saint John High, Mr. Knibb was not only an administrator, but was involved with extracurricular activities such as the production of the musical "Oliver" in 1980. He is clearly a multi-talented man.

Over the years, Saint John High School has undergone only "subtle changes" according to Mr. Knibb. He wanted to remark: "People say that student values are going to the dogs, but this is not true". To him, the most significant change is that even more extracurricular activities are available which is fantastic.

In recent news, we have been informed that the district office is only allowing certain students from sections of the city to attend certain high schools. Mr. Knibb has a strong opinion on this. He is opposed to
Continued On Page 2 - See "Mr. Knibb"

Helping the Hungry



During this busy holiday season, many are struggling to complete their Christmas shopping lists, many are preparing for festive parties and celebrations and also, many are excitedly anticipating the presents they will be soon receiving. For others in the world however, including many in the Greater Saint John Area, the holiday season is a stark reminder of the poverty they are forced to endure. Many of these people are unable to enjoy the holidays.

Each year, Saint John High School participates in a Food Drive, with the hopes of bringing some holiday cheer to the less fortunate of Saint John during the holiday and winter season. Organized by Mr. Ogden, the food drive collects non-perishable foods, such as canned goods and Kraft Dinner, to be donated to one of the eight food banks in the Greater Saint John Area.

Saint John is the city with the highest poverty rate in New Brunswick. "Saint John has a lot of children and seniors who go to bed hungry and wake up hungry. We have children in our school who come to school hungry," says Mr. Ogden. "This rips my heart out," he adds, "as we live in a country of plenty."

Since we do live in a country of plenty, each classroom at Saint John High School is equipped with a cardboard box, intended for those able to donate any non-perishable food item, children's books, plastic bags, or even plastic containers. "Please help," says Mr. Ogden. "Every can you bring in will make it possible for children to become better learners, happier, healthier, and will make our community a better place to live."

Not only is the food drive necessary for the holidays. Saint John is in desperate need of everyone's help in the Food Drive during the entire winter season. During the months of December, January and February, the food banks give out twice as much food, as many people cannot afford their heat and electric bills during the winter season. "Families shouldn't have to go to sleep cold just to have a meal," says Hallie Jewell. "Any donation to the food bank could help to prevent this."

So, as many of us at Saint John High School are buying Christmas presents, decorating the tree, and preparing for Cabaret, keep in mind that it might only take one can to brighten someone's holiday season. And remember, it is always better to give than to receive - especially to such a great cause.

by:
Soleil Leger



Cabaret Frenzy

by:
Brittany Saab

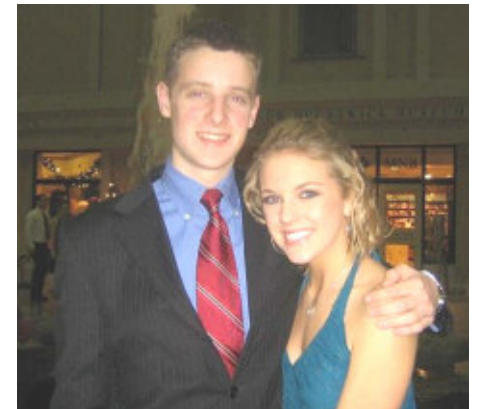


It's that time of the year again. The days are getting shorter, the air's getting colder, and the Greyhounds are getting ready to... dance?

Let me give you the run down on Cabaret. It is our very own semi-formal/formal dance taking place, this year, on December 21st. There's no better way to get ready for Christmas than dressing up and spending a night with your fellow Greyhounds, and perhaps their sign-ins.

Many people get nervous at the thought of Cabaret. Who will I go with? What am I going to wear? Well, I'm here to end your worries, or some of them, with this helpful, and concise, "Guide to Cabaret".

First thing's first, the date. In a lot of minds this is the most important part of Cabaret. In reality these people are just getting worked up over nothing. There's that day-old drama of, "If I don't have a date I'm not



going" or, "If he doesn't ask me I'm staying home." First of all date or no date, skipping out on a night with friends to sit home in self pity is just about the lamest thing a person can do. Girls, if he hasn't asked you yet then suck it up and talk to him about it yourself; chances are he's just shy. If you don't have a special someone, pick up the phone, call a friend. Most of the time going with a friend is way more fun than going with someone you barely know. Dateless? Who cares! Grab some friends and make a fun night of it.

Next on the list is clothing. Girls, semi-formal does not mean a big pouffy prom dress. There is definitely no reason to go out and spend hundreds of dollars on a dress. Just look nice in a simple dress. Most go in darker colors (i.e. black or dark red), but why not have some fun with it? No one's saying you can't pull out the hot pink. Not into dresses? A nice skirt and top will do just fine. Guys, attire wise, Cabaret is a bit easier on you. Nice shirt, nice tie, nice pants... and you're done. Some will go for the suit jacket and I must say, it's a once a year thing, so why not? Oh and boys don't forget, a corsage for your date is a must.

All in all I think people put too much pressure on themselves when Cabaret time comes around. It's not supposed to be a stressful time. It's a night to dress up and have fun with your friends! To those who have never been to Cabaret or who have been considering not coming: it's not supposed to be a stressful time. It's a night to dress up and have fun with your friends. So everyone come out to what is sure to be one of the best nights of the year!



What's Inside

Empty Stocking Fund: Page 2

Cell Phone Frustrations: Page 3

Gambling In Schools: Page 5

Year In Review: Centerspread

Tubing at You Tube: Page 10

Our Lady Greyhounds: Page 12

Million-Dollar Soap for All



by:
Jory Moore

November twenty-second was the day entrepreneurship classes from all over the district went to the Imperial Theater to see a presentation by Enterprise Saint John. The presentation involved a guest speaker named Pierre Pelletier. He talked about how he started a business selling soap and over time it expanded. He now has eleven stores and three manufacturing facilities all over the world.

This Canadian entrepreneur had some good advice for the students of all the schools in attendance. He told them what entrepreneurs need to succeed. The final thing he said was that a good entrepreneur needs to feel "passion" about what they are doing.

The presentation went from nine o'clock until ten forty five, so it took the first two classes. Mr. Pelletier talked about many interesting things. He talked about how he made his millions and what locations he sold in. Mr. Pelletier said, "Saint John in the next couple of years is really going to blow up and a lot of the people who went out west will be coming back." He even had a Q&A after he was done talking and was asked many questions by students from not only Saint John High, but also the other schools in the district. One of the questions he was asked by a student was: "If you made a thousand dollars on the street at my age what would you do with it?" He replied by saying: "Now, I would probably invest it in something that I thought could make me more money, but if I was your age I would more than likely spend it on something foolish."

After the presentation, every student leaving the theater received a complementary bar of soap from Mr. Pelletier, so not only is he a self made millionaire but he is also generous.

The Joys of English Assessment



by:
Kate Hopkins

On the week of November 27th students from all grades gathered in the cafeteria and other designated areas of the school to take a shot at the ELPA — English Language Proficiency Assessment — possibly for a second time. Run by Ms. Blok and by several other teachers it involved two parts: a multiple choice reading test and a booklet in which to demonstrate writing abilities. This was divided into 3 sections.

While it may seem easy, a lot could go wrong. There were quite a few individuals whose names weren't included on the booklets. They found

"Mr Knibb" - Continued From Page 1

the idea of designated high schools. "Competition is essential for academic excellence." He says that students should be able to attend the high school of their choice because that is where the majority of them feel they will excel.

Mr. Knibb is still involved with Saint John High School today. He is the secretary of the Alumni and is extremely talented at bringing money into the school. He is dedicated to Saint John High School and never ceases to make it a priority. He still spends numerous hours in the school whether it is for meetings, reunions, or just for a visit. You may have also seen him uptown in the summer as he has held the position of our town crier during the cruise ship season. Mr. Knibb also has a friend that we should know about, named Daisy. Daisy is his loyal dog that accompanies him on his walks throughout his neighborhood.

Mr. Knibb is a tremendous part of Saint John High School and has succeeded in making it a place worthwhile to attend. He is filled with the most interesting stories and there is no doubt that he is the living Saint John High School encyclopedia. He can describe the school like no other and can really make you feel the spirit of a true Greyhound.

Empty Stocking Fund:

A Great Success!

On Saturday, November 25th, at 12 p.m. the annual Empty Stocking Fund began. The eight-hour fundraiser collected over \$169,000 for the youth of the Greater Saint John Area and will provide them with toys, food, and necessities over the Christmas holidays. This is one of the greatest fundraisers of the year and is a tradition for the majority of Saint John families to take part in or to enjoy.

The Student Council kicked off the annual campaign known as "Penny Fest" where students collected pennies in competition for the titles of duke, duchess, king, queen, etc..



by:
Laura Higgins

This campaign took place a week before the Empty Stocking Fund to raise funds for its wonderful cause. There was madness among the students in the hallways as they gathered new ideas to boost their fundraising totals. Anthony Nolletti carried around homemade cookies for anyone who donated money to his flashy bucket and they were delicious! All of this fundraising paid off as Saint John High donated the most money to the Empty Stocking Fund out of all the local high schools. We raised a whopping \$2,505.28! Congratulations! Thank you to everyone for their efforts and contributions. Joe Belding is "astounded with your success!"

Many individual Saint John High School performers such as Jillian Bonner and Sarah Robertson lit up the television screen on Saturday with their talent. Our concert choir also performed at 7 p.m. and did a delightful job! They sang "Jingle Bell Fantasy" and certainly brought out the Christmas spirit in everyone. Ms. Gallagher, Ms. Ahern, and Ms. Garey did a wonderful job of preparing the choir for this special event. The school was represented well by the performers and the money raised was presented on camera before the choir performed. It was a superb kick off to the Christmas season. Thank you Saint John High for giving so much to make the Christmas of others brighter!



themselves having to patiently wait until everyone else's name was called out until they were able to receive an 'extra' booklet as a substitute. On it they printed their name, student ID and other information.

Mix-ups like that were the least of the staffs' problems. Every other day it seemed a package of tests magically went missing.

The teachers rose to the occasion, spreading out to all ends of the building in search of the missing packages. Each time they managed to successfully recover them.

Several students found themselves getting a rather late start on their tests, which for many is an extremely stressful situation. Luckily the teachers countered that

Very Bizarre Assembly

by:
Brittany Saab



On December 1st, the students of Saint John High School were treated to a truly bizarre assembly. Teachers put an impressive amount of time and effort into entertaining the school with their strange and hilarious skits.

The assembly began with a truly heartwarming story of an elf's transformation from rebellion to caring. This entertaining skit, including sword fighting and pirates, was performed by a variety of teachers including, Ms. Alcorn, Mr. Hachey and Ms. Wilton among others. Narration was provided by Mr. Harbinson himself. The skit ended with true Christmas spirit.

The next piece was considered a favorite by many. Saint John High Idol, hosted by Ryan Seacrest (Mr. McKim), himself, turned the Dennis Knibb auditorium into an uncanny episode of American Idol. Judges included Simon Cowell (Mr. Milley), Paula Abdul (Ms. Gallagher), and Sass Jordan (Ms. Wood). Each had their own unique view on the performances. The performances themselves were, to say the least, unusual. Mojo Larsen (Mr. Larsen) gave us a taste of the blues while Little Miss Understood (Ms. Underwood) wowed the audience with a unique song about the Bazaar. Next up was Ima Gonnipop (Ms. Nolan) who, unfortunately, did not get the chance to show her stuff as she was kicked off stage by Simon himself. Many were confused by the strange song choice of Moonbeam Stargazer (Ms. Alcorn) who, instead of words, resorted to a handy tambourine. D.J. Newfie Newf (Ms. Wilton) came on with a strong addition to the hiphop scene which was, surely, appreciated by many. The shocker of the day came when Sister Merry Sherry (Ms. Golding) belted out her version of the popular "I Will Survive"; it was followed by a well deserved standing ovation. From a vote of applause it was obvious that Sister Merry Sherry took the title of the first Saint John High Idol. The assembly ended with an impressive version of "So This is Christmas" by John Lennon played by many of our own.

The Bizarre assembly was a big success and did its job of promoting the bazaar and giving off the Christmas spirit. Even the infamous Simon Cowell was spotted showing some true Christmas spirit. The teachers received a well deserved applause for all their work.

unnecessary tension by allowing students to continue their tests on designated days and by extending the assessment into the next week. This gave them more than enough time to complete any unfinished work.

As a result of the way the staff and students handled themselves, all turned out well. "I appreciate the support. Everyone

was extremely cooperative and handled themselves in a true Saint John High fashion," said Ms. Blok.

Hopefully this is the final time everyone will have to write the test and if not: "Better luck next time!"



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Cell Phone Frustrations



by:
Samantha Cormier



For as long as we have been in high school, cell phones have been a huge issue that ends up dividing the teachers from the students.

There are many different reasons why the school has “banned” the use of cell phones, and I have to say that yes, I do agree with some of the teachers. I can remember many different times when a teacher was trying to go over the lesson and someone beside me wasn’t listening, because instead he decided to text-message his friend. Now students, as much as you may hate me right now, put yourself in your teacher’s shoes. How would you feel if you were trying to teach a class of 30 students with only half listening and the other half talking to their friends in other classes? It would upset you wouldn’t it? I mean, here you are going home every day after school preparing for the next day (for your students to get a better education) only to have hardly any of them listen to you. How disrespectful is that?

Now teachers, you have to be understanding and be willing to listen to the complaints of the students. Announcements, we all know what they are, but wait,, how many times have you said to the person sitting next to you “ Oh! They called my name, I think. Where did it say to go?” Or you could be somewhere where you can’t even hear the announcements, the gym for example. There have been many times when I didn’t hear my name being called to go to the office for an important message. But now, if I were allowed to use my cell phone in school at lunch hour, the person with the important message could call me. I would be sure to get my message.

There has been another issue that I feel should be expressed: music and cell phones. There are cell phones that now play music. Students are allowed to listen to music in class if we are assigned questions to work on. Are students allowed to listen to music with their cell phone? Will it be confiscated?

I decided to go and find out if students felt the same way as I do. To my surprise many students totally agreed with the no cell phone rules, but there were also people who totally agreed with me. One student told me that the only reason he agrees with the no cell phone policy is because: “Many times I have been in class writing a test which I studied all night for, and someone is using their cell phone during the test to get answers. It just makes me so mad!”

I guess there will always be disagreements about cell phones in school. Each year they are getting smaller and more technological. Teachers, next time you see a student using a cell phone during lunch or break ignore them. They are not bothering anyone. Students, before you decide to use your cell phones during class put yourself in your teachers place, because it takes a lot of guts to stand up in front of a bunch of teenagers and teach a class.

Beauty: Worth the Fight?



by:
Kate Hopkins

Many people turn to the use of ‘clinically proven’ creams to kill such things as the ageing effects of wrinkles.

Have there not been countless times that you’ve seen a twenty some year old girl on commercials endorsing these products? Correct me if I’m mistaken but last time I checked the majority of twenty year olds don’t have age wrinkles so why are they the ones selling these products? It’s simple: people are extremely gullible and desperate to look different. They believe everything the media say and think “Wow! She really tried that and she looks amazing! I have to try it too!” They never put the pieces together.

We try to accomplish the impossible. Maybe I shouldn’t say impossible. There are a select few who can afford to go out and get the plastic surgery or injections for face lifts and such but keep in mind they have to go repeat treatments in anywhere from one month to a year. Guess how much that will set them back.

Is all this cost and fuss over beauty worth it? What is so wrong with learning to appreciate what we were given?

William Shakespeare once said, “God has given you one face, and you make yourself another”. For some unknown reason we tend to be very reluctant in accepting ourselves for what we are. We constantly strive to be someone we aren’t, setting ridiculous goals of acting and looking like others. The funny thing is that the people we’re basing our standards on have their own picture of what is perfect and it’s not the person they see in the mirror. They too are trying to live up to other people. So who is the ultimate person?

The media seems to think it is a slim but curvy girl — or in a male’s case: toned and muscular — with perfect glowing skin, big bright eyes, long thick hair full of volume, etc... Now I’m sure none of us have air-brush equipment conveniently handy in our washrooms, or computer aided graphics to enhance the color of our eyes or the shine in our hair. So what do we turn to instead?

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Christmas Job Not Worth it!



by:
Brittany Saab

The holidays are here, you’re crunched for money, and you still have a million Christmas presents to buy. To some, the solution is simple, get a job! Sure, it’s logical right? I mean, everyone’s picking up extra staff for the holidays, and it won’t really get in the way of anything. That’s where you may be disappointed.

You and your friends are making big plans for the holidays, everyone’s excited and you’re ready to go, but what’s this? You have to work! The Christmas holidays are a time to relax and have fun with friends, and personally, I’d rather be broke than have that ruined by a job.

Holidays are possibly the worst time to try to get time off from working. With all those crazy customers, usually in a bad mood from shopping all day, running around like maniacs trying to get some last minute shopping done, or returning unsatisfactory Christmas gifts, there’s no way an employer is going to let you off the hook. Honestly, is there anywhere you’d want to be less?

Having a Christmas job may seem like the logical thing to do. Just remember, after you’ve accepted that job, it’s not like you can leave and go back whenever you want. Sure, having the extra money is nice but, in my opinion, it isn’t worth missing out on all the holiday excitement.

Take, Take, Take!



Take, take, take! It’s how the world works now. People are much happier taking than giving nowadays. Well, it can and will be argued that you get “more” out of taking, but is that really true? What ever happened to giving just to see someone smile? You don’t need an occasion to give a gift, or be particularly nice.

The holiday seasons are approaching us, and I’m sure you’re all eager to get your presents, and likely give gifts to those you expect gifts from. How many of your close friends are on that list? Likely few if you’re a guy. I find girls are more likely to give gifts to their friends. Yet, the holidays aren’t about just giving in order to receive, they are about giving to make others happy, and others giving to make you happy. Today, however, this is not the case. People give because they are EXPECTED to. How many would give a gift for no particular reason other than because you think it would be nice?

Lately, the holidays have become a must-give situation. Is it really giving when you consciously expect something in return? Why not just do something nice for a friend who’s down? Giving isn’t only material. Taking, however is. How many times throughout the day have you or a friend been asked for gum? You know the moment that the gum is out, that everybody will “ask” you for a piece, and your gum is now gone.

Taking is a lot more common than giving, and it will be for likely a VERY long time. The world is materialistic now, and that’s how it will stay, but please, when you’ve got the chance... give for the sake of giving.



by:
Alex Bent

Homework For The Holidays



'Tis the season to be jolly...right? Apparently it is the time to do a LARGE chunk of homework. When the week of cabaret rolls around we all notice that our wonderful holiday stack of homework begins to pile up from each class. Holidays are time for a break, not more work. It is understandable that as students we must do our regular homework, but to have multiple essays and projects due shortly after the Christmas break can be stressful during the relaxing holidays.

Anthony Nolletti says that "it is not so much the amount of regular homework that is stressful, it's the projects." Directly after the Christmas break is when students are focused on exams. The combination of projects and exams is an unpleasant one. Karen Galbraith remarks: "It varies every year as to whether or not I get a lot of homework for the holidays. I do love having that free schedule when little homework is given, but the stress just returns in a heavier load when I return to school." Homework must be done and teachers must assign it, so you are bound to get it sometime. Ms. Gallagher thinks, "homework for the holidays is a crime", but we all know how kind she is. Although it's a crime, she says, "It is bound to be given in certain subjects". The workload must be spread out and giving some work over the break makes for a less stressful pre-exam time. If you have an objection to the amount of homework given for the holidays, try speaking kindly to your teacher because everyone needs a break. Remember though, if it is not too much work and will save you from stress later on, then try to understand.

We all want to relax over the holidays and if it is inevitable that homework is going to be a part of them, spread it out over the days. The stress will be less. I know it isn't the most exciting thing to be drinking hot chocolate in front of the fire while doing homework. All I can say is keep your head up, be organized, and you'll feel great when it's all done!

Those Horrible Stink Bombs

Have you ever been walking through the halls of Saint John High during break or lunch and caught a whiff of a horrible putrid smell? Well, with the frequent use of stink bombs you can guess that is probably what you are smelling.

Stink bombs are glass vials which contain ingredients that smell exactly like skunk spray. They have been made to be used in numerous pranks for years and have been clearing hallways in Saint John High for as long as they have been created. I have walked into a hallway many times just to see masses of kids plugging their noses and running away from a particular area.

My opinions on stink bombs are completely negative in nature and I think many would agree. Stink bombs are a childish and immature prank that should have stopped in middle school but did not. Stink bombs not only cause an unnecessary inconvenience to the victims but also, as Alyson Shave has said, "Where is even the fun in it? The people who set them off have to smell the horrible stench too!" This, of course, means that the people who set them off can either stay there and smell the disgusting mess and watch everyone leave and run around, or they can run away and never see the result of their work. I think the majority of students are frustrated with the constant smell of skunk at least once a week in any given hallway and I just want to say "enough is enough!" I'm tired of the same prank being played over and over again and it should just stop.

Overall, in a logical sense, I don't see how anyone can find stink bombs to be humorous at all. And I think there should be some strict death penalty to anyone who is caught using this foul concoction.



by:
Laura Higgins



by:
Matt Soucy

Holiday Stress: an Epidemic?

For many people, the holiday season is a magical time of year to spend relaxing, bonding with family, exchanging gifts and eating plenty of food. But for the people who end up doing most of the work to create this festive atmosphere, the holidays can simply be a time of worry and stress. While holiday stress happens in an effort to create a "perfect" holiday, it can actually make what should be a peaceful time difficult and create a negative attitude towards the holidays.

Holiday stress is an epidemic that mostly affects adults. It only makes sense, seeing as the responsibility of cooking, cleaning and buying presents usually falls squarely on them. If you compare a child's feelings on Christmas to that of their parents, you will probably find that the child loves the holidays while the adults dread it. This dread and hatred on the adult's part can mostly be attributed to one thing: unrealistic expectations.

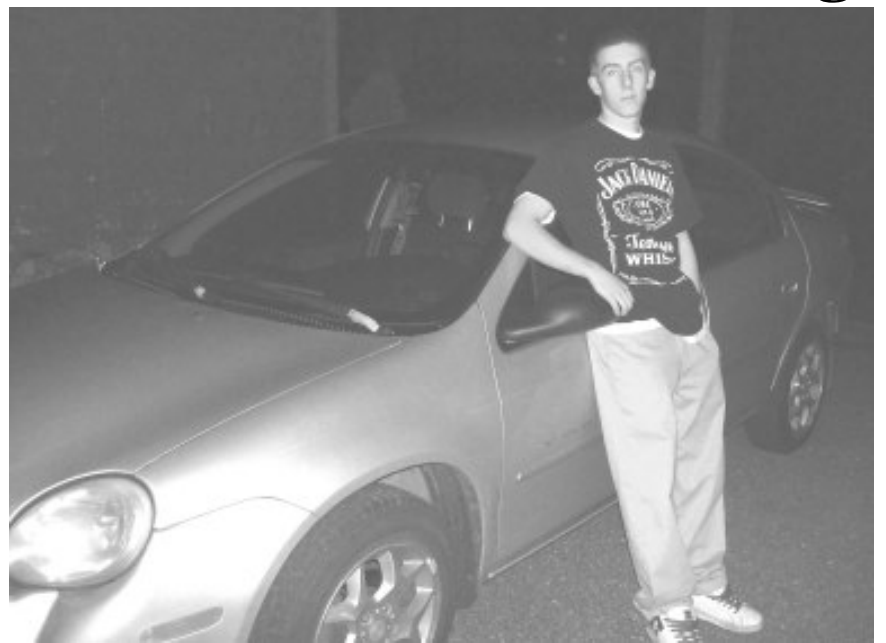
Everyone has seen the image of the "perfect Christmas" on TV and in movies. It's become a major cliché: the family is getting along creepily well, the table is full of food, the tree is flawless and beautifully decorated, and everyone has received exactly the gift they wanted. Oh, and let's not forget the snow gently falling outside to top off this heartwarming scene.

Now picture the holiday season in the real world. It's noisy, it's tiring and it's chaotic. In short and it's never that perfect! Yet so many people drive themselves crazy every year over preparations for the holidays, and let themselves grow bitter and negative towards the best holiday of the year. Not that anyone is demanding that they do this. The fact is, most people are perfectly content simply to be with their family, and couldn't care less if every single tradition is followed. If people would simply lower their expectations, they would definitely find that their feelings of stress would disappear. The holidays are supposed to be fun and enjoyable, and stressing over every little detail ruins the fun. Just enjoy the time you have to relax, and try to remember what this season is really about.



by:
Rachel Titus

We Need Student Parking



Are you one of those students with your license, who is lucky enough to have a car to drive to school everyday, but you don't have a place to park?

This is one of the problems that a lot of students face with their cars. Either you have to park a good 15-20 minute walk from the school, or decide not to put enough money in the parking meter and risk the chance of a parking ticket. The solution is very simple, a student parking lot! But the question is, where to put it? And would there be enough room for all the students with cars?

A grade 11 student, Michael Golding, who drives his van to school everyday, said: "Student parking would help a lot, and would maybe help me get to school a little earlier; I'd be parked closer to the school than where I'm parking now." A lot of students are so far away from the school, that some would say why not just take the bus? But, a student who has to take a City Transit bus to and from school everyday, would tell you that getting a seat is quite rare, which requires you to stand. You're usually required to stand for a good half an hour, and end up feeling carsick. Having a car to drive to school would make the situation so much better.

There is one ongoing problem with this idea: where to put a parking lot? With such little room around the school area, because of it being surrounded by other buildings and most parking being for the houses around, maybe this whole idea is just unrealistic, but it sure would help a lot of people.



by:
Charlotte Burse

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Christmas Trees



by:
Andrew Arsenault

Surprisingly, people have strong opinions on this topic. The war between real and fake trees is always a difficult one. Which kind is really the best?

Real trees are messy, but regardless, I like them because they smell nice and emphasize the Christmas spirit. I believe that having a fake tree makes it feel less like Christmas. Real trees are difficult to water and sweep up after, whereas fake trees are easy to set up because they come in a small compact box. You must drag real trees through the house with needles, snow, and/or water falling everywhere which makes quite a mess.

Some of the newer fake trees come with attached lights, so all you have to do is take it out of the box and plug it in, simple really.



I believe that the price of a fake tree is similar to that of a real tree. Some people still stick to the real tree though because it is tradition and you can even go out and cut down

your own which can be a great family outing!

I stand by real trees as being the best kind because my family gets one every year and it is tradition for me. Real trees create the true Christmas atmosphere. There are positives and negatives to both kinds and it comes down to the convenience of fake trees and the tradition of real trees. For me, tradition outweighs convenience.



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Gambling in School



All you need to roll is a seven or get a royal straight flush, or better yet, know the right teams to bet on. Yes, I said bet on.

Whether teachers know about it or not, whether they like it or not, gambling has become a big part of high school. From the small-time farmer bets involving no money up to the bigger stakes bets involving fifty to one hundred dollars, students everywhere are gambling. Gambling in the school is too huge to try and cram into one category as there are many different ways students are putting their money where their mouths are.

The first and most basic of bets that take place are just between two students usually betting whether Johnny can do this or that. This usually takes place when someone is shooting their mouth off about what they can do. This usually leads to skepticism which leads to the ever classic "I bet you a dollar you can't do that!" This kind of betting is mostly harmless unless of course it involves dangerous stunts to be performed.

The next step up is the sports betters. I myself have been affiliated with a sports bet or two but nothing over the top. Sports betting usually involves two fans of the game trying to predict a winner and gambling that their prediction is going to be true. All they need to do is find a sucker to bet for the other team. This usually never exceeds five to ten dollars but, on occasion, I have heard of these bets ranging into the hundreds.

The last main type of bet that we find in Saint John High is closely tied to the sports bet; this is the "Pro Line bet". Pro Line is an official sports gambling company. Now it is illegal for students under the age of nineteen to bet on Pro Line however find a friend or two who work at a place that sells Pro Line tickets and sooner or later you can find yourself gambling on a weekly basis.

From the low-key bets to the high rollers, gambling is a part of high school life. I'm not advocating serious gambling but there's nothing better than the thrill of knowing you just won big.



by:
Derek Vihvelin

Share Holiday Spirit!



by:
Jane-Allison
McKinney

Merry Christmas? Happy Hanukah? Seasons Greetings? Does it matter? Personally I think that the issue of worrying about offending people during the holiday season is becoming ridiculous.

In the past couple of years it has almost become politically incorrect to say "Merry Christmas!" It is taking the spirit out of the holidays, and people are giving up on them. I think that instead of holding back traditional sayings because we are afraid of offending others, we should be celebrating the diversity of cultural traditions that take place during the holiday season. I mean, if you celebrate Christmas, what's wrong with saying "Merry Christmas?" I think that people have forgotten what the Holidays are all about; and the reality is that it means different things to different people.

For some, it is primarily a religious time, for others it is about being with family, and for some it is about taking a break from their stressful lives. Society has tried to turn the holidays into a neutral time, when it is really a time of diversity that should be shared not hidden. Don't you remember when you were a little kid, and you were so excited about the holidays you couldn't stand it? Whether it was the fact that Santa was coming, or the presents, or just the excitement, for the most part we all had a lot of holiday spirit. So this holiday season, don't hide your traditions, share them, and direct from me to you: "Happy Holidays!"



To Grind or Not to Grind?



by:
Kaylah Jackson

Many of you may have heard about St. Malachy's no grinding policy. What exactly is 'grinding' anyway? Well for those of you who have never been to a high school dance, grinding is a form of dance that is done in a very sexual manner.

Teachers and adults seem to think it is disgusting to grind, but students can't get enough of this sexy dance craze. When you think about it, we are the generation that grew up watching movies like 'Flash Dance' and 'Dirty Dancing'. Of course our dancing is going to be different from the disco boogie our parents did, but what is really so wrong with grinding? For many years, teachers have never bothered students about their dancing. Why is this all of a sudden a big deal?

If students are not allowed to grind, then I'm sure they will think of another form of dance that is 10 times more controversial. Dancing is just simply a form of expression. There are so many more important things to worry about than the way teens are dancing.

Due to St. Malachy's new rule, our school dances are overflowing with dance sign-ins from other high schools. The money that our school is getting from these sign-ins is great. I just hope our school does not also put this 'no grinding' rule into effect. If so, then there will most likely be a drastic change in the number of students who show up for our dances.

As long as students aren't dancing nude, grinding is not considered an illegal act, so why is it causing such a commotion? Teachers and parents should spend more time worrying about drug abuse and bullying rather than how students are dancing. Dancing is not harmful - it is somewhat good for the body because it is a form of physical activity. Why don't parents and teachers worry about the more harmful aspects of life, and leave grinding to the choice of the students?

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World Issues

2006 is slowly winding down but not without a whirlwind of change. Without further ado here is the inside scoop on the sure fire historical political events from '06-'07.

We'll start things off with the most recent and most deserving. Saddam Hussein was sentenced to death in an Iraqi court on November the 5th, more then three years after the US first toppled his dictatorship in 2003. The once all mighty and all feared dictator was a former US ally, but this time they stood with him no more as the judge ordered he be hanged. With the slam of the judge's hammer the terrifying legacy of Saddam was put to rest.

Not far from the same region was yet another unforgettable moment of '06. With two surprise attacks capturing Israeli soldiers, the most powerful nation in the Middle East was at war yet again. On June 25th Palestinian militants struck back at the Israeli Defence Forces by carrying out a daring cross border raid capturing an Israeli soldier. The Israelis immediately launched a rescue operation attempting to save their young corporal. The brutality of their air raids led Hezbollah fighters in Lebanon to carry out a similar attack in July capturing another two soldiers. This drew the bulk of Israel's forces to attack Lebanon. The war was brutal, and the damage to Lebanon and Palestine severe. Israel eventually ended the war on August the 14th with a UN cease-fire agreement.



by:
Derek Vihvelin

In the world of elections, Canada was faced with a very important one! This time round the Liberals' scandals proved to be too much for them to handle as the Conservatives

pulled out a minority government early into the New Year. Elsewhere in the world, Chile had a not so ordinary election as Michelle Bachelet and the socialist party won, making her the first female president of Chile.

In the world of nukes, North Korea became the latest nation to have declared a nuclear test. On October the 9th it was official, a mere days later the UN slapped trade sanctions on North Korea demanding they dismantle their nuclear weapons program. To this date Korea hasn't budged on the issue and the sanctions still stand.

The lesser headlines included former Yugoslavian president Slobodan Milosevic who was found dead in his jail cell while he was on trial for war crimes. In the UK Scotland Yard was successful in foiling a plot to blow up a plane heading from the UK to the US.

That's all for now folks, keep reading the news because as you can see a lot can happen in a year!

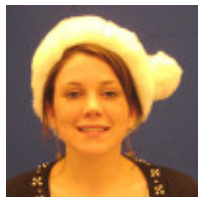
Hollywood

As another year comes to an end it is only fitting to recap all of the stories and gossip taken straight from the lives and headlines of our favourite famous friends. Whether it was their love lives, break-ups, make-ups, babies, or arrests we just could not get enough this year.

This year proved to have its ups and downs in the love department. 2006 was, for one lucky and gorgeous couple, a very momentous year. Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes had a child together, announced their marriage, married in a whirlwind Scientology wedding that took place in Italy, and even found time to perfectly pose for pictures along the way! Romance must have seemed appealing this year as a blonde reality show host got involved. Ryan Seacrest, American Idol host, got cozy with Desperate Housewives actress, Teri Hatcher. The pair was also spotted locking lips a few times sending the paparazzi into a frenzy in March. Another couple to wed this year, for the second time, no less, was rapper Eminem and estranged ex-wife, Kim Mathers. The couple was, amazingly, able to work thorough a very bitter divorce and custody battle over their young daughter, Hailey.

With love, however, comes heartache, something poor Eminem must have felt just 82 days after his January re-marriage. In April, Eminem and Kim called it quits for the second time.

This scenario was nearly the same in the case of *One Tree Hill* heart-throb Chad Michael Murray. He and wife of 5 months, Sophia Bush - also of *One Tree Hill* - separated, fueling rumors of Murray's infidelity with *House of Wax* co-star, Paris Hilton. Just three months later, the television hunk was reportedly dating another *One Tree Hill* co-star, Kenzie Dalton. In April, only 4 months after his divorce, Murray proposed to his 18 year-old girlfriend.



by:
Jo-Lynn Seaward

Another not so lucky couple this year was our favourite pop star, Britney Spears, and our not so favourite back-up dancer turned rapper, Kevin Federline. In May, rumors began to circulate that their short lived marriage might

be on the rocks when it was reported that Britney banished her husband to their Malibu mansion's basement. In November, it was publicly announced that the roller coaster of Brit and K.Fed was officially over after two years of marriage, and just as many babies.

In spite of this year being a teeter-totter for relationships, many babies, coming from very famous parents were born. In January, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie announced that they were expecting a new baby. In May, they welcomed their first biological child, Shiloh Nouvel Jolie-Pitt. Also in May, Gwen Stefani and Gavin Rossdale have their first child; a boy named Kingston James McGregor Rossdale and Britney spears announces that she is pregnant again! In September, Spears gave birth to her second son Jayden James. Finally, Suri Holmes Cruise was born in April to proud parents Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes.

To round out this recap, some of this year's notable mentions that didn't quite fit anywhere else but made a splash in our daily lives deserve a bit of recognition. Our favourite heiress, Paris Hilton, got herself into a bit of legal trouble in September when she was arrested on charges of drunk driving. In July, former *Nsync member, Lance Bass, publicly announced that he is gay. In April, it seemed as though Ryan and Marissa drama would finally put to an end when it was reported that *The O.C.* star, Mischa Barton was trying to get out of her Fox contract. In mid May, these rumors were put to rest as Marissa died after a car accident in the season finale of the teen drama. At the MTV Movie Awards that aired in August, K.Fed made his television, rapping debut and was met with less than stellar reviews. As a final note, our favourite Material Girl, Madonna, found herself knee deep after a controversial and highly publicized adoption of an African boy.

Taking all of the gossip into account, 2006 was a beneficial year to celebrities, some were married, and a bunch welcomed babies, a few made-up while others made-out, and it all happened while we watched attentively!

Year in



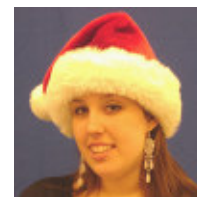
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Saint John

In the time it takes for the earth to revolve around the sun, with the exception of the summer break, weekends, holidays and those well-deserved snow days, students at Saint John High are exposed to many exciting events that essentially, create lifelong memories.

One year at Saint John High, from January '06 to now, has been a time period of many high school memories, including the SRC events, intense sport games, arts and entertainment performances, changes to SJHS, graduation, and the beginning of the new Grad Class.

Last year's SRC, as described by the new treasurer Brian Beckett, was "highly successful, innovative, and provided students with many great memories of their exciting events." The executive, Jon O'Kane, Andrew Hicks, Kiki Lin and Kalen Thompson, alongside the SRC committees, never failed to entertain all students. Some highlights from the year's SRC include the theme weeks, "Who stole Harbinson's Bottom Line?" and the farewell tribute to the SRC with "Don't Stop Believing!"



by:
Soleil Leger

The 2005-2006 year also brought an end to exciting sport seasons; the end of the rugby season was marked by Rugby Fest, the track

team had their final meet, and the basketball season successfully ended. After a full season, including the Ganong Classic Tournament and NBIAA regionals, the varsity basketball teams played the Dave MacPherson Memorial Games at STM- the varsity girls defeating STM, while the boys of STM won the game against our varsity boys. And then came September! With September comes the beginning of a new soccer season, a new baseball season, a new hockey season and last but certainly not least, the new football season, surely making way for an exciting year of SJHS sports.

Additionally, there were many exciting and memorable events in the arts and entertainment. The IB Art exhibit opened on March 31st at the SJ Arts Centre, and was host to the

Review



06

High School

Honourable Hermenegilde Chaisson, Lt. Governor of New Brunswick. Ms. Lewell and Ms. Lutz directed one-act plays that were performed during "Acting Out" and Elizabeth Darrah, Hannah MacDonald and the band DeJa Blue (now named the Good Fellas) represented Saint John High in District Idol. The music festival was a huge success, with the SJHS choir winning gold, and Edward Cho, being named star of the festival. Saint John High also presented the musical "Merrily we Roll Along," the chronicle of the friendship between three characters, played by Jill Bonner, Daniel Landry and Owen Mcausland. This year, the arts and entertainment is off to an exciting start with the first production, Shakespeare's "As You Like it," which was performed on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of November. "I've never been so excited about the arts and entertainment of SJHS than I was this year," says Mitchell Pert, "being apart of shows and watching others has made a lot of memories."

Also, 2006 brought many great changes to Saint John High. On February 27th, Bernard Lord and the Trevor Holder presented the PSSC with a cheque of \$50,000 to improve the auditorium's lighting system. The end of the 2006 school year also brought the retirement of five Saint John High teachers. In June, Mr. Hodgins, Mr. Court, Mrs. Fillmore, Mr. Macgowan and Mr. Gould ended long, exciting and surely quite memorable careers at Saint John High School. When asked of his feelings towards the retirement of these great teachers, Anthony Nolletti replied with "their influence on the students of our school will surely leave an imprint on their lives, and serve for many memories."

As the 2006 SRC went out with a bang, the 2006-2007 SRC was presented, the president being Laura Higgins, Vice-President, Phil Marmen, Secretary, Dave Pitts and treasurer, Brian Beckett. The new SRC has proved to be quite successful so far, creating exciting memories with the Octoberfest, EH week and other great events.

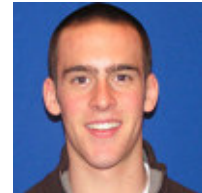
June 26th, as the grad class walked across the stage at graduation, marked the end of high school careers, and the end of high school memories. With graduation though, comes the beginning of a new school year, a new grad class, new memories, and new grade nines. Some advice to these grade nines: cherish life at Saint John High, it will go by quickly.

Sports

The year 2006 was anything but uneventful in the world of professional sports. From the NHL's return to the 2006 Winter Olympics, milestones were reached and drama was plentiful.

The MLB in '06 saw the steroid scandal reach an all-time high, with the likes of Barry Bonds being at the forefront of the list, the New York Yankees failing to win a championship once again even with their abnormally large payroll, and the St. Louis Cardinals beating out the Cinderella story team that was the Detroit Tigers, to win the World Series.

In the National Football League, the world witnessed "The Bus" Jerome Bettis capture his first Super Bowl title with the Pittsburgh Steelers just before he decided to hang up the cleats. The NFL was also forced to deal with the antics of Terrell Owens, even while he wasn't officially a part of an organization, and the league saw a powerhouse Indianapolis Colts team fail to capture a title once again under the arm of Peyton Manning.



by:
Bruce MacMillan

2006 proved to be a great year for the National Hockey League. Although people were skeptical, the rule changes ended up making the game just as, if not more exciting. The NHL was home to an incredible battle of rookie between youngsters Sidney Crosby and Alexander Ovechkin, and hockey fans saw an un-likely Carolina Hurricanes team win Lord Stanley's Cup.

The Sport of soccer was taken by surprise when an under-rated Italy team took home the World Cup. Along with head butts and rowdy crowds, professional soccer really made a name for itself in 2006.

The National Basketball Association saw the Miami Heat win the league title led by the likes of Shaquille O'Neil and Dwayne Wade. Steve Nash, a fellow Canadian, captured his 2nd consecutive league MVP award, and Lebron James continued to show that he was meant to be apart of the Association with his phenomenal play.

In the land of tennis, spectators saw a sport dominated by the likes of Andy Roddick and Roger Federer. They also said goodbye to one of the most loved and controversial players in tennis history, Andre Agassi.

With Lance Armstrong no longer in the running, the Tour de France was a wide-open competition. Another American, Floyd Landis, was 2006's winner of the race, although after further inspection he was accused of using performance-enhancing substances.

Formula-1 racing, although not officially over, has had its fair share of unusual ordeals, such as rowdy press conferences and on track fights. Alfonso and Schumacher are currently dominating the standings.

Like F-1, Nascar is also still in their 2006 season. Although things have calmed down as far as news since the death of Dale Earnhardt, the chase for the Nextel cup is in full swing with Jimmie Johnson leading the pack.

Outside of professional sports was the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino Italy. Germany dominated with a whopping 29 total medals while the U.S.A and Canada made up the second and third spots with 25 and 24 medals. The Olympics were home to a disappointment from Canada's men's hockey team resulting in Sweden taking the gold. Men's curling and Woman's hockey brought home gold medals for Canada while Cindy Klaussen and Clara Hughes brought home gold for their dominating individual performances in speed skating.

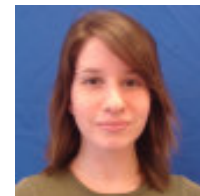
All in all 2006 was full of heartbreak and triumph in the sporting world, but most of all it was full of excitement.

Deaths

Throughout the past year important contributors to history have taken their leave. Yet another generation is slipping away. Before we know it we'll have to depend on books and the Internet, as sources for information about the recent past, and neither of these can portray what happened, as can the people who experienced it first hand. Books will not describe it as effectively nor show the emotional connection that came with it.

A number of valuable members of society passed away during the year of 2006.

On July 7th, at age 60, Syd Barrett, the founding member of the widely known psychedelic band, 'Pink Floyd', died of complications due to cancer. In 1965, along with friend Roger Waters, he began to write songs that would stick around for generations to come. He was said to be an extremely charismatic and energetic man who influenced singers such as David Bowie.



by:
Kate Hopkins

Steve Irwin, more commonly known as the 'Crocodile Hunter', made a living by wrestling with some of the most ferocious beasts the planet has to offer. Sadly on September 4th at the young age of 44 Irwin was on the losing side as he was stabbed through the heart by a stingray.

We've all seen it, the scene from Jaws in which the mechanical shark suddenly jumps from the water. Countless people have been too terrified to go swimming after watching the film. Peter Benchley, author of 'Jaws' passed away on February 11th at the age of 65. He was a well-rounded person who enjoyed diving, studying the environment and was also a lecturer.

On August 14th actor Bruno Kirby peacefully passed on after a long battle with leukemia. He was admired for his acting as he showed the most personality through normal actions such as playing with his belt or fixing his hair. He also had a very distinctive accent. He played in films such as: "When Harry Met Sally", 'City Slickers', 'Good Morning Vietnam', 'The God Father: Part 2', and 'The Graduate'.

Bernie "Boom Boom" Geoffrion died on March 11th due to stomach cancer at age 75. He invented what has become known as the 'slap shot'. He contributed a significant amount of help to Montreal teams in the 50s and 60s, helping them take home 6 Stanley Cups. For all this he has been put into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

The last known Titanic survivor, Lillian Gertrude Asplund passed away on May 6th at the age of 99. She witnessed the most significant ship sinking in history on April 15th, 1912. At some point the majority of us have seen the movie; can you imagine actually going through that?

We should mourn for the loss of these significant people but also show our respect through celebrating the lives they led. Their achievements and experiences will not be buried with them. Their stories will be kept alive through us, as long as we continue to pass them on.

Born To Be Wild



I'm sure all of you know the lighthearted Mr. Larsen; he started out at this very school we call our own. First off I have to tell you my interview with Mr. Larsen was my favorite of all; it was so fun.

I'm not sure if any of you know but Mr. Larsen wasn't always a teacher. He only started his teaching career five years ago in 2001. Before becoming a teacher he was an accountant for six years, but grew bored of it and realized his love for kids. After his career as a teacher he would love to travel to tropical places like the Caribbean. I think all of us would love to travel there someday, I know I would.

Mr. Larsen has some unique talents and hobbies like photography, which he discovered when his dad was sick with cancer. He started taking pictures when he needed something to take his mind off of things. His father, sadly, never recovered. Mr. Larsen claims he grew up at that exact moment. He said, "It was like I was a kid and then was forced to be a man in that split second. I could no longer go to my dad for things I normally would, like for advice."

He's had more than one life-changing experience, like last November when his



by:
Kayla Johnson

kayak flipped in the open ocean far away from shore. He said, "I was just thinking how am I going to get out of this. I didn't think I was going to survive." He told me people would tell him all the time that life is precious but he never really thought twice about it until that day when his breath was nearly taken away. Luckily he did survive because of the bright colored hat he was wearing in the water. Not only does he kayak but he loves sailing, he even has a sailboat.

Mr. Larsen found love for the very first time at the tender age of 16. He says "I've been in love more times than I can count." I asked him what went wrong in his first real relationship and all he would say was: "You know when your head tells you not to do something and you know it's a bad idea but you do it anyways?!" Well I don't know exactly what that means and I'm not sure I want to.

Like most of us Mr. Larsen would like to have children, four to be exact, a few more than I could handle, that's for sure.

I thought it would be fun to get Mr.

Journalism 120: Creating *The Hound*



As many of you know, Journalism is the class that is responsible for creating, publishing and decorating the school newspaper. Our efforts, articles and the paper itself represent our marks in Journalism. What many of you do not know about is the effort and huge responsibility associated with creating the newspaper and distributing it to its readers.

It all begins with choosing the topics. At the beginning of each month the class assembles and brainstorms topic ideas that are important to the school for that month. After this we come up with some basic layout designs for the newspaper. Some important discussions are usually based on what should be present on the front page, the centerspread and the other pages.

by:
Matt Soucy



After determining this we are given a large list of usually 250 topics from which we each chose three to write about. Within these three topics we must pick a news, a features, and an opinions

article. We are then given, usually, a week to complete these.

The next step of the production of the newspaper is the layout itself. During the October issue of the newspaper we had an "Ads Campaign", along with making the ads, we had to go around town selling ads and making up contracts. This meant we had to include an ads team to make and design the ads for the businesses. This was a major responsibility since the people who had bought the ads paid good money and wanted them to represent their business well. Now, however, we do not have a lot of new ads to make so we just assign one person to complete them.

Other groups are made according to the different sections of the newspaper. Most of the groups consist of a few people along with a section editor. The section editor picks which articles should be in the newspaper and the team edits the mistakes. Then we all design and properly format the layout to its most appealing state. This week is usually very hectic and many people stay in at lunch and after school to meet their deadline.

I really think Journalism class reflects journalism that would be done for any city newspaper. There is a lot of responsibility and a lot of cooperation involved and I find it is a really fun class to take part in. So, I would encourage anyone who is creative and fond of writing to consider taking Journalism 120 someday and be able to tell people you took part in creating a newspaper.

Larsen to describe himself in one phrase and he chose "born to be wild". He feels that the song was made just for him. That wasn't quite what I was expecting but then there are other things that you might not expect from Mr. Larsen like another hobby of his, wait.... get ready for it.... it's street fighting! I found this very surprising. It just seemed a little bit out of character but he didn't think so. He explained: "It's arranged by some friends of mine. You never know who you're going to be fighting." Sounds like fun but don't try this at home!

I had fun speaking with Mr. Larsen. It was a really great interview. If you get a chance you should ask him about his interesting talents.

Holiday Haters



They are like the one light that has burnt out on your Christmas tree causing the others not to reach their full blazing glory. They are the person on your street who fails to acknowledge the festive season and refuses to sing along to holiday music on the radio. Who are all of these people? Haters. Yes, holiday haters; they are the Scrooges and the Grinches of reality.

The idea of Scrooges and Grinches has been around for as long as the literature of Dickens and Seuss, however those personas are generations old, why are they still so prominent through such a cheerful time of year?

Could it be a lump of coal in their stocking, perhaps, or an overall disdain for the materialism Christmas has come to represent? Maybe it's the billions of senseless

by:
Jo-Lynn Seaward



dollars spent on the newest gadgets and gizmos by North Americans each year. All of these scenarios are completely plausible and realistic.

Not all hope can be lost, however, as it is proven year after year that the festive season is alive and thriving. From the annual Santa Claus Parade to the Empty Stocking Fund, Saint John proves to the haters that the Holidays are going to remain merry and bright.



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Gifts For That Special Someone



by:
Brittany Saab

The holidays are here, the snow's falling, the families are at home, and where are you? Still at the mall? It's that last gift that's driving you crazy. Buying a Christmas present for a boyfriend or girlfriend can, if you let it, be one of the most stressful parts of the holiday season.

I know you're expecting, or maybe just hoping, that this is going to be a guide telling you the exact store and shelf to get that perfect present off of, but no, I'm not telling you exactly what to buy. I'm not even giving suggestions. What I will do is help you get through the shopping without pulling all your hair out first.

First of all, try not to let yourself get too stressed out. The more stressed you get the worse it's going to be. It's best to get that particularly difficult present out of the way first. This way, you can enjoy the rest of your shopping experience. Second, although it may be easier just to get something expensive, put some thought into it. Go for meaning rather than tackiness.

I asked around about how SJHS students go about their Christmas shopping



for a boyfriend or girlfriend, and grade 12 student Brea Giffin had this to say: "What I do, is when Christmas is getting close I start listening and making mental notes as to what they might want, then out of those things, I choose whatever I think would be best." Why not go beyond that? How about just asking what they would want? I'm not saying get them that exact present, but at least it would give you an idea. When asked what guys want for Christmas, Mike Golding said this: "Most guys aren't that particular. I'd like a nice shirt maybe. If you want to spend a little more maybe a watch."

So this article may not have given you any ideas about what to get that special someone. My only hope is that you've taken my suggestion of keeping calm. Christmas isn't a time to be stressed out so just have fun with it!

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Hot Restaurants for the Cool Season



Eating out is something that we all enjoy. Whether we put on the fancy attire for a sophisticated dinner or jeans for the fabulous food and good times, the choice of restaurant is always crucial. I am sure you have found yourself in the situation where you and your friends debate on where to eat for an hour before you actually decide. Well, here you are: to save you at least a half hour of that time deciding, why don't I inform you of some fantastic picks which are excellent for the winter?

If you are in need of a relaxing night out with friends, I suggest Boston Pizza. Not only is it an awesome restaurant because of its food, but it is a prime place to watch a hockey game on a Friday night. There are plenty of other relaxing restaurants such as East Side Mario's and Pizza Delight, but Boston Pizza is the fun-filled time you need. Plus, you will be shocked at how many Saint John High students have worked there. Aimee LeBlanc just started working at Boston Pizza and says: "There is no doubt that it is THE place to be."

If you are looking for some festive treats, I highly recommend Swiss Chalet. They always have the restaurant adorned with holiday decorations and serve special holiday meals. Watching Swiss Chalet commercials makes you feel warm and cozy inside making you wish you were the stranger in the commercial. This was an excellent job on the part of their marketing team! I am sure it has worked on some of you already.

Now, for the most important festive school event, the cabaret. Where to eat? Keystone Kelly's is gone! What are you



by:
Laura Higgins

to do now!?! Don't fear. Keystone's was not the only restaurant out there, I swear. The Ale House is by far my favorite place to eat anytime of the year, but it is especially excellent for cabaret. It provides food for those snazzy students and those who, despite the classy atmosphere, still want chicken fingers and fries or pancakes. Mike Craig wished me to "keep the Ale House quiet as the best pick for Cabaret", but I am sure he'll just beat you to the reservations anyway. Trust me, it has great food for everyone, dimmed lights, and is in Market Square. The Ale House wins! There is also Thandi, a new Thai restaurant uptown that took the place of D'Amico's. It is very good and you feel quite important being there, but let me tell you, if you do not like the heat stay out! Their food, like all Thai food, is hot!

Food is an important part of the holidays. We are all very picky people when it comes to food and I know many of the restaurants I have named are familiar to you, but you will always have trouble deciding where to go. Hopefully my tips will help you in your future restaurant decision making. If you are on a limited budget and only have that spare change in your pocket, the Zellers eatery could be an option, but we all know Canada's pride and joy, Tim Horton's. There is nothing like a good hot chocolate for the cold weather.

Gift Cards

by:
Kristen Bursey



With Christmas just around the corner, the popular question that arises every year is: "What do you want for Christmas?" With so many choices and so many things to choose from, who really knows what they want for Christmas? This makes it even harder to buy for someone, so why not go with an alternate gift idea? Why not just buy someone a gift card? They are simple, easy and less stressful than trying to find the perfect thing to buy.

We all know what gift cards are. They are those little plastic cards you get at Christmas time from relatives who do not know what to get you, and every store has them from Old Navy to American Eagle. But what really is the advantage of gift cards?

There are many pros and cons to receiving gift cards. One pro of getting a gift card is that instead of receiving a sweater vest, you can go out and choose something you like or in some cases you might be able to buy more than one item, so you would actually get more than what you would have received as a present. A con would be you might not have enough money on the card to buy something, or you get a gift card for a store that which you don't like.

When a group of people were asked if they would rather receive a gift card or any



actual gift, many people responded that they prefer to receive a gift card because they can go to the store and purchase whatever they like. Veronica Amirault said, "Gift cards are really sweet and thoughtful because you can go into the store and buy whatever you want."

Journalism Class Donates \$200 to IWK

Each semester, the Journalism class sells ad space to local businesses as a means of raising funding for the school newspaper, *The Hound*.

This year, the Journalism students were able to raise enough money to fund all three issues of *The Hound*, with money left over to fund a full colour December issue.

Rather than spending the extra money on a full colour issue, the Journalism class unanimously decided to donate the extra \$200 to the IWK Children's Hospital in Halifax, a charity in great need of support during the Christmas season.

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Go Caroling!



by:
Jo-Lynn Seaward

"Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring ting tingling too. Come on, it's lovely weather for.... caroling!?"

It is that time of year again; actually, it has been for the past month and a half. It seems as though every year Christmas music and festivities begin earlier and earlier. But when, exactly, is too early? This year, Christmas carols began light rotation the day after Remembrance Day and have gained speed ever since. Lately, Christmas music is given priority over general everyday beats because of the social importance the holiday holds.

Carols, however, are given mixed reviews and conjure mixed feelings within their listeners. When Alex Seminick was asked his opinion of Christmas carols he replied thoughtfully with; "Well! I think they are a lovely addition to the holiday atmosphere in general, and there is nothing more pleasant than when a group of rosy cheeked infants greet you at your door to sing you a tune!"



This statement sparked the next question: What ever happened to door-to-door caroling? In a society where 'stranger danger' plays a prominent role, it just does not seem safe to spread holiday cheer through song anymore. As Anna Richard sadly stated, "It's really unfortunate. Holiday music should be spread!"

However, there is another, darker side of holiday music. Because of its early start each year, most people grow tired of constant cheer and carols causing a reverse effect: a complete disdain for even the mention of Rudolph's red nose.

Carols have been around for nearly as long as our idea of Christmas, making them an important and influential part of this Christian holiday. Just this morning, two students met with strange looks from across the hall, when they were heard belting out a carol after their English class. This overt display of cheer demonstrates the emphasis that needs to be put on Christmas carols and more students should follow the example of these two exceptional holiday hounds!

I Tube, You Tube, We All Tube for *You Tube*



by:
Petter Kristoffersen

For those of you who are not familiar with You Tube I will explain it to you. You Tube is a site that hosts video clips be it a trailer for a new movie or just some video of a drunk friend someone took with their cell phone. This site hosts everything you can imagine. You can even find entire episodes of TV shows and such hilarious videos as "Kitty Cat Dance" which features a dancing cat.

You Tube is a great place for music;

you can find lots of music videos, clips from concerts and interviews with musicians. You can also watch videos of random people who are not famous playing their music or covering a song. This is quite uproarious at times because some of the individuals who post videos of themselves playing instruments have abilities that can most politely be described as laughable. I would describe them something like: "Abhorrent skills! Your mother must wear flip flops in the shower!"

There are also controversial things on You Tube such as footage of the LSD tests that the American and British army did. There is also footage of current events that may be controversial.

Who Smells Like a Boiled Cranberry? Scenesters!

by:
Adam Burke



these creepy characters, I begin to wonder why. Why do they creep around local bands? Why do they follow a local art show? Why are they all so emotional, or, Emo. This may be a stereotype, but I get the feeling that most Scenesters are all alike, with the same haircut, same clothes, and somehow, the same musical tastes.

When someone gets referred to as a Scenester it's not a compliment; it's an insult; So the next time you get called a Scenester, retaliate with a quick jab to the chin, unless of course you are one. A swift measure must be taken in order to prevent these whiney ninnyes from spreading. I understand a band having fans, or



maybe groupies, but Scenesters are two levels below both of those. They are like the "Wanna Be" Fans, but of course, the bands are so horrible they need these "fans" to survive.

No one likes Scenesters so they have to creep around in the shadows of the clubs to avoid being seen. They hide behind their hair. My personal opinion on Scenesters is that they need to stop being so fake, and start spending their time making their own contribution to the artistic scene. Leeching off of an already popular movement is as bad as taking a child from his mother, and depriving him of food.

To an artist, be he or she a musician, a painter, a writer or whatever, seeing a Scenester loom in the back of their venue can be very distracting. Another thing about Scenesters, is they follow no talent bands such as Sixteenth Avenue. Although this band may contain former Saint John High members, it still disgusts me, and seeing these "Wanna Be" musicians makes me wonder about the state that music is currently in. I suggest listening to bands with actual talent, such as: Slowcoaster, Tala, Fresh Cut Grass, Jimmy Swift Band, or No Fat Chicks. I suggest listening to and respecting these bands for their music, and not following them around like a lost puppy with a reverse mullet.

Christmas TV



by:
Rachel Titus

Ah, Christmas, that magical time of the year where visions of sugar plums dance in our heads (apparently)... and syrupy, overly cheerful TV specials are broadcast every day, on every channel. Over the years, Christmas TV has gotten a reputation for being preachy and kind of lame, and for most of it that reputation is well deserved. But there are always a few exceptions to that rule. These shows really stand out from the rest because they are classics, or because they are funny and well made, or simply because they can really fill you with the Christmas spirit they so often talk about.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: Definitely a Christmas classic. This adorable stop-motion special is based on the famous Christmas carol, and it introduces several new characters such as the Abominable Snowman, Hermey, and all the Misfit Toys. Everybody loves Rudolph, what more is there to say?

A Charlie Brown Christmas: Charlie Brown is depressed over how commercial Christmas has become, and attempts to find the holiday spirit by directing the school Christmas pageant. This one really breaks away from the other Christmas specials, because it really gets to the core of what the whole season is about. It just isn't the holidays without Charlie Brown!

Olive the Other Reindeer: A dog named Olive misunderstands the lyrics of "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer", and comes to believe that she is one of Santa's reindeer. Along with her best friend, a martini-swilling penguin, she journeys to the North Pole all while trying to escape a maniacal, Christmas-hating mailman. Olive is strange and a little twisted, but it really is a whole lot of fun to watch. And Drew Barrymore is really awesome as Olive, the dog.

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas: The miserly, Christmas-hating Grinch tries to "steal" Christmas from the overly festive Whos, only to find it himself. The story of how the Grinch discovers the holiday spirit is a true reminder that Christmas isn't about presents and traditions (and Dr. Seuss is just awesome).

The Muppet Christmas Carol: Charles Dickens' classic story of Ebenezer Scrooge, retold by the Muppets. Muppet Christmas Carol is the best and most faithful adaptation of A Christmas Carol ever, and not just because the Muppets are portraying most of the characters. This is a really funny and worthwhile show, with a really good moral: even if you're a real pill and every hates you, a humungous Christmas turkey will make everything better. After all, isn't that what Christmas is really about... turkey? And God bless us, every one...



Canada's Football Classic



by:
Bruce MacMillan

As October came to an end, the CFL regular season officially come to a close.

From the final minute of the final game it seemed as though there was no one who could stand next to the high powered BC Lions in the 2006 post season. There were no surprises as to who gained entry to the playoffs with the likes of the Hamilton Tiger Cats, and Edmonton Eskimos sitting on the sidelines.

Week one of the playoffs saw BC and Montreal being rewarded for their regular season performance with byes and consisted of games between the Winnipeg Blue Bombers vs. Toronto Argonauts and the Saskatchewan Roughriders vs. the Calgary Stampeders. CFL fans' hearts across the country went out to the dominant veteran wide receiver who unfortunately failed to capture a Grey Cup as his Blue Bombers were defeated by the much stronger Argonauts squad. The week's other match consisted of a shootout between quarterbacks Kerry Joseph and Henry Burris which ended up with the Stampeders being eliminated from the post season.



The week that followed showcased the Argonauts vs. the Alouettes battling it out in the east while the Rough Riders squared off against the Lions in the west. The semi final outcomes were a surprise to no one with Montreal and BC continuing their dominance over their opponents. The losses resulted in both QB and racial controversy in Toronto while Saskatchewan decided to dismiss their head coach Danny Barrett.

With the two strongest teams in the nation left and all the drama aside, the stage was set for one wild Grey Cup final. However, although there was the slight possibility that Montreal could come through, experts were predicting the championship to be heading to BC from the get go. It turned out that the experts were right, the BC Lions managed to put together a very convincing victory over the Alouettes 25-14.

It couldn't have been described any better when a fan recapped the game by saying, "It was never even close, and the Lions controlled the tempo from the opening kick off".

As the stadium went wild sporting their toques and gloves, the BC Lions were crowned the Grey Cup Champions for 2006.



Lady Greyhounds in KV Tournament



by:
Kristen Bursey

On the weekend of December 1st to 3rd, your Lady Greyhounds traveled out to KV to participate in the KVHS Lady Crusaders hockey tournament.

The tournament started off on Friday December the 1st as the girls faced off against the Fredericton Black Cats at 3 pm. Unfortunately, despite a great effort, the game was lost 9-0

Bright and early Saturday morning, we faced off against the Riverview Royals. The competition was tight and the game was equally played. Riverview scored early in the game off of a lucky shot, and in the second period, Kristen Bursey scored a goal to tie the game at 1 to 1. Despite the pressure and hard work put out by the girls through the second and third periods, the game ended up a 1-1 tie.

Later Saturday night, we got prepared to play the Tantamar Titans. The game was another close one with the play being equally shared. But once again, Tantamar scored off a lucky shot and went up 1-0. Unable to come back with a goal, the game was lost.

Despite all the bad luck with the games, the girls poured out lots of heart and hard work into this tournament, which made it tons of fun. Good work everyone!



Habs -Leafs: Longtime Rivals



by:
Greg Adams

Major League Baseball's Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees. The Leafs and Habs have met each other in the Stanley Cup Finals six times with the Leafs and Canadiens winning three times each. The Leafs and Canadiens rivalry split Canada from 1917 to 1970 because they were the only Canadian teams until the Vancouver Canucks joined the NHL in 1970. The rule was that if you were English you were a Leafs fan but if you were French you were a Canadiens fan. A story was even written by Roch Carrier on how it was Leafs (English) vs. Canadiens (French) That story is called "The Hockey Sweater".

"The Hockey Sweater" is basically about a little boy who grows up idolizing the Canadiens' great Maurice "The Rocket" Richard. He also grows up in a Quebec town filled with tiny "Rockets". One day his number nine Canadiens jersey got too small for him so his mom sent money away to Eaton's (which was conveniently located in Toronto) to buy a new jersey. When he received his package from Eatons it wasn't what he expected. He received a wait for it..... a Toronto Maple Leafs jersey (oh no!).

Although the Leafs/Canadiens rivalry has now taken a back seat to The Battle of Ontario (Toronto Maple Leafs vs. Ottawa Senators) the rivalry is still as heated as ever. Even though the two teams haven't faced each other in the playoffs since 1979 the rivalry is as strong as ever. There is even a train operated by VIA Rail called "The Rivalry Train". It goes between the two cities whenever the Leafs and Canadiens play each other and is often loaded with beer and crazed Leafs or Habs fans. The train is sponsored by Molson.

The two teams' fans are also intense rivals. Each side has good arguments. For the Habs they have won 24 Stanley Cups and have a couple more super-superstars than the Leafs. For the Leafs it is the fact that in the present time the Leafs beat the Canadiens around 75% of the time and have made the playoffs more times in the past 10 years. As of the end of November the Leafs lead the season series two games to one.



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Saint John High School

Hockey's Hottest Team



by:
Tommy Walsh

The Buffalo Sabers may actually be the best team in the NHL, or they at least have one of the best line-ups the league has seen in years. It was in the playoffs last year that the franchise began to show their talent. Were it not for some injured defense they would have knocked out the soon to be Cup champs, the Carolina Hurricanes.

With the start of the 2006 season, the Sabers unveiled brand new jerseys and logos and began an amazing winning streak, which tied a league record for consecutive wins at the beginning of the season (with 10). This is the reason why many people believe they are the best team in the NHL (i.e. the TSN power rankings). However such a record is usually spoiled shortly after it is achieved. Most teams would begin losing games and losing points along with losing reputation.

The previous record of 10-0 was held by the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1993. They went ten games straight, no shootouts. The Sabers on the other hand won three of their wins in shootouts, and faced a very low level of competition. The shootout of course makes the record look better then it really is.

Although the team is no longer undefeated, the franchise could not be doing better, setting a smashing record of 19-3-2. The reason for such amazing success is due mainly to the superior line up, and the coaching abilities, which the team possesses.

The record for 10 consecutive wins came October 27th when the Sabers downed the New York Islanders, 3-0. Beginning at the end of last season, the Sabres have won 15 games in a row. Their end came when they played the Thrashers on the 29th of October, losing in the shootout 5-4. The Sabres did make some form of comeback as they played the losing team throughout most of the game, however it was not enough for them to secure game 11. Hopefully the team will continue to play as well as they have been, and have much success for the remainder of the season.

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Kyle Baxter: Not Just a Goon



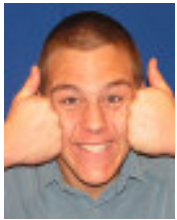
I interviewed Kyle Baxter of the SJHS Hounds hockey team, and he had some interesting things to say about his life of hockey.

Kyle began playing hockey at the age 4, and has been playing for 14 years. He plays left wing, a position that he has played since his first year of hockey. His favourite NHL team is the Montreal Canadiens, and his childhood hero was Joe Sakic. He doesn't really have a hero anymore, but when asked to pick between Sidney Crosby or Alexander Overchkin, he picked Crosby, because he isn't a show off. Plus, Crosby is a Canadian.

Kyle reminds me of Tie Domi, a recently retired player from the Toronto Maple Leafs. When he was younger, Kyle claims that friends actually called him 'Tie Dummy', due to the amount of penalties he received during games.

Although he comes on as a goon, Kyle is more than that. He is also a great goal scorer. When I asked him about being both a goon and a goal scorer he replied, "I love being a goon, and goal scoring is good too, but I'd rather be a goon." Kyle's most memorable part of his hockey career, which reflects his name of 'Tie Dummy', was when he squirted a referee with a Gatorade bottle. He was also suspended for 9 games in a different incident, claiming he got a little "vicious" with the stick.

Kyle says that it is very disappointing



by:
Peter Ellefsen

that the school system did not have a team last year, but is excited that "we now have a team that can go all the way. If we show up to play, no one will touch us."

Kyle would also like to see better jerseys purchased with the money that they bring in at the doors. Kyle also stated that he doesn't ever need to complain about ice time because with a full roster, they are already short benched, so he gets to play all the time.

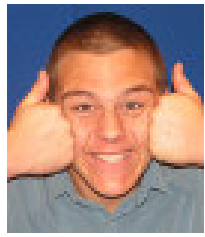


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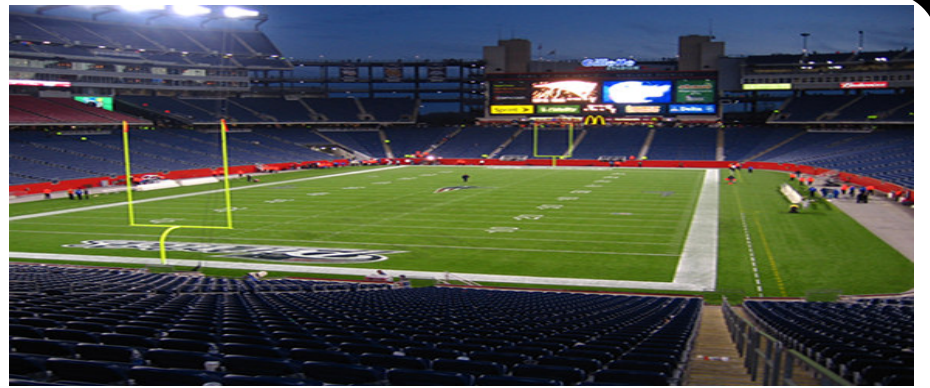
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NFL Update



by:
Peter Ellefsen



The season is into its last quarter, with four final games, division leaders are clinching playoff spots, and wild card teams are scurrying to make a run at the playoffs. The wild card teams for the AFC are as follows: New York Jets (7-5), Cincinnati Bengals (7-5), Jacksonville Jaguars (7-5), Kansas City Chiefs (7-5) and the Denver Broncos (7-5). The wild card teams for the NFC are as follows: New York Giants (6-6), Philadelphia Eagles (6-6), Atlanta Falcons (6-6) and the Carolina Panthers (6-6). The Chicago Bears are the only team to have a playoff spot at this time, at the beginning of week 14.

In case you haven't noticed, Vince Young has finally taken form down in Tennessee. In his last 3 games, he has thrown for 5 touchdowns, and 2 interceptions. They have revamped the offense, to accommodate Vince Young's skills. Instead of having him throw the ball down field, they've got him throwing on hitches, and short routes across the middle and the best part is, it's working. The Titans have won their last 3 games against the Eagles, Giants and Colts. Those 3 teams were most likely expected to win, but didn't. Take note, 2 of these wins came off 4th quarter comebacks manned by none other than Vince Young.

The Pittsburgh Steelers have officially been ruled out of the playoffs, with the Ravens most likely taking the division title, and the Bengals contending for a wild card spot. Ben Roethlisberger has defined the saying, live and die by the quarterback. Out of 11 games played by the third year quarterback, there have only been 4 games where he's thrown for more touchdowns than interceptions. In comparison, that gives 14 touchdowns versus 20 interceptions. The only positive stat is his completion percentage of passes, at 60.5%.

LaDainian Tomlinson has been on fire lately. In his past 4 games, he has gained 643 total yards from scrimmage, and scored 13 touchdowns. One of which, was a passing touchdown to Antonio Gates. If L.T. gets 3 more touchdowns, he will break Shaun Alexander's record for most touchdowns in a season, with 29. He currently stands at 26, and the record Shaun Alexander set last season was 28, shattering Priest Holmes' previous record, of 27.

A slow start had Bengals fans worrying about their superstar wide receiver Chad Johnson, but since week 8 rolled along, he has been doing outstanding. In his first six games, he recorded 36 catches for 451 yards and two touchdowns. That's nothing compared to his usual stat line. On November 12th, he finally broke out. He posted 260 yards on 11 catches, with 2 touchdowns and followed that up, with 190 yards and 3 touchdowns. Since his recent success, he has posted at least 90 yards, and leads the NFL in receiving yards. Although he may be happy, he probably isn't too happy with the Bengals sitting at 7-5. Since breaking out, the Bengals are 3-1 in their last 4 games. Expect to see the Bengals make a strong effort towards a wild card spot in the playoffs.

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Hounds Shootout Loss



by:
Greg Adams

In early November, Saint John High traveled up to Hampton only to lose in a shootout. On November 15th Hampton came to the LBR and lost 5-0 to SJHS. This time Hampton wanted revenge, and that's what they received by beating SJHS 3-2 in a shootout.

The first period was close with Hampton getting more chances. Then at 6:01 of the second period Mitch McLeod scored to make it 1-0 Hounds. Later on at 3:50 on the power play number 12 of the Huskies scored to even the score at 1-1. At 18:28 number 15 made it 2-1 for the Huskies. Going into the last 5 minutes the Hounds became desperate, with Kyle Baxter being kicked out for fighting the team was in trouble. So the team pulled the goalie and with two seconds left in the game Mats Rossley scored to send the game to overtime.

Over time produced nothing for both teams so it was off to a shootout. The shootout became the battle of the goalies with both goalies making amazing saves. Scott Kennedy decided to give the Hounds a little help by making a tiny wall of snow along the goal line (there is no rule against it) but after Hampton's constant whining the referee forced him to take it down. Hampton's sixth shooter, number six (who ironically was the one who fought

Kyle Baxter earlier in the game) scored. Team assistant captain, Chris McCavour, said, "We could have played better. We had lots of chances but we couldn't finish them."



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Seadogs and School Spirit



by:
Tommy Walsh

As many of us know the Saint John Sea Dogs had a school spirit hockey game on December 5th.

A good 50-60 SJHS hounds showed up to cheer for our Sea Dogs. Face painting, body painting, I love the combination and to top it off no other high schools showed up, so naturally, our school won by default.

That however is not the point. The scoring was high, and early, as the Dogs



battled against Gatineau Olympiques. Although they lost 6-5 it did not break the Hounds' spirits in the slightest.

Some of you may know that a few of SJHS's own students work at Harbor Station. One Natalie McGuire can be found attending all of the Sea Dog games, working the aisles. Tyler Burpee, a grade 11 student also works at the arena, alongside Natalie.

You can catch some more of the Sea Dog action on December 30th, as Saint John will be hosting Lewiston. Hopefully this will add a win to the Sea Dogs' dismal record.