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The Sabre Truth™

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Wednesday, November 30th, 2011

The end of the world?

-Taryn Audet

Okay, we've lived through Y2K, 9/11, swine flu, Osama's death, the death of a royal, a royal wedding, and the death of Michael Jackson. Yeah, our life is a freaking history book. But the historic event that may or may not beat them all is predicted to land on December 21st, 2012 - a date not so far away.

For those of you who live under a rock with Patrick Star and aren't aware of this upcoming event, December 21, 2012 is the day the Mesoamerican Long Count Calendar, or more often referred to as simply the Mayan Calendar, runs out. December 2012 marks the end of a 5,124-year-long cycle in this calendar, and this sudden stop has caused a ridiculous amount of theories to pop up in lieu of an explanation. To split the theories right down the middle, there are, of course, those that think this end will result in something positive and others who believe it indicates an apocalypse - the end of the world. Possible scenarios suggested for the end of the world include, but are certainly not limited to, Earth's collision with a black hole, a passing asteroid, or a planet called "Nibiru". Personally, I'm a very paranoid person - and as much as I want to ignore all the theories associated with this particular day, it's hard to completely block it out. I can only assume I'm not the only person out there with these feelings - so it is for you that I brave the scary Wikipedia pages and kooky conspiracy theory fan sites to try and find some truth behind all these ridiculous claims.

Of course, the media much prefers to focus on the possible ending of the world rather than an ushering into an age of



The Mesoamerican Long Count Calendar, or simply the Mayan Calendar, the cause of all this ruckus.

enlightenment or a world-wide spiritual transformation. That's why we get TV specials about crystal skulls and solar flares while the New Age theories are generally ignored. But in a world obsessed with beauty, death and gore - in equal measures - what else can we expect? We all know the media is not one to bother with scientific fact, so we're subject to a vast

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Ms. Kirkwood is the new counselor in town

-Brittany Mnsic

Being in a school with almost a thousand students, there are a large number of teachers to work with, making it almost impossible to get to know them all. Whereas for counselors, we have three of them for all nine hundred and seventy four of us, making every student depend-

ent on them and we get to know them on a more personal level. So when a new counselor is introduced to us a lot of us become wary, unsure of how to approach this new person with all of our troubles and life goals. Yet we are not to worry, as Mrs. Kirkwood brings a light-hearted air to the counseling wing, and she is ecstatic to help everyone

with any need they may have. Whether that be grades or family issues, she has your back.

Sabre Truth (ST): What brought you to Sutherland?
Ms. Kirkwood (Ms. K): *Chuckles* What brought me to Sutherland...I saw a job posting for a secondary counselor and

Cont'd on pg. 2

**“A world
obsessed with
beauty, death
and gore”**

The end of the world? cont'd

array of theories based on very little facts and a lot of imagination. First off, let's take a look at some of these theories.

One note: While a variety of science teachers have attempted to teach me a modicum of the wonders of science, I am certainly no scientist and the jargon used is much too sophisticated for me - and presumably most of our student population. Please excuse me if my explanations are lacking or scientific terms are omitted and replaced with my own feeble attempts at explaining.

Planet X/Nibiru: A planet supposedly discovered in 1980, it is believed this sneaky sphere is rapidly approaching us this very moment, and will lurch into a highly eccentric orbit and wreak gravitational havoc on Earth; earthquakes, droughts, war, increases in global warming, you name it and this bad boy is supposed to cause it. A fact worth mentioning, this catastrophe was initially scheduled for May 2003, but when the Earth emerged unscathed the date was moved up.

Is it the end? Without going into a long-winded explanation quoted verbatim from some NASA sites, I hope you can accept my summaries of their reports on the proof of this theory: There is none. When planet X was "discovered", it was initially a hunk of red on an infrared observation shot from space, eventually identified as a "mystery heavenly body" - key word mystery. However, newspapers soon picked up on the story and dubbed it "Planet X" or "Nibiru". Fact of the matter is; it doesn't exist. When advocates of this theory are presented with this, they simply argue "...governments are sending out disinformation and covering up the true observations of Nibiru." So, basically, their proof is that there is no proof. Because the government is covering it up. Huh. Y'know, somehow I feel I can ascertain this is a theory suited only to sell cheesy DVDs and far-fetched novellas.

Solar Flares: Every 11 years, the Sun reaches the pinnacle of its cycle, where its magnetism undergoes polarity change and solar activity is at an all-time high - this is called "solar maximum". In this theory, it is speculated the Sun will unleash extremely powerful solar flares (a "firing of high-energy particles from its [the Sun's] magnetically dominated surface") that will essentially roast us to death. With these scientific facts stated, and with the solar maximum lining up with December of next year, this theory already is definitely based upon more truth than the Nibiru/Earth collision conspiracy. But, in the event of an Earth-directed solar flare, the Earth isn't completely vulnerable - in fact, it's very well protected by our atmosphere. Basically, if the flares hit our atmosphere, they will absorb or repel it. However, the Sun has produced killer solar flares that have eliminated other stars.

Is it the end? While this theory is based upon more fact than the previous one, the short answer is no. We may be unlucky enough to be hit with certain solar flares, but no "killer solar flare" will be powerful enough to overcome our magnetosphere, ionosphere and thick atmosphere. Overall, the turkeys will be the only thing roasting during that holiday season.

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Ms. Kirkwood is the new counselor in town cont'd

I've been wanting to be a counselor for about four years, so I applied.

ST: Have you been a counselor prior?

Ms. K: No this is my first job as a counselor.

ST: What were you most looking forward too with this new experience?

Ms. K: Hanging out with the kids.

ST: What has been your most memorable experience here so far?

Ms. K: Helping some kids get clarity about what's going on for them. I love it. Sutherland is great, a really nice school; the people have been very friendly and very helpful.

ST: What was your job prior to coming to

Sutherland?

Ms. K: I was a French immersion teacher before, and I've also worked in business and at a university. I really like high school compared to elementary, it's more interesting and you can talk to students. I'm doing the yoga club here, and that's fun. It's all girls. Right now the instructor teaching as Y yoga she is coming in to teach us, after she's done, I'll fully take over.

ST: Are you into any other sports?

Ms. K: Cycling, hiking, fitness like going to the gym, skiing, sailing.

ST: During your elementary school days what was your weirdest moment?

Ms. K: I had a student I had to send to the principal's office and the principal wasn't



Ms. Kirkwood is on the job with a welcoming smile.

Cont'd on pg. 4

The end of the world? cont'd

13 Crystal Skulls: That's right; they don't just exist in Steven Spielberg movies with Harrison Ford and Cate Blanchett. Supposedly, the Mayans predicted if mankind could find 13 crystal skulls, scattered all around the globe, before December 21st, 2012, we could stop whatever horrible event was scheduled to happen. And it's not as far-fetched as you'd think - we've already found several, in South America, Central America, and even one in Spain. These skulls baffle the most advanced scientists - there are no tool marks, cannot be carbon dated, and those in their presence often feel mesmerized. Even with today's technology we could not replicate them. Apparently, if we find and bring these 13 skulls together, they will "reveal all the Maya Sacred Knowledge of Life," but only if we "return to innocence and purity in our spirit". So there you go: put on your best smiles and stop pulling your sister's hair, break out your whip and fedora; you've got crystal skulls to find.

However, for every pessimist there is an optimist, and they have plenty of explanations for what will happen in 2012 as well.

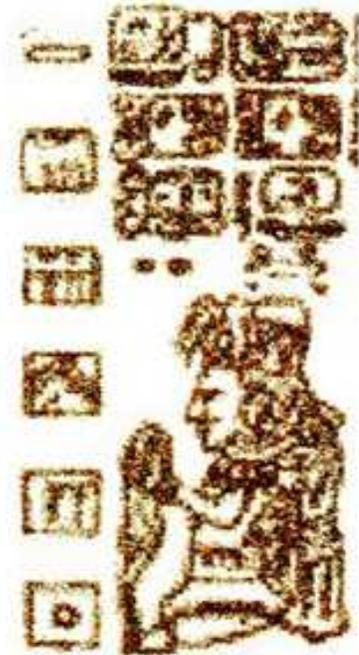
Divine Feminine Restoration: For those of us who have a strange feeling that the term "divine feminine" seems familiar to them, it very well should. Anyone who has read or watched the adventures of Dan Brown's thriller-novel hero Robert Langdon in *The Da Vinci Code* will note the significant use of this phrase. In relation to our topic, ladies, this is a theory you should definitely pay attention to. The Mayans purportedly prophesied the upcoming events of 2012 will "shift the planetary stewardship into the hands of the Feminine". While it is no doubt we currently live in a man's world, could this day really be the moment all us women put on our heels and unite to kick some testosterone-filled butt? Of course we can't prove or disprove this spiritual shift, but there is an ancient Mayan glyph which - supposedly - proves this by showing the transfer of "the Staff of Power" to the spirit of the feminine.

Consciousness Awakening and Enlightenment: Probably the most popular New Age look at December 2012 is this; the enlightenment and consciousness of the world peaking at this particular date. Many believe when we reach December 21st the world will be led into an amazing level of consciousness where we are all connected and able to communicate, live, and be in an entirely different way. It is hard to define this theory in simple words; it is extremely spiritual while remaining extremely interesting. Many believe we will lose our carnal shell and assume our God-like previous existence, being able to manipulate things through our will and speak without opening our mouths. But before you dismiss this as a theory for hippies and monks, there are some interesting facts that go along with it. In fact, these people believe December will bring an apocalypse - but they know the real meaning of the word. Apocalypse is Greek for "lifting of the veil" or "revelation", it would be the disclosure of something hidden from the majority of mankind, leading us into an era we cannot even imagine.

So there it is; everything from females taking over the Earth to solar flares frying us in our sleep is out there in explanation of the big day. But I can't go without giving you one last theory:

Taryn's Phantasmagorical and Ridiculously Amazing, Totally, Definitely True Theory: In reality, no one has yet indefinitely proved that the Mayans even believed the end of their calendar signalled the end of the world, or that it would be an ushering into a new age of enlightenment. Look, the Mayans couldn't even predict their own demise - what makes anyone think they can predict ours? When our calendars run out on December 31st, we simply buy a new one and flip it to January 1st. Maybe that's all the Mayans want us to do, flip over our calendar and enjoy whatever comes at us. The Earth has been doing just fine for billions of years; I think we'll do just as well in the years to come. And really, if the world is going to end, there's nothing we can do about it - no amount of non-perishable food items, prayers, or gallons of water will prevent that.

May as well just enjoy life as it comes at you, Sabres. 'Cause really, we'll never know when it all comes to a screeching end.



Maya glyph depicting the transfer of power to the Divine Feminine.



Ms. Kirkwood is the new counselor in town cont'd

there so when I came into the room he was photocopying a part of himself.... And that's all I will say... that was the weirdest.

ST: What job so far would you say was the most fitting towards your personality?

Ms. K: Oh, this one. This is like getting paid to be myself. It's lovely.

ST: If you got the opportunity to go back to elementary school do you think you would?

Ms. K: I would really like to stay in secondary if I can.

ST: When you were our age did you see yourself going through all of these jobs?

Ms. K: No, I just wanted to be a teacher when I was young. It didn't occur to me until I had been teaching for a while that I would like to work with smaller groups, more one on one.

ST: Where did you go to school and how was your high school experience for you?

Ms. K: I went to school in Ontario, I loved high school. I had lots of friends and lots of fun, and then I went to McGill to study French and then got my education degree.

ST: Was your family supportive of your choices?

Ms. K: No, no. They thought I would not be able to get a job in French. They thought that was a very dumb idea. Twenty years later... *chuckles*

ST: Why did you choose French as apposed to all the other subjects?

Ms. K: I just really liked languages, and French was easy for me so I went towards that one. But I also really like Math. So I had to decide from Math and business also.

ST: What school were you teaching at before?

Ms. K: Larson Elementary; it's on Larson road, on 28th near Westview.

ST: Where do you plan to go after this year?

Ms. K: I get to see what comes up at the end of June; see if I can find another counseling position.

ST: Do you have any children?

Ms. K: I have a son in Grade 12.

ST: What school does he go too?

Ms. K: He goes to West Van secondary, now it's great as I'm learning all the things he is supposed to be doing in Grade 12 to graduate, which I hadn't know before.

ST: Do your old coworkers compare in clear wonderfulness as your new coworkers do now (Mr. Neilson, and Mrs. Matsibutchi)?

Ms. K: Oh no comparison at all! Obviously Mr. Neilson and Mrs. Matsibutchi!

ST: How do you want the students to interpret your presence here?

Ms. K: I would like them to feel free to come in anytime to talk, any ages.

ST: How do you feel about getting the best room out of all of the counselors?

Ms. K: Oh am I lucky or what! It couldn't be nicer.

ST: Do you have any special talents?

Ms. K: Stilt walking, and speaking French.

ST: How did you get into stilt walking!?

Ms. K: When we were kids we would make them, and we used to have races.

ST: Do you like to read French literature?

Ms. K: *Laughs* No, no... French is work now. I like to read a lot of psychology.

Whether your big, little, old or young, she is here waiting to help you. If you've never felt comfortable enough to visit a counselor I suggest you try and go now, as there is someone there with a kind and open heart just waiting to make your day a little better.



Human traffic jam

-Nicole Wallace



The hustle and the bustle

The bell rings and a buzz runs through the halls kids frantically trying to get to their next classes. Everyone makes the mad dash to the stairs trying to beat the everyday rush. A human traffic jam ensues as people push to get up the stairs. Now if your class is near the Math Wing or on the first floor you have no worries. The stairs going to the second floor from outside the office are always crowded when the bell rings.

It's the same deal everyday: the bell rings, you make a break for the stairs and if your lucky you'll get there before the crowd. If you're not well, like I said before, you are caught in the swell of the people trying to squeeze down the staircase.

Those stairs are just so small. There's a constant fear of falling down and creating a domino effect. Or that some unknown person that you can't name will step on your heels, causing you to flail your arms and ungracefully face plant.

I suppose we could all take another route, but no one really wants to take the few extra seconds to go all the way to another stair case. If the person who made this stair case had made it just a bit wider, how much easier would it be?

If you are one of those people looking for a way to escape the rush of the second floor stairs or just how to survive it, here's a few tips:

Tip #1: No matter how tempting it is, and I know it is, do not push that slow annoying kid in front of you down the stairs. Human dominoes, as fun as it sounds kinda hurts. It just doesn't end well.

Tip #2: There are other stairwells like the ones beside the library and in the D-wing towards the field. Like many, I dislike taking the extra time to go to another exit, but remember there are other options.

Tip #3: Get to the stairs early. Yes this cuts into your social time but isn't it worth avoiding that mass going up the stairs?

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Sabre FM: Glasvegas

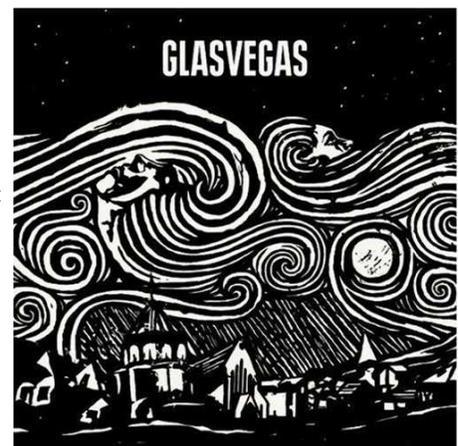
-Brayden Newberry

I've never spoken to anyone who had heard of Glasvegas before I mentioned them, and this fact saddens me, because they're all missing out. Although, loving a band that no one else is even aware of is part of the fun, isn't it?

Glasvegas is a Scottish band from Glasgow, led by talented vocalist James Allan. To generalize them for readers' sake, I'll say that they fall into the indie rock genre, but please, do me a favour and never associate them with the likes of Fall Out Boy and All Time Low (to those of you who listen to those bands: I apologize, sort of) because they are nothing like them in any way. Their music ranges from ambient synths to pounding drums, and the lyrics are honest and creative. Their songs reach beyond basic love songs to topics such as social workers, father-son relationships, elementary school woes, homosexuality, and family tragedies. They have two regular studio albums, a self-titled debut and "Euphoric Heartbreak", as well as a Christmas album called "A Snowflake Fell (And It Felt Like A Kiss)". Now before you start judging the very existence and the title of that album (which is exactly what I did when I first heard it), you should know that it is so much better than it sounds. The songs are original, with the exception of their slow cover of Silent Night, and they possess a satisfyingly gloomy feel, only occasionally mentioning the holiday and incorporating sleigh bells into the music.

So if you want a fantastic band to obsess over, I recommend Glasvegas for their originality and raw talent. James Allan's accent only adds to the appeal of his great voice.

Recommended tracks: "It's My Own Cheating Heart That Makes Me Cry", "Please Come Back Home", "Lots Sometimes", and "The World Is Yours".



Aussie Aussie Aussie, oy oy oy!

-Cassie Heavener

In the middle of November, I took a trip to Australia to visit some family. On the long, painful plane ride there I was listening in on a conversation that was happening right next to me. One man mentioned that Melbourne, Australia is Vancouver's sister city. Now this really got me thinking, did that mean that Vancouver is a lot like Melbourne? Well, once I got off the plane I started to notice some large similarities but also many differences of the two cities. Through my trip, the differences were the most fun to observe.



Seal Rock, otherwise known as the McDonald's for sharks.

I'll start off by mentioning that the way they talk is very different to us Vancouverites. Apart from a very obvious Australian accent, they say words that almost made no sense to me. I had to stop and say "wait, what is that?" Some of these words are just a shortened version of the full word. None-the-less, they made me confused. For example, they say "macca's" instead of MacDonalds, they say "jumper" instead of sweater, they say "rubber" instead of eraser, and they say "sunnies" instead of sunglasses. Now, these are just a few examples. In my opinion, Australians have their own language. I thought it was very cool at first, until no one could understand what I was trying to say.

On one of the days, my mom sent me to the supermarket. It was an easy task that I was down to accomplish. The shopping list was short, all that was on it was: granola bars, pop, lemonade, and some assorted candy. So off I went to Safeway. As I approached an employee of Safeway reading out my list and asking him where I can find these, he had almost no idea of what I was saying. I ended up describing all my desired food items and he continued to correct me in an Australian way of saying my food item. For an Australian my shopping list would be more like this: meusily bars, soda drink, sprite, and lollies. When the employee was explaining to me how he would word these items, I just chuckled to myself.



Admiring the beach with my sister and mom.

So while on the topic of lollies, they do have many that we don't have. Some examples were Timeouts, Boost, Cherry Ripe, and my personal favourite was called Milky Way. It was a solid block of white chocolate that melts in your mouth. If you ever go to Australia, I highly recommend you buy one. But, my friends, before you get all sad about our lack of candy be grateful that we have a magnificent brand called "Hershey" Australians might get the wonderful taste of Milky Way but they are truly missing out on "Reese's peanut butter cups" or "Hershey's cookies and cream."

They also don't have words for some things like we do. When shopping I asked my cousins what she calls a five cent coin (we call it a nickel). She proceeded to just look at me weird and say "a five cent coin". When I asked about other coins, they were the same. They are just called whatever they are worth.

After she had explained to me about her coins and notes (their word for dollar bills) she asked about ours. I started to tell her about our loonies, toonies, quarters, dimes..etc. My cousin started laughing hysterically and said, "If you asked anyone for a loonie here, they would hand you over a crazy person!"

Another thing I really noticed about Australians, like Vancouverites, was that they are genuinely nice people. They have their times of being over sarcastic and sometimes over the top but when you need anything they will be there ready to help you. Even if it is a complete stranger, they will most likely be ready to help. This was something I really enjoyed seeing because why wouldn't you want someone to hold the elevator for you? Or lend you some sunscreen? When you're as pale as me, that last one is really a help.

Lastly, I want to mention the nature. Not only do they have wonderful forests like Vancouver but they have wonderful white sand beaches with real waves to surf on. That's not even the best part! Australia has some of the most amazing animals I have ever seen, like a koala, a kangaroo or a platypus. Overall, Australia is a pretty cool place. To anyone who is even debating going, I would completely recommend it! It is truly a trip you will remember. Also being one of the only ones there with an accent is always fun too.



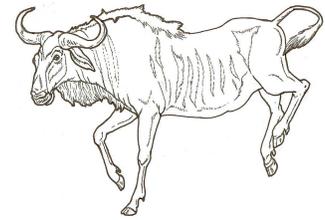
Hanging out with a koala.

Human traffic jam cont'd

Tip #4: Watch your footing. You do not want to fall on those stairs. Imagine the scene from The Lion King when the wildebeests charge. Yeah, not a pretty picture.

Tip #5: If all else fails, stick to the sides! You get the railing to hold on to and your less likely to fall or something along those lines.

Those darn stairs always tripping us and making our commute longer. I wish you luck in your everyday trips up and down those main stairs. Remember human dominoes sounds like more fun than it really is.



Living life with a twin

-Ryan McCormick

Only 2 out of 100 births result in twins, and I am one of those lucky few pairs of kids. Me and my brother Alex have known each other all of our lives, and I see him pretty much every day (though a break is occasionally nice). Being a twin is an interesting experience, because you have a sibling who isn't older or younger than you (except for by 1 minute, which I have never heard the end of) so they don't have what seems to be all the answers like an older sibling, and they don't want to do whatever you are doing, like a younger sibling.

It's interesting, because a lot of people mistake me for my brother, even though we look nothing alike. My family has started to confuse me and my brother on the phone, and teachers confuse the two of us (*cough* Mrs. Bermudez *cough*). However, people that I have never met, like waiters at Chinese restaurants can instantly tell that we are twins, somehow or other. It really is interesting how people you have never met can tell you apart right away; yet family you've known all your life can mix up who you are.



Being a twin.

Can you and your brother tell when one of you is sick, or when one of you gets hurt? I get asked this all the time, and I have never changed my answer. It is no, I have never had something like this happen, as far as I know, it's a myth. It would be pretty cool if it happened, but it doesn't. For instance, when me and my brother were about 6, I accidentally broke his collarbone, and didn't feel anything out of the ordinary.

In the way of activities, we do mostly different things, except for video games, and even then, we don't play the same games. We don't eat the same things, we do just about everything differently, we aren't at all like the stereotypical twins that are always on TV shows that wear the same clothes, sound exactly the same, and can cover for each other in class. Even when we were younger, and looked more alike, we weren't able to do it even then, so don't expect us to try it now.

It's really quite hard to describe what being a twin is like, because I've never not had a twin. It's interesting to think that my brother and I are two of the tiny amount of people who are twins, so I guess I am quite lucky to have a twin.

Mr. and Mrs. Love.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Love,
I can't find a date for Winter Formal, what do I do? Every single one of my friends seem to have dates.



- A Little Crossed in Love

Any girl looking for a date should be able to find one, but there's no need to fret over something like this. I assume you're single and a little shy as you've waited until now to figure out what to do. So me suggesting that you ask every guy in school a little out of the question, but if that is an option then get to it! However, if that cannot be done then this is what I suggest: go alone and enjoy yourself. There will always be somebody to talk to; your friends won't be engrossed in conversation with their dates all night so talk to them (or their dates). There will be someone to dance with too, as guys will be there without dates as well. And enjoy the food too. This event isn't all about couples no matter what anyone says, so get out, eat, talk and dance like there's no school the next day! (But there is and you gotta be there, or you'll be in trouble).

-Mr. Love

Dear ALCIL,

Somehow, lightning has struck my ever so kind heart, and I agree with the harshly masculine Mr. Love. You don't need a date to any event to have fun. A "date" doesn't need to constitute as someone you are seeing, it could be your best friend or a good guy friend of yours. You live everyday without a partner; a dance doesn't justify the need to get one. Just go to have fun with your friends. Unless that is you have a crush on someone, and you want to use the dance to ask them out, by all means go ahead and do so. Yet in regards to Mr. Love's idea to "ask every guy in school" I would like to suggest against it. If you ask out every single guy in sight, you'll come across as someone maybe a little too...desperate. This is not a good way to get a man of quality. Hold out for the right guy, and don't rush just because of a dance. All in all, make your main objective to have fun. Go there feeling beautiful and dance with who ever catches your fancy. Remember, it's just high school.

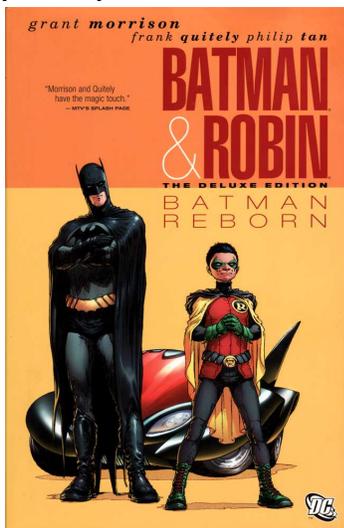
- Mrs. Love



Elizabeth Bennet didn't need a date for the dance.

Trouble with love? Email us at
lovesutherlandlove@gmail.com

(Comic) Bookface: Batman and Robin



Batman and Robin Reborn by Grant Morrison

-Nathan Mayes

What happens in a world where the Batman is dead? Well, a new one takes his place. In Grant Morrison's graphic novel *Batman and Robin Reborn* we see former Robin Dick Grayson take up the mantle of the bat with Bruce Wayne's assassin-raised son, Damian, as the new Robin. Consisting of the first six issues of the monthly serialized comic book *Batman and Robin*, you will see a lighter personality to Batman and a grouchy Robin learning to work together against a few new villains and a visit from an old "friend" from the past. The author, Grant Morrison, is one of the best comic book writers I've seen, and this graphic novel will leave you wanting to read volume two as soon as you can. The art style by Frank Quitely is awesome and suits the story well. In an interview with IGN Morrison said, "Batman and Robin welcomes new readers." And welcomed me it did. Morrison has also written several other Batman stories that connect to the new Batman and Robin as well. So for anyone wondering how Dick Grayson rises to his new position I recommend reading the graphic novel *Battle for the Cowl* by Tony S. Daniel. Just a note that *Batman and Robin Reborn* is from 2009 and that the Batman universe has changed substantially since this graphic novel's publication. But I still highly recommend it for any Batman lovers out there.

Spider-Man returns again?

-Brayden Newberry



I wonder if they even bothered getting him a new suit.

Just five years after the final installment to the Tobey Maguire trilogy was released, director Marc Webb is showing us his take on the Spiderman comics, with *The Amazing Spider-Man*, which will hit the theaters next year on July 3rd. At first glance, the cast and the trailer show promise, but the question remains: is it too soon to be bringing our friendly neighbourhood superhero to the big screen again?

I'll start off with the obvious pros, only so you don't get the idea that I'm against this revamp in every single way. Andrew Garfield (you may know him from *The Social Network* as the friend who gets screwed over - but not this time, guys; he's back with outrageous super-human powers!) plays Peter Parker, and I hope that most female readers will agree with me when I say that he beats out Tobey Maguire any day. They both seem to be generally soft guys, but Garfield has a tougher side that Maguire really struggled to possess during his rebellious phase in *Spiderman 3*. Peter's love interest, Gwen Stacey (sorry Mary Jane), will be played by Emma Stone, who actually has some independent presence in the movies she signs on for, unlike Kirsten Dunst. It's foreshadowed that Peter's uncle Ben will be "winning" here and there quite a bit, as Martin Sheen has been cast to play the role.

Now to the downsides, as the cons are just as important. I'm pretty sure it's only okay for the Bond movies to be remade tons of times in rapid succession; I don't think anyone would be too pleased if a new Batman series was announced right now, after *Batman Begins* and *The Dark Knight* were so awesome.

Cont'd on pg. 10

Movie Review: A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas

-John Topham

The ridiculous duo is back once again and this time, they are quite a bit older, but not much smarter. For their third movie together, *A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas*, a few new main characters were added in the show other than just Harold Lee (John Cho) and Kumar Patel (Kal Penn). This movie is a must if you are sick of those corny typical Christmas movies with people like Tim Allen and you are up for a change!

Harold and Kumar always get into some extremely unrealistic scenario that endangers their lives. Whether it's ruining Christmas for the entire family, being chased by infamous mobsters, or even being forced to eat "#\$@%-meat sandwiches," there will always be something new. Another character worth talking about is Neil Patrick Harris who plays an extremely drug addicted, and closet heterosexual version of himself. Amir Blumenfeld, Patton Oswalt, and Thomas Lennon are also actors with main roles in the movie--need I say more?

As a brief plot summary to inform you about the story without spoiling anything, *A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas* is the continuation of the other two movies except that Harold and Kumar are no longer friends and they've taken their own paths. Kumar has been the same lazy stoner he has always been and Harold turned out to be a successful Wall Street executive with a fancy house and beautiful wife. The two meet once again when Kumar drops by at his old friend Harold's house to deliver a package that was sent to him for some odd reason but had Harold's name on it. The package contains an enormous joint and Harold being the stoner that he is, of course lights it. With lack of attention and caution, the joint lands on the Christmas tree engulfing it in flames and almost burning down the whole house in the process (be informed readers this is what drugs can do). As it turns out, that Christmas tree was hand grown for eight years by Harold's step father and it is their mission to retrieve a new identical tree by midnight. *Cont'd on pg. 10*



Neil Patrick Harris is back!

Spider-Man returns again? cont'd

Society hasn't had time to adjust, to fully absorb the past movies and prepare themselves for the next onslaught of gripping cinematic adventure. The same thing can be said for the Spiderman franchise; I know I'm still shocked by Maguire's greasy hair and black eyeliner. How dare you threaten to leave MJ after so many years of kindness and innocence?

In addition to the above, the reasons behind this remake must be discussed. A remake is clearly acceptable when: some guy (preferably an acclaimed director) watches a movie on his couch and thinks to himself, *"Say, this movie is fairly old, but the plot and themes still speak truth about humanity today - these morals should be opened up to the newer generations! And gosh, I know just who would pull off these roles perfectly, and with more charisma than the original actors! Also, I have an idea for a new twist that would leave more of a lasting effect on viewers!"* As for the upcoming Amazing Spider-Man, the director is not acclaimed, Tobey Maguire's portrayal of Peter Parker is still fresh in our minds, and there doesn't seem to be anything majorly different with the storyline. Originally, I thought it was a prequel that went back to look at how he lost his parents in the first place, and how he dealt with that while simultaneously grappling with the new addition of web-shooting powers to his skill set. However, it seems to me that we only get to briefly glance back at his childhood, and then we zoom back forward to Andrew Garfield playing our beloved, bashful high school student. (I should also mention that I gravely mourn the loss of James Franco as Peter's best friend. He is a wonderful addition to any film, and it's not just because of his wild good looks and natural charm, alright?!)



So you may ask, if the overall story seems to be mostly unchanged, and we're viewing the main characters at the exact same time in their lives, then what is the point of this remake at all? This brings us to our verdict: it is much, much too soon for another interpretation of the Spiderman comic series. This is not to say that I won't go see the movie when it comes out in theaters, but that's only because researching the new film has heightened my curiosity, and because I'm a fan of the cast. Still, this decade only needs one Spiderman trilogy.

Movie Review cont'd



The classic interracial couple.

Geared towards a teenage audience, this movie is recommended for you, Sabres! Although, you might have some difficulties actually getting into the movie because it is rated 18A. If you are interested in seeing this movie, it is playing at Empire Esplanade down by the Quay. It was a decent movie and well worth the 14 bucks it cost to see but many people considered that it wasn't as hilarious as the first two movies. Carson Hamner, a grade 11 student said, "It had its funny points, but it didn't live up to the earlier ones." I agree with this statement, but what can you really expect? It is extremely rare to find that the 3rd movie of a trilogy is always best. This movie was rated 7.2/10 on IMDb.com from fellow users like you.

There you have it, Sabres, a solution to your holiday movie picks, and who knows, maybe your Movember moustaches will help you get by the ticket checkers for this 18A movie!

Mother's Basement: Christmas Special

-Mohammad Khanali



The Legend continues in Link's newest, motion-controlled adventure.

For those of you who knew Geoff Thew, the legend, (and for those who don't) he was a great man who would bless us with his video game powers. Unfortunately, he graduated a couple of years back, and there has been no one to take up this hard task. That is why I (the Prophet) am here. I like to believe that I am his protégé, trying to fill his shoes, as I understand that there needs to be someone to inform everyone of the Do's and Don'ts of the gaming public are. So without further ado, let us begin.

(Author's Note – The only reason I'm not reviewing either Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3 and Battlefield 3 is because I do not want to get into the discussion of which is better)

Wii

The Legend of Zelda –Skyward Sword

This game has recently come out, and I was able to get my hands on a version, and I find it an amazing game. It has compiled some of the older Zelda titles and it's notably the greatest game for the Zelda series, if not the best game for the Wii! *Skyward Sword* sets a new, important benchmark for Nintendo. Modern video games have made significant strides in how they present stories to audiences, and it seems as though Nintendo has finally taken notice. *Skyward Sword* features cinematics that play out like a movie which at times they are downright captivating with their picturesque settings and powerful, yet awe inspiring, drama. Unfortunately, it lacks voice acting as always, but characters' emotions shine through regardless, and the framing of scenes is incredible. This is easily Nintendo's best storytelling to date.

Xenoblade Chronicles

I've always had a soft spot is no different. You start the game as a character named Shulk, and the Monado, (which is a mystical sword that gives his or her bearer great powers, who are joining a battle for Bionis (it's a place), to repel the invasion for classic RPG games, and Xenoblade Chronicles of the terrifying mechanical army whose which their objective is to seek and destroy the Human race. This game features real time battles and action oriented approach, giving you the chance to unleash special attacks and strategies by selecting them from a command gauge. If you're looking for a great RPG look no further. Be warned that you will spend countless hours trying to defeat bosses and collect items.



Mountains, ruins, dragons, oh my!

Xbox 360

The Elder Scrolls V – Skyrim

This game is just simply amazing, to say the least. Amazing game play, amazing graphics, amazing soundtrack, basically think of it like this; EVERYTHING in your imagination of a perfect dream world made into a game and multiplied by 4 folds. It was anticipated that this game would be the best game of the year, and the producers delivered. There are some negative things, but they're quite minor, such as you need a good computer to run it if you plan on playing on the PC or that Skyrim does not support non-widescreen TV's so that some parts of the menu text may run off the screen. It also has quite along load time, unless you install the game – which I have not tried yet – But again, if you are looking for a great RPG to play do not forget to include this on your Christmas wish list.

- Also on PC, and PS3 -

Cont'd on pg. 12

Mother's Basement cont'd

Assassin's Creed – Revelations

Another big game that came out recently, AC:R is a great game and has quite the in depth storyline, following from AC:B as you do play as Ezio. This game has some unnecessary extras and major overhauls that they pulled off of Assassin's Creed: Brotherhood such as the multiplayer has some unintended bugs, though they have taken popular game types and changed them around a bit. Examples of such is Team Death match which includes much more skill and more fast-paced then the version in Brotherhood; Capture the Artifact is another which is essentially Capture the Flag, but in Assassin's Creed playing defensively is not the same in other games. You have to go around looking for your opponents and assassinating them before they can take your "flag". Otherwise, you have all of the standard modes returning and a variety of maps to play on. While the gameplay itself hasn't changed drastically, it has been tweaked a good deal. New skills have been added and the amount of customization is staggering and all the different weapons you can unlock come with their own set of animations. While Revelations is by far the fullest and most complex entry in the Assassin's Creed series, most of the changes it makes over Brotherhood are largely unnecessary. You have more options than ever before but all of the substance is still in the story with the extras all being extras. I find most of these things to be an enjoyable distraction but they are almost all more useful as a distraction so that you keep entering into the game proper with a fresh viewpoint.



You only wish you looked half as good as him with that kind of beard.

- Also on PS3, PC -

PS3

Need For Speed: The Run

Need For Speed: The Run has going for it is that it feels more like an old-school NFS game than the last few "spinoff" titles have. Developer Black Box has been making NFS games for over a decade, and they bring a lot of that arcade style, nitrous fueled racing action back. Racing down snow and ice covered tracks, skidding along a turn and narrowly avoiding plummeting off the edge of a cliff is exhilarating. Throughout the campaign, the scenery and gameplay constantly change as you race from coast to coast. There's a good balance of different race types. You'll go from a standard eight car race, to a checkpoint time attack, to a one on one mountain drifting battle, to a cop chase. It's very rare that the same type of race repeats twice in a row. On the Normal difficulty the racer AI is, well, kind of dumb. They'll crash into other cars, police will target only you, and they'll miss shortcuts, even if you enter one right in front of them. Still my biggest problem with *The Run* is the lack of options. After the campaign there is a Challenge Series which offers additional gameplay, similar to Shift's challenges. However, there is no free race option at all in this game. Whether I'm playing by myself, or online, I have to choose from the preset Challenges with their car types and rules. Beyond the dumb story, and any problems I have with the AI, it's these lack of features that turns *The Run* from my racing game of the holiday, to a weekend rental. I beat the challenges, I beat the story, and now I don't have a lot more to go through.

What *Need for*

- Also on 3DS, PC, Xbox 360, Wii -

Cont'd on pg. 13



This is where I say something stupid like, "Don't try this at home, kids!"



Uncharted 3 (not mentioned) protagonist Nathan Drake manages to walk away from a third action packed game with continuously fabulous-looking hair.

Mother's Basement cont'd

Sonic Generations

SEGA has FINALLY DONE IT. They have finally released a brand new sonic game that really feels like an old classic, run through levels, Sonic game. *Sonic Generations* taps into the nostalgia of two decades of sonic fans, who, against all odds, have shown their love for the blue blur. The story, while largely superfluous, is homage to sonic games of the past. The twin hedgehogs battle against an unknown force trying to destroy time itself. They relive each others' memories, zooming through class stages from nine different sonic games. It's almost like SEGA rebooted the entire franchise, and caught you up on 20 years of hedgehog with a single game. Watching old-school Sonic zip around his new beautifully re-imagined model, with SEGA finally managing to perfectly recapture what made this franchise so fun to begin with after years of missed attempts. Classic Sonic's new 3D character model (based on his original sprite-base origins) has an adorable, almost claymation-like appearance. In contrast *Modern Sonic* exudes an attitude that contradicts his age. This is an older, more experienced Sonic, yet somehow more of a kid. His memories aren't those of green hills and sky temples, but of alien worlds and burning cities. His levels focus on blazing speed, an unstoppable force destroying every enemy in his path. Part super hero, part professional skateboarder, Sonic lives up to his name by physically pushing the sound barrier with his speed. So if you've ever enjoyed Sonic as a kid, you owe it to your inner child to pick this game up and play it at least ten times.



Sonic isn't afraid of heights... just water.

- Also on Xbox 360 and PC -

Well, I hope that, as we went through the list, some games caught your eye and believe me, all of these games on this list are worth buying (some more than others). They sure are a heck of a lot of fun, which in that case, should make any gamer happy. Until the next time we review how to fight bosses, and get those hard-to-get achievements, I bid you farewell.

Taking a chunk out of the big Apple

-Jack Bondy

Smartphones are becoming increasingly popular as new features and components are being added. According to the research agency 'Canalys' 101 million phones were shipped out to the world in the first quarter of 2011. Of them, 37.3 million Android and 18.65 million iPhones were sold. (Keep in mind that Android is just an OS and that Android doesn't build the phones itself) You may seem a little shocked at these numbers, and no I didn't get them wrong. Android produces multiple phones while Apple keeps it to a small few (iPhone 4, 4S, etc) so this means that the iPhone remains the most popular phone in the market. Android and Apple are the big guys in the smartphone industry and were going take a look at what makes them unique to each other and why on some topics, one is better than the other.

Variety

When it comes to variety, there is a clear winner. Android provides around 80 smartphones in all shapes, colours, and sizes to fit your personal preference. Apple on the other hand, has a somewhat consistent design that carries on from its previous models that are restricted to black and white. If you like the iPhone's style or simply could care less what your phone looks like, then the iPhone is for you.

Winner: Android

Cont'd on pg.14



Taking a chunk out of the big Apple cont'd

Simplicity

The iPhone and Apple itself is built on 'User-Friendliness' and the iPhone delivers simplicity at its best. Lots of people find Apple's phones easy to use and like it that way. People new to the smartphone, or even mobile phone world, find it easy to get used to when introduced to the iPhone, which is not so when they are given an android phone. The Android is a bit harder to get used to and requires more technical knowledge.

Winner: Apple



Carriers

If you are unsure what a carrier is, it's the company that your parents pay to each month to allow you to have those lovely features such as the '3G' wireless download speed. Android phones are compatible with a bunch of carriers; Verizon, Bell, Sprint, T-Mobile, TELUS, Virgin

Mobile, and many more. Apple's iPhone; however, has only a few carriers that offer full access Bell, Fido, Rogers, TELUS and AT&T.

AT&T is known for its various complaints about its networking speed and might not be the best option. It would be nice if there was a little more choice on carriers for the iPhone.

Winner: Android

Customization

Android is open source, so they could care less as to what you do with the phone you paid for. So unlike Apple, they won't track you down if 'hack' your phone to be able to do more. For example I myself own a Motorola Droid (powered by Android's OS) which I proceeded to 'hack' in this case it's called 'root' my phone so that I am able to download apps off the internet instead of being restricted to downloading them off the marketplace. I now have an app that is able to speed up the CPU (central processing unit) manually for faster load speeds. Apple is extremely against 'unlocking' and forbids you to do so as it voids the warranty.

Winner: Android

Applications

There are many different apps to choose from, and Apple's App Store gives a wide selection of great purchasable apps but what about free apps? Android, believe it or not, has more free apps than Apple, but some of these applications are known to be buggy and lousy. However, you and developers are treated like adults in the android world and you are expected to be responsible and make the right choice as to what apps you choose to download. It is difficult to find the clear winner on the app debate so this one's a stalemate.

Winner: Nobody

Well there you have it, on these five topics, Android wins 3/5. Just remember, I didn't go over every topic that concerns the smartphone world and if I did, it would cover about three pages of text... you wouldn't want that would you? I also went around our Sutherland to get a few personal opinions on the debate. An anonymous grade 9 student claimed, "I prefer my iPhone because the 'Face Time' feature is absolutely amazing and it is a great way to communicate with my friends!" Blake McIntyre of grade 10 said, "My Android phone costed me much less than the current iPhone and it has about the same features so why would I pay more?" So the big question is, what smartphone do you think is better?



Best and Worst Songs of 2011

-Zahra Ghodsi

In the year 2011 many songs were made which we spent our precious time listening to. The question is which songs were worth listening to or a pleasure to listen, and which ones were disgraces to our ears. I have searched through many sites; looking at the amount of YouTube likes, music awards and found some songs you might call the best and worst songs of the year. Many of us spend a long time each day listening to music as much as possible, if you are one of them here are some songs you might want to consider.



A talented singer.

Best songs of the year:

Party Rock Anthem is the best party song of the year (I mean

1,030,622 likes on YouTube is what I'm talking about). It is hard to imagine anyone listening to this song and not wanting to shuffle, it's the best song to rock your party and act crazy. The video contains many colourful outfits and energetic exciting moves.



LMFAO party rocking.

Searching through pop songs Jennifer Lopez won an award on AMA as favourite Latin artist, "Papi" and "on the floor" are her two best new songs. The video for "Papi" is quiet interesting to watch; it has a nice story in it where Jennifer is hoping that her boyfriend would come back and she accidentally gets all the guys in town to love her. "Tonight" by Enrique is another pop song that you might enjoy listening to.

Looking at a more serious kind of song, the one's with good lyrics and not being just about the beat (which I find hard to find these days) you might want to consider "Rolling in the deep". I think this song is well developed, the lyrics are good, there is a beat to the song and Adele has a great voice. The video is creative using new ideas and perfectly matches the song.

Cont'd on pg. 16

A cavity in the making

-Curtis Gunn

As Halloween flew by, the time for rotting teeth still remains. Candy! Everyone lives for such sweet temptation. It's sugary, it's addictive, and simply AMAZING! Candy is one of the best things in the whole world. I mean, you get a whole night to go around and get free candy; how could you possibly pass that up? Sure, you could go to a party and have a fun time, or go and watch or participate in a firework show, but I would rather get some free candy. What makes your Halloween night even more special is when you get home and your parents have left over candy and you begin to chow down. The most common candy bars I seem to have gotten were Aero, Oh Henry's, Kit-Kats, and Coffee Crisp. Now you could have a huge argument over which one of these tasty treats is the best. I personally like Coffee Crisps the least, and don't hate if you love them, but I think Kit-Kat is where it's at. I will be breaking down these four delicious bars for you with the help of my friends, Vish Kanga, Justin Solyom and Connor Hanley, the judges.



First, we'll start off with Aero. "Have you felt the bubbles?" This is the classic catch phrase of the popular milk chocolate candy bar full of bubbles made by Nestle. I think it's brilliant, because if you actually look inside the candy bar, you can see tons of little bubbles just waiting to get popped. The flavour of a classic Aero is unbelievable and it just melts in your mouth. However, if you want some variety, there are also different types such as Mint, Caramel, Dark and White Chocolate, and finally, Orange. Aero is "irresistabubble" according to the slogan of 2011, and they are changing it to "Get your bubble on" for 2012. For taste, all three of the judges gave this bar an astonishing 4/5, while for crunch it got a low 2/5. Aero has always and will always be one of the best chocolate bars out there!

Cont'd on pg. 16

Best and Worst Songs of 2011 cont'd

Worst song of the year:

There is no doubt that "Friday" by Rebecca Black is the worst song of the year and it probably made a historical record with the most dislikes on YouTube and death threats (which is stupid, if you don't like the song just don't listen to it there is no points in death threats). To be honest it was impossible to listen to her voice, the lyrics was a fail describing her daily schedule and calendar and the video was lame showing 13 year olds driving and partying trying to act like grown ups. Still not caring about her first video she makes the second video "My moment" which was better than "Friday" but still hard to listen to her horrible voice. Another horrible song is "Surrounded by Silence" by design the skyline, it was voted by many magazines as "the worst song ever" and the band as "the worst band ever". I tried listening to this song but never got till the end, one minute of it was enough for me, but the visual was a fail with bad camera angles.

This year we had many great songs by many different artists but at the same time we had some of the worst songs ever. Over all but it was a pretty good year for music industry and you can probably find your favourite song this year.

A cavity in the making cont'd

Next, we will be talking about "Oh Hungry, Oh Henry", a nice slogan to start off this Oh Henry inspection. Oh Henry is a candy bar containing, peanuts, caramel, and fudge, coated in chocolate. Choking Hazard! You might not want to try to eat this one in one bite; sure, it will melt in your mouth, but not everything will slide down the hatch so easy as it is not pure chocolate. This candy bar is very famous and dates back to 1920 (back when everything was cheap.) The Oh Henry bar is a candy bar produced by Nestle, and in Canada has been named a "candy bar" as opposed to a "chocolate bar" because it is not pure chocolate. The judges have different opinions, for example Vish gave this bar a 5/5 for taste and 4/5 for crunch, while Justin gave it a 2/5 for taste and 5/5 for crunch, and Connor gave it a 4/5 for both taste and crunch. This bar is jammed pack full of chewy and tasty fillings; always a great combo.



Up next for the crown of the candy world is the Kit Kat Bar. Now the reason why this is the best chocolate bar in my opinion is because it has its own hand game and its own song. Auto Win. All jokes aside, this is a nice, harmless chocolate bar with three layers of wafer covered by milk chocolate. You can get a break of that Kit Kat bar, and share it with your loved ones. The bar has a great melting taste and you can't go wrong when purchasing one. Our trustworthy judges have locked in their results, and starting things off will be Connor. Connor gave it a 4/5 for taste and a 2.5/5 for crunch. Vish and Justin gave it 5/5 for taste and 3/5 for crunch. The Kit Kat is a magnificent candy bar which has won the gold in my heart, as well as many other hearts out there.

Last but not least, we have the Coffee Crisp. EW, that's all I have to say; I despise them, and the taste for me is revolting. I understand that some people like them and I personally don't understand how or why. Yes, it is made with wafer like the amazing Kit Kat, but Kit Kat has a satiating taste, while Coffee Crisps tastes like a stale cup of jo. I just don't understand the concept of coffee and chocolate. Anyways, enough with the trolling, it is a wafer with a coffee variation, made with combination of coffee cream, cookie wafers and milk chocolate coating. It does contain a small amount of coffee, although much of its coffee taste comes from flavoring. Justin gave it a 2/5 for taste and 5/5 for crunch, Vish gave it a 4/5 for taste and 4/5 for crunch, and Connor gave it a 2/5 for taste and 5/5 for crunch. The bar that is my least favourite might very well be your favourite.



Here are some classic Halloween favorites for some of you students out there who may have been wondering what the best kind is. Calculating from what information the judges have given us, the results are in. From the judge's perspectives, Kit Kat and Oh Henry were the highest ranking by the consumers, while Aero came in with a close silver and Coffee Crisp finished last. So Sabres, if you're in the mood for sugar, here are some tasty tips for fulfilling your chocolaty cravings. Also, remember to brush and floss really well. I will not, in any way, be held responsible for your dental bills.

Jersey Fouls

-Connor Hanley

For some people the sports jersey is just another shirt in the closet, but to the people like me the jersey is much more than that. It may sound corny but I take jerseys very seriously, and I try to make sure that my jerseys do not violate any of the following "Jersey Fouls". The term "Jersey Foul" was coined back in March 2009 when Yahoo Sports blog "Puck Daddy" posted a series of photos of fans around the league sporting their jerseys with things that only a jersey geek such as myself would cringe at. These are jersey fouls and like the guys over at Puck Daddy would say...

"And here ...wego...."

1. Getting Personal

The most common jersey foul is personalizing your jersey, basically getting your last name, your nickname, or something other than an actual player's name stitched on the back along with a number. No one cares what your name is and if anything, it'll set you up to for an insult if you're on the road. For example, instead of being "that jerk in the Sabres jersey" you're "that tool Pakachoag from Buffalo." Yes, I have violated this rule three times; however, there are exceptions to this rule: #1 Being under the age of Thirteen and #2: receiving a personalized jersey as a gift.

2. The Banana Split.

When Hall of Famer Ray Bourque was traded from the Bruins (who he played for for 20 ½ seasons) to the Colorado Avalanche in 2000 in hopes of winning his first Stanley Cup it became popular to wear a jersey that was half Bruins and half Avalanche. These monstrosities were never available in stores which means they are all homemade; the sheer thought of putting a pair of scissors to a jersey makes this a prime jersey foul.



The thought of cutting a jersey in half makes me cringe.

inaccuracies. Oh and the fact that purchasing counterfeit jerseys is ILLEGAL. I could go on and on about this endlessly but I'll save that for another article.

5. Going Neutral

What bugs me almost as much as seeing the ridiculous amount of knockoff jerseys at Canucks games is seeing someone in a neutral jersey. If the Canucks and Flyers are playing each other there is no reason to wear your Devils jersey. The occasion of going to a hockey game is no excuse to wear something simply because it's hockey related. However, just like the personalized jersey rule; there are exceptions to this. #1 being if the neutral jersey has the name of a player who is playing in that game, if Miroslav Satan is playing for the Penguins in that game it's alright to wear your Buffalo Sabres jersey only if it has Satan #81 on the back. Exception #2 is national team jerseys. If you don't have a Canucks jersey but you do have a team Canada jersey you're good to go.

As a jersey enthusiast and an owner of 21 hockey jerseys I highly recommend following these rules to make sure you don't make jersey geeks like me want to point out every little flaw in your uniform.



Sergei Gnouchar's evil twin brother?

3. Mistimed

A recent trend that has been gaining speed in the last few years is getting a specific player's name on a jersey they never wore during their career. Yes, the 2011 Vancouver Canucks were the best team ever assembled in franchise history. Yes, Pavel Bure is arguably the best player ever to play for the Canucks; but it's no excuse to get historically inaccurate and merge the two.

4. The Knockoff

When Reebok took over the job of manufacturing jerseys in 2005 they slowly began increasing the price of the already expensive jersey, and in 2007 when they released the RBK Edge uniform system, they upped the price to an all time high \$115 for a blank uniform. When they did this, Asian knockoff manufacturers took advantage of this by making counterfeit hockey jerseys. Although morally wrong due to most counterfeiters taking advantage of cheap child labour, they sell their jerseys at an average \$45. What most people don't realize is that you get what you pay for, and with that you get lesser quality materials, and obvious

Against the odds

-Justin Solyom

You wouldn't know it, but people have a certain fascination with sports. Well, I guess you might, considering all of the sports related drama that has taken place over the past year, but I digress. Given the interest of the collective human race in this brand of social Darwinism (sports), it is in our nature to make wagers and bets surrounding our favorite sports. Most of the time, these bets and wagers between friends (usually consisting of a small amount of money) are a good way to make your average, everyday sporting event a little more exciting. I myself have been guilty in the past of partaking in this sort of dirty pleasure, not yet realizing how destructive a habit like this (albeit with higher stakes) can become.

In the past year and a half, I have noticed an escalation in the number of instances of sports betting that have taken place during school hours. It is interesting to note that, for the most part, it is boys that are making these bets. I chalk it all up to the fact that boys seem to be more competitive in nature, at least when it comes to predicting the outcome of sporting events (I realize this is not always the case, so please don't accuse me of being a male chauvinistic pig).

I realize that most people probably don't find something like this all that concerning, but for those with an addictive personality, sports betting can quickly evolve into an extremely dangerous habit. Like all forms of gambling, sports' betting is extremely unforgiving; you win money one minute and lose it in the next. Here in lies the danger; it is very easy to lose a large amount of money at once if you make too many bets at one time, or if you bet too often. Don't get me wrong, making small monetary wagers with your friends can be a fun and exhilarating experience, but can quickly evolve into a dangerous and damaging habit. *Cont'd on pg. 19*

Athlete of the Month: Ellie Fox

-Sadie Burgess

This school is full of athletic talent and this month *The Sabre Trooth* is recognizing one particular girl who always works as hard as she can every time she steps on the court. Ellie Fox may be a setter for our very own Sutherland Sabres senior girls volleyball team, but her skills don't end there. When I interviewed her, she informed me that she also plays soccer and basketball. For soccer she currently is playing on the gold select team and also has played for the school soccer team. In the past Ellie has been part of the Steve Nash basketball league. Back in grade nine, she won athlete of the year. I've gotten the chance to have her as a teammate in both volleyball and basketball which gave me the opportunity to see why she was given the athlete of the year. Every time Ellie takes to the court she is ready to give it her all. She is good at what she does, but if you tell her so she'll deny it.

ST: What sports do you play?

EF: Professional tidily winks (she said jokingly) and occasionally some others.

ST: What are these other sports you play?

EF: Volleyball, soccer, and basketball.

ST: How long have you been playing each one?

EF: Not long enough, I'm still crappy.
(author's note: an example of how modest she is).

ST: Which sport is your favorite? Why?

EF: I guess it would be basketball but I like them all pretty much equally and I'm not just saying that, I'm actually torn between basketball volleyball and soccer they all have something different that I like.



A look of pure concentration

Cont'd on pg. 19

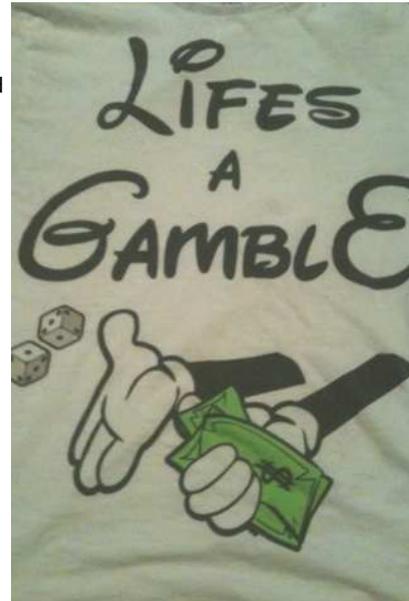
Against the odds cont'd

Responsible sports betters, such as Narek Bobloyan and John Topham, both agreed upon the fact it is easy to get into sports betting, but very hard to stop if find that you are starting to make money, " I hate those time's when I'm doing well, but I know I need stop before I start losing. It's very tempting just to keep going." said Narek. On a more comical note, he then added "What the heck kind of stupid article are you doing this for now Solly?" But again, I digress.

Finally, I wish to give my fellow Sabres some helpful advice on how to bet responsibly, in the hope that you may be successful in your endeavors:

1. Be reasonable with your bets: Never bet too much on a single game, or in other words, never put all your eggs in one basket. Try to keep the stakes low.
2. Pace yourself: Only make a wager on one game at a time, so that if you lose, you keep your losses low.
3. Make sure you know what you're getting into: Only make a bet on a sport your familiar with; if you don't know much about Cricket, don't bet on it! Don't get in over your head.

There you have it, Sabres. An exceedingly well written and insightful article into the world of sports betting! Now hopefully I don't get suspended.



For many unfortunate people, this statement rings true.



Athlete of the Month cont'd

ST: What's your favorite part of volleyball?

EF: The shorts! Just kidding! Probably when you set a good set and then the hitter gets a great hit out of it. It's a good feeling.

ST: How would you describe your fellow Sutherland team mates?

EF: Let's just stick with weird, but tons of fun.

Ellie is a girl with a good sense of humor and lots of talent. She will always be there for her team and is a very reliable player. She has talent in all the sports she participates in. She may seem calm and quiet, but when you get her on the court she brings the craziness! She does everything and is a great addition to our school teams!

Astrology Jones



Sagittarius, November 22-December 21: This will be an enjoyable fun month, with great and intriguing conversations with the people around you. You should consider getting involved with a community social event, either planning or working at it, your skills are greatly wanted! A solar eclipse brings an encouraging change your way that will not only test your strengths, but also benefit them! This change will give you the opportunity to focus on your dreams and wishes, take hold of your drive!



Capricorn, December 22-January 19: Pluto is radiating in your sign this month showing plenty of new situations arising in your life, so don't worry-- this is a positive transition! Your friendships will seem to be more meaningful to you-- expect a heart to heart with your favourite chum! You will feel the love and appreciation from your family and friends, making you want to give back to them. This month is great for you to put your emotions in a poem or a painting; your creativity will be shining!



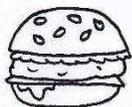
Aquarius, January 20-February 18: If you aren't romantically involved, expect that status to change! This special person might be right in front of you, just get up the courage to talk to that special someone, it will make your day! You feel like you're ready to make a new change in your life whether it has to do with a job, traveling or even a new haircut, don't hesitate to walk through a new door and see what's in store. People will feel the positive vibes from your personality; use that to your advantage when the opportunity presents itself!



Pisces, February 19-March 20: This month you may be asked to be helpful to a relative or someone in your community. Do what you can; a caring gesture or a kind word is enough to bring happiness to their day! This winter break you may travel to somewhere exotic or far, pack an extra bathing suit! There could be a special someone you meet on this trip who will show the great qualities about you, giving yourself a realization! If you have been feeling pretty down lately, start to look up and forward to the future, and be your positive self again, only time and your loved ones can help you with that!



Aries, March 21-April 19: This month you'll find yourself in a perplexing problem that might confuse you to bits. Don't worry, Aries, ask a friend or family member for advice, and you'll feel brand new in no time! Personal success is in the stars, let your mind go with the flow and don't doubt yourself by any means! If you are in a relationship, the bond between you and your partner will become naturally stronger and with that you will feel a sense of being true to yourself around your loved one, go for it Aries!



Taurus, April 20-May 20: Jupiter retrograde is upon your sign all month bringing interesting and new opportunities for growth, you might be hesitant on making these new changes, but what do you have to lose? During this time you will look over your options by doing some fact finding, and you should open your mind a bit, not everything is so serious! A surprise relative may pay you a visit this month, bringing joy to your home! If you're single, a new romantic interest will pop up in your life this month, be ready to get all fancied up!



Gemini, May 21-June 20: You might be feeling very anxious this month to get tasks done because your plans have been up in the air for sometime and your ready to follow through with them. Take your time, this life lesson will teach you patience and will get you thinking about what is really important in your life for at the moment. When interacting with new people, try to look beneath the surface, because that new person might have a big impact on your life. This month is great for your fortune, all your hard work towards money, will soon pay off! So relax a bit!



Cancer, June 21-July 22: This is the best month of the year for you! You will gain wealth and meet a mysteriously attractive person. That person will completely change your life without you even realizing it. You will be pegged with a snowball on the 16th (sucker!) and will miss when you try to throw one back. But aside from that you have a prosperous month ahead.



Leo, July 23-August 22: Tsk tsk. Silly Leo! You made a careless choice last month and will pay the consequences soon. Don't worry, it will work out in the end but you will just require lots of strength. On the bright side, your grades will rise like crazy and your abs will get more defined due to your lack of appetite. Unfortunately your lack of appetite is because you are stressed from all the work you've been putting into school, but have no fear things will get easier.

Cont'd on pg. 21

Astrology Jones cont'd



Virgo, August 23-September 22: Woweee, you have quite the decision ahead of you! When faced with this choice choose the harder path, that way you will have no regrets. You have been very stressed lately so take it easy for a few days and focus on the good things in life. You will be tempted to go back on a choice you made but stick to your prior decision. You will get money this month, so feel free to spend as carelessly as you like, you lucky rabbit!



Libra, September 23-October 22: The stars have favored you and this month you will be noticed for your undeniable glow! The snowiest day this month will be your luckiest so watch the Weather Network. Your stomach is having digestive problems so expect an added pound or two but don't worry because your crush likes full figures anyways! You will narrowly avoid a disaster, but you won't even realize it because your mind will be on your love life, which will be wild this month. You will succeed when it comes to sports and cards so bring out your poker face.



Scorpio, October 23-November 21: The sun is in your sign helping you feel powerful and confident in succeeding with your next project, whether it is in school or at your job. Love and romance are going splendid for you, but don't feel rushed to get into any commitment, let your voice be heard. With the winter season in gear, try some new outdoor activities or baking some festive treats with your family and friends, this will bring happiness for everyone. Enjoy your surroundings; you're in for a sweet surprise!

Remembering

-Frances Miltimore

November 11th is a day set aside to remember. It's for our country to reflect and thank those who've sacrificed to get us where we are today. The hour and twenty minute assembly contained loads of student involvement such as the drama club, digital media, senior concert band and the overwhelmingly angelic voices of the choir which tingled my heart. The soft sound of the bagpipes made its usual yearly impression on students as the piper triumphantly marched her way down the aisle. I heard a few sniffles from the crowd during the digital media portion of the assembly meaning it was a clear success. It was a well played out Remembrance Day and I am looking forward to next year's! But we have to keep in mind that the soldiers who fight, fought, and will fight for us should be remembered constantly and not just once a year.



(above) Student involvement from Natasha Guerra (left), Lindsey Pearson (right), and countless others is what made this assembly possible! (left) The choir belting it out!



Filipino celebration a success for Sutherland

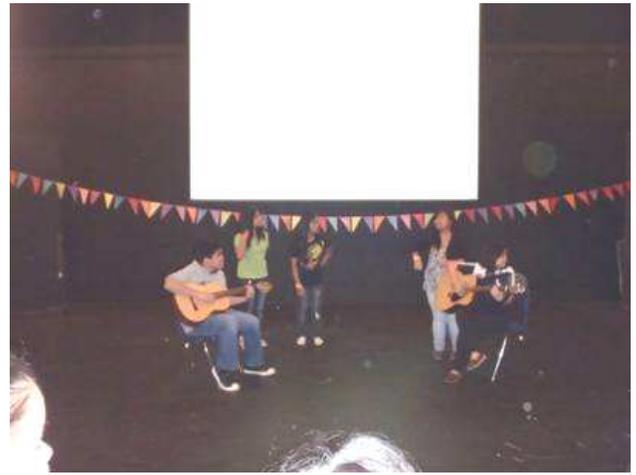
-Soroush Sharafzadeh

We at Sutherland try our very best to represent and showcase all the cultures and races that flow through our hallways. It's a very enjoyable way of showing people, who may not be all that familiar, to different types of interests and lifestyles. So, I decided to become Filipino for one lunch time, and cover the event which was held in the drama room. Throughout the performances, I could easily tell how proud everyone was, the passion with which they all performed was quite amazing. The seats of the drama room were all packed and full of excitement. A huge theater size projector was set up, and presented to us was a very visual description of the Philippines and the culture and society that comes with it. When a photo of the Filipino boxing legend Manny Pacquiao was shown, a great roar of pride fired throughout the stands.

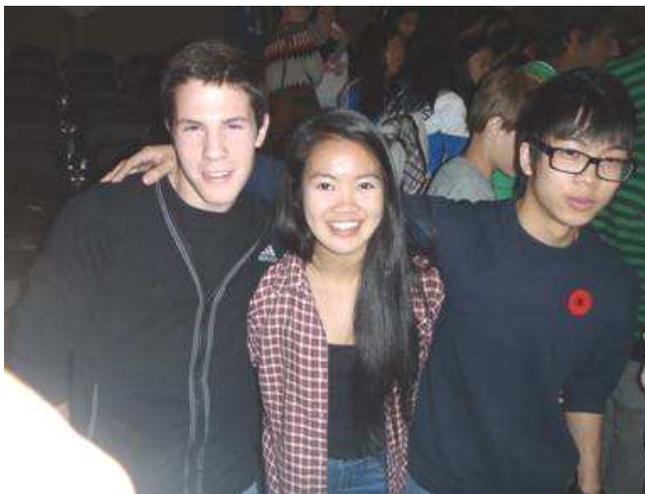
After the video was finished, J-ROD (Jarome) grabbed his guitar and started a great acoustic performance. I never knew Jarome had such a beautiful voice, the song was very calming. The once loud drama room now became intent and silent, everyone was listening. You could feel the tension really ease as the gig continued. The final act was a dance performance. I enjoyed the performance a lot because not only was the dancing very exceptional, it looked like all the performers were having fun, and it kept me very entertained.

Sutherland Grad student Mark Yalung said that, "This really inspired me, it made me feel very proud. I think all races need to take part in showing us their cultures and what makes them unique."

After the presentation was wrapped up, all of us hungry mango-eating people were finally able to get our hands on the food the crew had prepared for us. MMM..!! I of course I was the first to the line-up. I was able to get my hands on some hot fresh tea, and delicious pastries. The line-up was brutal but it was definitely worth it. It was a nice change of pace for me, it was nice being among close friends laughing and enjoying lunch time. I feel as if the Filipino culture has accepted me and has accepted Sutherland students as their own!



First time I've hear Jarome Lozano playing music; I was very impressed!



Soccer superstar Jakub "the goat" Hrica and his number one fan!...and Ryan



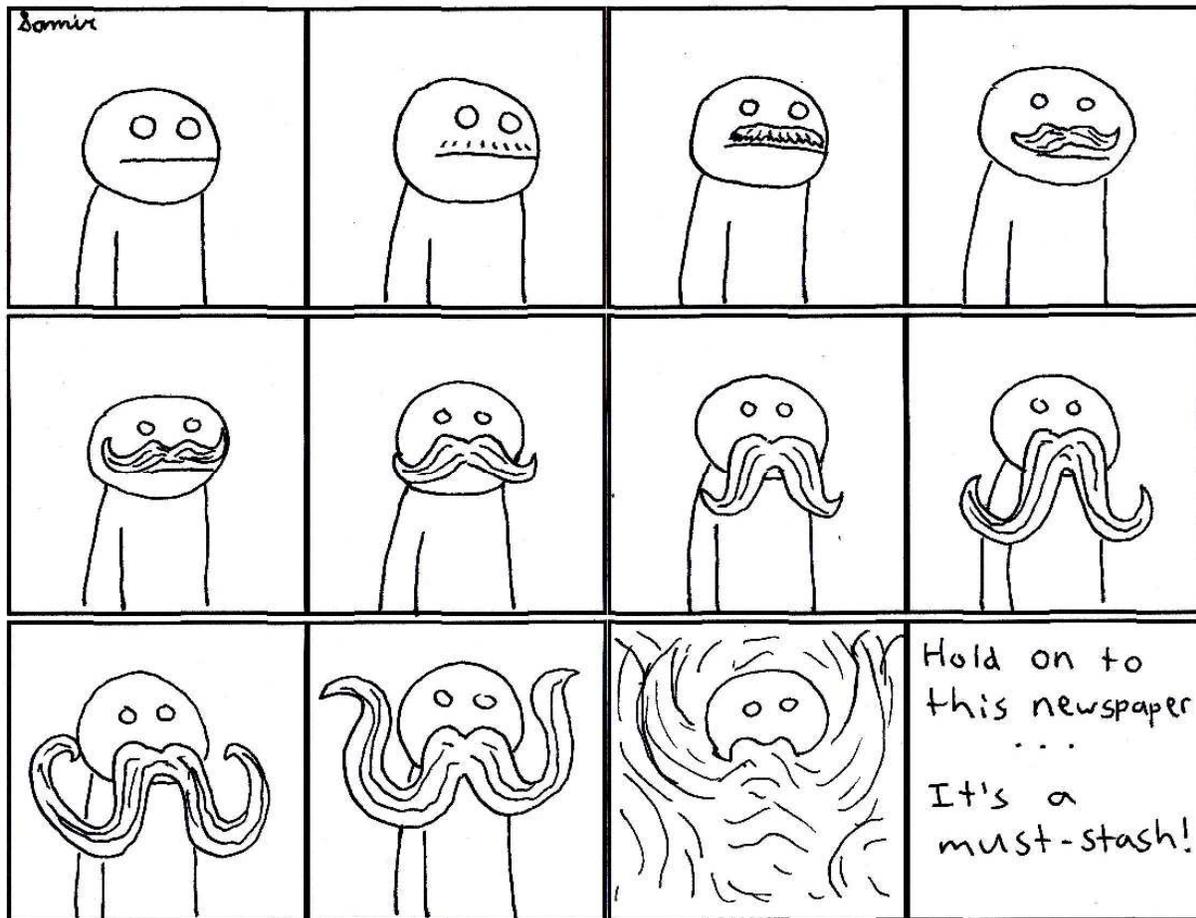
Feeling music in the fall

-Nicole Wallace

The beautiful sound of musical instruments echoed through the gym on November 9, at 7pm. The five bands and one concert choir did an amazing job while showcasing their musical talents. An amazing solo by Chrissie Masakayan in "God Save the Outcasts" left the crowd in awe. Both jazz bands, senior and junior gave outstanding performances. They played numerous songs including "The Groove Factor" by the senior band, and "Just What the Doctor Ordered" by the juniors. There were two classes made up of grades 8 and 9 and both had great performances playing songs like "Sanctus" and "Star Journey." Last came the senior concert band. They gave a striking performance including the song "Maynard Madness." Ali Bailey, member of the senior concert band says, "I'd say the performance was good, but it needed some elaboration." After all the songs had been played or sung, Ms. Workman was deservedly awarded with flowers from her students. All the bands and the choir created an amazing atmosphere and beautiful music. Congratulations on a great concert.



How to Movember: now with puns



-Samir Bhimji

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Winter Formal Pics



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