

# WHAT'S UP?



At Alexander Galt

Vol. 3 Christmas Issue 1988 - 89

10 cents

**CHRISTMAS KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES**  
by Christina Reynolds  
Christmas is a time of love and joy which is celebrated all over the world. We know this yet we don't always realize the different ways there are of celebrating this wonderful occasion.

In Holland Santa Claus or "Sinter Klaas" comes around every year with his faithful helpers "Zwarte Piet", or Black Peter, on the sixth of December.

In France, Christmas is much like here. They install "creches" at the foot of their trees, and after singing carols, they sat down to their Christmas feast at midnight. Then on la journée des Rois or the day of the Magi, each member of the family eats a small cake, one of which contains a small statue. The person who finds this is the King or Queen of the day.

For Italian children, the big day is the sixth of January for Epiphany. That day, Befana a fairy passes from house to house to distribute presents.

The legend states that Befana, who is disguised as a disgraceful witch, refused to house the three Kings who were going to see Jesus, because she had too much housework. She reassured herself by saying that she would ~~not~~ offer them shelter on their return. But, unfortunately, they chose another road. The old fairy was condemned to look for Baby Jesus. That is the reason that she leaves a present in each home because He just might be there.

In England, a nice round log brought in by all the family members is burned in the fireplace. Following customs, a coal kept from the previous Christmas is used to light this log. This rite is supposed to bring luck to the coming year.

In Finland, "Hauskaa" or Christmas is celebrated quite differently. In barns, children sleep on straw, like Jesus in his manger long ago. Santa Claus has gifts out for them when they awake in the morning.

In Denmark, a neat little creature called Judnise is introduced, and only the family cat can see him.

In Switzerland, the Christmas season begins the sixth of December with the coming of Santa Clause.

If you have been good, you receive small presents and if not, your gift is a whip. The ~~Christmas~~ ~~tree~~ or Christmas tree is lit with small candles on the evening of the 24th.

This short glimpse of differences in the ways Christmas is celebrated gives us a deeper appreciation of other people's customs and the birth of the Savior which is central to each



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## SADD RETURNS TO A.G.R.H.S.

The SADD chapter at Galt has once again returned to the school. Shelley Clarke, president, felt it was important to get the students involved in the chapter.

"There is a problem," she said. "If we can get our message across to eventhree or four people, that's three or four lives we have just saved."

The chapter has been selling stickers, key chains and pins. Assemblies will be called to further educate the students on the importance of not drinking and driving. The drama club will be acting out skits and there is hope that a speaker may come to Galt to speak to the students.

Posters have been put up throughout the school, as a reminder. Please respect these posters, lots of work went into fabricating them.

Any boys interested in joining the committee please speak to Shelley Clarke or Tracey Keeble. (vice-president) Your support is needed.

By: Angela Locke

## INTELLECTUAL OLYMPICS

This year Alexander Galt was involved for the first time ever in the Intellectual Olympics. This entire activity was lead by Mrs. Clowery and Mr. Parsons, who both did a great job.

A team for this event was formed after a week of try-outs. The eleven members were Neil Barnett, Rene Bilodeau, Elinor Crosby, Karen Cushing, Chris Gear, Connie Goodsell, Gergely Horvath, Mark Learned, Tammy Scott, Andrew Sudlow, and Leah Thomson. These students were chosen to compete in various activities, including art, computer, engineering, drama, debating, current events quiz, and math and science quiz. The team's first competition was against Massey-Vanier High School on November twenty-fourth. About thirty spectators from Galt went to encourage and cheer the team on, accompanied by some teachers.

The competition began with a debate on "Television is a negative influence". Our team consisted of Chris Gear and Tammy Scott, who were opposed to the statement. They strongly defended their views and the result was a tie between the two schools. The following activity was the engineering project, in which Neil Barnett and Andrew Sudlow presented an object made of spaghetti, that shot a white ping-pong ball for a distance of over three meters. Obviously, Galt came out with

a victory in that section. Then, an improvisation was presented. Our team included Karen Cushing, Mark Learned, Tammy Scott, Andrew Sudlow, and Leah Thomson. They put a great effort into it, but unfortunately, Massey-Vanier won. Massey-Vanier also beat Galt in the math and science quiz with Rene Bilodeau, Gergely Horvath, Mark Learned, and Andrew Sudlow. In the current events quiz, with Neil Barnett, Chris Gear, Connie Goodsell, and Leah Thomson, Galt was once again beaten. Massey-Vanier also won in the art section, in which Elinor Crosby and Gergely Horvath were involved. Massey-Vanier did not take the lead in the computer problem, though, since Rene Bilodeau and Connie Goodsell solved it, practically without a flaw. Therefore, the final results of the competition was nine for Massey-Vanier and five for Alexander Galt.

Alexander Galt's team did extremely well, considering that it was their first experience with the Intellectual Olympics. They did give Massey-Vanier a tough match and they should be congratulated for all their effort and participation.

Kandy Mackey

## ESSAÏM

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## HERE AND THERE

Here's a new column in the paper to keep all of you informed about what's up in our school.

The latest unsolved mystery is a masked man or woman who showed up dressed in an ape's suit as Galt's mascot who showed up at one of the hockey games a couple of weeks ago. No-bid jbiws who the person is or where this person came from, or whether or not we will see it again. Does everyone know where their parents were on the night of November 23? How about you, Laurie

Speaking of sports, it seems that Gloria Scott and Nancy Richard have been attending many of the sports activities, which leads us to wonder if there is another motive behind their actions.

However, certain "men" are already taken as there a number of new couples this year. No names need to be mentioned.

The Level Fives have been given a sheet of class favorite nominees. Who do you think would best fit the place of class clown, class flirt, or most likely to succeed?

Three new people have joined the cheerleading squad, Tracy Hare, Wendy Sylvester and Shannon Stoddard. Keep up the good work, guys!

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## FOOTBALL PROFILE

Who doesn't know Chris Gear? He's a terrific athlete, an outstanding student, and an all around nice guy.

Chris Gear was the star quarterback for the Galt Piper Football team this year. His father, Stuart Gear, coached Bishop Football. That's how he became interested in the sport. That and watching the NFL for years!

It was only last year when Gear became a member of the Galt Football team. Previous training includes two years of week sessions at Bishop's Football School and coaching from his father.

When asked about his great academic ability, he replied, "I don't do a lot of studying. I just pay attention and work hard in class."

When speaking of this year's football team, Gear said, "It was awesome!" He spoke highly of Karl Neilson and Jaya Surjadinata, two great offense players.

Next year, Gear will be attending Champlain College in Lennoxville and will no doubt make the Champlain Cougars Football Team. Tony Adonna has already spoken to Gear about staying in top condition and improving his skills.

We haven't heard the last of Chris Gear. This is only the beginning of a fabulous future!!

By: Angela Locke

## GALT SPORTS UPDATE

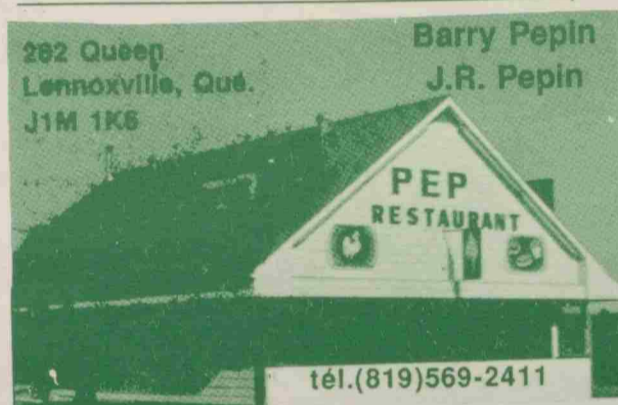
by Angela R. Locke

The Galt fall season has come to a close, with the final football game played on November 2, against B.C.S.. Once again, Galt's amazing football team won 18 to 15. This past year the football team lost only one game.

Unfortunately, Galt's SOCCER teams lost the finals at the tournament on October 29. The Junior boys made it to the finals, the only team to do so, but they lost.

The sound of pounding basketballs has already begun in the Galt gym. Tryouts for basketball have been going strong for the past week. Sympathy goes out to everyone who wasn't able to make it, but, hey, there's always next year!

Good luck to all you Larry Birds! Hope you have a fantastic season.



A Call to the Argumentative by K. Napier

do you have an opinion on today's controversial issues?

Do you like a good discussion/argument?

Are you interested in promoting understanding among youth through discussion with others from varying backgrounds?

If you and say "yes" to any of these questions, there's a group that's perfect for you.

A Current Events group is being started by students from Galt and B.C.S.. The meetings will be held in Lennoxville starting after the New Year. A film will be viewed and discussion will follow. Proposed topics include Racism, Capital Punishment, Abortion, and Euthanasia, and suggestions are more than welcome.

If you are interested, look for more announcements in the bulletin after Christmas,

## MARATHON RUN

BY ANGELA LOCKE

The final day of Galt's interhouse run was held on October 18, due to unfortunate weather. Many runners and walkers participated in the exciting event to pick up points for their teams.

The course consisted of lapping the school in the fifteen minutes allowed. The average runner lapped the school three times, while average walker lapped the school twice.

The winner of the Marathon Run was the Gremlins. It was a very successful run

which started the interhouse teams off with a bang!

## SHOPPING CORNER

Have you ever wished for the "good old days" when shopping was more friendly and convenient? You can fulfil your dreams by going to the Wool Shop in Lennoxville.

There is courtesy and knowledge in every person involved in the Wool Shop. The clerks are downright friendly and can help you find whatever you are looking for. If you are even browsing and say so, the staff will stand by and not disturb you.

We stopped in to look around a while ago and were pleasantly surprised at the variety of items available for Christmas shopping on your own pleasure. Among the smaller fine quality items we noticed socks, scarves, gloves, ties, and others just too numerous to mention. For that special one, there are beautiful, Vivella shirts, beautiful sweaters, skirts, kilts, outer and sport clothing, or gift certificates.

For those who enjoy knitting the Wool Shop is a veritable of yarns in their textures and colours. There are also accessories such as needles, books of patterns, and other helpful objects.

I am a regular customer at the Wool Shop, and if you try it out, you will get satisfaction in a pleasant atmosphere.

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