



Photo by Rachel Psutka

Horrific crash

A 25-year old Belleville man was transferred to Kingston General Hospital in critical condition after a collision on Wallbridge-Loyalist Road at approximately 9 a.m, Tues. Feb. 14. Police said the collision occurred when one of the drivers made an evasive lane change to avoid hitting a vehicle turning into the college residence, causing him to lose control and cross the centre line. The vehicle was then struck by a southbound vehicle causing extensive damage to both cars.

Father and son honoured for heroism

Duo saved man's life by pulling him from burning Foxboro home in late January

By Linda Horn

Dave Preston and his son Dylan arrived at Belleville's city hall Monday to receive a thank you for saving a man's life by pulling him from his burning Foxboro home Jan. 31.

Belleville Fire Chief Rheume Chaput,

Harmony Road Station Commander Cliff Christopher, and Mayor Neil Ellis presented the father and son with a plaque and certificates at Monday night's city council.

"Congratulations and thanks for your efforts. On behalf of the Belleville fire department to recognize both of you for your heroic actions and risking your own lives to save a life," said Ellis.

Christopher, who is a volunteer firefighter, was the officer in charge at the scene. He said when he arrived at the fire he heard people yelling that someone was re-entering the burning building. Christopher said as he was running to the back of the building two men appeared with

the occupant of the home.

In an interview, Dylan Preston, 19, said he and his father Dave were driving though Foxboro, when they noticed smoke coming from the back of a house. He said they decided to stop and see if anyone was still in the house.

"We saw someone go back into the house," said Preston.

The younger Preston went into the house while his father called 911. He said he was all the way into living room of the burning home. He tried to convince the man inside to leave the home, but he refused.

"It was either let him die or wrestle him out," said Preston.

Preston said the victim struggled as he pulled him to safety which caused Preston to fall. The windows had blown out due to the heat of the fire, and there was glass everywhere. When Preston slipped he ended up "stabbing" himself with the glass. After he pulled the man to safety he went to the hospital to receive minor medical treatment.

"The gentleman involved in the fire would mostly likely not have survived without their help," said Chaput.

The victim of the fire was transported to Belleville General Hospital and treated for serious burns.

"Public help is always welcome. However we don't recommend anyone with-

out training to enter a burning house, but their help was instrumental in saving a life," said Christopher.

Dave Preston wanted to have his son's heroic actions recognized.

"You hear in the news about youth 16-20 years old and all the bad things that they do. So I wanted to bring attention that there are good kids out there. So I came to city hall and started things rolling," said Preston.

Both Prestons said they were thankful for the recognition.

Dylan Preston has applied to Loyalist College and hopes to study Protection, Security and Investigations.

Arm wrestlers compete in addictive sport



Photo by Topher Seguin

Cheering crowds and shouting competitors add to the ambience

By Topher Seguin

These athletes have the right to bare arms. Stepping up to the small table in the middle of the room, the competitors take a quick glance at one another until moving their attention to what really matters: each other's hands.

Slowly finding a comfortable grip, they look at one another as if they are the only two in the room. With tense muscles and worn fingers, they stand and wait for instructions from one of the two referees. Waiting in silence and not moving a muscle, they finally hear their three favourite words, "Okay, ready, go!"

The crowd cheers, chanting and shouting tips to their fellow club members. In an impressive show of raw energy, they battle back and forth, often only moving their arms a few inches before someone overcomes the opponent. As veins protrude from their necks and faces turn red, the referee calls it. The round is over and the winner is announced.

The Wahoo 2 Sports Bar and Grill played host to Arm Melter 13, an arm wrestling competition bringing contestants from all over Ontario, Saturday afternoon.

"It's super addictive. It's the adrenaline that gets you going," said Laura Cook, a member of the Ontario Arm Wrestling League.

Cook, a competitor in the women's open, walked away with first place in left-handed wrestling and second place for her efforts with the right.

Nicola Gazzetto, 39, from the Ottawa High Hookers team, works up a sweat competing in the men's 221-pound-and-up weight division with the left hand Saturday at the Wahoo 2 Sports bar in Belleville.

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Seventy-year romance endures

Second World War brought together this special love match

By Michelle Cochrane

After 70 Valentine's Days, love is no longer a battlefield for a local couple.

The Second World War brought difficult times but nothing could stop the making of an everlasting love match. From pen pals to lovers, a romance was made.

Born and raised in Belleville Gordon Cook, now 91, met his war bride, Alice, on July 31, 1940 in London, England in the midst of a global conflict.

In an era where emails and eHarmony were non-existent, the pair exchanged addresses in Trafalgar Square and proceeded to write each other.

"This happened with all kinds of service people, I met Polish, Australians and they all wanted to know where I lived and if they could write," said Alice.

For Canadian soldiers, local women in Britain offered friendship and peace during overwhelming situations, this relationship typically carried on through letters.

"There were all kinds of soldiers writing. I answered back because it was all that they could think of, that they were in touch with people."

Gordon consistently wrote to Alice while he was stationed in Surrey, England.

"[Gordon] continued to write and I'd write back. I let the other letters go and some of them quit writing."

"We wrote each other for about a year and then we got engaged ... He proposed through a letter because he couldn't get away too much" said Alice.

With very few opportunities to see one another prior to their engagement, the courting phase of their relationship consisted of a pen, paper and a postage stamp.

Although Alice never imagined she would one day marry Gordon because she had no intention of coming to Canada, his letters won her over.

"He's a good writer, he could make letters lovely. His writing was perfect," explained Alice.

Within a year and a half of meeting, the twosome married on Jan. 17, 1942, in England without delay.

"We made arrangements to get married and the night before, the church windows blew out from a bomb raid. There were no windows in the church," said Alice.

Unlike typical marriages, the Cook's beginning was a challenge but not even the



Photo by Michelle Cochrane

Gordon and Alice Cook recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. The couple married in England on Jan. 17, 1942 during Second World War after exchanging letters for one year.

war discouraged them from making their relationship survive.

"We knew it had to be possible, when you stayed alive with the bombing that went on," said Alice. As strong as they were, she still struggled with the thought of her future with her husband. "It was on a daily basis, you didn't know whether he was going to be alive or not."

"1943 was the last time I saw him before he went overseas in June 1944 for D-Day,

so we didn't see each other for two years," said Alice.

After the war, Gordon returned back to Belleville and Alice followed one month later by boat in 1945.

Approximately 48,000 women from Europe met and married Canadian servicemen during the war. These women, for the love of their husbands, followed their veterans back to Canada.

The couple continued to live life in the

military as Gordon later joined the air force to be a military policeman.

Their whirlwind romance covered the world. Moving to places such as England, Germany and France but they always returned back to Trenton.

"At the time it was quite exciting, going overseas and not knowing where you were going to live."

The pair finally settled in Trenton in 1967 and Gordon was required to retire

from the air force at age 50 in 1971.

Returning home and facing retirement was an adjustment but they had new, exciting adventures ahead with grandchildren on the way.

Celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary this year, Gordon and Alice Cook say they wouldn't have had things any other way.

Their letters have not survived all these years, but their love still carries on.

Bar license suspended following fatal car accident

By Sean Macey

The woman driving a car in the wrong lane of the 401 on Monday, resulting in a double-fatality, had spent 16 hours at a local bar before driving, says a spokesperson for the Ontario Alcohol and Gaming Commission.

Ab Campion said Korin Howes, 23, arrived at The Angry Beaver Bar and Grill in Belleville on Wallbridge-Loyalist Road around 5:30 p.m. on Sunday for a Super Bowl party, and didn't leave until 9:30 the

next morning.

The crash occurred Monday morning when Howes was driving westbound in the eastbound lanes of the 401 and collided with another vehicle between Aikins and Glen Miller roads.

Howes and Shaina Harrison, who was driving the other vehicle, were both killed in the crash.

"There was a young lady, a patron, in this facility who apparently was drunk and basically got in a car and I believe led to that accident," said Campion.

Howes graduated from the culinary program at Loyalist College with honours in 2009.

"Simply one of the most sincere, honest people I have ever had the honour of teaching. She was a natural in the kitchen a real chef in the making," said Loyalist professor and chef John Schneeberger in an e-mail. "Korin will be missed by all of us."

Harrison, 23, from Oshawa was a first-year practical nursing student at Loyalist.

"She was one of those people who you could take a room full of strangers and

make a complete family out of them," said classmate Jennafer Bulley. "She always had a smile on her face, she was always happy."

"Her biggest dream was to become a fantastic nurse, which she would have become as well," said Bulley.

She said Harrison travelled from Oshawa every day and her friends often reminded her to be careful.

The Angry Beaver had its liquor license suspended yesterday afternoon because of Liquor License Act violations.

The bar had five violations in total: sell-

ing or serving outside prescribed hours, failure to remove evidence of service, offering liquor free of charge, promoting immoderate consumption and permitting drunkenness.

It is currently an interim suspension with a notice of proposal to revoke the license permanently. The owners of the bar can appeal the alcohol commission's decision to the Ontario License Appeal Tribunal.

Napanee OPP Cst. Tammy Coleman declined to comment.

Cuts for Cancer looking for hair and money to hep those who've lost locks to cancer

Hair-cutting event planned in Belleville for grassroots organization

By Melissa Di Nardo

Erica Hollman, founder of Cuts for Cancer, saw a photograph of a bald young girl undergoing chemotherapy, drawing hair on her reflection in the mirror and was moved into action.

"It all started with a picture," said Hollman. "Every time I see this photo it makes me sad to think that I have hair and many little girls want to have hair do not."

Originally the image flooded the Internet in Nov. 2011 by HeyltsRemi, a girl on twitter who is now followed by 11,325 people on the social network site. The picture was accompanied by a twitter post, or tweet, that said, "If you look at this picture and not retweet you are heartless."

After viewing the image Hollman made a promise to herself.

"I promised myself that before I die I want to give my hair to a little girl that does not have hair," said Hollman.

"I can always grow my hair back. Many people like this little girl don't have that luxury."

Cuts for Cancer is a grassroots organization looking to collect hair and monetary donations from the community. A haircutting event will be held at John's Hair Quarters, located at 56 Bridge St. E., on June 6, 2012, in Belleville.

Hollman then created Cuts For Cancer on Feb. 1, 2012 with the help of her friend Hailey Lindsay, who is also the coordinator of the organization. Both girls are looking to get as many people as possible to come out and help support young children who can't afford to have



Photo by Melissa DiNardo

Hailey Lindsay (left) and Erica Hollman hold up the image that had sparked the idea for the new grassroots organization Cuts For Cancer.

a wig made.

Hollman, who is still in high school, is looking to gain support from everyone.

"Have you ever wanted something so badly but could not get it?" said Hollman.

"Our goal is (to raise) \$1,700 for cancer research and to raise these donations from our school and the community."

The main goal is to get hair donations for Can Donate Hair, a Quebec company that provides free wigs to children under the age of 16 suffering from cancer. According to www.DonEspoirCancer.ca this is the only company in Quebec authorized to accept hair donations.

The wigs made from the donations of the haircutting event in Belleville will be

accompanied by letter from the donor to the patient, so that the patient knows where their new hair came from.

"Don't worry little girls, you will have hair soon," promises Hollman.

For any inquiries visit <http://cuts-for-cancer.webs.com/> or their Facebook page Cuts for Cancer to get involved.

Competition...

Continued from Page 1

"It was extremely hard. I didn't expect the outcome that I got but it was a lot of fun," said Cook. "There's lots of good people involved with these competitions, and I'd definitely recommend it to my friends."

The 2002 world champion, Greg Boyes, turned up for the event and was pleasantly surprised with the level of competition he saw.

"The competition has certainly improved over the years," said Boyes. "Some of the competitors are getting much stronger and filling up many of the heavyweight classes."

Just like every other sport, there are some rules. Competitors must always have their elbows on the pads, always have their non-wrestling hands holding securely onto a peg, and have an eye on their wrestling hands to prevent slippage and injury.

Just before the round starts, the referees will make sure the grip looks good and square the wrestlers' shoulders to the table. Matches last as long as needed, and the first person to win three rounds takes the cake.

"It was a great event," said Bilal Kreidieh, a spectator at the event. "I'm definitely not going to miss another one."

Everyone is extremely sportsman-like and polite in the world of arm wrestling. Giving tips and helping each other out during a tournament this size is the name of the game, explained Joe Gould, tournament director and national left-handed champion. "Although some people do tend to get a little rattled up when it's for all the marbles."

"There's obviously a lot of weight training involved," said Gould, "but most of the training is done in clubs on a good old [arm wrestling] table."

Allen Ford walked away with 23 wins at the end of the night, capturing the "most wins" award. This was Allen's fifth time winning the award.

Talented students being featured

By Meagan Pecjak

Loyalist College is right on key when it comes to supporting their students' talents.

Loyalist College will be holding an Open Mic on Thursday, February 16, in the Shark Tank pub at the school.

The show will consist of the many talents that Loyalist students have to offer. Blue Suit Jacket is just an example of one of the performances of the night.

Other performances include: Taylor Lewis, Eric Ceasar, Noah Reede and several more talented students.

Blue Suit Jacket is a local band with a dash of Loyalist college talent with Stephen Hounam, a second-year Loyalist College TV and new media student. He is new to the band and will be playing guitar, and singing back-up vocals.

"It's so nice to play with other people instead of alone," said Hounam.

"I am so excited to have a band. It's actually really exciting. I have been playing acoustic solo because I just haven't found the right people."

Hounam said that they hope for a great turn out at the Open Mic. "I've been telling a lot of my friends just to shake up some interest," he said. "Usually there's a lot of people wherever we play."

"We are hoping for a pretty big audience," said President of Student Government, Chris Barnim.

"I know last year we had a big turn out. So we are hoping for that again this year."

Blue Suit Jacket will be the closing act of the night.

Hounam said that because they perform last, Blue Suit Jacket is hoping that people don't start clearing out before they get to start.

Marcus Curle is a second-year electrical techniques student and a member of Student Government as the Building Sciences and Skills leader. He said that they are expecting about 100 or more people to come to the show.



Photo by Meagan Pecjak

Stephen Hounam is a Loyalist College student participating in the Open Mic at the college on Thursday, Feb. 16, with the band Blue Suit Jacket. He is a new member and said that "it's so nice to play with other people instead of alone."

When it comes to narrowing it down to a certain number of performers, the evaluation is "really straight forward," said Curle, one of the judges for the auditions.

"If someone is kind of shy, but has talent, we would rather have them," he said.

Barnim said that the number of people who sign up to audition varies from year

to year. "We never really have the same number," said Barnim.

"We have some very talented people on the card for that night, so definitely

come check them out."

The show starts at 8 p.m. this Thursday, and goes until midnight.

"Come out and support the talent of

Writer shares proud moment on the audition stage at Open Mic

By Meagan Pecjak

I never really thought much about auditioning for Open Mic, but suddenly there I was.

I walked onto the stage guitar in hand, with my legs shaking. The judges sat in a line with their eyes looking up at me,

waiting for me to start.

At this point, nerves had taken over. My palms began to sweat, my breathing uneven, but I was up there now, and it was too late to turn back.

I started off by playing an acoustic version of a Paramore song, one of my favourites. I had spent a whole month

practising just for this moment, on top of many months of knowing the song. I still felt it wasn't good enough, and that I should have practised more. I should have prepared myself better for my one shot onstage.

When I finished playing my second song by Taylor Swift, I finally felt com-

fortable onstage, standing in front of a microphone with bright lights shining down on me.

At this point, I was just proud of myself for auditioning, for putting myself out there, and doing something I have always wanted.

I didn't expect to receive an email a

week later stating that I had made it in, and that I would be performing, along with many other talented Loyalist students, on Feb. 16. The schedule was up, and I was one of the first performances for the night.

I thought I was nervous for my audition, this is a totally different story.

Albert College students present play about homosexuality

By Amielle Christopherson

Students from Albert College received a standing ovation for their performance of The Laramie Project on Saturday evening.

The play was written by the Tony Award-winning playwright Moisés Kaufman and is based on more than 200 interviews that he and the members of Tectonic Theatre Company conducted. It has gone on to become one the most performed plays in North America.

Matthew Shepard was a 21-year-old University of Wyoming student who died in 1998 because of wounds he suffered

when he was attacked because he was gay.

The cast of 16 students acted in more than 60 parts and performed for their fellow students Thursday, and for the public on Friday and Saturday.

In Albert College, where the audience was concentrated in the front rows reserved for family of the cast members, the only sound was that of the lines being said and the humming as the spotlights switched. Other than the rare moments of humour, the space was quiet for the duration of the three-hour, three-act play.

"We learned a lot about how totally opposed people were to that kind of

thing," said student and cast member Emily Hoffman, "how totally, insanely and obsessively [against] people could be to what was going on. And we didn't realize that that was something that happened."

Cast members also noted that it's not a problem that's been fixed in the last 14 years.

"Even the fact that it had happened so many years ago, it's something that's still happening today," said student Julie Burns.

"People are protesting gay soldiers at their funerals. So it's just kind of bringing all that together, that it's still happening

today," Burns said.

Teacher and director Leslie Austin-Profit was happy with how supportive and positive the school community was toward the students putting on the play.

"In the media lately, there's been a lot of sad news about young people, cyber-bullying and bullying often related to homophobia and kids taking their own lives, and I just thought that it was relevant to what is happening today," she said.

As she and her students discussed the play and some of the things that had come out of the violent incident, they covered the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr.

Hate Crimes Prevention Act that President Barack Obama signed into law in 2009 and how it was a reflection of positive change.

While they did cut some of the harsh language out of the script, they did keep the derogatory language against gays.

"We felt we had to keep because there is the lesson that, as the priest says, 'They're the seeds of violence,'" Austin-Profit explained.

"And it's been very supportive. Not a single person in three nights' performances has said anything other than it was positive."

Canadian Hanson fans follow band across continent

Band's logo tattooed to neck of one traveller

By Manuela Garay-Giraldo

To sisters Susie, Amy and Jeanie Tanzola along with their childhood friend Meaghan Huras, Hanson is not just a band from their childhood, Hanson is a life experience.

For the past 15 years, the girls have followed the band around North America, attended hundreds of shows, spent thousands of dollars on Hanson paraphernalia and met the band members several times.

"One time we got into the hotel elevator and there was Zac (the drummer)," recalled Susie.

"It turns out we were staying in the room next to him!"

This year luck favoured the four Canadian friends. Hanson decided to do a more extensive Canadian tour, which suited the sisters and their friend just fine. The four ladies embarked on a road trip to Thunder Bay, Ottawa, Belleville and Toronto and had front row spots for all the shows.

"We always get there first, so we always have front row seats," said Susie.

"One time we camped out for 43 hours at the end of November," recalled Jeanie.

"It was freezing, but totally worth it. When they thank 'the girls who camped out' they're talking about us."

The admiration for Hanson runs so deep, Jeanie has a tattoo of the band's logo on her neck.

"I was debating between the Hanson logo or a music note. Then the day I was gonna get the tattoo, Meaghan texted me 'OMG, it's our 10th anniversary

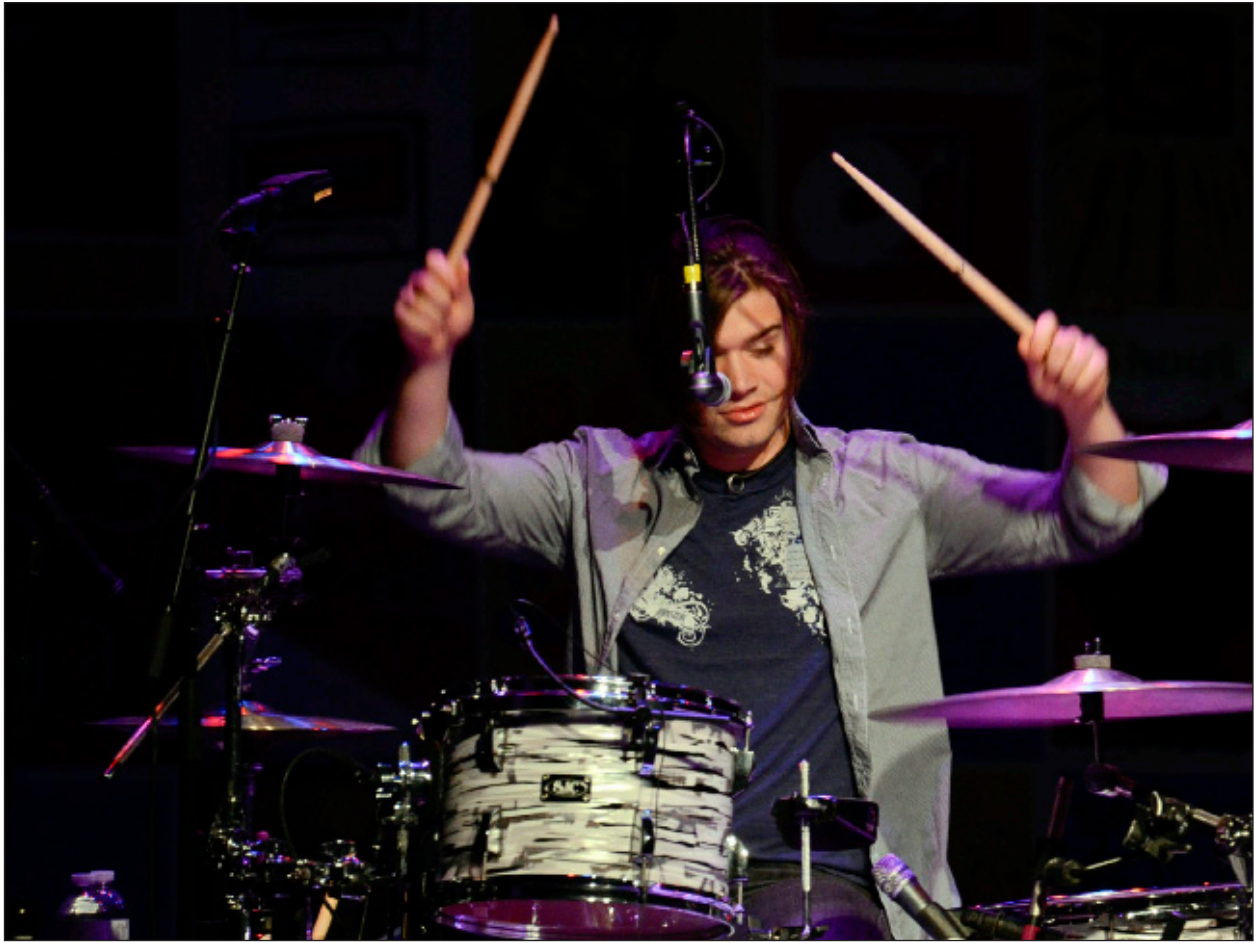


Photo by Manuela Garay-Giraldo

Hanson's drummer, Zac, performs at Belleville's Empire Theatre on Thursday, Feb. 9. The band came to Belleville as part of the band's Canadian leg of their Shout It Out Tour.

since we first met Hanson!' That's when I made up my mind. It was a sign," said Jeanie.

"I just thought, I'll never stop liking them, and even if I do, they still hold 15 years of my life. They represent my child-

hood at this point."

One of the major differences following the band this time around is that the girls have their own cars and are driving.

"It feels so weird. This is the first time

I've driven to a Hanson concert," said Meaghan. "I remember I used to have to beg my parents to let me go, and then we'd be travelling on a bus with a ton of blankets."

The fans have met the band countless

times, and during their latest appearance in Ottawa, the girls managed to be the only fans at a Hanson appearance on CTV.

The girls gushed about how lead singer Taylor Hanson told them he was glad they were finally brought in from the cold to warm up. They also recalled how drummer Zac Hanson gave Meaghan his drumsticks at the end of the show, and how lead guitarist Isaac is so stylish as of late.

During a recent phone interview guitarist Isaac said, "when you come and see a Hanson show, it's a unique experience every night.

"For us, it is most important we represent the music in the most exciting and motivated way. One of those ways is to make sure that, whether you've been to 20 shows or this is your first one, that it is interesting and different."

It looks like they are doing something right, because according to Amy, Thursday's show in Belleville at the Empire Theatre was the best so far.

"They just keep getting better and better," said Amy. "I think the crowds are also getting better, but I honestly think this one's the best one so far. I can't wait for the Toronto show tomorrow!"

At the end of the Belleville show, the girls waited out in the cold in front of the band's tour bus for over an hour to get autographs. Eventually Zac and Isaac came out for a bit.

Susie even managed to get the setlist and found out the band was making an appearance on Breakfast Television in Toronto. You better believe the girls were there and that somehow they got front row spots at the concert later that night at Toronto's Phoenix Concert Hall.

Top-ranked Bulls goaltender back in net

By Andre Lodder

Goaltender Malcolm Subban is back and so are the wins for the Belleville Bulls.

With the return of the top-ranked draft-eligible goaltender in North America, the Bulls have managed to get back in the win column after winning just one game in all of January.

Subban has been nursing a groin injury that he suffered on Dec. 29 and didn't play a single game in January.

Since his return, Subban has gone 3-1 with a 2.85 goals-against average and a .920 save percentage.

Subban made his first start on home ice since Dec. 17 in a 3-1 routing of the Guelph Storm on Saturday Feb. 10.

Following the game Subban said how happy he is to be back in the lineup and helping the team get into the playoffs.

"It feels really good to be honest, just being back here and supporting the team," said Subban. "We're all clicking right now, and we just need to keep it up for the playoffs."

The only blemish on Subban's record since his return came in a 9-0 loss to the Eastern Conference-leading Ottawa 67's on Sunday night. Subban let in three goals on 10 shots before being replaced in the first period by Charlie Graham.

Assistant coach Jake Grimes said he is confident Subban will get only better the more he plays.

"He's still going to get a lot better than what you've seen in the last couple games. He's still sort of on his way back to getting sharp," said Grimes.

The Bulls have rallied behind Subban's return, going 4-2 in the last six games.

While four wins and two losses isn't anything to write home about, it's certain-



Photo by Deevan Ingraham

Belleville Bulls goalie Malcom Subban deflects a shot wide of the net during the first period of play at the K-Rock Centre in Kingston, Ont. A late goal by the Kingston Frontenacs pushed the game into overtime where the Bulls managed to best the Fronts 3-2 after Jake Worrad netted his second goal of the year.

ly a step in the right direction for a Bulls team that has struggled in the new year.

"I think we should be winning again. We should expect to. We've had some tough times with injuries almost all year," said Grimes.

"Maybe we won a little more than we should have at the start of the year but

that's the way it goes. We may have lost a little more than we should have recently, but it should even out. I think we're on our way up now and we need to be."

With only 16 games left in the season the Bulls currently sit ninth in the Ontario Hockey League's Eastern Conference

but are only one point out of a playoff spot, and only two points behind the sixth seeded Oshawa Generals.

With the regular season nearing its end, Subban's return is a big boost for a Bulls team eager to make the playoffs.

"He's one of the best goalies in the country, one of the best in the world for

his age," said Grimes.

"What can I say? He's one of the most important guys on the team."

The Bulls will try to redeem themselves Wednesday evening as they play host to the Ottawa 67's after losing 9-0 in Ottawa on Sunday. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. at Yardmen Arena in Belleville.



For more hockey photos, go to qnetnews.ca

Bulls holds fundraiser for hospital foundation equipment

By Andre Lodder

Sticks and Stones may break bones, but they also fix kidney stones.

The Belleville Bulls won their Saturday game against the Guelph Storm 3-1 but the Sticks and Stones fundraiser stole the show.

The fundraiser was organized by the

Belleville General Hospital Foundation in order to raise money for a holmium laser, a piece of equipment used to eliminate kidney stones.

The team wore a special limited edition jersey with a BGH theme. The bovine that usually adorns the Bulls' crest was given a stethoscope and hospital patch. The jersey itself resembled a mixture of both the

Canadian and Swiss international jerseys.

Following the game, the team's game-worn jerseys were auctioned off with proceeds donated to BGH equipment.

The total amount from the fundraiser has yet to be determined, but will be revealed at the Bulls' home game on Saturday against the Mississauga St. Michael's Majors. The auction alone raised more than \$30,000.

Martin Queen, a BGH Foundation board member, took part in the auction purchasing the jersey of Bull's goaltender Malcolm Subban.

Queen said he was happy to win the bid for the jersey but was even happier to see people actively taking part in the auction.

"It's not about the sweater; it's not about the game; it's about giving back to

the community and raising money for equipment for the hospital so we can all be taken care of," said Queen.

Queen is no stranger to the hospital's need for the equipment. He's taken part in similar events hosted by the Bulls in the past.

"The people in Belleville are always giving back, so this is my chance to do a little bit of that also," said Queen.

Men's team takes win on weekend

By Tiffany McEwen

The Loyalist Lancers basketball teams went head to head with the Seneca Sting this weekend, ending in a narrow victory for the men and a defeat for the women.

The men scored their last two points in a free-throw in the last 30 seconds of the game, earning them a 74-73 win against the Sting. This victory brought their record to seven wins and 11 losses.

The Lady Lancers lost their game against Seneca 82-36. They now have eight wins and six losses.

Men's coach Richard Whitfield said he is happy with his team despite their current placing.

"I thought overall we did well. I'm happy with the win, but we did have our breakdowns," said Whitfield.

"At the college and university level, you need to have mental toughness. They're starting to really get the mental aspect of the game."

Whitfield said that even though his team struggled with the offensive aspects from time to time, they are doing well.

"It takes time to adjust to a new style, a new philosophy."

Chris Eligh, the coach for the women's team, said the women did their best despite injuries.

"It was a rough game physically. A lot of the girls are recovering from injuries. They played the best game they could," said Eligh.

"It was a disappointing loss. The first half of the game was disappointing, but they played well the second half."

Eligh said that despite the ups and downs associated with a young team, they are playing well.

"They just need to continue to work hard at games and at practices. They just need to dig deep, play through and work hard."

Both the men's and women's teams will be playing at Loyalist College on Friday, Feb. 17, against the Centennial Colts. The Lady Lancers will be first at 6 p.m. and the men will be playing at 8 p.m.



Photo by Tiffany McEwen

Loyalist Lancers Patrick Kalala, number 33, jumps to make a shot as Seneca Sting player Tamark Wright moves to block. The Lancers took the game in a close 74-73.

Volleyball teams losing key players

By Meagan Pecjak

Loyalist College is losing some major players this season.

Moments before the game Sunday, the team announced some of the men and women who are graduating this year.

Leighann Bishop is among them, being the only player on the women's Volleyball team to be graduating this season.

The men's team will also be losing some key players.

Dave Templar, coach of the men's team said, "we will miss them, but it will give us the opportunity to work on, and develop our other players as well."

Matt Woods is the captain of the team, as well as a two-time Most Valuable Play-

er. Woods also broke a record this season for career serving-aces with a current count of 162.

Also leaving the team this year are Justin Lee and Curtis Bucking, along with two-time MVP, and Loyalist Lancers Athlete of the Year, Kyle Donnan.

Donnan also broke a record this season with the most career kills, with 758.

Templar said "you never want to see good players leave. But that's the cycle. At some point they need to move on with their lives."

Both teams played the Georgian Grizzlies on Sunday afternoon.

The Lady Lancers lost their game 3-1. So far this season, the women's team has 13 wins and six losses, while the men's team has 14 wins and five losses. The men won Sunday 3-1.

Fishing enthusiasts brave thin ice

By Rachel Psutka

At quarter to six on a Saturday morning in February, there are few souls willing to brave the thin ice of the Bay of Quinte just to catch some fish.

But that's exactly what a group of local ice fishing enthusiasts did on February 11, all in the name of raising money for Hospice Quinte, as the Knights of Columbus hosted their fifth annual ice fishing derby.

With the sudden cold snap on Saturday morning, event co-organizer Peter Girard was grateful that it meant more fishermen would take part.

"We lucked out. Had it not been good, had the ice not been available, we wouldn't have had as many fishing. We would've just had the faithful followers from last year here," he said.

One of those faithful followers was Bill Tripp, who hauled in the biggest fish of the day before 11 a.m. The 10-pound pickerel was also the first to be weighed in.

Dave Fleming, a fisherman from Trenton who helped organize the event from its start five years ago, hit the ice before 6 a.m. hoping to get a good bite.

"I caught five pickerel today," Fleming said at around 11 a.m., "but the boys are still out there. They could get something

big."

Fleming, who has been fishing on the Bay of Quinte all his life, was largely unconcerned with the warnings about thin ice.

"You walk out on the ice with a bar and test the thickness before driving on it. You have to use common sense," he said.

While the fishermen were out on the ice before the sun rose, many spent the day preparing the Fish and Game Club for the evening's festivities, including a Valentine's Day themed roast beef dinner and dance.

With prizes ranging from \$300 for the biggest fish, to door prizes for many attendees, co-organizer Peter Girard said the event is a hit with everyone, fish-loving or not.

"For \$20, you get a good meal, the chance to win door prizes, plus you get to fish all day. It's the best deal in town," he said.

Erica Holgate, community relations and fund development for Hospice Quinte, said the event organized by the Knights of Columbus is critical for the organization.

"Fundraisers like this really help. We only get about 30 per cent of our funds from the local health integration network, and the rest comes from community support," said Holgate.