



"I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Black Christmas: A Pagan Holiday
Kristina Goodspeed

The following is a movie review to the recent movie release of Black Friday.

What does a university sorority house and an insane asylum have in common? Billy lived in both places

The movie begins with holiday meals being passed out to psychiatric patients in a mental ward. Santa visits even the crazy people, and seeing Billy's name painted on one of the padlocked doors, inquires from the guard about the man's supposed death. No, Billy is safe in his room decorated with Christmas lights; just like his house the night he murdered his parents.

Only now his home is housing for a sorority at a local university. The girls are having their Secret Santa exchanges, but tensions rise as not everyone is in a holiday spirit. One girl complains, having drawn Billy's name, and the group debates the Christian meanings behind our now commercialized Christmas.

That's when the phone calls start, and a few girls go missing; the caller ID showing their cell phone numbers. It's soon figured out that Billy has come home for Christmas this year, and he's brought along his one other living family member - his sister and daughter, Angus.

The house residents must escape alive, and even when they do, the ordeal isn't over yet.

It's questionable whether *Black Christmas* is truly scary, but horror may be an accurate term. There's a lot of blood splatter and stomach turners. It's not a film one's younger siblings (or one's mother for that matter) need to see. The acting, however, is decent.

Do We Think?

Part 2

Bonnie Riehl

I know that my article "Do We Think?" in the November/December issue of *The Lance* caught the attention of pretty much everyone who picked up a copy of the issue. I know that many of y'all were caught off guard and angered by my words, ideas, even implications that were never there.

I am not apologizing for my words and ideas, but I do apologize that readers of *The Lance* are angered by my article. I wrote my ideas and words down and they were published, and I stand behind them. Again, this is not an apology for what I have said or a retraction of statements made. This is an apology for angering the students here at St. Andrews who do think and were subsequently insulted by my inflammatory words.

The whole point of "Do We Think?" was to be inflammatory,

to get the attention of the readers and encourage them to think on the issues I mentioned and begin to form opinions on those issues. I freely admit that when I first came here in the fall of 2003, I had no opinions at the time on any of the issues I mentioned. I perceived myself at the time as a very neutral and naïve person, diplomatic to the letter. If you had come up to me and asked me what I thought of the War in Iraq or whether or not same sex marriage should be legal or not or what I thought of stem-cell research, I would not have been able to answer you. Thus I would have come off as someone who doesn't think.

Look, I know there are going to be readers who will submit their own writings and completely destroy my arguments. I invite them, really I do. I want to be

proved wrong, I want my arguments to be completely destroyed. Because that tells me that there are readers on this campus who do think and have opinions or ideas, and are not afraid to share them. That's what my message was, basically. Why are/were you all silent on so many issues? Why? Voicing your ideas or opinions is not a bad thing, it's not forcing anything on anyone.

Baseball and Steroids

Kevin Tooley

Mark McGwire was bypassed at his chance at the Hall of Fame in January 2007.

Major League Baseball began testing for steroids in 2004. The summer of 1998 was the home run chase between Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa. That's when fans began to suspect athletes of using steroids. At the time, there wasn't any testing for steroids. At the 2005 congressional hearings, Rafael Palmeiro denied using steroids. Although, once he was drug tested, the results were positive for the dangerous performance enhancing drugs. In a tell all book, Jose Canseco admitted to injecting himself and Mark McGwire numerous times with a syringe containing steroids.

If I had to vote for the Hall of Fame, I would vote Mark McGwire in because I don't know if he truly used performance enhancing drugs. This season coming up, we will witness the biggest Home Run record breaking, when Barry Bonds hits his 756th home run. There was a report published that stated Bonds had used anabolic steroids. Bonds admitted that a teammate injected him with what he thought was an antibiotic. Baseball officials will not suspend Barry Bonds, yet they will suspend other players for drug use. Baseball officials should take action against Bonds or any player that fails a drug test and not just look the other way.

This disregard for discipline sends the message to young fans that it is ok to do, use, or take whatever you

have in order to win. The Baseball Commissioner is at fault because the sport has an image problem and he needs to take responsibility. The baseball league has a problem with the steroid cloud and they don't know how to get rid of it. Steroids are known to have killed people. When will the players be satisfied with giving it their all and not having to always have a superhuman advantage over everyone else?

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Letters to the Editors Section
 Coming in February!!

If you have any questions or letter submissions please contact Danielle Heider at Heiderda@sapc.edu.