



CEDAR CHIPS

INSIDE:

- Rowan gives the scoop on *Minecraft*!
- Crazy for Christmas toys? See Tristan's article!
- Callahan gives a course on college football!
- Find the facts about fast fashion with Sophia!

10 Local Things to do on your Holiday Staycation

1. Go to Bull Run Festival of Lights
2. Take family photos/send holiday cards
3. Go to the Pageant of Peace on the Ellipse
4. Go ice skating
5. Go see the lights at the Mormon Temple
6. Go to midnight mass
7. Play with your holiday loot
8. Watch old family video:
9. Go caroling
10. Sleep in!



Our Staff

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Tristan's Holiday Survey!

Winter Break is just around the corner, and I went around the school, asking various students and teachers what their holiday traditions are, what they will do during the break, and how excited they are for everything coming up. Obviously, there were lots of similar answers, but there were some that were different than others. So, without further ado...

(I surveyed 30 students and teachers in this school.)

-90 percent of the teachers and students voted "Yes!" when I asked them if they were excited about the break.

-More than 60 percent of the teachers and students voted "staying home" when I asked them where they were going for the break.

-70 percent of the teachers and students said that they have some sort of tradition during the holidays. Some said they go on vacation, others said they eat a big meal, and a couple students and teachers said that they even have traditions that are different from the typical holiday set up.

So here's the big question. What are YOU doing during the break and for the holidays?



Christmas Toy Craze



By Tristan M.

We all grew up playing with toys, whether it was a doll, an action figure, a remote controlled race car set, a crayon making kit, or the latest video game console. And every time you got a brand new toy for Christmas, not only were you as happy as can be, but you were also squealing with delight as well. But for your parents, getting those toys was not exactly the best time for them. In fact, sometimes, it could get really crazy. And when it got crazy, sometimes it could get really dangerous. These are the times when things got quite crazy just for a simple toy!

The first notable example was back in late 1983, when now-defunct toy company Coleco released the Cabbage Patch Kids dolls just in time for that year's holiday season. Originally a series of expensive dolls (which cost around \$120 to purchase) created by Xavier Roberts back in 1978, when Coleco got the rights to release the dolls worldwide in 1982, they were able to reduce the prices of the dolls to \$20-\$30, mainly because of cheaper manufacturing costs at various factories in Asia. However, that did not stop the dolls from becoming a major sensation.

When the first dolls were shipped to major retailers just in time for Black Friday one year after Coleco got the rights, people started to go crazy for the dolls, to the point where riots even happened in several stores, where people started to attack others and even brought baseball bats with them just to get the dolls, which were mostly out of stock due to high demand. Still, that was enough for the dolls to reach 2 billion dollars in sales by the end of 1984, and the Cabbage Patch Kids dolls still remain highly popular today.

Even though there were many other toys that became highly in demand following the release of the Cabbage Patch Kids dolls, there wouldn't be one that became as big as them until 1996, when Tyco Toys released the stuffed Tickle Me Elmo plush to the public. Elmo (which by the mid-1990s had become the face of *Sesame Street*) was already a pop culture sensation, and the toy was released when his popularity was at an all-time high.

In 1992, Tyco developed a patent for what would become the final toy, and three years later, in 1995, Tyco took the finished toy to WB, who planned on using the *Looney Tunes* license with it (a Tickle-Me Bugs Bunny, Taz, and Tweety were all in development at the time), but the rights never worked out, and that same year, Tyco ended up taking it to Children's Television Workshop (now called Sesame Workshop), who ended up giving the company the rights to use the *Sesame Street* license for the toy.

The Tickle-Me Elmo plush was released in mid-1996 to modest success, but when the toy appeared on *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* later that year, it was when Tickle-Me Elmo became just a simple plush toy to a must have that everyone (even adults) had to purchase, where just like the Cabbage Patch Kids 13 years earlier, many riots ensued just from trying to purchase the toy. By the end of 1996, Tickle-Me Elmo ended up making over 350 million dollars in sales for Tyco, resulting in a toy line (which was later picked up by Mattel and Hasbro when they got the Sesame Street toy rights) that is still going on to this day.

One whole decade after Tickle-Me Elmo was released, in late 2006, Nintendo revealed a new video game system that would change the way video games would be played and would bring them to a brand-new target audience. The result was the Wii, which introduced motion control gaming to the masses. The Wii started development in 2002, which was a year after the GameCube (which was Nintendo's previous gaming console) was released, and in 2005, it was announced at that year's E3 convention as the Revolution console. It wasn't until early the following year that it was renamed to the Wii, and at E3 that year, it was officially announced to launch on November 19, though some games started to appear on shelves as early as the 14th. When the system launched, it became sold out all over the country, making the Wii a very hard to find and sought-after product, especially during Christmas. The Wii later ended up selling over 100 million consoles, making it the fourth highest selling gaming system of all time.

And those are the stories of the biggest sought after toys during the holiday season. There have been many highly successful toys during the holiday season, but none of them have made as much of an impact as the three I talked about. But one question remains. Will there be another major sought after toy during the holiday season? Actually, yes! Albeit a video game system with major part shortages that have prevented stock...

Facts about the new Minecraft Update

By Rowan G.

After months of anticipation, the long-awaited *Minecraft: Caves and Cliffs Part II* update has now been officially released to the public. Bringing some of the biggest changes in years, *Caves and Cliffs* will overhaul the terrain of the famous *Minecraft* world.

Focusing mainly on improvements to pre-existing geography, the new update increases the height and depth of the world compared to previous iterations. Providing new types of mountains and cave systems, players will now be able to experience a larger and more distinctive variety of landforms than was previously possible.

However, the scope of Part II's changes do not only affect the shape of the world. The way rare resources and materials are distributed has been widely changed, requiring players to rethink the tactics they use to obtain them. For example, materials such as iron and coal will be abundant within the mountains, while finding diamonds will require digging even deeper underground.

Initially meant to be a part of the earlier 1.17 update, known simply as *Caves and Cliffs Part I*, *Part II* introduces the massive changes which were ultimately cut from the initial release; these features include bigger caves and taller mountains. However, some features initially promised - such as the bundle and Warden mob - have been delayed even further into the future.



Fast Fashion: The Facts

By Sophia C.



Do you like websites like Shein, Romwe, or Fashion Nova? How about stores like Forever 21 or H&M? While these stores are trendy and in style, they've heavily impacted serious issues like climate change, ocean pollution, and the fight for better working conditions in countries like China.

Fast fashion has been a recently recognized addition to the decline of the earth's health. Though it isn't actually a "new" issue, the idea of fast fashion came from a 1980's marketing and manufacturing model called "quick response." Fast fashion is the reproduction of high fashion styles at mass-market prices, often frowned upon because of the use of cheap quality material and the constant cycle of trends. Fast fashion has gained popularity in the 21st century, with more brands adopting the model because of ever-changing fashion trends.

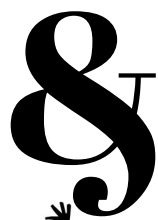
In these brands haste to keep up with these quickly shifting trends, they often disregard important factors that their production impacts. For one, the rapid, global decrease of our planet's health. In order to get their products to the masses, brands use cheap materials and labor from other countries to reduce costs.

Materials like polyester, a fabric often used by fast fashion companies, are made largely of a type of plastic that is based from crude oil and natural gas, the same kind used in the making of plastic bottles. Many of the other fabrics used by these companies are also made of synthetic materials derived from processed fossil fuels.

About 92 million tons of textile waste are discarded annually. Most ending up in landfills or burnt and released into the atmosphere. Only a disappointing 1% of textiles are recycled.

Hugs

- 😊 More days off from school!
- 😊 Going sledding!
- 😊 Spending time with relatives.
- 😊 Hot chocolate!
- 😊 New Year fireworks!



Hits

- 😞 Slippery and icy roads.
- 😞 Annoying radio songs.
- 😞 Long delivery times.
- 😞 Bad movies.
- 😞 Too much holiday-themed stuff.



10 Best Running Backs in NFL History

By Callahan R.

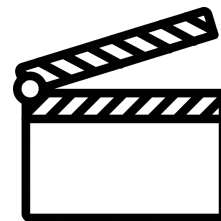
1. Barry Sanders
2. Walter Payton
3. Emmitt Smith
4. Jim Brown
5. Adrian Peterson
6. LaDainian Tomlinson
7. Eric Dickerson
8. Marshall Faulk
9. Earl Campbell
10. Bo Jackson



TOP 10 FAMOUS MOVIE FRANCHISES

By Rowan G.

1. Star Wars
2. Marvel
3. Transformers
4. Matrix
5. Fast and Furious
6. Star Trek
7. Harry Potter
8. Despicable Me
9. Indiana Jones
10. Rocky



Original Jokes

By Tristan M.

1. What do you call a nine headed cookie?
2. What does Santa do during the summer?
3. What is Rudolph's favorite ice cream flavor?
4. How many donuts did the elves get?
5. Why did the toys cross the North Pole?



5 BEST HOLIDAY MOVIES

By SOPHIA C.

1. CHRISTMAS VACATION
2. ELF
3. THE YEAR WITHOUT A CHRISTMAS
4. HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS
5. HOME ALONE
6. FROSTY THE SNOWMAN
7. RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER
8. SANTA PAWS
9. CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS
10. KRAMPUS

1. A hydra! 2. He celebrates Christmas in July! 3. Triple Cherry. 4. A billion dozen! 5. So they could get to the South Pole.

College Football Bowl Games

By Callahan R.

College Football is one of the most popular ways to support your school. Millions of people watch the games on TV or in person. Players are drafted out of college teams to go to the NFL. College football has a few differences from the NFL. The footballs in college are slightly smaller and have one inch stripes on the tips of the ball. In college, you only have to have one foot in bounds to catch the ball. In the NFL, you need two feet in bounds to catch the ball. In college, there is a four team tournament to see who is the best team. The NFL has a 14 team tournament.

The main playoff is between the top four teams. This year the four teams are Alabama, Michigan, Georgia and Cincinnati. There are also other bowl games that are not included in the playoff. The winner of the two semifinals face each other for the championship.

Alabama will be playing Cincinnati at the Cotton Bowl. Alabama is going into the game as the first ranked team in the country with a record of 12-1. Cincinnati is ranked four but has a record of 13-0. The reason Alabama is ranked higher is because they have played harder teams. Alabama is going into the game as the favorite and have taken 81% of the total bets. The score prediction is in the favor of Alabama by a score of 45-20. As much as I think Cincinnati deserves to be in the playoffs, Alabama is just the better team.

Michigan and Georgia will be facing off in the Orange Bowl. Georgia is favored to win 27-23. I think this game comes down to Michigan not having a quarterback. They are facing off against the two ranked defense in the country. The only reason Alabama was able to beat Georgia was because Bryce Young went off. He threw for 421 yards, two touchdowns and rushed for one. The game will be played in Miami Gardens at 7:30 E.T.

The Fiesta Bowl is not in the CFP but will still be a great game. Notre Dame will encounter the ninth ranked team in the nation, Oklahoma State. Notre Dame is favored to win the game, although it will be a hard fought battle. Notre Dame is 1-4 in bowl games overall, so it is about time for them to win one.

The Rose Bowl is going to be a clash between Ohio State and Utah. Ohio State is going into the game as the 8 point favorite. The Game will be played in Pasadena California at 5 E.T. QB Cameron Rising for the Utes has been a big factor in their success. Rising was 15-for-24 for 170 yards, one touchdown and two interceptions against Oregon. He also ran nine times for 61 yards.

If I were to choose my favorite for the chip, I think it would be Alabama. With probably the best coach in college football history, I think they stand a pretty good chance. However, you can be sure that the games will not be short on drama or controversy.



**COLLEGE FOOTBALL
PLAYOFF**



Holiday Word Search



K U H S B C F P C D F U O Z F F T E B I Q S F L V
 P N E K L J V A M V Q D B L A C K E Y E D P E A S
 O Z R I P L N J E B H R X C I S U M V J Z A L E T
 N K F Z K D A C Y G R E L J S F R H H M X Y T B E
 I J J B Y O A B B P G H W Y Y L A N E W I M J V S
 V W O C A L O Y W T V H O T P E D H W L R X W Z Y
 L R A G P L D C R O A S T B E A S T H Y D Y I K O
 Y N F E X I L K A Z N C J J D W G I O A L N R X T
 E M R S O M X K U A M S M I Z G I H V Q O R A U Y
 D I E V J P Y M J G I J F T A D T C I I M B F C F
 F Y V W P I O W S B P E O L L A Z R L D X T A J N
 X R M A E R Z C R M P O T A F V A W L G V U P E B
 G R G E Y K E C T M X E G D I L E X E L Y C Z R T
 I U B R H N A S E W M P N Z R K U C Q T C O E L K
 H L A E I R Y R E O B U I L E D I E R D R D Y H P
 M F T M O N T W Q N O N D E W I J X Y F W L K S R
 E U F L V A C C D U T X D K O V E L Q X P R Y X L
 G H D W T N E H Q M H S E N R R V M W V Y P Z M C
 Y U B N S E L C I C I E L Q K Y I X N D E L V E S
 M Q A N O I T A C A V U S Z S D K O E W E N Z P E
 T S A E Y S W N J U F P O K N T O L Y E O G W E B
 R B O P G E B C H C J J V I A E F A C I S N U D K
 E B R H R A Y F M W I X G U Y A Y Q D B W P S A Y
 E S T F F R W K Q W B H I F E C Y X U R T B N Q J
 S A F M T Z X J P C T G C F U X C K P D T V X A M



- Ball
- Black-eyed peas
- Candle
- Candy cane
- Carol
- Cookie
- Dreidel
- Elves
- fireplace
- Fireworks
- Flurry
- Frozen
- Grinch
- Icicles
- Midnight
- Presents
- Roast Beast
- Santa
- Sledding
- Snow
- Snowballs
- Toys
- Trees
- Vacation
- Whoville

