

# Countdown to Christmas is officially underway

The season of advent calendars and Christmas shopping has begun. It's the beginning of December and there are just a few short weeks until Christmas. So kids, it's time to start writing your letters to Santa Claus and dusting off your Menorahs because the Holiday season is in full swing. With all of the shopping, visiting, caroling, and general holiday festivities, there is no time to focus on anything but being merry and jovial.

One large part of the Christmas season is

definitely the Christmas specials. Along with many other Americans, G. Ray Bodley High School math teacher, Mrs. Downing especially enjoys watching, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" every year.

Other popular Christmas specials include, "A Charlie Brown Christmas," in which Charlie Brown gets the tiniest Christmas tree and displays true Christmas spirit by accepting the tree for what it is, and being happy even though it wasn't six feet tall, or lively. Along with Christ-

mas specials, "Eight Crazy Nights," an Adam Sandler movie, takes on the Jewish view of the holiday season. This musical comedy takes a humorous look at romance during the Hanukkah season.

Even if you're busy today, try not to forget to open the second box in your advent calendar and light the second candle on your Menorah because Hanukkah starts today and there are twenty-three days until Christmas!

By Kaitlyn Lauber



## RaiderNet Daily



G. Ray Bodley High School, Fulton, NY

Volume 2, Number 47

Thursday, December 2, 2010

## Mock Trial: the case has been leaked!

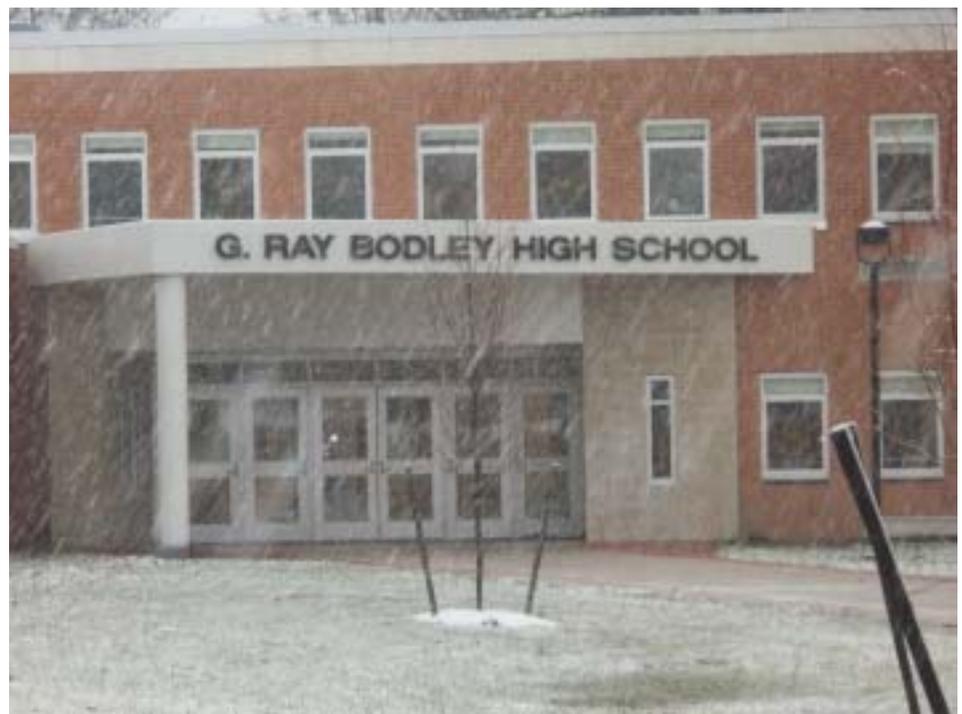
By Christine Proud

Normally, The New York State Mock Trial Association would release the case that would be used for the 2011 season toward the end of December. However this year the case has been leaked. "I feel like it was a sincere mistake. But I can understand why other advisors would be upset," said Mrs. Hallatt, advisor of the G. Ray Bodley High School mock trial team.

This year's case is a civil case, which is much different than last year's embezzlement case. As a result, the case summary has been provided for all teams to view. It centers on a town called Empireville and deals with the challenge of the constitutionality of the town's new parking bans of the four streets that surround the town's high school.

The plaintiff in this case is a high school student. All places and characters featured in Mock Trial are entirely fictional. It is based on a similar trial that has happened before. Students can choose to be a lawyer or a witness. Mock trial is great for students who are interested in law. Last year the team had a fantastic time, winning the county title and going onto regionals in only the second year of the club.

Advisor Mrs. Hallatt said, "I am enthusiastically proud of my 2010 mock trial team and look forward to another successful season." The students won \$250 for winning the county



As though it were right on cue, the first day of December brought snow to the City of Fulton and G. Ray Bodley High School, as pictured in this shot of the new entrance to their high school. And as soon as the rain turned to snow students began dreaming of snow days, despite the fact that they have just returned from an extended Thanksgiving holiday. (Andrew Pitcher photo)

title with a team consisting of Nate Hawthorne, Kayla Distin, Krysta Woodcock, Kelly Ormsby, Lacey Buskey, Ryan Bastien, Amanda Tetro, Ryann Crofoot, Steve MacDougall and Christine Proud.

The G. Ray Bodley Mock Trial team will have a meeting next Tuesday, December 6 in room 132. For more information, attend the meeting. If you have any interest in law come join the team!

**Don't forget! The annual French Club  
food drive is almost over!  
Friday, Dec. 3 is the last day to donate**

## Opinion

# 'tis the season for the common cold

By Ryann Crofoot



It's a well-known fact for us as Fultonians; we are headed right into cold season. For anyone who has been here for even one winter, we all know that headaches, runny noses, and sneezing are just around the corner. Although many think it's impossible to prevent or cure the cold, there are ways you can help to avoid and recover faster from it.

The "common" cold has definitely earned its name. There are over one billion colds in the U.S each year. You will probably have more colds than any other sickness. The cold is caused by a virus that you can contract by inhaling it after somebody sneezes, shaking hands with someone who has coughed or sneezed into them, or coming in contact with someone who has a runny nose. There are more than 200 types of viruses known to cause the common cold, and because more are constantly developed, it is impossible for your body to build up immunity

**"The "common" cold has definitely earned its name. There are over one billion colds in the U.S each year. You will probably have more colds than any other sickness."**

to all of them. That's why people get colds every year.

There are some things you can do to help prevent it, though. The most common one is washing your hands. You hear it all the time, but that doesn't make it any less important to wash your hands after sneezing, nose wiping, and, of course, going to the bathroom. Another thing you can do to help reduce the risk of catching a cold is to wash any surfaces that are touched a lot. Wipe down things such as doorknobs and sink handles with a disinfectant to get rid of any cold viruses that may be hiding there.

If you don't already have some, get some hand sanitizer. A little dab can kill 99.99% of germs without the trouble of washing. And since they are antiseptic instead of antibiotic, the virus can't build up resis-

tance. When you do wash your hands, try to use paper towels instead of shared cloth towels.

If you do contract a cold virus, there are things you can do to help make you feel better. For starters, drink plenty of fluids. If there isn't enough liquid in your body, your immune system cannot effectively fight off the virus. Over-the-counter remedies can make you feel better. They're not proven to cure the cold, or shorten its time span, but it will help to relieve some of your symptoms. Antibiotics should not be used to treat a cold. The cold is a virus, not bacteria, so they won't help, and may even make the situation worse.

Some newer antiviral drugs can help to clear symptoms within a day. If you do take medicine to help get rid of your cold, you should consult your doctor to make sure they are right for you. The old home remedy, chicken noodle soup, has been used for centuries to cure the cold, and it may actually help. The heat, fluid, and salt may help you fight the infection.

Almost any Central New Yorker knows that cold season is coming, and they also know how irritating the symptoms can be. Your doctor may have more ways to help you fight the cold, and avoid these issues.

Sources: [http://www.medicinenet.com/common\\_cold/article.htm](http://www.medicinenet.com/common_cold/article.htm)

<https://health.google.com/health/ref/Common+cold>

## Bizarre News of the Day

Ever want some obscure piece of history in your house for all to see? Well, a Los Angeles auction house said on Tuesday that it would sell the simple pine coffin in which Lee Harvey Oswald, better known as the man who assassinated JFK, was buried for almost 20 years.

Bidding will start at \$1,000, but the item is expected to fetch strong interest from museums and collectors of presidential memorabilia when it goes under the gavel on December 16.

"There's just a lot of interest in Kennedy and anything to do with his assassination," said Laura Yntema, auction manager at Santa Monica. The coffin was unearthed in October 1981 after a legal dispute between Oswald's widow, Marina, and his brother, Robert. There were rumors and conspiracy theories that a lookalike Russian agent had been buried in her husband's place, according to the auction house.

A medical exam showed the badly decomposed body was indeed Oswald's, and he was returned to Shannon Rose Hill Memorial Park in Fort Worth, Texas, in a new casket.

The original coffin, which had suffered extreme water damage, is being sold by Baumgardner Funeral Home, the local undertaker which also handled the re-burial.

*By Morgan Firenze*

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# PhD invents a “smarter” smartboard

By Tyler Crandell

As technology improves, smartboards increase in demand compared to traditional chalk boards or dry-erase boards. However they are pricy and budget conscious school districts are wary of installing them in their classrooms. However a PhD Graduate student from Carnegie Mellon found the solution to this problem involving one of our favorite gaming systems.

Johnny Chung Lee has essentially experimented with the Nintendo Wii in a variety of ways. His website <http://johnnylee.net/> has links to some of his projects and ideas. One of major concern is his Wii remote smartboard. Because the Wiimote can track sources of infrared light, you can track pens that have an infrared LED in the tip. Therefore by pointing a Wiimote at a projection screen you can create a low cost interactive whiteboard. Lee even created his own software for the project and an easy to follow process to get the device up and running, which are both available on his website.

The process involves some tech aptitude, but not an extreme amount. A basic understanding of what is going on will be enough to help get someone by in creating their smart board. Although Lee is a PhD, his

website isn't written in an extremely wordy way with an extensive vocabulary. It is actually pretty straight-forward. He has also included a video for a visual demonstration. The set-up involves connecting a Wiimote to a PC via Bluetooth and essentially “building” the LED pen. This “construction” would require some McGyvering, such as fitting a mini keychain light with an infrared LED. On his website he states that he is looking into manufacturing and selling infrared pens so that the assembly will not be necessary.

“Video games will rot your mind!” Quotes like this one been heard about America’s youth time and time again. However, the irony will be clear to see when the Nintendo Wii is being used to educate students. Although this is not necessarily new news, it is certainly an interesting idea, which deserves to be noted. Lee’s innovation has taken a very expensive piece of technology that is in high demand and made it an affordable commodity. There are currently only a few rooms with smartboards in the school. Perhaps this technology will help to put these interactive Wii smartboards on the walls of some G Ray Bodley Classrooms.

# Automobile assembly line started in 1913

By Andrew Pitcher

Henry Ford’s vehicles rolled off the assembly line for the first time this week in 1913. Even though cars had been in production already, the installation of the assembly line cut production time dramatically from 12 hours to two hours and 30 minutes. Originally most middle class consumers could not afford the cost of a new Model T (1908), even though the vehicle was basic and made to be sturdy not comfortable. The introduction of the new technology made these vehicles available to more of middle class America.

The workers who built Model N cars (the Model T’s predecessor)

arranged the parts in a row on the floor, put the under-construction auto on skids and dragged it down the line as they worked. Considered to be the rough beginnings before Ford had put the true assembly line into place.

To cut production time for the Model N, a certain worker was assigned a certain job in the cars assembly, only staying there throughout their shift. Certain workers who specialized in a specific job decreased vehicle production time only slightly. Determined, Ford hired a motions expert named Frederick Taylor, who studied each of the 84 steps it took to create each vehicle and rearranged them by space consumption on the factory floor, speed, and difficulty, again cutting production time.

Inspired by the continuous-flow production methods used by flour mills, breweries, canneries and industrial bakeries, along with the disassembly of animal carcasses in Chicago’s meat-packing plants, Ford installed moving lines for bits and pieces of the manufacturing process. The parts fell into place with motors, gears and chains. Ford’s unveiling of the first mechanically driven line in the production of automobiles marks a date in history still seen in today’s car production.

## Quote of the day:

“Don’t underestimate the value of Doing Nothing, of just going along, listening to all the things you can’t hear, and not bothering.”

*Winnie the Pooh*

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NFL Picks



**Brett Williams**  
**Last week: 10-6**  
**Overall: 80-40**

Brett's pick of the week:  
 Patriots over Jets

The game between the New England Patriots and the New York Jets will be the biggest one of the week. Both teams own a record of 9-2, leading their divisions. I believe Tom Brady and his Patriots will overcome the fact that they lost to the Jets previously in the season and take control this Sunday.

The Patriots will come into this game with better tactics to protect their quarterback, unlike they did in their previous loss to the Jets. Brady has been playing at the top of his game, and I believe it will be too hard for the Jet defense to contain him. The Patriots will also be playing on their home turf, where they are undefeated.

- Brett Says:  
 Philadelphia  
 Minnesota  
 Miami  
 Jacksonville  
 Kansas City  
 NY Giants  
 New Orleans  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 San Diego  
 Atlanta  
 Indianapolis  
 St. Louis  
 Seattle  
 Baltimore  
 New England



**Max Fobes**  
**Last week: 10-6**  
**Overall: 73-47**

Max's pick of the week:  
 Eagles over Texans

This Thursday is going to be a fight when the Houston Texans travel to Philly to battle the Eagles. Of late the Texans have not been up to their game now standing third in the AFC South.

While the Texans have their trouble, the Eagles looked to be on a roll until last weeks 31-26 loss to the Bears. The big question in the game is if the Eagles can turn things around for week 13 when the Texans come up North for a Thursday night showdown. I just do not see Houston stepping up to the challenge; they are going to need their "A" game. Eagles take this one, 27-17.

- Max Says:  
 Philadelphia  
 Buffalo  
 Cleveland  
 Tennessee  
 Kansas City  
 New York Giants  
 New Orleans  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 San Diego  
 Atlanta  
 Indianapolis  
 St. Louis  
 Seattle  
 Baltimore  
 New England



**Nick Mattice**  
**Last week: 11-5**  
**Overall: 72-48**

Nick's pick of the week:  
 Packers over 49ers

Although the Packers are coming off of a loss to the Falcons last week they still looked like a top team in the NFC.

San Francisco is on an impressive run right now and is also looking for a playoff spot. Each team needs a win this week to stay in the fight for their division.

I think if Green Bay's offense can make plays and limit mistakes the Packers will come out with a win.

- Nick Says:  
 Philadelphia  
 Minnesota  
 Miami  
 Tennessee  
 Kansas City  
 New York G  
 New Orleans  
 Detroit  
 Green Bay  
 San Diego  
 Atlanta  
 Indianapolis  
 St. Louis  
 Seattle  
 Baltimore  
 New York J



**Mr. Senecal**  
**Last week: 9-7**  
**Overall: 70-50**

Mr. S's pick of the week:  
 Patriots over Jets

This game is a tough one for me, because as a Dolphins fan, I don't like either side. Both teams come in with impressive records in what looms as a major contest for the AFC East title and home field advantage.

The Jets won last time around, but I cannot see them duplicating that feat in New England. Honestly New York is fortunate to have gotten by in the last month, while the Patriots are banging on the door again, which always seems to be the case this time of the year.

Look for Tom Brady and company to prevail in this one.

- Mr. S. Says:  
 Philadelphia  
 Buffalo  
 Cleveland  
 Jacksonville  
 Kansas City  
 New York G  
 New Orleans  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 San Diego  
 Atlanta  
 Indianapolis  
 St. Louis  
 Seattle  
 Baltimore  
 New England



**Don Wilmot**  
**Last week: 10-6**  
**Overall: 68-52**

Don's pick of the week:  
 Bills over Vikings

The Bills are struggling this year, as well as the Vikings, so this should be a close game. Buffalo is now 2-9 while Minnesota is at 4-7. The Bills lost their last game in an overtime thriller against the Steelers, while the Vikings won by a field goal against Washington.

The way that the Bills have been playing, compared to the way the Vikings have been playing, I am going to say the Bills win this one.

- Don Says:  
 Philadelphia  
 Buffalo  
 Cleveland  
 Tennessee  
 Kansas City  
 NY Giants  
 New Orleans  
 Chicago  
 Green Bay  
 San Diego  
 Atlanta  
 Indianapolis  
 Arizona  
 Carolina  
 Baltimore  
 NY Jets

**School of Thought** compiled by Andrew Pitcher

# When will we have the first snow day?



"Next week."  
*Travis Hoskins*



"Next Monday."  
*Shane McCarthy*



"Tomorrow."  
*Brandon Chapel*



"Friday."  
*Yasmin Martinez*

## Meteorology and you

by Carson Metcalf



**Today:**



Snow showers. High in the upper-30s.  
Record high-65 (1998)  
Avg. high-41

**Tonight:**



Cloudy with a few snow showers. Low in the mid-20s.  
Record low-3 (1989)  
Avg. low-26

**Tomorrow:**



Snow showers. High in the low-30s.  
Record high-65 (1982)  
Avg. high-40

*GRB junior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ [www.centralnewyorkweather.com](http://www.centralnewyorkweather.com) ...Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.*