

Local writer tells grade nine students about the craft of writing



One of her novels, *Ice Tomb*, is set in the Antarctic, and on the moon. Her more recent novel, *Time Meddlers*, moves from the Ottawa Valley in the present to New France in the distant past. What makes this more interesting is that characters in the novel make the same trip through time. Local science fiction novelist, Deborah Jackson explained to two classes of grade nine students at Sir Wil that she finds extremes appealing.

When she came to Sir Wil to do a reading of *Time Meddlers* on Thursday, February 15th, she did more than entertain the students with excerpts from her novel. She also explained the extensive research she did investigating the cultures of the First Nations peoples who lived in the areas around the Ottawa Valley. She talked about the sources of inspiration for her writing, the difficulties of making a living as a writer and the rewards of doing work that you like.

Her session was both informative and entertaining.

OSAID

by Danelle Cavallin

Impaired driving is the leading criminal cause of death in Canada. On average 5 Canadians are killed and 125 Canadians are injured daily due to alcohol related collisions.

In 2005 Mrs. Vincent launched an OSAID club in an effort to prevent drunk driving incidents among Sir. Wilfrid Laurier S. S. students. The acronym OSAID stands for "Ottawa Students Against Impaired Driving".

See **Reduce and eliminate** on page 5.

Yearbook: Paper memories

by Miranda Cross

This is the last year of high school and the last year at Sir Wil for me, and all the others who have accompanied me on this four-year journey of discovery and growth. Though there will always be a new crop of fresh faces, ready to fill our shoes and tread upon these hallways like so many have before, our experiences will always be trapped within the walls of this building. Our voices will forever ring in the classrooms in which we spent hours absorbing information and becoming something more than just kids. Best of all, our memories will never die, as long as we have something to remind us of the ones who may eventually become the "little guys" who helped us to become great leaders of the future, and of the good times we had amongst all the teen angst. Enter the yearbook, a precious capsule of paper and ink, crafted with care and dedication- for the students, by the students.

This year was unique for the yearbook, and for Mr. Young, the one who we can all thank for devoting his time to making sure that we graduates will have the privilege of looking into the pages of our past someday far away from today. For the first time, the yearbook is being put together by the same group of students throughout the whole year- the course was switched from a slot on the regular student timetable, to a slot after school on select days of the week, from September until May. This change made it possible to keep a level of consistency throughout the whole book, and to allow the team to develop what might be the best yearbook to date with uninterrupted unity. Several dedicated students have been working around the clock since September to produce beautiful spreads, covering everything from school couples, to events that have taken place in the school, to the many teams and clubs Sir Wil can boast about.

See **Emotional and important** on page 5.