

# SJNRA Student Media News

Volume III: 2 December 2007



Dear Students:

Greetings from the SJNRA Library! Hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and that you are looking forward to sharing a blessed Christmas with your family and friends.

Thanks to all of you who visited the Library Book Fair in October. It was successful in that we had fun looking at all the new titles and we were able to award some prizes and we received 33 new books for our library through your generous support. I will have them ready to check out in the near future. In a special way, I would like to thank Isis Dent (7) and Angela Lockridge (10) for helping me “man” the book fair before and after school. You were a big help, Ladies!

Best Wishes and a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Buehrer

PS Don't forget to ask Santa for some good books to read!

## STUDENT RESEARCH CENTER

Don't forget about EBSCO's new interface designed for students in grades 6 through 12. It provides appropriate research tools to easily cover any topic you might be asked to report on in your classes. Sources include magazines, newspapers, biographies, film and videos, etc. An online dictionary and encyclopedia are also included along with “top searches of the day” if you are stuck on choosing a topic.

## IRC News

The teams are forming now for the “Battle of the Books” on April 19, 2008 at Hughesville H.S. We can have a Junior & Senior High team if 8-10 students sign up for each division. A team formation meeting will be held after school on Wednesday, December 12 in the Library.

## ASK HERE PA

I would like to remind you to use this 24/7 interactive reference service. You can connect to the site from the Library Web page. An online experienced librarian will help you find what you need or answer any of your resource questions. *Ask Here* is always available even when the library is closed. They will either give you the answer to your quest directly or point you to a reliable source that can give you all the details. Try it! And let me know how it worked out for you.



## READING SURVEY

A big THANKS to all the students who participated in the Reading Survey back in September. I really appreciate your input. Below is a list of your “Best Titles Ever Read” and “Favorite Authors”. J. K. Rowling came in first, but C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien were a close second and third. Take the advice of your fellow students and try some of these great books and writers.

### Best Books:

Sounder, The Red Pony, Eragon, Jackie Robinson, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Ivanhoe, In Cold Blood, Flags of Our Fathers, The Lord of the Rings, A Wrinkle in Time, Time Windows, To Kill a Mockingbird, Summer Boys, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Green Angel, A Soldier’s Heart, Fever, The Two Towers, Stargirl, This Lullaby, Freedom Run, The Queen’s Soprano.

### Favorite Authors:

C.S. Lewis, Anthony Horowitz, Wilson Rawls, William Armstrong, J. K. Rowling, Avi, Thomas Dygard, Paul Lagan, Mark Twain, Gary Paulsen, James Howe, Lemony Snickett, Barbara Park, Beverly Cleary, Janet Ivanovich, Anne McCaffery, Arthur Doyle, Andrew Clements, Lisi Harrison, Jim Davis, Eoin Colfer, Michael Crichton, John Grisham, Sarah Dessen, Christopher Paolini, D.J. MacHale, Zoey Dean, Louis Sachar, Ian Fleming, V.C. Andrews.

## SJNRA LIBRARY WEB PAGE

With all these favorite books and authors, there has to be some book review thoughts that you would be willing to share with your fellow Knights. Just bring up the Library Web page and click on “Book Reviews” on the left side bar and tell us how you feel about your latest read. It doesn’t take a lot of time! It’s FUN! It gives you a chance to practice your writing skills! You get to see your thought in print! Four (4) good reasons to give it a try!



## NEW TITLES AT SJNRA LIBRARY

F COO Hit the Road by Caroline Cooney

Sixteen-year-old Brittany acts as chauffeur for her grandmother and three other old women going to what is supposedly their college reunion, on a long drive that involves lies, theft and kidnappings.

PB MOS 47 by Walter Mosley

Number 47, a fourteen-year-old slave boy growing up under the watchful eye of a brutal master meets the mysterious Tall John, who introduces him to a magical science and teaches him the meaning of freedom.

SC DRE Dreams and Visions: Fourteen Flights of Fantasy ed. By M. Jerry Weiss

A collection of fourteen science and fantasy short stories by young adult fiction authors such as Tamora Pierce and Suzanne Fisher Staples.

## HAVE YOU READ THIS ONE?

Copper Sun by Sharon Draper

Amari is one of the few survivors who lived through the destruction of her village by the “pale strangers.” Her parents, her little brother, her home is gone. “Amari’s heart hurt in a way she could never have imagined.” She and her companions were led away in chains and forced to walk many miles to the coast of Africa. Their captors brand them and put them on board a ship bound for the Carolina coast. Amari is put up for auction and sold to the Master of Derbyshire Farms. She is shamefully bought as a gift for the Master’s 16 year-old-son. Amari helps the cook on the plantation along with another young indentured slave named Polly. Over time Amari, the black African, and Polly, the white American orphan, become friends. They are both gutsy enough, when the situation presents itself, to escape the farm in search of the “hear say” Spanish territory of Fort Mose. This is a powerful story of what it meant to be a slave and how sometimes the only freedom they had was in their minds and hearts.