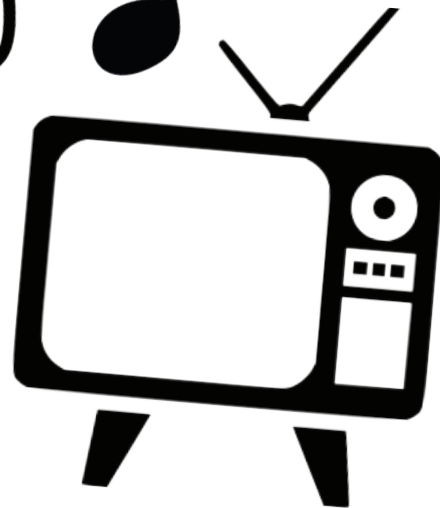
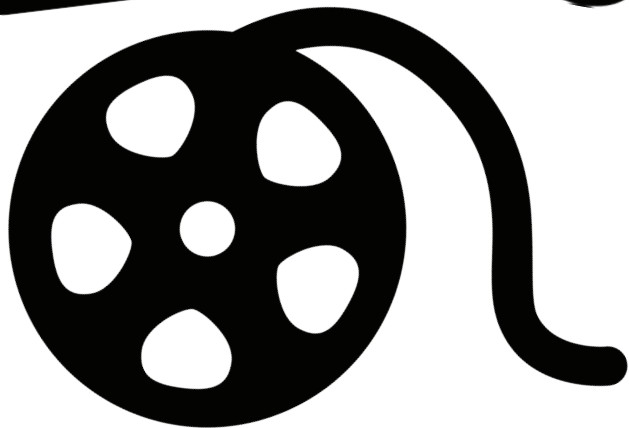




# South School Daze 1969–1971 Highlights

Compiled by Rob Haddow, October 2021



So what was going on in the world during our time at South?

In Canada we had 2 Prime Ministers, Lester Pearson and Pierre Trudeau, while the United States had Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon as Presidents.

Throughout our years at South, both the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights Movement dominated the news. The fascination with space travel intensified, while the Cold War between the US and Russia fiercely continued. Technology saw us go from desktop rotary phones to the first version of mobile phones. Black & white TVs were replaced by colour. Manual typewriters became obsolete with the birth of the modern computer. Portable calculators started to emerge, and we were in the Golden Age of the muscle car like Mustangs, Chargers, GTOs, Camaros and Firebird Trans Ams. In 1969, the Trans Am sold for \$4,366. Gas went from 32 cents per gallon (or 7 cents a litre) in 1966 to 36 cents (7.9 cents a litre) in 1971.

TV shows like *The Lucy Show*, *Bewitched*, *Green Acres* gave way to *All In The Family*, *The Flip Wilson Show* and *Sandford And Son*.

Movies in 1966 such as *The Bible*, *The Russians are Coming* and *A Man For All Seasons* gave way to 1971 films such as *Billy Jack*, *A Clockwork Orange*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Carnal Knowledge*.

Music during this time was referred to as the Golden Age of Rock'n'Roll. Over our time at high school, The Monkees, Beach Boys and others gave way to the likes of Janis Joplin, Three Dog Night, The Bee Gees and Led Zeppelin. Music moved out of an age of innocence.

Roger Macauley (the Silver Fox) was Principal when we arrived, and Bob Mann saw us through as Principal from Grade 10 until graduation.

Many teachers came and went during our time, and I'd like to think we had nothing to do with their career changes.

# 1966

## IN THE NEWS

- 1966 marked the 1st traumatic year of high school (for most of us) and the 1st year that baby boomers came of age.
- The Canada Pension Plan is rolled out January 1.
- Dr. Michael DeBakey installed a partial artificial heart at a Houston Texas Hospital.
- John Lennon sets off a firestorm with his comment about the Beatles being more popular than Jesus
- Go Go boots and miniskirts were the fashion rage.
- Twister, Rock'em Sock'em Robots, and Susy Homemaker were popular toy items.

## IN SPORTS

- Mohammad Ali defeats Canadian George Chuvalo in 15 rounds, to win the Heavyweight Championship of the World. Despite fighting Ali, Joe Frazier, George Foreman and many others, Chuvalo was never knocked down in his 93 professional fights.

## ON TV

- It was the first time EVERY show in Prime Time appeared in colour and the TV show Batman first appeared. Wasn't purple terrific on TV?
- The top TV show was the Lucy Show, although I would have voted for Bewitched.

## AT THE MOVIES

- *The Bible, Hawaii, A Man for All Seasons, The Russians are Coming, The Russians are Coming* and *Alfie* were among the top performers.

## ON THE MUSIC SCENE

- 1966 has been referred to as the most pivotal year in pop music. It was a change from the old school music style of the 50's to groups like the Beatles, Bob Dylan, the Byrds, and the Beach Boys, among many others. Still Frank Sinatra did win Record of the Year at the Grammys for *Strangers in the Night*.
- LPs became the new standard for vinyl, replacing 45s as the driver of the industry.
- The Yardbirds broke up in 1966, later to emerge as Led Zeppelin.
- *California Dreaming* by The Mommas and Papas was the top single, while The Beatles' *Revolver* was the top album. While still in the British Invasion period, Motown continued to compete as did The Beach Boys and The Monkees.

## AT SOUTH

- The South Senior and Junior Girls Basketball teams won the WOSSA Conference.
- The School newspaper was called The Confederate which included Form news where a reporter from each class would submit items. From these came some interesting stuff. As follows;
- Predictions ; John Hay as a heavyweight boxer. Carol C. as Pres of Vic Tanny , Debbie O will be married to Mickey Dolenz. Mary-Jo-N will be a motorcycle racer and after 9C, gets a look at this paper she will be a fugitive. (Were you the reporter Mary-Joe?)
- The semi-formal Football Frolic dance in November cost a whopping \$2.50 a couple.

## IN THE CONFEDERATE'S FORM NEWS

- While *The Form News*, at times, used code to cover up the activities of our classmates (what's with initials?), it was clear Jackie B learned how to sit on the seats in the auditorium rather than the floor and that the class of 9E considered themselves the lucky ones to have homeroom in the new music room with Mr. George as homeroom teacher.
- Dave Broadhead was described as a class celebrity and a worthy class president, replacing Steve (Herm) Goodden who had a slip of the tongue during Music Class, which sounds like how he lost the Presidency.

# 1967

## IN THE NEWS

- Canada celebrated its centennial year.
- 1967 was known as “The Summer of Love” where clean-cut was replaced with a psychedelic and rebellious tone. *Turn On, Tune In, Drop Out* was the phrase coined by Timothy Leary and was intertwined with hippies and Haight Ashbury.
- Dr. Christian Barnard performed the first human-to-human heart transplant.
- Three astronauts including Gus Grissom were killed in a fire in a test for Apollo 1.
- McDonald’s introduced the Big Mac; they sold for 45 cents.
- The game *Battleship* was the top toy.
- The miniskirt remained popular.

## ON TV

- *Bonanza* reigned supreme, with shows like *Green Acres*, *Bewitched*, *The Beverly Hillbillies* and *Gomer Pyle* making it into the Top Ten.

## AT THE MOVIES

- Top spots went to *The Graduate*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, and *The Dirty Dozen* among others.

## ON THE MUSIC SCENE

- The Beatles released both *Magical Mystery Tour* and *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band* but, even so, couldn’t sell more records than The Monkees.
- More Vietnam protest songs emerged, including *Saigon Bride* by Joan Baez, Arlo Guthrie’s *Alice’s Restaurant Massacre*, and *The Letter* by The Box Tops.
- The 3-day Monterey Pop Festival was held, with the most expensive ticket being \$6.50.

## AT SOUTH

- The girls Junior Track Team won the Conference title, with Debbie Obokata winning the individual long jump and Jackie Ballantyne winning both the 100 and 200m.
- Brian Rice claimed second at the OFSAA Track Meet.
- The Girls of South gave a million thanks to Mrs. Fowler and Mrs. Milne who were leaving South.

## IN THE CONFEDERATE’S FORM NEWS

- Song titles that best described or contrasted individuals:
  - Jim C: *Go Tell It On The Mountain* (but just quit boring us with it)
  - Barrie C: *Everybody’s Trying to be My Baby*
- Books to read:
  - Brenda McF: *The Door onto Summer*
  - Larry H: *I Try To Behave Myself*
- Predictions:
  - Alan M will be battling his way onto the Football team.
- Comments:
  - Diana Powe: enjoys flirting as a pastime.
  - Pam Grant: fashioning the latest in shoulder strap purse.
  - John Webb: let’s all chip in and buy him a new bicycle.
  - Marlene Savgorodny: inquiring minds want to know how’s your love life?

# 1968

## IN THE NEWS

- 1968 was considered the Peak for Hippy Culture which would continue for a few more years.
- Long hair, bell bottoms and tie dye were all the rage.
- The Vietnam war raged on and sunk Lyndon Johnson's hope for re-election in 1969, which resulted in his decision not to seek a second term.
- Pierre Trudeau won the Liberal Party leadership in Canada.
- Both Martin Luther King, Jr. and Bobby Kennedy were assassinated.
- The first successful bone marrow transplant took place.
- Hot Wheels were the hot toy.

## ON TV

- Audiences were treated to *Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In*, a "very interesting" comedy which took top spot for 1968-69, while *Bonanza*, *Gomer Pyle* and *The Beverly Hillbillies* continued in the Top Ten.
- Also in the top 10 was *Julia*, a show starring Diahann Carroll who played a single African-American nurse raising a son on her own. The first to star an African American woman, it became a hit and won Diahann a Golden Globe. Controversy followed the show for it being apolitical and unrealistic.

## AT THE MOVIES

- *Funny Girl* was # 1 at the Box Office.
- The top 10 also included *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Bullitt* and *Rosemary's Baby*.

## ON THE MUSIC SCENE

- Jimi Hendrix was labelled the most spectacular guitarist in the world.
- Janis Joplin left Big Brother and The Holding Company to go on her own.
- Johnny Cash released his album *At Folsom Prison*.
- Creedence Clearwater Revival (aka CCR) made their debut.
- Glenn Campbell's *By The Time I Get To Phoenix* won Album of the Year.
- The New Yardbirds became Led Zeppelin, and the 1st reference to Heavy Metal was associated with Steppenwolf's *Born To Be Wild*.

## IN THE CONFEDERATE'S FORM NEWS

- *Hidden Talents* included riveting stuff like...
  - Carol Casey was elected *Miss Cool, Calm and Collected; In Case of Fire, Call Carol*.
  - John Moffat and Alan Bocking were working on a new telegraph system, back and forth across the English Room.
  - Barrie Cope seemed to have amazing reflexes in his right arm. Anything sounding remotely like a question puts it into immediate action. And speaking of Barrie, why was it reported you'd been spending your lunch hours looking at cracks in the quadrangle walls?
  - Mr. George didn't have to worry about enthusiasm in the Band, as every few minutes Jane MacDonald and Sue Currie would burst into spontaneous dum-di-dee, dum-diddle-dum.
  - Carol Casey was famous for saying "you should see what I did to the car this weekend".
  - Debbie Obokata was full of spirit with "Yay South! Yay Bye Bye Birdie! Yay Oxfam!..."
  - Bill Wigle's favourite song was *Sarcastic Reaction*, while Mary-Jo Nelligan's was *You Talk to Much*.
  - Jim Chambers choose the *Graduate* as his favorite movie, while Kathy Trimble picked *The Boston Strangler*.

# 1969

## IN THE NEWS

- Apollo 11 landed on the Moon.
- Max Yasgur's dairy farm in New York State hosted between 400,000 and 500,000 people from August 15 to 18 at a music festival simply called Woodstock.
- John Lennon and Yoko Ono hold a Bed-In for peace in New York City.
- The laser printer was invented by Xerox.
- Ted Kennedy drove off the Chappaquiddick Bridge, and his female passenger died.
- The Canadian Government finally legalized The Pill, declaring it safe for human use.
- The cost of a Big Mac soared to about 49 cents.
- In the toy world, the Snoopy Astronaut is the hit of the land.
- The most obvious fashion trend was the long lean lines "The Skinny Look".

## ON TV

- *Laugh-In* took top spot, with *Walt Disney's Wonderful World Of Colour* climbing into the top 10.

## AT THE MOVIES

- *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* was #1, with *Midnight Cowboy* and *True Grit* in the top 10.

## ON THE MUSIC SCENE

- The Beatles released *Abbey Road*, the last album they did as a group; it was the #1 Album of the Year.
- Popular artists included *Blood Sweat and Tears*, *Led Zeppelin*, *Peter Paul and Mary*, *The 5th Dimension*, *Sly and the Family Stone* and *The Archies*.

## AT SOUTH

- *The Confederate*, our school newspaper, was very active for the 1968-1969 school year, publishing at least 5 confirmed editions. It included compelling issues, quotes, gossip and insights, such as:
  - A step-ladder award went to Mr. Larson for "when you're this good you don't have to be big."
  - Invaluable Wisdom imparted by Kerry Benson: "People who live in glass houses should undress in the dark", and his story to discourage his students from drinking too much, about his alcoholic roommate "who seeped in the door, flowed upstairs to bed, then woke up at 4 in the morning and thought he was blind."
  - Hockey Coach Ray Clarke during a disappointing season, inspired the team by sharing: "In view of the present austerity measures imposed upon the team, I want you to go out on the ice and shoot hard, skate fast, but don't rip the sweaters!"
  - From the 11th-grade reporters came some rather head-scratching items such as: "Lee Allison, who did you say you didn't love anymore?" "Bruce Atkins: I see you got a home barber kit." "Jim Smith, what's that bit of fuzz in front of your ears?" "Robbie Haddow, did you say you went skinny dipping in your pool with (blank)?" Also reported was that our band played Beethoven at a concert yesterday, and Beethoven lost.
  - Predictions for future Professions included: Diana Powe as skating instructor for Western's hockey team, Jim Smith as a gambler, Dianne Peaslee as a bank accountant, Bruce Atkinson as a professional golf instructor at Glendale's miniature golf centre.
  - Burning questions in the paper included: "Bev Hobart, did you really write that groovy composition or was there parental influence?", "Marilynne Hanes, did you really get your lunch period mixed up or was the thought of Latin so soon after lunch cause for acute indigestion?", and "Mary Jo Nelligan is still counting the bruises on her head from colliding with the trampoline Saturday night."
  - From the category of songbook came: *Days in the Barnyard* for John Hay, *Goofin* for Kent Cummings.
  - From favourite books: *Drivers Handbook* for Cathy Osborne, and *The Bobbsey Twins At School* for Cathy Hobart and Bev Hobart.
- The school play *Bye Bye Birdie* ran from January 20 to 25, and was a huge success. The play's score was produced as an album.

# 1970

## IN THE NEWS

- The 1st Earth Day is celebrated.
- During Apollo 13's Mission to the Moon, an oxygen tank exploded but miraculously returned safely to Earth four days later.
- On Oct 16, Pierre Trudeau invoked the War Measures Act in response to the October Crisis. The next day the Minister of Labour, Pierre Laport was murdered by the FLQ.
- Charles Manson went on trial for the Tate/LaBianca murders.
- In Fashion, floppy hats, platform shoes, jumpsuits, bell-bottoms and denim were the latest trends.
- Nerf Balls were big in the toy world.

## ON TV

- *Marcus Welby, MD* took top spot, with *The Flip Wilson Show*, *Hawaii Five-O* and *Ironside* making it into the Top 10 along with some previous favourites like *Gunsmoke*, *Bonanza*, and *Here's Lucy*.

## AT THE MOVIES

- *Love Story* was the #1 Movie, with *Airport*, *MASH*, and *Patton* making the top 10.

## ON THE MUSIC SCENE

- 1970, for the most part, marked the end of enormous musical festivals which disappeared as a result of dangers to attendees including riots, drugs and violence.
- Popular artists included Elton John and The Jackson 5, as well as Diana Ross (post Supremes), Neil Diamond and Simon and Garfunkel.
- Johnny Cash won 2 Grammys for *A Boy Named Sue*. Elvis re-appeared in concert, and The Beatles went their separate ways.
- Within a month, heroin and barbiturates took the lives of Janis Joplin and Jimmy Hendrix.

## AT SOUTH

- Vice Principal Capes replaced Mr. Carson.
- Cathy Osborne became the 1st female Student Council President in over a decade. (She lived just down the road from me.)
- The school theatrical production of *Oh What A Lovely War* opened in late January. The advanced ticket price was \$1.75, changing to \$2.00 at the door.
- The school newspaper, *The Confederate*, ceased to exist over the 1969–70 period and re-emerged as *Floyd*, named after Editor Herm Goodden's cat who had recently passed on. Controversy and scandal plagued *Floyd*, and it was shut down by Principle Mann. The format of *Floyd* was much changed from *The Confederate*, and no Form News or Sports activity were reported.
- From my own vivid memory comes the spectacular account of the Senior Football Team. The team had the lowest average player weight in the City, due in part to defensive backs Al Bocking, Rob Haddow and Paul Senuita, and ferocious middle linebacker Bruce Sinclair. What we lacked in weight, we made up for with sheer determination, grit and superior athletic ability. Quarterback Brian Rice was responsible for getting points for us on the scoreboard while the heavyweights did their best to keep the other teams off the scoreboard. Not only did the Lions go undefeated during the regular season, not one touchdown was scored against us, proving size isn't everything! What a glorious finish to the year it would be to beat Westminster in the finals! Due to our record, that year, we had home field advantage. But as it turned out, terrible rain the days before the playoff forced us to play at Montcalm and not South. That day for the first time that season, the other team did score—not one, but two touchdowns, and we were unable to pull out a victory. There went our happy ending and one of my biggest regrets of high school, right up there with missing our final year's picture day and some things to do with girls. By the way, how is it that the whole Hockey Team, including me, missed the 1970 Yearbook? There has to be a plot against me. I think I need a moment.

# 1971

## IN THE NEWS

- On January 25, 1971, Charles Manson was found guilty of the Tate/LaBianca murders and sentenced to death; his sentence was later converted to life when California abolished the death penalty.
- 1971 marked the start of the digital age when the microprocessor was invented.
- Greenpeace was born.
- The New York Times began to publish The Pentagon Papers on June 13 showing the US Government had been lying to the American people, mostly about the political and military involvement in the Vietnam War.
- John Robarts ended his 10-year term as Premier of Ontario, with Bill Davis taking over.
- In fashion, it was all about individuality, with Vogue declaring: "There are no rules in the fashion game now." Corduroy and flare jeans, velour pantsuits, perma-press dress shirts, hot pants and inverted pleat skirts were all the rage.
- A Big Mac was now up to 65 cents. And "Weebles" (the toy that wobbles but won't fall down) were a hot toy item.
- The 10-speed bike was now growing significantly in popularity.

## ON TV

- *All in the Family* topped the TV list, with *The Flip Wilson Show* and many other shows from the previous year also in the Top Ten. Included in the top ten this year was *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*.

## AT THE MOVIES

- *Billy Jack* topped the box office in 1971, with *Fiddler On the Roof*, *Summer of 42* and *A Clockwork Orange* all being in the top 10.

## ON THE MUSIC SCENE

- The year boasted 5 of the *Top 50 Albums of All Time* and 9 of the *Top 100*. It also marked the year of the new English invasion with artists like Elton John, The Who, Led Zeppelin, The Bee Gees and Black Sabbath all being very popular.
- Heavy Metal was now referenced, with Led Zeppelin, Deep Purple, and Black Sabbath with Ozzie Osbourne the first groups in this category.
- Carole King had the top album with *Tapestry* and, now on their own, both Paul McCartney and John Lennon made the top ten with their albums, *Ram* and *Imagine* respectively.
- Record and song of the year went to *Bridge over Troubled Water* by Simon and Garfunkel.

## AT SOUTH

- As reported by Bob Mann in the 1971 *Acta Meridiana*, 1970–1971 was a year of unprecedented enthusiasm and activity. Our sports teams were all leading contenders and won numerous championships, too numerous to enumerate (is like count?), requiring serious consideration to expanding the trophy case.
- The school's production of *Anything Goes* in May was another hit.
- Some of us got to go to Temagami for an outdoor learning experience. I also learned that trying to write an exam while in that environment was not a good idea.
- Our graduation commencement ceremony was held Friday, October 29, with Brenda Clarke as Valedictorian.