

Goodbye To Simon's Pants On The Ground

And congratulations to Lee DeWyze from Mt. Prospect, Illinois.

Even if Crystal had not been from our neck of the woods, being talked about continuously on the 4 local stations, I would definitely think that she was the clear front-runner.

From what I have seen of American Idol this year, the paint salesman has grown by leaps and bounds and deserves to be crowned. But why, oh why do we need two hours of it. We had the good, the bad, and the ugly. Some of the performances by the top 12 were good... others not so good (Siobhan), and others were downright UUUUUGLY! (I was almost afraid that one of the myriad of guest performers was going to have another wardrobe malfunction).

Taking second place to the anticipation of the announcement was the farewell to Simon Cowell. I'm not totally convinced that the show will be the juggernaut it is without him. I don't think it is now after nine years. Video tributes, a hilarious segment by Ricky Gervais, and the inevitable return of Paula Abdul all ate time up. I think it will all come down to who the new person at the table will be as to how it will fare.

My favorite part of the evening: THE YANKEES WIN! About time. The win TWICE. The suspended game from yesterday and today's scheduled game at Target Field against the Twins.

Plus (and I can't believe I'm saying this) but kudos to the Red Sox for sweeping the Tampa Bay Rays which inches the Bombers closer to that first place AL East lead.

Plus, the Pants on the Ground rendition featuring Season 3 standout William Hung was priceless. Congrats, Lee! And THAHHHHHH YANKEES WIN!

Something Creaky This Way Comes

Tonight was opening night for *You Have the Right to Remain Dead* and what an opening it was. For a Friday night during football season with many homecoming games going on, I thought the crowd was a decent size and it is very difficult to fill every seat in the venue. I still cannot say enough how gorgeous and amazing it is to be on the jewel of a stage. Both times I have been in shows at the Huber I have been spoiled.

I thought that among the best moments were some of the sound effects. There are many great effects that heighten the atmosphere of the show and tonight we had the heater going. Not to worry, because I was for a bit. Everyone I talked to in the audience thought the noise was part of the show... including a few friends who had a great time playing "whodunit." The entire audience seemed to get into the participation act but it could have started a bit sooner. And we were promised that the noise from the heater would be addressed.

Following the show while shedding my costume and persona of Harnell Chesterton, I learned that one of my castmates is a Red Sox fan (I won't hold that against him). My Yankee coat was hanging on a hangar and Alex noticed it and we each offered our condolences to each other. By the way, the Bombers are up 2-0 in the ALDS after beating the Twins 4-3 in 11 innings.

And I think I have made a new friend who has found out about my sterling personality. the director warned me to watch

myself or she would find something to throw at me during the show. What is it that I do... honestly?

I think I have found a new favorite show that will be really hard to leave when Sunday's matinee is over. I think this will be number 3 replacing Rooster and right behind Donnie and "you-know-who."

Lets see... 14 hours 52 minutes to go...and counting.

And Yes... They Keep On Winning (some)

Not all but some... and look out... her comes the return of the Red Stockings (on Friday)... B0000!!!!!! no doubt on the war path following the sweeping of the last series. The Yanks have clinched a berth for the post season. They slipped a bit but thanks to a win or two and a loss from Boston, New York has gone back to a six game first place lead and defeated the Angels of Anaheim tonight. Just sayin'. Last season, I did not get to say that.

And it looks like the Tigers (another team on tangent's radar) will be a post season hopeful, correct, [_justj?](#) What about the Cubbies, [taylhis?](#)

Sweeping the Stockings

Yahoo! The Bombers finally have done something they have failed to do all season: completed a sweep of the rather lackluster (of late) Red Sox. The first time the Yanks have taken a four-game home stand from their rival since **1985?!** The one thing I grew sick of is the continuous mentioning of David Ortiz and his possible enhancement taking of 2003. I mean, it seems as if (the last two games, anyway) that the games were more of a did he or didn't he. I think the whole scandal has gotten way out of hand and is ruining the great American pasttime.

The series began Thursday night with a 13-6 blow.

The excitement continued Friday night into the wee hours of Saturday until Alex Rodriguez smashed a two run walk-off shot in the bottom of the 15th inning. Marking the first time a Yankee-Red Sox game has gone scoreless through 14 innings and only the fifth time in recorded history that a walk-off homer has been hit in a scoreless 15 or more inning game. A heartbreaker but the pinstripes came out on top.

Saturday, the Yankees also blanked the Sox 5-0

Finally, the first place AL East boys rallied to go up 6-1/2 games with a 5-2 victory. One thing is for sure, Boston will be looking for blood when next the teams meet up. But for now.. good luck to [justj](#)'s beloved Tigers when they travel to Fenway Monday night.

Gremlin Be GONE!

Apparently, there was some type of gremlin caught up in the works of our happy little site but I see that it has been irradiated. The past two has has been a relatively busy one in our small little neck of the woods. Friday and Saturday was our town wide garage sale in which over 60 homes participated. Quite remarkable considering the size of the town. Not only did residents of the community but businesses also came out and put some of their products on display. The local, weekly newspaper gave out homemade ice cream... well, they accepted a free will donation. The grocery had a Produce Tent Sale. It was called Tent Sale but nowhere did I see a tent only a bunch of displays full of watermelon, cantaloupe, peaches, nectarines, lemons, green peppers, and other goodies. We also had a hot dog, chip, and soda/water for \$1. I was lucky enough to man the sale for an hour Friday afternoon (would have enjoyed spending more but I was only covering for a break). But, of course, who had to haul in the pallets at the end of the day?

But once again, I had a Saturday to myself so I took my nephew and a "tag-a-long" (his words, not mine) to see Harry Potter. We left with 15 minutes before show time and thinking ahead decided to go the back route to save time. However, I had forgotten that the 3 mile bridge (or a small section of 576) is closed for the next week or so. In any event, we were about 5 minutes late for the movie and had to sit in the next to front row. Joshua enjoyed the movie... our companion did not think so highly of it although he has assured me that he has read all the books and seen the previous 5 movies. He thought it was a waste of time and he is going to see it on IMAX next week?!

Before returning home, I needed to stop by my old stomping grounds and pick up a present. While there, our 18 year-old friend decided that he wanted to buy something that he has

always wanted: a cap gun. He was like a kid in a candy store. Cap guns have changed since I last had one. They used to operate on straps of paper. Today, they use rounds of small plastic pellets. Nate was occupied quite well on the 12 mile trip back to E-town.

All in all, a pretty fun few days. Made even more so by a pair of Yankee victories (sorry, [justj](#)) and a Red Sox loss. STILL 2 behind the Stockings!

Big Papi's Curse

There have been several rivalries among sports teams over the years ([Ohio State/Michigan](#), [Chicago Bears/Green Bay Packers](#), and [Chicago Cubs/St. Louis Cardinals](#) to name a few). However, one of the most celebrated rivalries in all of sports is the extreme battle between the [New York Yankees](#) and the [Boston Red Sox](#). It dates back to 1920 when the Red Sox sold one of the most famous sluggers of all time, Babe Ruth, to the Yankees. From 1920-2004, the team from Bean Town was unable to win the World Series. Many 'Sox fans jokingly blame the deal; however, there were several more radical followers who faithfully curse the day the Babe put on the pinstripes. In order to curse the new Yankee Stadium, a Red Sox fanatic working as a construction worker, buried a David Ortiz jersey at the site. Although the jersey has since been unearthed and is going to be auctioned off for charity, I say **FIRE THE BUMB!!!!**

[The Big Dig: The Yanks Uncover a Red Sox Jersey](#)

Ironically, the curse seems to have worked **IN REVERSE**. Big Papi has batted an embarrassing .070 hitting just 1-for-29 since April 2. Hopefully, recovering the jersey will not have a positive impact on Ortiz' average.