



South Collegiate Alumni Association
Fall 2011

LIONS' PRIDE

Virtus Repulsae Nescia Sordidae



Who Says You Can't Go Home Again...?

by **Sandy Ross** ('79) of *Word's Worth*

The heavens beamed warm autumn skies on the enthusiastic 1,500+ people who attended South Collegiate's 2011 Homecoming on Friday, October 7. Student Council's BBQ fed the masses, as we discovered burgers are great appetizers before Thanksgiving turkeys. And the SCAA's Tailgate Pub hit capacity, running out of libations just in time for the bar's 11:00 PM close.

Cast of Hundreds



This reporter, who worked the stands selling 50/50 tickets, learned many in the crowd were proud parents of players. Some were neighbours, enjoying the excitement at South and a 20 Celsius evening under the lights. Others in a lawn-chair contingency gathered at the Tecumseh playground, watching over young ones on monkey bars in between shouts for our garnet and grey. And current students filled the length of the field, hanging out with classmates and cheering our teams, likely oblivious to the nos-

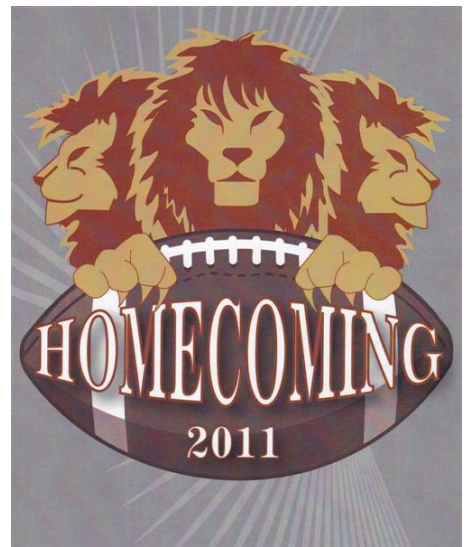
talgia wafting over them from former students who lined the upper ramp. Adding to that nostalgia was former Ottawa Rough Rider and Grey Cup MVP, **John Glassford** ('72), who returned to South's centre field nearly forty years later to deliver our ceremonial kick-off. (See profile p. 2)

Game Face

South Lions won both junior and senior games, and appreciated H.B. Beal Raiders' spirited competition. Engaging colour commentary was provided by **Jay Menard** ('92), and half-time entertainment featured singers and current students, **Emily** and **Alex Nunez**, as well as the **South Dance Company**, **South Dance Team**, and **Dance Steps**. Money was won, too! Our SCAA split \$576 from 50/50 tickets with Gerry Minke, father of Senior Lions' #55, Joshua Drenth-Minke.

And Giving Thanks

Since our evening together heralded in Thanksgiving weekend, it seems fitting we should recognize sponsors who made it possible: **Turner's Drugstore**, **Day 2 Knight Events** and **Smith Fruit Company Ltd.** Also, close to twenty alumni volunteers worked the event itself, as well as referees, janitors, student gophers, light erectors, and others. All our efforts must have created entertainment value, since local media gave us white space and airwaves! Thanks to **Mike Bloxam** ('01) for nudging coverage in SNAP magazine (see November's feature), The X (radio Fanshawe), London Community News, The Londoner, and London Free Press. We sure enjoyed a generous 15 minutes of fame.



The reason our Homecomings – one of only four by Canadian high schools on Wikipedia's list! – have been so well orchestrated is our leader, **Dan Knight** ('07), (www.day2knightevents.com). Please join us in recognizing Dan's magnificent contributions, patience, and vision as he now, understandably, moves on from our Homecomings to bring his passion to other projects. (He is, among other things, our 85th Reunion chair). He leaves on the heels of a smash hit, noting "*another great success bringing back lots of alumni for a fun filled event*".

And here's another marker of an event with impact. Among those enjoying the festivities was a South parent who's coincidentally with Tourism London, who remarked that we've "*created an event that Tourism London considers a vital part of bringing sport tourism to London*". How's that for building "Lions' Pride"?