

# Students emotional following 'Rachel's Challenge' presentation

By Julie Slack  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Tears and hugs, young men bent over with their hands covering their faces, friends telling each other they love them and strangers embracing.

There was a chain reaction at Craig Kielburger Secondary School last Thursday morning immediately following a presentation called Rachel's Challenge. It was exactly what was intended.

Meg Murray, representing the Colorado-based non-profit organization, delivered a message that included being kind to others and a five-part challenge: Look for the best in others, dream big, choose positive influences and speak with kindness. The last of the challenge was for students to start their own chain reaction, and that's exactly what Kielburger students did.

The five challenges were those of Rachel Joy Scott. Rachel was the first victim of the April 20, 1999 Columbine High School shootings that left 12 students and one teacher dead. The shooters, two senior students, then com-

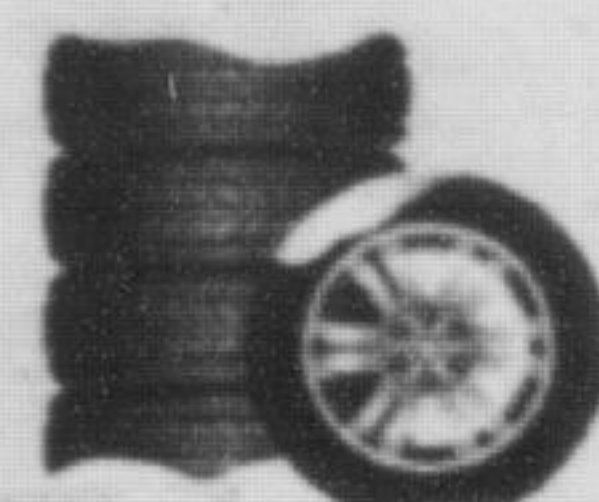


Craig Kielburger Secondary School Grade 11 student Andrew Annis hugs Meg Murray, representing Rachel's Challenge, following her presentation at the school.  
*Julie Slack / Canadian Champion*

mitted suicide. After Rachel's death, the 17-year-old's family carefully read the six journals she left behind. It was in those journals that her family

TIME TO THINK ABOUT.....

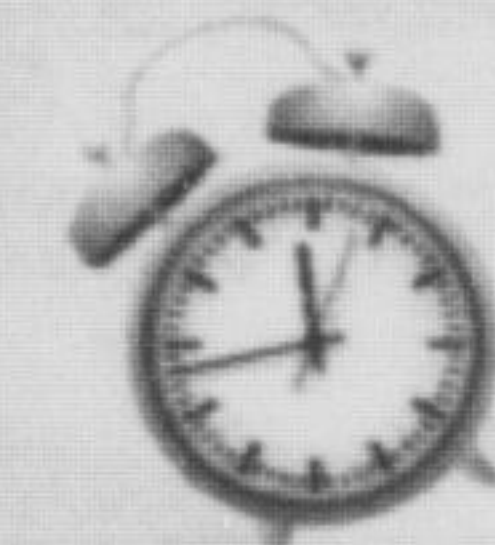
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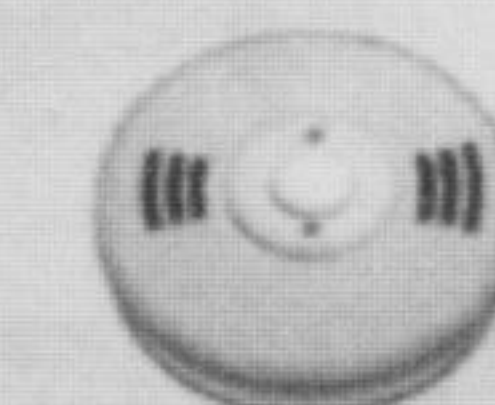
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