



News Release

For Immediate Release

Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate Students Take on Pro/Amateur Athletes Event Series Supports Families in Need

December 2nd, 2024 (Winnipeg, MB) – Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate students are preparing once again to compete with professional/amateur athletes in the 14th annual *Pros vs. Joes* fundraising event series. The week-long competition supports families in need and involves CFL players and a former NHL player, along with athletes from the University of Manitoba Bisons football and basketball teams. Some pro/amateur athletes are alumni of Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate.

"This will be an exciting week-long event with our students—the 'Joes'—matching themselves against professional and amateur athletes—the 'Pros'—in a series of athletic feats, as well as some fun events," said Deborah Einarson Woods, Physical Education Teacher at Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate.

Professional/Amateur athletes take on Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate students starting on Monday, December 2 through to Friday, December 6, 2024. Competitions take place daily at 12:20 p.m. in the Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate gymnasium. To watch, students must bring in either two non-perishable food items or provide a \$2 donation per day. Donations will be used to create deluxe hampers for 47 SJASD families in need.

Event Lineup:

Monday, December 2: Powerball and 5-on-5 Touch Football

Pros: 17 University of Manitoba Bison football players including Collin Kornelson, Stephen Adamopoulos, De Shawn LeJour, Jackson Tachinski, AK Gassama, Kaleb Mackie-McLeod, Helmon Ndose, Nick Thomas, Zachary Wynne, Kaiden Bannon, Jack Shaffer, Israel Opanubi, Jerome Fouillard, David Ochoche, Giordano Vaccaro, Victor Olaniran, and Jake Roger.

Tuesday, December 3: Obstacle Battle and Relay

Pros: Bison football players including Kaleb Mackie-McLeod, and Israel Opanubi; former Winnipeg Jet Derek Meech; and BC Lions player Charlie Ringland.

Wednesday, December 4: Basketball and Bump

Pros: Bison football players including De Shawn LeJour, AK Gassama, Zachary Wynne, Stephen Adamopoulos, Collin Kornelson, Israel Opanubi; and Reading Rockets player A.J. Basi.

Thursday, December 5: SJASD Rock Paper Scissors Championship Tournament

Pros: Members of the Winnipeg Police Service; Bison football players De Shawn LeJour, Jackson Tachinski, Victor Olaniran, Nick Thomas, and Giordano Vaccaro; and Reading Rockets player A.J. Basi. *Nine SJASD schools will also take part.*

Friday December 6: Lip Sync Battle

Pros: Bison football players De Shawn LeJour and Zachary Wynne.

SJASD is a progressive school division in west Winnipeg serving over 8,500 students across 26 schools. SJASD is committed to educational programs in which children can develop their natural abilities to their fullest extent, building upon personal strengths and the richness of our area's culturally diverse population. SJASD operates on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, the Ininewak, and the Dakota Oyate peoples, and on the birthplace and homeland of the Red River Métis. Our community is bound by Treaty One and we are all tied together through the treaties. For more information, visit [sjasd.ca](https://www.sjasd.ca).

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Media are welcome to attend these events. For further information, please contact: Deborah Einarson Woods, SJASD Physical Education Teacher at 204-888-0684 (work); 204-995-2850 (cell); or deborah.einarsonwoods@sjasd.ca.