



# THE CCS GROWLER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY COVENANT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

December 2009



## Humility and Faith

By: Mr. John Weaver, Head Administrator

**H**umility and faith are necessary ingredients for learning. We are all familiar with verses in the Bible that refer to humility. Psalm 147:6, *The Lord lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked down to the ground.* I Peter 5:5 and 6, *Likewise you younger people submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for 'God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.'* Therefore, *humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.*

But what does that have to do with learning? When I receive knowledge, it

requires an acknowledgement on my part that someone or something knows more than I do. Further, if I am to accept that knowledge as truth, it requires faith on my part to receive that knowledge as truth or the knowledge is meaningless. How much more important then, are the qualities of humility and faith in the context of Christian education where we can establish that all truth is God's truth? How much more important is it that our students know God so that they do not accept knowledge that is not truth? Those who refuse to humble themselves and exercise the faith necessary to receive instruction will find themselves giving up and refusing to ask for help when learning becomes difficult. As parents and educators, we must help our children by demonstrating humility in our own personal lives and encouraging it in theirs. We must help them to persevere and to believe in the One who gives them the ability to have faith and to learn. ★

## Round Up Ready!

By: Hayden Lambert, Staff Reporter

**G**ather round, cowboys! The 10th Annual Round Up Dinner and Auction is approaching faster than a cow with its tail caught on fire. It's time to quit horsin' around, gather your wagons and hit the trail in search of items to donate. Receiving your donations is more important than checking for a snake in your boots. The Round Up Dinner and Auction will be held on February 19, 2010, so brand the date on your cat and wrap it around your neck. If you still have questions floatin' round your noggin, send one of them new fangled telegraphs to Rodeo Queen Marga Haas, at [margavolk2@yahoo.com](mailto:margavolk2@yahoo.com). And remember, ya'll, never kick a cow patty on a hot day! ★



Covenant Christian School's  
*Junior Players*  
presents...

## The Hobbit

(adopted from J. R. R. Tolkien's novel)

December 12

6:30 p.m.

Covenant Christian School Gymnasium

Cost: \$3/person or \$5/family

## Give Your Time

By: Mr. Doug Begin, Secondary Principal

Prepare yourself for a geography trivia question. What state in the Union is called the “Volunteer State”? Do you think it is Oklahoma... or Michigan...or....? The answer is Tennessee. The next question is, “Why does Tennessee have this nickname”? According to the official website of the state of Tennessee, [www.tennessee.gov](http://www.tennessee.gov), the state got its nickname when, during the War of 1812, Governor Willie Blount called for volunteers to fight in the war, and thousands of Tennesseans responded to the call. Thank you for reading my first installment of “Trivia Time with Mr. B”.

Actually my article is not about Tennessee, even though it is a fine state and would be an intriguing topic; it is about “volunteerism”. According to *Webster’s New World College Dictionary* (don’t be jealous; you can get one at Barnes and Nobles), “volunteerism” is the theory or practice of being a volunteer or of using volunteers. Covenant Christian uses and needs many volunteers to serve in its plethora of programs. CCS could not accomplish its mission statement and would not have made it for 27 years without its volunteers.

According to I Peter 4:10, *Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.* It thrills me to see so many of our parents, teachers, and students using their gifts to serve others and our school. I see their service as heartfelt, sincere, cheerful, willing, and humble. I know that CCS requires each family to “volunteer” at least 24 hours in some capacity throughout the year, but I do not get the indication that any volunteer is “counting the hours” or serving begrudgingly. Your generosity, your servant’s attitude, and your commitment to CCS are thankfully appreciated.

For those of you who have not gotten plugged in or found your niche as to where to serve, let me remind you of the programs available. CCS has on-going assistance needs. This involves tasks like lunch monitor, Monday folder assistance, or room mother... Another area

of service entails directly assisting the classroom teacher. Teachers need drivers for field trips, SAT monitors, book readers, and the like. If you are more sports oriented, there are many ways to assist the CCS Booster Club, like working concessions or selling tickets. Covenant also has many special events and fundraisers that need volunteers, such as the Legacy Banquet, the Roundup Auction, the book fair, the science fair, the choir festival, just to name a few. If you like working with your hands, there are needs to be filled with work days and building repairs and maintenance.

The bottom line is this: CCS has many needs, and we need you! Volunteer today. It is scriptural. It is fulfilling. It allows you to meet other families. The benefits for the school and for you go on and on, and it is nothing compared to what the volunteers in Tennessee in 1812 were asked to do!★

## Change of Plans

By: Paula Ohendalski, School Board Trustee

Almost a year ago, one of my dearest friends and her husband embarked on a tremendous journey to adopt a Chinese orphan. Due to business, they travel several times a year to China. Their original intent was to seek a daughter, but, over a six-month period, the numerous applications, processing forms, and various interviews all came to a standstill. Instead of the original 12-month wait they had been prepared for, they were informed the adoption of a girl could be delayed up to three years. They were distraught. After all this time, paper roadblocks continued, yet they felt confirmation from God of His plan for them to adopt from China.

They patiently waited. Each of them heard God saying, “Change of plans.” Not wanting to disappoint the other by sharing this news of what each was hearing, they finally revealed what they felt after a few weeks. Elation replaced hesitation when they discovered both had been directed by God to adopt a son. After contacting the adoption agency, they learned 95% of applications received in China only request females due to popular belief that most children waiting for adoption are girls. Little did they know, there are many, many boys needing adoptive homes.

With hearts wide open, God led them to a picture of a precious boy. They received confirmation to adopt him and

were encouraged the process could stay around the 12-month time frame. Their hearts are already overflowing with love for him, and they are anxious to bring their child home. The pink room was quickly scrapped and a transformation began to create a room for their soon-to-be son.

The final process has been tedious. Concerned with his current well being, these expectant parents have found creative ways to show their love by sending beautiful cakes and family photos. This small child has *never* received such sweet gifts and already delights in the parents he hasn’t met. These treasures are unexpected by him. This quiet soul has no idea of the love and acceptance waiting for him. There is nothing this little boy did to be chosen for adoption. In fact, he’s seen as handicapped in his country, but his new parents see him as perfect. They chose him and committed to him. There are circumstances and obstacles keeping them apart, but these parents yearn for the day to officially welcome him into their family.

Obstacles and roadblocks attempting to hold us back from receiving the love of God and His perfect gifts will always present themselves in our lives. *Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4* God planned a special purpose for each of His children. *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11* When we allow God to work through us by sharing the blessings of our talents and gifts with others, we’ll feel the warmth of peace and the fulfillment of joy. *For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose. Philippians 2:13*

Have you comprehended the magnitude of God’s love for you? *However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him” 1 Corinthians 2:9* God has prepared a magnificent world for us that we can’t even imagine!★

*Christmas waves a magic wand  
over this world, and behold,  
everything is softer  
and more beautiful.  
—Norman Vincent Peale*



## Christian Heritage

By: Jonathan Bitgood, Staff Reporter

**T**he general principles upon which the Fathers achieved independence were the general principals of Christianity... I will avow that I believed and now believe that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God.— John Adams

Because we live in America, the land of the opportunity, we often forget the principle of heritage. However, at Covenant Christian School a day is set apart specifically to recognize the men and women who have paved the path on which we walk freely. Each elementary student chose a prominent Christian figure from history to research. As an added bonus they were allowed to dress as their character and parade around the

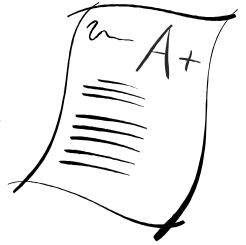
school. The day began with a special meeting in the gym where the elementary students sang patriotic melodies which were followed by an encouraging message from Mr. Weaver. Then the characters were escorted with applause and cheering around the school and back into their classroom. Once inside the classroom they read out their reports to their class. This project provides an excellent opportunity to learn about those who have gone before and remind us of our Christian heritage. ★



By: Tera Dudley

**A JOYFUL NOISE:** The Elementary choir inspires patriotism through song.

## A Honor Roll for the First Nine Weeks



### First Grade:

Theresa Bolt, Piper Delcamp, Caitlyn Dudley, Logan Freevol, Julianne Fullerton, Bay Hutchins, Michael Lewis, Hope Littlefield, JP Pruett, Emma Scott, Rebecca VanRoekel, Laura Watson, Cole Westmoreland

### Second Grade:

Allison Aitken, Savannah Beene, Avery Causey, Joshua Lowe, Emma Moody, Alia Neuberger, Madison Smith, Colson Tennant, Olivia Walker, Madalynn Wischnesky

### Third Grade:

Madison Adams, Angelie Aggarwal, Alexis Harper, KayLee Pratt, Anzleigh Thomas, Madeline Williams, Georgia Zepeda

### Fourth Grade:

Katie Boudreaux, Bryant Dockray, Banks Jackson, Austin Manthey, Maggie Martin, Jacob Mayrant, Jacey Neuberger, Jacquelyn Robles, Gabriel Smith, Graesen Smith

### Fifth Grade:

Brooke Baldwin, Madison Bauer, Mackenzie Milstead, Taylor Parks, Evangeline Schneider, Challen Tennant

### Sixth Grade:

Gabby Banks, Nic Hatcher, Nathan Miller, Ross Ohendalski

### Seventh Grade:

Luke Fox, Garrett Mayes, Hayden Pratt, Gentry Smith, McLane Zaitz

### Eighth Grade:

Jonathan Hansen, Lauren Lanier, Hannah Ramey, Lydia Watson

### Ninth Grade:

Sonali Aggarwal, Alexis Barnhill, Megan Campbell, Shannon Debord, Jessica Hansen, Alexandra Hargrave, Karly Hughes, Daylon Rogers, Conner Wilson

### Tenth Grade:

Rebecca Lewis, Rebecca Stanley:

### Eleventh Grade:

Joshua Hansen, Katelyn Holm, Sarah Lewis, Marissa Nanos, Jacob Schroff, Josiah Sledge, John Walker

### 12th Grade:

Mary Begin, Nicole Hughes, Katelyn Killian, Rachel Kotlan, Hayden Lambert

## A Letter from the Editor

By: Connor VanSteenberg, December Editor

**M**y focus constantly gets turned away from God, and the only thing that tends to bring it back is worship. For some reason, here in the city where there are all of the distractions my focus just gets turned away. But the times when I am out in the wilderness all alone with God, I find it easier to focus on Him and spend time with Him. Unfortunately, as soon as I get back to the “normal world”, I get distracted and lose focus again. My goal, since I got on my “spiritual high” this past summer, was to spend more time with God, just like everyone tries to do. So, you can probably predict my results? If you guessed that I started reading my Bible everyday and was the perfect little Christian, you guessed wrong. I didn’t do it on purpose, but, like most of you know, it just happens. Most of us come off our “spiritual high” wanting to get closer to God, and we don’t purposely fall away from him. But for some reason I always think I can stay close to God without spending time with Him, but it just doesn’t work like that.

So what does all that mean? It means that God has many different ways and forms of getting our attention back. He will give us a little reminder in the form of a song, or He will give us a strong awakening when we have turned our

backs towards Him. The thing that I have noticed in my walk with God is that He doesn’t like lukewarm Christians. It says in Revelations 3:15 *I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!* God does not want us to be half with Him or half there. He wants our full attention and our full worship, and He will get it. So many times in my life God has brought me back to Him by breaking me down, so that I will realize that I do need Him. He shows me that I am not focused on Him, and then He builds me back up again with a great song of encouragement. God will get our attention and focus; we just have to be there and be willing to work with Him. ★

## Puppet Alert

By: Catherine Davis, Educational Therapist

**D**o your puppets, stuffed animals, and books that go with them need a new home? If so, the Vistatorium is the place for them! We are creating a puppet/book library for our elementary students and would love your contributions. An example would be a moose puppet and the book *If You Give a Moose a Muffin*. Donations can be taken to the Vistatorium. If you have questions, please call Catherine Davis at 936.537.0619.



## Homecoming Is Coming!

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

This year's Homecoming will be held on January 8. The Covenant basketball teams will be competing against the Saints from Southwest. The evening will begin with the girls varsity basketball game at 6:00 p.m. followed by the boy's game at 7:30 p.m. and culminating with the crowning of the homecoming king and queen. The previous king and queen, Audrey Ohendalski and



Bill Howard, will be handing off their crowns to the new king and queen. After the

crowning, the students and alumni are invited to participate in activities the Student Council is planning. The activities are a fun way for the alumni to step back into their hallowed halls and be CCS students for one more night. ★

## Booster Club News

By: Hayden Lambert, Staff Reporter

With the volleyball and soccer seasons coming to a close, the Booster Club is busy changing gears. They are currently busy with basketball season. Booster Club was in charge of concessions for the Basketball Tournament on December 4-6. On Saturday, Booster Club provided a hospitality room for the coaches and referees. This was an area for them to relax and grab a bite to eat. In the past, CCS has provided exceptional fare in the hospitality room with food items including soups, finger sandwiches, breakfast treats, and fruit trays. Everyone involved in Booster Club was asked to step-up and serve during the tournament, especially the parents of any future basketball stars. All of their hard work and donations were greatly appreciated. For questions and information on Booster Club's future activities contact Marga Haas at [margavolk2@yahoo.com](mailto:margavolk2@yahoo.com). ★

## Operation Christmas Child

By: Gabby Lynn, Staff Reporter

National Honor Society members have collected shoe boxes filled with school supplies, socks, hard candy, toiletry items, and fun toys for Operation Christmas Child. The boxes were filled by the secondary students, and the boxes were turned in on November 19th. Please pray for the children who will be receiving these boxes and that they will experience God's love through this simple gift of giving. Blessings to all who helped bring joy to a child this Christmas season. ★

## Arm the Troops!

By: Jonathan Bitgood, Staff Reporter

S.T.O.P. has been taking donations every day before and after school from generous givers waiting to pick up their children. The funds received will be directed to the purchasing of Bibles for the troops overseas. The Bibles will first be handed out to the students to write an encouraging message. Testimonies and reports show that this is one of the most effective ways to minister to troops around the world. Zach Campbell, a S.T.O.P member, said, "I know for a fact that what we are doing here is effective and can make all the difference in the life of a serviceman or woman." S.T.O.P. members look forward to continuing to serve the community in any way that they can. ★

## PTSF

By: Dana Lynn, PTSF President

The PTSF met for its regular monthly meeting on November 16. Many events are quickly approaching that are sure to keep us busy. The annual staff Christmas luncheon is scheduled for December 8 in the library from 10:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Teachers and staff will come and go during their lunch time. We will be serving soup, salad, and dessert. Help is still needed to prepare food and to serve at the luncheon. If you are available to serve, please contact me at [dana.lynn@covenantonline.com](mailto:dana.lynn@covenantonline.com). There will not be a PTSF meeting in December. The next meeting will be January 11, 2010. ★

## A JOB To Do

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

Adam Tyson, youth pastor of Lakeside Bible Church, is both energetic and inspiring. One of his greatest gifts is his ability to preach to teens and young adults. Adam spent three Wednesdays at Covenant preaching in chapel. He based his sermons on the book of Job. The first week, students explored the topic, "God is sovereign, even through tragedy." Adam described four dimensions of Job's life to help listeners understand and respond to God's omnipotence. The first week posed the question, "How will you respond when God throws you a curveball?" Listeners were encouraged to pursue God in their own trials and give Him the glory throughout suffering.

The second message was entitled, "The Invisible War," taken from Job chapter two. Adam explained how we are in constant warfare; a war with Satan, the world, and our own flesh. He also gave three ways to help fight the invisible war: EXPECT the fact that Satan attacks on a daily basis, DETECT what trial is coming your way (Matthew 26:40), and REJECT the Devil and he will flee from you (James 4:7). Another great response followed this message, and students eagerly awaited the final week.

The final week focused on "The Deliverance of Job" and combating moral, natural, and accidental evil. Adam expressed that there is a difference between how the world deals with suffering, and how we, as Christians, should battle it. He drew the conclusion that God is all-loving, all-powerful, and yet evil still exists. If we accept that fact, it magnifies the greatness and power of God.

All three touching and inspiring messages were embraced by the students and faculty present at chapel. Morgan Garvin said, "The messages were inspiring and intriguing because they had a lot of good information in them. And I liked how it went through Job's whole life." Adam truly blessed Covenant with his messages. ★



# Christmas Musical Events

By: Covenant Music Departments

- December 4** at 11:00—12:30 p.m.—CPG at Panorama Country Club  
**December 9** at 8:30 a.m.—Joint chapel featuring CPG and the junior high and elementary choirs in CCS gym  
**December 10** at 6:30 p.m.—Elementary Christmas Concert in CCS gym  
**December 13** at 6:30—7:45 p.m.—Bethlehem City at West Conroe Baptist Church  
**December 14** at 7 p.m.—Secondary Christmas Concert in CCS Cafeteria



## The Twelve Days of Christmas

By: Gabby Lynn, Staff Reporter

Roman Catholics in England from 1558 to 1829 were not allowed to share their faith openly. To remember the meanings of their belief, they wrote a carol to disguise their religious beliefs. The song has a hidden meaning under the surface. The carol has a secret word for a religious meaning that only the people of the church knew at the time.

As you hear this song this Christmas season, remember the hidden meanings behind the words of the song. ★

- *A partridge in a pear tree ~ Christ*
- *Two turtle doves ~ Old and New Testaments*
- *Three French hens ~ Faith, Hope and Charity*
- *Four calling birds ~ four Gospels*
- *Five golden rings ~ first five books of the Old Testament (The Pentateuch)*
- *Six geese a-laying ~ six days of creation*
- *Seven swans a-swimming ~ seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, seven sacraments*
- *Eight maids a-milking ~ eight beatitudes*
- *Nine ladies dancing ~ nine fruits of the Holy Spirit*
- *Ten lords a-leaping ~ ten commandments*
- *Eleven pipers piping ~ eleven faithful apostles*
- *Twelve drummers drumming ~ twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed*

## Student Christmas Poll

Would you rather have turkey or ham for a Christmas dinner?

Turkey- 113 Ham- 73

Do you use a real tree or a fake tree for Christmas?

Real- 56 Fake- 127

Do you open your presents on Christmas Eve or Christmas Morning?

Eve- 58 Morning- 129

Would you rather have a white Christmas or be on a sunny beach?

White -172 Beach -13

## Luke 2:1-11

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.



## Gargoyles and Turkey Legs

By: Delaney Begin, Staff Reporter

On October 27, the fourth grade class went on an adventure to the Renaissance Festival. It was a school day at the festival, which means the characters were dressed modestly. The class had just finished reading a novel called *Medallion*, which is set in the medieval times. Their goal at the festival was to see the birds of prey, which tied into the falconry in *Medallion*. Due to scheduling issues, not everyone in the class was able to see the exhibit, but that didn't stop them from having a good time. The kids enjoyed watching jousting and eating turkey legs. They were able to shop at the souvenir store to buy some neat knick knacks so they will remember their day at the Renaissance Festival. It was a great learning experience for the children and they plan on returning next year! ★

## Check Us Out!

By: Linda Tatko, Librarian

Once again, the Covenant Christian School families have been inexhaustibly generous. The library is grateful to all the wonderful volunteers, parents, teachers, and students who supported the book fair with their time, presence, and purchases. Look in future Growlers for details of how the proceeds will be used.



Looking towards the new year, why not make a resolution to read more in 2010? Reading entertains the imagination, exercises the mind, and delivers valuable information. The CCS Library has several books to help you reach that goal. In addition to the classics and Christian novel, some new additions are: *Dark Side of Islam*, *Biblical Point of View on Islam*, *Growing Up Yanomamo*, *King Arthur and His Knights*, *Adventure of Becoming an Airline Pilot*, and *Woman in White*. If you need to have that very special "talk" with your adolescent, we can help. If you haven't visited the library lately, make a plan to "check us out"! ★

## Washington on the Brazos

By: Nicole Howard, Staff Reporter

Every year, the third grade class takes a fun trip to Washington on the Brazos, the birthplace of Texas. At Washington on the Brazos, there are many attractions, such as Independence Hall, a replica of where the Texas Declaration of Independence was signed and where the government of the Republic of Texas was created; Barrington Living History Farm, a representation of the farm founded by Dr. Anson Jones, the last President of the Republic of Texas; The Star of the Republic Museum, a highlight that emphasizes the people and events in which have shaped Texas.

Mrs. Nolan expressed that she really enjoys the reenactments at Washington on the Brazos. She was happy that the kids were able to learn about the tools of the time, play with the toys of the era, and see a herd of oxen. Samantha McCool expressed that her favorite part was seeing the oxen. Peyton Middleton enthusiastically said, "I loved it! My favorite part was the gift shop!" Washington on the Brazos was a wonderful learning experience for the kids, as well as a fun fellowship time! ★

## Real Drama

By: Jonathan Bitgood, Staff Reporter

The lights dim, and a hush falls over the students. The anticipation builds as the junior high drama class prepares to perform. Their stage-fright disappears amid the laughs and applause. The chapel skits were a huge success! Hilarious jokes were effortlessly and efficiently weaved in with a serious, impacting message. What made this performance even more amazing was the fact that each one of the skits was written by the junior high, and the actors recited poems that they had written. In the finale, they showed a video emphasizing the importance of giving. It was accompanied by a passionate song, paired with live guitar music from the students. All in all, it was an extremely impressive performance. Make no mistake. This is real drama. Drama is not when actors cry; drama is when the audience cries. ★

## One Nation Under God

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

Each year, Covenant hosts the Legacy Banquet as a school fundraiser. Guests are encouraged to give donations to help with the many projects at CCS. The head administrator, Mr. John Weaver, said, "Our school always has needs, some large and some small. When the costs of operating our school are covered, we can apply additional donations toward the purchase of equipment and specific projects. This year we have other needs such as elementary fields for recess, paved parking, new vans, and covered playground/tennis courts. Our vision for our school is big! God can do a mighty work with the gifts of the faithful few!"

Covenant Praise Group, the entertainment of the night, sang "The Star Spangled Banner", "Indescribable", and "In God We Still Trust", featuring soloists Jaron Haas and Nathan Welch. Katelyn Holm also read her original poem, "The Cracked Foundation of America". The guests responded to the final song with a standing ovation.

The speaker of the night was Rick Green from WallBuilders, which is a national pro-family organization that integrates elements of faith and morality into American life. Mr. Green has served as a Texas State Representative. His speech was entitled, "Is America Still One Nation Under God?" Some highlighted quotes from his speech are:

✠ We need patriots, not politicians, to invest in the next generation, not just in the next election.

✠ We have a crisis of leadership, not a crisis of economy.

✠ "Duty is ours; results are God's."—John Quincy Adams

He challenged the audience to do their part to protect freedom by honoring God, honoring sacrifice, and doing their duty in order to ensure that America remains one nation under God. ★

*But from everlasting to everlasting  
the Lord's love is with those who fear  
him, and his righteousness with their  
children's children- with those who keep  
his covenant and remember  
to obey his precepts.*

*Psalm 103: 17-18*

# Fall Sports Recap

By: Joel Jones, Staff Reporter

After losing three starters and five girls in the rotation, the team, a season removed from a final four berth, was not expected to duplicate last year's success. Well...skeptics were wrong. The Cougars went into this post season hungry for success. After defeating Brazos and Austin Waldorf, they fell at the feet of Bulverde Bracken for the third year in a row. After a hard fought match, the Cougars cried as they embraced for the last time as Covenant's 2009 volleyball team. Coach Severson said, "It was a great season and exceeded expectations of many people. It was also a good stepping stone for next year's team. I am looking forward to what the team can accomplish." Big goals are ahead for the Cougars, but so are big shoes to fill as they lose seniors Delaney Begin and Gabby Lynn.



All good things do end, but the '09 Cougar soccer team learned that it is about the journey rather than the end result. The Cougars won their first playoff game at home against Universal City with a score of 1—0. The following week, the Cougar season ended sooner than hoped for. They lost a hard fought game 2—1. Coach Allen shared, "Soccer is a temperamental game... you can dominate, but if the ball doesn't bounce your way, then you can lose. And today the ball simply did not bounce our way." The Cougars lost that regional game and did not advance to the Final Four, which was their goal, but they know that brotherhood goes far beyond wins and losses. Overall, the Cougars had a successful season going 8-3-1, losing only once in overtime.



Sadly, the season ended, but the bonds made will never be broken. Rather than winning at all costs, the Cougars will trade a victory for brotherhood any day. As the Cougars rode the four hours back, they did not blame one another, but shared stories—senior to freshman, player to player. Family.★

# Senior Teammates Say Goodbye

Compiled by: Joel Jones, Staff Reporter

**Gabby-** I got to know a lot of girls that I did not know got to know peoples different personalities. And it was a good bonding experience with the underclassmen. And I pray the girls will continue to glorify God with their volleyball abilities.

**Connor-** To my brothers on the soccer team, I wouldn't want to have spent my last soccer season with any different group of guys, you guys amazed me in your work ethic, and you focus on Christ. Defense y'all step it up next year, keep the Covenant wrecking crew going.

**Delaney-** This season was great, I'm very pleased with how far we made it, since we weren't expected to go very far. I will miss all the girls next year, but I know they will do well.

**Travis-** We all had the same team mindset. Each person knew what was required of them in order for us to have a great season. I think every person went above and beyond that requirement, and did so with great attitude and personality. I am really proud of our player's character on and off the field.

**Jonathan-** Run Cross Country "with intensity"! Because I won't be there next year to push you! Elec, you know

what I'm talking about. I may have had a kidney die but I still made it back in time for state. It was tough year, but it was still my favorite. Thanks for all the memories.

**Matt-** Even though it's only my second year, it was still the most fun I've had on the soccer field because we were close and stayed together.

**Joel-** We don't need a Final Four banner to tell us what we accomplished. We were a close-knit group and a family throughout. Y'all got ganas, and I love you all. Y'all are a great group of guys and Ali. Remember, seniors, treat the freshmen like brothers and no, matter the score, you will be winners.★

# Give Me a "C"

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

The junior high cheerleading team will be beginning their season strong with eight girls. They will be coached by Mrs. Campbell. They are very optimistic that it will be a great year. "The junior high cheerleaders are working very hard in practices to learn their cheers and halftime routines. They are eager for the season to begin," stated Mrs. Campbell. The junior high team's verse this season is Proverbs 15:30. "A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones." It is going to be a cheerful cheerleading season!★

By: Delaney Begin, Staff Reporter

# Dishin' 'n Swishin'

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

The junior high boys will be coached by Coach Wes Pratt, who is no stranger to the world of sports. Coach Pratt has coached almost every sport at Covenant in the past and is excited to try his hand at basketball once again. There will be two junior high boys' teams this year, so Coach Mark Bowers will be assisting as well.

Coach Kimberly O'Brien has stepped up to lead the junior high girls. This is Coach O'Brien's first time to coach basketball, but she is poised to take the helm after a very successful volleyball season. With a little determination and hard work, the junior high teams will be ready to begin. The Cougars are anticipating a dishin' and swishin' season!★

Coach Heldmann believes that if the varsity guys want playing time, they need to step up and show that they can play. Coach expects his returning lettermen and upperclassmen to step up by raising the bar and making it much further than they did last season. They will be participating in two tournaments this season, one being our own Covenant tournament, and then Livingstones Christian School tournament.

The varsity girl's team has several returning players and a few new additions. They are anticipating a great season and hope to make it farther in the playoffs than they did last year. They lost in the area playoff game last year against Shiner. They are working hard and improving in practices and hoping to gain experience in the tournaments. Coach John Walker is very excited about this season and ready to get it rolling.★

## December

- 8 PTSF/faculty/staff luncheon
- 9 Chapel Christmas concert at 8:30 a.m.
- 10 Elementary Christmas evening concert at 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Junior high play at 6:30 p.m.
- 13 CPG sings at West Conroe Baptist's Bethlehem City
- 14 Junior high and high school Christmas concert at 7:00 p.m.
- 16-18 Secondary exams
- 17 School board meeting
- 18 Noon dismissal for Christmas holidays
- 28-29 Varsity girls/boys basketball at Living Stones tournament

## January

- 4 Teacher/staff in-service
- 5 School resumes
- 8 Homecoming
- 15 ACSI Spelling Bee
- 18 Student holiday
- 18 Teacher/staff in-service
- 21 School board meeting
- 28-30 Junior high girls/boys basketball tournament at Woodlands Prep

