



THE CCS GROWLER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY COVENANT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Winter Edition



Teaching Christian Worldview

By: Mr. John Weaver, Head Administrator

Over the past week, I have been challenged through a set of circumstances to think once again about what sets apart a Christian school from its secular counterparts. We teach reading, writing, and mathematics. We play sports, put on concerts, create art, and have time to play and socially interact. The answer, of course, is found in Jesus and most importantly what He teaches.

A worldview, simply speaking, is how a person *views the world*. A person's worldview consists of the values, ideas, or fundamental belief system that determines his attitudes, beliefs, and, ultimately, actions. Formal worldviews have been developed over the centuries by groups of people and include such things as Islam, Buddhism, Humanism, Atheism, etc. For example, a secular humanist believes that the material world is all that exists. A Buddhist believes he can be liberated from suffering by self-purification. I have disciplined a kindergartener whose worldview is based on a belief that he is the center of the universe.

A Christian worldview is based on the infallible Word of God. When you believe the Bible is entirely true, then you allow it to be the foundation of everything you say and do. Although the Bible never uses the word "worldview," in Colossians 2: 6-8, we are commanded to be able to discern and discard false philosophy, which is essentially false

worldview (Tackett). *So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world, rather than on Christ.*

As a Christian school, it is important that we not only teach biblical truth but also train our children to "discern and discard false philosophy." Despite our best efforts, they are bombarded daily through media, friends, and neighbors with other worldviews that at times ap-

pear extremely attractive. Most of us have seen *The Lion King* with its cute animals and catchy "Circle of Life" song, but *The Lion King* puts forth a worldview, that apart from some good moral lessons, is not a Christian worldview. Independent of the development of a Christian worldview within our children, these types of things accumulate in our children's minds as they develop their own worldview. Add in TV, the internet, music, and social interaction, void of Biblical instruction, and a worldview very different from the teachings of Christ can be deeply seated in our children's minds by early adolescence.

Please See **HEADMASTER**, Page 2

**Round Up
Auction**

**Friday, February 25
6:00 p.m.
Conroe Bible Church**

Hope in Christ

By: Mr. Andy Penland, Secondary Principal

One of the greatest memories of my childhood was the many adventures I had playing in my dad's bass boat in and out of the water. Unbeknownst to my father (I always assumed he did not know), my friends and I spent many hours in the boat in the driveway chasing great white sharks, 'grass' fishing, jet fighter pilot training, and using the boat as a fort during neighborhood games of war. The boat was even a source of popularity as the popular girl down the street would occasionally come down to hang out with me in the boat. My dad had warned me several times about the danger of playing in the boat in the driveway. The boat could roll out in to the street, or could fall off the trailer with us in it. However, I never listened since the boat brought so much fun and attention from friends and always seemed so secure.

One day, my dad and I took the boat out and were in the middle of a lake fishing when a ferocious storm caught us by surprise. Without warning, the normally calm lake water was filled with five to seven foot swells as the rain overhead pounded us and made visibility low. My father first made sure I had my lifejacket on and then told me to hold on to my seat as he was going to try to get us to shore. Even though I could see the shore, the motion of the boat and the harsh pounding of the water as we bounced up and down made me realize this boat was not a source of joy anymore. For the first time in my life, I wanted out of the boat as fast as possible. Although we made it safely to shore and I would continue to go fishing in the boat, I never really played in the boat in the driveway anymore after that experience. The storm opened my eyes to the truth my father had been trying to speak to me all along; the boat was not to be trusted so blindly. In addition, the boat eventually lost its popularity to another kid's trampoline.

In Acts 27, we can read the story of Paul as he is travelling from Caesarea to Rome in a boat under Roman custody. Early on, the journey becomes difficult, and Paul warns his captors about pressing forward and that the voyage would be "disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also" (Acts 27:10). Scripture tells us

Paul had been shipwrecked multiple times before (I Corinthians 11:25), so he had some basis for his warning. However, we see his counsel rejected, and the storm intensify to the point where the men aboard are without hope of surviving as they are forced to begin throwing off things needed for survival.

The men aboard are so without hope that they stopped eating. Paul, knowing they are in need of hope, begins to share with them that an angel of the Lord has promised them that although the ship would be shipwrecked, no one would lose his life. Also, he tells them they would make it to Rome. However, the men still show no response to Paul's words and continue reacting in fear. Their hope of survival still seems to be in what is left of the boat and their own resourcefulness. This can be seen when the sailors, out of desperation, attempt to escape with the lifeboats. However, they are stopped by the Roman soldiers at Paul's counsel that whoever abandons the boat will lose his life.

Finally, after numerous days of living in fear and hunger, the men on board have a change in heart. As Paul again shares it is God's plan for them to survive and blesses some food in prayer, they choose to listen and eat. The Bible tells us at this point in the journey they were encouraged. Even more remarkable is that over the next few days they make it to land and are given a new ship which they use to finish their journey to Rome. Everything the Lord spoke to them through Paul came true in amazing fashion. Imagine how different their lives would have been had they listened to God's Words up front.

I confess to you that too many times I have put my hope in something other than the Lord, only to have it let me down or cause me great distress. However, I have always found that once I made the Lord and His Word my anchor, the storms of life are easier to withstand. I think the author of the hymn "Solid Rock" put it best when he wrote the words, "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand. All other ground is sinking sand." My prayer for all the Covenant families in 2011 is that we will all learn to fully trust in no other name but Christ alone. ♥

Power in Prayer

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

Moms In Touch is an international organization that encourages moms all across the globe to pray for their child's school and fellow students. Covenant has its own Moms In Touch group that gathers weekly in the CCS conference room. These ladies volunteer their time to lift up prayer requests and praises to our Lord.

Vicki Schroff, Moms In Touch coordinator, said, "Each week we have a format to follow, but it's always led by the Holy Spirit. Prayer starts with praise, then repentance, thanksgiving for God's blessings, and finally intercession. Each week, a specific classroom is prayed for (each student by name), teachers, and administration. Prayer requests are also very important, and we receive these from students as well as parents and staff."

Moms In Touch is a great opportunity to gather together with other prayer warriors and share your heart. Consider joining the group on Friday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30. Prayer time is both silent and out loud. If you are unable to join the Moms In Touch every week, you can join the ranks at home by praying on your own. Never underestimate the power of prayer! ♥

HEADMASTER CONT. Page 1

Should we shelter our children from the real world? The answer is no. The real world is a God-centered world that He created. We need to train our children to meet the man-centered, humanistic world head on and discard falsehood. We do this by carefully constructing a biblically-integrated curriculum with biblically-centered expected student outcomes, wrapped around biblically-centered core values. We are then not afraid to discuss with our biblically-centered students other worldviews and systematically discard them. We can also freely discuss literature, alternate scientific, historic and social views with them in the context of God's Word. **This is what separates Christian education from secular education.** There is more freedom, not less in a Christian school because we are free in Christ. ♥

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Romans 12:2

What's in a Game?

By: Ruth Smith, School Board Trustee

Recently I was reading an article that referred to a quote made by Thomas Jefferson. Intrigued, I looked it up. Sure enough, Thomas Jefferson wrote the following: "Games played with the ball, and others of that nature, are too violent for the body and stamp no character on the mind."

Now, I would hate to be one to say that I disagree with one of our Founding Fathers, but... I seriously disagree! Here at Covenant, we have many young men and women who play sports – some compete as serious athletes-in-training; some play because they love competition and camaraderie; some play because they are trying something new and expanding their comfort zones; others may play because their friends talked them into it! Whatever the reason, sporting events bring friends, competitors, families, and even communities together.

What lessons are learned when on the field of competition? Do games played "with the ball and others of that nature" really stamp no character on the mind? On the contrary, I think one merely needs to step into our gym or take a walk on our playing fields and observe

our students and coaches to know that this is simply not the case. What one will hear is definitely the sounds of competition, but if one lingers long enough, one will also hear the sounds of prayer, voices of encouragement, perseverance being taught, leadership being formed, and pride becoming balanced by humility. The fabulous thing about Christian education is that it takes into account that Scripture calls us to train our bodies as well as our spirits and our minds. The Apostle Paul apparently loved watching the sporting events of his day, as he often likens the spiritual journey to the athlete in training. Hebrews tells us that we are to "run with endurance the race that is set before us," and nowhere is that type of spiritual principle better learned than on a playing field.

Recently, one of my sons experienced a rather serious injury during an athletic event. After several doctor's appointments, MRI's, and CT scans, we learned that he would not be able to finish the season. My husband and I decided to let him talk to his coach and fellow teammates himself and to decide with them how he would continue to be part of the team. That afternoon when we picked him up, we expected to encounter great disappointment, discour-

agement, and after all, a teenaged boy lives for his sports. Unexpectedly, what we found was a young man who was greatly encouraged, who got in the car and proceeded to tell us that during practice that day his coach had all of his teammates gather around, lay hands on our son, and pray for his healing. The race that has been set before our son may not be one of his choosing, but that day he learned that he could, indeed, run it with perseverance, and that other believers would run beside him and bear his burden with him.

Thomas Jefferson may have thought that "games played with the ball, and others of that nature, are too violent for the body and stamp no character on the mind," but I respectfully disagree. The character of our young athletes is being firmly stamped daily by the authority of Scripture, not only in the classroom, but also on the playing field, on the track, and in the gym. How blessed we are to come to such a place every day!♥

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Hebrews 12:1

NHS Outreach

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

Covenant's National Honor Society has successfully finished its 10th year of donating shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse's "Operation Christmas Child." The school was able to send 28 shoeboxes! The members worked very hard as they divided up the toys to make sure all of the boxes had an even amount of items. As the "little elves" worked hard in making each shoebox perfect, they listened to some Christmas music, which helped them to get into the holiday spirit.

Along with "Operation Christmas Child," NHS donated 87 cans of food to the Houston Food Bank. As Covenant had one week left until Christmas break, the students quickly worked together to gather a significant amount of cans to donate. Through their work during the Christmas season, NHS showed that true honor comes from serving others.♥

COMING SOON...

A CCS TALENT SHOW

PTF will host a talent show this spring. Following is an overview as details are being finalized:

WHO:

4th grade through 12th grade students
30 spots available - 2.5 minutes each
\$10.00 entry fee due with completed application

WHEN:

April 28 or 29 (tentatively) at 6:00 p.m.

WHERE:

CCS gym (\$2.00 entrance fee)

WHY:

To raise funds for year-end items for the school.

Stay tuned and start practicing because...

CCS HAS GOT TALENT!

One for the Scrapbooks

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

Homecoming is a tradition at Covenant Christian School. Every January, CCS welcomes back alumni, parents, and friends of the school to participate in the greatly anticipated homecoming festivities. The first Tuesday after Christmas break began spirit week. The students dressed in camouflage to kick off the celebration. Wednesday, CCS hopped into a time machine and returned to the fifties. Right out of a scene from "Happy Days", the girls dusted off their old poodle skirts, while the boys pulled out dad's vintage letterman jacket or their favorite leather-wear. The scent of hair gel and hairspray filled the halls as students enjoyed this throwback day. Students got geeky on Thursday, sporting glasses and suspenders for nerd/mismatch day.

Friday, January 7, was spirit day. Clad in blue, black, and white, and with the help of the CCS cheerleaders, the students brought their inner school-spirit to life. At 2:45, the cheerleaders kicked off the pep rally. Pre-k through twelfth grade enjoyed this event, returning the chants of "We've got spirit, yes we do!" In preparation for the coronation, the CCS homecoming royalty participated in a friendly game of Nerf wars. The royalty consisted of Katelyn Holm, Sarah Lewis, Marissa Nanos, Corey Walker, Josh Hansen, Elec Presnell, Charlie Rod, and Collin Walker. The ladies seated themselves in chairs, with a marshmallow perched on their heads. Meanwhile, the gentlemen took position, armed with a Nerf gun and determination. The pair who knocked the most marshmallows off their partner's head would be the victor. Corey and Collin won the first round, while Katelyn and Charlie clinched the second. After these embarrassingly entertaining games, Paul Rollins, CCS spirit leader, urged on the crowd with his booming voice. Chelsea Rollins, head cheerleader, accompanied him. The pep rally was a great way to get in the zone for the upcoming night.

The junior varsity boys began the night against Alpha Omega's junior varsity. It was a close match, but the Cougars came up short. The varsity girls defeated Alpha Omega, earning a district win. Before the varsity boys played, CPG sang "The Star Spangled Banner" for the audience. Following that, the Cougar boys also came out on top with another district win for CCS. Following the games, the coronation began. One by one, the nominees were called and walked across the gym. The 2011 homecoming king and queen were Josh Hansen and Katelyn Holm! After plenty of hugs and cheers, Student Council threw an after-party. Homecoming week was one for the scrapbooks! ♥

Photo: TERA DUDLEY



Photo: LU-CHEREE DEJAGER



Photo: LU-CHEREE DEJAGER



Photo: TERA DUDLEY



Photo: LU-CHEREE DEJAGER

2011



MAKING MEMORIES: From left to right: Twins Collin and Corey Walker are presented to the crowd. Marissa Nanos and Josh Hansen draw their weapons. Katelyn Holm and Charlie Rod bust a move. Sarah Lewis and Elec Presnell strut their stuff. Center picture: Queen Katelyn Holm and King Josh Hansen are surrounded by the royal court.

We Got Spirit

By: Kaitlyn Weir, Staff Reporter

The junior high and varsity cheerleaders have done an outstanding job this school year with their enthusiastic attitudes and school spirit. It doesn't matter what the scoreboard says, they are always encouraging. Chelsea Rollins, the senior cheer captain, said, "It has been awesome to have a varsity cheer squad this year. Cheering with these girls has not only drawn us closer together, but closer to God as well. It's a blessing to know that doing what we love can put a smile on other people's faces."

Led by Mrs. Campbell, the cheerleaders practice and make preparations for games twice a week. Their passion for cheerleading, combined with their love for God, makes for a wonderful experience at each home game. Paige Holub, the only junior on the squad, said, "I'm so proud of our ladies because no matter what happens, when we get out there, we're not putting our energy in seeking approval or glorifying the crowd or the players or ourselves, but we're there for God because He is our number one!" ♥

Baskets of Fun

By: Zach Ramey, Staff Reporter

The junior high girls' basketball team has been giving its all this season. Coach Kim O'Brien has invested much time into this great group of girls. So far, the junior high girls have played nine games and have won five of them. The girls have participated in two tournaments and will finish the season with a district tournament.

In the Faith West Tournament, the girls were eliminated by a total of two points. In January, the team brought home the 2nd place trophy from the Alpha Omega Tournament. When asked what her expectations for the rest of the upcoming season were, Coach O'Brien answered, "My expectations for the girls are for them to give their all in every game, win or lose, while glorifying God along the way." The girls have done well this season. Finish strong, Cougars! ♥



Hoop-Dee-Doo

By: Seth Fox, Staff Reporter

This year, the junior high boys have enough spry young athletes to support two teams. This enables the less experienced players to gain more playing time in order to improve and have some fun.

The junior high boys' basketball team is having a stunning and successful year. Starter Luke Fox states constantly that they want to improve and are having fun. A snapshot of this club's tenacity occurred during the Faith West Tournament where they played two games the first day of competition; the following day they played an epic five games, including three against Cypress Christian. The boys won two of the three with the most important being the championship game to win the tournament.

The boys took second in the Alpha Omega Tournament, with two losses against BVCHEA. Cole Bowers was awarded the Tournament's Most Valuable Player trophy. With a few remaining games, the team prepares for its final district tournament. Play hard, boys! ♥



Nothin' But Net

By: Melissa Walker, Staff Reporter

The Lady Cougars are out on the hunt for the 2011 basketball season. Coach Walker has set a goal that every game is just another step to the playoffs. With that thought in mind, the ladies came out determined to play their best. During preseason, the Cougars played in three basketball tournaments and several other warm-up games. The girls placed first in both the Livingstones Tournament and the Lifestyle Tournament. Both the varsity girls and boys teams travelled to San Antonio over Christmas break for one last preseason tournament. The girls played at San Antonio Lutheran against some tough competitors. After three days of rough play, the girls found themselves playing for third place. The Cougars defeated Episcopal to win the third place title. After the tournaments, the Lady Cougars played in one last preseason game against Pasadena First Baptist. The girls were able to gain another victory and more confidence for the District season ahead. Good luck, Ladies! ♥

Hoopin' It Up

By: Tyler Holm, Staff Reporter

The 2010-2011 basketball season is well under way. The varsity boys have already played in three tournaments and played many non-tournament games, in preparation for the district season. The first of these tournaments was their own, the Covenant Christian Tournament, where they played four games and won them all, taking home the first place plaque for the second year in a row. Josh Hansen and Tyler Holm were awarded all-tournament medals for their play during the tournament.

The second tournament was the Cypress Christian Tournament which included many schools larger than Covenant; the Cougars were resilient and took home the third place trophy. Tyler Holm was selected to the all-tournament team.

The third and final tournament was held at Bracken Christian School in Bulverde, Texas. This tournament was good experience and exposure for the Cougars, but they did not come out with the desired result. The Cougars played three games during the tournament, including two very good TAPPS 2A state contenders, Austin Waldorf and New Braunfels Christian. Despite losing to these two teams, they got a glimpse of some of the better 2A schools. Overall, the tournament was a good experience.

After the tournaments, district play began for the Cougars where every game takes on new importance and value. The first of these games was at Homecoming against Alpha Omega. Fueled by school pride and the desire to play well in front of a big crowd, the Cougars came out and thoroughly routed the lions of Alpha Omega. That win was the first of many to come in the district season. The second district game was against the stars of Beren Academy. This game did not go according to plan, as the Cougars lost a very close game. With the tough district road ahead of them, the Cougars will get to see just how good they are. ♥



Photo: JOSH HAYES

FAST BREAK: Tyler Holm drives down the court to create a two-point opportunity for the Cougars.

Library News

By: Mrs. Linda Tatko, Librarian

The library staff would like to thank all the students and parents who supported the 2010 book fair. Because of your participation, it was another successful sale. We will use the profits to purchase a new barcode scanner, enhance the Accelerated Reader program, and upgrade the library for all to enjoy.



This year's Spring Used Book Sale will be held in the library May 10-13, 2011. Donations of your appropriate, gently-read books will be accepted beginning on April 26. Most items will be priced from \$.50 to \$1.00. Plan to come and pick up some bargains for summer reading for yourself and your students.

Calling all students who have a birthday coming up this spring, have you enrolled in the 2010-2011 Birthday Book Club, yet? We would love to add a book to our collection to honor you. To participate, bring \$15 to the library to cover the cost of the book and let Mrs. Tatko know the date of your birthday. Then, you can pick out which book you would like to donate. We want to see you at the birthday party at the end of the year. ♥

Golf Marathon
Follow up:
A special thanks to
Club House
Sponsors:
Brighter Vistas
and
McKenzie's
Bar-B-Que

SECOND 9 WEEKS HONOR ROLL

First Grade:

Zoe Angelo
Michael Brinkley
Georgia Ann Everett
Brittany Hood
Lexi McCann
Emma Owens
Tara Rod
Emily Stripling
Elizabeth VanRoekel
Brady Westmoreland

Second Grade:

Collin Bolleter
Theresa Bolt
Richard Bundy
Piper Delcamp
Caitlyn Dudley
Logan Freevol
Julianne Fullerton
Wade Harper
Bay Hutchins
Jaxon Lafitte
Noah Lapell
Michael Lewis
Hope Littlefield
Maleah Moses
Justin Pruet
Zachary Rebstock
Emma Scott
James Scott
Kaylee Trotter
Matthew Tucker
Rebecca VanRoekel
Laura Watson

Third Grade:

Allison Aitken
Avery Causey
Caleb Dieckhoff

Joshua Lowe
Colson Tennant

Fourth Grade:

Madison Adams
Angelie Aggarwal
Thomas Clark
Corinne Eckert
Alexis Harper
Peyton Middleton
KayLee Pratt
Anleigh Thomas
Zachary Wall
Madeline Williams
Georgia Zepeda

Fifth Grade:

Tyler Bachmann
Katie Boudreaux
Bryant Dockray
Sara Hauser
Kellen Hogan
Banks Jackson
Austin Manthey
Maggie Martin
Jacob Mayrant
Gabriel Smith
Graesen Smith

Sixth Grade:

Brooke Baldwin
Brice Loy
Natalie Mayes
Taylor Parks
Evangeline Schneider
Samuel Tyminski

Seventh Grade:

Nicholas Hatcher

Eight Grade:

Sierra Dockray
Luke Fox
Brooks Jackson
Garrett Mayes
Hayden Pratt
Gentry Smith
Danielle Wilds
McLane Zaitz

Ninth Grade:

William Allen
Lindsey Buras
Lauren Lanier
Hannah Ramey
Lydia Watson
Alexis Youst

Tenth Grade:

Sonali Aggarwal
Geneva Clark
Ali Hargrave
Daylon Rogers
Taylor Terry
Conner Wilson

Eleventh Grade:

Seth Fox
Tyler Holm
Paige Holub
Becca Lewis
Rebecca Stanley

Twelfth Grade:

Josh Hansen
Katelyn Holm
Sarah Lewis
Marissa Nanos
Josiah Sledge

The BUZZ About the BEE

By: Mrs. Tami Campbell, Spelling Bee Coordinator

Covenant Christian School entered six students in the ACSI District Spelling Bee held at Alpha Omega Academy in Huntsville on Friday, January 14, 2011. There were 14 schools represented at the spelling bee. The representatives from Covenant Christian School were: Caleb Dieckhoff~ 3rd grade, Madeline Williams~4th grade, Zachary Wall~4th grade, Katie Boudreaux~5th grade, Evangeline

Schneider~ 6th grade and Nicholas Hatcher~7th grade.

Our top honors went to Nic Hatcher who placed first in the 7th grade competition. Nic continued to the district spell-off to compete for a chance to represent Covenant in the Regional Bee in Dallas. Although Nic is not going to Dallas this year, he is determined to go next year.

“BEE” sure to congratulate all of the participants for representing our school at this ACSI event. Thank you to these students for taking the time to study their extensive word lists and prepare for this event. They honored God and Covenant Christian School during this competition. ♥

Editorial

By: Rebecca Stanley, Winter Edition Editor

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5). Light is defined as natural agents that stimulate sight and make things visible. Scientifically, it consists of different wavelengths of electromagnetic radiation and is composed of small packets of energy called photons. So why would our Creator refer to Himself as the Light of the World? There may be more than one reason.

For example, God displays Himself in three forms, God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Light comes in many forms based on different wavelengths and frequency. Although many forms of light are not visible, it doesn't mean they don't exist, they are only different frequencies or amounts of energy. The importance of light is its ability to interact with matter. This characteristic separates Christ our Lord from the false earthly gods. For Christ has and does interact with His creation. In particular, a mirror shows our reflection by reflecting light, in the same way, we as Christians are able to reflect Christ' love and the fruits of the Spirit to others around us.

The fastest speed in which matter can move is the speed of light, which measures 299,792,458 meters per second. The speed of light resembles a universal speed limit, in which everything's speed is relative. Everything in our daily lives and society is based on individuals' beliefs on God and their moral worldview. Nothing in the universe is able to move at the speed of light with a non-zero rest mass. In the same manner, no one or nothing can even come near to the righteousness and might of the Living God.

As scientists continue to search for the "Theory of Everything", light and its unique universal properties continue to astound physicists within the vastness of space and the interactions within tiny atomic and subatomic particles. Although no human will ever comprehend the complexity of God's creation, learning more about His creation only continues to reflect His power. Lord Kelvin put it simply, "Do not be afraid of being free thinkers! If you think strongly enough you will be forced by science to belief in God, which is the foundation of all religion. You will find science not antagonistic but helpful to religion." ♥

43 Years, 7 Schools, 500 Wins

By: Tyler Holm, Staff Reporter

After 43 years of coaching, the legendary and ageless coach, Darwood Heldmann, reached the 500 win milestone. The date of this historic event achieved by the longtime basketball coach was November 19, 2010, against the Wolverines of Woodlands Preparatory Academy. The game proved not to be much of a challenge for the Cougars and Coach Heldmann, as they rolled through the Wolverines at home. This win pushed the coach from the nor-

mal 499 wins to the very special and significant 500 win mark. Coach Heldmann has coached 43 years and for 7 different schools since 1967 when he started his coaching career. Of his 500+ wins, one of his most memorable wins was in his 1st year of coaching when his 3-11 team defeated a team in a tournament that they previously lost to by 30. This was just one of his many memorable wins and coaching experiences throughout his long coaching career. As for coaching in the future, he said that if he continues to enjoy coaching, he will continue to coach. To answer whether or not he'll see his 600th win, Coach Heldmann says, "Possibly" with a sly grin on his face. ♥

A Selfless Gift

By: Zach Ramey, Staff Reporter

Theresa Bolt wanted to do something new and fun for her 8th birthday that the Pi Beta Phi Patient/Family Library would never forget. Would you give up presents on your birthday? Well Theresa did. Theresa's 8th birthday was on November 27, and she had her party and invited all her friends in her class to join her. She asked her classmate girl friends not to get herself presents, but instead to bring board games and books. Theresa and a couple of other girls, Hope Littlefield, Maleah Moses, and Julianne Fullerton, went to Texas Children's Hospital and delivered the books and board games to the Pi Beta Phi Library. The library's coordinator Julia Allison was so grateful to the girls and wrote them a letter of thanks. Julia Allison stated that this 8th birthday celebration will have such a lovely impact on those who visit the Pi Beta Phi Patient/Family Library looking "for something FUN to do!" ♥



Photo: JOYCE BOLT

BIRTHDAY GIRL GIVER: Theresa Bolt and her friends deliver books and board games to the Pi Beta Patient/ Family Library for children to enjoy during their stay at Texas Children's Hospital.

This Is a Test

By: Becca Lewis, Staff Reporter

The junior high drama performed a marvelous and quite humorous play during chapel on Wednesday, December 8, later followed by an evening performance on that Friday. The stage was set up to mimic a typical high school classroom with student-filled desks and a teacher's desk sitting in the corner. The play portrayed all of the anxieties and stressed emotions that students feel before their semester finals. Danielle Wilds played the part of a stressed out tenth grader named Ellen, who could not remember what she had studied the night before. Hannah Bates played Ellen's best friend, Lois. Corbin VanSteenberg played a classic high school nerd named Pat. Nate Miller had the role of Chris, a teacher's pet, who constantly asked how much time remained for the test. Luke Fox played "The Voice" that acted as Ellen's conscience throughout the play. Paige Terry and Garrett Mayes played the parts of Ellen's fickle parents. Hayden Pratt was a blunt teacher named Mr. Williams. John Stephens played Bubba, a dull witted cowboy who did not care about the test. The girly girls of the play were Hallie Bryant and Kailee Fore. Last, but certainly not least, the hilarious yet distracting voices inside Ellen's head, also known as Thing 1, Thing 2, and Thing 3, were played by Nic Hatcher, Mackenzie Hogan, and Gentry Smith. The audience laughed as the junior high performance gave a funny perspective of how all students feel before and during tests. This play was a perfect way to end the week before final exams. ♥

February

- 10 Open House
- 12 Montgomery County Right to Life Student Oratory Contest
- 16 Jump Rope for Heart
- 21 President's Day (No school)
School Board Meeting
- 25 Round Up Auction

March

- 3 ACSI Choir Festival
- 13 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 14-18 Spring break
- 21 School board meeting
- 24 Science fair
- 31-April 1 High school play at Crighton

Go Make Disciples

By: Becca Lewis, Staff Reporter

Deidre Bevers, a 2006 CCS graduate, was called to do mission work with North Korean refugees in South Korea this past summer. She said, "Korea was not my country of choice to go to, and I knew absolutely nothing about North Korea. However, now, I am very glad that South Korea is the country God sent me to, and I am very thankful for the opportunity that I had to work with North Korean refugees." Deidre, along with nine other Americans, worked with the refugees (ages 16-26) at a Christian school. She felt emotionally moved by their life stories. She roomed with seven of the girls that she taught and learned a lot about the distressing times that they have all been through.

Deidre said, "When North Koreans escape from their country, it is very risky, and they endure many hardships. The goal for many of them is to make it into South Korea where they will be safe and granted full citizenship, but it is rare for refugees, or North Korean defectors, to actually make it safely there." North Korea is under the power of Kim Jung

Il, and he controls the country just like Hitler or Stalin. There are many prison camps scattered throughout North Korea. The people suffer from poverty and hunger. These reasons alone cause the people of North Korea to attempt escape. Some cross a river into China, but if China discovers their secret, then they send them back to prison camps in North Korea. If girls are caught, then they are sold into human trafficking or slavery. The success rate of escaping is very low.

Deidre was very emotionally shaken by the refugees' tragic stories. She said that because of their tough lives, they questioned God's goodness. Her response out of awareness of God's goodness was, "The more my eyes were opened to the depravity of this world, the more I knew that God is good. We are some messed-up people, but God adopts us and breathes life into us anyway, and that is good!"

Deidre closes by discussing the impact of the eye-opening experience God placed in front of her. "Through my experience this summer, I have also learned about unreached people groups. This is basically a group of people that has limited or no access to the Gospel, and there are actually 6,918 unreached

people groups right now (according to joshuaproject.net). North Koreans would be an example of this group. God has really broken my heart for these people, and I would love to use my life to work with one of these groups. I believe that as a follower of Christ, I have been called to "make disciples", so whatever I do and wherever I am, this is what I hope I am doing. To be a little clearer though, I would love to serve the Lord overseas, but I am not sure yet if this is what I will do with my life."♥

The teachers and staff
thank the PTF
for the scrumptious,
Christmas luncheon.
The food and
fellowship was much
appreciated!