



THE CCS GROWLER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY COVENANT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

May 2011



A Year in Review

By: Mr. John Weaver, Head Administrator

As we enter into our final month of school, it is time to give thanks to our great God for all He does at CCS. Sometimes we get caught up in the negative things we deal with on a day to day basis. Discipline, what we wear, not doing our homework, budget difficulties, a friendship under duress, and other things can consume us and diminish the lives the Lord has called us to: lives full of joy, living each moment for Him, and lives moving forward both spiritually and academically. I would like to spend a few short paragraphs reminding us of what the Lord has done at Covenant this year. When you look back, it is truly amazing.

The first thing that comes to mind is the continued development I see as a family and community devoted to God. Nowhere was this more evident than in the service and care that was demonstrated several times this year in ministering to families with devastating loss in their family. I saw people literally come out of the woodwork and provide comfort, food, meet physical and financial needs, all as the Covenant family. Self or resources were never an issue. Gifts of the Spirit were evident at so many levels. God designed us to be a body of individuals with individual gifts, operating in His Spirit as one. I saw that very clearly at Covenant this year.

Second, we desire to equip our children academically to be productive part of our society. We want them to be

equipped, not only to work within our society, but also to be witnesses of Jesus in that society. This year Josiah Sledge is our first ever National Merit Finalist. This means he is in the top one-half of one percent of all high school graduates. It looks like all of our graduates will once again move on into college life or into some ministry opportunities. This past week, we had the opportunity to hear a recent graduate, Joel Jones, share at a chapel what God is doing in his life at the Honors Academy. Our standardized testing results are annually well above national norms. Students this year participated in and brought back numerous awards in speech, spelling, math, and science competitions. Most importantly they represented the Lord well through their demeanor, character, and level of excellence.

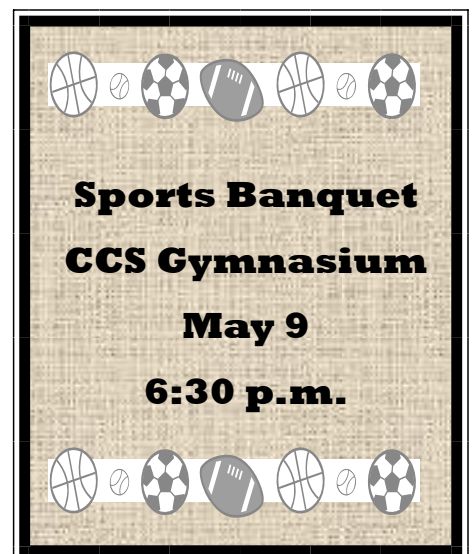
Third, we have a fine arts program that any large school would love to have. Our elementary and junior high choirs received superior ratings at the ACSI Music Festival. Our high school choir, for the second consecutive year and for the third out of the past four years, is TAPPS 2A state champion. Our drama department just presented an excellent production of *Alice in Wonderland* at the historic Crighton Theatre. Our art department continues to put out award winning art. This year we had over twenty participants in the prestigious George Bush Library Competition. Five students garnered first place awards and their art will be permanently displayed at the library. Many others are awaiting the results of the annual ACSI competition.

Fourth, we continue to perform well athletically. Our cross country team won the TAPPS 2A state championship. Last year's baseball finished in the final four. Our girl's volleyball and basket-

ball teams won district championships. Our men's soccer and basketball team once again went into the second round of the playoffs. Volleyball player Kelly Wiesmann received a full scholarship to Louisiana Tech. Senior Josh Hayes is in the running for Montgomery County Scholar Athlete of the Year. Most importantly, all of our numerous athletes learned skills such as teamwork, discipline, hard work, and how to win and lose. These are helpful lessons that they will carry on into the rest of their lives.

Finally, we served our community. Covenant students are everywhere. We led Bible studies, participated in leadership roles at church camps and competed in 4H and county fairs. We washed dogs, served in homeless shelters, and sang at nursing homes. We participated as a group at both the Willis and Conroe National Day of Prayer ceremonies. We traveled throughout the country and overseas as missionaries.

In short, during this past year, Covenant Christian School students have truly continued to strive to "do all to the glory of God."*



Sports Banquet
CCS Gymnasium
May 9
6:30 p.m.

Six-Man Football

By: Paula Ohendalski, School Board Trustee

For many years, the topic of football has been heartily discussed throughout our halls and boardroom. This spring, a Football Committee was formed and has met with prospective junior high parents and players. While commitment level and strategic points are still being contemplated, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce six-man football to those of you not familiar with this variation of the gridiron sport.

It was invented in 1934 by Stephen Epler, a high school coach from Chester, Nebraska. Fighting low enrollment during the Great Depression, Epler was seeking an opportunity for his limited number of athletes to play football. By 1938, this unique game made its way to Texas gaining the attention of the UIL (University Interscholastic League). This led to official sanctioning of six-man football for Texas public schools and had an amazing 55 teams compete the very first year. In the 1940s, once small towns such as Friendswood, Katy

and Pearland, were also active participants. Today six-man football is thriving due to lower population in many single-school towns, which have as few as 12 to 14 students playing football each year. It has also proved a wonderful option for private schools that can't support an 11-man program. Consequently, fewer players equal lower equipment costs and feasible start-up.

The state of Texas has approximately 127 public schools and 109 private schools participating. The sport is also played by high schools in Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico and Wyoming. Six-man football takes place on an 80-yard by 40-yard wide field, differing from the traditional 11-man, 100 by 53 1/3-yard field. There must be a clean exchange of the football, and the quarterback must hand-off, pitch, or throw the ball before it can cross the line of scrimmage. All players are eligible receivers. A 15 yard distance from the line of scrimmage is required to gain a first down. A touchdown is six points, a point-after kick is worth two points, a run/pass conversion is one point, and a

field goal is four points. Another interesting difference is the "mercy rule" where the game is ended if a team is losing by 45 or more points at halftime or thereafter. Six-man football is a fast-moving game with lots of scoring that fans will love!

We're blessed at CCS with administration and staff seeking God's will for our school. The ministry of our athletic program is to develop the spiritual part of the athlete, encouraging their commitment to excellence while witnessing for Christ. Perhaps six-man football could be another area of discipleship for our school. We're thankful for all of our students and seek to be part of God's guidance in each of their lives.*

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.

Colossians 3:23 NKJV



Letter from the Editor

By: Kaitlyn Weir, May Editor

When I was a freshman in high school, I could not wait for senior year to come. When I was a sophomore, I was just excited that I was no longer referred to as a "fish," and more importantly, I was one year closer to graduation. Now, as a junior in high school, I have come to the realization that wishing time away will ultimately make you wish even more that you had cherished each moment to its fullest. As a junior, I am often asked the questions, "Where are you going to college and what do you plan on majoring in?" At first, I thought it was awesome to be asked these questions. It made me feel grown up and mature, but now it has become a reality that soon I will be out of my comfort zone, which is Covenant Christian School. I've attended CCS since the second grade, and I cannot possibly fathom leaving it!

When I was in eighth grade, a former graduate told me, "Don't wish high school away, and enjoy it. It is the fastest four years of your life." At the time, I

thought nothing of it, but now as I have almost completed the eleventh grade, I'm wondering, "Where in the world did freshman year go and when did I leave it?" If there's one thing I could take back, it would be all the times I thought, "Oh, I'll just do that tomorrow," or "I'll be better at that next year." The main thing God has taught me throughout high school is to always do my best, and if I only feel like giving 75%, then I'd better dig deep and give that other 25%. As senior year approaches, my prayer focus is often for God to show me where I am supposed to go and how I am supposed to get there, and then I have to take a few steps back and realize that God will only reveal His plan to me in His timing. That's where the second main thing that God has taught me over the last couple years comes in, which is to have patience.

We are all given a certain amount of time here on Earth, why waste it? I know, easier said than done, but, it's true! Psalm 39:4-7 says, "Show me, LORD, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Everyone is but a

breath, even those who seem secure. Surely everyone goes around like a mere phantom; in vain they rush about, heaping up wealth without knowing whose it will finally be. But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you." These verses really put into perspective how we are only here for an instant and the things we do now will affect us forever. If we make Jesus Christ our number one, then everything else will fall into place according to His plan. It is important that we keep our focus on Him and put all of our hope in Him alone.*

Summer Scrip

By: Melissa Walker, Staff Reporter

Love helping the school by doing your daily shopping? Then have no fear, the Scrip program will continue on throughout the summer. Just as before, cards can be ordered every Tuesday and picked up Thursday around 3:30pm. If for some reason the cards have not come in at that time, they can be picked up the following Monday. A member of the office staff will be available in the office during the day every Monday through Thursday to service any of your Scrip needs!*

Award Winning

Artwork

By: Renee Adams, Art Teacher

This spring, 24 students from Covenant competed in the 12th Annual Art Competition sponsored by the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum located on the Texas A&M campus in College Station. Students from 15 surrounding counties, grades kindergarten through twelfth were invited to participate.

Our students from fourth grade through high school competed for the honor of having their artwork become a part of the permanent collection of the former President's museum. The students who participated spent countless hours creating artwork that was based on this year's competition theme: "Scientific and Medical Leadership in American Health." This was a challenge because the artwork had to feature pioneering health innovations of American medical or scientific endeavors created by leaders in health fields to improve the lives of humankind. Another option was to depict specific healthy lifestyles that contribute to longevity. Historical and modern practices, past and current, could be used as examples.

Some students chose to feature pioneering health innovations. Students

like Brooke Baldwin, 6th grader and first place winner, chose to paint a person washing his hands and thus washing away the H1N1 virus. Other students like third place winner, Gabriel Smith, 5th grade, and participant KayLee Pratt, 4th grade, chose to include healthy eating habits in their compositions.

Secondary art teacher, Lynn Peverill, stated, "Every year students are given the opportunity to create something for the George Bush Library Art Contest, and every year they continue to surprise me with their innovative ideas."

All participating students were invited to the awards ceremony hosted at Texas A&M University on April 14, 2010. Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Peverill led the field trip where parents, students, and teachers were wowed by keynote speaker, former First Lady Barbara Bush. The award ceremony that followed was fabulous. "Every year the students who place are called on stage, presented a trophy and have their artwork shown on a massive theatre screen. We were ecstatic to learn that all first place winners would have their photograph made with Mrs. Bush," said Mrs. Adams. "How often do you have the opportunity to meet such an amazing role model?" Secondary student, Megan Campbell, second place winner, felt that it was an honor hearing from the former First Lady. Megan also noted that it was

interesting to see the unique styles and perspectives of the other artists. This night was a night to remember and an experience the CCS students will never forget!

The students who placed in the competition are as follows:

Elementary:

Third Place: Gabriel Smith

First Place: Brooke Baldwin

Second Place: Jillian Weaver

Secondary:

Second Place: Emily Tyminski

First Place: Alayna Holm

First Place: Mason Hutchins

Honorable Mention: Sierra Dockray

Honorable Mention: Josh Wagner

First Place: Parker Zaitz

Second Place: Megan Campbell

Honorable Mention: Daylon Rogers

First Place: Melissa Walker

Second Place: Rebecca Stanley

Third Place: Zachary Angelo

First place winners will have their award winning art on permanent display at the museum, while second place winners will have their art displayed for a full year. The students who placed received certificates of recognition and trophies. In addition, the first place winners received gift certificates from Hobby Lobby. Congratulations to these amazing artists who participated in this prestigious competition!*

ACSI Art Festival

By: Rebecca Stanley, Staff Reporter

We are happy to announce the winners of the 2011 ACSI Art Fest held in Clearlake, Texas, on April 15, 2011. The art consisted of watercolor, mixed media, tempera, chalk pastel, acrylic, pin and ink, oil pastels, and even sculptures. The following students won ribbons ranging from good to excellent to superior. They are as follows:

Kindergarten: Gabriel McDonald – Excellent; Seth Roetman – Excellent

1st Grade: Zoe Angelo – Superior; Emily Stripling – Superior, Silver Medal

2nd Grade: Noah Lapell – Excellent; Sarah Shelton, Superior; Kaylee Trotter, Superior; Dalton Stripling, Superior, Silver Medal

3rd Grade: Emma Moody, Superior, Silver Medal; Emily Martin, Superior, Silver Medal

4th Grade: Georgia Zepeda, Excellent;

Ethan Miller, Superior, Gold Medal; Cori Eckert, Superior, Gold Medal

5th Grade: Lexi Johnson, Excellent; Maggie Martin, Superior, Gold Medal

6th Grade: Olivia Holub, Excellent; Hannah Snider, Superior, Gold Medal

7th Grade: Gabby Banks, Superior; Bronze Medal; Jeremy Lockwood, Superior, Silver Medal

8th Grade: Hayden Benson, Excellent; Alayna Holm, Superior, Silver Medal; Sterling Smith, Superior, Bronze Medal; Scott Buras, Superior; Andrew Dotter, Superior, Bronze Medal; Sierra Dockray, Superior, Silver Medal; Emily Tyminski, Superior; Danielle Wilds, Superior, Gold Medal; Luke Fox, Excellent

9th Grade: Matt Miller, Excellent; Ricky Weaver, Excellent

10th Grade: Kyle Killian, Excellent; Megan Campbell, Superior, Gold Medal; Scott Lowe, Superior, Silver Medal; Dawson Wear, Excellent

11th Grade: Kelsey Fore, Excellent; Rebekah Miller, Superior, Gold

Medal

We are so proud of these students, their hard work, diligent attitude and their willingness to use their artistic ability to honor God. Congratulations to all those who attended!*

Science Fair

By: Rebecca Stanley, Staff Reporter

The Regional Science Fair was held on April 8 at Northeast Christian Academy. Covenant students won the following: Third Grade: Josh Snider – superior ribbon and bronze medal and Avery Causey – excellent ribbon; Fifth Grade: Ty Bachmann – superior ribbon and Bryant Dockray – excellent ribbon; Seventh Grade: Nic Hatcher – superior ribbon and Jeremy Lockwood – superior ribbon; Ninth Grade: Bekah Swaim – good ribbon and Will Allen – good ribbon. Congratulations to these for their hard work and accomplishments!*

Wonders in Wonderland

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

When Alice fell down a rabbit hole, she entered into another world: a land of talking flowers, rapping turtles, anxious rabbits, a deck of evil cards, and one very curious cat. The junior players, under the wise direction of Mrs. Shannon Fox, put a fun twist on Lewis Carroll's classic tale. Both the cast and the set were more elaborate this year, adding life to the familiar words of Carroll.

Becca Lewis and Paige Holub played the role of Alice, each girl fighting to get on the stage first for their "play within a play". Seth Fox mastered the role of the Cheshire Cat, channeling his inner Jim Carrey and sporting a few ninja moves of his own. The elementary students loved "Chessy", asking him to sign their shoes, autograph books, and pictures. Tyler Holm and Rebecca Stanley played the wicked roles of the King and Queen of Hearts. Rebecca ruled the stage with her booming voice and evil laugh, while Tyler brought comedy to the play with his witty remarks and outrageous dances. Kaitlyn Weir transformed into a cute, nervous white rabbit, complete with button nose and fluffy ears. Zach

Angelo was absolutely mad as the Hatter, bringing life to the stage with his vibrant personality. He was flanked by his equally crazy partner in crime, the March Hare, played by Morgan Garvin. Zach Ramey brought an air of mystery to the already outrageous plot as the blue caterpillar. His body suit for the role of the frightening executioner was warmly welcomed with laughter, as was his role as the Doormouse. Victoria Camenisch and Cameron Fowler fought for attention as the dueling Tweedledee and Tweedledum. Rebecca Miller was royally wonderful as the poised and proper Humpty Dumpty. Kelsey Fore played the Duchess. LuCheree DeJager, Melissa Walker, and Rebecca Jenkins played various roles, both good and evil. All roles were masterfully cast and executed. All three performances received rave reviews and thoroughly captivated the crowd. Thank you, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. DeJager, for decorating the stage with beautiful props and paintings, making the play larger than life! Also to the crew, Charlie Rod, Josh Hansen, Josiah Sledge for lighting up the stage and cueing music. Thank you, Chelsea Rollins and Katelyn Holm, for bringing the characters alive with hair and makeup and, of course, Mrs. Fox for her directing, creativity, and patience! Praise God for an awesome production!*

Spanish Club

By: Seth Fox, Staff Reporter

Spanish club is a fun group of volunteers who is a blessing to the community. A few weeks ago they went out to Los Pericos to celebrate their year of hard work and fun. In Spanish Club they read books, sing songs, and do arts and crafts with pre-k students at Sam Houston Elementary. The goal for the club is to connect with the children and help them learn. This year the Spanish Club feels that they did well and the kids seemed to really enjoy the experience. Kaitlyn Weir a Spanish Club member said, "My favorite thing about Spanish club is the interaction with the kids and doing activities with them. It's an enjoyable and humbling experience."*



PTF

By: Zach Ramey, Staff Reporter

As the final days of this school year approach, PTF is still busy. In April, they set up the hospitality room for the ACSI Accreditation Team and then hosted the talent show. Currently, PTF is organizing the Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week on May 9-13 and is determining items to purchase from the teacher/staff "Wish Lists."

Elementary students are always very enthusiastic participants during Appreciation Week, and we hope secondary students will continue the trend this year. PTF will have "You've Changed My Life" jars in the elementary hall and in the secondary hall - one each for boys and girls. The jars will be available for "change" donations from May 2-11. The boy/girl student jars with the most "appreciation" will be awarded a special treat during lunch. PTF looks forward to the competition and to the outpouring of appreciation toward Covenant's excellent staff and teachers. Parents and students, don't miss out on a fun opportunity to give back to our teachers and staff!*

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

"Munchie" Monday
"Chew"sey Tuesday
"Sweet on You" Wednesday
"Thirsty" Thursday
"Nuts About You/Thanks a Latte" Friday

Book Fair

By: Linda Tatko, Librarian

Are you ready for some GREAT bargains? The Used Book Fair will be held during school hours in the Library/Media Center beginning at 8:15 Tuesday, May 3 and running through noon Friday, May 6. All parents, students and friends of the CCS Library are invited to visit the LMC between 8:15 and 3:30 to shop. The Used Book Fair is the place to find some special reads for the summer or other books to add to your own personal library. These will all be sold at bargain-basement prices.*

Important dates to remember:

May 3 - May 6: Used Book Fair
May 13 - 11: Books and materials must be returned to LMC
May 16 - May 20: Library closed for Inventory

Testimony Time

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

For the month of May, the girls decided to share their testimonies using Psalm 107:2 as the theme verse, *Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.* The girls were inspired by evangelist John Harper's words when he spoke to the students for Spiritual Emphasis Week. He said that no one can take their testimonies away from them.

Throughout the year, the main themes for the Bible study were God's love story, love and relationships, inner beauty, and spring-cleaning all from a Godly perspective. The girls focused on what God has planned for their own "love stories." As the girls stayed consistent throughout the year, they were able to meet almost every week. They have grown very close as sisters in the Lord and are ready to start next year's Bible study.*



Little Caps; Big Diplomas

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

Mark your calendars! On Thursday, May 19, the kindergarten students are going to be graduating! The little ones will meet in the CCS gym to sing a song and recite a Bible verse. Then, one at a time, the students will go up to the stage to accept their Christian character and accelerated reader awards followed



by their diplomas. After the ceremony, the students will celebrate their graduation by having a party. "It is so fun to remember how they were at the

beginning of the year and to see how much they've grown by the end," stated Mrs. Weaver, kindergarten teacher. As the students enter into the next chapter of their lives, they must remember Jeremiah 29:11 that says, "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." *

S'more Camping, Please

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

The 5th and 6th grade classes are ecstatic about the upcoming camping trip to Carolina Creek on May 4, 5, and 6! While the teachers are excited the students will be learning valuable lessons, the students are excited about the high ropes, rock walls, archery, trail blazing, swimming, basketball, fishing, and free time! The students will also have Bible studies twice a day with a theme that will be

determined once they arrive at the camp. At night, the students will meet together around a campfire eating s'mores while the camp counselors will perform songs and skits for them. "I enjoy the camp's spiritual emphasis and that the students can have fun yet still learn about God," stated Mrs. Killian, 6th grade teacher. *



Third 9 Weeks Honor Roll

First Grade:

Emily Adams
Cole Brinkley
Georgia Everett
Riley Johnson
Lexi McCann
Emma Owens
Lyn Rod
Beth VanRoekel
Brady Westmoreland

Second Grade:

Collin Bolleter
Theresa Bolt
Richard Bundy
Piper Delcamp
Julianne Fullerton
Bay Hutchins
Jaxon Lafitte
Noah LaPell
David Lewis
Hope Littlefield
Maleah Moses
J.P. Pruet
Emma Scott
James Scott
Kaylee Trotter
Matthew Tucker
Becky VanRoekel

Third Grade:

Allison Aitken
Savannah Beene
Caleb Dieckhoff
Colson Tennant

Fourth Grade:

Madison Adams
Angelie Aggarwal
Cori Eckert
Logan Jasso
KayLee Pratt
Ethan Reynolds
Zachary Wall
Madeline Williams
Georgia Zepeda

Fifth Grade:

Tyler Bachmann
Katie Boudreaux
Sara Hauser
Kellen Hogan
Austin Manthey
Maggie Martin
Jacob Mayrant
Graesen Smith

Sixth Grade:

Brooke Baldwin
Natalie Mayes
Mackenzie Milstead
Taylor Parks
Evangeline Schneider
Hannah Snider

Seventh Grade:

Gabrielle Banks
Connor Bolleter
Nic Hatcher

Eighth Grade:

Luke Fox
Garrett Mayes
Gentry Smith
Mclane Zaitz

Ninth Grade:

Will Allen
Lindsey Buras
Lauren Lanier
Hannah Ramey
Lydia Watson
Lexi Youst

Tenth Grade:

Sonali Aggarwal
Geneva Clark
Jessica Hansen
Ali Hargrave
Daylon Rogers
Conner Wilson

Eleventh Grade:

Morgan Garvin
Paige Holub
Becca Lewis
Rebecca Stanley
Melissa Walker

Twelfth Grade:

Ellie Bowers
Josh Hansen
Katelyn Holm
Sarah Lewis
Marissa Nanos
Josiah Sledge

NHS

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

With the end of school right around the corner, National Honor Society is as busy as ever. NHS is responsible for managing CCS's Used Book Fair on May 3-6. The students will help the librarians with the event.

NHS also had its annual banquet on April 28, where new sophomore and junior members were inducted. Joining the ranks this year are juniors, Victoria Camenisch, Kelsey Fore, Seth Fox, Morgan Garvin, Paige Holub, Rebekah Miller, and Kaitlyn Weir; sophomores, Sonali Aggarwal, Geneva Clark, Jessica Hansen, Ali Hargrave, Nathan Mayes, Abigail Price, Daylon Rogers, Conner Wilson, and Parker Zaitz.

NHS elected new leaders to fill the

spots of its graduating senior officers. Jacob, Sarah, Katelyn, Kelly, Blake, and Marissa passed down their roles to the juniors in the candlelit ceremony. Congratulations to 2011-2012 NHS Officers: President- Rebecca Stanley, Vice President- Becca Lewis, Secretary- Kaitlyn Weir, Treasurer- Rebekah Miller. The positions of Parliamentarian and Reporter will be determined at a later time.

Jacob Schroff, NHS president, said, "I thought being able to lead in NHS was a good learning experience because of the plethora of service activities. The other NHS members were very helpful in the many activities we volunteered at. I want to leave the National Honor Society students next year with a good example of what we should do as Christians, serving the community." Praise God for all He has done through this awesome group of young people! *

Cinderella Story

By: Tyler Holm, Staff Reporter

This year's NCAA tournament has been filled with surprises and upsets. Likewise, the sweet 16 was no different. When *The CCS Growler* issued the sweet 16 brackets for its annual competition, three of college basketball's number one seeds remained in the tournament. But who would have thought or chosen in their brackets that all but one number one team would be eliminated in the first game? When it came down to reviewing the bracket entries, no one was perfect through the first round of games. The closest to perfection was Ross Ohendalski. For Ross's winning prediction, he received a \$25 gift card to the vendor of his choice. Being the basketball guru that I am, I was very impressed with his picks, as my picks were no where near being correct. Thank you to all who turned in a bracket and congratulations, Ross!*

Field Day 2011

By: Missy Banks, P.E. Teacher

Every elementary student looks forward to the end of the school year. While secondary is taking finals, the youngsters get to participate in a fun day outdoors! Field Day has become a tradition at Covenant. This day is a time of carefree fun and a great way to kick off summer!

On Friday, May 20, our elementary students (grades one through six) will be participating in various outdoor activities from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For the event, students should come dressed in their P.E. clothes (or something comparable). The girls are permitted to wear swimsuits underneath, and the boys may wear swim trunks instead of P.E. shorts, provided they are comparable in length and fit. Below are the items each student needs to bring for this fun-filled day:

- 20 water-filled balloons
- Towel
- Extra Clothes/Shoes
- Bag for wet clothes
- Sunscreen

Parents, you are welcome to join us in this adventure, either as a spectator or volunteer. If interested in helping out, please email Coach Banks at missy.banks@ccsconroe.org. Come and be a part of the fun!*

State Champs!

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

Covenant's Praise Group sang its way through regionals, earning superior ratings in solos, small ensembles, and both large ensembles. With this great experience under their belts, or in their tux pockets, CPG was ready to scope out the competition at state! Once again, state was held at First Baptist Belton, on the Mary Hardin Baylor campus.

Stifling their nerves and warming up their voices, several choir members had solos right off the bat. Josh Hansen, Jonathan Hansen, Zach Campbell, Becca Lewis, Chelsea Rollins, Abby Price, Cameron Fowler, and Geneva Clark earned ones on their solos! In "choir language", that's a superior rating!

Next up were the small ensembles. The junior ensemble earned a one, as well as Sweet Harmony (seniors plus Morgan Garvin), Fellowship (Praise Team), Sunset (senior girls plus Morgan

Garvin), Resounding Joy (a mixture of singers), and Songbirds (Chelsea Rollins, Victoria Camenisch, and Abby Price).

CPG sang that afternoon in the chapel, which is one of the most acoustically sound rooms the choirs have sung in. They opened with "Cantante Domino", an acapella, upbeat piece, followed with "Walk in Jerusalem Just Like John" and "Jubilate Alleluia". Congratulations for earning a one from each judge! The Ladies of Covenant sang directly after, beginning with "Early One Morning", "Medieval Gloria", and "Ching a Ring Chaw". They also received ones from all judges. After the competition, Mrs. Smith went inside to receive the news. Drum roll, please! Covenant Christian School is Tapps 2A State Champion for the second consecutive year! This year's senior class now has three state victories, the most in Covenant history, posing a challenge for the juniors and sophomores in the coming years. Congrats, singers!*

From Smartness to Riches

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

Covenant Christian School's very own Josiah Sledge has become a finalist for the National Merit Scholarship! Not only is he this year's Salutatorian, he also received one of the top 16,000 PSAT scores in the nation making him an easy finalist. With this great reward, it is certain that he had to work very diligently.

Josiah made sure to focus on studying for the PSAT for at least an hour a day for six weeks before the test. Through Josiah's hard work, he was given many excellent opportunities including a full scholarship to University of Oklahoma and a full scholarship to UT Dallas plus an \$8,000 stipend. Josiah chose to go to Wheaton University in Illinois with a yearly \$5,000 scholarship. The National Merit Organization is also giving him \$2,000 a year. When asked about his awesome achievement, Josiah answered, "I am thankful to God who has blessed me in so many ways and my parents who have instilled in me a good work ethic and the passion to succeed," Covenant is gratefully honored to have its first student be a finalist in such a wonderful scholarship program!*

S.T.O.P. Club

By: Mrs. Presnell, S.T.O.P. Club Coordinator

STOP to Serve students have done an awesome job of volunteering hundreds of hours this past year. Recently, several CCS students enjoyed walking and washing dogs from the Montgomery County Animal Shelter. One important goal of M.C.A.S. is to become as much of a no-kill facility as possible, so many thanks go to S.T.O.P. for helping to keep the dogs clean and healthy for a chance at adoption.

This June, all S.T.O.P. students are encouraged to spend one week volunteering for the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation at Camp Buckaroo in The Woodlands. Each student is paired with a handicapped child for families affected by cerebral palsy. The UCP staff stages a different theme for each day, and our volunteers work together with their special camper to make sure the week is fun and special for them. Camp Buckaroo is held at The Woodlands United Methodist Church. Exact dates and sign-up info will be posted on our bulletin board as soon as they are available. Please prayerfully consider serving others in this meaningful way.

Finally, please remember to post your volunteer hours with Mrs. Holub. You rock!*

Run the Race

By: Seth Fox, Staff Reporter

The junior high track team had a lot of fun and success this year. Last month, the young runners attended the district meet placing first over all. Jean-Marie de Jager placed first in the triple jump and in the 100 meter hurdles as a seventh grader. The eighth grade girls placed fifth in the 4x100 meter relay. Paige Terry placed sixth in the long jump; Kailee Fore placed fourth in the 100 meter hurdles, and Mackenzie Hogan fifth in the shot put. The seventh grade boys placed second in the 4x200 meter relay. John Taylor placed fifth in the discus, third in the triple jump, second in the 300 meter hurdles, and second in the 400 meter. Kevin Cunningham received sixth in the triple jump. Nathan Miller placed fifth in the 100 meter hurdles, fifth in the 300 meter hurdles, and fourth in the shot put. Nic Hatcher earned first in the 800 meter and in the 1200 meter.

The eighth graders earned their fair share of medals as well. Garrett Mayes placed sixth in the 300 meter hurdles, while Sterling Smith placed sixth in the 100 meter dash, second in the shot put, and first in the 100 meter hurdles, the 300 meter hurdles, and in the discus. The always energetic junior highers ended the season strong and will add a lot to next year's track teams.✱

No "I" in Team

By: Becca Lewis, Staff Reporter

The 2011 softball season is coming to a close! Due to injuries and loss of seasoned players, the softball team has a record of six losses and one win. Despite this record, the girls have learned to work together to greatly improve their skills. Coach Jerry Henry says, "With each day they have supported and loved on each other. The camaraderie between them has never been better! They have become as close as sisters can be!"

The Lady Cougars have strived to improve from last year as each new season brings more competition. Coach Henry looks back on this season by saying, "There has been an overall maturity in their softball ability with less errors and more runs and their competitiveness is contagious. We look forward to what 2012 will bring."✱

The Main Thing

By: Wes Pratt, Junior High Baseball Coach

The junior high baseball team started the season playing in the NHAL (North Houston Athletic League) and finished in that league with a 2-5 record. The team just started playing in the CAYB (Conroe Area Youth Baseball) league and have jumped out to a 4-0 start. The combined record puts the team at 6-5 for the year so far.

This was the first year that our junior high competed in the NHAL. Although the boys struggled, they grew as a team to get prepared for a good CAYB season. Our goals have always been the same from day one; we want to get better every day. We feel like if we make improvements every day, then we will be successful.

Great things happen every day; you just have to know where to look. When players make plays in games and in practice that they have never made before, I consider that a good day. Every player is finding ways to contribute to the team in his own way which elevates the expectations and the confidence of the team. This is what I love about our team; each one competes to his greatest potential. We consider every game an important game.

According to Vance Havner, "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." This works in baseball and more importantly in our walk with the Lord.✱

Varsity Track

By: Zach Ramey, Staff Reporter

Varsity track has already kicked off and is nearing the end. With only two meets this whole season the Cougars hurdled over them fast. On April 16, the runners participated in their District meet at Houston Christian. John Paul Bledsoe took first in the boys' 800 meter race and first in the 1600 meter race. Josh Hayes finished right behind him stealing fourth in the 1600. LuCheree de Jager placed third in the girls' 200 meter race and second in the 400 meter race. Kelsey Fore, Rowan Harris, LuCheree de Jager, and Hannah Ramey worked hard together in the 4x100 meter race and received fourth place. The TAPPS 2A regional meet took place in Hallettsville on April 28th. Congratulations, Cougars!✱

Batter Up

By: Tyler Holm, Staff Reporter

The 2011 varsity baseball season is well under way. The season so far has been like a roller coaster ride, full of ups and downs. The team has played eight games so far and its overall record is 4-4, with an important 4-2 record in district. They beat Calvary Baptist twice, as well as Lifestyle Christian and Woodlands Prep. The Cougars suffered two tough losses to the district leading Alpha Omega Lions, but they plan on getting them back in the playoffs. As for how Coach Allen thinks the season is going, he says, "Up and down, hopefully we will have a little more consistency as the season goes on. It has been a struggle, but hopefully will get better. And starter Cameron Fowler says, "We've had a decent season and I'm looking forward to playoffs." The Cougars are looking like they are definitely playoff bound and are looking to make some noise in the playoffs as they did last year. Keep swingin', Cougs!✱

Tyler Holm:

Mr. All County

By: Zach Ramey, Staff Reporter

Tyler Holm has been a student at Covenant for eight years and has been active in sports since his 7th grade year. Even though he has participated in a variety of sports, Tyler has an intense passion for the game of basketball. He has been a major part of the Covenant Cougars boys' basketball team since he was in junior high.

During the 2010-2011 basketball season, sports writers from around the area were watching Tyler's amazing skill and talent. At the end of the season, Tyler received the award of being All County. He was ranked in the top five players of all of Montgomery County out of public, private, and home school teams! Sports writers determined his ranking in the top five by his overall stats of the 2010-11 season. When asked what his reaction was towards receiving the award, he said, "I was incredulously surprised with such an award. I didn't think I deserved it, but it is an honor to be considered one of the best basketball players in Montgomery County." Great job, Holmboy!✱

May

3-6 Used Book Fair
4-6 5th & 6th grade class trips
9 Sports Banquet at 6:30 p.m. in CCS gym
16 Junior high & senior high concert
17 Walk of Honor at 12:30 p.m.
19 Kindergarten Graduation at 8:30 a.m.
20 Last day of school/Noon dismissal
21 Graduation at 2:00 p.m. at West Conroe Baptist Church
23-25 Teacher In-service/Workday

June

1-2 Volleyball open gym 10:00-11:30a.m.
6-9 9th – 12th grade Volleyball Camp at Concordia
6-9 5th – 8th grade Volleyball Camp at CCS 2:00 -5:00 p.m.
13-16 5th – 8th grade Basketball Camp 9:00 a.m.-Noon
20-24 VBS Sports Camp
27-29 7th – 12th grade Cheer Camp 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
27-30 7th – 12th grade Soccer Camp 9:00 a.m.-Noon

August

9 Back to School Night
11 First day of school

Covenant Christian High School Graduation

Saturday, May 21, 2011

2:00 p.m.

West Conroe Baptist Church

Reception to follow

