



# THE BLUEPRINT



Volume XXXI Issue 1

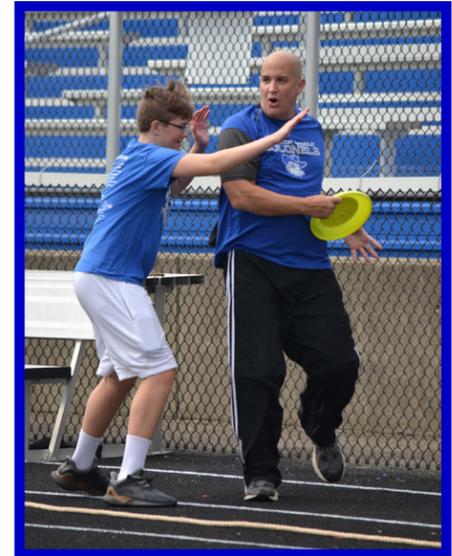
## Fathers and Sons Relax and Rival on a Sunday Afternoon

Grant Neltner

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, nearly 400 fathers and sons came to Cov Cath to enjoy their day together. The Father-Son Day is a chance for dads to show that they are still better than their sons. The competition allows everyone to have fun and compete to win in various activities.

It was a rainy day when the men arrived, and Father Hennigen began with a prayer service. The rain stopped and the sun came out to make it a good day. Afterwards, the boys went out to the football field with their dads for activities of all kinds, ranging from a cornhole tournament to whiffle ball and Ultimate Frisbee. The cornhole tournament ended up only having the freshmen and sophomores participate because of time constraints-- no juniors and seniors this year. Nathan Deimling said, "I was looking forward to the cornhole tournament and was disappointed when it did not happen." At the gym, there were dodge ball games and a free throw contest won by Grant Disken and his dad. For those who did not participate in the sporting activities, in the cafeteria there was a chili cook-off won by the Greenwells. Also, the Bengals game was on the televisions.

After all the activities for the day, the moms served burgers and hot dogs for dinner graciously donated by Finke Brothers. The sons especially enjoyed the number of desserts after dinner. Overall, the Colonels and their fathers had a good Sunday afternoon.



The Metzgers battle for the frisbee.

## Hiking Through Park Hills

Cristiano Trojani



Ms. McDonald gives senior Jude Kiely a push on the swings before continuing the hike.

The annual Superhike took place on September 28<sup>th</sup> where students were required to bring in a pledge of \$35 per student or \$60 per family. Each column kept a total for the money raised. Bosco raised the most money followed by Benedict in 2<sup>nd</sup>, Chaminade in 3<sup>rd</sup>, Kolbe in 4<sup>th</sup>, Augustine in 5<sup>th</sup>, and Aquinas in 6<sup>th</sup>.

The student body gathered together in the gym before Superhike to say a rosary. Grant Neltner, the school president, led the opening prayer followed by five other seniors leading a decant each.

Following the rosary, seniors were dismissed first to lead the hike. The hike began cutting through the baseball field and continued throughout Devou Park. Students were required to hold onto a ticket to get hole punched from teachers at 5 checkpoints along the hike. New this year, a water balloon toss was put together by the Chaminade column at the Devou Overlook. The water balloon toss was a competition within the columns. Kolbe won the water balloon toss followed by Chaminade in 2<sup>nd</sup>, Benedict and Augustine in 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bosco in 4<sup>th</sup>, and Aquinas in 5<sup>th</sup>. Back at school, students were treated with Kona Ice where they could mix and match flavors of their choice.

## Shooting On Fountain Square

Max Dierig

On September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Cincinnati area was heartbroken by something that has never occurred before in the city's history. 29-year old Omar Perez opened up fire in the lobby of Fifth Third building downtown. Perez had fired 35 rounds, killing 3 people, while injuring two more; one in critical condition, who passed a few hours later, and the other in fair condition. Officers said that Perez had 200 more rounds left and could have been deadly luckily officers responded within seconds and took down Perez before he could fire off the rest of his rounds. Perez was a Cincinnati resident for several years and was a previous employer of Fifth Third Bank. As of right now there is no motive as to why someone would want to do this. Fountain Square held a vigil the following Friday for the victims involved.

The situation is serious and very real. This happened on Fountain Square, a place where many of you have probably spent time with your family or friends. It is very scary to know that this is happening to the city we all call home. Social media made a large impact by making this local matter a national matter. It had also created awareness for the scary event that could happen anywhere in the country today. Everyone who was involved in the shooting should be in our prayers, so please keep all the victims and their families in your prayers. Also, let's keep all families in our prayers because many of our own parents work in downtown area.



A screen grab from a Cincinnati Police officer's body cam during the response to the active shooter Thursday morning at Fifth Third Center in Fountain Square. (Photo: Provided)



New Column System for Colonels

SEE  
SPORTS  
HIGHLIGHTS  
PAGES 9-11



New to the Blue Summer Events



1st Mass of the Year

## Football Is Here to Stay

Jack Davin

With the new school year starting, that can only mean one thing: football is back. Football is the most watched sport in the United States and a favorite of the students here at Covington Catholic. Covington Catholic students enjoy watching football at all different levels: High School, College, NFL, and even compete in Fantasy Football Leagues.

The Covington Catholic Colonels have continued their hot streak from last year, and as of 9/20/18 they are 5 and 0. They have had some big wins over Kings and rival Beechwood. The Colonel Craziest were in full effect with Braveheart theme while cheering their classmates on to the big W.

Student's favorite college teams have had some early success. The Cincinnati Bearcats are 3-0 as of 9/20/18 with a huge season opener win over UCLA. The Bearcat defense has been impressive only giving up 24 points on the whole year. The backfield of Desmond Ridder and Michael Warren II have given the Greater Cincinnati area a spark about the Bearcats that has not been there since the Brian Kelly area. The Kentucky Wildcats have started the year off very hot as well. They are also 3-0 as of 9/20/18 and broke the streak of finally beating the Florida Gators. The Wildcats have riding star Running Back Benny Snell who has been electric all year and been a leader for his team as they have gathered some good wins.

The hometown Cincinnati Bengals are looking like a good football team through the first two weeks. Their 2-0 record as of 9/20/18 has the school buzzing about the Bengals. Students may be getting a little carried away talking about the Super Bowl, but this is looking like a year where they could finally get a playoff win.

Fantasy Football is one of the biggest activity's students participate in outside of school. Most students are in leagues with fellow classmates and having some serious cash on the line. Fantasy Football has such an impact on Students that they have blocked ESPN and the Fantasy Football App on the school year.

Football season always brings new excitement to the students with everyone cheering for their teams and going to games. When the colonels and our students favorite teams have success it always makes the early parts of the year fun and adds some spark to start the year

## Music Review: Mac Miller

Ben Wessels

On Sep 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Malcom James McCormick passed away in his home located in Los Angeles. It is believed that McCormick died due to a sudden drug overdose. McCormick was only 26 years at the time of his death, and had many more years of life to live and music to produce.

Born on January 19, 1992, and widely known as the rapper Mac Miller, McCormick had several top hits and was a very popular rapper ever since his hit mixtape "K.I.D.S.". Mac Miller had recently broken up with his long-term girlfriend Ariana Grande, who is also a popular music artist. Also recently before his death he dropped his 5<sup>th</sup> studio album, titled **Swimming**. This album was a huge success, and is currently sitting at 6<sup>th</sup> on the Billboard Top 200 for all genres of music. This recent success seemed to help Mac get over his recent breakup with Ariane, but apparently that was a misconception. Many thought that Miller was a lively soul, who always was the center of attention. Whenever someone was asked about Mac a common response was that he was "the happiest man they had ever met" and a genuine person.

One thing people will remember about Mac is not only his impressive artistic talent and upbeat songs, but the fact that he was a genuine loveable person, who will be missed by many. He was a talented artist who touched the lives of many. Rest in Peace, Mac.



## Music Review: Man on the Moon

Chris Dames

Rap music is a fairly new genre of music that has been becoming popular in the past couple decades. In the early 2000's many new rap artists started releasing music, and they received great success. A popular rap artist is one who goes by the name Kid Cudi. His real name is Scott Mescudi, and he is from the city of Cleveland, Ohio. He has released many different albums, all of which are considered to be great projects.

His album **Man on the Moon: The End of the Day** is one of his most famous. This album was Kid Cudi's debut album, released on September 15, 2009. At the time this album was much anticipated, and when it came out many believed that it had changed the rap genre of music forever. One of his most popular songs, if not his most popular song is on this album. The name of this song is "Pursuit of Happiness." In this song Kid Cudi compares his happiness to gold. In an interview with Genius, a song lyric company, he said, like gold, his addictions give him temporary happiness; however, the addictions turn out to be "fool's gold." He claims that this is the reason he has an ongoing "Pursuit of Happiness" hence the name of the song.

One of the reasons this song became so popular is many young teenagers at the time could relate to the meaning behind this song. This song is still considered to be one of Kid Cudi's greatest songs ever, and it is believed to be a classic in the eyes of many people who were teenagers at the time.



## Movie Review: A Quiet Place

Joseph Taylor

*A Quiet Place* is a 2018 post-apocalyptic movie directed by and starring John Krasinski, known for his lighthearted comical role as Jim from *The Office*. This movie, with a darker atmosphere, came as a surprise for many. It would seem difficult to go from a role like that in *The Office* to the starring role in a horror movie, but Krasinski does it fantastically, making it look easy.

From the outside it may look like your typical horror movie, but in reality it is a new unique movie that just feels original. The movie focuses on two central themes. The first theme is that of family. The way the movie is based around the love of the family instead of your typical simple horror movie really defines it as a whole new genre altogether. The second theme is based around how we as humans communicate with each other. There is a girl in the family that is deaf and as a result they all know sign language. This is how they have managed to survive because they can communicate without making any noise at all. As a whole it makes you want to see the family survive and do well because physically through the screen you can feel the love that exists within the family.

On a scale of one to ten, I would give it a solid ten. Others have argued against that saying that there is no background to the arrival of the monsters in the movie and so the story does not feel complete. I would argue to the contrary pointing out that if the makers of the movie had added a backstory for the monsters, then it would have been just another monster movie. In fact the element of mystery behind the monsters only adds to the fear factor of the movie. However, I would like to point out that the movie is not about the monsters; it is about the family. This movie has been the greatest movie I have seen all summer. You might be thinking, "Who cares if it's the best movie he saw all summer?". Over the summer I went to a movie theater at least once a week in order to keep up with the questions people would ask me as an employee of a movie theater. I saw good movies, bad movies, and everything in between. Most of the movies were easily forgotten and the ones that were not typically were remembered for being unusually bad. *A Quiet Place* stood out in every aspect as something new and original that leaves everyone who watches thinking about it.

# NEW FACES

## McQuade Returns to CCH

Blake Helson

Mr. Steve McQuade started his journey with Cov Cath as a freshman in 2000. As a student here McQuade was involved in soccer, cross country/track, and he also took journalism being a part of the yearbook. After graduating in 2004, McQuade attended University of



Kentucky getting his history degree for teaching. While at U.K he became involved by becoming a tutor in the athlete center, and because of that he ended up tutoring the future Green Bay Packers punter.

Although he received his history degree, it was not the only major he attempted. McQuade tried

law school but ended up sticking with teaching and went to NKU to receive his Masters in teaching.

Shortly after graduating with his Masters in Education, McQuade obtained a job at St. Henry Middle School. Considering he is always involved, he became the 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball coach there. After teaching there for a bit, he always waited for an opening at CCH.

Finally, a teaching position opened with the departure of Coach Giordano. Mr. McQuade gets his wish to teach at the school he once graduated from. His reasoning for wanting to come back is for "The spirit that flows through the school and the family aspect." He felt he needed to give back to CCH considering how much Cov Cath gave to him while he went here.

In conclusion, Mr. McQuade is pleased to be back with the Colonels and feels comfortable teaching here. As being an involved person, I can see him starting to adventure into new things here at CCH especially with the new buildings finishing up.

## Another Colonel Returns

Max Dierig

A new addition to the greatest teaching staff in the nation is the Mr. Jake Kleier. Kleier so far has stood his ground here among all the great teachers we have here at Covington Catholic.

Mr. Kleier graduated from St. Agnes School and went on to attend Covington Catholic. He



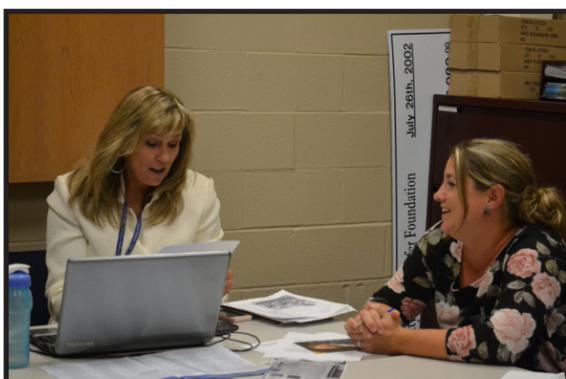
graduated in 2014 from Cov Cath and attended Northern Kentucky University and majored in Marketing. In fact, last year he worked

with Mrs. Franxman as an intern in the Marketing Dept. Mr. Kleier is a great addition to Covington Catholic. Kleier is a relative of current student Kevin Finke and recent graduate Michael Finke.

He has a great sense of humor and likes to have fun in the classroom with his students. He has a good work ethic, so you will always be learning something new and useful in his class. Mr. Kleier is a junior religion teacher that teaches several classes throughout the course of the day. Kleier also does marketing for the school, along with running the Covington Catholic Colonels twitter page.

Outside of the school day Kleier helps coach cross country, assistant baseball coach, and leads the school's community service. Mr. Jake Kleier will be a great addition to this school and will be one of the great teachers everyone will love to have.

Past Development Director Mrs. Sue Finke lends some support to Mrs. Lean (right).

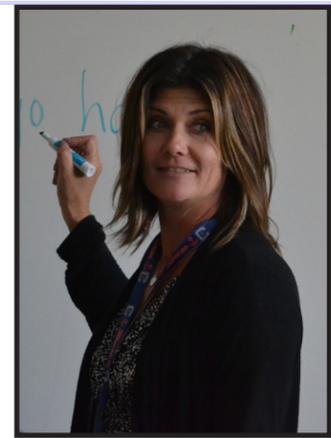


## Some New Spanish Blood

Colin Brungs

This year Covington Catholic is welcoming Mrs. Emily Seal, one of our newest teachers. Mrs. Seal taught at Walton-Verona for 3 years and at Newport Central Catholic for 9 years. She has received a Bachelor's Degree of Arts, Spanish and Education Degree, and acquired these from Northern Kentucky University. Right now, she is currently pursuing her Master's Degree at Xavier University. Since she had all this experience at Catholic schools, she knew what to look forward to at Covington Catholic.

Mrs. Seal is our new Spanish teacher and when asked if she was enjoying CovCath so far, she responded saying, "Love it, going very well, the minute going into the interview I knew it would be a good time." Mrs. Seal also had some quick advice for her students: "Speak as much Spanish as you can



make your teacher proud.

Outside of school she enjoys spending time with her family, exercising, escaping to the outdoors, and going to concerts to have a good time. When asked why she chose Spanish, she said, "because the culture and food caught my interest, so I just fell in love with the language." It's great to have someone so motivating to teach the students! Welcome to CovCath, Mrs. Seal!

## Coming Back to the Flock

Joseph Taylor



This year marks the return of Mr. Andy Zerhusen to the Covington Catholic halls. He is a Covington Catholic alumnus and graduated in the year 1995. He then went on to earn a degree from both Northern Kentucky University and Xavier University. He then returned to his alma mater for nine years teaching and coaching football before going to teach at Seton Hall for two years before returning to Covington Catholic.

This summer Coach Zerhusen could be seen helping around Covington Catholic with landscaping and general maintenance. He now has the roles of religion teacher, dean of Bosco Column, and assistant athletic director. His sophomore students this year have nothing but good things to say about him and he brings his stories and experiences from his previous Covington Catholic years as well. The Covington Catholic community is better off having Coach Zerhusen walking these halls again. We all wish him a happy return and good luck in the following years!

## New Addition to Development

Cristiano Trojani

Covington Catholic added a new member to the faculty this school year. Welcome to Mrs. Tara Lean, the New Development Director.

Mrs. Lean was born and raised in Northern Kentucky. She has a marketing degree from NKU. She is married and has 3 children while belonging to St. Patrick parish in Taylor Mill. Some of her hobbies include playing volleyball, camping, fishing, and other numerous outdoor activities.

Upon being hired to CCH, Mrs. Lean worked for the Faith Community Pharmacy, a nonprofit organization that gives free medicine to those in need. She has worked for the nonprofit organization for the last 6 years.

As the New Development Director, Mrs. Lean promotes special alumni events. The biggest project as New Development Director is raising money for the annual appeal. Being the director, she said it is a very busy job, and it keeps her on her toes every day. She said she loves her new job and has learned a lot about Cov Cath over the short time she has been a part of the Covington Catholic staff.

# Student Life

## CSC Brings Caesar to Colonels

Jack Davin



The freshmen have had a fun and exciting start to their four years of English here at Covington Catholic. These new students saw the first play of their high school days. On September 12, the freshman class had the pleasure of seeing Cincinnati Shakespeare Company perform William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*.

The play was about the life of Julius Caesar and believed to have been written in 1599. The plot features the fall of Caesar with Brutus backstabbing Caesar. The play then goes into the battle with Mark Antony and Octavius vs Brutus and Cassius. Mark Antony and Octavius win while Brutus and Cassius die.

The performance had the freshmen buzzing about some hype

around English class. Tommy Carpenter said, "It was a very exciting play that had my classmates and I entertained and excited for English." The Class of 2022 thought that the play was exciting and had them excited to learn about not just Caesar but also ready to study and learn about Shakespeare. James Napier, another freshman, said, "It was an interesting play, but there were some dull moments. In general, the play kept me on my toes and taught me a lot."

These students seem eager about what Freshman English has to offer and ready for all the challenges their teachers may throw at them. I can only imagine that the teachers are pleased with the response the students have had toward the play and cannot wait to teach these students.

## Annual Wiffleball Tourney

Jared Darwish

The annual Cov Cath wiffleball tournament took place after Super Hike this year and was successful yet again. Mr. Haders was pleased to see the tradition return after working diligently to get it going again.

The wiffleball tournament took place in the gym with its own unique rules set and students were allowed to play regardless of skill level. Mr. Haders took full advantage of the new house system and got some of the mentor groups involved. Mentor groups Ruthsatz, Haders, and Zerhusen all competed in the event. All three mentor groups had lots of talent which made it an exciting and competitive tournament. The faculty also had a team and like always played well in the event. Team Ruthsatz played well and had a good showing in the tournament. Mr. Haders' mentor group also played well but finished the day in 3<sup>rd</sup> place while Zerhusen's mentor group gave it their all and played great throughout the whole event. The faculty team won the whole thing and finished the day as top dog. They played team Finke/Knochelman in the championship game. The game was intense and exciting with the faculty eventually winning in stunning fashion when Mr. Kleier hit a 3-run homer to seal the Championship and take down Team Finke/Knochelman. Mr. Kleier also pitched a complete game for the Faculty which helped propel them to the win. Everyone involved had a great time and the wiffleball tournament ended up being successful once again.

The wiffleball tournament will take place again in the spring where the losing mentor groups will be looking for revenge. In closing, Mr. Haders hopes that there will be an even bigger next spring and that those who were not able to make it to this tournament will make it next time the tournament takes place.



## Photo Club in the Graveyard



Staff

The Photo Club went out on their first outing at St. Mary's in Ft. Mitchell. Mrs. Ruth likes the convenience of the location since it is difficult to find a time and place to get everyone to participate in an outing. These diehard photographers are mostly 2-3 year members and love taking pictures in nature. Some specialize in close-ups, while others like to create some interesting viewpoints. Come out for an upcoming photo shoot with the group next time.

## NEHS Celebrate Banned Books

Staff

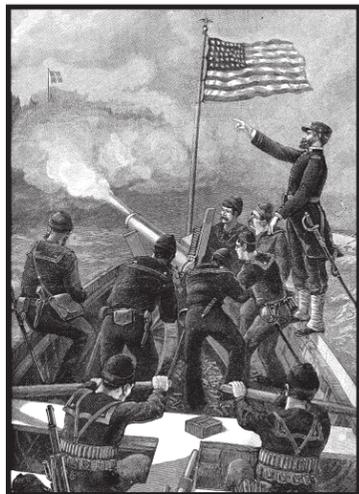
NEHS, under the guidance of Mrs. Ruth, each year remembers Banned Books Week. So many books out there are taken away from us without anyone realizing that it happens. Some are taken from the classroom, or a library, or any establishment that has book repositories. Members seen above chose some of their favorite book characters during the week of September 23-29th. Some included Jay Gatsby, Holden Caulfield, Huck Finn, and even the Giving Tree.

# Spotlights

## Pikar reenacts WWII

Colin Brungs

One of our students at Covington Catholic is interested in a different kind of hobby. Will Pikar enjoys war reenactments, in which



a group of people completely repeat history by acting out the outcome of the war. The scenery is even realistic with tanks, weapons, and battlefields, just like in a real war.

He said, "So far I've just reenacted World War II. I may expand to other eras, though." Will Pikar travels all over the Midwest to act as well. When asked why he enjoys reenacting, he responded, "My drive for reenacting is to learn about

the era, but above all to honor and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. If we keep them and their story alive, it may stop it from happening again." It must be great having the privilege to feel like you are fighting in a war that happened decades ago. You are not only acting out the war, but you are also honoring all the people that died for us.

I asked him his favorite part of the war reenactment, and he responded saying, "The history of it all is great as well as participating in the events is very educational, but I love the brotherhood of reenacting. The "older brothers" I have met in this hobby is great. Many of the actors are older than me, but they are my extended family." When asked if he wanted to actually live like a soldier, he answered, "I am thinking about it, but I would go to the Navy not the Army. I believe that I would be willing to put my life on the line for you."

It is great that Covcath has such a dedicated person who is willing to participate in such a memorable event.

## Danneman Visits Journalism



Patrick Kennedy

On Wednesday, September 20, Cov Cath alumnus Joe Danneman, Class of '98, came to speak to the journalism class about his career in journalism and his current job as a sports reporter for Fox 19. Danneman has been working in journalism for 17 years and first got his start in the business at a news station in Evansville, Indiana, before transferring to Cincinnati and working for Fox 19.

Joe told the class about his personal experiences of the struggles of beginning his career as a writer and reporter in the 20<sup>th</sup> largest sports market in the country. When asked about how hard his job was, Danneman said, "In Cincinnati, there are really only 8 spots for news and sports anchors, which means the battle for jobs is very competitive. With as many teams as there are in the tri-state that I have to cover, I end up working four jobs in one. I write, report, interview, and edit."

After this, Danneman told the class his most important lesson of the day. He told them "Whatever it is that you end up choosing to do as a career, you have to learn to love it. If you don't love what you do, you will be miserable no matter how much money you make."

## Jolly Ole O'Connor Returns

Anthony Armbruster

Mr. Mark O'Connor returns to Covington Catholic after a 12-year hiatus as a teacher at Beechwood. Mr. O'Connor originally comes from Cannock, England, and grew up attending Catholic school after he decided that he did not like the posh grade school he attended. He moved to the United States with his parents when he was in high school. His father planned to join his uncle in a company that he had started in America but left after a year when they did not like it here.

Mr. O'Connor decided to stay with some family and attend Berea College and earn a BA in English. While attending Berea he was a foreign exchange student in Osaka, Japan, studying Japanese with other



non-Japanese students from around the globe. While he was in college, he was a student teacher at Beechwood. After he graduated college he went directly to Cov Cath to teach English. While at Cov Cath he helped with CCH/NDA plays, and was the moderator of the Chess Club. He taught here until 2006 when he was offered a job at Beechwood. As a teacher at Beechwood he was the soccer coach, leader of speech team, and would help drive the buses.

Mr. O'Connor has one son of 23 years currently in the US Air Force. He is almost finished with his training at Offutt Training Center in Nebraska. His wife was a biology teacher but now runs Sunrock Farm in Wilder. We welcome back Mr. O'Connor to Covington Catholic as a Colonel.

## No Longer Ms. Hill; We Welcome Mrs. Young

Mitchell Franxman

On June 16, 2018, Ms. Hill completed a lifelong dream by marrying her long-time boyfriend Tyler Young. Ms. Hill and Tyler, a medical support assistant, had been engaged for over a year and a half before fulfilling their promise on this very hot day. Ms. Hill walked down the aisle accompanied by her mother and father while a lovely string quartet played in the background. After walking down the aisle, Ms. Hill was wedded to Tyler and officially became Mrs. Young.

Following their wedding, the newlywed invited their guests to a reception where they were seated at tables decorated with roses and baby's breath flowers. The guests then enjoyed a delicious roast beef or turkey dinner and proceeded to the dance floor to celebrate the rest of the night. The new husband and wife concluded their wedding festivities with a wonderful honeymoon to Hawaii.

Currently, Mr. and Mrs. Young plan to stay in the Northern Kentucky area and are considering adding another dog to their family. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Young on their exciting, new chapter!



## Corps of Cadets Welcome Veterans

Jackson Sora

On September 4th, four CCH Corps of Cadets students along with Mrs. Franxman attended an honor flight at CVG airport to honor veterans that fought for our country. An honor flight is an all day event that flies veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit different monuments around the city. After that, they fly back and receive a real hero's welcome at home, just like they did when they returned from combat. One of the students, senior Zachary Farwick, had a special reason to go. Zach's grandpa and uncle were honored on this particular flight. He says, "It was really nice that some of my really good friends came out to honor my family. It really meant a lot to them."

The Corps of Cadets are always looking for new students for numerous activities and service projects. Any student looking for more service opportunities or wanting to be part of a military club should see Mrs. Franxman or Mr. Verst. They are always looking for new students for color guard training, service projects, and club field trips.



## Bringing Back the Alma Mater

Luke Toebben

On September 27 the students of Covington Catholic gathered for their monthly Mass in the gym. Dressed in their white long sleeve shirts and blue and white striped tie, the student body was ready for mass to begin.

Father Hennigen and Deacon Bob Steckel led the mass, with Father's homily expounding about how we need to make smart decisions while we are here at Covington Catholic, and while we are alive. He also talked about how the earth will be around long after we are gone, and we need to take care of it.

At the end of Mass, the Covington Catholic Chamber Choir sang the Covington Catholic Alma Mater song, which was made back in the 1950's. It is not as present now as it used to be back when they first created the song, but administrators plan on bringing it back for the students to start singing. Later in the day, Father Hennigen also blessed all the sophomores' rings that they ordered freshman year and had waited so long to get. So that when other people see the ring on students' fingers they can say it was blessed by a priest.

In conclusion, the students learned an old tradition that is slowly being brought into our tradition, and the students also learned that we need to take of the earth and learn to follow the path God leads us on.



## First Mass of the Year

Cole Davis

On August 24, Covington Catholic High School attended St. Agnes Church and participated in the mass with Bishop Foys. With opening remarks from Mr. Rowe, the mass got under way with Bishop Foys leading the mass and with the help of many other priests and deacons. Mr. Grant Neltner, the president of Covington Catholic, had a speaking role. The Select Chorus sang during the mass. The Bishop had a very positive and uplifting message to the Colonels, reminding the students of Cov Cath to thank faculty and staff of CCH as well as the parents for making sacrifices for allowing the Colonels to attend CCH. The Bishop even gave a day off to the Colonels!



## Seniors Celebrate Together

Chris Dames

On September 17, all the Catholic school seniors in the Diocese of Covington were invited to a Mass at the Cathedral in Covington. The schools in attendance included St. Patrick's, Holy Cross, Newport Central Catholic, Covington Latin, Covington Catholic, Notre Dame Academy, Villa Madonna Academy, Bishop Brossart, and St. Henry.

The celebrant of the Mass was Most Reverend Roger J. Foys, Bishop of Covington. Students from every school were also involved in the Mass by being lectors for the readings, providing the church with beautiful singing and presenting the gifts at the altar. Covington Catholic Class President Grant Neltner was involved in the presentation of the gifts, and student Will Pikar was a lector for one of the readings.

Bishop Roger J. Foys told the seniors during his homily about the history of this mass. He stated that this tradition was started by his predecessor about 20 years ago. It originally was at the end of the year, but it was changed eventually so the Bishop could prepare the seniors for their last year of high school. To end his homily, he talked about how the seniors should be role models for their schools and keep faith at the center of our lives.



# CLUBS OVERVIEW

## Clubs Galore: Pick One to Join

### Robert McBride

The main objectives of Covington Catholic are to educate young men spiritually, academically, physically, and socially. These goals are completely fulfilled through the opportunity of clubs. Most students realize the importance of extracurriculars and enrich themselves in many ways through the different clubs.

### Writing/Academics

**Bluegrass**, known as the yearbook, is done in conjunction with the Journalism class with Mrs. Ruth. It uses elements of writing, design, and photography and allows for students to expose themselves to business, interviewing, and video.

The student newspaper, also known as **The Blueprint**, is a monthly publication that recaps the most important events of the month. Students may submit articles, cartoons, and photographs to be included in the publication.

**The Literary Magazine**, known as **Blue Optics**, produces a yearly work of short stories, poems, artwork, graphic design, and photography. The Lit-Mag is produced alongside Mrs. Ruth's journalism class, but all students are encouraged to join.

If you are interested in becoming a lawyer, **Mock Trial** is the club for you! Mock Trial holds a 'Mock' or pretend trial, for which the members must extensively prepare throughout the year. Towards the end of the year, the members compete in several competitions with other Mock-Trial teams in the state.

**National English Honor Society** is a club for students in grades 10-12 with at least a 3.5 English and overall GPA who are interested in helping and organizing different service events throughout the school-year. These events include a Veteran's Day assembly, Madonna Manor mentorship, and others.

**National Honor Society** is a club open to juniors and seniors who have achieved a weighted GPA of 3.5 or higher. These students are chosen in the fall and have achieved academic excellence.

### Arts

**Art Club** is for students interested in coming together and enjoying art around the Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati area. Past Art Club events have been a trip to the Contemporary Arts Center, local art galleries, and a putt-putt golf tournament.

**CCH Band** is offered to students who are interested in learning a musical instrument. Band is a joint effort with Notre Dame Academy and is directed by Mr. Cerimele. Practices are twice a week.

**The Drama Club** is open to any students who are interested in acting or play production. Students can transform themselves into characters on the stage, work behind the scenes, and help in the overall production.

**Photography Club** helps student learn the art of capturing the 'perfect' photograph. Photography Club members are required to bring their own cameras to club outings, which include the Krohn Conservatory, cemeteries, and several others.

### Spiritual

**Magnified Giving** works towards an overall goal of raising money for several charities. The members must receive pledge money from philanthropists, which is used towards a charity of the student's choice.

**Colonels for Life** is a Pro-Life club that advocates for the right to life through many different marches and prayer events. The largest of these events is the March for Life in Washington D.C.

### Other

**Culture Club** helps to immerse its members into countries across the world in the comfort of Northern Kentucky. Students get to experience different cultures through food, movies, community events, and guest speakers. One of the recent activities was a trip to Sake Bomb, a Sushi restaurant in Erlanger.

**The Game Club** is a club open to all students. Members of the club play different games, such as Dungeons and Dragons. They play against other students and teammates.

**Outdoor Pursuits Club** is for students who are interested in hiking, backpacking, rock-climbing, wilderness skills, and nature study. Club members must have a true interest in these activities and attend each club meeting.

**Ski Club** is for students at any level of ski experience. Members ski four times in January and may travel to Colorado. Members are also provided transportation to Perfect North Slopes during each of the club outings.

Any student who is passionate for environmental issues and keeping the CCH campus clean is welcome to become a **Green Ambassador**. This club promotes environmentally friendly practices and keeps the community clean. Currently, the group is in a Recycle Rally activity, competing against other schools.

**Chess Club** is an opportunity for those interested in chess and wish to play. Meetings are on Tuesdays after school at Sub Station II.

**Travel Club** is for any student who wishes to travel the world with their classmates. Past trips have included tours of European capitals, Germany, and a WWII tour. The upcoming trip is an 8-day tour of Spain, its culture, food, and language.

**Spirit Club** represents the never-ending spirit of CovCath. Members are responsible for coordinating pep-rallies, planning game themes, leading cheers, and making posters promoting the upcoming events.



### Science

**The Biology Users Group (BUG)** is open to students passionate about animals. Members are responsible for caring for the animals and reptiles in Mr. Krumpelbeck's classroom. Students can earn extra credit through this club.

**Robotics/Engineering** is open to any student who has a passion for Engineering and Robotics. Students will brainstorm, sketch, build, and create VEX robotics devices to compete against other schools in competitions.

### Education

Students who are interested in different aspects of the Hispanic culture are encouraged to join **Spanish Club**. In the past, members have dined at Spanish restaurants, gone to festivals, and watched foreign films.

**Academic Team** is offered to students looking to compete using their knowledge of various topics. Practices take place after school and matches take place as announced.

Students interested in serving as tour guides are welcomed to join the **Ambassadors Club**. Students serve as tour guides during the annual open house and other issues relevant to the students and events.

The **Corps of Cadets** provides students with the opportunity to participate in military-like training. These students will physically train, learn about military information, and study military codes and customs.

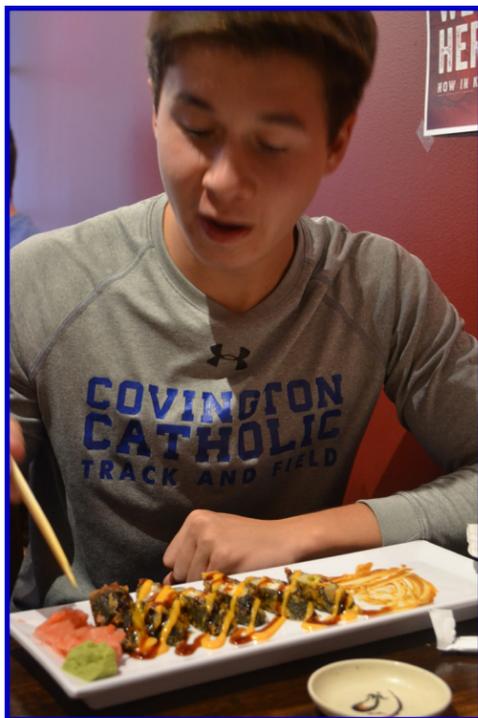
**Governor's Cup** is available to any students who are interested in competing in an annual academic competition. This competition covers subjects such as Language Arts, Social Studies, Arts and Music, Math, and Science.

The **Northern Kentucky Youth Advisory Board** assembles the top student leaders from the region and helps them to make a difference in their schools and communities. It prepares students to be leaders through leadership training, college and career workshops, and service projects.

# CLUBS/STUDENT LIFE

## Sake Bomb is a Favorite for Culture Club

Ben Wessels



The Culture Club has been here at CCH for around 10 years now and was originally started by Mrs. Ruth and Mrs. Jones, a former English teacher here. The purpose of the Culture Club is to go around to different destinations and learn about the food and culture that the location represents.

The most recent Culture Club meeting in September had about 15 attendees. They traveled to Sake Bomb in Erlanger, a well-known sushi place. Sake Bomb is popular amongst teenagers because not only for the recent fad of sushi, but also it has much cheaper prices than other sushi places around town. Culture Club member Evan Moon commented on Sake Bomb saying, “The cuisine and atmosphere was great, the Tuna roll really hit the spot.” The club travels to these different locations and is enlightened with a firsthand experience of the various cultures represented here in our area.

This club is for fans of trying new things, and people who enjoy food. If you have any interest in this club you can contact Mrs. Ruth, who is the current leader of the club. It is rumored that Mexican is next on the list of cultures the club will be exploring.

## Future Colonels Bring the #s

Evan Hanna

Future Colonels is an opportunity for young boys to come and see the Colonel Crazies out in full force at major soccer and football events. Each of these Future Colonels has an opportunity to claim one free ticket, a free hotdog, and a free drink.

The Future Colonels event for football was the Cov Cath vs. Beechwood BraveHeart-themed game. The attendance from Colonel Crazies and Future Colonels was a record-setting night; there were over 400 boys or Future Colonels compared to the previous year of 200 boys. The Colonel Crazies also showed out in full force, creating a certain excitement throughout the stands that transfers onto the field, excelling the football team to 49-14 victory.

The soccer team also held a Future Colonels event offering the same experience to these young boys as they would've gotten at the football game. The soccer team was taking on Campbell County; the soccer colonels fought hard, but eventually ended up with a tie. In recent years, attendance for the Future Colonel soccer games has been low, but in a surprised turnout over 110 showed out when there was an expectance of below 50.

As we take a look at Future Colonel events overall, they were an outstanding success. Attendance was a record-breaking night for both soccer and football. This event provides great exposure for the school itself and allows our Future Colonel brothers to get an experience of a life time.

## Getting Into the SPIRIT with Hertz

Ben Wessels

The Spirit Club is a tradition that has been going on for years at Covington Catholic. It was around for a period of time in the early 2000's but became a problem because the participants mishandled their responsibilities, and was later revived about 8 years ago. Students meet in the first floor hallway under the supervision of Coach Hertz after school on Mondays usually to prepare a variety of matters. The Spirit Club organizes the themes for the cheering sections at all sporting events throughout the year.

There are elected Spirit Club leaders chosen by Coach Hertz to run certain aspects of the club. The leader

of the Spirit Club this school year is Harrison Porras, whom you can see leading the cheering section at sporting events this year. The Spirit Club has a big influence of the overall school spirit and the environment around campus. At home sporting events, opponents have reported that it is much harder to play at Cov Cath than any other atmosphere. Pep rallies are another



school activity that the Spirit Club takes care of. At their meeting they

plan the rallies and execute them to intensify big upcoming sporting events. Recently, the Spirit Club leaders led the biggest student section at a home football game in history against beechwood with the “Bravehart” theme. The Colonels routed the tigers 49-14 in front of one of the biggest crowds ever at Dennis Griffin Stadium.

This club is important and brings a certain personality to the school that is not present in other schools. This atmosphere is what makes Cov Cath different from other schools, we have the comradery and spirit that other schools are unable to produce. The Spirit Club is just one of the things that excels the experience that when people come to Covington Catholic, and what makes alumni so proud to have gone here.

## Six Groups Under One House for 2018-19

Jackson Sora

With the beginning of the 2018/2019 school year, the new House System was introduced to the students at Covington Catholic. Based off similar systems at other Catholic schools, such as Trinity and St. Xavier, the House System divides the entirety of the student body into six different houses. The six houses are named after saints that all have their own unique stories and perfectly embody the Catholic identity. The six houses are Aquinas, Kolbe, Chaminade, Bosco, Augustine, and Benedict. Within each house, the current seniors elected two members to be the captains of that house. Those two captains work with the teachers and administration to make the school a better place.

To go along with the House System is the introduction of the mentor groups. These mentor groups put together 20 or so students from every grade level within a single house together for about 25 minutes every Tuesday and Friday. One thing that the mentor groups do for the students is give them a chance to interact with students of different grade levels and start relationships with other students they wouldn't normally talk to. Mentor groups also have the opportunity to plan activities, such as meet in the gym or on the football field for some recreation before school.

The newly inducted house captains are ready for the challenge of leading the House's in their first year of activity. Evan Moon, co-captain of the Benedict Column says, “I am grateful that the seniors in my column feel that I am worthy of leading them. I hope that me and the other captains will set a good example for generations to come.”

All in all, the new house system has proven to be a big success. With the incentive to earn points for your house by going to marquis events and raising money for Super Hike, the house system has raised the spirit and enthusiasm at Cov Cath.

# SPORTS

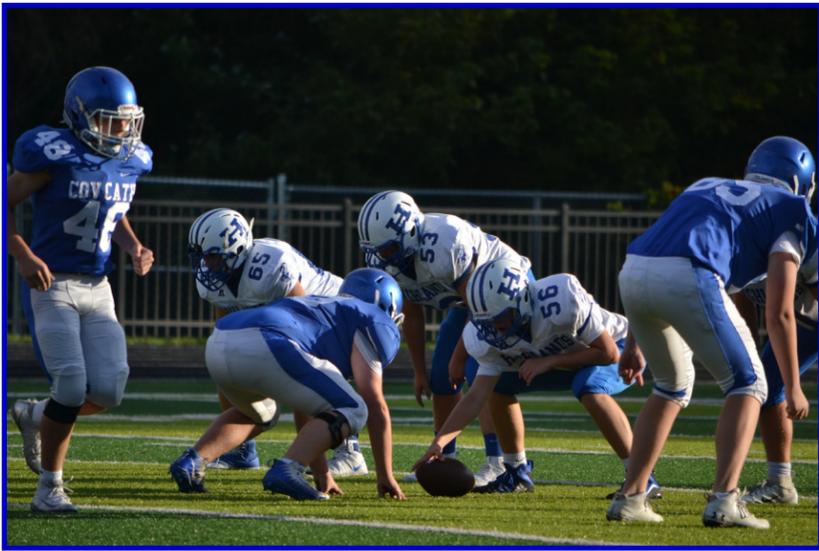
## Frosh Football Bringing Success

Drew Laws

The CovCath freshman football team has had an impressive season so far. Led by Coach Shahram Shafii, they have gone through the season with an unblemished 6-0 record. The team has dominated every game they have played. With an average winning margin of 23 points, the team is a clear leader in the region.

In an interview with QB Conner Peak, he said that the team's hardest game so far this season was against Highlands on 9/26. He said that Highlands' freshman team was aggressive and acted as a great early season opponent for the team. Nevertheless, the CovCath freshman dominated 28-6. Conner said that the team has been doing a great job of showing what a real Colonel team should be doing. "We have a great team who all respect each other and help lift each other up." Peak said that the team has been a great way for him and others to meet other freshmen early in the year. The team is looking to continue their undefeated season until their last game against Ryle on 10/24.

The freshman team has been setting a great example of what a CovCath team should represent. They have a powerful team who work together on the field. They have created an early impression for the freshman of the brotherhood they will experience at CovCath. The freshman team is sure to bring much more success back to CovCath in the coming years.



## Up and Downs for Soccer

Patick Kenndy

This year's soccer season has been quite unusual in the eyes of many, with numerous ups and downs and a bad start to the season, it has not been the storyline that soccer fans have gotten used to in the past few years. After a near catastrophic start to the season, going 1-4 in their first 5 games, the colonels, who now have a winning record of 10-8-2, have made a drastic turnaround and have once again solidified themselves as top region contenders.

The Colonels, who are riding an impressive 6-game win streak, begin their campaign to defend their home field advantage and win the 9<sup>th</sup> region tournament for the 19<sup>th</sup> time and earn a bid into the KHSAA state soccer tournament. When asked about the team's chances to make a deep run into this year's post season, senior leader Ben Wessels said, "I think our team has a good chance this year. Our region is going to be tough, but with our home field advantage and great

fans I feel like we are the team to beat this year. Once we make it to state, I think we can make a decent run at it. There is no better way to go out than with a state title."

With such great senior leadership and passion coming from the team, there is no doubt that they can make a run at a second state championship. This would further continue the Colonels' sporting dominance throughout the state in recent years.



## Runner-Up for JV Soccer

Cristiano Trojani

A big season awaited the Cov Cath JV soccer team for 2018. After a summer of practicing and hard work, the Colonels were in for a challenging season.

The JV Colonels kicked off their season with a disappointing loss against Wyoming. "The difference between freshman soccer and JV soccer is the opponents get faster and stronger," commented Will Bright, following the opening season loss. The JV Colonels quickly got things together after they cruised through St. Henry. Following the win over St. Henry, the Colonels fought for an impressive tie against Ballard. All season long, Cov Cath faced some of the top programs in Cincinnati and throughout Kentucky. Some of the notable results were a 3-2 victory over Anderson High School and a 1-0 win over Summit Country Day.

Playing a tough regular season schedule will get a team ready for post-season play. This is exactly what this Cov



Cath JV team went through. When asked what advantages of playing a

tough schedule does for this team, midfielder Will Bright responded, "Playing a tough schedule improves the team and builds our team chemistry." He also mentioned it gets them ready for the regional tournament. With the biggest tournament of the year, the JV Regional Tournament, Will said, "Our key focal points going into the regional tournament is communicating, finishing, and hustle." The JV team rode into the regional tournament with some momentum after a huge 4-0 victory over Roger Bacon.

The JV Regional Soccer Tournament was held at Town and Country. The Colonels opened the tournament with a 2-1 win over Cooper. Following the 2-1 victory over Cooper, the Colonels defeated Boone County with a convincing 3-1 win. In the quarterfinals, Cov Cath steam rolled over Beechwood to advance to the semifinals. Cov Cath narrowly escaped Connor in

the semis 1-0 to face, rivals, Highlands in the JV Regional Finals. The Colonels fell in the JV Final to a tough Highlands team 1-0.

The JV Colonels finished the year with a record of 11-5-2 along with a runner-up finish in the JV Regional Tournament.

**Support Your Colonels!  
Purchase this Spot,  
and Cheer on Your Favorite Team!**

# SPORTS

## Off to a Perfect Start for the GridIron Colonels

Harry Porras

With the Colonels being 7 games into their season, they could not have asked for a better start. They are off to a perfect 7-0 with multiple wins over good opponents.

The Colonels handily won their first game against the Ryle Raiders 40-7. The next week, the Colonels kept their head of steam demolishing Henry Clay 41-0. In their third game of the season, the colonels faced the Cooper Jaguars who fell 54-7. The following week, it was the Kings' Knights turn to face their demise. Cov Cath steam rolled the Knights 42-9, winning their first home game of the season. Week 5 brought the Beechwood Tigers who are one of the biggest rivals of the season. Although this was a rivalry game, it did not feel like one. The Colonels brought victory in front of their home crowd 49-14. In the 6<sup>th</sup> Week of the season, the Colonels would have to travel 2 hours away and face Columbus De Sales. The Colonels continued their outstanding play with a 35-14 win. In the last game up until this point, it would be Indianapolis Chatard to face the blue and white. They gave the Colonels their closest game of the season scoring 36 points to the Colonels' 52.

The Colonels are looking outstanding and do not look to be slowing down at any point this season. They hope to return to Lexington and bring back the State Championship trophy for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive season.



## Summer Play Shows Mixed Results for Ammo's Golfers

Benito Trojani

The 2018 Covington Catholic Varsity Golf team mainly consisted of Patrick Kennedy, Cameron Martin, Lincoln Hammon, Ben Sweeten, and Chris Fitz but other players such as Justin Blessing, Harrison Brunsman, Josh Wehrman, and Andrew Meagher also contributed to the squad by playing in some of the matches and competed in practice. The Colonels were led by Coach Ammerman, who directed the team for a second consecutive season.

The season began with the team traveling to Oldham County to defend their title last year at the Oldham County Invitational on July 30<sup>th</sup>. The following day, the Colonels traveled to Gibson Bay and competed in the Madison Central Invitational. The event turned out to be successful with Covcath placing 2<sup>nd</sup>. CCH shot a 302 with Patrick Kennedy shooting a -2 score of 70 and winning the individual title. Next up for the team was The LCA Kentucky Cup which took place at the University Club of Kentucky on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The tricky course caused the colonels to falter by shooting a 317 which was good for 13<sup>th</sup> place. The positive out of this was Ben Sweeten shot his best

round of the season with a 73 and led the colonels for the event.

One of the bright spots of the season came on August 4<sup>th</sup> at The Battle of The Bridge in Danville. Patrick Kennedy shot a season low of a 68 and placed tied for second in a stacked field with some of the best golfers in the state. The team itself had an off day but Patrick helped pick up the slack and carried the team to 8<sup>th</sup> place on the day. After this, the colonels had one more early season tournament at Harmony Landing on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Cameron Martin shot his best round of the season so far with a 73 and helped the colonels to 8<sup>th</sup> place again. The Colonel golfers then won their first dual match of the year easily defeating a weak Elder team on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

After a little break for the Colonels, they then had 3 consecutive tournaments in Louisville at Eastern, Trinity, and CAL. These tournaments were their worst tournaments of the year according to a few members of the team. The team shot a 329 at Eastern, 331 at Trinity, and a 321 at CAL. These results, however, did not affect them after this. The golfers went on to win the NKAC Conference with a team score

of a 306 and beat Moeller in their last dual match 160-159 which was a good win for them. These results also carried over into the region and state tournament. In region, the Colonels shot a 306 again and Patrick Kennedy took home the individual title with a 68. In state, which took place in Bowling Green, the team finished off the season with an impressive result of making the cut and finishing 8<sup>th</sup> place which was a good result for the team.

The golf season had some highs and some lows for Covcath but towards the end the team achieved some good results. Cameron Martin summed up the season by saying, "We all got better by the end of the season and the effort we put in resulted in another region title which was are most important goal for the season."



**Get your House  
Points at Marquee  
Events**

# SPORTS

## Summer Heat Brings the Long Distance Runners

Colin Brungs

The new season for the cross-country Colonels started off in the middle of July. The Varsity Cross Country team has had great success so far this year. When asked about the season, Coach Arnold answered, "We're working really hard and having a lot of fun so far. A lot of races to go. Once Michael Kessans is back from injury, he will be

Tate (12) led the varsity team at 16:37.71, Ben Hail (32) at 17:20.9, Casey Wolnitzek (43) at 17:35.13, and Ethan Wever (45) at 17:38.61. The junior varsity team got 2<sup>nd</sup>, led by Andrew Bosch (20) at 18:55.08, Vincent Cafazo (22) at 18:59.13, Brandon Wever (24) at 19:14.51, and Jacob Schulte at 19:15.05.

On September 1st, the varsity team achieved their first win of

(15) at 18:08.50, and Dominic Taylor (16) at 18:10.50. The JV team also had a fundamental meet. They came out on top ahead of Cooper, their fierce rival. The JV team was led by Jacob Schulte (1) at 19:07.90, Andrew Bosch (2) at 19:43.00, Vincent Cafazo (3) at 19:48.60, Brandon Wever (4) at 20:00.70, 5 Alex Kent (5) at 20:07.40, and Ben Flowers (6) at 20:11.70.

Boschert (24) at 17:37.70. The JV team was led by Gabe Wainscott (1) at 19:25.10, Noah Thomas (2) at 19:36.50, Kevin Finke (3) at 19:37.10, Ryan Sheely (5) at 19:49.60, Alex Finn (7) at 19:49.60, Lucas Kuhlman (8) at 20:08.60. It's great to see all these young athletes doing so well and competing at such a high level.

On September 15, the team raced against Ohio competition in the Milford Invitational. The varsity team ended up finishing runner-up to Turpin, led by Will Tate (10) at 17:12.8, Ben Hail (17) at 17:45.0, Casey Wolnitzek (19) at 17:52.6, Ethan Wever (21) at 17:52.6, Dominic Taylor (23) at 18:08.6, and Brooks Boschert (33) at 18:15.

The following week on September 22, the Colonels raced in the Midwest Meet of Champions. They got 5<sup>th</sup> place considering that this meet was very challenging because they had to face big named schools including: Cincinnati Elder, Cincinnati St. X, Louisville Trinity, and Akron St. Vincent St. Mary. It sounds like there is a lot in store for the Colonels. Hopefully, they can hang on and stick with the same tempo for the rest of the season.



a great addition to the team." The first meet they placed 4<sup>th</sup> out of 31 teams on August 25 in the Louisville St. Xavier Tiger Run. The meet consisted of over 250 runners. Will

the season at the Grant County Invitational. The varsity team was led by Will Tate (1) at 17:07.50, Casey Wolnitzek (3) at 17:37.00, Ben Hail (5) at 17:41.50, Brooks Boschert

championships. The varsity team was led by Will Tate (5) at 16:35.00, Ethan Wever (11) at 16:59.40, Ben Hail (17) at 17:16.50, Dominic Taylor (10) at 17:21.10, and Brooks

## Optimism for More JV Play

Jack Davin

Coach Beiting and the JV football Colonels have had a strange season so far. The Colonels have only played 3 games compared to the varsity's 7. The lack of games have been a combination of bad weather and varsity playing out of town teams. The team has a 1-2 record, but things are looking promising to end the year off strong.

The Colonels have three games left and are all games the Colonels believe they should win. Junior Quarterback Noah Powers has been leading the passing attack and throwing dimes to his wide receivers. The defense for the Colonels has been strong; despite the record, the defense has only given up 31 points in the 3 games.

With the next games against rival Highlands and Campbell and Dixie the following two weeks, the Colonels look to win these 3 games and continue to get better battling against the 7-0 varsity team every day in practice.

