



THE BLUEPRINT



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Football Ends Season on a Sad Note in Lexington

Jared Darwish

The varsity football Colonels had another great season this year coming off their state championship run last year. The team finished undefeated once again in the regular season under the direction of 5th year head coach Mr. Eviston and blew through the playoffs on their way to the state championship.

Head Coach Eviston set the bar ever high for his team this year after the state championship win last season, and they responded with hard work and determination throughout the year. The team started the season with a huge 40-7 win over Ryle and did not look back. After the Ryle game, the Colonels rolled to an easy 6-0 with big wins over LexCath, Cooper, Kings, Beechwood, and St. Francis DeSales. Following the DeSales victory, the football team played in its closest game of the year vs. Bishop Chatard. The offense could not quite get going in the first half, and the defense struggled to stop Chatard's offense early on. But the Colonels were able to come away with the victory thanks to the offense who had an all-around great performance in the second half.

The defense was also able to step up enough in the 2nd half to stop the bleeding and give the offense the opportunity to lead Covcath to victory, which they did. The Colonels got back on track after the Bishop Chatard game continuing their streak with wins at Highlands and Dixie at home landing them at 9-0. In the final game of the regular season the Colonels fittingly rolled against Campbell County beating them 28-0 and sending the seniors home happy on their senior night.

During the playoffs the team outscored their four opponents 164-29. In that time span they beat Woodford County, Montgomery

a great comeback but unfortunately fell short in the end. Although the end result was not desirable, the team was still proud of what they accomplished this season and how they carried themselves throughout the season. This team represented Covington Catholic well and truly embodied what it meant to be a Colonel. Despite falling short in the end, this team will be remembered for many years to come and will be a prime example for many CovCath football teams in the future. One major reason for the team's success throughout the season can be attributed to the senior leadership on both sides of the ball, which led them to many wins in dominating fashion this season. Key underclassmen Caleb Jones QB and Michael Mayer TE/LB made tons of big plays throughout the season to help the Colonels go unbeaten for the second year in a row and send them to the post-season. The Colonels's defense played stingy all-season causing havoc and turnovers for opposing offenses. This in turn helped the offense pull away and get big leads on teams early and often this season in most games.

The seniors on the team came into the season with a mentality of not being satisfied with the success of last season and not settling for anything short of being the best. Having this mentality was the thing that led the team to the great success and accomplishments they had this season. Despite having a different result in the state game this year, Coach Eviston and his juniors are already looking towards next season with big goals in mind once again in order to recapture the state title.



County, Highlands, and Pulaski County en route to the state championship. The football Colonels came into the game against South Warren with high hopes and were ready to protect what was theirs. The team started slowly and never quite got on track throughout the game. Despite the lack of consistency throughout the game, the players still fought hard for all four quarters and played their hearts out until the clock hit zero. The Colonels almost pulled off

Farewell George H. W. Bush

Mitchell Franxman

Unfortunately, on November 30, the United States lost a prominent figure in its society. The former 43rd Vice President of the United States and 41st President of the United States, George Herbert Walker Bush passed away at the age of ninety-four. President Bush leaves behind four sons and one daughter.

Even from the beginning, President Bush devoted his life to his beloved country. At age eighteen, Bush enlisted in the Navy and became the youngest fighter pilot in World War II. The future President flew fifty-eight combat missions, including one where he was shot down and crashed into the ocean. Following his service in the Navy, Bush came home and eventually won two terms in Congress. Bush continued to gain more responsibility as he served as the U.N. ambassador, head of the Republican Party, envoy to China, and Director of the CIA. All this experience cumulated in Bush winning the Presidency in the 1988 Presidential Election. President George Herbert Walker Bush really was a man who dedicated his life to the United States of America.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the friends and family of President Bush during this holiday season.



Ron Spriggs Speaks for Veterans

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Colonels at Open House



Outdoor Pursuits at Clifty Falls

EDITORIALS

The Migrant Caravan Question: Do We or Don't We

Blake Helson

A recent story that has dominated the mainstream media is known as the Migrant Caravan. The Migrant Caravan is a vast amount of people migrating from Central America to the United States. This problem has drawn the focus of President Trump. He threatened to shut down the border of the United States if Mexico did not aid in stopping the group from progressing to the border. He also told the countries of Central America he would suspend foreign aid if they did not step in as well. The group

was formed in Honduras with only around 200 people at first, but grew quickly as they mobilized. For the most part the group traveled on foot slowly moving north.

The people of America are divided on the issue. Some think these migrants should be admitted with no questions, while others think they should be sent back or imprisoned for trying to cross the border. Most of these migrants have left their homes for a new life in the United States. The migrants decided to flee due to violence and corruption with most of them being

the victims. For example, a woman in the group talked on the topic and gave her story on how the drug cartels ran through her home and neighbors' homes stealing and pillaging them. With Trump as President, and one of his main platforms being cracking down on illegal immigration, he sent the military to the United States border to maintain order. Critics of Trump said that this was a pointless use of the military, especially on people who are just trying to get a better life.

In conclusion, my opinion on the migrant caravan is that these

people that want to get away from the numerous vices in their homelands should do it legally, meaning they should strive to gain citizenship in the United States instead of trying to live here illegally. Rushing the border and expecting to be let in is simply not an intelligent way to get into the country.

Who Can't Argue that Duke is the Best

Benito Trojani

The college basketball season has just begun, and already a big debate has ensued about who the best team in America is. There are three teams being debated: Kansas, Gonzaga, Duke and even Michigan is in the argument for the best team. These teams have had strong starts, but the best team is clearly Duke.

Duke from top to bottom has a better team. The team consists of five, 5-star recruits and four out of the five of these players are in the top ten coming out of high school. They also have major depth coming off the bench that includes some veteran players such as Alex O'Connell and Javin Delaurier. The 5-star recruits include Zion Williamson, who is a freak of nature that can shoot threes, throw down crazy dunks, and play tough defense. Duke has the most talent on paper, and no one can deny that.

The debate starts here though. Duke lost to Gonzaga by two points. Gonzaga looked good, but Duke played their worst game of the season. This also was the only game where Duke looked bad. Gonzaga has looked bad in multiple games this season and won some lucky games even though they are undefeated. Duke also beat Kentucky this year by 33 points. Right now, Gonzaga is ranked number one, but once it is said and done Duke will reign supreme once the end of the year comes.



Bohemian Rhapsody Sees Resurgence with Movie about Queen

Cristiano Trojani

One of the most popular songs in the history of music is the song "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen. Just recently, a movie was released entitled *Bohemian Rhapsody* that recaps the life of Queen. The movie included some of their most popular songs including the most famous song by Queen, "Bohemian Rhapsody."

Why has this song remained such a mainstay all these years, you may ask? This song is compiled of many lines, but the line that stands out the most is "I'm just a poor boy. I need no sympathy." This lyric is perfect to everyone. People tend to complain when they face adversity, or when something does not go their way. People definitely tend not to deserve any sympathy when they complain repeatedly because

there is no reason to complain. People must adapt a strong mentality to accomplish everything in life. Complaining will not get people anywhere, except on other people's bad side. Therefore, people do not deserve any sympathy because they do not have a reason to complain.

Along with this lyric "I'm just a poor boy. I need no sympathy" the song is just a great song melodical-

ly. The song gets people in a great mood, and they feel better after listening to it. The song is also very catchy, and people tend to love the song, hence the song is one of the most popular songs ever written. "Bohemian Rhapsody" is a fantastic song to listen to and the lyrics of the song will make you feel better about things going on in life.

Are You Thankful for More Than Turkey and Dressing?

Doug Armbruster

Giving thanks mean many different things to many different people and different cultures. In The United States, for example, it celebrates when the Native Americans helped the English settlers grow food to avoid a famine in the winter. Their first harvest in October lasted about three days, "Thanksgivings" were common forms of prayer for the English settlers. In the modern day, many people take survival for granted and are thankful for simpler things

I went around school and asked different students and teachers about what they are thankful for. Mrs. Young says that she is thankful for her "friends and family." Ms. Baulch is thankful for, "manatees, students who see writing as an art worthy of being practiced, and donuts." Mr. Thaman is thankful "for the end of the German gauntlet."

Giving thanks for the people and things around us is something that everyone can work on. Use others around you for inspiration; ask them what they're thankful for. Think of our early English settlers giving thanks for living another year. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

Garth at Notre Dame

Mitchell Franxman

Garth Brooks has won numerous Entertainer of the Year Awards for a reason. The man knows how to put on a show. This was evident when Garth Brooks performed at Notre Dame. This concert was the first-ever of its kind at Notre Dame Stadium. Nearly 84,000 fans made their way to South Bend on this cold October night in order to see Garth. However, cold is an understatement as it was near-freezing and raining, but the show must go on!

The first-ever concert at Notre Dame's legendary stadium did not start out perfectly though. The start of the concert was delayed for one hour as it was too windy for some of the stage equipment. After an hour filled with anticipation, the speakers were raised and Garth Brooks came on stage. Brooks walked out on the 360-degree rotating center stage and got the party started. Garth electrified the notorious stadium for hours as he gave everyone in attendance one unforgettable night.

Garth's Notre Dame concert was recorded and aired on December 2nd. An estimated 8.9 million viewers tuned in to watch the performance. This is a good number considering it was aired against Sunday Night Football.

The first-ever concert at Notre Dame served as the beginning of Garth's Stadium Tour. This tour spans over three-years and covers thirty stadiums. The tour kicks off in Glendale and then moves to St. Louis in the beginning of 2019. Five venues are now selling tickets for this legendary tour. So, if you're interested, get your tickets now! It will not disappoint!



Washington Lives Up to the Hype

Ben Wessels

Directed by Antoine Fuqua, and starring major actor Denzel Washington, *The Equalizer 2* was much anticipated from action movie fans. In his first sequel of his long career, Denzel Washington continues the role of a retired United States Marine and ex-DIA agent Robert McCall.

During the film, an ex-marine partner of McCall's kills one of their former peers, which McCall has called his best friend since he had met her. This role is played by Melissa Leo. McCall sets out on the path of revenge to serve his friend by killing her murderer. He perseveres through weather and wounds to avenge his confidante and succeeds greatly.

Movie critics only gave the movie a 51% on Rotten Tomatoes, but I personally would have rated it much higher than that. It was a thrilling movie that kept me entertained throughout the duration. Denzel Washington played the role extremely well and fits the stereotype of an ex-marine. Although it was not as popular as its prequel, I would say that overall it was a successful movie in the box office. It was an intriguing film that I would not call one of my favorites, but was definitely worth the watch.



The Ballad of Buster Scruggs

Drew Laws

The entertainment geniuses at Netflix recently released a new film entitled *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs*. This film is a western, with the main plot being six completely different stories all revolving around the American West of the late 1800s. It was produced and directed by the Academy Award-winning brothers Joel and Ethan Coen. The film includes a star-studded cast involving Tim Blake Nelson, Liam Neeson, James Franco, Tyne Daly, Brendan Gleeson, and Zoe Kazan. The film received positive reviews from popular review sources including Rotten Tomatoes and Metacritic.

The plot has six unrelated subplots. The first focuses on an outlaw named Buster Scruggs, the film's namesake. He travels around singing tunes and inciting duels. Next, the story is about a bank robber who is caught by a crazed banker and sentenced to death, only narrowly escaping. Next, it focuses on an impresario who travels around with his main attraction. This is a man with no arms or legs, who recites famous plays and stories. Then the story goes to a gold pros-

pector, who travels around searching for gold. He eventually finds his spot and feverishly searches for "Mr. Pocket." Next, the focus is on a wagon caravan and a woman who must find a solution to a major problem with money, and the caravan must eventually fend off a large Indian attack. Lastly, a group of people ride together in a wagon, and have intense conversation about various philosophical topics like spiritual health and complex subjectivity of human experience.

I viewed this film two days after its release on Netflix, and I liked it. The film includes many essential elements of a western, including Indian battles, long travels, duels, and bank robberies. It had many unexpected twists and moments of suspense. The actors performances are impressive, especially Tim Blake Nelson and Liam Neeson. They all succeeded in becoming their western characters. Through the six stories, the viewer's interest is renewed with the start of each one. I would personally give this film a 9.1/10. *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs* is a great film that I would certainly recommend to all Netflix users.

What About Giving Thanks?

Grant Neltner

In 1621, the colonists in America and the Native Americans shared a meal, which is commonly known as the first Thanksgiving. For over four hundred years, Americans have celebrated this holiday honoring the colonists and giving thanks for everything they have.

Today, Thanksgiving is on the fourth Thursday of November each year. Families from out of town come together and celebrate a meal giving thanks for each other. Turkey, stuffing, gravy, mash potatoes, and pumpkin pie are typical foods eaten for Thanksgiving. In addition, NFL football games are played on Thanksgiving. Both football and food are two ways to describe Thanksgiving, but giving thanks and being with family is the

most important thing about the holiday.

In recent years, Thanksgiving has brought a new market for shoppers, which is Black Friday, and Cyber Monday. During both these days, stores have major sales and deals in anticipation for Christmas and gift buying. However, Black Friday has caused controversy because the purpose of Thanksgiving is to spend time with family and not shopping.

Thanksgiving has been around for four hundred years and is slowly losing its meaning. The first Thanksgiving was celebrated by the colonists and the Native Americans was a giving thanks, and in modern times society needs to remember to give thanks.



STUDENT LIFE

Remembering Our Veterans Thanks to NEHS

Robert McBride

This year, Covington Catholic students, teachers, and alumni gathered on November 8, to honor all veterans and learn about their sacrifices.



The Veterans' Day service opened with a prayer by CCH Chaplain, Father Hennigen. After Father's prayer, officers of the National English Honor Society (NEHS), Grant

Neltner and Chris Fitz, welcomed the crowd and said the Pledge of Allegiance. NEHS representatives are involved in the ceremony through tradition. The Veteran's Day ceremony was started in 2010—one year after the society was started in 2009, in an attempt to honor our many Colonel veterans over the years of CCH existence.

After the



Pledge, four members of the Corps of Cadets, Parker Curry, Max Stocker, Parker Crawford, and Matthew Theissen, emerged from the back of the gymnasium to present the Colors. Next, Mr. Ronald Spriggs was introduced as the speaker of the event. Mr. Spriggs has dedicated his life to studying and spreading the message about the Tuskegee Airmen—the first black military aviators in the US Air Force who fought during

World War II. Mr. Spriggs spoke about the segregation that the airmen endured, their conditions, and distinguished list of awards. As the ceremony ended, the horn of a bugle pierced the quiet gymnasium with the song TAPS. Finally, all veterans in attendance were recognized with a standing ovation from the student body.

Thank you to all of the veterans who attended the Veterans' Day service and Mrs. Ruth and the NEHS members for assembling the special event.

Who Is Going to Take That Cup Home?

Harry Porras

Throughout the first semester of the year, all six houses have competed against each other to earn points for their column. The standings right now go as follows: 1. Aquinas, 2. Bosco, 3. Benedict, 4. Kolbe, 5. Chaminade and 6. Augustine. Points are important for each column because the column with the most points at the end of each semester will be ranked. Points can come from many different sources. Each sport has their own "marquee event" that gives attendees of the sporting events points. About a month ago, a day during spirit week was dedicated to Olympic style games. The winner of each game was given points. Just recently, the school held a school-wide canned food drive. Each column earned a certain amount of points with the first place finisher earning the most. Just recently, Augustine raised awareness for cancer by selling Colonels for a Cause tshirts and offering up a prayer chain during a Friday Mass. Kolbe collected money during the week of December 10 for needy Prince of Peace families. When it was all completed, nearly \$3000 was raised and Kolbe coming in 1st with the highest amount raised.



If a column ranks in 1st or 2nd by the end of the first semester, they will automatically be ranked in the top 4 at the end of the year. The top 4 columns will compete for the Colonel Cup: the trophy given to the best column at the end of each school year. Right now it appears Aquinas is the front runner to steal the 1st rank at the end of the semester. Columns like Kolbe, Chaminade, and poor old Augustine definitely have some catching up to do.

Until the next House update, let the competition continue!

Canned Food Drive Raises Awareness with Colonels

Logan Brake

Covington Catholic's Bosco Column started a canned food drive to raise food for the less fortunate people of Cincinnati. Headed by Mr. Zerhusen, this drive is still going on and students are rewarded with an out of uniform day if they bring in five or more cans. Whichever column brings in the most cans is rewarded with a pizza party or whatever Mr. Flesch thinks is justified. The goal for the student is 50,000 pounds of food/cans by the end of the drive. The piles continu-

ously grew through the month. In the end, the winner was decided by weighing the totals. Aquinas waited until the last evening and pulled all their money together and went shopping. Perhaps that 50-pound bag of rice pushed them over the top as victors. Mr. Hertsberg, one of the column leaders for Aquinas, said, "Cheating. . . it wasn't cheating. We just used our resources in the best way possible." So, whether they earned express lunch line or out of uniform, all the members said the effort was worth it. Plus, all the food goes to a good cause.



STUDENT LIFE

Rallying New Colonels on the Horizon

Benito Trojani

The Open House on November 4th lasted about 3 hours from 1 to 4 pm. The people that attended were mainly 8th graders from feeder schools and anyone from the area that was interested in attending the school next year or two.

Club members and sports were set up in the gym for families to check out possibilities at the end of their tours. Many clubs and sports were represented from bass fishing, to the chess club, as well

as various sports. At each club and sport station there were two Covington Catholic students talking about their club or sport and what it has to offer.

The beginning of the tours, however, started in the cafeteria. Each tour went throughout the 3 floors of Covington Catholic. In each room the faculty and staff were there to talk about the classes and give presentations to the students that were interested in what Covington Catholic academics have to offer.



Christmas in Cincinnati

Ben Wessels

Christmas is commonly referred to as the most wonderful time of the year. I personally agree with this statement but possibly my opinion is biased based on my city. In our tristate area, there are many Christmas-related attractions and that may be why I am influenced for Christmas to be my favorite holiday.

One of these attractions is Fountain Square. Although Fountain Square is popular year round, it seems to be different around Christmas time. They change the middle of the square to a medium-sized ice rink, which creates a romantic feel in the heart of the city. With all the flashing lights around lovebirds and children can take in the atmosphere while on the ice.

Another attraction in the greater Cincinnati area is the Festival of Lights. At the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, there are lights hung all around the grounds and even near the animal's exhibits. This is an attraction for not only children, but people looking for a romantic date. Going through the entire terrain of the park with the lights takes around 2 hours. Places like this are the reason the Christmas spirit is so high in the greater Cincy area every year.

No matter where you live there is most likely some activities in the area to get you in the Christmas mood. This season is a time of giving where everyone seems to smile a little easier and be just a tad bit nicer in everything they do. So, no matter where you are try your best to take in the Christmas cheer and do good.

Christmas Card Design Selected



Senior Max Cochran's design was selected by the Administration/Alumni Association to use for CCH Christmas cards this year. He was ecstatic to see his hard work pay off with the accolades through his published work.

Intramural Hype

Max Dierig

With Christmas break around the corner and basketball season just starting means the start to Intramural Basketball is approaching us fast. Signups for the Intramural Basketball have just started and the start to the season is on its way. The league is run by commissioners, Mr. Ammerman and Mr. Hovan. The league consists of a two-month period where you play eight games with potentially up to three playoff games.

Intramural Basketball starts first with a captain who is selected by the commissioners; these captains are given the privilege to draft their teams. The teams will consist of 10-11 players who all play fair amount of minutes. Every team will

play eight games to battle out for the best record, and at the end of the season they will be seeded. The top six teams will get seeded to battle in the playoffs. For the senior class there have only been two champions, Team Dierig and Team Porras back to back championships. Only one team has ever won three championships according to Hovan and that is exactly what Team Porras is looking to do.

Many people are anxious and excited for this upcoming IBL season. IBL will be the real testament to see who is truly the best and who will end up on top as champions. For the seniors it will fun to see who will be able to triumph over the faculty. It will be a fun season and best of luck to everyone this season.



STUDENT LIFE/CLUBS

Loved Ones Remembered at Memorial Mass

Nick Thelen

The Memorial Mass is for every single Covington Catholic grad/family member that has passed away. Before the Mass actually began, Mr. Ammerman read out all the graduates/family members' names that had passed away. As they were being called a family member processed to the altar and placed a rose in a vase to honor them. Afterwards, the family members were invited to the cafeteria for brunch. This Mass is especially great to honor all of these loved ones. It truly shows that Covington Catholic is your family for life. You will always be in the brother hood and remembered greatly.

Academic Escapades

Colin Brungs

The Academic Colonels started off 3-2 on the first half of the year and now are sitting at 5-3. Mr. McQuade is the new head coach for the team this year, and he has taken on the task of getting the best people for his team. The team is 4th in the higher division and continuing to beat other opponents in the lower division who are at the top in their division. This shows great potential for the future matchups in the next part of the season.



a victory against St. Henry the following week after a loss to Villa Madonna. The next match was against Cooper, and the Colonels beat them for their 4th win of the season. The next week on December

The Academic Team had

4th Colonels had a huge win against Scott which built the team's confidence to a high. The Colonels are 5-3 since they lost to Simon Kenton, Villa, and just recently Conner. There are about two games left and hopefully the Colonels can finish strong. Shortly after the season, they move on to the Governor's Cup and study different specialized subjects.

NKYAB Gets New Leader

Nick Thelen

The NKYAB wrapped up their backpack collection drive on 10/19. This backpack collection was started by the teacher leader, Mr. McQuade. He organized a backpack drive for the less fortunate people in the NKY area. Mr. McQuade decided to collect items that would allow for people to carry goods and other items they have. The newest projects that they are doing is a coat hanging drive. They are collecting hangers and turning them into the life learning center. They will then give them to the less fortunate so hang up their clothes.

NKYAB stands for Northern Kentucky Youth Advisory Board. This is a student led group that does service for the NKY area. This is Mr. McQuade's first year being head of NKYAB. There are 3 students from Covington Catholic. They are seniors Grant Neltner and Evan Moon, and junior Mason Brewer. They belong to the regional group of NKYAB that has over 500 student members. The NKYAB is doing a great job of helping the less fortunate in our community and representing Covington Catholic mission of service.

Spanish, Anyone?

Grant Neltner

The Spanish Club has been a long tradition at Covington Catholic. Mrs. Rasp ran the club for over 20 years and after her retirement last year, Mrs. Seal has stepped in to take the lead this year. The club meets once a month sharing cultural aspects and the Spanish language.

The presidents of Spanish Club this year are Will Harmeling and Jack Raisbeck. Their sole job as co-presidents is to ensure Covington Catholic students learn other cultures and immerse themselves in the Spanish language. According to Will Harmeling, "I enjoy the Spanish Club because of the appreciation for the language and spending time with my friends." The Spanish Club will continue to prosper at Covington Catholic because Spanish is the most popular foreign language taken here. Due to a suggestion to take two years of foreign languages most students pick Spanish since they have taken in in grade school.

The annual Christmas party was on December 14, 2018 this year. Members brought in miniature Christmas trees to decorate the room. Also, each member was required to bring in Spanish-themed Christmas treats for the club to enjoy. They listened to Christmas music in Spanish and even played a Spanish themed board game.



Investment Advice with Jack

Jack Davin

Hey guys, back at you with the Investment Advice Column. Many of us students are trying to get more money and interested in investing with the money from their paychecks. Last month I offered some ideas of some level stocks. Today, I will be giving you guys some more expensive Blue-Chip stocks to watch, buy at your own cost.

1. Sony Corporation (SNE)

Currently trading at \$51.36. Sony shares are up 12% this year and are expected to rise. With Christmas Sony's profits will likely drive the price of the stock up. This Japanese's company also has some things in the works for the future with video and equipment.

2. PayPal Holdings

PayPal is currently sitting at \$84.54. PayPal has had a growth rate of 18% and is expected to keep that up for the coming years. A reason I am suggesting PayPal is because of its huge market cap over 99 Billion. PayPal is a very intriguing stock that has a ton of upside and minimal downside.

With these stocks being fairly high priced I am only adding these 2 to the watchlist. Use your Christmas money wisely, and let your money go to work for you. Till next time!



CLUB NEWS

Robotics Readies for Competition

Jared Darwish

The Robotics Team, led by Bob Lind and Tom Rowe, meets every Wednesday before and after school to work on and discuss the robotic devices they are creating. It is a club for students who want to learn more about engineering and the design process that goes into it. Everyone on the team works together in order to make their robots and designs the best so that they can win their competitions when facing other schools from all over the country.

The team does many things during the year other than building robots such as competing in robotic competitions, taking field trips and

exploring the field of engineering. The team competes in these robotic competitions frequently throughout the year. During these competitions the team faces many other schools that have been designing and working on robots for these competitions as well. The goal of these matches is to teach the team members how to work together and be problem solvers so that their robots are better than the other schools they face. The Robotics Team has not had their first meet yet, but they have been working hard on all their ideas and designs so that they can dominate when they do. Whenever they are not in competition, the students are usually working on their robots and brainstorming as a group in

order to make them run smoother and work better. Mr. Lind and Mr. Rowe sometimes take them on field trips as well so that the members can see how engineering and robots are used in the real world. Many of the students involved love being in the Robotics Club because of the friends they make and hands on experience they get in the engineering field while doing it. Many people on the team along with Mr. Lind are excited to start working in the STEM building once its finished. The new STEM building will work as a more suitable place for the team to meet and work because of the things that will be offered in the building that will be finished soon. This new innovation to Cov Cath's

campus will help propel the team to new heights by allowing them to make even more advanced builds and designs. In turn this will give the team a great advantage over their opponents at their meets. The team has been getting stronger and more competitive every year and it looks like this year will be no different.

The club has been successful since it has started at Cov Cath and is growing in numbers every year. Mr. Lind and Mr. Rowe feel they have a promising team this year and are excited to see what the robotics season has in store for them this year.

Taking Sides

Robert McBride

The Mock Trial Team is almost ready for their long-awaited competitions. The Mock Trial affiliates have diligently assessed, analyzed, and studied the Kentucky Mock Trial case: Justin Burke v. ForensiTech, Inc.

The Mock Trial Blue Team has recently memorized and recited the entirety of their trial during practice on Wednesday, December 6th. Soon, they will work on objections and body movement. The Mock Trial Blue team has also admitted a new team member: Steve Schaeper. Steve is working behind the

scenes to help his teammates with the writing aspect of the trial. All of the trial preparations are leading to their upcoming scrimmage with the Notre Dame Academy Mock Trial Team, regional competition, and state championship. The scrimmage with NDA will take place during the beginning of January (TBD), the Regional Competition will take place a month later from February 1st through 3rd, and the anticipated state-wide Championships will take place from March 1st through 3rd.

Best of luck to the 2018/2019 Mock Trial Teams throughout their trial preparations and competitions.

Christmas with Culture

Patrick Kennedy

The Culture Club, which meets 1 to 2 times per month to discuss and experience different cultures throughout the world, had a meeting on Monday, December 9th. The meeting, which was actually their Christmas celebration, took place at 7:30 pm in room 214, where members each brought a different item of food from their country of choice and also a present for a country-themed gift exchange. Some of the items that were presented included pudding from

France, pizza from Italy, and a Menorah from Israel.

Culture Club aims to expose students to these cultures in order to educate them on how other people live and how their lives might differ from the average American's. One student, Robert McBride said in an interview, "I really enjoy being in the (Culture) Club. It has exposed me to the rest of the world and inspired me to explore it after high school." This passion is what Ms. Ruth aims to instill in all of her club members.

Going Green at CCH

Max Dierig

The Green Ambassadors is a club at Covington Catholic that is designed to help the school get more involved in recycling. The club has been put together to make this school and the environment a better place.

Mrs. Ruth does an excellent job in coordinating the Green Ambassadors. She coordinates everything along with her members; Mrs. Ruth makes everything happen. Students volunteer to help sort bottles after big events that happen at the school, such as football games. Green Ambassadors meet regularly to discuss ways to make the recycling in the school better. One thing that the Green Ambassadors do to motivate the school about recycling has been becoming involved in a nationwide competition. The club entered in the competition through Pepsico. In the recent tally, Covington Catholic moved up in the rankings to 23rd. Another school in the

region, Ryle, participates as well; this creates a little friendly competition between the schools. In the recent tally we moved in front of Ryle High Schools collecting around 45,000 lbs worth of recycling goods. Another great thing the Green Ambassadors did to promote recycling around the school was to incorporate red bins in every room as well as new depositories in the cafeteria. The club recently just received big blue bins for the lunchroom, which allows students to identify the right place to recycle. "Getting everyone to recycle is not an easy task," said Mrs. Ruth. "Every day we still pick out garbage from our recycling bins."

The Green Ambassadors is a great way to get involved and a great way to appreciate the community. The club does various service projects outside in the community. It is an excellent club, and they do a great effort in keeping Cov Cath and the community clean.

Choir Takes Home 2nd Place in Q102 Competition

Brock Anderson

The Chamber Choir is a class that you can take at Covington Catholic High School. But, to get into the Chamber Choir you have to try out. Mr. Wolfe decides who makes the cut in the Chamber Choir and who doesn't make it. You have to be a sophomore, junior or senior to be eligible to get into the Chamber Choir. The student who wants to take Chamber Choir must request it as a class.

Covington Catholic participates in a concert hosted by Q102 every year. The winner of this concert makes 5,000 dollars, second place makes 2,000 dollars and third place makes 1,000 dollars. Most of the years that Covington Catholic has participated in this concert they have won. But, this year Covington Catholic placed second in the concert and Ross High School came in a close first. The school that came in third winning 1,000 dollars was Loveland High School. Covington Catholics Choir along with the Covington Catholic band, Covington Catholic select choir, and Notre Dame Academy Band and Notre Dame Academy choir had a Christmas concert in front of the students of Covington Catholic and Notre Dame Academy. All of the students from both schools thought that all of the songs that both of these schools sang were excellent.



CLUB NEWS

English Honor Society Inducts Members

Harry Porras

On Monday, November 19, 43 students were inducted to be new members of the NEHS. The National English Honors Society is a group which recognizes outstanding academics. In order to be considered to be a part of NEHS, you must have maintained a 3.5 GPA in English and a 3.5 GPA overall. There are other factors which are considered such as behavior, leadership, and community service. The event opened up with Mass performed by Father Hennigan. Everyone gathered in Communion before the new inductees were called. After all of the names were called, attendees of the ceremony were invited to enjoy refreshments and snacks. The list of new inductees varies with students ranging from sophomores, juniors, and seniors. All of new inductees are listed as follows

- Brendan Barker
- Jacob Bayer
- Luke Bessler
- Jordan Bezold
- John Davin
- Elijah Deters
- Benjamin Dickhaus
- Alexander Dietz
- Grant Disken
- Jacob Duerstock
- Daniel Felix
- Sam France
- Athanasius Ghering
- Nathan Goebel
- Ben Greenwell
- David Gronottee III
- John Hycak
- Tyler Hudson
- Ashton Isler
- Thomas Kennedy
- Andrew Kent
- Garrett Kirpes
- Jace Kruer
- Kade Kruer
- Michael Marino
- Robert McBride
- Chase McClure
- Michael McKeown
- Charlie Metzger
- Andrew Molique
- Benjamin Murray
- Will Pelletier
- Ethan Reardon
- Brayden Sanning
- James Scola
- Jaden Siemer
- Dean Skinner
- Hunter Sommerkamp
- Christopher Stegman
- Ben Sweeten
- Pete Williams
- Gavin Zeck



Dark Oz Night

Jack Davin

The arts are always instrumental in the development of young men. With arts being such an important topic Cov Cath has the Art Club. The Art Club is for any student interested in the arts and does not have to be in art class to be part of it. The Art Club meets around once a month. The Presidents of the Art Club are Max Gray and Sam Cooper while Mr. Haders is the moderator.

The Art Club most recently met on Wednesday, December 5. The club watched *The Wizard of Oz* but with no volume and instead listened to the **Dark Side of The Moon** album by the English rock band Pink Floyd. The club was well attended and everyone enjoyed listening to the music and also watching the movie and being able to be creative with their thoughts. Here is what Evan Hanna had to say about the meeting, "The Art Club is always a great time and I loved my experience the other night and it's always great to talk to people with the same interest."

The Art Club has sign-ups outside of the art room on the 1st floor next to the Multipurpose Room to sign up if you are interested in going to the next event. The club is a great way to get out, meet new people, and just have a great time enjoying the arts with your classmates.



Outdoor Pursuits in Clifty Falls



Staff

A small group of members from the Outdoor Pursuits travelled to Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, IN on December 16th. The group, under the leadership of Mr. Stephen Snyder, hiked around for the day. Everyone enjoyed the day-long hike where they made many water crossings and were able to see several beautiful waterfalls. Lots of fun was had by the entire group, and they cannot wait until another adventure comes their way.

SPORTS

Bringing Back The Region

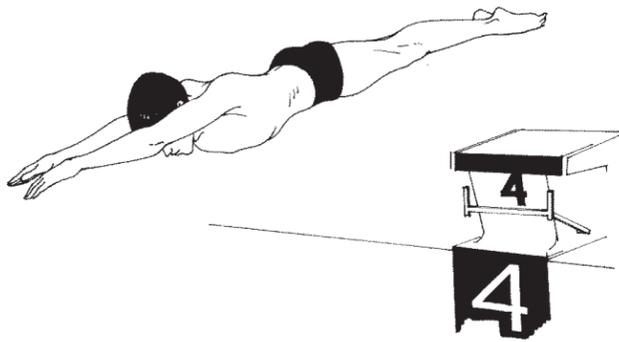
Max Dierig

The swimming season is just getting ready to start with high expectations. The swimming team last year finished 2nd in the region just behind a very good Highlands team. In recent history we have had great success in our region. The team is looking to repeat this recent success by bringing the regional title back to the school.

The swimming team is returning many swimmers from last year's team, including standout seniors Ethan Hanna, who is committed to Cincinnati for swimming; Patrick Merse, who is committed to Navy for swimming as well; and Bradley Kathman, and Mikey Krebs. These few seniors are looking to build off a good season last year and rally together to bring home a regional title. They have strong underclassmen as well and will have high expectations to live up to.

In the first meet of the season the Colonels swam at the Scott Classic Swim Meet and won the meet. Many of their better swimmers were missing, but the underclassmen picked it up and finished the meet in first place. The team has a meet in Louisville in 1v1 match soon versus St. Xavier. This is the first big meet of the season for the team and expecting big things against a very good St. Xavier team.

Best of luck swimmers and have a great season. Bring home another regional title and enjoy the season.



JV Players Show Their Talents

Cristiano Trojani

The JV Basketball team has a big year to fill following last season's JV regional title. JV basketball is one of the hardest programs to go through because they must face the varsity team everyday in practice. They are consistently going up against taller, faster, stronger, and better basketball players than they will face in the season. When asked about the upcoming season sophomore Joe Eubanks commented, "We have a great group of players on this team. We are expecting high goals to back up from the previous season. We are excited to get after it." The JV team opened their 2018-19 campaign against Ludlow.

The JV basketball team had a successful season opener against Ludlow with a score line of 60-30. Following the that win, the JV Colonels faced off against Lexington Catholic in the Dan Tieman Classic. The JV team edged out Lexington Catholic 43-30 moving them to 2-0 on the season. The first true road game for the JV team was against rivals Highlands. A physical and tough environment was prevailed by the JV team squeaking past Highlands 54-52.

The team is planning on maintaining their strong work ethic and skill work to make this a season to remember.



Varsity Off to a Strong Start

Drew Laws

The varsity basketball team began their season on 11/26 in a home opener vs. Ludlow. The team has high hopes for this season after the state championship win last year and a very impressive 35-4 record. Coach Ruthsatz has returned for his eighth year in the position of head coach. The team will be led by seniors Nick Thelen, Tyler Fleek, and Jack Davin. The starting five include the three seniors along with juniors Grant Disken and Joey Moser.

The team has started the season strong this year. They are currently only six games into the season and boast a 5-1 record. The team dominated Ludlow in their opener, with a final score of 105-49. The varsity team has played

Ludlow, LexCath, Highlands, Holy Cross, Scott, and St. Henry. Every game has so far resulted in a victory, and the only loss came in an upset to the rival Highlands Bluebirds, with a final score of 57-51. The team has been led in points by seniors Thelen and Fleek along with junior Grant Disken.

The varsity basketball team should have a great season in front of them. With great senior leadership and the unfaltering support of the Colonel Crazies, there is little holding them back. Upcoming games against Moeller, Cooper, and NCC are expected to be close, but the Colonels are confident in their chances. The varsity basketball team is doing a great job of continuing CovCath's tradition of athletic excellence and undoubtedly have a successful season in front of them.

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SPORTS

4-Year Football Veteran

Drew Laws

CovCath football just wrapped up yet another record-breaking season. They finished second in the state's 5A Division after a disappointing 20-16 loss to South Warren in the state final game. Although there were many crucial players, the standout athlete was runningback Casey McGinness.

McGinness is a 4-year veteran of the varsity team. He has participated in football since 3rd grade. Throughout the season, McGinness was a clear guiding force for the entire team. He led the team in many stats, most notably in touchdowns and rushing yards throughout all of his varsity seasons. Despite the

loss, McGinness led the team in the state final. In the game, he ran for 102 yards and had an impressive 77 yard touchdown. McGinness has many team members supporting him, including Michael Mayer and the entire offensive line.

Although McGinness' high school career came to a close, he is now looking to continue his career into college. He has two offers from Eastern Kentucky University and Morehead State University. He is currently uncommitted, but expects to choose soon. Casey McGinness is an impressive athlete who has done a great job of continuing CovCath's tradition of athletic excellence.

Wrestling News

Alexes Rodriguez

The CovCath Wrestling team kicked off its season at Holmes on Saturday, December 1st. The team did well at the tournament finishing with five wrestlers placing in the top 5 at the tournament. Senior Mannie Murrer placed 2nd at 138 pounds, Senior Alexes Rodriguez placed 3rd at 145 pounds, Senior Warren Naberhaus placed 5th at 175 pounds, Junior Michael Manning placed 5th at 220 pounds, and Sophomore Rowan Brauer placing

5th as well at 165.

A couple days later the team faced off against Lawrenceburg at home and suffered a heart-breaking loss. The Colonels only wins came from Senior Alexes Rodriguez at 145 pounds and Junior Michael Manning at 220 pounds.

The Colonels are looking to improve their luck this weekend, December 8th at the Ryle Rumble, one of the toughest tournaments in the area, with teams coming in from Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana.



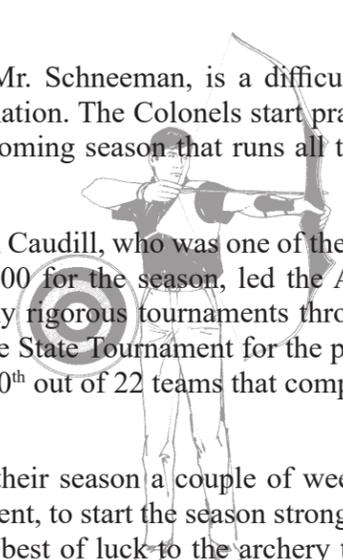
Archery Preview

Evan Hanna

Archery, started in 2015 by Mr. Schneeman, is a difficult sport that requires precise hand-eye coordination. The Colonels start practicing this November to prepare for the upcoming season that runs all the way through April.

Last season sophomore Carson Caudill, who was one of the team's strongest shooters, averaging a 280/300 for the season, led the Archery Colonels. The team competed in many rigorous tournaments throughout the season. The team made a run to the State Tournament for the past two seasons; last season the team placed 20th out of 22 teams that competed at the State Tournament.

The Archery Colonels began their season a couple of weeks ago and are preparing for the first tournament, to start the season strong. As an archer previously, I want to wish the best of luck to the archery team in their hopes of having another great season.



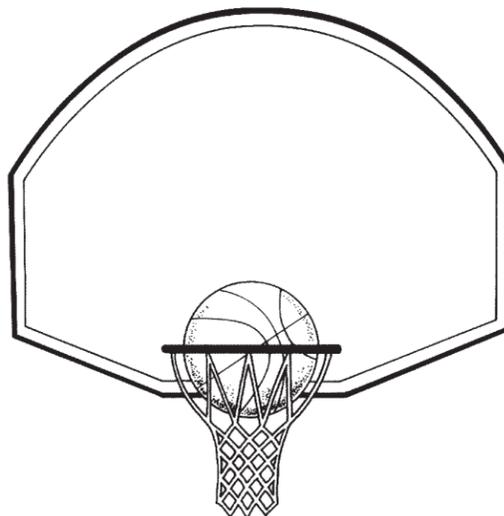
Freddy Basketball Lots of Talent

Grant Hillmann

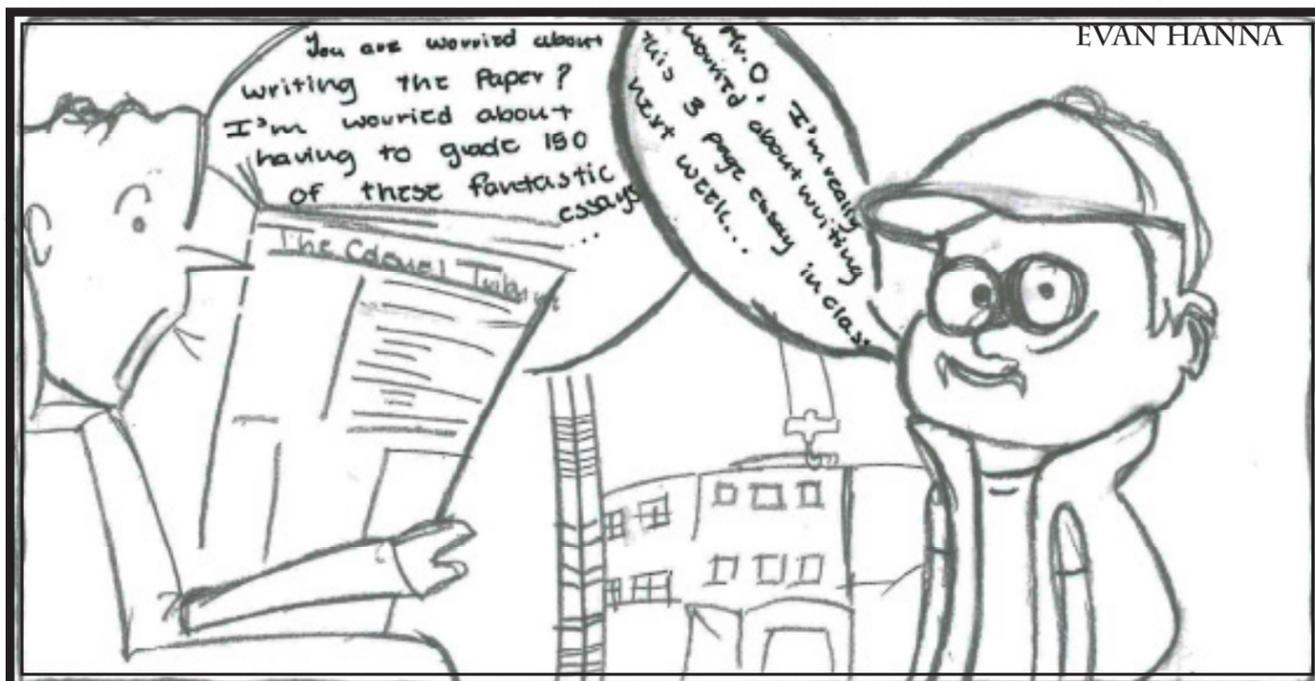
Freshman basketball season has begun! This year's team is looking very strong and has a lot of potential to win region. They have already won four out of their five games.

The freshman basketball team plays Holmes tonight (December 10th). I spoke to Dennis Lenihan, point guard for the team. When asked to comment about his upcoming against Holmes, he said, "We will win." I then asked his feelings on the team this year and what he thinks the outcome of his season will be. He responded, "This team has great chemistry and I believe we will win region." The last thing I asked him was what sets a part this team from their opponents. He said, "The thing that makes this team different is the fact that all our teammates care and love one another."

The freshman basketball team has exhibited their talent and potential to win region this season. They are very comfortable in their ability and are excited to contribute to Covington Catholic's great basketball program. Good luck freshman basketball!



A Day in the Life of a Colonel



SPORTS

Knocking Down the Pins

Jackson Sora

The Bowling Colonels began their season this winter. With many members participating in Intramural Bowling in the fall, the Colonels were ready to begin the season. Tony Li said, "I am very excited to begin the season. I hope to break many personal records and grow closer to all my teammates." On Thursday the 13th, the Colonels competed against the Scott High School Eagles. The team was led by Jared Gallagher with 201. Other members who had strong outings were Ian Ward and Charlie Smith, both with over 150 points.

When most people think of bowling, they think of a good date idea for a first date. However, they do not think of the sport. The bonds these Colonels build together throughout the year are inseparable. Led by Jared Gallagher, who is leading the team in points this year the Colonels are hoping for a state tournament berth later next semester.



Boone Co. Singles Tourney Winner Charlie Smith



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