

The Covington Catholic Times

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Remembering Colonels

Jack Templeton

Tuesday November 23, 2010, might just be another Tuesday for some. This day in November, however, is the date of the yearly tradition, the Memorial Mass. Upperclassmen know that this is not the average mass in the gym ending in the good old yee-haaa, but a solemn celebration of the Eucharist dedicated to those in the Colonel family who have died.

Names such as Kenny and Brian Williams were announced in the perennial ceremony where families of the deceased were given a rose to place in a vase that is displayed in the front hall of the school foyer. The Memorial Mass is a very special and important ceremony to members of the Colonel family as well as current Colonels themselves as multiple students were involved in the ceremony. While it is somewhat of a mournful event, hopefully many will see the service as a remembrance of the lives of past Colonels.



Academic Awards Assembly

Aaron Wilson

On Thursday, November 4, 2010, Covington Catholic held its 35th Annual Academic Awards Assembly for students who excel academically. Awards are also given for the National Science League, Governor's School for the Arts, and Governor's Scholar Program.

Each year, an alumnus is invited back to give a speech about academic excellence and expectations. This year, Dr. Robert Otte was invited back and told us about his experiences. Dr. Otte graduated in 1981. Because of harsh economic times, he had to work throughout his high school years to pay his way through his Catholic education. Even though he was constantly working, Dr. Otte still graduated valedictorian of his class and was offered a full ride to college. This served as inspiration for not only those receiving the awards, but for all students of Cov Cath. Senior Andrew Kendall said, "The speech was very inspiring for me. It shows that hard work will eventually pay off."

In order to be eligible for the academic award, students must maintain a cumulative weighted grade point average of 93 percent with no grade below a 70 percent. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors were awarded for their hard work and academic letters were presented. Other students received awards for academic excellence in sciences, Eric Zimmer for Biology, Jim Nutter and Brian Fagel for Chemistry, and John Bayer for Physics. Also, nine seniors were awarded for their participation in the Governor's School for the Arts and Governor's Scholars Program this past summer. This assembly was rewarding for those awarded and it also served as inspiration for each student.

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NEHS Appreciates Teachers

Philip Ryan

Every year, the National English Honor Society sponsors a night where teachers as well as faculty and staff are appreciated for all they do during the year. This year, it took place on the evening of November 15th, and many students participated by dressing up as their favorite literary character or author. They then went in front of all in attendance and gave subtle hints pertaining to their costume. This, along with other literary puzzles and riddles, provided the guests with much joy and entertainment.

Snacks and refreshments abounding, this night was an overall success in giving a little back to those who work so hard for us throughout the year. Let us not forget to thank our faculty and staff for supporting our Catholic education and promoting the Gospel message every day.



Senior Dan Gregory receives his academic letter.
Photos by D. Ruth

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Blaming God For Bad Performance Acceptable? I Think Not!

Cory Matsko

After an incredible three touchdown performance against the Bengals last Sunday, Bill's wide receiver Steven Johnson came out cold against the Pittsburgh Steelers' steel curtain defense. Johnson could not handle the pressure that he put on himself after revealing the "Why So Serious" slogan on his shirt. He finished the game with seven catches for 68 yards and also had five dropped balls. The worst of his drops came in overtime when he let a perfectly thrown game winning touchdown pass fall right through his fingertips. The Steelers went on to win the game 19-16.

After the game Johnson expressed his anger over the internet on Twitter. He blamed his terrible performance on God and said, "I PRAISE YOU 24/7!!!!!! AND THIS HOW YOU DO ME!!!!!! YOU EXPECT ME TO LEARN FROM THIS??? HOW???!!! ILL NEVER FORGET THIS!! EVER!!! THX THO...".

This is wrong, any faithful man knows that God does not pick outcomes of sporting events or even decide how you are going to play that day. Clearly, Steven Johnson thought to highly of himself and that affected his game play during Sunday's match up. He lost sense of reality and this showed with the five dropped passes he had. In the NFL nobody is that much better than anyone else and it only takes one game to prove that to anyone. Steven Johnson is a perfect example of this, one week he has an amazing game and the next week he has possibly the worst game of his life. Let's just hope Johnson cools down and realizes that posting stuff like this on national news feed is completely unacceptable.

All Star Weekend

Anuel Nevels

It was every man's dream, if you were the guy holding the microphone. Two Hundred Screaming teenage girls lined up on the sidewalks of Covington to see the Radio Disney band Allstar Weekend at the Madhatter. Several bands opened for Allstar Weekend such as the local Steven Gerzack and the band Young the Giant among others. It wasn't long before the club turned into a scream-fest.

Allstar Weekend is often compared to the Jonas Brothers, however a closer look reveals quite the contrary. Allstar Weekends style and music may at first appear to be the same but in reality is much different, perhaps because of the make up of the bands, friends vs. brothers.

Allstar Weekend has also been said to be a band put together by the music company, again an unfounded theory. The band were all friends for several years before catching that "big break" that every musician dreams about.

When I took a survey from random people in the audience I was quite surprised. The outcome I was expecting was that most of the people in attendance would also be fans of the Jonas Brothers and Justin Bieber, and would have been listening to Allstar weekend for over one year. The actual survey, 10% of the crowd was asked, found that 1% had been listening to them for about a year with 0% listening longer than that, most only for a few months to last summer. I also found that an estimate 20% listened to the Jonas Brothers and 20% listened to Justin Bieber with 10% listening to both, a far cry from the 70%-80% I was expecting.

All in all, Allstar Weekend is a good band that is rising in the music world and rising fast. From their on stage energy to their caring way with the little kids before the show and their desire to talk with some of the fans before the show, They are a good group to go and see, and in my opinion much better to see in person than to hear on the radio. So if they are that good on the radio, go see them for yourself in person.

Bed Bugs

Brandon Rozanski

Bed bugs are becoming a real problem in Northern Kentucky these days. Bed bugs, contrary to their name, are not always found in beds. They can be found in furniture, luggage, and clothes too.

Bed bugs are tiny insects that are very hard to detect. They are flat and brown in color and move very quickly across surfaces although they cannot fly. They can carry various diseases that can be harmful to humans. They are very easily spread throughout infected areas also.

Several places around this area have acquired bed bugs over the past few months. Places such as libraries around the area have been infected. Other infected places include movie theaters and various schools. Although bed bugs are menacing and a problem as of now, once they are found they can be easily treated and removed from our every day lives.

North Korean Nuclear Power

Drew Baker

North Korea is trying to force China to become an ally. North Korea is flexing their muscles and bragging about their advances in nuclear arms. North Korea was asked about their new plants recently, and they said they were just uranium enrichment plants. This may be true but uranium enrichment plants can easily be converted into a nuclear arms plant. The Roding Sinmun newspaper reported, "Currently, construction of a light-water reactor is in progress actively and a modern uranium enrichment plant equipped with several thousands of centrifuges, to secure the supply of fuels, is operating." North Korea has tested their nuclear arms and it is also believed that North Korea has enough material for six-twelve bombs.

South Korea, Japan and the United States, three of the six countries involved in the on-off disarmament talks but Russia is also a part of this group. The United States wants Beijing to once again become an ally North Korea

North Korea bombed the populated South Korean island near their disputed border. South Korea then rallied some fighter jets and returned fire on Yeonpyeong island, located near the border of both countries. The U.S. who has over 25,000 soldiers stations in North Korea said if the act doesn't not come to a stop they make take action.

Drugs Wreak Havoc

Adam Shumate

One third of motorists killed in accidents tested positive for drug use. This is a 7% increase since 2005, according to the National Drug Control Department research study. These drugs ranged from hallucinogens to prescription pain killers. Gil Kerlikowske, head of the National Drug Control Department, says, "These numbers are alarmingly high. More states need to pass laws to make having drugs in the system while driving illegal."

The researchers have said that the tests did not include whether or not the drugs in the person's system was enough to impair driving. Also, the information varies because some states test more for drugs in victims than others. Also lawmakers are having a big issue making laws because they can easily outlaw having illegal drugs in your system, but what should they do about people who took prescription medicines a few hours before they started driving. This makes legislation for drug enforcement extremely difficult.

Law enforcement will have a tough time enforcing drug use on the roads, but it needs to be done to help keep Americans safe.



Former Colonel Working at ESPN

Andrew Kendall

ESPN plays a major role in the daily life of every Covington Catholic Colonel. Sportscenter, the premier show of the television network, is played every day during lunch in the school's cafeteria. Covington Catholic has had many alumni go on to achieve great things, but one Colonel from the class of 2006 has been hired by ESPN.

Since graduating from high school Nick Stacy has become a leapfrog, constantly hopping obstacles, and aspiring for his dream job, a position working in sports journalism for the storied television network, ESPN. Stacy started his journey by majoring in Broadcast Journalism at the University of Kentucky. His first job consisted of working in the Media Relations office for UK's athletic programs. Not a bad job for someone who absolutely loves sports. Working in the Media Relations office aided Stacy in starting his networking web with all off the big names of media in the Lexington area. The snowball had been started and as his journalism career started gaining momentum and size. Mentors surrounded him and gave him countless opportunities outside of the classroom getting firsthand experience. The journalism class at UK also gave him the chance to broadcast his very own sportscast during the weekdays.

The turning point on the road to ESPN was when Stacy was chosen to be a Campus Connection Correspondent for ESPN every time UK had a home game broadcasted on the network. The job allowed him to put together his very own stories and ESPN really liked what he did. "Also, they asked me to host their Campus Connection coverage for a volleyball game where I was on Live TV showing the viewer what we do at UK. That was a blast and probably the best time of my life that I will never forget." So while Stacy did his job and had a blast at the same time, he was building his reputation with ESPN as a hard worker with great talent.

Upon graduating from UK, Stacy applied for a job at ESPN, and made his way over to Africa to teach classes. When he arrived back in the United States in October he was offered a job with the leader in sports entertainment. He signed on with ESPN and has loved every second of it. Stacy is currently a Production Assistant, or in other words he makes the highlights for one specific game and presents the story through the anchor.

Stacy has found his niche and finds himself being paid to do something he loves every day of his life. His words of encouragement to aspiring journalists include getting involved and reaping the benefits of the opportunity to become an intern. Stacy says that the work study program, Mrs. Ruth's journalism and speech class, and every facet of Covington Catholic were the building blocks to his success. He is truly an inspiration to every aspiring journalist that walk the halls of the school of white and blue.

CCH Alumni News

Bobby Sturm

Covington Catholic loves to know how the graduates are doing. Some of the graduates go on to other states to do what they only dreamt of and some just like to know that they are making a difference. The two alumni that are the main topic are recent graduates: Nick Eilerman and Brad Fritz.

Nick Eilerman, a grad of the class of 2004, went on to major in directing. After high school, Nick enrolled to Webster Conservatory of Theater Arts in St. Louis, MI. Ever since graduating college, Nick has been working on famous Broadway shows such as LOOPED starring four-time Emmy Award winner Valerie Harper. He recently returned back to NKY to be the assistant director on a new play called HIGH starring Golden Globe and Tony Award winner Kathleen Turner which played at the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. Since graduating from college he has done shows in Chicago, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, multiple cities in Connecticut, West Palm Beach in Florida, St. Louis and of course, Cincinnati. Nick is currently living in New York City, working on a small musical and comedy with his friends.

Brad Fritz, a grad of the class of 2003, went on to major in Communications with a minor in Accounting at Thomas More. After high school, Brad has been doing work for his public "speaking" deal a few times a month and is trying to get into that as much as possible. Last May, Brad walked the 5k with his walker for the Hope and Possibility marathon, which is a side event of the Flying Pig Marathon. His future plans are to continue walking in the same marathon every year (hopefully with more sponsors), continue to do more of his public "speaking" and to hopefully travel to different places and most importantly to just make a difference in any other way he can.

With graduates like Nick and Brad expanding their hopes and dreams, the Covington Catholic community continues to get more popular, day by day.

Community Service News

Brandon Rozanski

As many people know, community service at Cov Cath is a very important thing. The students have various service opportunities throughout the year in which they give up countless hours their time in order to help those less fortunate. Students must complete 60 hours of service throughout their time here at Cov Cath, and if a particular student completes 40 or more hours of service in one school year he will receive a varsity letter and will be eligible to receive the community service award.

Cov Cath has numerous service opportunities right now. Those include helping the Steinford Toy Foundation, the Joy to the World Auction, wrapping gifts for IHN, and helping New Perceptions by assisting those with developmental disabilities. Students also help different schools with tutoring, they help with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Cincinnati, they help out with the various special Olympic functions, and they help out with the Redwood Child Development Program.

All in all students at Cov Cath are very giving people and love to give their spare time to the community and know it is appreciated.

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Hip Hop Fix

Aaron Wilson

This past month was huge for the world of hip hop/rap. Many new albums were released and all of them lived up to their expectations. Some of these were new artists who have recently emerged into stars.

The month started off with the release of Kid Cudi's sophomore album, *Man on the Moon II: The Legend of Mr. Rager*. His first album was a huge success and this album is supposed to shatter the sales compared to his last one. After the leak of a single off the album, people expected big things from this album, and it has exceeded expectations.

Next, came the release of a new female rapper's album, Nicki Minaj. This was her first album released, called *Pink Friday*. She has been featured in several songs, but never a solo album. Nicki Minaj is one of the most prominent female rappers and she is making a name for herself with this recent album.

Lastly came the release of Kanye West's new album. After already proving his superstar status with past success, he released his fifth album called *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*. Kanye West strayed away from his autotune ways and returned to rap. Various big names are on this album, such as John Legend, Rick Ross, Jay Z, Nicki Minaj, among others. West repeatedly alludes to Michael Jackson and his greatness, which shows his respect for music greats.

Overall, this month has been huge for hip hop fans across the nation. From what the critics say, most people agree and are satisfied with these albums and each gets better with another listen.

Chamber Choir Christmas CD

Peter Craig

Last April, The Covington Catholic Chamber Choir completed a CD of which all proceeds benefited the Maria Schaffstein Scholarship Fund. With this CD's success, Jim Wolfe, the choir director, decided to produce another CD this year. He, along with the choir, put their efforts towards a Christmas CD for the 2010-2011 holiday season.

The chamber choir has been working diligently, and they just recently recorded their twelfth and final song. With Christmas favorites like *O Come O Come Emmanuel* and *Mary Did You Know*, this CD promises to be a heart-warming holiday favorite. The seniors of last year's choir even came back to record *I'll be Home for Christmas*. The CD came out December 3rd, and is available for purchase in the Covington Catholic spirit shop for ten dollars. We owe Mr. Jim Wolfe many thanks for his numerous hours in the studio, exceeding all expectations.

Chamber Choir getting ready to record
Photo By: Jake Vogt



Tamar Kaprelian

Trey Nevels

Tamar Kaprelian is a new age girl with an old school attitude. This young 22-year-old woman of Armenian and Irish decent is causing quite a ruckus. She's been involved in music since age 1 when she sang happy birthday to herself. Since those diaper days she has learned three languages; Armenian, which she and the rest of her family speak at home, English, and music.

Tamar began writing songs at age 14 and could not play a single instrument. She taught herself to play the piano by ear to pound out the melodies in her head into a tape recorder. Her father taught her in the classics of rock, as such she listens largely to Queen, Sting, Mika, John Mayer, Alicia Keys, and Coldplay. Her music is from a lifetime ago for today's teenagers, more closely resembling the classic pop of 30+ years ago compared with today's hip-hop.

Song List:

1. New Day
2. Sinner or a Saint
3. Delicate Soul
4. Raining in Paradise
5. Should Have Known Better
6. March Mornings
7. Transcend
8. Raw
9. Purified
10. The Otherside

African Music Assembly

Michael Hellmann

Although Covington Catholic is usually full of excitement already, assemblies make things more interesting. Mornings can sometimes be a hard time for students who like to sleep in, but the African Music Assembly performed by Bi-Okoto Drum and Dance Theatre sure woke people up.

As soon as the students walked into the gym, music was playing and people were dancing all over the place. The three African dancers played the drums and other instruments. Before and after each song, one of the musicians would explain the history and background of the song or dance they were portraying. Along with the history and dancing came costumes and drum lessons. Scary masks and costumes were worn at times to represent the African interpretation of the Boogie Man. While this scary figure was dancing, drums were beating and thumping. The students were taught that the drum they were using has three different noises and places to hit it. Once the assembly came to an end, it was time to have some fun. Volunteers were taken from the crowd to dance and they were taught African dances. Eventually the teachers took on the students in a dance competition and sadly lost.

The assembly lived up to its expectations and it was all around a fun time. Crowd enthusiasm and participation was a big part of the day. The Bi-Okoto Drum and Dance Theatre was a big hit and everyone hopes for their return next year.



Photo by D. Ruth



Keep Your Opinions to Yourself

Kevin Schoettle

Since this is an editorial I am writing, I find it quite appropriate to discuss over the matter of opinions in these modern times. With the ever expanding internet spreading around the world, it seems just about everyone has some sort of say in numerous issues ranging from politics and religion to the mundane things such as television or music. Battles of intellect are held in forums all across the web with warring clans taking opposing sides to different issues. Vulgarisms and insults fly across with rapid speed, back and forth like sharpened arrows welded to take down the enemy with a swift shot to the groin. And yet no one comes to find a compromise to settle the dispute.

Why do so many people partake in such arguments with someone they do not even know, let alone cannot see? My guess is they are venting steam and need to find an outlet where their character cannot be judged. The internet provides a perfect cover to protect that anonymity and allows them to do things that they normally would never do in real life. It's almost like the Matrix, where people adopt new personas to create a second life parallel to the real world. It is essentially a universe within a universe.

You have probably come across comments on Youtube videos that

are made just to incite a raging debate despite the irrelevance it has with the video. People just cannot learn to keep their mouths (or keyboards) shut.

Insults usually arise, with a couple of swear words used to augment the retort. Oh, I have seen my fair share of f-bombs and slanderous talk about people's mamas when the argument gets heated. (Please, let us not bring our dear mothers into this). I have also seen people make fun of others for wasting their valuable time arguing over the internet while they themselves are doing the exact same thing. Do they hold any introspective perceptions about themselves? I think not.

Arguments should pertain to the issue at hand, not verbal attacks to a person's character or level of intellect. A good arguer never aims below the belt. They want to win fairly. An insult does not prove your point, it is a point to prove that you are not mature enough to debate in a professional manner.

So the next time you are thinking about stating your personal opinion online just because you have come across someone who does not share your point of view, ignore it instead of hitting that reply button. You will be just fanning the flames if you do. Is it not your choice to decide when and where you can argue? I will leave that up for debate.

Las Vegas Movie Review

Kevin Schoettle

Just recently over the summer, I had read "Doctor" Hunter S. Thompson's *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* which became one of my favorite novels of all time. Thompson's manic prose and poetic form grappled my attention and forced me to keep reading through the pages to see what weird shenanigans the two characters would get themselves into. I finished the book in one day, spending consecutive hours completely entranced by the author's mystique and savage wit.

Months later, a friend of mine recommended a movie for me to see right away. "What is it called?" I asked.

"Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," he replied. He then handed me the movie case for me to examine. I turned the case over to the back and saw large white letters saying, "Buy the ticket, take the ride". Seeing as my friend already bought the movie, this was going to be a free ride. And what a ride it was.

I was a little skeptical at first. How could someone adapt Hunter's hallucinatory vision into a commercial film? Such a task would compare to decoding the Dead Sea Scrolls—understanding the words does not equal as to what they mean. Enter Terry Gilliam (aka Monty Python) to take up the role as director.

Gilliam succeeds in delivering us Thompson's crazed yet fragmented account on the silver screen—for good or for ill. The movie's plot is plain and simple: A journalist named Raoul Duke (Johnny Depp) and his attorney, Dr. Gonzo (Benicio Del Toro) go together on a cross country trip through the desert highways of Nevada to get to the neon city of Las Vegas to cover the Mint 400 motorcycle race. In their convertible's trunk lies a whole assortment of various drugs such as cocaine, LSD, mescaline, ether, alcohol, and marijuana. It's as if they are riding in a mobile narcotics lab.

Raoul, donning a Hawaiian tee with loosely fitted khaki shorts, and his beer bellied counterpart go stumbling around the heavily lighted strip

in a drunken stupor, blabbering incoherently amongst themselves. They came there for one thing: to find the American Dream. And what better place to look than the city of vice that is Las Vegas. It is during their frantic search that they manage to defile and degrade everything they come across. A hotel room is literally flooded and torn apart, so much that it is warped beyond recognition.

Now that might not sound like such a great movie, and yes, it tends to meander in burnt out stream of consciousness mumbo jumbo. But it is Johnny Depp's excellent narrations, taken verbatim from the novel, that provide a social perspective of the story. Here's one of my favorite quotes from the movie that captures the moment nearing the end of the hippie era.

"There was madness in any direction, at any hour. If not across the Bay, then up the Golden Gate or down 101 to Los Altos or La Honda. . . . You could strike sparks anywhere. There was a fantastic universal sense that whatever we were doing was right, that we were winning. . . .

And that, I think, was the handle—that sense of inevitable victory over the forces of Old and Evil. Not in any mean or military sense; we didn't need that. Our energy would simply prevail. There was no point in fighting—on our side or theirs. We had all the momentum; we were riding the crest of a high and beautiful wave. . . .

So now, less than five years later, you can go up on a steep hill in Las Vegas and look West, and with the right kind of eyes you can almost see the high-water mark—that place where the wave finally broke and rolled back."

It is passages such as this that you forgive the author (or director) for the nonsensical plotline and see the point that they are trying to convey. Certainly, this movie is not for everyone with its grotesque yet poignant look into the underside of the drug addict lifestyle. It is like a child peering under a rock to see all the creepy crawly insects that dwell in the darkness. Whether you would like this movie or not depends on your curiosity and fascination of such creatures. Are you willing to take a peek?

Light it Up

Jake Vogt

For many, the Christmas time just another time of the year. For my family it's a time to decorate the house for the Christmas lights competition. Starting in 1996 my Dad started decorating our house. In 1998, we won third place in the Edgewood light competition. In 2000, Edgewood decided to separate the city into three sections. After two awards, my family decided to decorate my grandparents house so they could get an award as well. Two-thousand and four was the beginning of a dynasty. For the past six years, my family has won the Edgewood light competition.

Most people don't think that putting up Christmas lights would be a complicated task, however as the son of the winningest man in Christmas lights, I beg to differ. My dad has dozens of diagrams of our house with different colors of Christmas lights on them. Two years ago, we decided to transfer to LED lights. The transition was had to get used to at first, but has since made our house on that stands out. The display will be up until a few days after the New Year.



Student Life

Jon Gallenstein Art Scholarship

Kevin Schoettle

Covington Catholic is a school well known for rewarding talent and hard labor. The school gives awards and scholarships ranging from athletic to scholastic achievement. Among these numerous awards is the Jon Gallenstein Scholarship, which grants three sums of \$300 to three art students who have shown their expertise in the artistic field by submitting five of their pieces in a portfolio to be judged by the faculty. The winners are then announced during a dinner where all the contestants are invited to attend.

The scholarship is held to commemorate Jon Gallenstein, a student who passed away during his Junior year at Covington Catholic. Each year his family donates money so that his memory will forever live on in these halls. After all, we are a spirit that will not die.

New Weight Room Adam Shumate

The weight room was opened on November 7, 2010. It was a 65,000 dollar addition to the Schott Building. It has all the brand new high tech machines, and it has the old fashioned benches and squat racks. It includes a treadmill and a bicycle. The weight room is to be used by all students and all the sports except football, which will enjoy their own weight room.

The baseball team is very happy with this new addition. Lucas Armor says, "It is a great new addition that will really help the spring sports, so we will not have to conflict with the football team." Now the baseball team will not have to walk through the cold to get to the batting cages. The new weight room is brand new, and we would like to keep it nice and new.

Chess Club

Luke Schutzman

The Chess Club is a free club, open to all students every Tuesday at Sub Station 2 up the street from Covington Catholic High School. The club is run by Coach McCoy and President Luke Schutzman.

This year the club is bouncing back from losing its senior members who made up around 98% of the members last year. A once 30+ club has managed to pull together 15 regulars at this time. Part of the Chess Club's appeal is its relaxed nature with no sign up, fees, or mandatory attendance. The students come for the chess but stay for the free drinks and great times with friends. From heated rivalries to games over in three moves, anything can happen in the Chess Club. Coach McCoy provides both moral support and constructive criticism to the students. Some say it is to help students get better, but Coach will tell you it is for state. Coach reminds the guys they can always get better by beating anyone who challenges his skill. Few students have ever beat Coach. As of right now the only person known to have beat him is president Luke Schutzman who was quoted saying, "For every time I have beaten Coach, he's won the other 20 times we played". Other Chess Club news includes plans for a school wide tournament, which will take place sometime this spring. The club's last tournament was won by Schutzman two years ago in a controversial finish.

The club is always looking for new guys and everyone is welcome. So head on over to Sub Station 2 after school every Tuesday for chess, free drinks, and good times with the Chess Club.

Exploring the Field Bobby Sturm

On November 18th, Mr. Schneeman's class of Career Exploration took a field trip. They took a field trip to the annual Garnick's farm to see how working on a farm really is. From breeding various types of animals to making food, it seems that the class had a fun time.

As soon as the class arrived at the farm, they were treated by the different kinds of animals at the farm. From pigs, goats, horses and chickens, the class was very excited to pet all of the animals. Afterwards they were led into the barn by Mrs. Garnick and shown how breeding animals is done. The class was shown how to label an animal and how to also protect the animals from the wolves at night. They were then treated with a Reuben sandwich and a drink which they said was "Delicious" and then after they ate it, they were told by Mrs. Garnick that she made the sandwich out of goat meat. Everyone on the field trip had lots of fun and one student that would like to be Anonymous said "I want my own goat! They are awesome."

Vocations Assembly Lucas Armor

Father William Bach, the main vocations recruiter, came to Covington Catholic High School on November 18th to talk about choosing the path of vocations as a life style. He directed the talk more towards the idea of just giving the thought of priesthood a chance, for most people just try to ignore the call from God to the priesthood. Father Bach then had three speakers talk about their experiences. These three speakers are all on their way to the priesthood at the moment. Each one had a different story to tell and different way that they accepted the call of God to give the idea of priesthood a chance. They all seemed pretty attached to their faith, and they might have rubbed off on a few kids too. Their speeches were pretty powerful to say the least.

The thought of priesthood is something that many young Catholics try to brush off and never give a chance, but it's something that every young man needs to at least think about some point in their life.



Alex Tilford and Blake Tewes battle it out
Photo By: Jake Vogt



Photo by D. Ruth



Academic Warriors

Andrew Kendall

The first victory for the Covington Catholic Academic Team seems to be slightly out of reach. What could be holding back these academic warriors?

Academic team is all about answering extremely difficult and obscure questions as fast as possible. The Covington Catholic Academic Team, led by fearless coach Mr. Bill Balskus, is made up of some of the school's finest students. The brains are made up of Jonathan Miller, Matt Baker, Jimmy Nutter, Derek Koshiol, and Andrew Baldrige. Given the recent drought, I caught up with important team member Josh Moorman. "The team is struggling to get the first victory, but the luck should turn around to our side soon." The biggest match of the year against the girls across the street takes place on November 30th.

The team practices every Monday morning before school. That is extreme dedication. Given their extreme dedication a victory should be in their near future. Good luck to the academic team Colonels!

Veterans Day Assembly

Jack Templeton

"Never Give Up!" What a phrase that the Colonels chanted in last year's Veteran's Day Assembly. The memorable words, spoken by Chris Hellman, a veteran of Vietnam, were included in Mr. Hellman's fiery speech that motivated the Student Body in 2009 to truly, never give up.

This year, we were given a different kind of presentation, but with the same focus and inspiration as Mr. Hellman's speech. Mr. Chris Collins, the Junior English teacher, gave the emotional but up beat presentation on his three tours in the conflict in the Middle East. Mr. Collins shared with us his life after the World Trade Center Attack on September 11, to his third and final tour where he was fighting for our country just a few months ago. Not only did he share his words with us, but also a slide show of pictures from his three tours, highlighting his missions and pastimes such as raising a pet camel spider.

The Veteran's Day Assembly was held on November 7, the day that will live in infamy, as it was the day that Pearl Harbor was attacked. Each year we honor our Veterans whether they fought in World War II or in the current Iraqi War. We thank Mr. Collins for sharing with us his experiences of the war and for Mr. Hellman for dropping by and reminding us to "Never Give Up!"



Two Veteran Colonels check out some WWII weaponry on display.
Photo by D. Ruth

Photo Club

Luke Schutzman

The Photo Club is run by English teacher Mrs. Ruth and student president Daman Clemons. The club goes on numerous outings throughout the year to places like Highlands Cemetery to get good photos and has a pancake breakfast about once every month to raise funds for the annual school wide photo contest.

With the new year the Photo Club photo contest is that much closer. And students are urged to start looking now for great shots to enter into the tournament. Each year three photos are awarded prize money for first through third place. Last year's winner teacher Mr. Snyder had this to say about winning, "after eight years of entering first place worthy photos he has finally won." So for all those student and faculty out there with a camera get out there and get your prize winning photos.

All School Mass

Cory Matsko

The all school mass for November was slightly out of the norm, they had to announce two months worth of best awards and Dennis Doyle was commended for his donations to the school's scholarship fund.

Winners of the best awards for the months of September and October were Seniors Lucas Armor and Joe Sizemore, Juniors Garrett Oien and Sean Cooney, Sophomores Alex Hodge and Bret Micek, and Freshmen Tony Goble and Christian Stewart. Congratulations to these candidates for their hard work and effort over the past couple of months.

To conclude the ceremony, Dennis Doyle gave a speech on what it meant to go to a Catholic School and the importance of giving money to charities and Catholic Schools. Dennis and His wife Lois are parents of four children Brian, Mark, Mary Beth, and David. They all attended Catholic Schools when growing up, and that is the reason for the major donations made to Covington Catholic. Their faith is so strong and their love for a Catholic education is so immense that Dennis donated a million dollar endowment fund to insure that less fortunate children could receive the same education that he received. In 2006, the Doyle family contacted Mrs. Sue Finke, from the Development Office, expressing their interest in donating money for scholarships. His donations led to the start of the first of eight scholarships set up by the Doyle Foundation. Dennis decided to donate because his good friend Tim Shields spoke highly of the Covington Catholic community, and now his involvement in the school is incredible.

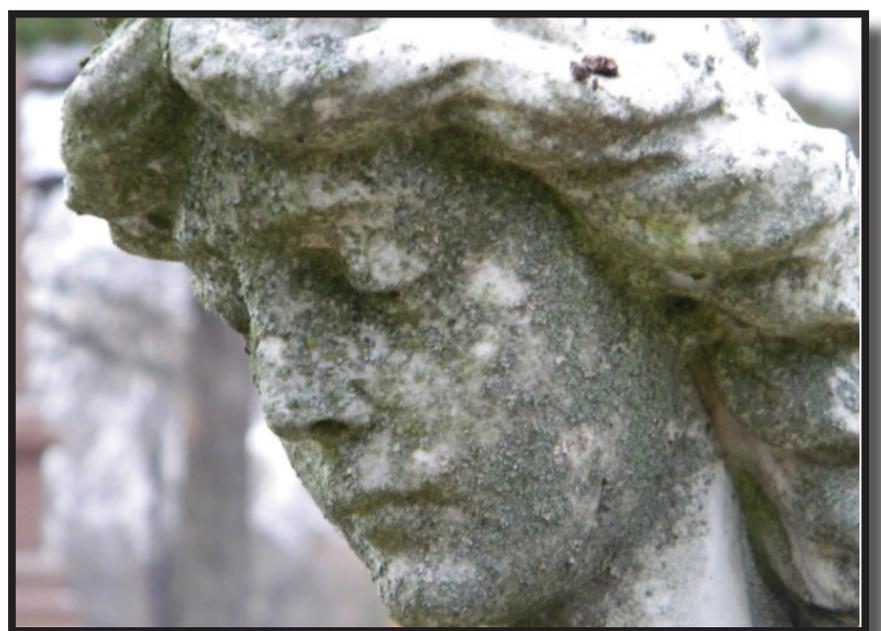
Thanks to the Doyle family for all of their generous donations to the Covington Catholic Community. We appreciate it greatly and hope to build an even greater relationship in the future.



Above: Father Gallenstein prays over the cup.

Photo by D. Ruth

Below: Spring Grove Cemetery photo by Casey Stone.





Colonels Enter Season with High Hopes

Aaron Wilson

It is that time of year again; Cov Cath Basketball is starting up again and with higher expectations than ever. The season tips off on November 30 at home against Montgomery County. The team hopes to capitalize off a strong end to the season last year, losing in the semifinals to eventual Regional Champs Newport Wildcats.

The Colonels return their leading scorer this year in center Jake Thelen. Thelen was the team's leading scorer a year ago and was voted one of the Top 10 players in the region in a preseason coach's poll. The Colonels not only expect things from Thelen offensively, but especially defensively. The region is full of talent this year when it comes to big men and Thelen's defensive success will be key. The Colonels also lacked an outside shot last year, and senior Brett Reidinger hopes to change that with his wicked jump shot. Also, look for Alex Connelly and Drew Baker to be creating havoc down low on defense, who have a knack for blocking shots. Not to mention, their athleticism and dunking abilities will bring much excitement to the crowd. The Colonels expect to play at a very up-tempo pace this year, using the speed of Connor Maschinot and Austin Hudepohl. Andrew Schult will also be helping the Colonels, especially on the defensive end, pestering the opponents to no end.

The Colonels do not enter this season as preseason favorites to win the region, but the team certainly has the potential to get there. "We have very high expectations for this year. We look to take it game by game and grow as a team, and hopefully end up at Rupp Arena," says senior leader Brett Reidinger. Many people feel the regional title is up for grabs this year and with the Colonels depth and experience, this could easily be done. After a rough few years, Cov Cath Basketball seems to be back to its winning ways and regional title is in sight.

A Tale of Talent: An Insider look at the Covington Catholic Swim and Dive Team

Kevin Tillman

The Covington Catholic Aqua Colonels, a perennial powerhouse, are seen as favorites for a thirteenth straight regional title and also will likely improve upon their fourth place finish at the state meet last year. They are led by a veteran senior class, consisting of four year swimmers Kevin Tillman, John Turner, Alex Emerson, and Doug Kaiser, as well as juniors Hunter Pasek and Sam Mullen, the oft mentioned talent of sophomore Max Williamson, and an assortment of strong freshmen, led by Chase Vennefron.

The team has grown exponentially since 2008, with the installation of Richard Dickmann as the head coach. The team has forty swimmers and divers, double that of just a year ago. New assistant coach Vennefron is a fantastic asset for teaching techniques to all the swimmers just starting their careers. The aqua Colonels kick off their campaign with the Mason Invitational on December 4th and look forward to a successful season.



Connor Cleves makes his presence known.
Photo By Diane Ruth

Blue and White Scrimmage Drew Baker

The annual Blue and White scrimmage is a chance for boosters, parents, and friends to see the basketball team one final time before the season starts. The Blue White night is a hype up night and a chance to let everyone see all the hard work that the basketball team has put into the preseason.

The night began with Freshmen scrimmaging Freshmen. Brian Rattcliff, the point guard hopes to lead the Colonels to a Freshman Championship. Mark Schult also tries to help the freshman team. Mark Schult is the 3rd Schult brother to go through Covington Catholic basketball and all have played basketball under Coach Listerman. Then freshman scrimmaged the junior varsity. The junior varsity team handled the freshmen with little to no problems showing experience matters. Next, was the Junior Varsity only scrimmage. This game was very fun to watch. This scrimmage featured many sophomores such as a fast and great shooter Cameron Murphy, another fantastic shooter and good ball handler Brandon Ward, another guard and Nick Fredrick who looks to lead the JV squad. The J.V. team is coached by Ed Tranter. He is a very fast pace coach who lives on defense and easy shot offense. Then was the Varsity scrimmage. This was led by the seven seniors. Great offense from Jake Thelen, highflying and shot-blocking Drew Baker, all around athletic in Alex "Cubby" Connelly, full of energy and all around spark Andrew Schult, one of the fastest and best ball handlers Connor Maschinot, One of the only pure shooters Brett Reidinger, and a very fast player and a lock down defender Austin Hudepohl. At half time of the scrimmage was the dunk contest which featured Jake thelen Alex Connelly, and the defending champion Drew Baker. The dunk contest has 3 rounds and four attempts each round. Drew Baker defended his title with the help of his Austin Hudepohl always placing the ball exactly where Drew needs it. When asked about the dunk contest Michael Rosado said Drew and Austin are like the Batman of Robin of dunk Contest winning this 2 years in a row. Finally was the 3 point shooting Contest which featured Nick Fredrick, Connor Cleves, Brett Reidinger and the the celebrity Christian Schulte. Christian gave the team a very close match but Nick Fredrick came out on top.

This night was capped off with a team dinner and a few words by Coach L and Mr. Cleves on behalf of the boosters. The team now looks to start the season and end the drought of regional titles. GOOD LUCK COLONELS!