

The Covington Catholic Times

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TEAMS

Luke Schutzman

The TEAMS Competition is a test of students skills in math and science were schools bring their top brainiacs to compete. This year the competition was held on March 2nd at the University of Cincinnati.

The Colonels came out swinging this year taking first place in varsity and second in JV in the region and first in the state for both teams. The teams will know how they did in nationals by the second week of April. The Colonels defended their first place win from last year, and moderator Mr. Hartman expects the team to be strong next year. He also urges anyone who likes math to try out for the team next year and that they are always looking for new talent.



The varsity team showcasing their trophy
Photo by: Diane Ruth

NEHS Promotes Reading

Andrew Kendall

National English Honors Society continues to stay true to their vows of service and love for the English language. Students have worked hard to make sure that the Society goes above and beyond its given standards. They have worked in the school and out in the community and have been very busy.

Service is a very large part of National English Honors Society. Students have taken time out of their busy schedules to read to the elderly at Madonna Manor, to read to children at Barnes and Noble, and also to create a love for writing in incoming freshman. The society created a service project for students to go to Barnes and Noble and read to young children. Once a month on a Wednesday a group of members go to Madonna Manor nursing home and read to the elderly.

Recently, Covington Catholic's chapter of the National English Honors Society started a writing contest for incoming freshmen at the feeder schools to allow them to exhibit their talents. A request for a grant was sent to the headquarters of the society and NEHS received two hundred dollars in grant money. This will go towards the award money of the writing contest.

National English Honors society continues to make a strong statement in their promise to spreading the love for writing and English. Their contributions have created a strong reputation for not only NEHS but for Covington Catholic as a whole.



Students read to the elderly
Photo by: Diane Ruth

New Student at CCH

Anuel Nevels

Many of the students have heard tell of a new student. In a school where rumors fly faster than SR-71, I assure you the rumors this time are true. His name is Cass Hoke and he hails from Eastern High in Louisville. "Why," you may ask, "is a freshman from Eastern High in Louisville now a Covington Catholic Colonel?" The answer is quite simple, "I previously lived in Louisville with my Grandpa, but now I had moved up here with Mom," says Cass.

Cass plans on joining the BUG Club, Art, Engineering, Environmental, and Chess Clubs as well. He plays no sports but does DJ and write songs outside of school. Mr. Haders is his favorite teacher, and the pool on the roof is his favorite CCH legend; Oblivion is his favorite video game.

When asked to compare CCH and Eastern, Cass said this, "CCH is more educationally focused and more uptight than Eastern ever was." There are many students who would agree with such a statement, even when comparing CCH to the CCH of four years ago when our current seniors were freshmen.

Cas listens at the Day of Reflection.
Photo by: Diane Ruth



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Graduates: Where Are They Now?

Lucas Armor

Last year, Mr. Fred Hellmann came to Covington Catholic High School to talk about his experiences during the Vietnam War for Veterans Day. The theme behind his speech was the simple phrase, "Never give up!" Mr. Hellmann said that he still lives his life by this phrase and that has not change in the past year.

While attending his nephew's, David Bresser, promotional to Lieutenant Colonel, Mr. Hellmann reunited with a very old friend of his. Back in the Vietnam War, he had spent almost four months in a rat-infested bunker with a man named Carl Behm. Forty-four years later on March 1st, they were finally reunited and were able to catch up on all those years away from each other.

There was also recently a time when Fred Hellmann's nephew took him on a little tour to see Blackhawk helicopters. Mr. Hellmann said that this reminded him of his last day "In Country" when he was lying wounded next to the legs of a crew chief gunner while he was firing his 50 caliber when the chopper started to rise. This remembrance made Mr. Hellmann want to talk to a present day flight group, and just emphasize how much he appreciated the chopper crew while he was in Vietnam.

These were all great experiences for Mr. Fred Hellmann as he continues to live his life by the phrase, "Never give up!"



Carl Behm & Fred Hellmann in mortar pit on Hill 65 Sept 1966



Current Blackhawk Pilot at left talks to Lt. Colonel David Bresser, also a CCH Colonel



Carl Behm and Fred Hellmann now

Mom Eats Pizza While 3-Year-Old Son Lies Dying

Cory Matsko

On March 5, 2011, an Orange County judge ruled that a woman who participated in the abuse of her son and ate pizza while her son lay dying will remain in jail without bail.

Robin Greinke and her boyfriend Steven Neil were arrested Thursday on charges of aggravated child abuse, child neglect and first-degree murder in the death of Greinke's 3-year-old-son. Robin did not say much in her initial appearance before the Orange County jail this morning, but she was scheduled to appear before the judge last Friday. However, she was on suicide watch and was unable to appear in court. Her boyfriend was denied bond last Friday. The couple is not allowed to come in contact with one another.

The couple was reported to have pinched, poked, and kicked the 3-year-old boy. Neil was even reported to have been slamming the boy repeatedly on the floor and throwing him headfirst into a wooden sofa frame. Greinke and Neil proceeded to eat pizza after beating the boy. They called for help on Tuesday morning when they found the boy unresponsive. They told authorities that the boy had experienced a seizure, and he could have died from meningitis. Reports also say that the injuries may have come from a fall. The couple later told authorities that they were punishing the child for wetting his pants.

Disaster in the Pacific

Bobby Sturm

On March 11, 2011, at about 2:46 pm JST, an unbelievable 9.0-magnitude earthquake occurred near the eastern coast of Japan. This earthquake also came packed with a massive tsunami a few minutes later. Luckily, some of the inhabitants were evacuated with the early warnings of the quake, but many are considered dead or still missing. Towns have literally vanished, being washed away from the tsunami, and food and water have been contaminated with radiation due to the power plants being destroyed. This disaster is the worst Japan has received on record, which dates back 140 years. This disaster has affected everyone around the world from Japan's products they export and the presence in the stock market.

Japan has helped Americans with their disasters from Hurricane Katrina and 9/11 since the time after World War II. During this time of astonishment and depression, we must help Japan with donations. Organizations such as Red Cross are accepting donations from everyone. It will take years, maybe even decades to get Eastern Japan back to the way it was but with contribution from everyone, we will leave this disaster behind us.

Cage the Elephant Review

Bobby Sturm

Cage the Elephant is an American rock band formed in the Southwestern part of Kentucky called Bowling Green. They released their first album on 2008 called **Cage the Elephant** while debuting their single, *Ain't no Rest for the Wicked*. The album received brilliant reviews and their songs were featured on the NFL, movies and a videogame called *Borderlands* within months of the album's release. Cage the Elephant has released their second album, **Thank You, Happy Birthday**, along with their single, *Shake Me Down*. They have been touring lately with the Stone Temple Pilots and are continuing to get more popular.

The verdict with Cage the Elephant for me is 4 out of 5 stars. Cage the Elephant, even with its wacky name is continuing to be heard everywhere from the radio to television shows such as *Saturday Night Live*. As a fan of the rock and roll genre, I like the sound of their music and with most other bands they change the sound of their music in their second album; Cage the Elephant does not. Their music allows the listener to feel calm and then energized but without the singer yelling like most other bands. The band does not make a mark on the music business but is trying to, and I have faith on their future albums. When I went to their concert last summer, I learned that their fans are a little "classier" than most other rock bands. This is good if you want to enjoy the concert and not worry about getting into a circle full of people pushing everyone. Also, if you are a fan of Stone Temple Pilots, like I am, you cannot let yourself from missing one heck of a good concert when they come around.

Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

Jonah Scott

One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them,
One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them.

Frodo Baggins receives a special gift from his uncle. This was the text inscribed and made visible by fel fire. Bilbo Baggins, the Hobbit, is retiring from his normal life. He is returning to his wandering life he enjoyed as a "young" Hobbit. During his adventures he garnered a special, magic ring. He now gives to Frodo.

The Ring is much more than Bilbo or Frodo realizes. Gandalf the Wizard returns to the Shire and finally identifies it. It is the primary magic ring of their world, and it's evil. The Dark Lord Sauron, ruler over the Mordor, wants the ring returned, to give him complete power over all of Middle Earth. Gollum, a pitiful and gaunt creature, and the prior owner of the Ring before Bilbo, wants the Ring back for himself.

Middle Earth itself is gearing up towards a war. The Ring is only a part of the evil spreading over the land. Frodo and three Hobbit friends escape from their country just in time. Frodo is being sought by Nine Black Riders, minions of Sauron. Gandalf was supposed to join Frodo, but does not make it before they have to leave.

Thus begins one of the best classic fantasy quests of all time. There is no way to summarize the first of the trilogy in a short review. The characters are fascinating, from the Hobbits through the Wizard, the elves, the dwarves, the Orcs, the Riders, and the Men. This is not just a story of good beings against evil beings, but of people within themselves as well. The next two books are needed to complete the story - [The Two Towers](#) and [The Return of the King](#). Remember, too, that the story really starts with [The Hobbit](#), and that starts with [The Silmarillion](#). This story has held the eyes and minds of children and adults alike for over 40 years, and continues to do so. Thus, I feel obligated to give this trilogy, and more specifically this book, a great review.

A 5/5

Music from Scratch Performs at CCH

Jonah Scott

If this school lacks anything at all, it is music. Students go about the hallways listening to the riotous drones of mumbling from fellow students, all equating to a very dull and boring class commute. To remedy this situation, CCH has brought a group of professional percussionists called Music from Scratch to play music for the freshmen and juniors!

On March 4th, the students of CCH got a very special treat! Three highly skilled percussionists came, armed with an assortment of indigenous instruments, from marimbas to tjembes. All were enthused by the loud and rhythmic noises coming from the Griffin Centre, and they even played some original songs. The men were all very skilled at what they did and it showed, rattling off numerous degrees and concerts, Doctorates and references. All were impressed by their rhythm and dedication to the craft.

All in all, the students of CCH were pleased with the players many songs and talents. Freshman Aaron Schilling even had this to say, "It was epic, truly epic. Noise filled the church in a joyful din." with that being said, I am sure everyone would welcome them back with open arms and hearts beating like the drums they played so well.



Artwork by Austin Hudepohl (Top)

Artwork by Casey Stone (Bottom)





Energy Drinks: Are They Bad For Us?

Philip Ryan

Rockstar! Monster! Full Throttle! Nos! These energy drink companies among many others are cause for a major debate over the last few years: are energy drinks harmful?

According to Web MD, one cup of strong coffee contains about 125-150 milligrams of caffeine, a 12-ounce can of cola contains 35-38 milligrams and an 8-ounce can of a given energy drink may contain up to 280 milligrams of the stimulant. While this sounds good to the average college student who may need a quick burst of energy while studying, the unnecessary amounts of caffeine and other less-recognized ingredients can be the most detrimental to our health. Most, if not all energy drinks contain ingredients such as taurine, ginseng, and guarana. All of these ingredients, if over-consumed, can cause some major side effects such as heart palpitations, upset stomachs, leg weakness, raised blood pressure, nervousness, and even addiction. There have been countless reported deaths of teenagers who have ignored these severe side effects and have forever given their family and friends a burden to bear. The Food and Drug Administration, for this reason, limits the amount of caffeine in soft drinks to 71mg for 12 ounces; however, energy drinks are not regulated.

With 31 percent of U.S. teens drinking energy drinks today and office workers substituting them for their little cup of morning coffee, energy drinks are becoming the new miracle drug. We must monitor our caffeine consumption and truly raise awareness about the potentially harmful effects of this relatively new, booming industry.

Do Seniors Feel Compelled to Go to Their Senior Prom Despite the Cost?

Lucas Armor

It seems that in recent years, Prom has gotten more and more expensive. It could be just because of the economy or maybe schools are just taking advantage of the students' money. Either way, the price is starting to convince some students that it is not worth attending if it means paying all that money for one night of pictures and dressing up in expensive clothes.

As a student myself, I know a few prime examples who are caught in the middle of this dilemma, but I will keep them anonymous. One of my close friends has only been to one dance his entire high school career, sophomore homecoming and that was it. Back then we found him a date because he does not really go out much, and I would guess he did not really have a good time. Now that senior Prom is his last chance to go to another dance, all of his friends and even his mother want him to go. A few problems are that we would have to find him a date again, but that is not hard because we think we already found him one, but the bigger problem is convincing him to pay the \$90 for a ticket and the money it costs to get a tux. His mom said that she is more than willing to pay that money for him, but this kid likes to pinch his pennies. His family is not going broke; it is more of the idea that he does not want to spend all that money on something like Prom when he could spend it on something that he would enjoy a lot more.

Now honestly, the best way I think we can fix this price problem is to have a sort of fundraiser or multiple fundraisers throughout the year that would raise money for Prom so that the students and their families do not have to spend this much money for one day. I know a hand full of kids that would rather not spend all that money and just do something else that night that does not cost nearly as much then have to pay all that money just to get dressed up and go to a big open room with a dance floor that has music.

Obviously, this is all just my opinion and I am sticking to it. To answer the question in a sentence, I would say no, seniors do not feel compelled to go to their Senior Prom despite the cost, because in reality it might just be the cost that is keeping them away from Prom.

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Scholastic Awards Ceremony

Casey Stone

On Sunday March 6 Covington Catholic High School hosted the 2011 Scholastic Writing Awards for the Northern Kentucky Writing Region in the Griffin Centre. The award ceremony hosted some of the best writers in Northern Kentucky.

The writers ranged from middle school to high school and from schools all over NKY. There were three separate awards, the Gold Key Award, the most exceptional honors for works that show outstanding writing that is original, demonstrates the best technique, and has a personal voice. The next award was the Silver Key Award, recipients who demonstrate high honors only on the regional level, then the Certificate of Merit, recognizing artistic potential. Writers from CovCath include Khang Le, Kevin Schoettle, and Jimmy Stratman receiving Gold Keys, Grant Guess, and Liem Le with Silver Keys, and Tom Burns, Will Henry, Norbert Wessels went home with a Certificate of Merit. Many of our students won more than one award in the night. The Gold Key winners will go onto the National Competition in New York later this year.

This just shows how many great writers there are in our school! So if you see them in the halls congratulate them and wish them luck if they are going onto New York.

Chastity Talk

Jack Templeton

Sophomores and freshmen from Covington Catholic and Notre Dame packed into the gym to hear the annual chastity talk. On Wednesday, March 16, 2011, Chris Stefanick dropped by to share some knowledge on the topics of chastity and sex.

Stefanick was not the run of the mill speaker but a jubilant, crowd pleaser who appeals to high school students' humor. Not only did he cover all of the important and serious parts of chastity, the real reason for his presentation, but he also kept the crowd entertained with interactive exercises and activities. He talked about his life as a teenager and his life now with his wife and two kids, relating to how the challenges of high school can weigh down on a kid and temptation can be high. The most important thing he shared, however, is the importance of marriage and the rewards of saving yourself for your partner.

All in all, Stefanick's talk was a hit. Covington Catholic and Notre Dame students walked away with a valuable lesson and a great experience. So if you are looking for a chastity talk presenter who will not put you to sleep, look no further than the man, Chris Stefanick.



Chris jokes with sophomores Matt Summe and Alex Hodge

Photo by: Jack Templeton

Pro Life Club

Jake Read

The hot new club at Cov Cath is the Pro-Life Club with over 50 members. Faculty and students have joined the club. Every first Saturday of each month the club walks to Holy Name Church located at 2448 Auburn Avenue in Cincinnati. Once they reach the Church they attend mass and a Benediction service.

The Pro-Life Club meets the first Saturday of every month. These people walk for life as they pray the rosary from the Benedictine Church to the Planned Parenthood building. If you are a member in this club you must be Pro-life, pray the rosary on the first Tuesday of each month- named, "Pro-life Tuesday," and participate in the, "March for Life." You must also do your best to recruit others to join the club.

Being a missionary for life is such a great thing and Cov Cath is the front runner for this club. You must pray for the end of abortion in our country. Give up your Saturday and Tuesday mornings at the beginning of each month to help save the lives of babies! Hopefully other schools will come in and join our good cause!

Chess Club Tournament

Luke Schutzman

The Chess Club meets every Tuesday at Sub Station 2 for chess, free drinks and good times.

The Chess tournament will take place this year at Sub Station 2. There is no entrance fee to enter students are asked to come on Tuesdays to play tournament games. This year's tournament promises to be exciting and a true test of skill and wit. Games will be fierce and there may be blood and there will be tears. This grand tournament will decide once and for all who is the best chess master at Cov Cath.

Cadaver Lab

Lucas Armor

Anatomy classes traditionally go see two cadavers at NKU for their big field trip of the year, so on March 7th all of the Anatomy classes at Covington Catholic High School visited Northern Kentucky University in Alexandria, Kentucky.

Teacher and moderator of the field trip, Mr. Eckerle, took each class separately throughout the course of the day. When one of the classes arrived there they would go to Northern's Science Building. They would then go up into a regular classroom where Coach Eck (Mr. Eckerle) would brief them on what they were about to see and how he expected them to act. He would then proceed, making sure that everyone had a pair of plastic gloves on before entering the next room. Once he saw that everyone was wearing gloves, he would lead them into the next room. In this room there were two body bags lying on two tables. When Coach Eck opened the body bags one contained a female cadaver, and the other contained a male cadaver. Everyone was allowed to look at each as Coach Eck explained the different anatomy. The faces of the cadavers are hidden so the students cannot identify them. Surprisingly, no one felt queasy after seeing the cadavers, and everyone was able to go back to Covington Catholic lunch. Senior Aaron Wilson was quoted saying, "Most of my friends went on this field trip last year and said it wasn't that bad, but I just wanted to see for myself. Turns out it wasn't that bad at all. I really enjoyed it, actually."

The overall field trip for each class was a little over an hour and a half, which gave Coach Eck plenty of time to take each of his anatomy classes to NKU and not be rushed. Overall it was a great experience for a high school Anatomy class to have and should be recommended to other schools who offer the same course.



Photo Contest Christian Schulte

Monday, March 28 the judging was finished in the Photo Club's school wide photo contest. Several students and faculty participated in the contest. The winner of the photo contest and \$100 was sophomore Noah Gripshover. In second place was senior Jake Vogt, who received \$75 for his photo. Sophomore Skylar Finn finished in third place and won \$50. The Award of Excellence went to junior, Joey Drees, and he received a total of \$25 for his photo. Faculty who participated were Ms. Dugan and Mr. Snyder.

The photos were judged by six judges. Four of them were from Prestige and the other two were Covington Catholic's own Mr. Haders and Mrs. Blankenbuehler. The photo contest is always fun to be involved in and gets better every year, so make sure you do not miss it next year!



Drees's photo



Finn's photo

Gripshover's photo





Sports

2011 Colonel Baseball Preview

Cory Matsko

The Colonels return this season looking to make a statement after finishing last season with a 25 and 15 record. They finished the season with a loss in the regional tournament to a very talented Boone County team. The team lost 7 starters from last season and is looking to become a junior oriented ball club this year.

Senior leadership this season will come from the talented pitchers in this years rotation. Adam Schumate and Mike Hellmann will be looking to carry the team to the state tournament this year. Also, starting left fielder, Jake Nienaber, is another senior that will be trying to end his Colonel career on a good note. Other players to watch this season will be juniors, Brady Reese, Corey Severson, and Jake Lankeit. This years roster is very talented so it seems as if a succesful season will not be too much to ask for this year.

The baseball Colonels will be opening their season next Saturday, April 2nd, 2011 against the Newport Central Catholic Throughbreds.

2011 Tennis Preview

Andrew Kendall

Tennis is one of the most storied programs in Covington Catholic sports history. Led by the great Coach Al Hertsenberg, the tennis team has a lot to live up to after last year. Although they lost Jimmy Roebker, Daniel Sullivan, and Jacob Litmer the tennis team plans to make a run for another regional championship.

The team is led by Haden Cotton who is looking to attain his first individual region championship in singles. The lineup doesn't have one star player though; it has a lot of depth all the way down to the second doubles team. Seniors Andrew Schult and Brett Riedinger, Junior Stephen Shaefer, and Sophomores Joey Kendall and Scott Drees all look to make contributions to the team.

With a team of this depth and talent a region championship is in sight. Look for the Colonels tennis team to make a run come regional and state tournament time. One thing is for sure though, they will be the best dressed team in the state with their team shoes and uniforms.

2011 Track Preview

Anuel Nevels

Last year the fleet footed Track Colonels finished 3rd in State and won the Region. This year the team has lost some very valuable performers but the coaching staff is confident that the team as a whole will be just as strong. The coaches predict that CCH will win the region and be in the Top 3 or 4 in the State. "We're hoping for a better finish from last year," says Assistant Coach Tom Arnold.

According to the coaches our strongest leaders on the team this year will be Alex Connelly, Connor Maschinot, Austin Hudepohl, Troy Timmerman, and Alex Flynn. Our biggest opponents this year will be Louisville Central who is the returning State Champion, Paducah Tillman, and North Oldham. Out of CCH's own region the only worry seems to be Lex Cath who consistently has a stong team.



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