



# XAVIER NEWS

St. Xavier High School

1609 Poplar Level Road, Louisville KY 40217

October 2008

## Golf Team Wins 17th State Title

Photo by Tim Porco

### Payne captures individual title



By Bryan Just

The Tiger golf team ended an impressive 2008 season in style by winning its 17th state championship, the second in five years. They finished a perfect 9-0 with seven first-place tournament finishes, including regional and both individual and team state championships. Junior David Payne's performance led the team to victory, and he was subsequently named Kentucky's Mr. Golf.

Over the summer Saint Xavier experienced the loss of a legend, as Coach Marty Donlon retired after 45 years of excellence. Donlon was recognized as a National Coach of the Year three times, and was inducted into the Bellarmine University Hall of Fame in 1986, the St. X Alumni Hall of Honors in 1992, the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1996, the Metro Area Athletic Directors Hall of Fame in 2002, and the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame in 1994. If the awards are not enough proof of Donlon's greatness as a coach, the players he has coached throughout the years all offer additional evidence.

"Coach D. is a great coach and an even better person," said Brian Gunter, a basketball player and former Donlon student. "He could always lighten a situation while keeping a serious manner."

As Donlon's successor, St. X



David Payne with new St. X golf coach Mr. Dan Utley

chose a proven golfer named Dan Utley—a University of Louisville grad who has won the Kentucky State Amateur Championship and been a member of the PGA of America throughout his golfing career. Coach Utley plans to continue the legacy that Donlon has passed on and keep the St. X golf team at the top in the state. He has taken the first step by winning a State Championship in his first season.

With a new coach and a talented team, the Tigers started their season with a fourth-place finish out of 15 teams at the George Rogers Clark Invitational. The team was led by a two-under-par 70, shot by sophomore Justin Thomas. Next, the Tigers picked up their first and second first-place tournament finishes by defeating Dunbar by three strokes in the Franklin County Classic and Somerset by 15 in the Taylor County Invitational.

Next for the team was a match against Manual, which they won by nine strokes. The Tigers' streak continued with a win at the Kentucky Invitational Tournament, where Thomas' two-under-par 70 led the team to a five-stroke win over last year's state champions, Marshall County.

The next two events were matches against Christian Academy and North Oldham. The team won both behind two-under-par performances from Robert Bader and Bryan Ratterman. The Tigers then claimed second place out of 24 in the PRP invitational behind good showings from Michael Ising and Michael Oldiges, and third in the McDonalds Invitational in King-

sport, Tennessee. The McDonalds Invitational is an exclusive tournament, inviting only 16 elite schools.

They next collected wins over Ballard and Male, led by junior Patrick Sullivan. The Tigers were then paired with Assumption against the combined team of Trinity and Sacred Heart. David Shearn and Ryan McLeland led the Tigers. Although the combined St. X/Assumption team lost, St. X shot the lowest of all schools, shooting eight less than second-place Trinity. The Tigers finished up the regular season by winning their last three matches from the great play of Ryan Glass and Bader, and claim-

ing first-place finishes in the Bowling Green Invitational and North Hardin Invitational.

With the season near its end, all that stood between the St. X golf team and its 17th State Championship were the Regional and State Tournaments. "I feel we are the favorites, and we just need to play our game and win a championship," said Bader before the tournament. The Tigers dominated the Regional Tournament, beating second-place Male by 20 strokes. The team was lead by Ratterman, Thomas and Payne.

Last on the agenda was the State Tournament, where Thomas and Payne played some of their best golf of the season. Payne shot a four-under-par 68 on the first day of the tournament, and a one-under-par on the second day after birdieing four of the last eight holes.

Payne's final birdie on 18 not only helped the overall team score, but also forced a playoff hole with Marshall County's Travis Thompson for the individual championship. On the extra hole, Payne took a par and claimed victory as Thompson's bogey was not enough.

"Going in I thought we had a good chance," said Payne. "A lot of teams played well, but I am glad we were able to pull out a win."

## Welcome to the Jungle Bronze tiger welcomes visitors to stadium



By Matthew Vories

Opponents will now have a new tiger to watch out for in the plaza between the football and baseball fields. A 1,000-pound bronze tiger is now crouched on a pedestal just inside gate one of Brother Thomas More Stadium. This lifelike tiger is almost eight feet in length from his tail to his outreached paw, to ensure that its presence is felt by all who come to watch the games.

The monumental statue, which was made possible by donors John and

Marlene Bohn, was created by Matthew Weir, a 1999 graduate of Saint Xavier. Maybe the most amazing thing about this is that Weir constructed the tiger in just over a year and a half.

From now on, whenever sports are played at one of the St. X athletic fields, the bronze tiger will pay tribute to the power and strength of our teams.



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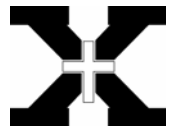
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## 11 Seniors Named National Merit Semifinalists

Eleven St. X seniors have been named National Merit Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. These talented seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships. Finalists will be named in February with scholarship winners announced next spring.



Pictured are: (first row) John Bolander and Michael Hogan; (second row) Ross Cunningham, Akash Gupta and Christopher Fargen; (third row) Matthew Seabold, Derek Bekebrede and Luke Glaser; (fourth row) Francis McNamara IV, Aaron Riggs and Samuel Walling.

In addition, 12 seniors have been named Commended Students in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2009 competition by taking the 2007 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Congratulations to: Alexander Beattie, Michael Grace, Michael Grantz, Nathan Horrell, Patrick King, Ryan McLeland, Peter Meredith, Daniel Nall, Alex Naser-Hall, Anthony Puopolo, Patrick Robinson, and William Spence.

## Freshman Scholars



Thirty-five members of the Class of 2012 were named Xavier Scholars after scoring in the top 5% on the placement exam last December. The following students were honored at the Scholars' Reception on October 22: William Arnold (Holy Spirit); Zachary Beavin (Holy Trinity); Austin Bosemer (St. Patrick); Mitchell Brinkworth (Holy Family-New Albany); Dallas Browning (St. Gabriel); Tyler Buttleman (St. Edward); Dillon Campbell (St. Nicholas Academy); Hunter Collins (North Oldham Middle); Alexander Gornet (Mother of Good Counsel); David Gould (South Oldham Middle); John Gries (St. Patrick); Brian Herbert (Holy Spirit); Oliver Kauffmann (Our Lady of Lourdes); Andrew Knight (St. Margaret Mary); Benjamin Koch (St. Agnes); Ryan Lee (Holy Trinity); Robert Lewis (Meyzeek); Andrew Miller (Sacred Heart Model); Philip Moore (St. Margaret Mary); Nathan Nowacki\* (North Oldham Middle); John Ramsey (Anchorage); Michael Ryan (St. Aloysius-Pewee Valley); William Ryan III (St. Agnes); Christopher Saldana (St. Bernard); Daniel Scrivener (St. Michael); Joseph Siami (Highland Latin); Connor Smith (St. Margaret Mary); Vincent Stephen (Sacred Heart Model); Grant Sternberg (Anchorage); Gabriel Sutkamp (Holy Trinity); Michael Tedder (St. Raphael); Jacob Thomas (St. Martha); William Tompkins IV (St. Martha); Thomas White (St. Margaret Mary); and Reilly Williams (St. Agnes). \*not pictured

## College Board Recognizes AP Scholars

The College Board has honored 58 recent Saint Xavier High School graduates and one current student, Akash Gupta, as AP Scholars in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program Exams administered in May 2008.

## Zoo Selects Leist as Ambassador

The Louisville Zoo recently selected St. X junior Sam Leist to be the Zoo's ambassador during Polar Bear International's week-long Polar Bear Leadership Camp. Leist and 16 other high school students from around the world traveled to Churchill, Manitoba, Canada from October 2-9 to study polar bears during their fall migration and collect field data with scientists. The camp includes intense field work that exposes students to all sides of the issues facing polar bears and humans in the Churchill region.

Leist, who has been a teen volunteer at the Zoo since 2006 and an active Zoo Youth Board member, said he has always been interested in the conservation of wildlife. "Last year, I created a presentation at my high school about polar bears and their natural habitat," Leist said. "During this project I learned of their tragic situation. It is an act of injustice that this species, along with many of Earth's other wonders, are dying out so rapidly. I believe that any attempt to help inform the general public of this situation should be endorsed."



## Gupta Receives Bell Award for Service

Akash Gupta, a National Merit Semifinalist, will receive a Bell Award. The WLKY Spirit of Louisville Foundation has named 10 adults and two teens as this year's recipients of the Bell Awards, which recognize volunteers for their service and showing the "spirit of Louisville." Gupta's volunteer work includes Norton Audubon Hospital, Mother Teresa's Mission in India, Ronald McDonald House in Puerto Rico, Wayside Christian Mission, and the Mayor's Youth Cabinet.

## Beasley Recognized by National Achievement Scholarship Program

Senior Paul Beasley has been recognized by the National Achievement Scholarship Program as an "Outstanding Participant" for his performance on a standardized test given to high school juniors. Paul scored in the top 4% of more than 150,000 Black Americans who requested consideration in the 2009 National Achievement Program when they took the 2007 PSAT/NMSQT.



## 90 National Honor Society Members Inducted

On October 8, the Driscoll Auditorium was packed with proud parents and commendable students eager to be inducted in the Br. Thomas More Page CFX chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS). Ten seniors were inducted this year as well as 80 juniors, who were selected based on their GPAs and their previous service activities.

The ceremony was led by NHS President Anthony Osborne, who welcomed special guest Secretary General Jack Conway as the guest speaker. Conway, a 1987 St. X grad who earned his higher education at Duke, Cambridge and George Washington, commended St. X teacher Mr. John Price as the most influential instructor he ever had.

Mr. Rick Knoop supplied the music to set the atmosphere for this event. After the induction, the Saint Xavier MOM's club hosted a refreshment/social activity in the cafeteria to congratulate the new inductees on their great accomplishment.—*Ryan Eid*

## Seniors Honored for Excellent Writing



Seniors Nathan Horrell (left) and Will Spence (right) are among 525 high school seniors to be recognized by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) for superior writing. Nathan and Will were nominated by their junior-year English teachers.



October 2008

## Barack Obama A Time for Change



By Ryan Eid

Presidential elections are always exciting events. Although the controversies are real and the smear campaigns disgusting, the crossroad that arises as a result of a presidential election is truly epic.

Ranging from the war in Iraq to healthcare, from the economy to energy independence, American politicians fight for their party's beliefs to either change or retain the problems and failures of their predecessors.

Since the beginning of his campaign, Democrat Barack Obama's slogan has been one of change—change in its truest sense. While cheap imitators may mention change in order to appeal to the wishes of the American



people, Obama is the most sincere in his message.

What change will Obama bring, in terms of the failed and continually suffering economy? Obama will initiate \$1,000 tax cuts for the working class, rather than tax cuts for the wealthy few who earn over \$1 million a year. He will end tax breaks that benefit companies that send jobs overseas.

Likewise, he will reward companies that support American workers. Obama co-introduced the Patriot Employer Act of 2007, which would provide tax credits to corporations that, among other things, provide and sustain jobs in America rather than overseas, provide healthcare for their workers, and support employees who serve in the armed forces.

Obama will invest in, and create, five million new “green” jobs by investing \$150 billion over the next 10 years to promote commercial amounts of self-sustainable energy sources like wind and solar power, and promote the development and production of American plug-in hybrids. The financial cost may seem steep, yet is dwarfed by the near \$600 billion in-

vested in the seven-year war in Iraq, which amounts to \$121,000 per Iraqi.

Obama will continue to fight Bush's National Labor Relations Board, which passed the “Kentucky River” decision, declaring thousands of nurses, construction and other professional workers as “supervisors,” thus not protected by federal labor laws.

What better change can Obama bring to the front lines of Iraq than to bring our brave men and women home? Obama, who stood firmly against the preemptive military action of the Bush administration since the beginning, will initiate a phased withdrawal of troops at a pace of one to two brigades a month.

He will work closely with his military advisors in this process and remove all combat troops by the summer of 2010. He will end the “blank check” policies of George Bush to give the independent Iraqi government the incentive to take control of their country.

Obama will use diplomacy to deal with Iraq and its neighbors of Syria and Iran in an effort to secure Iraq's border.

With the increased number of troops at hand, Obama will provide the much-needed combat troops in Afghanistan to accomplish the main objective of the “war on terror”: bringing those directly responsible for the 9/11 attacks to justice!

Within 10 years, Obama wishes to change American dependence on Middle Eastern and Venezuelan oil. By 2015, Obama wants one million American plug-in cars on the road, and plans to give a \$7,000 incentive, in the format of a tax-credit, for those who purchase fuel-efficient vehicles. He also wants to establish increased fuel economy standards and lower carbon fuel standards. These are the changes needed to secure our energy independence of the future.

For the politicians who have recently joined the “change” bandwagon, Obama is the original patron and true believer in change. Our country is at a crossroads, as it is every four years. Let the last eight years of failed politics motivate those St. X students who are able to vote for the first time. Help our country make the correct decision; help change our country for the better.

## John McCain The ‘Right’ Choice



By John Reagan

Once again the future of the presidency rests upon the public's shoulders. Many are wondering which candidate is the best, and some St. X students will even be able to vote in the election. But there is still the complication of biased news channels and reporters, so who should you listen to?

Republican Senator John McCain is one of the most experienced people to run for president in a long time. If elected, he will be older than Ronald Reagan was when he was first elected. McCain was elected as a senator in Arizona

in the early 1980s and has served 24 years, longer than any of the other candidates. During this time McCain strived to get things done. When he saw something that needed fixing he didn't stick with party lines. He went with the people he thought had the best idea for correcting the problem, often times even siding with Democrats.

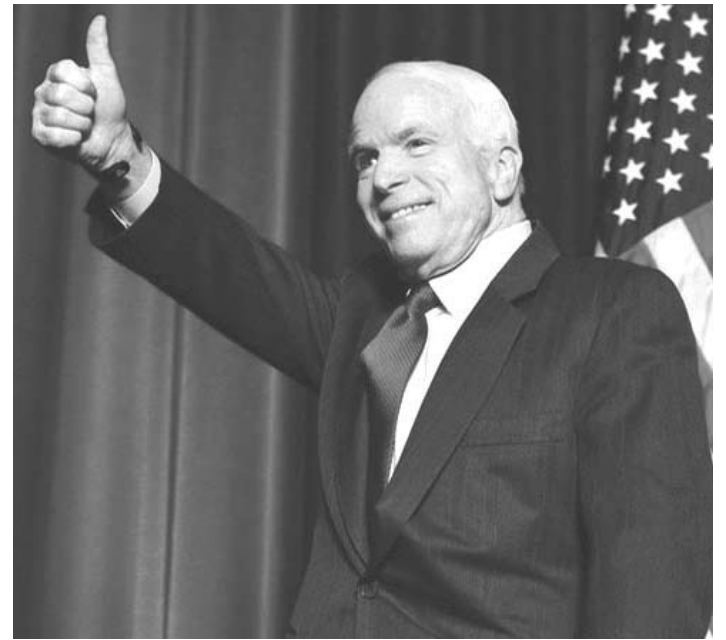
In addition to being able to work with everyone to get things done, he has never asked for an earmark for his state. Earmarks are additional money hidden in bills; many politicians use these to get funding they otherwise wouldn't be able to get.

According to a Fox News report, McCain was given an 85% approval rating on his responsibility in dealing with money. In today's economy, financial responsibility is very important. McCain's tax plan is a very effective one. He proposes making tax breaks currently in effect permanent, many of which benefit the middle class. These include eliminating the “marriage penalty” and raising child credits. He would also double the dependent exemption from \$3,500 to \$7,000, benefitting families of all incomes. McCain also plans to eliminate some of the taxes on businesses, which will encourage them to keep jobs in America and not send them overseas.

There is no one better than McCain to lead the troops in Iraq. People argue that the troops need to be brought home, but recent surveys show that the soldiers think that they shouldn't leave, and McCain stands behind them.

Also, publishing an exit strategy would only worsen the situation be-

cause the terrorists will just lay low until all troops have left and then take over, jeopardizing all that has been fought for, so McCain will not make any exit strategy public. This is also a war on terror; therefore one front cannot be possible. The war must be fought wherever terrorists are willing to harm innocent people, and McCain



intends to do whatever it takes to keep Americans safe.

What about his plans for the future? Well, his campaign slogan is “country first.” This is all one really needs to know. He plans to do whatever will be best for the country, not what will make his party and colleagues happy.

By looking at his career history it is evident that this is true. However, one must also look at his military record. Some believe he flaunts his time in the service, but his sacrifice deserves some respect. After being shot down over Vietnam after volunteering to serve longer, he was held prisoner for five and a half years. He had both legs and both arms broken, was stabbed and put in solitary confinement for two years, and was tortured routinely, which left him permanently unable to raise his arms over his head. McCain has sacrificed more for this country than most people can dream of doing.

Being a POW does not qualify someone to be president, but it does show the level of commitment a person has to serving his country. A man who has sacrificed this much for his country could never do it harm. That is why he chose “country first” as his slogan; he will always choose the best course for this country, no matter the party or people supporting that path.

McCain is clearly qualified to be president. He has worked long and hard as well as sacrificed a great deal to get where he is. He loves this country with a passion and wants to see it prosper. This election, you must ask yourself, “Will I stick with my party, or will I stick with my country?”



October 2008

## Staring at the Walls



By Ryan Burch

Do you ever feel pressed for time during a test? In most cases, when a student needs to know how much time he has left, he can look in the corner of the room and check the clock. But some classrooms do not provide this luxury. This can lead to a number of stressful situations for a St. X student.

Most of the time, tests include all sorts of material from the previous chapter. This can lead to many long tests. It is sometimes tough to finish these tests in 45 minutes. A student needs to budget his time with each section to perform well. During standardized tests, such as the ACT, each room is required to have a clock. Without a clock, the student has no idea how much time he spends or how much time is left for the test.

Sometimes a student's schedule forces him to travel all the way across the school in a mere four minutes. Having a clock in every classroom would allow students to be prepared for the bell to ring so they could hustle on to their next class.

"I never go to my locker in between classes," commented junior Taylor Jones, "and I always carry all my books while I sprint to my next class. I wear a watch that's timed per-

fectly with the school's bells so I can be ready to leave."

Clocks would also be handy on days that run on a special schedule, such as Mass days or days with a pep rally. A clock would not only allow the students to be prepared to be dismissed, it would also help teachers know when to wrap up class.

Every once in a while, St. X has school days when the bell system is turned off. It is very difficult to know what time to begin and end class when the classroom doesn't include a clock. Students might enter class late and leave early without the teacher even knowing.

Clocks in every room would also prevent many students from carrying their cell phones to class. Some students feel that they need to bring their phones to class in order to check the time throughout each period.

These points reveal the need for each St. X classroom to have a clock. This simple addition could relieve much stress from a student's day at school.

### What do you think?

If you have an opinion about anything you read in *Xavier News*, feel free to share it with us. We'll print your letter in the next issue. E-mail your response to [Xnews@saintx.com](mailto:Xnews@saintx.com).

## For Love or Money?



By Kerry Miller

Senior year—football games, friends, Fridays, parties, prom: these are supposed to be highlights of our last year in high school. But lurking in the corner, bringing stress to a climax, are SAT, ACT, referrals, registrations, midterms, finals and college visits.

Questions arise: if you are planning to attend college, do you choose out-of-state or in-state? Are you attending a college of your choice or the one that promises a scholarship? Are you going to college to fulfill your dreams or your wallet?

Lauren Mountz graduated from Presentation Academy in 2008 and is now attending Hanover College in

Indiana with a double major in sociology and education, hoping to fulfill her dream to become a counselor, while former St. Xavier student John Nalley is now attending University of Louisville, majoring in sociology and psychology. Not everyone is so fortunate to pursue a career that they not only have a passion for, but is also a well-paying profession.

Some who have an enthusiasm for photography will end up in pharmaceuticals, while many who aspire to play pro football will end up filleting your fish at the bistro down the street.

The main concept to grasp is the fact that 85% of high school students are clueless as to what major they wish to declare in college, and almost

## Designated Test Days



By Mark Bryan

Do you ever feel that your teachers are trying to cheat you out of good grades by scheming and conspiring to have as many tests as possible on the same day? Your teachers might not fully understand the circumstances under which they are placing you. As much as we think our teachers want us to suffer, I have found that most teachers really do want what's best for their students.

Some astute St. Xavier teachers have realized that students occasionally have four or even five tests on the same day, and that this is a problem—a problem that some students say changes both their studying and social habits.

The days before Fall Break, Winter Break and Spring Break are notorious for being multi-test days, and it seems as though other multi-test days are popping up more frequently. This is an issue that the faculty has discussed; however, a solution to this problem has not yet been decided on.

Mr. Sorin Spohn, Assistant Principal for Studies, says that "something needs to be done." He recognizes the need for a more organized system. Before he came to St. X, Spohn worked at a California high school with about half as many students as St. X. He said that they had a testing calendar, used to coordinate test days between faculty as well as students. This system was easy to use, beneficial for the students, and might have improved many students' grades. A testing calendar would be useful for similar-level classes, which would minimize the

hassle of having a school-wide testing calendar.

I would like to propose a plan that would coordinate test days without having to deal with the hassle of checking a calendar for every test. I suggest that each core class have its own specified testing day. Theology classes could also have a specified test day.

The days would rotate every quarter to prevent students from always having, say, a math test on Monday. If the test days rotate every quarter, the test times and days will be balanced and fair to all students.

Only core classes would have

**Students occasionally have four or even five tests on the same day, and that is a problem.**

set days because these usually have the hardest tests and the ones students must study for the most strenuously.

In this system, a student will always know what day his core-class tests are on. The maximum number of tests possible on a single day for most students, except for those taking an unusually large amount of electives, would be three. This is an acceptable number because only one of these tests would be for a core class, and those tend to be the most difficult and require the most preparation.

For students who are frustrated with having an exorbitant amount of studying to do for tests all on the same nights, tell your teachers how you feel and urge them to bring the issue up in faculty meetings. Ask them to support the idea to scatter tests throughout the week on assigned testing days. This plan will improve stress levels and grades for all of us, which, in turn, will get our parents off our backs—a common goal for many students.

80% of college students change their major—some up to three times. We are not 18 going on 30, and so it is never too late to change, whether it is your major or your career.

Don't be intimidated by friends who seem to have their entire life mapped out. If you're one of them, excellent; if you're completely clueless as to what you even want to major

in, *breathe*: after all, that's what college is for, to aid you in choosing and preparing for a career. Put the pressure from parents, friends and yourself aside long enough to answer the main question when deciding on your future choices: will you be happier waking up and commuting to a job you love, or to a job that pays for the Lexus in the driveway?

## XAVIER NEWS

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*Xavier News* is interested in your opinion and response to articles. Please observe these guidelines:

1. The newspaper reserves the right to edit material.
2. Letters must not be libelous, obscene or defamatory.
3. Letters should concentrate on issues affecting the entire school.
4. Name and student number must accompany the letter.

Letters may be sent to [Xnews@saintx.com](mailto:Xnews@saintx.com)

October 2008

## The Senior/ Freshman Cookout

### Good idea, bad planning



By Sam Nicholson

August 21 marked the beginning of a new tradition at St. X, created to promote unity and brotherhood. The confident young men who comprised the senior class would welcome the freshman class with outgoing smiles and relaxed attitudes. Tables were set up in the football stadium, Flik lunch workers prepared a hearty meal, and teachers were in place to direct wayward freshmen.

But something was missing. Where were the activities? What would the young men do after eating? Where were the ice-breakers? Placing 400 students on bleachers for an hour does not force them to mix and socialize. How would the seniors accomplish the goal of welcoming the freshman class and establishing the sense of brotherhood unique to Saint Xavier High School? These questions and many more flooded the minds of seniors upon arrival, as they stood by in dress shirts and ties, absorbing the full brunt of the afternoon heat.

Upon arrival, seniors had been given three clear-cut directions: (1) Find three freshmen who have the same first letter in their last name as in your last name. (2) Introduce yourself. Ask what grade school they came from, and what they are interested in. (3) Give your three freshmen some brotherly wisdom about life at St. X.

Those who followed the instructions discovered it took, at most, ten minutes to complete. Many, however, decided not to bother with the task and merely stayed with their usual clique of friends. Seniors and freshman alike left with a collective attitude of *what a waste of time*.

During the cookout, the message of brotherhood, camaraderie and unity did not resonate in the faces and attitudes of the gathered crowd. There is a simple reason for this: Nothing was done to bring these traits to the surface. Teenage boys mostly internalize emotions; therefore, their feelings must be drawn out through some sort of exercise or activity.

The idea behind the event was good. The following suggestions would help next year's cookout achieve its goal:

- **Allow Casual Dress:** If the cookout is to remain outside, then students should be allowed to escape the heat. No one feels relaxed in a dress

shirt and tie, and if teenage boys are expected to reach out, it is imperative that they feel confident enough in their appearance to approach another person.

- **Brotherhoods:** The idea of small groups called "brotherhoods" is to assign three to four freshmen to one or two seniors. This idea could possibly be utilized throughout the school year in various ways. Seniors would be notified beforehand of who will make up their brotherhoods and could use the cookout as an introduction day.

- **Ice Breakers:** This year, seniors were confused and skeptical about the purpose of the event, and freshmen even more so. No one was sure what his job was. The tension can be broken by setting aside time specifically for ice-breakers. Have the students assemble into their "brotherhoods" and provide the senior leaders with an ice-breaker sheet.

- **Assigned Seating:** When it comes time for lunch, tell the freshmen and seniors where they are to eat, otherwise they will seek out their friends and ignore the purpose of the event. A way of

doing this is to instruct the students to have lunch with their "brotherhoods."

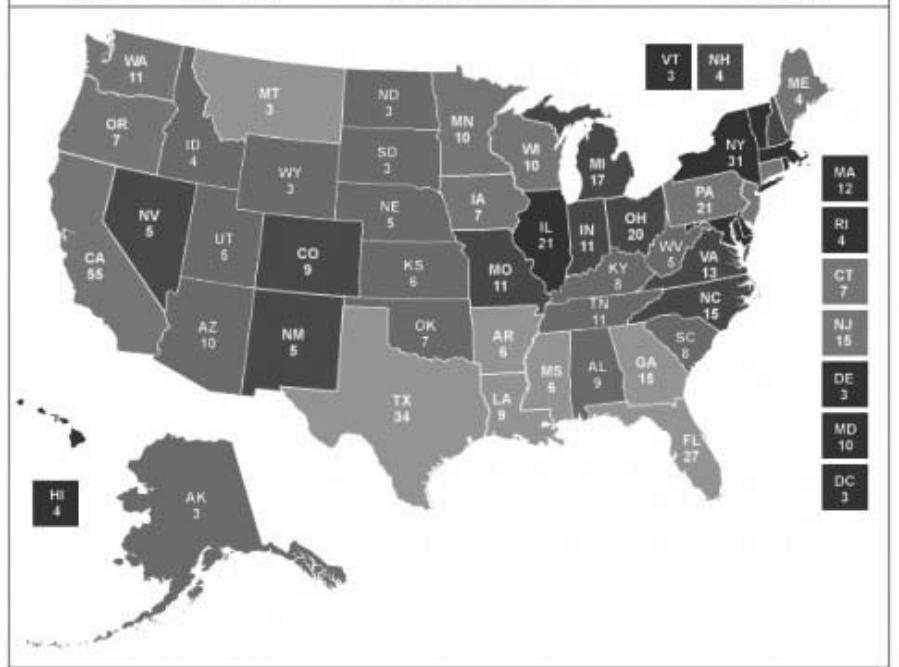
- **Bingo:** Remember in grade school, gathering with your school "family" and competing against other "families" in a good game of Bingo? Well, if a few hundred kids ranging from ages 7-14 can be organized, I think a few hundred bright young men can be as well, using the "brotherhoods" previously proposed. That may entail the senior leader setting out a blanket and standing up holding a folder with the "brotherhood" number inscribed on it. Throw in a first-place prize and you'll have the freshmen and seniors working together in their small groups and, bingo!: the goal of unity is reached.

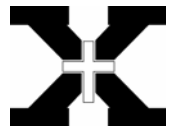
The first annual Senior-Freshman Cookout was a good start to what I believe is an opportunity to create a real feeling of unity. By taking it to the next step, St. X could involve the entire school in the "brotherhood" concept: creating a family of brothers from each class and introducing a point system. The "brotherhoods" could be assembled at pep rallies, school Masses, or at events designed specifically for the "brotherhoods." At the end of the year the points can be tallied and the brotherhood with the most spirit and competition can be recognized and rewarded.

## Polls Make News

Barack Obama 238 John McCain 190 Toss Up 110

■ 91 Solid ■ 147 Leaning ■ 90 Solid ■ 100 Leaning ■ 110 Toss Up





October 2008

## Going Green Saves Gold

**X** By Ryan Eid  
for the Environmental Club

Starting this issue, the Environmental Club has come together to provide the student body with environmentally friendly ways to save both the environment and your money. Through the application of these tips, St. X can help save the environment and become more "green" as a school community.

### Topic 1. Transportation

With high gas prices and the negative impact our car emissions have on the environment, by becoming more aware of our driving habits we can save both our environment and our cash at the same time.

**When possible, walk or ride your bike.** Become more aware of where you're going and how far away it is. Avoid driving if traveling short distances. By walking or riding your bike, you can reduce unneeded fuel consumption and car emissions, thus saving your money and negative impact on the environment.

**Windows down or air conditioner?** It is scientifically proven that, under speeds of 40 MPH, it is more fuel efficient to drive with your windows down for air circulation, than with your air conditioner on. This will increase your Miles Per Gallon (MPG), thus elongating times between fill-ups. However, driving with your windows down over 40 MPH will create drag on your car, thus decreasing your car's MPG.

**Carpool.** Carpooling is a very effective way to decrease pollution and save money. By providing rides for other students who live in your area, you can decrease the number of cars on the road and create new friendships. Also, if you decide to carpool with a friend who can also drive, you can take turns driving on a weekly basis to save fuel consumption and miles on your car.

**Drive cautiously.** We all love speed, yet by reducing the rate at which we accelerate and by staying at constant speeds we can effectively increase our MPG per trip. Try to use the brake only when needed, thus reducing unneeded decelerations and accelerations while driving. Of course, don't hesitate to stop when necessary!

## St. X Clubs Offer Something for Everyone

**X** By Chris Cox

The school year is in full swing now, which also means many St. X clubs are back in action. For those of you who haven't gotten involved yet or for the freshmen who don't know about all the clubs we offer, this article is for you. It is my belief that every student should be involved in some sort of extracurricular activity at school, and clubs are one of the best ways to get involved.

One of our most popular clubs is the Ping Pong Club, which meets once a year for a tournament and also is famous for its T-shirts. Another club many guys enjoy is the N-64 club, which meets several times throughout the year for tournaments featuring a variety of classic video games.

For people looking for more intellectually stimulating clubs, there are numerous options. The astronomy club, chemistry club, debate team and future engineers and scientists are just

a few. Also, the Young Democrats and Young Republicans are two very popular and successful clubs. There are also clubs in every foreign language offered by St. X, some of which don't even require you to be able to speak that language.

St. Xavier also offers community-based clubs, such as the Ryken Service Club, Social Justice Club, Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA), and the Y-Club. All of these clubs interact with other organizations around the city and state.

With over 50 established clubs, it is impossible to not find a club that suits your interest. But if this is somehow the case, students are encouraged to start their own clubs. All one needs is an idea, students that are interested in joining, a faculty member who agrees to be moderator, and the approval of the administration.

So whether you get involved with an existing club or start a new one, don't miss out on a big part of the total high school experience.

## More Buffalo Chicken

**X** By Alec Jury

What's your favorite entrée at lunch? You have some amazing foods to choose from: breakfast entrée, popcorn shrimp, chimichanga, crispy chicken burrito, popcorn chicken and pork carnita. Wait, did I leave anything out? Many would argue that the most popular food item at St. X is the delicious, irresistible, mouth-watering buffalo chicken.

Notice when buffalo chicken is an entrée next time. The lines are sometimes double their normal length! Buffalo chicken is popular among all grades at St. X.

"I would be willing to wait in line for 40 minutes just so I can have five minutes of heaven," said junior Joe Hayden, a huge buffalo chicken fan.

Buffalo chicken is also the most versatile item on the entire menu. It can be served in strips or popcorn-style, on a sandwich or in a burrito. Furthermore, it can be served on top of a salad, a lesser-known option.

Now, you're all thinking, "When is buffalo chicken being served again?" With the students' support, I want to suggest making buffalo chicken at least a weekly item at lunch. It could appear in both the Grille line (American line) and in the Casa X line.

In a recent survey of 200 students in grades 9-12, 161 said they would like to see buffalo chicken being

served *every day*. This could be beneficial to our chef, Mr. Jim Hunnicut, because he is in charge of the menu each month.

Next time buffalo chicken is served at lunch, don't be a fool! Order this tasty treat and enjoy!

## An Art Class for Non-Artists

**X** By Matt Gallagher

AP Art History, a new class at St. X, is attracting many students who are interested in learning about well-known pieces of art. The class is designed to teach students how to critically analyze different art forms such as architecture, sculpture and painting, and how to articulate their thoughts and ideas about art. Another component of the class involves students collaborating with each other and evaluating different pieces of art.

The pieces of art included in the course come from the past and present, and originate from a broad spectrum of cultures.

Asked why the class was formed, Mr. Ben Jankowski, who teaches the course, replied, "It was created in order to offer an additional elective choice to students while also incorporating a rigorous curriculum in the arts and humanities."

Jankowski added that the class was "taught through PowerPoint slides containing the various works of art along with lectures."

Sophomores, juniors and seniors are eligible for the class with a signature from an Honors Humanities, Social Studies or English teacher.

Asked if he would recommend the class, senior Chris Yared replied, "Definitely. It's a lot of info come test time, but the class is interesting and Mr. Jankowski is hilarious."

## Joining the Investment Club Makes Good Cents

**X** By Sammy Taylor

The Saint X Investment Club is an "excellent opportunity for you the student to get real-world skills," says Mr. Scott Ramser, proctor of the club.

The meetings are not only cool but are also very informative. The club teaches you about what is actually going on in the economy and on Wall Street. With the stock market crashing right now and the economic crisis going on, this is a very good time to join the club and learn how to invest your money in the right things.

At the end of last year the students in the club were making a 20% profit, so they were obviously investing in the right things. Some of the companies that the club has stock in are BB&T,

CVS, Colgate, Pepsi Co., JPMorgan and Microsoft. The club has been written up in *Business First* magazine because Mr. John Schenkenfelder, the first vice president of investments at UBS/Paine Webber, is the club's broker and advisor. Schenkenfelder is a great person from whom to learn how to play the market.

Joining this club really would benefit you in the long run when you are trying to decide how to invest your hard-earned money. Junior Matt Neutz, who joined the club this year, said, "I am counting on the club's profit to get out of debt."

The Investment Club welcomes new members, and all you have to do to join is bring \$10 to the next meeting. Listen to the morning announcements for upcoming meetings. They look forward to seeing you there.

October 2008

## Junior Service



Juniors Austin Egart (center) and Marcus Kelly (right) help Jim Vanderhaar make shadow puppets at the Little Sisters of the Poor senior citizen home



By Kaelin Dyar

Every St. X student has heard of the required 20 service hours for juniors. If you ask seniors about it, you will probably receive mixed reactions, ranging from great enthusiasm to sighs of distress as a result of the experiences they had. To help avoid having a bad experience, here are some tips.

First, pick a place that is fun where you can knock off a large number of hours. Good projects include Project Warm and Habitat for Humanity. Both can be done with friends, and you can earn up to seven hours in one day. Some other good places to volunteer include Kosair for Kids, Brooklawn, soup kitchens and nursing homes.

“My junior summer, I volunteered at a nursing home,” said senior Michael Eversole. “I loved it!”

Second, try to knock these out early, preferably in the summer. It is already too late for juniors, but valuable work can be arranged during Christmas Break or even Spring Break. And this year’s sophomores should seriously consider getting their

hours done next summer.

If a student waits until the last minute, he will probably be unable to get into a place he wants. Mrs. Cathy Reynolds, Director of Campus Ministry, said, “Students [who wait until the last minute] are missing out on the opportunity to realize how good it is to serve at a certain place.” Every year, juniors end up frantic in the last quarter attempting to fit service hours in around practices and clubs.

“I waited until April to finish mine,” said senior Sidney Hill, “and it stunk because I got sick!”

If you do wait, be sure to turn the hours in before the deadline, which is April 20 this year, or extra hours will be added.

Lastly, do not forget to have your service sheet signed. It is a big hassle to hunt down the director of the project later and have him or her sign it. So remember to always bring the sheet with you.

For easy hours, pick something fun, do the hours early, and remember to get your sheet signed. If you do these three things, the requirement will be easy and you will enjoy the experience much more.

## Seniors Serve Well



By Brennan Lockhart

For the past decade there has been a unique class at St. X called the Senior Service Class, which lets seniors provide service outside of campus during school. Students apply and are accepted into this class late in their junior year. The selection process is grueling, as only a few may take part.

The first step in applying is writing a brief essay that answers some questions about yourself, your character and some of your past. Once some of the choices have been narrowed down, teachers give recommendations for students they think are deserving of the class. The list is narrowed again and finally the class is picked.

Once accepted, the student gets to experience a completely unique class.

On Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays in periods C, D and E the students leave school and go to an assigned destination.

For periods C and D the group serves the people of the selected organization (for example, Goldsmith Elementary or Catholic Charities) and does service work. The next 45 minutes the students get to choose where to eat on the way back to St. X.

“I love serving others,” says senior Sam Galbraith, “especially senior citizens, they’re the best!”

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays you have a C period class, which usually consists of discussions about service, then a D period study hall and finally an E period lunch.

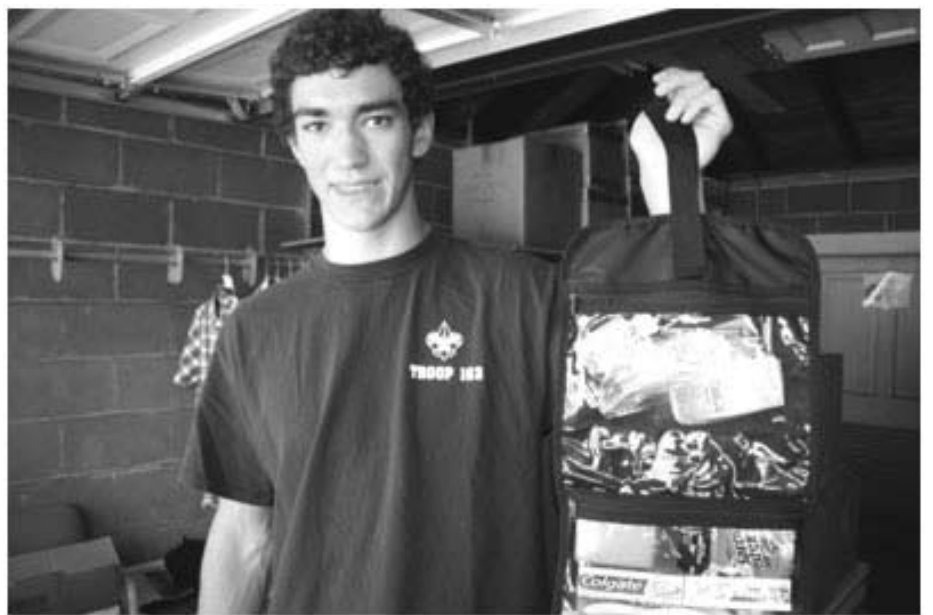
The class lasts a semester and is led by Mr. Ben Kresse with help from Mrs. Cathy Reynolds.

## Senior David George Assists Homeless

Senior David George recently donated 100 personal hygiene kits, 120 alarm clocks and 116 hair dryers to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The black nylon kits, donated by Colgate, included toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, combs and other grooming essentials that he collected. The project helped earn him Eagle Scout status. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 163 at Shiloh Methodist Church.

Last summer, George was moved by the week he spent volunteering at St. Vincent dePaul’s homeless shel-

ters. “Everyone had stories they were eager to share, and each shared a common theme,” George said. “The most painful aspect of being completely dependent on the charity of others was the loss of human dignity that came with being looked down on by everyone they met. It is my hope that by giving the residents at St. Vincent de Paul a means to provide for a very basic human need, personal hygiene, I will be able to restore at least some of the dignity that is robbed by the condition of homelessness.”



## Feel the Power



By Max Miller

If you have not used the new Xlerator hand dryers in the restrooms, then you have at least heard them. These hurricanes-in-a-box are unlike any other hand dryer. They are powered by two twin turbo rocket boosters formally used in NASA’s spaceships. Xlerator dryers put off a wind speed of 250 mph and will dry your hands in a record breaking 3.7 seconds.

“These hand dryers are the bomb!” said sophomore Luke Hill. “I go to the restroom between every class just so I can wash my hands and use the hand dryers. They dry off my hands way better than any paper towel could.”

This is very accurate. These are the first hand dryers to actually hold true to their name. No other hand dryer in the world actually dries your hands.

“I used to always be wet,” said senior Michael Ray, “but now I’m finally dry.”

All the non-rocket-booster-powered hand dryers simply just move the water on your hands left and right, accomplishing nothing. Fortunately, St. X realized this phenomenon and took affirmative action. The rocket-booster hand dryers can be found in nearly every restroom in the school and do a great job of ridding all recently washed hands of H<sub>2</sub>O.

Surprisingly, there have been no serious injuries from the tornado-like wind speeds of the hand dryers. To continue this injury-free process, be sure to stand with your legs shoulder-width apart, knees slightly bent, and prepare yourself to “feel the power.”



Plant your feet firmly before activating the new Xlerator dryers

Photo by Tim Porco



Deuce heads for the endzone



Former St. X star Victor Anderson



The Tiger Chorus led the crowd in the National Anthem

# Tigers Rout



By T. J. Walker

In front of a record crowd of 38,872, St. X had no problem beating arch-rival Trinity. The annual rivalry was held on October 3 with expectations of a close game, yet like many other regular season games, St. X opened things up and cruised to a 30-6 win, improving their record to 5-0.

Although 30 points is below the Tigers' average for the season, they had a very productive offensive attack against the Shamrocks. St. X gained a total of 360 yards of offense, in large part due to Deuce Finch's 152 yards and one touchdown on 20 carries.

And don't forget about junior sensation Jermiah Neal's eight carries for 88 yards and another touchdown, including a drive in which he had a 59-yard run capped off by a three-yard touchdown run to put St. X on the board.

St. X, usually known for its rushing attack, surprised the Rocks with 104 passing yards and two touchdowns through the air. Senior quarterback Matt Brutscher completed 9 of 17 passes.

The St. X defense, who had only been giving up an average of just over three points a game, stood their ground against a very versatile Shamrock offense. Although the Rocks amassed more yards than the Tigers, St. X's de-

fense forced three turnovers from Trinity quarterback Cameron Smyth (two fumbles and an interception).

After the game, St. X senior defensive tackle Brennan Lockhart said, "If our defense plays like this all season, I don't think we can be beat."

The team knows that this was an outstanding win, but there is a bigger goal. "I want that ring," said senior wide receiver Adam Shipley, referring to the ultimate prize of a state championship. "I know Friday [Oct. 3] was a great win, but we'll probably meet Trinity again, and we'll be ready!"

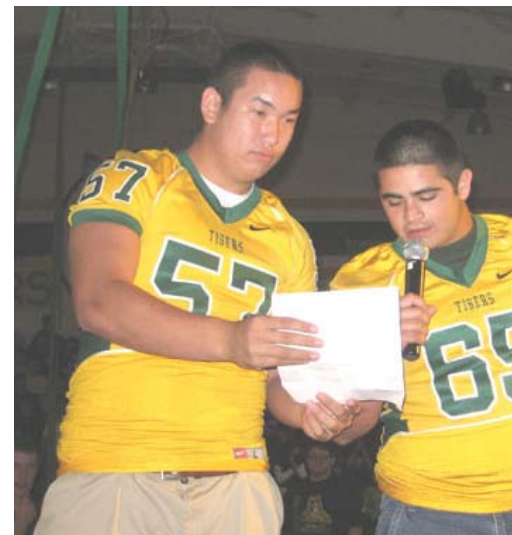
When asked how this year is different from past years, senior Alan Young said, "The vibe around the locker room is strictly business. We treat this win like we treated the Ballard win; we have moved on and it's time to beat Butler."

The swagger around the school is certainly different; one of the best Rage Cages in recent years cheered on the Tigers. Also the spirit at the pep rally was like no other. With NFL Films present at the pep rally and the game, a show about the St. X-Trinity game will be broadcast on November 8 at one o'clock on CBS.

At this point in the season, the Tigers are right where they want to be, but all that matters is where you finish, and don't expect Saint Xavier to come up short this year.



If you don't know what this is a picture of, you need to get out more



Chad Lavelle won the football toss at the pep rally





# t the Rocks

Photo by Tim Porco



## The Season So Far

**8/29: St. X 63, Ballard 0**

Neal had two touchdown runs, while Brutscher added three touchdown passes. The Tigers were up 48-0 at half-time, and ended with 489 yards of total offense. A lot of firsts happened in this game: the new gold-on-gold jerseys, the Tiger Walk, and a kickoff to a new season, all ending in great success.

**9/5: St. X 44, Oldham County 6**

Up 35-0 at halftime, the Tiger backfield had a big part in this win, with Neal scoring three touchdowns and Finch having one of his own. Sam Galbraith had fumble recovery for a touchdown. Defense was key in this win, as the Tigers held the Colonels to 95 yards and only eight first downs.

**9/12: St. X 59, Lex Catholic 7**

St. X got their third win against the defending 4A state champions. The Tigers scored quick and often as Finch made a 19-yard touchdown less than four minutes into the game. The Tigers cruised to a 42-0 lead at halftime thanks to another Finch touchdown and two touchdown runs by Brutscher.

**9/19: St. X vs. Male**

Cancelled due to the windstorm

**9/26: St. X 57, Manual 0**

The game between the *Courier-Journal's* #1 and #2 teams didn't quite turn out the way the experts thought it would. Thanks to Finch's four touchdowns and senior Chase Carraro's 61-yard-run for a touchdown, The Tigers got a 57-0 win over the Crimson. Junior defensive lineman Josh Jordan also got in the act, scoring his first career touchdown. Junior Nick Sears had two picks as a stingy Tiger defense held the Crimson to a goose egg.

**10/10: St. X 63, Butler 0**

After coming off a huge win vs. Trinity, some people thought St. X might come off a little flat vs. the Bears of Butler, however St. X did the exact opposite and won BIG. With a strong offensive attack and stellar defense, the Tigers had no problem taming the Bears.

**Next up: Oct. 24: St. Xavier vs. PRP on the road.**

Photo by Tim Porco



*Brutscher fires another one*



*The Tiger deals with an intruder at the pep rally*



*The ceramics studio won the door decorating contest*



Photo by Tim Porco



Photo by Tim Porco



*Presenting the Shillelagh*





October 2008

## We Need a Project Xpansion

**An indoor turf field would provide flexibility and safety**

**X** By Zach Kamber

Over the past four years, St. X has been undertaking major renovations with Project X to make itself the best Catholic high school in the nation. We have seen improvements in athletic facilities, classrooms and many other areas.

While the improvements have been tremendous, there are still some areas that can be improved upon. One new addition to the athletic facilities that could be very beneficial to our athletes and students alike is having a removable turf surface that could be placed in the current main gymnasium.

With the completion of the new arena, we will have three full-sized gyms. While these all may be needed during the winter with wrestling, basketball and basketball intramurals going on, throughout the rest of the year it would be wasteful. If Astroturf were placed in the gym during the summer and fall, the football and soccer teams could use it when the weather did not allow them to be outdoors, and the same for the lacrosse team in the spring.

Being able to practice inside would be especially good in light of the recent event at PRP, where a student died from heat exhaustion in August. If St. X had an indoor facility to practice in during times of extreme heat, we wouldn't have to worry about having a tragedy like that occur here.

Along with the safety we could get from this turf, we could also open up many new intramural programs, including ultimate Frisbee, indoor soccer and arena football. Indoor soccer is a very popular sport among students, but most don't play because they have to drive all the way to Mockingbird Valley Soccer Club. If we had an available surface on campus, many more students would be interested in playing.

"I love indoor soccer," senior Cory Gettlefinger said. "But gas is expensive so I can't afford to drive to Mockingbird."

Indoor turf would not only be beneficial to sports teams and students, but also to the school in terms of being one of the first schools in America to have an indoor turf facility. It would further our efforts to be the best Catholic high school in America, while also giving athletic teams and students alike more opportunities to safely do things that they love.

## Cross Country Shows Depth

**Varsity, JV and freshman teams all having strong season**

**X** By Anthony Marti

The St. X Cross Country team suited up for its first big meet of the season on August 30 while hosting the Tiger Run. The varsity team had a strong second-place finish, led by juniors Jackson Carnes, Thomas Mann, Ian McCaslin and Anthony Meena, and sophomore Austin Carter.

"The team is looking really good, and it's just the first race," said Ted Graves.

The JV and freshman teams won big, capturing first place. The JV team was led by Sam Kinny, while the freshman team was led by Zach Beavin. Both teams are looking very strong, and the freshmen seem downright dangerous.

The next meet came in the North Oldham Rumble in the Jungle where the varsity squad took another second-place finish, led by Carnes. The JV team was led by freshman Beavin a first-place finish.

Two weeks later, the Tigers finished fourth in the Trinity Invitational following a down week due to the Hurricane Ike windstorm.

The Franklin County Invitational



Photo by Tim Porco

was the next big meet for the Tigers. St. X finished first, helped by a huge fifth-place finish for the team by Matt Soergel. "We had some crazy fans cheering me on," Soergel said, "and that, mixed with steadfast dedication and adrenaline, just really got me going today—plus I had my lucky socks on."

Matt Hillenbrand also came up big, crediting his 19th-place overall finish to "my new haircut; I was really diggin' it all around."

On October 11 the Cross Country team ran in the Great American Cross

Country Classic in Birmingham, Alabama. The varsity team finished second, led by Carnes, while the JV team finished first, led by Beavin.

On Oct. 18, the Tigers won the South Oldham Dragon Invitational led by Carnes, Mann and Hillenbrand.

All in all, the Cross Country teams are looking very strong heading towards the end of the season.

"I like our chances," says senior Geoffery Spencer. "Let's just say one of my fingers could really use a state ring, and I think Balfour has got one ready for me."

## Public vs. Private Sports

**X** By Tyler Riggs

In the past few years, the athletic boards of some Kentucky high schools have proposed having separate leagues and state tournaments for public and private schools. This idea has failed to pass; however, some public schools are refusing to play private school teams and not allowing private schools to play in their tournaments.

This year, Saint Xavier's varsity soccer team was not allowed to play in the Lexington-Lafayette Invitational Soccer Tournament, which St. X won last year by defeating Manual 1-0. The tournament chose not to invite St. X back this year because the superintendent told his schools not to schedule private schools in athletics.

St. X's head varsity soccer coach, Mr. Andy Schulten, said, "[Not being in the tournament] allows us to play more regional teams and gives us more openings in our schedule; however, schools like Christian Academy of Louisville, Holy Cross, DeSales and other private schools are now more limited in the games they are allowed to play. Also, it has been hard on us this year trying to find teams to play."

Many public schools argue that private schools have an advantage because they can recruit players from multiple counties. They complain that private schools can afford more ad-

vantages not only by attracting better players, but also through superior facilities and coaching.

What people sometimes don't take into consideration is students attending private schools must pay for the privilege. That is not to say that aid is not given to certain students, but it is need-based aid, not performance aid due to athleticism.

Since there is no tuition for public schools, this provides an advantage over a private school, where tuition is several thousand dollars per year. Many people can't afford to go to a private school, so they end up going to a public school free of charge.

If it weren't for the winning tradition of many private high schools, this would not be an issue. Public schools who want to create separate leagues aren't interested in being the best. They just want to become state champions, even if the competition is lowered due to the creation of more divisions.

The main issue the public schools have is the successfulness of private schools. This is because of the winning traditions and recruiting issues that arise with the private schools, who win championships year after year, and not so much with public schools, who do not typically dominate in sports such as football. This is because the private high school program is fed by well-established private elementary-school programs.

If recruiting is really such an advantage for private schools, then why is it only helping their football programs and not their basketball programs, which require fewer players?

Another advantage that public schools have is the option for middle school kids in the feeder schools to play on the high school teams. This allows them to obtain better training and to build closer-knit teams earlier on. This helps in many athletic events such as wrestling, because the more experience one gets, the better the athlete is and more knowledge of the sport is gained.

Ironically, most of these complaints from public schools about private schools come from parents, not from the players themselves. When asked about playing private schools and the dispute over them having an advantage, most of the athletes from public schools say it is ridiculous and that they want to play the private schools.

Cole Page, a senior soccer player from Manual High School, said, "I like playing schools like St. X because it is always a fun game and it challenges us to play better."

The dispute between private schools and public schools in terms of athletics should be dropped and parents should stay out of it. They should just let their kids play and enjoy the sports that they participate in and the competition the sport has to bring.

October 2008

## Soccer Wins District



By Jeff Franklin

The Saint Xavier Soccer Team has high expectations after last year's perfect season leading up to a State Title victory. This season they strive to claim the title as "defending state champions."

The team is led by a talented group of upperclassmen with a lot of potential for the future. This season, the team may have an argument for being the best soccer team to come through St. X. The team is very confident, and some of the players have commented that their high ego could stand as their biggest challenge.

Such confidence was hurt but not destroyed after Manual snapped St. X's winning streak, which spanned over two seasons. This one missed

opportunity surely will not keep the Tigers from their goals set for the ongoing season.

The team got right "back on the horse" and soundly defeated the Trinity Shamrocks in a high-energy home game with an amazing turnout by the student body. "The atmosphere was the best I've ever seen for a high school soccer game," said senior goalie Andrew Brotzge.

But it was the well-executed play on the field that got the job done in the end. The 4-0 victory comprised goals by Nick Jones, Kevin Bick, Cameron Coppola and Tony Bergamini. It was a big win for the team, who reclaimed the number-one rank in Kentucky.

On October 15, St. X played Male in the 12th District Tournament semifinals, defeating the Bulldogs 5-0 with goals by Bick, Tyler Riggs, Andrew

Hagerty, Ryan Smith and junior Sabin Merino, an exchange student from Spain who had only been playing with the team for a week and a half.

That win set up a rematch with Manual two nights later in the district finals. The Tigers easily avenged their only loss of the season

Photo by Tim Porco



Kevin Bick

by defeating the Crimsons 4-0 with goals by Riggs, Hagerty, Smith and Merino.

As far as the state title, members of the team are very confident that victory will be the final outcome for the current 17-1 Tigers. When asked about the chances of reclaiming the title, Brotzge said, "One-hundred-and-ten percent, because we are the best there ever was." Tyler White made a bold statement, saying, "If we don't win, I'll cut off my legs."

The talent and chemistry is obvious, but now the Tigers hope to back up their words through solid play in the regional and state tournaments to defend their title as State Champions.

## Bergamini Inducted into Hall of Fame



By Michael Medley

After coaching at St. X from 1978-2008, Coach Joe Bergamini was inducted into the Metro Area Athletic Directors Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony was on October 19 at Wildwood Country Club.

Bergamini primarily coached basketball but also coached some baseball. His record as head basketball coach was 338-285. He took his 1995 team to the State Tournament Elite Eight. He also coached former NBA player Scott Padgett. He is a humble man and taught his athletes about character.



"Any honor received is a tribute to all the coaches, players, managers and trainers that I had the special privilege to work with in both basketball and baseball," Bergamini said of the award.

Brian Gunter, senior basketball captain, said, "He is a great coach and a great man, and he deserves to be in the Hall of Fame."

Bergamini is thankful for the honor and said, "The respect and kindness shown to me by the schools in Jefferson County is greatly valued and appreciated."



Photo by Tim Porco

Senior goalie Andrew Brotzge

## Hockey is Back, Better Than Ever!



By Jack Porco

The St. Xavier ice hockey team is back—this time to stay, and better than ever! After a solid rebuilding year last season, the Ice Tigers are most definitely a force to be reckoned with this season. The 2007 campaign produced the nucleus of this year's experienced skaters, including senior captain Will Shrader.

Last year's team captured the attention of Kentucky's top teams with unexpected upsets over perennial powers Trinity and Lexington Lafayette. Coming off a suspended season in 2006, the bar was set low for the newly formed 2007 team. The Ice Tigers exceeded all expectations from the critics, proving once again that when St. X fields a team, it fields a team to win.

"There is no doubt in my mind that we will be taking state this year," says sophomore co-captain Alex Senn.

The Ice Tigers hit the ice strong

for their first game on Friday, October 10 against the formidable Eastern Eagles, one of the stronger high school hockey teams in Kentucky. From the drop of the game's opening puck, St. X kept the offensive pressure on the Eagles, blasting a barrage of shots at a near-defenseless Eastern goalie. Remarkably, the Eagles held off the rapid-fire Tigers and the contest remained scoreless for nearly half the first period. The Tigers stayed patient, kept the puck in the Eastern zone, and lit the lamp with a finely orchestrated play from the blue line. It wasn't long before the offense delivered again, mounting a 3-0 lead heading into the final period of the season opener.

St. X was never truly tested defensively, shutting down every Eagle attempt with superb goaltending and a physical, pressing defense. The Ice Tigers skated to a 5-0 win, and will take a 1-0 record into the Halloween night match-up with Lexington Lafayette. The Generals should come prepared for a battle.

## It's Mat Time



By Ryan Barnett

After a disappointing finish in last year's state tournament, the Tiger wrestlers are looking stronger than they have in years and are ready to win. The Tigers are led by seniors James Severs, Sean Loran, David George, Jeff Franklin, Zack Raque, Ross Robinson and Ben Freeman.

"I think winning is a mind set," says Severs. "I know we are one of the top teams in the state this year. We don't care who you are, we are going to win."

Not only do the Tigers have a new attitude, they also have a new look. The upstairs gym is now a dedicated wrestling room, thanks to Mr. Alan Donhoff and the athletic department.

"We are going to work intensely at being successful as a team," says Coach Jim Kraeszig. "We are not worried about making friends, nor are we worried about our enemies. When you are successful your enemies can't hurt you, and when you lose your friends can't help you."

The room isn't the only new look

the Tigers will have this season. The team has purchased new "finals" singlets (uniforms) and is ready to wear them proudly and often.

The wrestling Tigers are also welcoming back Mr. Jeremy Jackson to the coaching staff. Jackson was a coach on the 1998 and 2001 State Championship teams. He has been a huge influence on helping the program get bigger and better.

"We will be a strong team, mentally and physically," says Jackson. "It is my pleasure to work with such a dedicated group of young men."

The wrestlers have been putting in a lot of hard work over the past year and are eager to show it.

The wrestling program is also looking for additional support from its fans. Wrestling can be just like a football game with home-field advantage; having a big crowd intimidates the opposing team. Be a part of the renewed Tiger Pride in wrestling; support these outstanding student athletes. Come out November 25 to support the wrestlers against North Oldham, and again on January 14 against Trinity at home in the main gym.



October 2008

## '08 Alums Playing College Football

**X** By Chase Carraro

Last year's graduating class featured a lot of talent on the gridiron—so much talent that more 2008 alums than ever decided to take their game to the next level. Nine starters from last year's football team are now competing in the NCAA ranks, and seven of those nine went out for D1 squads this summer.

Matt Smith took his game to UK. Smith, the most prized recruit of the class, is featured as an "Iron Wildcat," meaning he was one of the top three strongest players at his position (offensive line) for the Wildcats. Matt was redshirted this year.

Connor Hale, Ben Brown, Will Simmons and Joe Montano all went out for Western Kentucky's team this year. All four made the team as walk-ons, which is promising for their upcoming years. Unfortunately, shortly after making the team, Brown suffered a torn ACL and will return to action next year.

Jack Hilt and Nate Combs took their careers to service academies this year, Hilt being at Navy and Combs residing at West Point. Hilt and Combs are basically doing "service academy redshirts," which are the academies' prep schools. One year at prep school is pretty standard for the service academies. During the year

they will be readied for the rigors of Army and Navy.

Ben Zoeller and James Carpenter round out the outstanding football class of '08 at Wittenberg. Zoeller, who was last year's starting quarterback, has made the switch to safety. Rumors are that after next season Carpenter will take his game to UK.

When asked how St. X football prepared them, most players cited the work ethic and competitiveness.

"The discipline that the [St. X] coaches instilled in us prepared me, but I didn't realize that until I got to UK," exclaimed Smith. "Everything is organized just like how it was at X, and Coach Glaser did a great job of not letting me get lazy and of making me go full speed. In college they expect full speed on every play, and I'm so used to doing that at St. X, it gave me an advantage over other freshmen."

Most players cited the speed at which the game is played in college. "The biggest difference is the raw athletic talent that is present," Montano explained. "[Everybody's] big, fast and powerful at every position."

It's obvious that the class of 2008 was one to be remembered from a football standpoint. Eight grads from the same class playing NCAA football is something that would be hard for any school in Kentucky to rival. It's just something else to be proud of at St. X.

## The Phelps Phenomenon

**X** By Lee Duggins

One word can describe the phenomenon that took place in Beijing: incredible. Although that term can be associated with the event as a whole, one particular performance shook the sacred Olympic ground. That performance came from American Michael Phelps, who delivered the greatest single Olympic performance in the modern history of the games.

Coming in with a total of eight gold medals in swimming, Phelps broke the previous record (set by American Mark Spitz in the 1972 Munich games) of seven gold medals. Also notable is that in the course of such an impressive performance, Phelps set as many world records as Mark Spitz won gold (seven). Winning eight gold medals was not an easy task at all for Phelps, as he had to overcome two of the greatest races in Olympic history.

The first gold came via the 400 I.M. (individual medley), where Phelps ousted fellow American Ryan Lochte and re-broke his own world record in 4.03.84 (previously 4.05.25).

The second gold came in one of the most memorable races in Olympic history: the 4 x 100 freestyle relay. Phelps gave his usual awe-inspiring performance by leading off into a new American record: 47.51. What made the race so great was the mind-blowing anchor split performed by America's Jason Lezak. Down almost a half of a second, Lezak jumped into the pool facing the world-record-holding Frenchman, Alain Bernard. At the first 50 it seemed that Lezak was losing ground, however as the race came to a close Lezak hunted down Bernard to win the gold medal for the Americans, and put Phelps into the position of continuing his pursuit of eight medals. This task did not come easy though, as it took Lezak the fastest relay split of all time (46.06) to hunt down Bernard.

Up next for Phelps was the 200m freestyle, where he came in at a time of 1.42.96, becoming the first person in history to break the 1.43.00 barrier. Phelps took down the 400m freestyle gold medalist, Park Taehwan, whose time (1.44.85) was 1.89 seconds slower.

The next race, the 200m butterfly, showed just how much of a genius Phelps is in the water. After jumping

into the pool, Phelps' goggles filled up with water, causing him to be unable to see. Phelps told reporters that he counted his strokes so that he could be aware of where the walls were. Phelps ended up breaking the world record with a time of 1.52.03, raking in his fourth gold medal in the process.

That same morning Phelps and the American squad decimated the



competition in the 4 x 200m freestyle relay with a new world record of 6.58.56, the first team to ever break the 7.00.00 mark, which gave Phelps his fifth gold medal.

Next Phelps was pitted against American rival Ryan Lochte in the 200m I.M. Phelps won with a time of 1.54.23, a full two seconds ahead of the silver medalist. Through the competition we had seen many athletic miracles by Phelps. However all of those were topped by the closest race humanly possible in swimming. On the quest for eight gold medals, Phelps was on his seventh: the 100m butterfly. Phelps was seventh at the first 50, and a half a body length behind Cavic. As the last 15 meters drew to a close, Phelps seemed to be gaining but did not have enough room to make the comeback. Then it happened: In the last two meters Cavic glided into the wall to claim gold, and Phelps took a half stroke. To the human eye it appeared that Phelps had lost the race. The Omega scoreboard, however, read different. Phelps won with a time of 50.58; Cavic came in second with a time of 50.59. How did he do it? It seemed that Phelps' last half stroke, usually a slower finish, was the move that gave him the edge. Winning by the closest margin possible in swimming, 0.01, Phelps claimed his seventh gold medal.

The last and final race for Phelps was the 4 x 100m medley relay. The American won, turning in a new world record of 3.29.24. Phelps took the podium for the third time and completed his goal of the most gold medals in a single Olympic games.

Amazing, miraculous and inspiring are all words that can describe this performance. Phelps went out of Beijing as the most decorated Olympian of all time, and he is only 23.

## Putting the "I" in Intramurals

**X** By Luke Newman

Do you really enjoy playing a certain sport, but don't think you have the skills to play on the official St. X team? If so, intramural sports are the perfect solution. Intramurals are competitive and a ton of fun.

It's a known fact that basketball is the most popular intramural sport at St. X. However, there are a lot of other great intramural opportunities that students can take advantage of, especially in the fall.

For starters, there's intramural flag

football, a great sport for those who want to play football with friends, but not necessarily on the actual team.

"It's a lot of fun," says junior Neal Strothman. "My team dominated last year and we plan to dominate again."

Another great activity is intramural kickball, which will be played on the baseball field. Playing kickball is a blast, and it's even better when each team involved is very competitive.

Another activity this year is intramural tennis, which has already been played. This is perfect for those who didn't make the tennis team or just want to play.

As for basketball, sign-ups will begin in early December. It's not too early to start scoping out a winning team, as many students have already done.

Other intramural events this year will include soccer, bowling, cornhole, golf, billiards and Ultimate Frisbee.

Intramurals are a great opportunity to play sports with your friends. The decision to play intramurals is a good one, and it will be something you really won't regret. It's a chance to get competitive, make friends and be a member of a team.



October 2008

# Guy's Guide is a Huge Hit



By Gary Hermann

This fall the St. X Players presented *A Guy's Guide to School, Girls, Sports, Love, Immortality and Everything In Between*. The production wrapped up on October 4 after being delayed a week because of the windstorm. The show was extremely well received by the audiences at the Brown-Forman Cultural Arts Center.

"We would be nothing without our great fans," said junior Andrew Stairs, "because this would not have been possible without their support."

The large cast included many St. X students as well as girls from Sacred Heart, Presentation, Mercy and St. James Academy. The crew also consisted of a large number of St. X students as well as girls from surrounding schools.

The actors were led by the brilliant direction of Ms. Rebecca Rei-

sert as well as Character Director Mr. Aaron Abell and Creative Director Mr. Stephen Smith.

The play consisted of a series of short skits that presented a comical look on life as a teenager. The five main characters (played by Daniel Byrd, Luke Glaser, Hunter Kissel, Jacob Priddy and Stairs) sat around a television as their lives were taking place on the stage, which was designed to look like a giant television screen. Everything from surviving freshman year, to dating, to fitting in, was covered in the different sequences.

Many popular television shows were spoofed including *The Office* and *Grey's Anatomy*. Several films were also spoofed including *The Notebook* and *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. Many people in the audience probably received a blast from the past in the scenes that featured parades of *Pokémon* and the *Power Rangers*.

*Guy's Guide* ended with the characters Wayne and Garth of *Saturday Night Live* and the popular *Wayne's World* films joining the cast in a performance of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody."

"I'm overwhelmed by how much this play appealed to

teenage audiences," said Reisert. The reason the play appealed to teenage audiences could likely be attributed to the fact it was a workshop production. Both the actors and members of the Creative Writing classes submitted the scenes for *A Guy's Guide*. The students were able to draw on their own high school experiences to make the play authentic and relatable.

The curtain has now closed on another successful St. Xavier drama performance. The attention will now turn to the St.



X Players' spring performance of the musical *Les Miserables*.



## Guitar Club Encore



By Alex Scott

After being inactive during the 2007-08 school year, the Guitar Club is back, moderated by Mr. Bill Bornschein. This semester the club will meet every other week on Thursday after school in the band room and play for about an hour. (Listen for specific days on morning announcements.) Usually there is no specific agenda; most students just show up and play. Nobody needs experience, and everyone is accepted and welcome.

The main idea of the club is to offer an outlet for guitarists to play and trade licks with other guitarists. This club can be a great way to jam with others, make friends, and learn from more experienced guitarists.

"I'm looking forward to playing with other guitarists and picking up some of their tricks," said sophomore Nick Simmons.

Speaking of experience, pro guitarist Craig Wagner,



a St. X graduate, will be coming to demonstrate and teach sometime soon. Wagner plays jazz guitar and is known throughout the city.

Guitarist Bridgid Kaelin will also be visiting. She is currently on a major tour in Europe and has recently released a CD. She has played alongside Elvis Costello in concert and is planning on attending one of the guitar meetings this semester. These visits will be a great advantage because students will learn what it is like to play guitar for a career.

"This club is a great way to express creativity in our school," said junior Silas Boyle.

Many guys are very excited about this club and will be attending regularly, so show up and *rock!*

## 2008: An Exceptional Year for Metal



By Alex Pierce

The summer of 2008 was certainly productive in terms of metal music. Many famous metal bands released excellent new albums this year, including Motörhead, DragonForce and Metallica. Motörhead released *Motörizer* on August 26, DragonForce released *Ultra Beatdown* on September 26, and Metallica released *Death Magnetic* on September 12.

*Motörizer*, Motörhead's 24th album to date, will not disappoint any heavy metal fan. Phil Campbell, Mikkey Dee and the immortal Lemmy Kilmister have not strayed far from their classic heavy metal sound. Motör-

head decided to have expert engineer Cameron Webb supervise this album. Lemmy's grungy voice combined with the thumping drums and searing guitar work makes this one of their best albums ever. "Rock Out" and "When the Eagle Screams" are two of the best songs on the album, but none of the others disappoint, either. *Motörizer* is amazing; don't miss it!

DragonForce has been working hard on their new album, *Ultra Beatdown*, ever since they ended their tour for *Inhuman Rampage* in the spring of 2008. This fact is blatantly obvious when you hear the first seconds of any song on the album. The record is expertly mixed, thanks to Karl Groom, the producer and engineer, and Mike Jussila, the engineer in charge of the final mix.

What really strikes the average DragonForce fan in this album is that most of the songs are considerably slower than the songs in *Inhuman Rampage*, but this album is still pure DragonForce. None of DragonForce's heaviness is lost by the slight change in tempo. In simple terms, *Ultra Beatdown* is epic.

The best release of the summer was saved for last. Metallica has returned full-force with *Death Magnetic*, which is truly astounding.

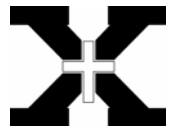
"*Death Magnetic* is definitely an epic win for the world," says junior Mark Pierce.

Metallica has recovered from the average-sounding *St. Anger* by going back to the band's

old thrash-metal roots for *Death Magnetic*. The band has ditched long-time producer Bob Rock for Rick Rubin, who has produced many great albums with Slayer, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Johnny Cash, Slipknot, System of a Down, Public Enemy, Lil' Jon and LL Cool J.

James Hetfield's growling, yet tuneful, singing is combined perfectly with his rhythm guitar, Kirk Hammett's blazing leads, Rob Trujillo's thrashing bass and Lars Ulrich's classic drum sound. "All Nightmare Long," "The Unforgiven III," "The Day That Never Comes" and "My Apocalypse" are among the greatest songs Metallica has ever written. If you do not buy this album, you are missing out on the best album released this year.





October 2008

# Call of Duty: World at War

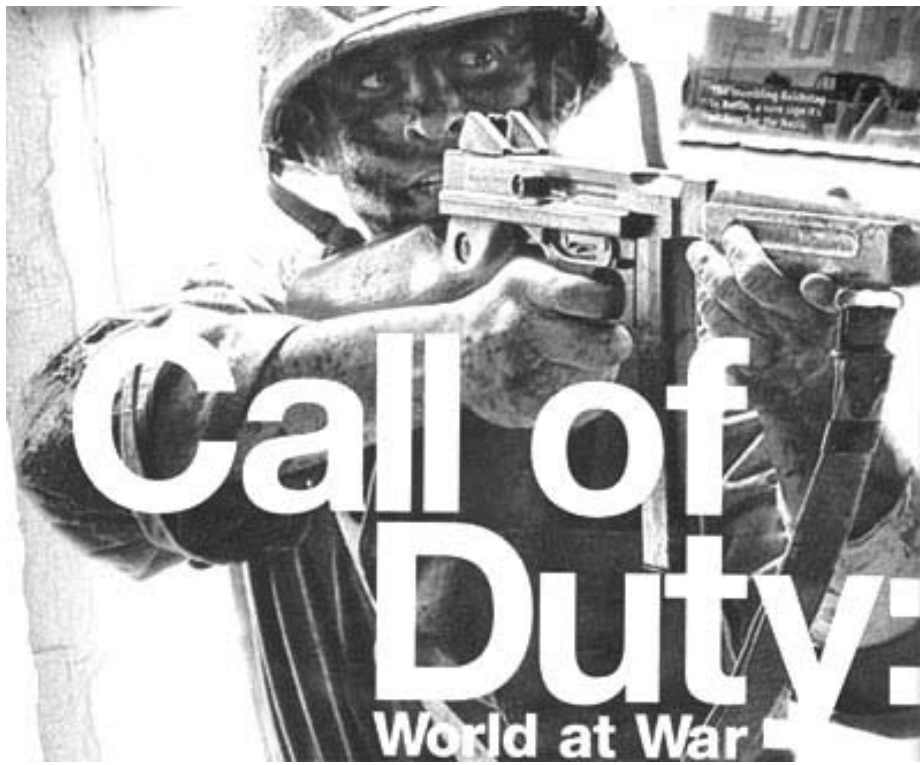


By Tony Williams

All true gamers know that the fall season is the best time of the year. Stores stock their shelves with a multitude of newly released games in anticipation of the Christmas season, but I am solely absorbed by the thought of the new *Call of Duty* game due to hit the stores November 11. *Call of Duty World at War* (*WaW*) is the successor to the massively popular *Call of Duty 4* (*CoD4*), which has topped the leader boards with its massively populated online play.

*WaW* will allow PC, Xbox 360, PS3, Wii, DS and PS2 owners to play as U.S. Marines and Soviet Red Army soldiers in the heated World War II battlefields of the Pacific Theater and the Eastern Front. As a marine, the gamer will take on the brutal and unwavering Imperial Japanese Army, who will launch banzai attacks without warning. Playing as a Soviet, the gamer will take part in the famous invasion of Berlin. Though there have been many WWII games, few have explored the Pacific Theater and Eastern Front as *WaW* will.

Gamers will be pleased to know that even though the development switches from Infinity Ward back to Treyarch for *WaW*, the game will utilize the nearly flawless *CoD4* engine. The last game that Treyarch made in the *CoD* series (*CoD 3*) was a let-down to some, but with the use of the *CoD4* engine and twice the time to develop, flaws should be nonexistent. The most hated thing about *CoD3* was the struggle with online play. Gamers sometimes experienced lagging and glitches, or were disconnected from online battles for no apparent reason. Treyarch claims that they have fixed all of these problems for *WaW*, but



some critics are still skeptical.

Treyarch had to slightly alter the *CoD4* engine to adapt to the new environment. Players will now be able to use a flamethrower and witness the beautiful fire physics that Treyarch has added to the *CoD4* engine. Players will be able to melt their enemies and their surroundings with super realistic graphics. Not only can players destroy cover with flamethrowers, but they can shoot holes through wooden cover large enough to advance through. Swimming physics have also been added to the game allowing players to swim but only at half the rate at which they can run.

The most anticipated element of *WaW* is the cooperative play (co-op). Gamers will be able to play two-player split-screen or four-player online co-op. Players can choose to play with each other but also compete against each other by playing competitive co-op that keeps track of each player's score. Co-op play will allow for mul-

tiiple ways to complete levels, though single player is also said to be less linear in *WaW*.

Additionally, Treyarch decided to keep the perk system. Many of the old perks are still around; sadly, *WaW* has kept the martyrdom perk. Martyrdom causes a player to release a grenade as he dies, killing those around him, and it allows for undeserved kills. Many of the new perks are simply modified *CoD4* perks; for example, the RPG perk is now the bazooka perk.

Most of the new *CoD* perks have to do with the reinstatement of vehicles. Perks like lead foot, which increases a tank's speed, gives players a great advantage in war, the new multiplayer game type that allows for the use of vehicles to capture bases.

Other advancements include new attachments and the return of capture the flag (CTF). New attachments include a bipod to reduce recoil and a bayonet capable of reaching farther than the combat knife can. CTF was

hugely popular in *CoD2* and *CoD3* because of the added elements of strategy involved, and it is expected to experience the same level of success on *WaW*.

Treyarch, known for its audio development, has improved the sounds of battle in *WaW*. The surround sound is remarkable and makes the gamer feel the intensity of battle. Treyarch even recruited the voice of Kiefer Sutherland, the actor who plays Jack Bauer in the television drama *24*.

A beta was released through [callofduty.com](http://callofduty.com), and I obtained my copy on October 12. The most pleasing thing to see in the beta was the new reward for getting a seven kill streak. Since helicopters did not exist during the WWII era, that reward has been replaced by the ability to unleash a pack of rabid dogs. Though the beta didn't give away all of the game's secrets, showing only three maps and locking the player at level 11, it offered a glimpse of what is to come.

*WaW* publisher Activision teamed up with Gamestop, allowing a customer to pre-order the game and be rewarded by having the M1A1 Carbine Assault Rifle unlocked automatically. Activision also created a collectors edition that will include an instantly unlocked FG 42 Machine Gun, a week of double the experience points, a special clan tag, a canteen and a storage tin that displays *WaW* artwork.

The game is expected to fly off the shelves. Its anticipation is so great that McFarlane toys has acquired the license to make *WaW* action figures. With other games such as *Gears of War 2*, *Resistance 2*, *SOCOM: Confrontation* and *Brothers in Arms: Hell's Highway* coming out, *CoD* will be heavily contested for the top spot, but *WaW* will retain the title as the best first-person shooter.

## We Pick *Pick Em*'



By Nick Hemming

The great nation of America was founded on the basis of taking risks for the prospect of great gain. This mindset has been passed down from generation to generation, and it lives specifically through games of chance. Although playing these types of games is prohibited on the school computers, it is always an entertaining way to test Lady Luck at home and see whether or not you are a guru. One of the most popular of these games is *College Football Pick Em*'.

A rising fad in most states, *College Football Pick Em*' is getting bigger by the year. Being part of a league myself, I have witnessed the sheer excitement of the game. The apprehension of making the weekly picks,

the anxiety of awaiting Saturday to see how your picks fare, the utter ecstasy of making the right call—it's all a great experience.

"It's very interesting because you never know how your picks will fare out," says junior David Payne.

The game is played weekly. Every week, professional odds-makers in Las Vegas decide a spread for each game (a spread is the margin of points the favorite is picked to win by). In a *Pick Em*' league, your job is to decide which team will cover the spread. You put a particular number of confidence points on each game, and that is the scoring system.

Take this year's U of L–UK game, for example. The spread was that Louisville would win by 3.5 points. Being a devoted fan, I chose Louisville to cover, and I put three confidence

points on it. Because Louisville did not win, I received no points from that game. Had I chosen Kentucky, all they would have had to do was win, or lose by less than 3.5 for me to receive the points.

"The unpredictability makes it so fun," says senior Danny Dieudonne. "It's kind of luck, but skill is involved, too."

This is not the kind of game where you can continually lose money. You pay a flat fee up front, and that covers the whole season. The prices of such leagues range from five to twenty dollars. My league only cost ten bucks. Multiply that by the 41 people in the league and the result is an opportunity to come away with \$410. To me, that's a risk worth taking.

The most popular site for *College Football Pick Em*' is *Yahoo Sports*, but leagues can be found on many oth-



er sports Websites. There are private leagues that only permit certain people to be a part of them, and there are general leagues that anyone can join. Both types are fun, but if you join an open league, you get the opportunity to meet new people. If you decide to join a private league, you will enjoy the friendly rivalry and comfort of going head-to-head with your buddies instead of random people.

Either way, *College Football Pick Em*' is an exciting way to make the already awesome football season that much better.

October 2008

## Sleeping With the Spirits



By Jack Hewett

Waverly Hills Sanatorium opened on October 17, 1926 in response to the large amount of people infected with Tuberculosis. This 82-year old, five-story building contains the famous "body chute," on which deceased bodies were transported to the bottom of the hill to be disposed of. It is estimated that nearly 62,000 people died within the first three years of Waverly's construction.

Because of the number of people who died in the sanatorium, the 506-room building is known as being haunted and contaminated with spirits. It has appeared on national television shows including ABC/FOX's Family Channel's *Scariest Places on Earth*, VH1's *Celebrity Paranormal Project*, and Sci Fi Channel's *Ghost Hunters*. Recently, Kentucky rock band Black Stone Cherry filmed the video for their song "Blind Man" there.

The most notorious ghost story surrounding Waverly is about Room 502. The legend says that a nurse was stabbed and murdered by an insane patient in the room. People claim to have seen the nurse's ghost running through the front doors of the hospital in a white nightgown and screaming at the top of her lungs. To this day, witnesses claim that she still lives there.

Because of the many ghost stories associated with the building, it has been a mecca for ghost hunters in search of paranormal activity.



Recently, plans have been announced by owner Charlie Mattingly and architect Kevin Milburn about transforming the haunted sanatorium into a 78-room boutique hotel including meeting spaces, a spa and a fitness center.

When Mattingly began applying for loans for the renovation, banks turned him down. Although funding has still not been secured, he is confident that construction could start within a year.

The newly renovated building will be different than the haunted building that we know now. Sun rooms will be located on three of the five floors and a museum and gift shop will be on the primary floor with hotel rooms located throughout.

The source of the building's paranormal activity is found on the fourth floor. Therefore, Mattingly and architect Milburn plan to restore that floor to its original look for historical and educational tours. They may be able to change the look of the building, but they may not be able to destroy the spirits who live there.

The main question is whether a renovation should take place on such a popular and historical building. Why risk losing such a unique and irreplaceable building just to have another hotel? Is there not enough land in other places to construct a hotel exactly like this?

Thousands of ghost-hunters swear that there are spirits walking throughout Waverly Hills. Is this a place you would like to spend an evening?

## Haunted Forests



By Kaleb Ball

If you are interested in a good scare this autumn, haunted forests are a great way to feed your desire. Of the many haunted forests located around Louisville, I have found the two best: Nightmare Forest and Nightmare Harvest.

### Nightmare Forest

Nightmare Forest ranks among the top of the haunted forests in Kentucky. It is a great place to experience the heart-pumping thrill of getting scared beyond your wildest belief. Nightmare Forest contains all of your favorite horror flicks. Many great scenes are reenacted from movies such as *The Hills Have Eyes 2*, the new *Halloween* and many more.

"Nightmare Forest is the scariest thing I have ever experienced," said junior Chris Reader.

### Nightmare Harvest

Nightmare Harvest also has all the great makings of a horrifying experience. Nightmare Harvest is based around the idea of crop circles in a cornfield in the area. They claim that the government can neither confirm nor deny these extra terrestrials. If your horror fantasy includes aliens and crop circles, this is the place for you. This alien invasion experience costs only \$10.

You can have a full night of scares at the Nightmare Harvest complex for \$19.95. This price sounds high, but your admission includes Nightmare Harvest, a Haunted Hayride and the legendary Nightmare Forest. This is located on Preston Highway, about five miles south of the Gene Snyder highway.

## 5 Scary Films



By Nolan Bryant

Think you'll be bored on Halloween night with nothing to do but avoid a swarm of trick-or-treaters? If so, I have the perfect way to change that boring night into a fun, festive and, most importantly, bone-chilling evening. After you've dimmed the lights and pulled out the popcorn or candy, you should watch a few or all of these frightening films.

Beginning the list is *The Exorcist*, a famous film known most notably for terrifying the thousands who went to see it after its 1973 release. Don't let the fact that it's an old movie throw you off. This tale of

a teenage girl possessed by a demon may cause you to run out of the room, which is why it's number one on the list.

The next movie is Stanley Kubrick's *The Shining*. This is perhaps Jack Nicholson's most famous role as a man tormented by ghosts, who

cause some dangerous situations between he, his wife and his son in an isolated hotel. This is a bit jarring the first time you see it, so if you feel the need to immediately watch it again, go ahead, though you'd have to be crazy to do so.

The original *Halloween*, about a boy who kills most of his family, then grows up to finish off the job with the death of his sister, played by Jamie Lee Curtis, is a stellar film with great suspense.

*The Ring* tells the tale of a woman trying to save the lives of herself and her son from a haunted videotape that kills its viewers seven days after they watch it.

Finally, *28 Days Later* depicts England being torn apart by a virus that turns the infected civilians into a group of deranged psychopaths.

You really can't go wrong with any of the aforementioned five, but make sure you have your nerves with you, otherwise things could get messy.



## Halloween Heritage



By Jake Meredith

Halloween is one of the most anticipated holidays. It is a time of brown leaves, full moons, cool breezes and early nights. Nature itself seems to become spookier once the Halloween season begins. Parents and children alike fall in love with the fun-filled shrieks and giggles that go hand-in-hand with Halloween.

Being the world's oldest holiday, Halloween's roots dig all the way back to heathen-like cultures and pre-Christian times.

The Druids of Northwest Europe are the first known civilization to celebrate what we now call Halloween. They believed that on the last day of their calendar year, what would've been October 31, the souls of the recently deceased were gathered by the Lord of the Dead and sentenced to either the life of an animal or immortality in Druid heaven. The Druids celebrated this holiday by lighting huge bonfires and recognizing it as the night the lost spirits were most likely to wander among the living. This ancient Halloween commemorated the past lives of the dead and honored the ghostly spirits.

Like many other pagan holidays, Halloween was taken up and adapted

by the Catholic Church in hopes of assimilating many different pagan societies. The first celebration came after the creation of All Saints Day by Pope Gregory IV, which takes place November 1. It became a holiday devoted to remembering the lives of the saints and giving reverence to their good deeds. The main focus of Halloween remained the same, but small details were created so the holiday could conform to the Church.

Halloween as we know it today is a result of thousands of years of various traditions and customs. Early Christians in Europe would walk from village to village asking for "soul cakes," which obviously morphed into trick or treating. Our beloved jack-o'-lanterns come from an Irish legend telling of how a trickster named Jack deceived the devil, then died and was refused entrance into Heaven or Hell. He was granted a single flame, which he placed in a turnip to light his way forever.

It makes sense that a holiday made up of so many different cultures thrives in America. It is our responsibility to keep these ancient traditions alive. Keep tricking, treating, buying costumes and eating as much candy as possible until our version of Halloween becomes an ancient practice of its own.



October 2008

# Tiger Blast Unites Freshmen



Photo by Gary Hermann



Photo by Gary Hermann



Photo by Gary Hermann



By Rolandan Finch

On September 10 the freshmen had one of the most exciting days of the school year. This was a day for the young freshmen to grow closer together and get to know each other, but it was also a day of competition. The winner was Mr. Dan Amlung's homeroom, which was team Khaki. Team Khaki has dominated for the past two years, taking the doughnuts back to their classroom.

The competitions that the freshmen participated in included dodgeball, flashball, soccer, kickball, Ultimate Frisbee, batball, Tiger toss, inflatables and a relay race. It was a very long day in the sun, but everyone seemed to suck it up and fight through the heat.

Most of the freshmen seemed to enjoy the activities as well as having a day off from school. Freshman Greg Taylor stated, "I had a good time and would love to do it again."

Coach Mike Glaser was also happy with how everything ended up. He says that this event gets much better as the years go on.

Tiger Blast is always successful in terms of helping the incoming students grow closer together as a class. This was the fifth year of the event, and it has been a hit each year. It's a great way to get everybody excited for the new school year.



Photo by Gary Hermann

