



The Shield

Volume 4, Issue 2 October 2011



Homecoming festivities are fun

--Zach Anderson

To encourage our Warriors during Homecoming Week, there were several special memorable events. On Monday, it was "Wear Your Favorite Team's Jersey Day," Tuesday was "Crazy Sock Day," Thursday was "Crazy Hat Day," and Friday was "Spirit Day." On Friday, there was a pep rally and a tail-



gate party before our Saturday homecoming football games, both varsity and junior high playing against Austin Christian as well as the volleyball games against IWA and Faith Christian-Palmhurst. At the Pep Rally each elementary grade presented a poster, with the prize going to both the first and sixth grades. The secondary Houses had a chant competition, with the House of Priests winning. After the pep rally all the Annapolis community was invited to stay for other activities like a dunking booth, bouncy houses, face painting, and picture poses with a "real" Warrior.

Students gather, pray at the pole

--Chase Geerdes

"See You at the Pole" is a national school event in which the student body meets at the school's flag pole to pray. On September 28, Annapolis students gathered here on campus to pray. Not only students but also some of the parents were praying. As good Christians we must remember to talk to our Father who art in Heaven ; "See You at the Pole" is a great opportunity to pray with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Secondary retreats successful

--Jake Lopez

The 2011 Mo Ranch retreat is in the books. As always it was a great experience for new and perennial Mo Ranch-goers. We were honored to have Mr. Smith as our chaplain throughout our time there. Of course, it was very emotional for the senior class as it was their last memories of Mo Ranch. Every student enjoyed each other's company and many enjoyed freshman initiation as the Fish were covered in baby oil, shaving cream, flour, and syrup! Mo Ranch is always a time eagerly anticipated and fondly remembered.



The two separate retreats for junior high girls and boys were also successfully (and safely) completed, so that we can look forward to this becoming a tradition for the 7th and 8th graders in years to come.

Thanks to all the planners, chaperones, and drivers for making these retreats successes!

ACA acquires new van

Annapolis has purchased a 15-

passenger van which can be used for all school functions involving transportation.





Warrior Community



YLI invites its first speaker

--Kelsey Flores

Each month at ACA the Youth Leadership Institute invites a bishop or pastor to share his "Last Sermon." The goal is to have a guest speaker on the last Wednesday of every month. Each speaker will be introduced by a senior and afterwards be given a tour of the ACA campus or will eat lunch with the upper classmen. Our first guest speaker was Bishop Carmody, whose sermon was on "Justice, Peace, and Joy." We look forward to all the future guest speakers and what they have to share.

Elementary students have after-school choices

--Shiloh Carlisle

Not just the High School has exciting activities going on! Our Grammar students now have the opportunity to attend Xylophone practice after school as well as hand bell and drum corps practice. All of these are led by Mrs. Domengeaux, who sacrifices her time and energy to further these children's musical talents and interests. The Ballet Academy of Corpus Christi will be offering an after school program on Tuesdays for ages five to seven. Meredith Whitehurst, a 2011 graduate, will be there as one of the instructors. Class began October 4th.

ACA Service Club cleans up beach areas

--Dabney Glover

On Saturday, September 24th, the ACA Octagon Service Club participated in a service project held by the Adopt-A-Beach organization, aimed towards cleaning up our Aquarium area and our

beaches. Mrs. and Miss Lyons met up with President Zack Denais, Vice-President Shiloh Carlisle, Jake Lopez, and Dabney Glover at the Aquarium where they all cleaned up the facility for about an hour and a half, after which the students were

rewarded with a free pass into the Aquarium and a pizza lunch. Over at the beaches, Mrs. Borchardt,



Emily Borchardt, Austin Jones, Mrs. Hanks, and Andrew Hanks met at Bob Hall Pier. There they scoured the sandy beach for trash. All in all, the beach cleanup project was a great success

House of Advocates to form soon

--Shiloh Carlisle

In the next several weeks there will be an addition to our secondary House system. Ms. Trouart and Miss Hood are the leaders of Student Government, which will be the fifth house, House of Advocates. The two main purposes of this house are to give the students an opportunity to speak and to teach students the process of running a small government. There will be three representatives--President, Vice President, and Treasurer--as well as a representative from each grade. Ms. Trouart's message to the secondary students is as follows: "Those of you who have complaints about the school, this is your time to voice them in an appropriate manner."

Journalism staff

The staff members are Jordan Davis, Jake Lopez, Matthew Bowden, Kate Dienes, Shiloh Carlisle,



Kelsey Flores, Sierra Cox, Zach Anderson, Chase Geerdes, Carissa Gutierrez, and Dabney Glover, with Alecia Lyons as their teacher.



Warrior Voices

--On the "Warrior Voices" pages, The Shield publishes reviews, editorials, and "blogs" which reflect the personal opinions of the staff.

Our words do matter—Carissa Gutierrez

Is verbal abuse the same as physical abuse? Ponder for a minute. Verbal abuse is aggrieving just as much as physical abuse. Although there is no physical evidence with verbal abuse, it is just as damaging to one's soul as physical abuse. You might not think that words from a person's mouth could hurt, but truly they can cause emotional trauma. Even a simple "You're ugly" comment can damage a person's self esteem. It's not just a five minute feeling but can lead to damage emotionally.

Verbal abuse is a type of bullying because when one speaks negative hurtful words, the other person is offended and emotionally hurt. Similarly, when one is bullied to the extent of bruising, it may cause then emotional instability. Some people do not think before they speak. After what has happened, they realize that they did something that caused a harmful situation. There are many reasons for why people might address others negatively. It could be that they got nowhere in life so they are putting fault on other peoples life's, or that they are just simply a bully.

If you look at consequences of bullying, none of them are good. God says to love your neighbor as yourself. Look at it this way: what if you were that person being bullied? It's not as easy as you think it is. Many people are sensitive and take negativity to heart while others might just knock it off their shoulders like nothing. But no matter what, always think about others' feelings before speaking your mind. It's difficult to see children, teenagers, and even adults go through emotional bullying. Words are not always used beneficially. Next time, think before you speak.

In favor of fast food—Zach Anderson

Why should you eat out? It saves time because you don't have to wait in those ridiculously long grocery lines getting food that you might just end up wasting. When you eat out, you get food that you will eat; you won't have to do anything but take your credit card out of your wallet and swipe it. After a long day of work or school, wouldn't you want to have someone make your food for you instead of having to work extra to make your own food? I sure would. It's my opinion, food made by others tastes better.

Katie's Building Blog—Katie Dienes

When searching for a new home, families often get the luxury of entering a finished (and sometimes furnished) home. The walls are painted, light fixtures and ceiling fans are hung, and the kitchen is sparkling with its new-end equipment. I wonder, how often do home-buyers stop to ponder the process that went into that selecting that skylight or putting the grout in between all those tiles? I have always held some level of interest for these things, but this past summer I became more than familiar with the ins and outs of not only the aesthetically pleasing features of a home, but the entire home-building process.

The end of my sophomore year was not only filled with the pressure to do well on my final exams, but also a pressure to finish a house. My family had decided to take on the adventure of gutting and practically rebuilding a shell of a home by ourselves. Months were taken merely to get to a point in which rebuilding could take place, and the process of building is still incomplete. Many more months will pass before I can finally call it "done." (continued on p. 4)





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We came into this venture knowing that we would be accomplishing the majority of the work ourselves. With three small children and an elderly woman to look after, our family had no small task. While my mom went to work every day, and I went to school, my father was left juggling care-taking and demolition. Needless to say, the one-man crew tired quickly and didn't make sufficient headway for the time-crunch we were in. The "new" house had to be liveable a few weeks before school let out for the summer, or we wouldn't have a place to live...(to be continued)...

To buy or not to buy: Hybrid vs. Diesel—Jordan Davis

Thanks to ever rising fuel prices we have had to come up with many ideas to save fuel. One question raised is whether we should convert to electric hybrids or look at the age-old diesels with new purpose. When they think of diesels, most people think of loud gas-guzzlers that blow black smoke everywhere they go. Hybrids, a new invention, are cars that have an electric engine that propels it forward with a gas engine that helps it do difficult things like climbing hills or accelerating; the gas engine is also supposed to recharge the battery when it gets low but otherwise is off and the electric one does the work. These cars are supposed to be the most efficient to this day. The three big things people want in a vehicle nowadays is good fuel economy, reliability, and quiet. So who would think diesels would have a chance? Consider these things. A hybrid has to have to energy sources--batteries for the electric engine and a fuel tank for the gas. This makes a lot of weight which is not a friend in vehicles. It affects performance and efficiency. Also they do not have much power. For example a Toyota Prius has peak 96 horsepower and with an average of 52 miles to the gallon highway use. They are also loud. The transition from the electric to the gas engine makes a bunch of noise. Also I have not had good luck with electric objects, especially battery-operated ones. Batteries wear out; I have never heard of a fuel tank wearing

out. Of course large engines take a lot of gas but small ones are efficient. So we have come up with small diesels and tested them. New diesels have better seals and insulation in the housing. So the noise problem is very well taken care of. The unique process a diesel undergoes when running has been proven many times over to be extremely reliable. It is not uncommon to find diesels with three hundred thousand or so miles with no problems; some have way more. The efficient and amazing diesel Volkswagen Jetta has 296 horsepower and gets 58 miles to the gallon on the highway! Diesels also have huge amounts of torque so they can pull lots of weight without much fuel loss. All things considered, the diesel engine is a better option than a hybrid one.

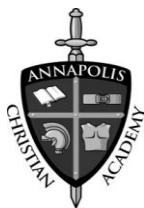
It Matters to Matt: A Sports Editorial

--Matt Bowdin



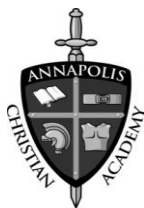
The Texas A&M University athletic program has decided to leave the Big Twelve Conference. This last year the Big Twelve lost two teams, Nebraska and Iowa State, both to the Big Ten Conference. The Aggies did not plan on leaving the Big Twelve anytime soon; actually they had planned on staying with the conference for a good long while.

The University of Texas, a strong rival of Texas A&M, came up with a network called the Longhorn Network. This network gives them coverage on their own station with their own commercials and people have to buy a subscription to the network to be able to have access to it. On the surface, this looks like a negative for the Longhorns, but if you dig into the problem, you see that this is a positive. Many restaurants have televisions in them and the majority of them have or will have subscribed to the Longhorn Network. Individually, people will also sign up with the Longhorn network and the university gets a lot of profits from this. This then gives the University of Texas an advantage



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financially and strategically over every school in the Big 12. Strategically, they would get a



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in recruiting. High school players around the nation would love for their team to be on any television station possible. If Texas really wants to get a player from a certain school, then they can get that player to come to their school by putting their team on their network. The University of Texas told Texas A&M that they could share a network called the Lone Star Network, but Texas A&M would have to pay the same fee to start the network, but Texas would get 60% of the profit. Oh yes! This seems so fair! Obviously, Texas A&M did not agree to join the network with Texas.

For Texas A&M to leave the Big 12 without any teams suing the conference they were going into, each individual team in the Big 12 had to sign a contract. Every team in the conference signed, except for Baylor University. The Aggies signed out of the Big 12, and the South Eastern Conference (SEC) decided to let the Aggies join in July of 2012. The SEC is taking a risk of Baylor suing them, but they do not believe Baylor has a case.

Book Review: *Song of Albion* by Stephen Lawhead—reviewed by Dabney Glover

For those who love to read, we all know that here are so many books, but so little time. Books are so diverse in genre and style that it is



sometimes difficult to find those books that you will want to invest your time in, books that will both entertain and inspire. For those readers who love to get lost in a thrilling historical novel with an “otherworld” twist, the three part *Song of Albion*, written by Stephen R. Lawhead, is a fantastic read. This story centers on an unlikely hero, Lewis Gillies, a student from Oxford, who is sucked into the Otherworld, the historically Celtic alternate reality of the modern world, a world of magical perfection and terrible secrets. Yet there is evil disrupting this world that hangs over the modern world as well. Lewis Gillies, renamed Llew in the Celtic tongue, must step up to his new found roles in the Otherworld and

fight the darkness threatening both worlds. This series does a wonderful job of portraying the complexities of the Celtic culture, submerging you in the practices of that people. As a result, these books are not for the faint of heart, as the Celtic people were a distinctly warrior culture, gruesome and cruel in battle. And yet, even through the pagan-ness of the Celts, Lawhead finds a way to weave wonderful spiritual truths and Christian imagery into his story. Overall, these books are intriguing and thoroughly captivating, a great entwining of down-to-earth historical facts and magical, spiritual threads. Both enjoyable and totally thought provoking, this trilogy is worth the investment.

Music Review: “Can’t Get Over You” by Anthem Lights—reviewed by Carissa Gutierrez

“Anthem Lights” is not a typical band; it is a band with a heart to reach out to people with their songs. They play a pop/rock type of music. With four extremely gifted vocalists and a wealth of songwriting talent, **Anthem Lights** is a force to be reckoned with. From the beginning, they knew that they were intent on being more than just another pop group. They understood their calling, which was meant to be more than “a music business.” They were called to share the Light they’ve been given. They recently came out with a new album. Many of the songs relate to what one of the band members went through when growing up. The songs they sing really explain the band itself. One that is my favorite is “Can’t Get Over You.” This song really reaches out to me because it refers to not getting over what God has done for us. It’s so amazing how these guys put this song together and just let it flow into a magnificent worship song. In this song the one part that gets me right in the heart is when they sing “Even through the good and the bad times, you stay the same so my song will remain.”



The lyrics to this song just really came to life for me.



WARRIOR SPORTS



Warrior Football teams fight on!

--Matt Bowden

On Sept. 16, the ACA football team went to San

Antonio to face their long-time rival, the Winston Eagles. Winston has the number one running back in the nation, LaJordan Wilkerson. Sadly, the Eagles handed us a 62-13 loss. ACA next played the San Marcos Panthers who beat us in the State Championship last year. Annapolis was looking for revenge that night, but the Panthers did not give it to us as your Warriors suffered a 54-6 loss. A week later, your ACA Warriors traveled to San Antonio to play C.A.S.A. The Warriors at halftime were down by only one touchdown. C.A.S.A. did win, but the Warriors did manage to accomplish one goal, to complete a full game. The Warriors, in all of the games previously, did not finish the games, because of the "mercy rule." ACA completed the game, but lost 54-32. On October 8 the Warriors lost a hard-fought Homecoming game to Austin Christian, 50-37. The game was actually closer even than the final score indicates, with the Warriors staying close to victory the entire game, which was their best-played so far.

Junior High Warriors continue their winning ways

On Homecoming Saturday the junior high football team routed Austin Christian 64-26.

This brings their record to 4-1 for the season with two games to go. Well done, Warriors!



Field is dedicated, named Bob White Field

In between the two Homecoming football games, there was a special



ceremony at which Tonya Webber and the board honored Mr. Bob White for all his hard work on the field. He was presented a trophy, but then also a new sign was unfurled: the field is now named the Bob White Field. Many thanks!

Junior High Lady Warriors place third!

--Katie Dienes

After returning from Mo Ranch, the young Lady Warriors were diligent in their practices for volleyball early both Thursday and Friday morning. Out of the twelve schools that competed in the tournament on Sept. 15-



17, our Annapolis Lady Warriors played three games. Overall, the Warriors achieved third place and received a special trophy with a spinning volleyball on top. Well done!

Volleyball draws to end

--Sierra Cox

This year's volleyball season is almost over! The junior varsity team won 3 games. Their last game was on October 1st and they celebrated at CiCi's Pizza. The varsity team's season, however, still has a few games left. On September 27th, they played the John Paul Saints; it was a very close game of 24 to 26. On September 30th, the varsity team played the Victoria Cobras and won! They continued their winning ways with a Homecoming Day victory over IWA. Then on October 10, they beat NCA to lock up a first place finish in their district. Play-offs begin after Fall Break.