

Smoke Signals

Antonian College Preparatory High School | October 3, 2008 | Fall Issue

THE FRESHMAN SURVIVAL GUIDE

By Gayle Bustamante

We all remember the year that marked the beginning, the year our nerves overtook our confidence, the year commonly known as freshmen year. Recently, the Antonian community introduced new guidelines for school life, but the basics continue to stay the same. Going into high school, many students have no clear vision of what to expect. Any new additions to our high school would surely appreciate a few tips, so to the Freshman Class of 2012 I give the following advice. First, DON'T BE NERVOUS! Typically the stories people hear and tell about the first year of high school are extremely over exaggerated, causing newcomers to fear the worst, which leads to the second piece of advice: don't panic. Get into the routine of your classes, find some sort of balance between work and relaxation, and never slack off. Good study habits and hard work will pay off in the end. If you feel overwhelmed in class, just ask your teachers or other

students for extra help. Your teachers have all the answers so do not be afraid to go to them. Naturally, all Antonian students remember their Turner days and will give you the same advice: go to her study sessions! Senior Jordan Cole emphasizes this with his statement, "Listen to everything Mrs. Turner says because it is all golden" Also, to be successful in Coach Anno's class, pay attention during Quizdom games and print out your tests online for when finals come around. In addition to this, keep with grammar in English and equations in Algebra or Geometry as these two topics will carry onto the next three years. Become involved in whatever interests you. Freshmen year, as busy as it seems now, is one of the slowest years. If you hear of an extracurriculars you think you might enjoy, go for it. Make plenty of friends and participate in classroom activities. Fall at Antonian is infamous for spirit week, so ignore the upperclassmen when they say you will

get last every other year. Go out and have fun anyway. Lastly, just enjoy the year! Though freshmen year is expected to be a year of torture and hazing, it is ironically remembered as the best school year for many students. Make the most out of your year, and be prepared to walk into a new world of education for the next three years. In other words, do as Evan Howard says and "enjoy it while it lasts". Most importantly, make sure not to take this year for granted, because in a year or two you will be missing the good old freshmen days. As Manolo Lago says, "Don't care so much that you don't have fun!" Good Luck to you Class of 2012, and have a memorable one.

ANTONIAN'S MUSIC By Thomas Boroweic

The Antonian Apache Band is a large part of the school. They play at key events, like the first day when the Freshmen came marching in, and at any football and volleyball games they can. The Antonian Band can be seen practicing 1st period in the mornings, 2nd period for Drum Line, (Band and Drum Line take the place of Physical Education for Freshmen/Sophmores and elective for Junior/Seniors) and also in the afternoons from 4-6pm. The main focus of these practices is primarily the half time show performed at the football games. Though they play at school events, there are contests that the band enters into in the spirit of inter-school competition. The TAPPS or Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools holds many competitions every year, whether they be for math, general academics, or even in music, such as the one that the Antonian Band regularly attends at the Regional and State levels. For three years in a row now the Antonian Band has placed 3rd overall in state. There are actually two parts of the band which compete in these competitions : the Jazz Band and the Concert Band. The main differences between these two Bands is the style of music they play; the Jazz Band plays, obviously, jazz music while the Concert Band plays more classical kinds of music. Both perform well at regionals and help the Band advance to State, along with the various soloists. One of the most important members of Band is the Drum Major, who this year is Kevin Sievers of the Junior class. To be awarded this position in Band, Sievers and various other members had to try out just before school ended last year. Joseph Contreras, a Senior in Band, was given the position of Assisstant Drum Major and Angelie Phillips was elected as Drum Captain, leader of the Drum Line. They have to keep time with the music to make sure the Band performs satisfactorily. In addition to this, there was marching instruction this summer for the rest of Band and, though voluntary, has helped to make them march even better than last year to make the half time show all it can be.

EARTH TO APACHES

By Alanna O'Connell

In recent days I have walked down the street and thought "Huh, there is a lot of garbage around". Truth be told, there are a lot of causes that are worth taking part in, but few equal the Earth Club in its ability to just make everything better in our community. They clean, recycle, and make the world a little less trash-filled one project at a time. Sponsored by Mr. Derbonne, the Earth Club has set its collective sights high for this year, coming soon to a lunchroom near you, there is a project that will seem like a cross between Earth Club and Med Team: Paper Shoes. This may require some further explanation for those not in the Earth Club. The Earth Club will soon be selling paper shoes, or rather paper shoe outlines, in an effort to raise money for Juvenile Diabetes Research. It will be a race to donate, an ironic thing considering that the items being sold are shoes! Whichever class raises the most money for this worthy cause will get a reward, so if you ever feel cramped by the uniform fear not! The reward will be one day of Antonian t-shirts, so any Antonian t-shirt that the administration approves of can be worn on the day of victory for the winning class.

The President of the Earth Club is Taylor Foody, also a Junior at Antonian. The Earth Club usually holds meetings on Thursday, though every now and then they change around. One thing that is set in stone is the ultimate goal for this year, and a good one it is. Through the endeavors of our own Earth Club, we may have the blessing of a recycle bin in every room, which will in all likelihood eliminate most trash since, to be honest, most of what any student throws away is recyclable. This is probably the biggest step the school can take to be 'green', a term referring to environmentally friendly institutions. The advent of recycle bins around the school will provide a home for the thousands of sheets of paper that we throw away daily, and waste daily as well. It is probable that the recycle dumpsters will be more full than the trash dumpsters by the end of the year!

APACHE LIFE

By Megan Dellert

Apache Life, though not many people are aware of it outside of Ms. Copfer's Theology class, does not sound all that bad. The name might be simple but it explains about the true organization. In a brief explanation of the club, Ms. Copfer said, "I know you guys have a lot of homework Thursdays, but it is a nice place to relax and hang out with friends." For those who have ever been on a retreat or want to attend one, the club functions like a retreat but every other Thursday. They play the same kind of ice-breaker games that people have done since the dawn of time, like the one where everyone links arms with two other people and try to disentangle themselves. In this way people make friends with others in the group. However, there is also a spiritual side. The members pray, and through prayer and group activities get to be more in community with God. Its pretty much like Youth Group at a parish, but at our school, which has the dual advantage of being more convenient as well as being a great way to meet new friends at Antonian. There are community service aspects, and during the interview Ms. Copfer had a little brain wave and created the community building idea to end all: board games. While we all know that monopoly can get hectic as well as violent, try also appreciating how it would allow us to interact with others in a group, when ripping them off royally on wholesales of fake property for example. So, to make a long story short, every other Thursday the Apache Life group meets from 6:30-8:00 to play games, do spiritual activities and also just so if anyone is interested, go to room 102 for more information on meetings and the like.

World News

Friday, October 3, 2008
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2008 OLYMPICS

By Liz Briones

Home court advantage always is a positive for any competitive athlete. But as for home *country* advantage just ask China. China finished the 2008 Beijing Olympics with the most overall gold medals (51). Unfortunately, it was not enough to withstand the United States, who though only grabbed 36 gold medals, conquered the home country by just 10 total medals. Of course the golden boy of the Olympics, Michael Phelps (US Swimmer) led the way into history as he won a remarkable eight gold medals. As far as how other countries fared, Russia finished in third, Great Britain nabbed fourth, and Germany stands in fifth.

Other highlights of the memorable summer include Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh winning their second straight gold medal in Women's Beach Volleyball. The "Redeem Team," so dubbed by All-star and now gold medalist, LeBron James, pushed Spain out of their way to claim the gold medal victory they promised US basketball fans. The US Men's Gymnastics Team, clear underdogs, emerged victorious with Bronze medals after many critics believed that the loss of the Hamm brothers was only going to lead to failure for the former potentially medal threatening team. Nastia Liukin and Shawn Johnson also took a stab into history as they both placed first and second in the Women's Individual Gymnastics All-Around just after leading the team to a silver medal. Finally, there is (Jamaica) Usain Bolt's Men's 100 Meter victory, or his celebration party with the works, as he practically danced his way into history, instead of completing race with the traditional sprint.

The 2008 Beijing Olympics were definitely something to remember; hopefully, the 2012 Olympics in London can keep us just as entertained. It would definitely be nice to witness some repeats and some new "Redeem Teams." I am sure everyone, especially the ladies, are looking forward to seeing Michael Phelps continue his historic career. So to the 2012 Olympics awaiting the athletes in London, bring your A-game because China left a very high standard to uphold.



MCCAIN AND OBAMA IN TIGHT RACE

By Phillip Ericksen

After nearly two years of campaigning, two nationally televised conventions, and countless speeches and interviews, the presidential campaign is nearly reaching its end. Still, some Americans have not made up their minds and settled on a candidate. While Senators John McCain and Barack Obama relentlessly campaign, political analysts are expecting the November election to be one of the closest ever. Regardless of the results, history will be made. Barack Obama is attempting to be the first African-American president, while Sarah Palin is trying to become the first woman vice president.

The majority of the states have already been designated red or blue, although the usual battleground states remain. Ohio, Florida, and Pennsylvania are toss-ups, and their outcomes could decide the election. Both candidates are intensely campaigning in Missouri, Wisconsin, and Michigan as well, which could also go either way. Multiple polls are released daily, with varying results. But at the end of the day, the only poll that really matters is the one on November 4th.

The undecided vote will no doubt have a major impact on the election. It begs the question, after all this time, how could some people still be unsure? With so many critical issues in today's America, it is imperative that we make the right decision, not just for right now, but for the future as well. The war in Iraq and Afghanistan, the struggling economy, the environment, and immigration are all controversial topics that McCain and Obama have very different views. However, there is enough evidence available through television and the internet to decide who is the right man for the job, and a little research might help one choose.

For those of you who are tired of all this election stuff, I assure you that it will only get worse in the coming weeks. As Obama-mania sweeps the nation and Sarah Palin appeals to the hockey moms, the United States could not be more enthralled with the presidential election. Tina Fey's dead-on impersonation of Governor Palin on SNL was an instant classic, and "Obama Girl" has received almost 10,000,000 hits on YouTube. There has even been national discussion of lipstick on pigs. At least the country is having a little fun with the election.

Election Day will be here before we know it, and this time of the year could not be more exciting. Both campaigns will be going full force discussing the issues in cities across America in an effort to pick up every vote possible. Everyone should be informed and watch the upcoming debates because they will definitely be a factor when people go to the polls and cast their ballots. Elections only come around every four years, and at a time like this, the decision for president could not be more important.



www.cnn.com courtesy of Ashley Buenostro& Feliz Ramirez

By Magdalene Burger

Sarah Palin was born on February 11, 1964 in Idaho to her parents Charles and Sarah Heath. The family first moved to Alaska because Sarah's father was offered a teaching position in Sagway. She grew up in Alaska and graduated from Wasilla High School. She went on to attend four different colleges (Hawaii Pacific University, Northern Idaho University, The University of Idaho, and Matanuska-Susitna College) and eventually received a Bachelor of Science in Communications-Journalism and studied in journalism with an emphasis in broadcasting and business administration.

Sarah is pro life, pro gun, pro marriage, and has publicly questioned if global warming is directly in effect from human actions. She also supports on and offshore drilling in ANWR, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and is a member of the NRA, National Rifle Association. Sarah has been a city councilman and mayor of Wasilla along with the governor of Alaska. She is the mother of five children, one of who has Down Syndrome, and is very in touch with her Christian beliefs.

www.cnn.com courtesy of Ashley Buenostro& Feliz Ramirez



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VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES REVEALED

Joe Biden was born on November 20, 1942 in Scranton Pennsylvania to Joe Sr. and Jean Biden. His family moved to New Castle County, Delaware when he was ten. He is a graduate of Archmere Academy. He attended the University of Delaware and the Syracuse University of Law. When he was 29, Joe was elected to the Senate and became the fifth youngest member ever. He has been reelected into the Senate for over three decades.

Joe considers his most significant piece of legislation to be his "Violence Against Women Act." He says that violence against women has dropped by 50% since it was passed. It is said that he was chosen as Barack Obama's running mate because of his specialization in foreign policy. Joe is an avid supporter of Amtrak, government run trains that help intercity population with transportation, and is in various committees throughout the Senate. Joe Biden is an experienced Senator who has already attempted to run for the Presidential chair.

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Editorials

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Entertainment Minute with Mr. Weise

The summer is a time of sleep, sports, vacations, dates, parties, and everything in between. In the midst of all that relaxation, you may have caught yourself sitting right in front of a huge screen partaking in some pretty exciting – and not so exciting – cinematic adventures. Here's a brief list of my: Best & Worst Summer Movies of 2008

BEST

1.) **The Dark Knight**

If I had a ratings system, this would be 6 thumbs up! It delivered, and more on the anticipation building up towards its release. With the dark theme and plot very much entangled in the mob and violent upheaval, this Batman sequel – starring Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Aaron Eckhart, and Maggie Gyllenhal – was hands-down the best movie of the summer. For all 2 ½ hours, this comic-book inspired thriller captivated attention; and left us wanting more.

2.) **Iron Man**

Definitely a surprise box-office success. Robert Downey serves as the perfect hero with a bit of a wild side. Overall great movie, keeps you enticed even if it's a little long. Look for a sequel.

3.) **Tropic Thunder**

This Ben Stiller gem stars Stiller, Robert Downey, Jr., Jack Black, Tom Cruise and many others. It's about a group of prima donna actors, making a war film, that get left in the jungle and must get out on their own. Danny McBride is hilarious in this one as the effects guy and amateur-pyro. Very smart and witty comedy.

4.) **Wall-E**

The sentimental favorite of the summer. From the minds of Finding Nemo, this animated Pixar movie is about a robot who is designed to clean up the Earth but falls in love. Not exactly the type of movie I'd think would be good, but ended up being so.

WORST

1.) **Mamma Mia!**

Three words: Pierce Brosnan...singing. Awful.

2.) **You Don't Mess with the Zohan**

Not a Happy Gilmore type of Adam Sandler movie – more along the lines of Little Nicky.

3.) **The Happening**

M. Night Shymalan's apocalyptic film about an unidentifiable pandemic spreading across the country, starring Mark Wahlberg = overacted, overhyped, and overdone. Not a horrible plot idea, but completely bombed in what they could have done with it. And honestly, if I watch any more of Shymalan's flicks I'll have irreparable damage done to my neck from all the unnecessary plot twists.

4.) **Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull**

This much-anticipated sequel to the Harrison Ford series was less than par. Lots of action and plenty of adventure, but little substance, not enough Shia, and almost too unbelievable. Maybe not a "worst" movie, but fell very short.

CHECK IT OUT:

Movie: Burn After Reading

CD: "Before the Amplifiers (live acoustic)" – Sister Hazel; "Shwayze" – Shwayze

Download: "I'm Yours" – Jason Mraz

Book: No Country For Old Men by Cormac McCarthy

SPERLUNKING

Decicively Joseph Anthony Jimenez Contreras

I've recently stumbled upon some incredible programming that can take up any free time I might have. One of the shows I'm talking about happens to be The Marvelous Misadventures of Flapjack. Because of the fact that my maturity level is about equivalent to that of a 5th or 6th grader, I'm very drawn to cartoons depicting any talking animals. The show consists of the main characters Flapjack, Bubbie, and K'nuckles. Flapjack is a young boy who is cared for by Bubbie, a talking whale. K'nuckles is a pirate who tells Flapjack of an incredible place called Candied Island, which is made, as the name suggests, entirely out of candy. The humor is brilliant and enticing. I laugh belligerently at almost all of the jokes. The chemistry between all three characters is magical. But don't take my word for it, find out for yourself.

And while you're at it, another show that has caught my eye is Chowder. This program's maturity level and uniqueness rivals Flapjack, which makes it incredibly satisfying for anyone who shares a pallet such as mine. Chowder is made up of a number of different characters, all which have names that share a common bond. "What is this bond?" you ask. The bond, my friend, is one thing that everyone loves. Food. All the characters are named after various foodstuffs, and the show itself is about the preparing of food. Chowder is an apprentice to the "the greatest chef in the world," Mung Daal, who has been cooking for approximately 386 years. Both of these shows allow a slight and simple release from reality. If you're ever looking for a way to get out of the real world and into your jam jams for a day filled with laughter and feeling like a kid again is highly recommend watching either of these shows. The dynamics in both rivals that of award winning cinema. I believe these shows to be a cornerstone of the direction America is leading the children of today, and to be honest, I like it.

College Corner

By Nicole Flores

Are you feeling stressed about where you want to go to college? Are you asking yourself what you want to do with the rest of your lives? Well do not fret, because you are not alone. I would like to give a few helpful hints for you to keep in mind this year as you frantically fill out college and scholarship applications:

1. Remember, you are an individual, do not feel pressured by your friends to go to the same college that they are going to. (That college may not offer the programs that you want.)
2. You do not have to go to Rice, Harvard, Brown, or Yale to get a good education. There are plenty of Universities that specialize in certain areas and that offer amazing programs. Even here in town, there is St. Mary's University, offering a great law school; Incarnate Word University offers an extensive nursing program; as well as Trinity University with strong liberal arts and science courses.
3. Expect the most out of yourself. Do not limit yourself on what you think you can or can't do. Never think that you are not good enough to get in to a certain college that you have always wanted to get into. Try!

4. When looking into a college, take in mind:

- The majors and minors they offer and make sure that the program is accredited.
- The honors college (it may be rigorous so take a look at the required courses).
- The campus activities and recreation (intramural sports, gym facilities, clubs).
- The setup of the dorm rooms (co-ed, single/double rooms, how many bathrooms?)
- The city or town that the University is surrounded by or close to (Washington D.C or New York Universities may have closer ties and offer internships with the News Media and politicians, for example)
- The cost, in general (housing, courses, daily food, etc.)
- How you will feel being either close by or far away from your family and home.

Seniors, deadlines for most colleges is November 1, 2008. Pay attention to scholarship deadlines as well! Juniors, I advise that y'all too start looking into colleges because this year will go by fast, so be prepared.

Sports

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ON THE ROAD AGAIN

By Mark Stenberg

The Lady Apache Volleyball Team has made an outstanding beginning this year with a 24-6 record defeating teams such as Alamo Heights, New Braunfels Canyon, and highly ranked JJ Pearce. They are ranked in the San Antonio Express News Top Ten Teams of the City and have many players who are in the top of individual skills. Coach McLure, also known as Coach Mac, has to say, "This season can be described as memorable because I am watching my team grow up. Our success is based on the fact we have our entire team contributing including the underclassmen." The varsity continues to push into the second round of their district with their goal still being a repeat State Championship, "I do not expect the girls to settle with District; I expect them to win State." Their next match is against St. Anthony on Wednesday October 8 and, of course, the ultimate showdown between the Apaches and the Shamrocks on October 11. "Come out and continue to cheer on the girls!"

DEFENDING THE TITLE

By Alexandra Zepeda

Last year's National Champions are back for the 2008-2009 school year and they brought along something new, a Junior Varsity Cheer Squad. Both teams work extremely hard and take pride in what they do. Maybe the "real" life of a cheerleader has not been put out for the "real" world to see. They strive to achieve their goals and push themselves to the limit each and every day. Cheerleading is a year-round commitment. At practice, the girls are expected to give 100%, just as any other physical activity requires. They spend a minimum of two hours at practice running, conditioning, stunting, tumbling, and jumping. They take advantage of the time they have and know that they have none to waste. The varsity team is getting their routine together and counting down the days when they will bring home the national title for the second year in a row. They have also been following the varsity football and volleyball teams and showing their support by cheering them on at games. The junior varsity squad follows the junior varsity football and volleyball teams and gives them just as much encouragement. Their plans for the year is to continue cheering at the seasonal games and go out to represent the school within the community. Competition is a huge part for them as well. All of these girls have so much talent and are thankful for it all the time. They do not forget to include God in everything that they accomplish. The two squads have highly improved since try-outs and will keep working to improve even more as a squad and as individuals.



Photos by Emily Lyssy & Ms. Gutierrez

Just Getting Started

By Alejandro Salazar

Two weeks ago the Apaches played their last pre-district game against the Harlandale Indians. The game went down to the wire with the Indians getting the best of the Apaches in an overtime victory. With that loss, the Apaches fell to 1-3. It's not the ideal start for a team looking to make a run for the playoffs, but 1-3 was the pre-district record. District play started last Saturday against the St. Joseph Bloodhounds of Brownsville, and the Bloodhounds found out what Apache football was all about when we demolished them by a score of 35-0. The Apaches are now 2-3 and undefeated in district.

After the Harlandale game the team was disappointed and a little frustrated at dropping three straight games, but they were not ready to hang up their pads just yet. As a matter of fact they were just getting started. The Apaches came into Brownsville hungry for a victory but most of all they came ready to take out their frustrations on the Bloodhounds.

In each of the four pre-district games the Apaches learned two things about themselves: the offense can put a lot of points on the board and the defense is a force to be reckoned with. "Our team is well balanced and ready to make some exciting things happen." Says team captain Chris Crane when asked about how the team was looking this season. That proved to be right last Saturday.

The defense looked very solid in the last three games, and put a hurting on the Bloodhounds by effectively stopping the passing game. The offense struggled in the previous games but seemed to find their rhythm at the expense of the Bloodhounds. So all you "die hard" fans, do not take this win as a one time thing because the offense is ready to score, the defense is ready to wreck, but most of all, as center Ivan Nayfeh said, "The pain train's next stop is St. Anthony!"

STRETCHIN' YOUR LEGS

By Will Fagan

Matt Gazda, along with a handful of other upperclassmen, have begun what seems to be a very promising cross country season. Dedication is held by both the runners and the coaching staff. Practice takes place at 5:30 A.M, where you can see the team, along with the coaches, run up to 9 miles before school. Dedication is only one of the many important qualities this team holds. Another important aspect of this team is leadership, which is present in both the guy's and girl's team. Taking on the leadership roles are Bernardo Lopez, Matt Gazda and for the girls, Paige Bishop. When being asked about the team this year, senior leader Bernardo Lopez says, "I expect our team to be number one in state. I believe all of our hard work will pay off." The coaching staff, led by Coach Level, Coach Anno and Coach Marcus have committed a big part of their lives too the cross country team, they too are expecting big results.

The team competes in a meet every weekend. When asked about the how the team will perform in these upcoming meets, junior Kenny Cortez says, "Were going to dominate." Their next meet is October 4th, at McNeil. There, they will look to continue their dominating performance.

