

Western Christian High School
100 West Ninth Street
Volume 6

Western Spirit

Puff it up!

Raven Rodriguez
Staff Writer

This year's annual Powder Puff game was highly anticipated and well worth all the hype. Powder Puff has been part of Western's history for many years. It's just like any other football game except all the players are girls and it's reserved for juniors and seniors only. It included 2 teams, 1 puffy king, 1 puffy queen, 3 puffy princes, 3 puffy princesses and 1 very funny Dr. Cruz as the announcer.

After many hours practicing and strategizing the girls were ready to hit the field. Dr. Cruz quotes "both teams came to the game undefeated but by the end of the day one team would walk away as a champion". The first half went well. There was excitement all throughout the bleachers as parents and students alike screamed and hollered for the team of their choice. Jessica Shih made the first touchdown after a brilliant pass by Chelsea Cramer putting the seniors in the lead by one touchdown.

Before long it was half time and it was time to announce the puffy king and queen. On the guys' side it was between Dr. Cruz, Coach Mylar, Mr. Blessinger, and Mr. Oden. On the girls side it was Ms. Miller, Ms. Sylvester, Ms. Thurber, and Mrs. Tawel. After a brief fun fact about each teacher the winners were announced. Mr. Oden took the title of puffy king for the fourth year in a row. When asked about how he felt about this Oden replied with "I'm surprised and thankful each time". Ms. Miller was crowned puffy queen for the first time.

The second half started strong with the juniors hoping they could still win. They played good defense and offense, almost making a couple touchdowns but the seniors would not be beat. The battle waged on back and forth with no avail. Then with only minutes left in the game the seniors scored another touchdown ending the game at 10-0 making the class of 2010 the Powder Puff Champions.

It was a brutal game for both teams. Many of the juniors suffered minor injuries and the



Photo courtesy of Jan Cramer

The seniors pose after their victory over the junior class.

seniors had quite a few bloody knees. There was also some conflicts with cleats. Originally the players weren't supposed to wear them but some did. After much debate it was decided by that two players of each team could wear cleats. The most important thing about powder puff was everyone had a good time. Juan Carlos Campero, one of the juniors' coaches, said "it was a lot of fun chilling with the gals and the other coaches and teach them about our

sport." It was fun for more than just the coaches and players, the onlookers had a blast too. They were jumping out of their seats, cheering and hollering for the girls. Sophomore advisor Senor Ramirez even led the crowd in a wave. Senior Greg Sukert said "I liked how the senior girls dominated the junior girls". All in all it was a good game that will not soon be forgotten.

Day to join hands

Ayden Thatcher
Staff Writer

This year's National Day of Prayer, though surrounded with federal controversy, carried on at Western Christian on May 6. Chapel opened with an introduction by Mr. Mackie regarding the National Day of Prayer's history. Members of the community, including the mayors of Arcadia, Claremont, and Upland, as well as the pastors of the First Church of the Nazarene were present to participate in prayer.

Hilltop Faith performed a song called "Prayer," which was followed by a music video produced by the National Day of Prayer organizing committee. These performances transitioned the community to a time of deliberate and focused prayer. Mr. Attwood led everyone in prayer for the federal government, Ana Maria Antonio prayed for the state government, Taylor Marcucci prayed for local city governments, Mark McMahon prayed for the military and their families, Greg Sukert prayed for businesses and the economy, Mrs. Donante prayed for the family, and Mr. Matlock prayed for the Church. Connor Smith then performed "God Bless America," and Mr. Yovino closed in prayer. Multiple students stated that they were surprised that the chapel went by so quickly, and left with a better perspective of purposeful prayer.

Choir earns honors at Heritage Music Festival

Richard Park
Staff Writer

The music program attended the Heritage Music Festival in San Francisco from April 29 to May 2. They took the bus from Upland, and arrived to San Francisco by 5pm on April 29. On Friday morning, they performed a concert for Redwood Christian School.

Shortly after this concert, they toured the Bay area. They went to Pier-31 and also toured Alcatraz.

Saturday, the Heritage Music Festival started. There were eight schools in their division. Each division was made based on the number of people in each group. After their two-song



Photo courtesy of Western Christian
Choir poses after a performance.

performance, the choir went to Great America, a northern California amusement park. Following dinner, awards were given. Both the choir and Hilltop Faith earned gold for Western at this event.

On Sunday, the choir returned home. Mr. Bradley stated "It was such a good opportunity to show our students' talents to the visitors."

A few days after this success, on May 13, the Pops Show took place in the amphitheater from 6:30-8:30. There were more than 200 students and parents in attendance. Despite frequent train interruptions and wind issues, the concert was a success.

A final performance by the choir will take place on May 27.

Art Show

Ayden Thatcher
Staff Writer

The Art Club hosted its spring Art Show on May 7th from 4:30 to 7:30pm. It was a successful evening for the club as they had many members of the community, alumni, and parents come to support them. Students displayed over 200 pieces of art from the entire year, which included paintings, ceramic ware, drawings, and Mr. Canu's WWII hand painted models. There wasn't a specific theme this year, but the show sought to create an ambiance of art appreciation by decorating the VPA building with white lights along the tables, candlelight, and Luke Snyder and Jacob Fletcher played mellow tunes on

the bass guitar and drums.

The show made about \$100 in sales and donations. The ceramic classes sold the most pieces, but the art classes brought in the most money.

Miss Miller said that their planning for this show took place shortly after the year started. She and her students try to find ways to improve the show each time. The Art Club's Art Show was a success for the students involved, not just in the amount of sales made, but also in their strong ability to host a student-created and student-run show. This year, Miss Miller had assistance on the design team from Christen Bridgewater, an alumna from the class of 2008.

"We chose not to have a theme this year, but to let the ambiance of the experience speak for itself."

~Miss Miller

Prom night brings smiles to all

Emily Cobb
Copy Editor

Western Christian High school's prom was held on Saturday April 24th, 2010. Juniors and seniors were filled with excitement while getting ready for a "night on the town" themed dance and banquet. This was not the only theme for the night; prom was focused on the 1920's era to commemorate Western's 90th year in existence.

This exciting, fun filled night was held at the Dove Canyon Country club in Trabuco Canyon, and the banquet began at 6:30pm; the parent-sponsored dance was held from 9:00pm-midnight. After all the guests arrived at the banquet, everyone was seated and enjoyed each others company while groups were dismissed by table to fill their

plates for dinner. Once the banquet began to wrap up, a slideshow of the prom princes and princesses held the attention of the room, followed by the announcement of the prom king and queen. The court stood in front of the room and waited anxiously for the king and queen to be revealed. The Western Christian student body cheered and applauded as Caleb Meister and Chelsea Cramer were crowned king and queen. Chelsea says that she "was definitely not expecting to win, but I had so much fun at prom." Everyone was then directed to the dance floor, and the student body danced the night away.

Prom 2010 was an adventure never to be forgotten, and memories will be shared for a long time.



Photo by Jan Cramer

Queen Chelsea and King Caleb pose before the dance begins.

Flip-flop Sadies

Ayden Thatcher
Staff Writer

After the epic rescheduling of the Sadie Hawkins event, it finally took place on May 8, from 6 - 10pm at Castle Park in Riverside. Students checked in at the front gate between 6 and 7pm where they received a wrist band and mini-golf ticket. As they checked-in, Mrs. Kennedy took pictures of the "opposites." Outfits ranged from "salt and pepper," "PC and Mac," "APU and Biola," soldier and hippie, to a cowboy and Native American.

A pizza and salad buffet was served from 7-9pm in a room decorated with circus memorabilia. Students enjoyed the opportunity to socialize over dinner be-

fore departing for the main events.

Most students went on rides until their stomachs could handle it no more, while others attempted mini-golf. Brianne Brown was heard boasting at the end of the evening that she earned three hole-in-ones on Course 3, while Mr. Blessinger walked beside her in defeat.

Some of the favorites at Sadies, according to the seniors were: the Scrambler, Fireball, the Sea Dragon, and the Castle Park Railroad. The most nauseating ride turned out to be Flying Saucer, which spun students around in a circle at around 65mph.

In spite of the three month delay, Sadies proved to be a fun night for students and faculty alike.



Senior class serves community

Crystal Hernandez
Editor-in-Chief

Every year, Western Christian High School seniors attend Senior Service Day to give back to the school's community. Seniors perform physical labor at one of the previously selected sites. This year the seniors were split up and sent to one of four locations: Pacific Lifeline shelter, Serenity Foster Care, Up-land Parks and Recreation, and some remained on campus to do work.

At Pacific Lifeline the students each took part in either helping to create a new playground for the children, pulling weeds across the property, and pulling large tree trunks out of the ground. A small handful also helped paint a colorful scene along one of the walls. Students

who helped with the playground laid down wood chips using wheelbarrows and made it a safe area for children to play.

At each location students helped to clean and organize and perform tasks to make the community a better place. Students who remained on campus assisted the faculty with cleaning the campus and humbly carried out whichever job they were assigned. Each senior displayed a Christ-like attitude

"Senior Service Day is a chance for the senior class to contribute to our surrounding community."

~Miss Thurber, Senior Class Advisor

during the afternoon and all were happy to be able to take part in such a meaningful experience. This tradition gives students the opportunity to see the importance of participating in community service and caring for the needs of others. It gave seniors the chance to get their hands dirty and really contribute to making the lives of others a bit easier just by putting in a day's work.



Team takes game to new heights

Yvonne Lan
Staff Writer

The Western Christian boys' varsity baseball team finished the season with a record of 20 wins and only 4 losses. Under the direction of head coach, Mark Gabbard, and assistant coaches, Robin Bates and Aaron Valle, the Lancer team won their third League Championship in a row. It was their fourth in five years with a 17-9 and 9-0 defeat of 2nd place Arrowhead Christian; this allowed the varsity baseball team advance to CIF finals.

The current record shows that the Lancer baseball team finished off strong this season, ranking 6th in CIF Southern Section. The Lancers defeated Santa Ynez 7-0 in the first round of CIF playoff game on May 20th.

Coach Gabbard's high expectations for the team strengthened the spirit and intensified the potential of the team to meet and conquer all opponents. "Coach Gabbard is a tough and intense coach. He makes us more competitive and pushes us to do our best," said junior, Darrel Rice. He emphasized hard work and unity as a team on and off the field. The strength of the team, commented by Mark McMahon, is its "competitiveness and intensity."

Each player on the Lancer baseball team contributes to the game with his talents on each field. Michael Harrington, said that "there are definitely some better players on the team, but we're better as a team by working together and giving God the glory through both the wins



Photo courtesy of westernchristian.org.

The baseball team poses for this year's team photo.

and losses." Coach Gabbard stated firmly and confidently that "every single person on the team have accepted their role and excel in there." When asked what the improvement would be for the team, Gabbard quickly retorted that he would "Not change one thing! We have a great team [with] great attitude."

The Lancers went into the 2nd round of CIF playoffs pumped and ready to give it all they've

got. The game was held in North Hollywood against the #9 ranked Campbell Hall on Tuesday May 25th. Although the game did not advanced them into the next round, the boys gave it their best shot. No matter what hardship is placed in front of them, they value the significance of cooperation as a team.

Diamonds in the rough

Christian Stephenson
Sports Editor

Western Christian's golf team has excelled this year and has played with immense spirit. The seniors of the team are Aaron Price, Bo Chen, Rachel Khattar, and Kandace Delgado. Michael Broad, a junior, is one of the biggest assets on the team, he has made it to league finals last year, and this year he is on top after the first day of finals. The finals took place at the country club in Redlands.

This year the team had to focus on the basics more than anything at practice. They still had a great year and learned a lot and focused on having consistent scores for each match.

The team's top players are Michael Broad and Kandace Delgado. They have both been playing for many years, and have a lot of knowledge about the game. Kandace's dad, Dan Delgado, plays golf a lot and also knows a lot about the game, so he also helps out with the team as an assistant coach. Michael Broad made it to the finals and placed in the mid 50's out of 100 in the finals, and was sadly not able to go on because they only take the top 40 to the next round, but he made a great effort and still has a chance to make it next year. They had a great year and accomplished a lot with a smaller team than usual.

Hard work pays off

Nicole Bernardini
Guest Writer

This year, the softball team underwent some major changes from their playing field to their head coach. As the season drew to a close, it became evident just how many familiar faces will be leaving. Seniors Vicky Rorex, Jessica Arguelles, Emily Cobb, Jessica Shih, and Chelsea Cramer played their last innings on May 13.

The girls rallied together and defied their small numbers; with only twelve players, the pressure was on. They also unified under new leadership. Barry Cramer took over the head coaching job and lead the girls through two tournaments in Hemet (March 8-11) and in Whittier (March 27).

The crowning moment for Mika French,

who plays catcher in an all-star duo with Christina Oka, was the senior game. The win against Arrowhead was a memorable way to end the season, but even more memorable was the congratulatory roses awarded to each player by the Cramer family.

According to some, however, the best moments happened off the field. Emily Cobb recounted one strange afternoon: "During our game against Loma Linda while waiting for the team to show up, we blasted some music and started our own dance party on the field. We had lots of goofy times!"

These talented individuals formed an incredible bond as they worked to beat the competition. Their favorite moments were not just the game, but the time spent with friends. Christina Oka, sophomore, enjoyed "having others to cheer you up".

Although the graduates will be moving on, the memories of this last season will last a lifetime.

"I am going to miss how close the team is and how everyone always encourages each other", said Emily. "That's definitely something that does not come with any ordinary softball team".



Photo by Brett Cramer

Seniors from left: Jessica Arguelles, Jessica Shih, Emily Cobb, Chelsea Cramer, Vicky Rorex

Seniors finish off strong

Atsuna Matsui
Staff Writer



Senior
Eric Garcia

On May 15, 2010, the track team season officially ended along with the conclusion of their results from the CIF competition. Although twelve of the team members qualified for CIF, Harry Cho, Caleb Meister, and Eric Garcia were in poor physical condition at the time. Even though Cho scored the most points in the league amongst his team, his knee was injured two days before the league finals. Knowing that the final would determine whether or not he goes to CIF, Cho didn't give up and limped his way to the finish line. Meister was also injured in the knee shortly after winning first place on the two-mile run. To his dismay, he needed surgery so unfortunately couldn't participate in CIF. In addition, Garcia was extremely ill and had some problems with his lungs, which affected his performance.

Nonetheless, the track team fought a good battle despite their disappointment in their overall performance at CIF. They still believed that this year turned out to be such a success in comparison to last year because Coach Sean Henning con-

vinced majority of the cross-country runners to join the track team. The increased members enabled the team to build up their specialties in distance runners and jumpers. Their time and energy spent on the season could not have been any more enjoyable because of their devoted coach who helped improve each athlete's ability.

Cho expresses that he was truly grateful to have had the opportunity to train vigorously with Coach Henning. He spoke on behalf of his teammates that although Coach Henning will not be returning the following year because he is leaving to coach at Cal Baptist University, he emphasizes the team's appreciation for what Henning has done for them and hopes that he does well at the college as a coach. Furthermore, Harry explicitly states, "We are so proud for being on the track team." The track team could not have gone as far as they did without the help and guidance of their devoted coach and assistant coach, Chris Saucedo.

In addition, although a majority of the track team consists of seniors, Harry notes, "I don't really worry too much about the future of the team because they still have a lot of good distance runners and a lot of rookies that have potential." However, the seniors hope that the rest of the underclassmen will do well and that more people will be interested in joining the school's track team.



Journalism 2009-2010

Miss Thurber
Faculty Advisor

This year's Journalism class was made up of 8 students: 2 boys and 6 girls. Three are sophomores and 5 are seniors. Do the math. Journalism is losing more than half of its writing staff. That means, we need YOU.

If you've ever considered joining Journalism, now is your chance. Our current staff, which was joined with another class, was able to complete a four page newspaper every month. Next year, we'd like to improve that by going to eight pages every month, and we need your creativity, ideas, opinions, skills, and tenacity to do that.

If you're interested in working

on the school paper, talk to Miss Thurber.

Dear Journalism staff of 2009-2010,

You have accomplished what no other Journalism class before you has done. You printed a four page paper each month and you did so in newsprint format, not newsletter. You stayed late and got the job done, for which I am humbly grateful.

Seniors, thank you for choosing Journalism as one of your last electives of your high school career.

While your peers were mentally checking out of their classes, you persisted and I couldn't have done it without you.

Sophomores, I hope your experience this year has motivated you to continue in Journalism and take on more responsibility as our seniors leave us. Your "I can do it" attitude has been motivating, not only to me, but to your fellow writers as well.

Thank you, Journalists, for making this year memorable.

Blessings,
Miss Thurber



Photo by Miss Thurber

The Journalism staff of 2009-2010: Christian, Richard, Raven, Yvonne, Chelsea, Emily, Crystal, and Atsuna.

Chelsea Cramer asks: What's your favorite high school memory?

Carlin
Castellano



Being in the plays with my friends.

Amy Padilla



Being involved in H2SB and being water girl this past football season.

Jennifer
Stacey-Graf



Being a part of Get Smart.

Rachel Sedory Jessica Shih



So many...being in Hilltop, doing theatre, and meeting Ashtyn Masterson.



Getting lost in the mountains with Haleigh and Katelyn.

Caleb Meister Greg Sukert



Being crowned King Olympian with Queen Olympian, Chelsea Cramer



Losing my obesity.

David
Reynosa



Playing soccer sophomore and junior year.

Dylan Todd Eric Garcia



Getting a new campus and not having water drip on my head everyday during Wheeler's class.



Going to CIF for track.