

# The

# Cougar's Tale

Vol. 3 Issue 2

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## IT'S COMING



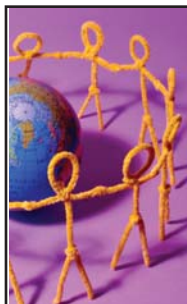
To read more about news from around the world, and here at Calvin turn to pg. 2



What's new in sports? Look under *Student Activities* on page 3



Get to know your fellow classmates on pg. 4



What might be happening to community building days? Turn to page 4 to find out!

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*The Cougar's Tale* is a publication of Calvin Christian High School's journalism class. Students get the experience of interviewing people and writing articles for viewing by others.

Questions or comments should be directed to Mr. Vande Glind and will be relayed to the journalism class.

### What is IT?

The decoration of the third floor! The school has gotten permission from the church, and funding from the CCHS PTF to decorate and paint the hallways, student lounge, and office of the third floor in order to make the school more exciting for current students and more inviting for prospective students.

The school has also decided to add pictures of student life and activities as well as a glass display case, our vision and missions statements, bulletin boards, and a large "Welcome to Calvin Christian High School" sign to the hallways of the third floor. As it is, parents are going to paint the base colors for the student lounge and hallways, but it will be up to the student body to help Mrs. Abbring paint the detail work and decorate the student lounge.

Mr. Schaap is gathering volunteers to paint on October 23 from 3:30 – 7:30 and on October 24 from 9:00 – 3:00, so if anyone is interested be sure to contact him immediately. You may contact him by phone at 763-531-1732 or by email at wschaap@calvinchristian.org. If you decide to talk to him about volunteering please mention

**"...this will no doubt be a very exciting project... one we can use to further this great community."**

what supplies you are bringing: step stool, paintbrush, stir stick, drop cloth, etc. I would encourage us to be in prayer for the school and the volunteers as we move forward in this undertaking; pray that the volunteers would be successful and that the experience would be fun and enjoyable with no casualties. As a Christian school we should come together in support of this project.

I think that this will no doubt be a very exciting project, one we can use to grow as a group of students, one we can use to further this great community. Though, as we do, we must take this into our consideration: what is a sign or painted walls going to show if the people of our community do not show themselves as Christians in this school, home, and world?



The blank walls of the 3rd floor



### Environmental Excursions

by Eleanor Staricka

A few days this fall the juniors and seniors have been absent from school, but it wasn't that they all happened to be sick on the same day...they were out exploring God's creation and learning things that would be next to impossible to learn in a classroom setting. Part of the Environmental Studies curriculum includes spending time outside and witnessing God's work firsthand, and for me it has been an entirely unique experience.

This science class isn't planned like a normal course would be and to get the full experience you continued on pg. 2

### Fall Flu has Students Dropping Like Leaves

By Rachel Mulder

The hallways of CCHS were quieter than normal on October 9, when nearly 36% of the student body was out sick. There have been a few confirmed cases of H1N1, along with other suspected cases. The primary symptoms that Mrs. De Vries looked for were fever, cough, and headache when students came dragging themselves into her office. "The Spring Lake Park nurse wanted us to be extra vigilant because they send reports to the state; I [took their temperature] just to be extra cautious," Mrs. De Vries commented when I inquired about the sudden appearance of hand sanitizer and wipes in the classrooms.

"The Department of Health recommended we continued on pg. 2

# NEWS: WORLD, COUNTRY, CALVIN

By Rachel Mulder

## World

### Food Production Must Increase

Unless 370 million people want to be going hungry by 2050, changes have to be made. The world population is predicted to increase from the current 6.7 billion to 9.1 billion in 2050. If the amount of land used for food production doesn't increase, many people will be facing famine in years to come. "The combined effect of population growth, strong income growth and urbanization...is expected to result in almost the doubling of demand for food, feed and fiber," Food and Agricultural Organization director said to delegates at an event. Climate change could also be a huge factor in food production by reducing the amount of water and increasing pests and diseases in plants. --Source: BBC

### Saturn's New Ring Discovered

Saturn's biggest ring has been discovered, one that has never been seen before. The huge halo was discovered by NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope. It is about 20 times the diameter of Saturn. The volume of the ring could contain about one billion Earths! Its ring starts about 3.7 million miles away from Saturn and goes out about another 7.4 million miles. This has never been seen before because the ring doesn't reflect very much light, but its dusty particles shine with infrared light which the Spitzer Telescope is able to see. --Source: CNN

## U.S.

### Helen Keller Statue Unveiled in Capitol

On October 7, 2009, a statue of Helen Keller was brought into the Capitol from the



state of Alabama. The statue shows Helen Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan, teaching Helen what water is by pumping it into her hand and writing the word on her hand. Anne Sullivan never gave up on Helen, who was completely deaf and blind. Before Helen died in 1968, she became an internationally known advocate for disabled people. Bob Riley, governor of Alabama, said the monument will remind people, "That courage and strength can exist in the most unlikely places...children especially need to be reminded of this basic truth..."--Source: BBC

## Calvin

### College Visits

Fall is the time for colleges to recruit students. So far Calvin College, Northwestern College in St. Paul, Trinity Christian College and Colorado Christian have all visited CCHS in hopes of recruiting future students. These are good opportunities for students to get a sense of what these colleges offer, such as programs and financial aid. Look forward to Dordt College visiting in November!

### Spirit Wear

I have spirit, how 'bout you!? Soon you will have spirit wear too! On Tuesday, October 13, 2009, the Student Council met with a representative from Identitystores.com and talked with her about opportunities to design clothing with our school's logo and mascot. There were many different design options and it was difficult for the Student Council to decide which font and type of cougar face they wanted on the clothing items we will have available. There were no final decisions made in the meeting, but many great ideas and looks were brainstormed. In the upcoming weeks, the Student Council will be keeping in touch and hopefully soon we can create the final result.

### Intramurals

So far this year, the intramurals have been going well. Five teams have been playing ultimate frisbee on Thursdays during the lunch hour. Intramural Club has a variety of games planned throughout the rest of the year, such as: floor hockey, basketball, dodgeball, and indoor soccer. Students are excited about intramurals, but weather conditions have hindered some outdoor activities. 🐾

## Environmental Excursions

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have to do some unordinary things. Mr. Vande Glind explained it better, "If we're going to study about the environment, then we had better go out in the environment to study it."

Part of how successful a class becomes depends on the students' attitude towards it. Everyone I talked to seemed to have very thoughtful responses. Melissa Kirk said, "More learning happens when you experience what you're reading about in the textbook." Hannah DeVries had some very creative

so far. It is the real experiences that will stick with a person the longest." I couldn't have said it better myself, Hannah.

We've slept outside in freezing cold weather, we've soaked ourselves in icy streams and experienced the smell that comes after a week of fermentation...what's next Mr. V? Well, there are still many exciting adventures for the juniors and seniors to look forward to, including the Elk River Landfill, the Brooklyn Park Waste Transfer

Center, and the Great River Energy Center. As for the freshmen and sophomores: you'll just have to wait a few years for these exciting, and yet educational, experiences! 🐾



Alex & Jacob suit up with waders for wetland excursion

thoughts on why we leave the building and go to the great outdoors. "It is like teaching someone to build a car. You can show them pictures, diagrams, and equations 'till their head explodes, but they'll never really understand it until they get out and do it... Textbooks, theories, and ideas can only go

## Fall Flu

continued from pg. 1

not close [the school]. They suggest you have the hand stuff (sanitizer) and wipe stuff down," Mr. Schaap said, even though he was out sick last week as well. Fortunately he was only out for a day, unlike the few students who were out for two weeks.

Unlike regular flu, the H1N1 virus is known to cause a relapse, which makes it

**"[ONE DAY] NEARLY 36% OF THE STUDENT BODY WAS OUT SICK."**

more likely for a person to be gone for a long period of time. Many people didn't realize this and returned to school before they were completely free of the flu. This may be one of the reasons why the virus spread so quickly throughout the school.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention gives some helpful guidelines for preventing illnesses: cover your

nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing and wash your hands often. Another thing to keep in mind is that even if the school doesn't close, you should stay home if you have flu-like symptoms. Not being in contact with people is the best way to prevent the spread of germs. Hopefully the worst is over, but I'm not looking forward to the real flu season. 🐾



# Student Activities

## Volleyball Stats

- Cannon Valley Lutheran  
Loss 0-3
- MN North Star  
Loss 0-3
- Hmong Academy  
Win 3-0
- Liberty Classical Academy  
Win 3-1
- Shattuck- St. Mary  
Loss 0-3
- Great River Academy  
Win 3-0
- Minnetonka Christian Academy  
Win 3-2
- Coon Rapids Christian  
Loss 2-3
- Community of Peace  
Win 3-1
- Agricultural Food and Science Academy  
Win 3-1
- North Star Academy  
Win 3-1
- Hmong Academy  
Loss 2-3
- St. Cloud Christian  
Loss 2-3
- Agricultural Food and Science Academy  
Win 3-0
- Great River Academy  
Win--forfeit
- North Lakes Academy  
Win 3-1

## CCHS Fall Sports Nearing End

### Volleyball

by Marissa Barry

Cheering booms from the gym as our Calvin Christian High School volleyball team fights to win the game. This season we have had many students rooting for us on into victory.

"There have been a couple of games this year that have been awesome to be a part of, because we have lots of fans cheering us on," said Mr. V. This year we have been charging strong and motivating each other to play to the best of their abilities.

We have a tournament coming up on October 23rd and 24th. When I asked Mr. V. how he thinks the volleyball team has been playing this year, he responded by saying, "I think that overall we have been playing very good volleyball, as we can see by our win loss record."

Setter Kerri Mulder said, "My favorite thing about this season is getting to play against other great teams and getting to play with all the awesome girls from Calvin! I hope that for the rest of the season our team continues to play well and plays our best in the tournament." Keep it up Cougars! 🐾



### SOCCER

By Ben Silker

Every year Calvin's soccer program has improved; I have witnessed this over three years and can attest that each season is consecutively better than the one before. You may say, "But, last year's win/lost ratio was better!"; this is true, but there is more to success than the outcome of each game. Each time we get out and play soccer, we get better, both as a team and individuals. We've come a long way since the beginning of the season. Unfortunately this year we didn't pull off as many victories as we had hoped (3 wins, 1 tie, and 9

losses); however, our team has made for itself a sturdy foundation of freshmen and sophomore players, one that will keep the team strong in the coming years as new feet are added to the mix. With deep regret I must let the Calvin team move on without me, though I wish that I could help it along to achieve it's full potential.

I have great faith that the Calvin Cougars will grow to be a respected and feared opponent on field, that other teams will cringe and cradle sore shins at the thought of our painfully bright yellow jerseys and smurf suits. 🐾

## Soccer Stats

- Metro United  
Win 5-1
- Prairie Seeds Academy  
Loss 0-12
- Agricultural Food and Science Academy  
Tie 2-2
- Liberty Classical Academy  
Loss 1-3
- International School of MN  
Loss 0-9
- Shattuck-St. Mary  
Loss 2-5
- Great River Academy  
Win 7-0
- Minnetonka Christian  
Loss 1-3
- Woodcrest Baptist  
Loss 0-7
- Community of Peace  
Loss 0-4
- Minnetonka Christian Academy  
Loss 2-4
- Agricultural Food and Science Academy  
Win 5-2
- Great River Academy  
Loss 1-3

## Rising Anticipation

By Andrew Hansen

He teaches math, he directs all of the athletics and now he is the girls basketball coach. That's right, Mr. A is stepping into the role of head basketball coach. Mr. A brings 30 years of coaching experience to the program, including 3 previous years at CCHS.

"I have coached for 30 years. I have coached 3 years at Calvin; 2 years in North Carolina; 10 years in Denver Colorado; 10 years in Sunnyside Washington; 4 years in De Motte, Indiana," said Mr. Ahrenholz.

Although he was never able to play it in high school, Mr. A enjoys watching and coaching basketball. As he looks forward to his 31st season, Mr. A has some clear goals in mind.

"Some of the goals that I have for the year are to have the girls be competitive in the EMAC conference

this year and take advantages of the team strengths, which are speed and conditioning. Another goal that I have for this year is to teach the girls how to be better teammates."

Mr. A is taking on a team that finished 6th last year in the EMAC conference.

"I see so many young athletes here and I look forward to seeing them being a success," said Mr. Ahrenholz.

Calvin  
Christian  
COUGARS 🐾



## COMMUNITY BY CONSUMPTION

By Liz Johnson

Back by popular demand! Continuing on from last year's tradition, breakfast will be provided for the entire school once by each advisory. The Student Council started us off by providing a delicious breakfast of muffins, fruit, donuts and juice. They feel that it is a fun way to start of a day. We get to talk over breakfast and just enjoy each other's company.

What will you bring for your turn? Last year we had advisories that made pancakes or muffins for everyone. It is expected to be a great time for everyone.

Check out the list below to see when you are in charge of breakfast:

- November 17th—Ahrenholz Advisory
- January 26th—Koppendrayer Advisory
- April 20th—Vande Glind Advisory
- May 25th—Branderhorst Advisory



## A Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words...



# EXTRAS

## Community Building Controversy

By Jordan Severin

One of the students' favorite things to do here at Calvin is the community building days. Two years ago, we had about one every month. Last year they started cutting back on the number of times we have these fun days. We're not exactly sure what will happen this year. Is once a month too many times to go for an afternoon to get to know your fellow students?

Before we make our arguments for having community building days, I decided that we should get

a teacher's opinion. Mr. Ahrenholz tells us what he thinks students learn from community building days: "Some have had an opportunity to spend time with and interact with another student or group of students that they usually don't share time with. Others see community building days only as a way of getting out of class and not having work assigned. Some get to use their talents in a unique way and so may be affirmed by the rest of the student body.... Generally speaking, I think the take away for the students is much more positive than negative." Well so far I agree with what he is saying. I know that

I myself have learned a lot about other students through community building days that I probably never would have otherwise. I think that community building days have also helped students to hang out with

**"Some get to use their talents in a unique way."**

other students that they are not normally with. He also shared his opinions on having monthly community building days, "Although I value community building days and think they are important in the life of the school, I also value the

opportunity to teach students about God's world and their calling of service. I believe that community building days each month would allot too much time to these activities and take too much time from other educational endeavors."

What are your opinions about community building days? Do we need to have them every month? I think that I would have to agree with Mr. A on this one. Even though we all enjoy them, what do we benefit from them if we have them so often? I'm sure Mr. A and other teachers would love to share their opinions with you and hear yours as well.

## Motercycling Janitor?

By Austin Bartz

This year, Tim Lindstrom has been taking care of the school as the school janitor. Tim is doing a great job keeping the school clean and in order. Around the church, he does everything but preach. He is the facility manager and also mows the lawns. In 1991, he was the first fulltime janitor at Grace Evangelical Free Church. In the fall of 2000, he took a sabbatical until the spring of 2003. During that time, Tim worked at Montgomery Ward Retail Store unloading trucks.

When Tim isn't busy keeping the school in order, he likes to motorcycle. He rides a BMW motorcycle and has ridden 325,000 miles

on it. He enjoys riding because of its freedom, concentration, and because it is a cheap form of transportation. Tim enjoys riding for long periods of time without stopping and he has respect for trucks on the road because otherwise they might "squish" him. For most of the time he rides by himself because others don't want to ride with him. Tim also loves to talk on Ham radio; he has a microphone on his helmet and will talk to people from around the country while riding his bike.

Outside of church and motorcycles, Tim loves kids and admits that he's different from other people. He would rather talk to kids than adults. Tim loves to make people laugh and enjoys conversations. He puts a teddy bear wearing Barbie elbow and knee pads on the back of his motorcycle. He also loves serving Jesus and talking to other Christians on Ham radio. Tim has respect for the school and enjoys us all!



Tim shows off his sweet ride!



## Nathan Bonnema

Birth date: June 4, 1994

Favorite Movie: *The Dark Knight*

Favorite Music Artist: Skillet

Biggest Fear: Clowns



**What are you looking forward to at CCHS?**

I am looking forward to playing sports with this school, because I get to work with a team.

**What is your worst injury or accident?**

I have injured my shoulder, wrist, and my elbow.

**What is your favorite quote?**

"There's practice!"

**If you were stranded on an**

**island, what three things would you want with you? Why?**

I would want to have a fire, lots of food, and a boat with me.

**What super power would you like to have and why?**

Invisibility, because people wouldn't be able to see me.

# STUDENT

## Jacob Bursaw

Birth date: March 3, 1995

Favorite Movie: *Transformers 2- Revenge of the Fallen*

Favorite Music Artist: Linkin Park

Biggest Fear: Listening to rap or country

**What are you looking forward to at CCHS?**

I am looking forward to making some new friends and spending time with them on retreats and trips.

**What is your worst injury or accident?**

It was probably when I broke my leg when I was two.

**What is your favorite quote?**

"Why so serious?"- The Joker.

**If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want with you?**

**Why?**

I would want to have a plasma screen TV, a pillow, and food.

**What super power would you like to have and why?**

I would want to be able to fly.



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Glijah Clipperton

Birth Date: June 8 1995

Favorite Movie: *Watchmen*

Favorite Music Artist: August Burns Red

Biggest fear: Clowns

**What are you looking forward to at CCHS?**

I don't know

**What is your worst injury or accident?**

I broke my arm a couple years ago



**What is your favorite quote?**

Time is man's futile attempt to measure change

**If you were stranded on an island what three items would you want with you?**

Rock, knife, Barack Obama

**What super power would you like to have? Why?**

Super speed, run everywhere.

**If there was a movie about you what would it be? Why?**

Action, because I like doing things that are dangerous.