



DECEMBER 6, 2011

Upcoming Events:

- **GBC Christmas Cantata**
Sunday, December 11 @ 5:00 PM
- **GBCS Christmas Program**
Wednesday, December 14 @ 7:00 PM
- **Class Christmas Parties (1/2 day)**
Friday, December 16
- **Christmas Break (No School)**
Monday, December 19 through
Monday, January 2
- **Return to School**
Tuesday, January 3
- **1st Semester Exams**
Thursday-Friday, January 5-6
- **End 1st Semester**
Friday, January 6
- **Begin 2nd Semester**
Monday, January 9
- **1st Semester Report Cards**
Friday, January 13
- **MLK, Jr. Day (No School)**
Monday, January 16
- **Spirit Week**
Monday-Friday, January 23-27

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The Crusade

Volume 1 | Issue 4

Food For Thought: Chicago Style Pizza

During the era of World War II, a restaurateur from Texas named Ike Sewell moved to Chicago, Illinois, to start a Mexican restaurant. Even though this restaurant failed, Ike was still motivated enough to team up with an Italian chef named Rudy Malnati. Together, these men started a restaurant called *Pizzeria Uno*. They called their pizza, "Chicago-style pizza." It was around 1943 when they developed a recipe that gave their pizza a thicker crust, more toppings than a normal "New York pizza," and a lot more

cheese. From then on, many more franchises and food chains in Chicago have been serving deep dish and Chicago-style pizza.

What toppings can you get on Chicago style pizza? Basi-

cally everything you want. You can get anything on this type of pizza. For deep dish, the toppings go on the bottom, so you could call them "bottoms"!

— Jacob Bernal



Crusaders Basketball Update

Crusaders' basketball is back! Our guys are 2-1! They're looking pretty good this year! The Crusaders obviously played a great game against Grace winning 59-30. Our top scorer with 24 points was our center Aaron Ramos. Point guard Jared Delgado also had a big 14 points. Next, Jacob Delgado and Jeremy Pasilliao scored 9 points each. Jason "Chuck" Jones had 3 points as well.

The Montecito game was undeniably a nail-biter. It was pretty intense I mean we were up, we were down! We never completely broke away from them. Jeremy Pasilliao was our highest scorer with 24 points. In addition, Aaron Ramos

scored 14 points. Jason Jones had an absolutely incredibly night defensively. (He really irritated their point guard.) Near the end of the game, we were called for goal tending bringing them within two points of tying the score, but we pulled together and pulled out a win.

In the American game, we just didn't cut it. American had too many second chance opportunities. If we had only grabbed more rebounds, the game definitely would have had a different outcome. This was a bit of a low scoring game for our guys because both teams were playing great defense. Our highest scorers were Jeremy

with 18 points and Jacob with 10 points.

Still, our boys are looking preeeeetty good this year so if you can show your support at the games, I know they would appreciate having more fans. Besides, it's much more exciting to watch the game rather than to read about it. We have yet to see the girls play, but I assure you they will be playing.

— Chika Okeke

Crusaders Record: (2-1)

Gethsemane vs. Grace 59-30
Gethsemane vs. Montecito 51-49
Gethsemane vs. American 48-39

Staff Spotlight

The Tale of Miss Mata



Random Facts:

- In Tokyo, they sell toupees for dogs.
- Most lipstick contains fish scales.
- Some ribbon worms will eat themselves if they can't find any food.
- If you take your age and multiply it by 7, then multiply by 1,443 the product repeats your age 3 times.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Your left lung is smaller than your right lung to make room for your heart.



Miss Nancy Mata was born in Long Beach Memorial Hospital. She has three other siblings, two sisters and one brother. When Gethsemane Baptist Church was still located in Paramount, Miss Mata's parents were part of the Spanish Ministry, so that was the only church she had ever been a part of. Miss Mata trusted Jesus Christ as her Savior at the age of fifteen. Her dream was to become a teacher one day, and that is exactly what happened. She enjoyed art while in school and took two art classes. Miss Mata's first job was as a student assistant at Cal State Dominguez Hills. In 2006, after she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in

Christmas and New Year's Day are just around the corner, people! These two big holidays are seven days apart, and just over two weeks away! So, let me do what I do best and give you a brief history lesson on these holidays.

I will start off with Christmas. Ah, that wonderful season of candy canes, nativity scenes, dancing Santas, and fake snow has arrived. But we all know (or should know) that Christmas is much more than just a time to exchange gifts and listen to Christmas music. It is a day set aside to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. There are many reasons for why we celebrate Christmas on December 25, but I do not feel like researching them and telling you what they are. Just kidding. Early Christians believed that the day Mary was told that she was going to have Jesus was March 25, and December 25 is nine months later. December 25 is also believed to be chosen because Saturnalia, a festival honoring the Roman sun god, Saturn, was celebrated around this

Arts, Pastor Smith offered her a position as a Learning Center monitor at Gethsemane. After deciding that it was God's will for her to teach, she took the job. Monitoring the Learning Center is no easy task, having to supervise more than twenty students each "working" on a different subject. Miss Mata is very busy keeping some students focused. The Learning Center is rarely quiet and is always busy with all kinds of work being done. Miss Mata said that she and Mrs. Dickinson are like a "tag-team." Mrs. Dickinson handles the Learning Center in the morning, and then hands it off to Miss Mata, who makes sure that every student finishes what they

need to before school is over. Miss Mata is also the church secretary, handling staff schedules, printing bulletins, and taking phone calls for the church. Miss Mata keeps church members posted on events and activities and makes sure that the staff is where they need to be. Miss Mata also teaches Typing as an elective. Although she learned how to type on a traditional typewriter, she is an excellent typist on any keyboard. She motivates her typing students to improve their typing skills. Miss Mata has her hands full every day, but she greatly enjoys teaching, and wishes success for all of her students.

— Joshua Tecson

Happy Holidays

time. I guess they thought, "Hey! Let's just add another holiday!" Anyhow, a bunch of emperors and popes declared December 25 as the official day of Christmas and put it on the Gregorian calendar, so now we celebrate it on December 25. One controversial subject surrounding Christmas is the term *Xmas*. Many believe that it is wrong to use this term because it replaces the name of Christ with an *x*, but it is not what you think...not completely anyway. In the Greek alphabet, the Greek letter that resembles *x* is the Greek word for *Christ*. This might be a reason that some people use the term "Xmas," or it could be that they really are trying to take Christ out of Christmas. Anyhow, that is the history of Christmas, plain and simple. But nowadays, the birth of Christ is not the only thing celebrated during Christmas; Santa is the main focus for a lot of people. This Christmas, do not forget the real reason for the holiday—the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the Savior of the entire world.

Now on to New Year's

Day! Did you know that New Year's is the only holiday celebrated worldwide? You know, it was not always celebrated on January 1st; it used to be on March 1st, since January was not added to the calendar until later. January is named after the Roman god, Janus, the two-faced god of doors and gates. Julius Caesar declared January 1st to be the date of the New Year. January 1st was to be the "door to the new year." The popular custom during New Year's is to make resolutions for the year; a popular custom in February is to give up on those resolutions. Another famous custom is for some big, fat, shiny ball to drop from some tower in New York City at midnight on New Year's Eve.

Well, that pretty much sums up those two big holidays. During this Christmas season, let us remember what Pastor told us (or whoever put it in the bulletin) last year. We should think of Christ *más* this Christmas season. As for this New Year's, let us make some resolutions ... and actually keep them this time.

— Grace Campbell

Aaron's Tall Tales: *Paradise* (Part 2)

The moon was the survivor's spotlight, like a guardian watchtower over the island. He scarcely needed a torch; no physical light source was needed. A few minutes earlier, he had heard a strange explosion. His curiosity strongly urged his decree to pursue the unusual sound. He didn't even need to ponder the decision to investigate the noise; his legs made sure of that without hesitation. He crouched in a preying manner, and clinched his knife with an utmost clasp. His hands were shaking. His eyes moved with a demented craze, scanning his environment with gleeful envy. In all his years on this dreadful island not once had he experienced this type of encounter. Thoughts filled his mind. What was he going to find? Was it even worth searching for?

Ten minutes into the jungle and not a single living soul. The survivor repeatedly drew the conclusion to just turn back and disregard it all, but deep in his feeble heart, he just knew, that whatever this situation brought – whether it be life or death – he must pursue it. He must. So, without ceasing, the survivor pursued on; nothing was going to come between him and his hunt. Like a soldier in the brink of battle, the survivor pursued his goal with envious greed. He only thought of good things – like being rescued.

He would give anything to get off the island, for his precious memories of civilized human life – which he held so dear to his heart – were dwindling away into myth. He no longer remembered the smell of roses; the loud, obnoxious sound of rushing traffic; the laughter of children playing in a courtyard – these were slowly fading away from the survivor's mind, and he knew it. Everyday, during the sunset, he would sit by the shore and pull out a pocket watch which his wife had given him. Inside was a beautiful portrait of her, shining with a sweet and passive look upon her face. She meant the world to him. At one point during his isolation, he had come across a glass bottle which had somehow made its way to the island's shore. Upon deciding he would most likely never see her again, he wrote a four page letter describing his deepest love for her and his current situation on the island. And on the following day, he sealed it within the bottle, and set it adrift into the never ending seas.

A light shown up ahead; he stopped and listened. He noticed a faint sound which appeared to be a bonfire. His blood began to rush throughout his body, along with an eager sense of defense. He took a deep breath, gripped his knife, and continued on towards the fire. He didn't know what to expect except for the fact that someone was indeed on the island. He was not alone, and knowing this sparked his thoughts of returning home more than ever before. He gripped his knife and didn't let go. He was ready to face the light, no matter the outcome. His eyes never moved off the light; they were continuously fixed with crazed eagerness. His mind played out an entire scenario of questions: Why was someone on the island? What was behind the bushes? Was there really even anyone else on the island? No matter the sum of vigorous questions, the survivor was ready to face what he had to face. His decision was set. He approached the bonfire; the bushes were before his very eyes. He moved them aside and jolted forward. He paused. His eyes and facial expressions faded into a mere, disappointing look of dissatisfaction. A drop of sweat trickled down his cheek; his heart paced with fear. All around him was an encampment for one, possibly for another survivor like him. But, no one was around. Well, so he thought. For at that exact moment, his body became as stiff as iron, and a rusty knife now lay across his throat. A dark, raspy voice spoke from behind him,

"You try to make a move, and I'll kill you."

To be continued...

— Aaron A. Ramos

More Random Facts:

- "Silent" and "listen" are spelled with the same letters.
- Lightning strikes the earth approximately 8,640,000 times per day.
- To have your picture taken by the very first camera you would have had to sit still for 8 hours.
- A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.
- Armored knights raised their visors to identify themselves when they rode past their king. This custom has become the modern military salute.
- Hummingbirds can't walk
- The average human will eat eight spiders in their lifetime while sleeping.



Crusaders Basketball Schedule

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--|
| • GBCS @ Faith | (Boys only) | Thursday, December 8 |
| • GBCS @ Foothill | (Boys only) | Friday, December 15 |
| • GBCS @ Grace | (Boys only) | Tuesday, January 10 |
| • Lighthouse @ GBCS | (Boys & Girls) | Friday, January 13 @ Hamilton Middle School |
| • First Baptist @ GBCS | (Boys only) | Tuesday, January 17 @ Hamilton Middle School |
| • GBCS @ Montecito | (Boys only) | Friday, January 20 |
| • American @ GBCS | (Boys only) | Tuesday, January 24 @ Hamilton Middle School |

History of Basketball

Would you believe that the approach of basketball was based on a childhood game of duck-on-a-rock? James Naismith, inventor of basketball, used to play duck-on-a-rock. The object of the game was to knock a duck off a rock.

A number of years later, Naismith began working at the YMCA Training School as the physical education teacher. While working

there, Luther Gulick (his boss) asked Naismith to design a game for the students to play inside during the winter. This game was composed of various sports such as American football, soccer, and hockey. They used a soccer ball as well as wooden peach baskets fastened to the walls. Naismith wanted to use boxes, but the school janitor only found peach baskets. (That's why it's called "basketball" if

you were too slow to get that.) Thus, basketball as we know it was born, but back then it was called basket ball. Originally, each team consisted of nine players because Naismith taught a class of eighteen students. It wasn't until 1897-1898 that a normal team consisted of five players. Unfortunately, the score of that December 21, 1891, game was never recorded. The first legitimate

game was played in the YMCA gymnasium in Albany, New York on January 20, 1892, with nine player teams. William Chase scored the only point in that 1-0 matchup. Peach baskets were the norm until they were replaced in 1906 by metal hoops with backboards.

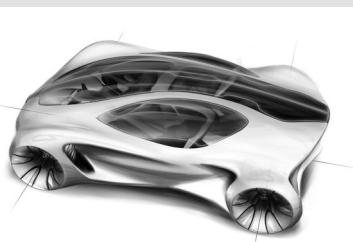
— Chika Okeke

James Naismith devised a set of thirteen rules of basketball:

1. *The ball may be thrown in any direction with one or both hands.*
2. *The ball may be batted in any direction with one or both hands, but never with the fist.*
3. *A player cannot run with the ball. The player must throw it from the spot on which he catches it, allowance to be made for a man running at good speed.*
4. *The ball must be held in or between the hands. The arms or body must not be used for holding it.*
5. *No shouldering, holding, pushing, striking or tripping in any way of an opponent. The first infringement of this rule by any person shall count as a foul; the second shall disqualify him until the next goal is made or, if there was evident intent to injure the person, for the whole of the game. No substitution shall be allowed.*
6. *A foul is striking at the ball with the fist, violations of Rules 3 and 4 and such as described in Rule 5.*
7. *If either side make three consecutive fouls it shall count as a goal for the opponents (consecutive means without the opponents in the meantime making a foul).*
8. *Goal shall be made when the ball is thrown or batted from the ground into the basket and stays there, providing those defending the goal do not touch or disturb the goal. If the ball rests on the edge and the opponents move the basket, it shall count as a goal.*
9. *When the ball goes out of bounds, it shall be thrown into the field and played by the first person touching it. In case of dispute the umpire shall throw it straight into the field. The thrower-in is allowed five seconds. If he holds it longer, it shall go to the opponent. If any side persists in delaying the game, the umpire shall call a foul on them.*
10. *The umpire shall be judge of the men and shall note the fouls and notify the referee when three consecutive fouls have been made. He shall have the power to disqualify men according to Rule 5.*
11. *The referee shall be the judge of the ball and decide when it is in play in bounds, to which side it belongs, and shall keep the time. He shall decide when a goal has been made and keep account of the goals with any other duties that are usually performed by a referee.*
12. *The time shall be two 15-minute halves with five minutes' rest between.*
13. *The side making the most goals in that time shall be declared the winners.*



First basketball court in Springfield



Keeping Up with the Joneses: *The Mercedes Benz Biome*

The Biome is a concept that was presented in the 2010 LA Auto Show for futuristic cars. The Biome comes with a cool, sleek design with a front that looks like the nose of a plane and wheels that look like the plane's engines. The Biome is

a one of a kind car. It seats four, but the seats are arranged in unusual manner—one in front, two in the middle, and one in the back. One big fact about the Biome is that it plays a role in the ecosystem. The Biome produces its own oxygen which improves the air cycle, and after its "life" is over, the Biome's material can be recycled or used for building materials. The Biome is made of a special compound that is

called BioFibre. BioFibre is said to be "lighter than metal or plastic and more robust than steel". The Biome weighs a surprising 875.5 lb. (around 394 kg.). The Biome's chassis or nursery collects and stores energy from the sun in a liquid compound called BioNectar4534. The Biome is powered by the BioNectar4534 which is stored in the wheels, interior, and the chassis. The Biome is to be competing against BMW's

Vision EfficientDynamics eco supercar in 2015. The Biome is not the greatest car ever made, but it is one insane car.

— Jason Jones



La La La! I'm so annoying!
Ooh! I should dress up
as Santa when we go
caroling tomorrow!
I can surprise
Grace!

Ho ho ho!
Merry
Christmas!
That's nasty
Chika. Go
shave
your face.

How did
you know
it was
me?
Santa doesn't sound
like Elmo,
and he
doesn't
wear
earrings.

Later...

Psst...
Dawa!
You know
who else
is singing?
Don't you
dare
say it.

Sunnyville Senior Home

Such
sweet
children.
Sing louder ya
whipper-
snappers!
Back in my
day, we
sang loud!

Hark! The herald angels sing! Glory to the newborn King!

Burp!
Christian!
Burp!
Ryan!
Hi, Joe!

Leave me
alone or I'll
break your
other arm

Why is only
the skinny
one
singing?
Leave the kids
alone! It's not
their fault if
they sound
horrible!

Peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled

Jacob!
Merry Christmas
Chika!
ha
ha
ha
gas cloud
gas cloud
Something
smells like...
Christmas.
Why
aren't you
singing,
Porsha?
Don't you
sing in your
church
choir?
Yeah, but
we don't
sing like
this.

Is that
supposed
to be Santa
over there?
Why does
he sound
like Elmo?
And why is
he wearing
earrings?

Joyful all ye nations rise Join the triumph of the skies!

Nahum,
where's the
midget?
(A.J.)
huh?
Hey! I'm
right here!
Next to
Matt! Stop
calling me
a midget!

Is he
sleeping,
or is he
dead?

With angelic hosts proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem

Merry
Christmas!
We're Jewish
Slam!

Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the newborn King!

— Grace Campbell

Survey Says:

Reese's shake or Oreo shake?

Reese's 35%

Oreo 65%

Pumpkin pie or Apple pie?

Pumpkin 50%

Apple 50%

Kickball or Dodgeball?

Kickball 40%

Dodgeball 60%

Dogs or Cats?

Dogs 87%

Cats 13%

Peppermint or Fruit flavored candy canes?

Peppermint 43%

Fruit 57%

Mechanical pencils or No. 2 pencils?

Mechanical 45%

No.2 55%

Caillou or Little Bill?

Caillou 48%

Little Bill 52%

Who's That Author? *Edgar Allan Poe*

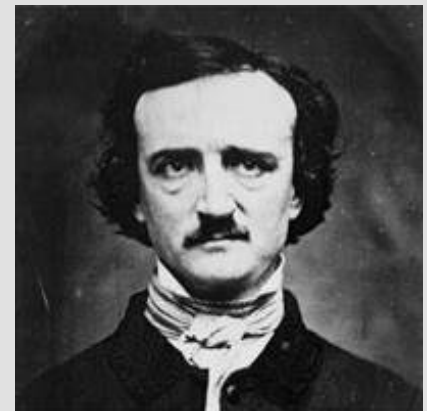
Edgar Poe was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on January 19, 1809, as the second child of actress Elizabeth Arnold Hopkins Poe and actor David Poe, Jr. He had an elder brother, William Henry Leonard Poe, and a younger sister, Rosalie Poe. His father abandoned their family in 1810, and his mother died a year later from consumption (pulmonary tuberculosis). Poe was then taken into the home of John Allan, a successful Scottish merchant in Richmond, Virginia. The Allans served as a foster family and gave him the name "Edgar Allan Poe," though they never formally adopted him. The Allan family had Poe baptized in the Episcopal Church in 1812. Poe attended the grammar

school in Irvine, Scotland for a short period in 1815, before rejoining the family in London in 1816. He traveled to Boston in April 1827, sustaining himself with odd jobs such as a clerk and newspaper writer. Unable to support himself, Poe enlisted in the United States Army as a private on May 27, 1827. Using the name "Edgar A. Perry", he claimed he was 22 years old even though he was only 18. After his brother's death, Poe began more earnest attempts to start his career as a writer. He was the first well-known American to try to live by writing alone and was hampered by the lack of an international copyright law. Poe, throughout his attempts to live as a writer, had to repeatedly resort to

humiliating pleas for money and other assistance. Poe secretly married Virginia, his cousin, on September 22, 1835. He was 26 and she was 13, though she is listed on the marriage certificate as being 21. One evening in January 1842, Virginia showed the first signs of consumption, now known as tuberculosis, while singing and playing the piano. Poe began to drink more heavily under the stress of Virginia's illness. On January 29, 1845, his poem "The Raven" appeared in the *Evening Mirror* and became a popular sensation. Though it made Poe a household name almost instantly, he was paid only \$9 for its publication. In 1846, Poe moved to a cottage in the Fordham

section of the Bronx, New York. Virginia died there on January 30, 1847. On October 3, 1849, Poe was found dead on the streets of Baltimore. His official cause of death is still a mystery to this day. Despite his harsh career as a writer, Poe is still considered to this day to be one of the greatest short story writers in literature.

— Aaron A. Ramos



Check us out online!

Current and previous issues of *The Crusade* are available for download in pdf format at: gbclongbeach.org/the-crusade-school-newspaper-.html.