Greenville Christian School

THE CONVOCATION

The Unexpected Collective Noun for a Group of Eagles

Volume 1 Issue 2 | GC Journalism Staff | October 2024

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BE BRAVE FAMILY FUN DAY

By Jillian Nelson

On October 5, 2024 the Trevor Wade Daniel Foundation hosted their annual Be Brave Family Fun Day at Greenville Christian School to help raise money to support families impacted by childhood cancer.

The Daniel Family is the initial founder of the TWDF. Kam and Lynn Daniel have been a part of the GC family for many years. Their son Ethan Daniel graduated in 2021, and their daughter Mia graduated in 2023. In October of 2017, their youngest son Trevor, also a GC student was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma. This is a rare, aggressive, fast-growing type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) that affects immature T cells. Trevor was hospitalized on and off for about five years before passing away in 2021.

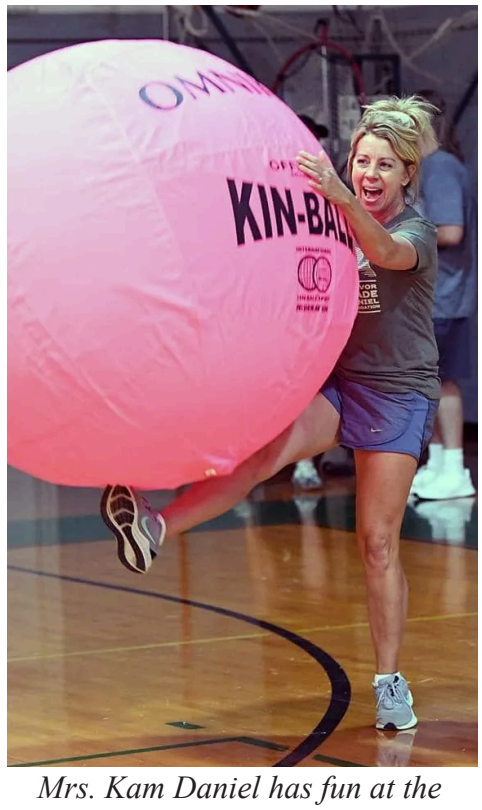
The Family Fun Day consisted of morning fun run/walk, a lift-a-thon, and many other festivities including a giant pink volleyball tournament, food trucks, an obstacle course, and bounce houses. In addition, a petting zoo, a gaming truck, and a foam bubble machine were available. There was also live music. The Family Fun Day was well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by all.



Senior Kylie Hogue participates in the Fun Run.



Children enjoy the foam machine.



Mrs. Kam Daniel has fun at the giant pink volleyball tournament.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS CAMPUS

By Jillian Nelson

Brent Money, Texas State Representative for District 2 came to GC to explain the recent School Choice initiative and the impact it will have on private schools. Money grew up in Greenville and attended GCS. He was a part of the first GCS Kindergarten Class in 1983. He graduated in 1996. He said that GC, "gave me effective worldview training . . . . The integration of Godly principles in every subject helped prepare me for being a husband, father, businessman, and having a career in politics. Many of Money's children have also attended Greenville Christian.

School Choice programs allow parents to use public education funds to help their students go to schools that best fit their needs, whether that's a charter, private, public, or home school. Money said that school choice could affect Greenville Christian School in many ways.



GC alumnus and Texas State Representative Brent Money

HOMECOMING DRESS UP DAYS

By Sadie Whitt

GC students, both elementary and secondary levels, dressed up for special themed days to celebrate Homecoming from October 28 to November 1. The GC cheerleaders will select students who best showed their spirit by dressing up, and they will recognized during the pep rally on Friday.

The first theme was "Minion Monday." This theme is inspired by the hit movie franchise *Despicable Me*. Students came dressed as their favorite Minions or *Despicable Me* characters.

Tuesday's theme was "Party in the USA." Students showed off their patriotism by dressing in red, white, and blue.

Wednesday's theme was "Howdy vs. the Hamptons." Students dressed in their favorite western wear to go horseback riding in the wild west or in their best preppy outfit for the country club.

"Color Wars" was the theme for Thursday, so students dressed in their designated class colors. Partner classes share the same colors. Pre-k3 and pre-k4 were paired with sixth grade, and their color was yellow. Kindergarten and seventh grade wore orange. First and eighth grade students wore purple. Second grade and the freshman class were assigned the color blue. Third and tenth graders wore pink while fourth and eleventh graders wore red. Lastly, the fifth grade class and the seniors wore white.

Friday will be Eagle Fan Friday. Come dressed in your green, black and white with your mums and garters to show off that you can't hide your eagle pride.



Fifth grader Evie Goodman wore a Benjamin Franklin costume for "Party in the USA" Day



Seniors Kenzie and Trinity dress up for Minion Monday.



Mrs. Audo goes all out for Howdy vs. The Hamptons Day.

MRS. SHERMAN'S LITERARY CORNER

Once a Queen
by Sarah Arthur



Fourteen year old Eva has never met her grandmother. When asked, her mother has simply changed the subject, and with an ocean between them, it was an easy topic for her mother to avoid. Now, however, Eva's mom has deemed it is time to go back to England for grandmother and granddaughter to finally meet. This is where readers meet Eva. . . being driven through the dreary English countryside by an actual chauffeur, to an actual castle that looks like it's from one of the fairy tales Eva grew up hearing. As Eva spends her summer vacation getting to know her grandmother, more and more secrets seem to meet her at every turn. Who is this grandmother of hers? Why does the staff treat her like a queen? And is the White Stag in the garden a dream or real? *Once a Queen* is an enticing story for any fantasy lover. Author Sarah Arthur masterfully weaves Eva's world with that of the fairy tale world of Ternival. . . or is it actually a fairy tale? What if all the stories are true . . . ? This novel is recommended for ages 15-18.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Evelyn Phillips (grade 1): *How to Catch a Heffalump* by A.A. Milne

Kye Franklin (2): *Dog Man* by Dav Pilkey

Katie Adams (3): *Pete the Cat and the Perfect Pizza Party* by James Dean

Oliver Menaldo (4): *I survived Hurricane Katrina* by Lauren Tarshis

Jase White and Ellie Faseler (5): *Harry Potter* books by J.K. Rowling

Birdie Miller (6): *Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls* by Meg Cabot

Samantha Nickell (7): *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

Braeden Smith (8): *The Inheritance* by Christopher Paolini

Landon Boles (8): *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

Jillian Nelson (9): *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

Ryder Brantner (10): *The Odyssey* by Homer

Allison Blaske (11): *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus* by Nabeel Qureshi

Owen Pittsinger (11): *Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien

Sadie Whitt (11): *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Austin Wilburn (12) *The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis

Mrs. Diershke: *Jurassic Park: the Lost World* by Michael Crichton

Mr. Nivens: *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt

Mrs. Smith: *Voices of the Past* by Richard Rushing

Mr. Smith: *The Grass Crown* by Colleen McCullough

Mrs. Wrinkle: *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller



Tennessee Ary (grade 2) is reading *Bad Guys 8* by Aaron Blabey



Presley Ellis (grade 4) is reading *Comet Rising* by MarcyKate Connolly



Grace Pike (grade 6) is reading *The Son of Neptune* by Rick Riordan

NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

By Ryder Brantner

GCS recently hired a new Athletic Director, Mr. Thomas Dodson. Previously Coach Dodson has been an Athletic Director, Varsity Basketball Coach, AAU Coach, and a PE Teacher. When asked what called him to his job, he replied that he had always wanted to work at a Christian school. He also said that he desired a workplace closer to his home and that he wanted to be in a position where he can focus on athletics. Coach Dodson said his main goal in this position is to “build a Christlike culture over our athletic program and build consistency with our coaches and students to glorify God, work hard, and lift each other up. One message coach Dodson wants to send to the school is that he is blessed and thankful to be here and can not wait to get to know his co-workers.



Athletic Director Thomas Dodson

CROSS COUNTRY HIGHLIGHT RUN

By Sadie Whitt

On Monday, October 21, GC Nation held a Highlight Run for the for the cross country team as they prepared to compete in the state cross country meet. The event started with the cross country team entering through the tunnel and running a lap around the football field. Next, each member of the team was introduced by Coach Boss. Finally, the team ran another lap around the field joined by their many fans.





GC Cross Country Team members run through the tunnel and around the field during the Cross Country Highlight Run.

LIFT-A-THON

By Ryder Brantner and Landom Wilburn

On October 5th, the Core Mockingbird hosted a Lift-a-thon as a fundraiser for the GC athletic program and the Trevor Wade Daniel Foundation. Sponsors in the community pledged to donate money according to the number of pounds lifted by members of the middle school and varsity football teams. GC coaches estimate that the Lift-a-thon generated around about $8,500.00. The GC Athletic Department decided to spend their portion of the money earned on new football pads for the players. Coach Fauley chose the Riddell Power SPK+ pads with backplates for the team. Coach Dodson said, "We are very thankful for the new football equipment and pray it gives the players the protection they need for the future."



New pads for football team

DISTRICT GAMES

By Landon Wilburn

GC varsity volleyball and football teams recently won their first district games. The Lady Eagles played at Longview Christian on October 10th, and won 3-0. In the first set the score was 26-24. The second set score was 25-21 and the third set was 25-18. Another win for GC was the football team that beat Fairhill at home 60 to 12 on Friday, October 11th.

CROSS COUNTRY STATE MEET

By GC Newspaper Staff

On Monday, October 28, GC students Sean Holt, Owen Pittsinger, Ian Dierschke, and Kylie Hogue competed at the State Cross Country Meet in Waco, Texas. According to Coach India Bray, these students overcame many physical and mental challenges as they trained for months in preparation for this event. Bray also said, "We see their commitment to excellence as not only inspiring to their teammates but also to the entire school community, reminding us all of the rewards that

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Coach Bray, Sean Holt, Owen Pittsinger, Ian Dierschke, Kylie Hogue and Coach Boss.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

4TH GRADE BOOK CHARACTER PROJECTS

By Sofia Wagnon

On October 4th, the 4th grade dressed up as book characters. The students picked a book that they had never read before. After they read the book, they wrote about what happened in the story from the perspective of the main character. Then, the students came to school dressed up as different characters. They told their class about the book they read without giving away the ending. This project helped them to expand the kinds of books they read and discover the kind of books they like.



McKenzie Garrett dressed as Mary Poppins



Eli Killgore dressed as August from Wonder.

TORTOISE VISITS GC

By Sadie Whitt

On Wednesday, October 2, the pre-k 4 class got to meet a tortoise. They had been studying fables and fairy tales, and they recently read the fable of the Tortoise and the Hare. The Tortoise they saw was an African Sulcata Tortoise or an African Spurred Tortoise. His name was Turbo and he weighed between 75-80 lbs. He was rescued by Pre-k teacher Tristian White's, father-in-law. Turbo's favorite meals include leafy greens and peaches.



Milo Garcia visits with Turbo the Tortoise.

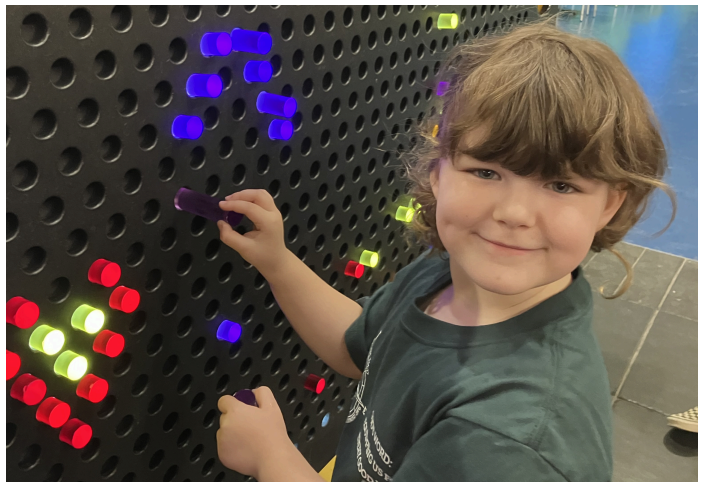
THE CRAYOLA EXPERIENCE

By Landon Wilburn

On Thursday, October 17, the GC Kindergarten classes traveled to the Crayola Experience in Plano where the kids painted, learned how to make crayons and watched a movie. GC Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Erin Staubli wanted the students to learn about how crayons were made because students use them in almost every subject they study. Fellow teacher Mrs. Linda Moore was excited that so many parents attended the field trip with their students. Student Hailey Jones said her favorite part was painting. Weston Clark said "I like making crayons. Caisley Pollard enjoyed watching the movie about crayons.



Opal Franklin and Hettie Vaughan enjoy the movie.



Brynley Dunn enjoys a giant lite brite.



Eli Elery shows off his drawing.

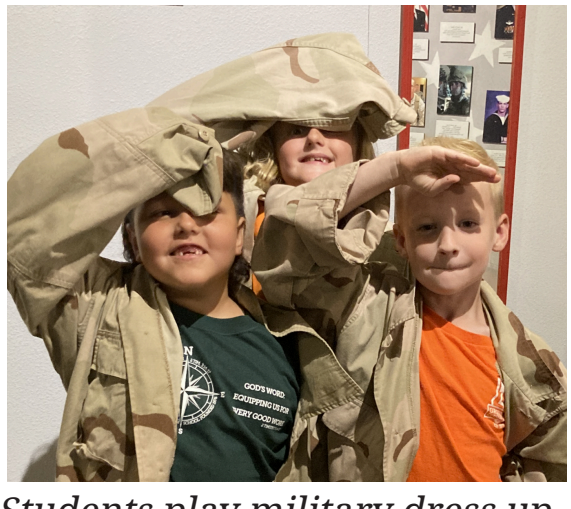
AUDIE MURPHY MUSEUM

By Sadie Whitt

On Thursday, October 24, Mrs. Renshaw's second grade class went to the Audie Murphy museum in Greenville, Texas. They had a fun day learning many different things. The students enjoyed many aspects of the museum from the gift shop to the different exhibits. When asked about what the museum was about, student Cora Robbins said "the museum was about the army and cotton." She also said that "going to the gift shop was really fun." During the day students also explored the museum. Timothy Steinback said, "my favorite part was playing military."



Students enjoy feeding the ducks.



Students play military dress up.



Samuel Fitzgerald Gudgel watches the ducks.



Amelia Audo, Evelyn Brenckman, and Cora Robbins



Jonas Nelson enjoys the ride.



Cara Boles accompanies her son Carter on the field trip.

YESTERLAND FARM TRIP

By Landon Wilburn

The first grade class at GCS went on a field trip to Yesterland Farms on October 17. Yesterland Farms is an amusement park outside of Canton, Texas. It has vintage roller coasters and train rides, farm animals, pony rides, a petting zoo, and live duck and pig races. During the fall, they have a corn maze and a pumpkin patch. Raylund Elvington said his favorite part was "the spinny thing." Kole Reeves said the train was his favorite. Adalyne Blaske liked the roller coaster.

PRESCHOOL CLASSES VISIT KADEE FARM

By Jillian Nelson

On Monday, October 28, PreK 3 and PreK 4 took a fun-filled field trip to Kadee Farm. Kadee Farm is a pumpkin patch and Christmas tree farm in Greenville, Texas. The students enjoyed the pumpkin patch. GC Student Ada Moore said, " My favorite part was the chickens. They were so cute". Fellow student Callie Sharp also liked the animals. She stated, "I loved the chickens, pigs, donkeys, and goats". There were also hay rides, piggy rides, pictures on the big chair, and fun times on the big red fire truck. The students each received a small pumpkin as a souvenir of their trip to Kadee Farm.







Left: Students view animals at Kadee Farm.
Above: Pre-K Students Ada Moore (left) and Alison Holleman pose with pumpkins at Kadee Farm.

BMW DAY

By Ryder Brantner

On October 23 Greenville Christian secondary students took part in their annual Be My Witness Day. The BMW program is based on the Bible verse Acts 1:8, which states: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” During BMW day 7th-12th grade students serve at various places in the community, such as the Raffa Clinic, Hunt County Shared Ministries (FISH), Sophie’s Home Equine Rescue Center, Arms of Hope ministry, and the Women In Need shelter. Many students picked up trash for Keep Greenville Beautiful, and several worked on projects at GC. Sophomore Ryder Brantner had an interaction with a lady at CB’s Burgers. When asked why he was out of school, Brantner explained how GC students serve the community to be a witness for Christ.



Addie Pope and KeeLee Donnelly paint at the WIN Shelter.



Reagan Love, Jackson Garrett, and Jacob Spurlock sack groceries at FISH ministries.



Seniors Ella and Avery Rocky work at Sophie's Home Equine Rescue Center.



Alex Feezel does yard work at Arms of Hope.



Students sing for residents at Legends nursing home.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

By Sadie Whitt

On October 18-20 the GC theater group performed *A Midsummer Nights' Dream* by William Shakespeare. The play was well performed, and the audiences each night enjoyed it. The high school group welcomed the eight graders to perform in this production as well. The cast included seniors Annabella Wagnon, Taylor Mahan, and Avery Hudgeons, junior Hannah Johnson, sophomores Link Brown, Elizabeth Galyean, Kylan Donelley, Grant Bench and freshmen Keelee Donelley, Ian Dierschke, and Tristan Brown. Middle Schoolers Jamison Smith, Braden Smith, Emmett Ross, Aiden Hudgeons, Nathan Galyean, and Ellen Dierschke also participated in this dramatic production. The backstage crew and the lights and sound teams were also working behind the scenes to help make the show successful. The backstage crew was composed of students Owen Johnson and Ryder Brantner. The lights for the show were run by Caleb Pike, and sound was run by Alli Blaske. It all came together thanks to the direction of Mrs. Jen Brown, Mrs. Allison Pike and Mrs. Audra Tibboel.



Ellen Dierschke as Puck



Link Brown as Demetrius and Anabella Wagnon as Helena



Kylan Donnelly as Oberon



Elizabeth Galyean as Titania and Jamison Smith as Bottom



Braeden Smith as Lysander and Hannah Johnson as Hermia

DAN PANETTI SPEAKS AT SECONDARY CHAPEL

By Ryder Brantner

On October 4, Mr. Dan Panetti came to speak at chapel about the many struggles of an "anxious generation." Mr. Panetti is the Director of Parent Engagement and Ministry at Prestonwood Christian Academy. Mr. Panetti said that if he could summarize his message in one sentence it would be, "Faith and fear can not coexist; you need to learn to trust God or you will be overwhelmed by the circumstances that surround you." One message Mr. Panetti has to this young generation is, "God loves you, spend as much time as you can letting that reality sink in and pursue Him with an unrelenting passion all the days of your life."

Mr. Panetti returned on October 25 to discuss gender and

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Mr. Dan Panetti speaks at chapel

ROMAN SOLDIERS AND PUMPKIN CHOPPING

By Ryder Brantner

Recently, Mr. Smith's sophomore World History class has been learning about the Roman Empire. They are studying the Roman armies and weapons they used in war. To enhance their lessons, Mr. Smith's son-in-law Joseph Reyes visited GC dressed as a Roman soldier. He brought replicas of Roman weapons such as a gladius and a spear. He and Mr. Smith demonstrated the weapons by chopping and slicing a pumpkin in class. Sophomore Addison Pope said, "It was very interesting and I felt like I was watching a real Roman soldier."



Mr. Smith and Joseph Reyes demonstrate ancient weapons for the class.



Replicas of Roman weaponry courtesy of Mr. Smith and Joseph Reyes



Jack Feezel, Kylan Donnelly, and Ryder Brantner try on some Roman helmets.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES



Mrs. Mary Shelton "Mimi"



Student Sean Holt

By Jillian Nelson

Greenville Christian School provides several opportunities for students to attend Bible Studies. . Staff and teachers highly encourage the students to take advantage of these opportunities.

Junior Sean Holt leads a Bible Study for high school boys every Monday during lunch. It is a time for fellowship and bonding for the young men.

Mrs. Mary Shelton ("Mimi") also leads a Bible study every Monday and Tuesday during the lunch period. She encourages anyone from grades 7 to 12 to attend. They are currently studying the Ten Commandments. Mrs. Shelton also provides snacks for the Bible study. Seventh grade student Allyson White states, " I like just listening to Mimi talk about God".

On Wednesdays, Mrs. Wrinkle hosts a bible study for the Freshman boys. They take turns doing devotions together and having a simple dessert. On Fridays the High School Girls meet in Mrs. Wrinkle's room and take turns doing devotionals and providing a dessert. Mrs Wrinkle says that her favorite part is when, "The girls make connections to God".

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By Sofia Wagnon

Senior Avery Hudgeons has been attending Greenville Christian School since the 5th grade. One of her favorite memories at GCS was throwing Mrs. Traverse a surprise party because they were the last class she taught before becoming a full-time administrator. While in high school Avery has matured in her faith in many ways. According to Avery, one way she has grown in her faith is through Bible classes. She said, “The many Bible classes have shown me so many things that I never realized before. It has shown me how much there really is that God wants to show us.” A teacher that has greatly impacted her life is Mrs. Fields. Avery said that “She gives good advice, and it’s worth taking the time to develop a good relationship with her.” Avery can not wait for the new opportunities to learn outside of school. After high school Avery wants to study biochemistry.



TAILGATE PARTY

By Jillian Nelson

On Saturday, October 24, GC senior parents hosted a homecoming tailgate party. The tailgate is an annual event sponsored by the parents of the senior class to raise money for their senior trip. This year it was a western theme, so all the students showed up in boots and were ready to boogie. There were also tailgates decorated for each of the theme days of Homecoming Week. There was a minion truck, Party in the USA truck, Howdy vs. Hamptons truck, Color Wars truck, and a Fan Friday themed truck. There was music and line dancing in the parking lot. A coffee and hot cocoa bar was also available.! Out on the football practice field, many games such as corn hole, foursquare, and pickleball were set up.this night!



Junior Owen Pittsinger is dressed for "Howdy vs. the Hamptons".



"Party like it's 1776" Tailgate Fun.



GC students Eve Murrey, Austin Wilburn, Trinity Epley, Taylor Mahan, Kaitlyn Boss, and Sean Holt pose for a photo during the HOCO Tailgate Party.

STATE XC MEET

Continued from page 5

come from hard work and determination. Their perseverance was evident as they raced against the best in the state, each stride reflecting the heart and passion they bring to their running."

In the 2A Girls Two Mile event, Kylie Hogue placed 58th with a time of 17:43. Owen Pittsinger, Ian Dierschke, and Sean Holt competed in the 2A Boys 5K event. Pittsinger ranked 86th with a time of 24 minutes 23 seconds. Dierschke placed 91st, finishing in 25 minutes 14 seconds. Holt was 109th to finish with a time of 27 minutes 6 seconds.



Kylie Hogue, Sean Holt, Ian Dierschke, and Owen Pittsinger

PANETTI

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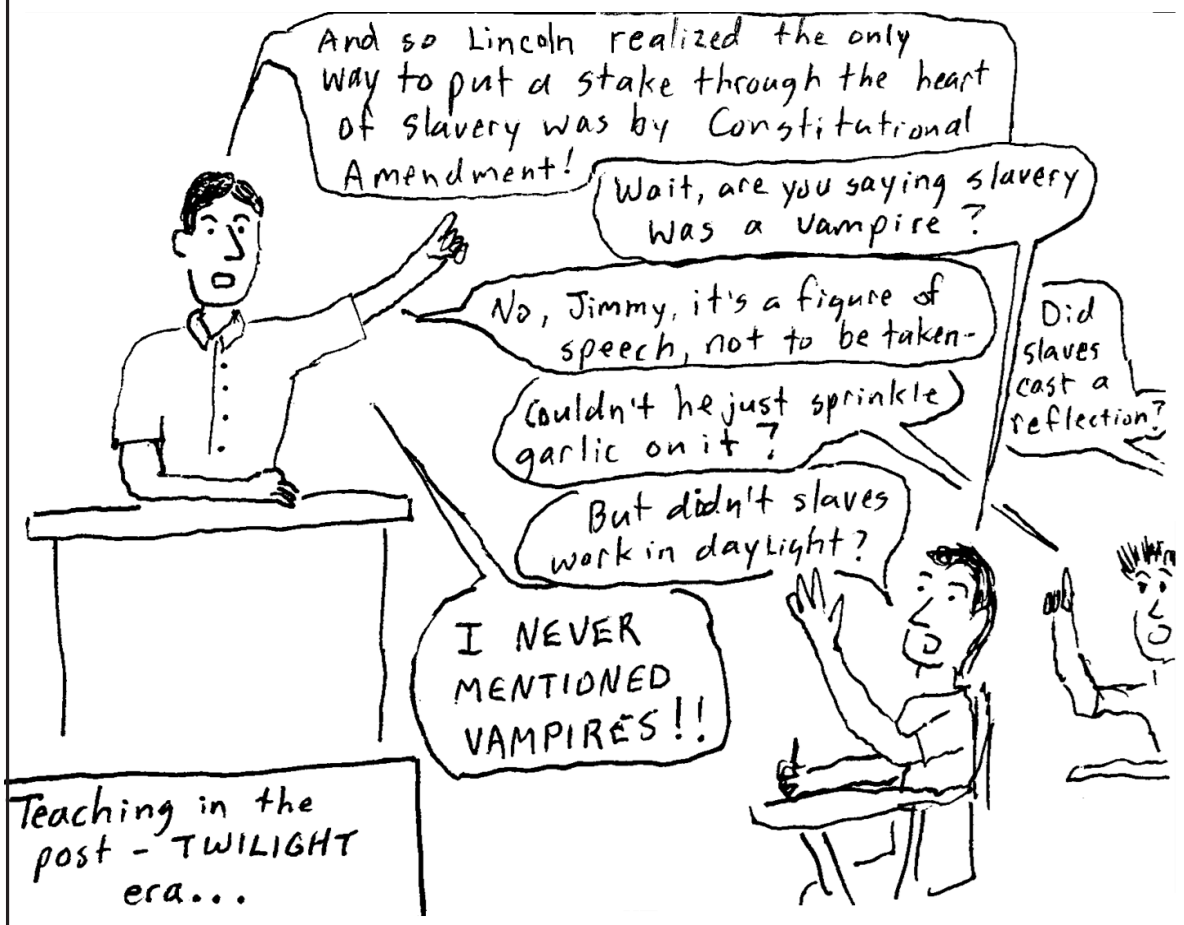
sexuality from a biblical worldview with secondary students and parents. He reminded students that the ultimate relationship is a relationship with Christ, and emphasized that "Everything physical is a picture of something spiritual." He further explained that physical relationships should mirror a spiritual intimacy with God. Panetti also encouraged students to "first connect your life to Christ" and then to listen and learn from older men and women how to become men and women of God.



COMICS

"A joyful heart is good medicine . . . " Proverbs 17:22



"High School Hijinks"
by Lewis B. Smith