

WHERE WE MAY GROW
 "IN WISDOM AND STATURE,
 AND IN FAVOR
 WITH GOD AND MEN."

The Academy Advantage



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GRADUATION Ceremony June 25, 2011

Standing Tall with their Accomplishments

Emelie Gidley
 Valedictorian
 (right)

Lauren Stuitje
 Salutatorian

Emelie Gidley has been recognized with an array of honors and accomplishments during her senior year. Her immediate focus is to study engineering and pursue a career in nuclear surface warfare at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD.

Emelie addressed her classmates and encouraged them to remember the special experiences they had shared, particularly their recent mission trip to the Dominican Republic, to aspire to God's view of success, beware of cultural allure with its day-to-day distractions, and always to let God be the defining force in their lives, following the wisdom of Proverbs 3:5-6.

Lauren Stuitje not only excelled academically but also in sports, especially in basketball, racking up a career total of 1,185 points. She has proven herself in many areas in school, home, church and work. Lauren plans on training for physical therapy at Daemen College.

Lauren also reflected the unifying impact of all the experiences that she and her class had gone through, especially during their senior year. Using the words of Jeremiah 29:11, she challenged her classmates to trust God's purposes, knowing that all that will matter in the end is whether one lived for Christ.



Mr. James Zingarelli

The commencement speaker, **Mr. James Zingarelli**, chair of the Art Department at Gordon College, Wenham, Massachusetts, used the imagery of engaging a car into full throttle, highlighting three points for the graduates:

1 – The ultimate *ride* is internal, that it needs all of one's attention, and that only God knows where the "there" is for each graduate. He reminded them not to harbor what eats away at the core of oneself, but to be forgiving, to move on and to "be there."

(Graduation - continued on page 8)

Seniors Challenged at Baccalaureate Service

CCA seniors were honored June 12 at the annual Baccalaureate Service and reception. **Mr. Jonathan Drake**, director of spiritual formation at The Chapel at Crosspoint, and member of CCA's Class of 2006, pointed out that in the brief five years since his own graduation from



Mr. Jonathan Drake, Mrs. Lawrence

CCA, the world has changed immensely. Drawing then from Philippians 3:8, he poignantly challenged the graduates with the words, "Don't waste your life," noting that life is a vapor, life is precious, and nothing surpasses the worth of knowing Jesus Christ. He concluded with a seemingly contradictory statement, that if one treasures Christ above all else and pursues Him, this life will be the closest to hell he or she will ever experience. However, if one puts Jesus on the shelf, this life will be the closest to heaven he or she will ever experience.

CCA Ranks among Top Public and Private Schools

Christian Central Academy has now for the tenth consecutive year been listed in Business First's most recent "Guide to Western New York Schools" among the top elementary, middle and secondary schools in this eight-county region. CCA has received the following overall rankings among the three divisions:

- Elementary** – 14th out of 280 elementary schools
 7th out of 59 private elementary schools
- Middle School** – 13th out of 210 middle schools
 8th out of 58 private middle schools
- High Schools** – 9th out of 133 high schools
 4th out of 15 private high schools

Additionally, all schools were evaluated on students' performance in specific subject areas. Subject awards (on a one-to-five star rating) are presented to schools that scored in the top 10% of all schools on NYS tests in a given subject area over a four-year-period. CCA received five star subject awards for the following:

- Elementary English** – 2nd place among ALL public and private elementary schools, and 1st place in Erie County
- Middle School English** – 13th of all WNY middle schools
 8th of all 58 private schools
- Middle School Math** – 11th of all WNY middle schools
 7th of 58 private schools
- High School Math** – 9th of all WNY high schools,
 3rd of 15 private schools

CCA remains the only distinctly Biblically based school to be numbered among these top performing Western New York schools since private schools were first included in the rankings in 2002 and evaluated with public schools.



Mrs. Nurline Lawrence, Head of School

From
the heart of
the head...

Keeping to the Trail

I love the outdoors. Wide, open spaces, rugged terrain, and abundant green trees fill me with a sense of freedom and adventure. The outdoors always reminds me of my childhood growing up on the countryside of my native country of Jamaica. I recall one special summer day when I had the joyful experience of going on a long hike with a friend. I remember the hot, bright sun high in the blue, cloudless sky struggling to break through the tall abundant vegetation. We had chosen an area with a variety of trails known for both its beauty and serious challenge to complete a hike of any significant distance. Donning our hats and strapping on backpacks bearing an ample supply of water, we headed out for the specific trail we had chosen. A brisk pace and excited chatter soon became quiet contemplation and reverie as we picked our way through uneven ground.

Everything around us was so beautiful and peaceful, at once both awe-inspiring and terrifying. The palpable silence was occasionally broken by the song of a bird or the rustle caused by small creatures scurrying away from the disturbance caused by human feet. There were groundhogs, squirrels, an occasional deer, and us. It was impossible to ignore the grandeur around us as beautiful wildflowers, abundant fern, and rocks with unusual formations caught our attention. We crossed several small streams, stepped into some muddy paths as we descended from higher ground to lower places. There was so much to see and feel and absorb that we somehow missed a marker and lost our way. The trail had suddenly disappeared and all around us was the fearful wilderness on every side. We wandered around for a while as we tried to regain our bearings. Luckily, my travel companion was an experienced hiker who calmly navigated us out of our dilemma back onto the trail! Situations like these test the human spirit and we learn a lot about ourselves.

Like all of life, when we wander from the trail, we lose our way. As I start a fourteenth year at CCA, I began reflecting on that

adventure. I recall the many miracles that God has given our school, the many Board, faculty, and staff members that have come and gone, the numerous students who have attended our school over the years, and rejoice in the trustworthiness of God.

This is the year, the 62nd of the school's existence, when CCA received accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and the New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS). We have managed another balanced budget in an economy that is still wobbly, and 100 percent of our graduates have found a place in a college of choice. Most of all, I think how important it is to stay on course, to follow God's word to acknowledge God's revelation in creation and trust in God's truth. It is clear that we will move forward successfully as long as we pay attention to the markers and follow the right path, even when every other sign points the other way.

As we begin the 2011-2012 school year, we look ahead with thanksgiving and face the future with courage. Among the important goals is the plan to continue to raise \$2-4 million dollars to provide better salaries for teachers. In achieving accreditation, we chronicled our successes and identified those areas that need improvement. We chose a protocol called "Excellence by Design" with the objective of making CCA an even stronger school in seven years. We want to continue to provide the very best educational experience for our families and students.

It is crucial that we do not veer from the path of CCA's mission and purpose – that we keep to the trail. Along the way we will pause to recognize that "the heavens declare the glory of God; and the sky above proclaims his handiwork." Psalm 19:1

We welcome your partnership in
making the future of CCA successful.

"Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the word of his servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God."

Isaiah 50:10



Saying Good-bye to Mrs. Burr after 31 Years of Service to CCA Students

God has called our math teacher, middle school division head, and faculty mentor, Mrs. Kathy Burr, into a new season of life. Mrs. Burr has given 31 years of outstanding selfless service to CCA. The children and her colleagues love and respect her and we will all miss her.

On left, Mrs. Kathy Burr together with her granddaughters, **Madison** (entering 5th grade) and **Kaylee** (entering Kindergarten) look at her cake following a get-together to honor Mrs. Burr's service to CCA.



June 16, 2011 marked tearful celebration as the CCA auditorium filled with faculty, students, parents, alumni and members of the Burr family gathered to pay tribute to **Mrs. Kathleen Burr** for her 31 years of service to the Lord at Christian Central Academy. Over her three-plus decades at CCA, Mrs. Burr has served as 3rd grade teacher, 5th grade teacher, elementary department coordinator, middle school math teacher, middle school division chair and dean of discipline, executive assistant to the head of school, faculty mentor, and for a brief time, even interim principal.

CCA board president, **Dr. Greg Reeds** opened the time with prayer and comments, saying that all who have had the privilege to know Mrs. Burr have been touched by her kindness, guidance and leadership. He shared several passages from Proverbs reflective of Mrs. Burr's character and wisdom.

Head of School, **Mrs. Lawrence** noted that Mrs. Burr's departure marks the end of an era in the life of CCA. She said Mrs. Burr was not just a math teacher, but was someone who could "make the dead rise up and enjoy math." As a teacher and person, Mrs. Burr always evidenced impeccable integrity to do what was right. She showed an unwavering faith in Christian education and CCA so that even in the midst of now saying goodbye, she is able to say, "I am glad to be

sad." Mrs. Lawrence thanked Mrs. Burr's husband, **Kit**, for his support of his wife over the years and his willingness to graciously serve as CCA's first Athletic Director.

Dear friend and colleague, **Mrs. Cheryl Smyth** said that, for her, I Corinthians 3:10-11 captures the essence of Mrs. Burr, noting how she always willingly served however she was able. According to Mrs. Smyth, Mrs. Burr, a teacher of teachers, exhibited excellence in her craft, in commitment, in character and in Christ-centeredness.

Mrs. Carolyn Lattimer, representing the CCA parents thanked Mrs. Burr for her innate ability to teach and train young minds and hearts, and to handle all with love and grace.

Graduating senior, **Andrew Lauto** reflected on some of his antics in Mrs. Burr's 8th grade math class when he felt obliged to entertain his fellow students, stating that Mrs. Burr not only made math fun, but more importantly showed students who Jesus is. Parents, faculty, staff, board and friends presented Mrs. Burr with a love gift and floral tribute. In recognition of Mrs. Burr's selfless service and modeling Christ to the entire CCA community, the school has also installed a paver in the paver garden outside the Emmanuel Athletic Facility honoring our beloved teacher.

Thank you, Mrs. Burr!

Special Honors for Special People ~ Our sincere thanks to each one.



Above left, **Dr. Lucy Holmes** receives accolades from **Mrs. Lawrence** for her service as board member from 2004-2010, secretary for 2008-2010, and her significant contribution to the Middle States accreditation process.

Next, Mrs. Lawrence presents a plaque and flowers to **Mrs. Barbara Brown** for her diligent work on the accreditation team. She did not waiver even during her arduous fight against cancer. Her work and efforts are greatly appreciated, and CCA has now been formally accredited since May by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Fifth grade teacher **Mrs. Sande Paul** was presented with the "Faculty of the Year" award and recognized for her dedication to her students with a bouquet of flowers during the Third through Fifth Grade Awards Ceremony held in June.

During the annual senior chapel service, senior **Austin Tom** honored his mom and teacher, **Mrs. Cathy Tom**.

Four Seniors Honored as AP Scholars

Emelie Gidley and **Lauren Stuitje** were each recognized as an "AP Scholar with Honors" by the College Board for earning an average of at least 3.25 (on a 1-5 scale) for their performance on at least 4 AP exams. **Alexandra Ellsworth** and **Jesse Kaufman** were named "AP Scholars" as they scored no less than 3 on at least 3 AP exams. CCA offers Advanced Placement classes in Biology, Calculus, English Literature, European History, US History and Physics. This is the first year CCA has had four seniors so recognized. (see student photos on pages 6 -7)

Congratulation to all!



2011 Senior Awards

Major Academic Subject Awards

Academic Excellence Awards

Emelie Gidley, *Valedictorian*

Lauren Stuitje, *Salutatorian*

Timothy Award (Bible) **Edwin Perez**

C.S. Lewis Award (English) **Emelie Gidley**

American Liberty Award (History) **Skylar Malcolm**

Sir Isaac Newton Award (Math) **Emelie Gidley**

Genesis Award (Science) **Lauren Stuitje**

John Wycliffe (Foreign Language)
Danielle Fisher, Mandy Kerkeslager

Athletes of the Year Award (Physical Education)
Lauren Stuitje, Austin Tom

Fine Arts Sketchbook Award **Skylar Malcolm**

Fine Arts Music Award **Emelie Gidley**

Journalism Award **Skylar Malcolm**

Greg Johnson Memorial Award

Demonstrated most positive Christian witness in athletics

Kristen McLaughlin, Andrew Lauto

Marsden T. Sellers Memorial Award

Demonstrated a desire to live for the Lord

Ashley Wanamaker

Kurt A. De Witt Memorial Award

Displayed the gift of encouragement

Danielle Fisher

Ray Schultz Memorial Award

Exemplified commitment for a relationship with Christ

Edwin Perez

Faculty Award

Demonstrated improvement in overall performance

Lauren Ryan

Head of School Award

Exemplified the spirit and character of a servant-leader

Edwin Perez





Graduation Day, June 25, 2011

Graduating Class of 2011



Valedictorian
Emelie Gidley*
United States Naval Academy
Class Secretary



Alexandra Ellsworth*
University at Buffalo



Danielle Fisher*
Roberts Wesleyan College
Chaplain Prefect



Caleb Fuerst
Erie Community College



Shawn Hawke*
University at Buffalo
Athletics Prefect



Andrew Lauto*
Regent University
Admissions Prefect



Skylar Malcolm*
Liberty University



James McLaughlin
Buffalo State College
Class Treasurer



Kristen McLaughlin*
Indiana Wesleyan University
Class President



Ruth Rissinger
Niagara County
Community College



Lauren Ryan*
University at Buffalo



Cheyenne Stiegler
Canisius College



Joshua Tedesco
Canisius College

*"Be ye, therefore, perfect, even
as your Father, who is in
heaven, is perfect." Matthew 5:48*



*Salutatorian
Lauren Stuitje**
Daemen College



Jordan Hobba
Houghton College



*Jesse Kaufman**
Daemen College



*Mandy Kerkeslager**
Nyack College
Academic Prefect



*Joel Lattimer**
University at Buffalo



Brandon Mullen
Erie Community College
Class Spiritual Advisor



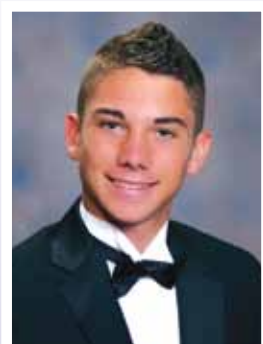
Edwin Perez
University at Buffalo
Head Prefect



*Peter Puskas**
University at Buffalo



Victoria Raine
Erie Community College



*Austin Tom**
Medaille College



Madelyn Walawender
Trocaire College



*Ashley Wanamaker**
Baptist Bible College
Activities Prefect



Troy Wesley
Erie Community College

** Members of CCA's Alpha and Omega
Chapter of the National Honor Society*

Highlights from the Spring Semester



Mrs. Lawrence congratulates junior **Joshua Ward** and fellow inductees as new members of the National Honor Society on June 17.

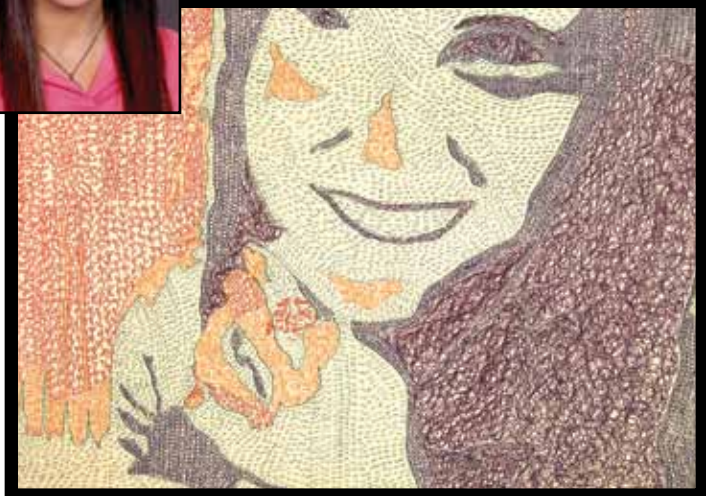


A group of **Miss Ciara Lang's** kindergarten class performs for parents during their graduation program on June 16.

Art Honors from ACSI Academic Day Competition, Hosted by Houghton on May 12



Eighth grader **Skyler Hein** won "Best of Show" ribbon award in the middle school category. Her art teacher, **Miss Corrie Ingraham**, said, "Skyler worked tirelessly to complete the very detailed pop-art self-portrait using gel pens. Her unique choice of medium and her immense effort is what gave her success."



Students from the new Digital Photography class were awarded seven blue ribbons. From left, seniors **Cheyenne Steigler** and **Skylar Malcolm**, and juniors **Peter Kazmiecjak**, **Nathan Mroz**, senior **Alex Ellsworth** (2 ribbons) and junior **Daniel Wrigglesworth**.



Junior **Nathan Mroz** is surrounded by his display of art work. His large ink drawing of Buffalo's City Hall helped him win the "Best of Show" ribbon award in the high school category.

Graduation - continued from page 1)

2 – Don't forget there are others in the "car" with you. "You are who you are only in relationship to each other, have been shaped by your colleagues, and will move on in relationship with those around you."

3 – It may be a good idea to keep a list of your "top 9 or 10" daily priorities. Mr. Zingarelli shared his "daily 9," realizing that so much of what that list reflected was his inner "core" that had been nurtured by those who loved him throughout his life's trek.

Mr. Zingarelli is Professor of the Art department at Gordon College. He is a distinguished scholar, teacher, sculptor, painter artist and poet. He clearly articulates the relatedness between art and faith in Jesus Christ. His artistic ability has taken him many places around the USA and world and he often does exhibits of his work. ■



Left photo: Mrs. Suzanne Allen, and Miss Christina Zima, CCA teacher chaperones with a young girl at a local church in the D. R.

Right from left: Skylar Malcolm, Mandy Kerkeslager, Cheyenne Stiegler and Madelyn Walawender pose with several local Dominican children.



The Dominican Republic: Memorable Trip

Long before the senior class takes their annual missions trip to the Dominican Republic, much preparation needs to be done, including fund-raising to be used for flight, supplies, food for distribution to poor families, and toys for the orphaned children.

Each year, students look forward to serving by participating with SCORE International, directed by **Mr. Jeff Hackett**. High school English teacher Miss Christina Zima and Spanish teacher, Mrs. Suzanne Allen (mom of senior **Edwin** and **Alicia Perez**, seventh grader) accompanied the group as chaperones. All arrived safely about 2:00 p.m. on Friday, May 20 at ground zero, or the SCORE complex, for orientation. The recently completed sports facility includes soccer and baseball fields. The hotel was air-conditioned, which is a luxury compared to the way most of the people live.

Typically, each day was divided into morning scheduled events, lunch break, and more interactions with the local children in the afternoon; evenings were spent in downtimes for students to relax and get ready for the next day. When meeting with groups of children, a sermon by Mr. Hackett or a student and a related skit (practiced during the school year) was presented, followed by personal student testimonies for salvation opportunities. Edwin Perez gave the gospel message on the first day and three children accepted Jesus.

Transportation between villages was by bus, generally on bumpy, muddy streets. As the group arrived at one of the planned destinations, children came running to meet them with excitement,

knowing that they will play games, do crafts, sing and play instruments, make puppets and balloon animals, color pictures, blow bubbles and have their faces painted. Most children are very joyous, like to hang onto their newly made friends and don't like to part with them at the end of the day. They love to have their pictures taken, especially with blonds.

When visiting orphanages, some children are sad because they had recently lost their parents, but are encouraged when they experience the friendship and love of their visitors from America, bearing gifts and food. Monies that were collected gave the seniors opportunity to shop at local stores and then distribute needed foods such as rice, beans, oil, tuna and salt to the remote, poor villages on the island. They also had the opportunity to shop at the Straw Market in the capital. Santo Domingo draws many tourists where they try their bartering skills for souvenirs. This was also a great opportunity to hand out tracts that are enthusiastically received and read. One of the SCORE counselors led a guard to the Lord, giving **Edwin Perez** and **Joel Lattimer** the opportunity to pray with the new convert.

The plane landed in Buffalo the following Friday. All were tired, but anxious to recount their memorable experience in the Dominican Republic. They were all eager to share their testimonies of the work that God had done in their lives . . . another successful senior trip.

A TV Show Changed One's Life Forever

"Name the kings of the following countries: Norway, Sweden, Belgium and Iraq." Charles Van Doren intentionally answered this question incorrectly on the famous game show "21" in the 1950's. He could have easily answered correctly, but wanted off the game show due to the scandal surrounding him and his future career as a professor at Columbia University.

The Communications Class taught by **Mrs. Joyce Pontrello**, viewed the movie "The Quiz Show," directed by Robert Redford, and the PBS documentary, "The Quiz Show Scandal," directed by Michael Lawrence. Intrigued by this historical event during the Golden Age of television, the class went on a search to locate the two main contestants, Mr. Herbert Stempel and Mr. Charles Van Doren. Mr. Charles Van Doren was kind enough to have a conference call with the class to answer many of our questions. "I very seldom do what I proposed to do today, to talk about my past," he prefaced.

To appear on the show, Mr. Van Doren took a test and received the highest score ever. He was asked only questions to which he knew answers. An investigation began after a district attorney, Mr. Richard Goodwin, noticed that Herbert Stempel lost to Charles Van Doren over an easy question. Van Doren was asked to talk to the grand jury, and lied about the dealings of the show. He considers that lie to be the biggest mistake of his life; a good lesson for us all.

He has been able to pick up the pieces after losing his teaching



From left, seniors Ashley Wanamaker, Madelyn Walawender, Alex Ellsworth, Edwin Perez, Andrew Lauto, Jordan Hobba & Mrs. Joyce Pontrello, teacher.

position with Columbia University. Even though he had many job offers other than teaching, he worked for Britannica, the Aspen Institute, and has authored 25 books. He completed his doctorate studies in English and Comparative Literature, and is finally fulfilled by teaching English Literature at the University of Connecticut.

He lives close by with his wife of 55 years. They enjoy living in the country and spending time with their children and grandchildren, and dog, Callie. When the class asked if he watches game shows today, he replied, "Never, because they're probably rigged anyway."



World Cup Jamboree held on Saturday, June 18 for Grades 3–4

Spring Sports Finals

A very busy spring sports season saw scores of CCA students from 3rd–12th grade enjoy our growing sports program. Thank you to our coaches who shared summaries of their teams' accomplishments this past spring.

SOCCER Spring competition in the WNY Parochial Kickers league saw CCA field two 5th–6th grade squads to accommodate the 28 students eager to play. **Dr. Greg Reeds** coached the “Rock” team, completing a 4–2–1 record, with losses against strong opponents: St. Benedict’s (3–2) and Park School (2–1). Tie score was with St. Mary’s (1–1).

Wins were over St. Peter’s (6–0), St. Joseph’s (14–0) and Sts. Peter & Paul (7–1), with another win credited with a forfeit by Christ the King (1–0). Goals scored for the season totaled 31, giving up only 7 points. **Mr. Derrick Kruk** coached “Kruk’s Krushers” to a 7–0 record, seeing a solid defense allowing only 6 goals against and an aggressive offense totaling 46 goals. All 14 in the lineup scored multiple goals during the season.

Both Dr. Reeds and Mr. Kruk led a developmental soccer program for 3rd and 4th graders, practicing every Monday after school and culminating in “World Cup” format tournament (photo above). Four teams sporting country names marched onto the field raising the flags and to the tunes of the national anthems of USA, Canada, England and Fiji. Team England took the Gold, Canada, the Silver, and Fiji and USA tied for the Bronze.

CROSS COUNTRY Christian Central Academy’s Cross Country team won all six cross country meets and finished first in the NFCAA Middle School Boys’ Division championships on June 7 at Sprague Brook Park. The team was coached by **Mr. Marcus Hutchins**, who inspired the boys to do their best. **Lucas Stockslader, Joshua Holmes, Trace Gillis, J.P. Pieroni, Andrew Warnock** and **Noah Stockslader** were the strong finishers for CCA, with additional help from **Lucian Visone, Joshua Fox, David Puskas** and **Joel Giambra**. The boys won the third straight NFCAA championship for CCA. Great job Coach Hutchins and the boys.

SOFTBALL Five 7th grade girls were supported by five eager 5th grade girls to form one of our middle school teams coached by **Rev. Matt Gold**. Their 2–7 record belies the great fun and hard work they experienced, using each practice and game to polish their skills in pitching, batting, and fielding. Coach Gold anticipates great things for these athletes and the future of CCA’s softball team, thanking all the parents and their sacrificial attitudes to make this past season a reality.

Coach Tim Stone proudly led CCA’s 8th grade softball team to an 8–2 season, achieving co-championship of Division C. Commendations go to **Skyler Hein** for winning her first three games as a new pitcher. **Hailey Borrasca’s** walk off winning RBI single clinched the win for the team’s first game. **Meghan Curtin** produced seven RBIs in one game and **Abbie Stone** pitched a two-hitter with eight strikeouts in a playoff game. **Lindsay Bratek** showed great versatility moving into catcher position for the first time, giving relief to teammate **Arianna Lasting**. Veteran **Hannah Lattimer** hit two triples and three doubles in one game. Team batting average was over .570. Kudos to rookies **Hannah Kim** and **Christiana Johnson** for making a great positive impact on the team. Covering first and second bases respectively, **Emma Albrecht** and **Sarah D’Amico** each made important contributions. **Carolyn Kaufman** produced an on-

base percentage of .615. **Emma Taylor’s** broken wrist made her sit out most of the season except for the final three games. Congratulations, eighth grade girls!

Girls High School Softball, coached by **Mr. Paul Kazmierczak**, racked up an 8–2 record to finish their second season of JV level play in the Monsignor Martin High School Athletic Association league. Many of the 12-member squad began with the inaugural softball program four years ago, now providing important veteran experience. Co-captains **Lauren Koch** (pitcher) and **Breanne Morabito** (second base) led seasoned players **Claire Kazmierczak, Lian Bunny, Lindsay Redfern, Kelsey Gold, Abby Whited, Lydia Stockslader, Micaela Armenia** and **Kathryn Ryan**, and welcomed talented newcomers **Lauren Torrissi** and **Colleen Doyle**. The team was grateful to CCA alum and dedicated new assistant coach, **Ashley Mohr** for her help. Season highlights include wins over larger teams including Holy Angels, Immaculata, St. Mary’s Lancaster, Nardin, and Mount St. Mary’s. Great anticipation mounts for varsity level competition next year.

BASKETBALL Congratulations to CCA’s 5th grade basketball team, coached by **Mr. Tom Ranallo**, which brought home the trophy on March 6, defeating Christ the King School with a score of 37–26 at the annual Invitational “March Madness” Tournament. **Patrick Ranallo** and **Alec Tamburri** led the scoring with 15 and 12 points respectively, with great support from teammates **Joshua Tyson, Dante Lasting** and **Alex Fink**. CCA had advanced to the championship round after defeating St. Benedict’s 17–13 after trailing 12–6 at halftime. Kicking their defense into gear saw the Crusaders hold St. Benedict’s gain to just one point in the second half and then pulling ahead for the victory.

BASEBALL Coach **Zach Boron** led the boys’ Varsity Baseball Team in its first season competing in the Monsignor Martin League, finishing with an overall 8–8 record. Placing 6th overall in the standings, CCA enjoyed two great wins: 6–2 and 7–6 over Bishop Timon/St. Jude High School which was ranked in the top ten smaller schools in WNY. Strong pitching from juniors **Peter Moran, Tim Coulter, Mark Goszewski** (3–1 record) and **Jack Ranallo** (2–0) led to big wins over Cardinal O’Hara and Niagara Catholic. Gratitude to other important team contributors in seniors **Edwin Perez** (center field), **Andrew Lauto** and **Caleb Fuerst**, and juniors **Peter Kazmierczak** (catcher), **Nathaniel Jacobs, Seth Wittlinger, Zack Stone, Jon Whited, Jediah Moser** and **Jack Doyle**. Kudos to freshman **Jimmy Martinic**.

TRACK A huge thank you to **Mrs. Holly Cercone** for her leadership in the “Champions for Christ” track meet preparation. The team finished second at the Section 9 track meet on June 6 at Parker Field in Tonawanda with great contributions from many of the team. First place finishers were **Tahelah Noel** for the girls’ 50-meter race; **Abby Largis** in the girls’ 400 meters, and **Bethany Cercone** for the 100 meters. **Joshua Holmes** placed first in the boys’ 800 meters. The 7–8th grade girls won the shuttle race. Unfortunately the diocesan track meet was cancelled due to rain-outs in the month of May. . . Next year!

Thank you to all students and their sponsors for supporting the annual Grace Race which raised a total of \$18,955.





Mrs. Kivett's second graders practice for their closing program on the last day of school. Sean O'Hara, in foreground, is worships with a song, "Heart to Change the World." A few of the words in the song are: "How will the people know unless we show them?"



Above, Senior Edwin Perez is, as student conductor for the first time, directs the middle and high school chorus in "Mighty to Save" sung in Spanish at the Spring Concert. Below, a group of mostly seniors are singing a rendition of "My Girl." From left are Jim McLaughlin, junior Mark Goszewski, Brandon Mullen, Joel Lattimer, Edwin Perez, Andrew Lauto and Caleb Fuerst.

school scrapbook

From left, 8th grade Spanish I students Julia Lauto, Carolyn Kaufman and Sarah D'Amico represented Chile at the "Cinco de mayo" Spanish-speaking countries fair. They shared snacks and games with K-5th graders. ▼



Sophomores Lindsey Redfern and Kathryn Ryan are paging through the yearbook just distributed by the journalism students. "Examine the Heart" theme of the Triumph was unveiled via a skit to the middle and high school students; the first issue was gifted to Mrs. Lawrence. ▶



Camryn Moley (1st grade), held by 7th grade "buddy" Asia Daniels, share a fun swing time.



Sixth grader Hannah Szretter does her last-minute practice just before the Spring Concert begins.

From left, sixth graders Christopher White and Dominic Trippie chose racing the hard way at the Grace Race. All were wondering if they could make it around the whole, long field — and they did! ▼



Inter-Cultural Day, May 9

The fourth grade is celebrating the culmination of their hard work in researching and learning about different cultures. In this annual event, students get to taste foods representing many ethnic groups.



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Survey Response Requested
(if you have not done so)

Over the past decade, our newsletter mailing list has more than quadrupled; production and mailing costs correspondingly increased. We are now posting archived issues of the Academy Advantage on the school web site. To help us be good stewards of our resources, please mark your choice and return this panel to the attention of: Academy Advantage Survey. You may also call or email your preference—see contact information above.

- Traditional mailing via US Postal Service
 (as you have been receiving in the past)
- View on Christianca.com school web site
 (posted shortly after physical mailing)
- Remove me from your mailing list

•••• **alumni news** ••••

Carolyn Kaufman, daughter of CCA alumni, Heather (1990) and Tim (1991), recently did a fund raiser with her aunt and two cousins, raising \$1600 to fight blood cancers. Her inspiration came after her grandmother's struggle with cancer. The "jello splash" was organized under the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the total raised for one night with different participants was a record of \$122,000. Carolyn is planning on doing the splash again next year. She thanks all that donated and prayed, and responding about the splash, she said that "the jello was cold, but it was a fun thing to do."



Alumna Meredith McLaughlin (2008) views the beautiful student art work exhibited in conjunction with the annual Spring Concert held in May. Her brother, senior Jim participated in the choral performance, directed by Mrs. Beth Kivett. Meredith will begin her senior year at Bethany Bible College in New Brunswick, Canada, studying Christian School Education.

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The Academy Advantage is the newsletter of Christian Central Academy, an independent, college preparatory Christian school for students in grades K-12. CCA exists to challenge young men and women to know Jesus Christ as Lord; to love others as themselves; to grow in knowledge and in skill in order to serve the world through their character and leadership. Founded in 1949, CCA is chartered by and registered with the NYS Regents with full authority to award regents diplomas. CCA is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International (ASCI), and admits students without regard to race, color, national or ethnic origin, and is non-discriminatory in the administration of all its programs and policies.

Please keep in touch. Call or e-mail us with news of what has happened in your life since you left school. Remember that our Alumni are defined as anyone who attended Alden Mennonite School (AMS), Faith Christian School (FCS) (predecessors of CCA) for at least one year, even if he or she did not graduate from the respective school. Non-graduate alumni are identified with an "x" before what would have been their high school graduation year. **Let us hear from you!**

CCA is now on Facebook: www.facebook.com/christiancentralacademy and Twitter: http://twitter.com/#!/cca_wny