



Cadet LIFE

April/May 2009

Final Stats

President's List (4.0 GPA):

C. Grafton (MS)
J. Hanks (MS)
W. Schaffner (AR) (Valedictorian)

Principal's List (3.6-3.9 GPA):

C. Bishop (IL)
M. Chavoustie (CO)
M. Collins (MS) (Salutatorian)
S. Guthrie (MS)
N. Looney (TN)
B. Streit (PA)
A. Thomas (CA)
D. Wood (TX)
D. Young (LA)

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer/Fall 2009

June 1-27	Adventure Summer School
Aug. 17	New Cadets Report
Aug. 20	Returning Cadets Report
Sept. 16	Progress Reports Mailed
Sept. 21-25	Crusader Challenge
Sept. 27	Phone Calls
Oct. 2	Founders' Day
Oct. 2-12	Cadets Leave for Fall Break
Oct. 22-24	Term Testing
Oct. 24	First Quarter Ends
Oct. 30	Report Cards Mailed
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day Program
Nov. 12-13	Expert Cadet Badge
Nov. 22	Phone Calls
Nov. 24	Progress Reports Mailed
Nov. 25-30	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 13	Phone Calls
Dec. 15-17	Term Testing
Dec. 17	Second Quarter Ends
Dec. 18	Christmas Break Begins
Dec. 21	Report Cards Mailed

GOD...WHERE IS HE?

A transcript of the Judge R. D. Gage Award winning speech by Cadet James Koers (CA)



What is so wrong with Christianity that it can't even be mentioned in most public schools? Why is the name Jesus Christ so offensive to people? Has our country, our mighty nation that history shows was based on a Christian foundation, fallen that far?

Let me first go over the legal issues with you. When people consider the place of religion in the schools, they look toward our Constitution. The First Amendment clearly states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

This statement doesn't clearly indicate neutrality in regards to Christianity in the government schools. But in the 1990's, a set of guidelines was issued declaring that the Constitution "permits much private religious activity in and around the public schools and does not turn the schools into religious-free zones." These guidelines went on to say what is permitted, what is prohibited, and what is required in the schools.

Most of you may be shocked to know what is actually happening right now. The majority of our educators are confused as to how to discuss religion in the classrooms because of low demand, lack of time, and fear of giving offense or generating unpleasant controversy. The easiest thing to do then is not to discuss it at all.

Consequently, textbooks for children were found just recently containing not a single reference to any American that was religious or engaged in any act of faith. There was no mention of children praying, or people attending church. In another study of textbooks for fifth and sixth graders, the same silence about religion was discovered. One book referred to Joan of Arc but made no mention of any religious aspect of her life, and there was no mention of the Pilgrims' faith, as if to imply they had none. These fifth and sixth graders were coming to the conclusion, through their textbooks, that religion was either no longer practiced in the country or that it had long ceased to have any meaning.

However, in some schools where religions have been mentioned, it has caused few problems. One is that many teachers are giving their students the impression that Christianity hasn't had any greater influence in American culture than any other religion. For example, they do this when schools decide to allow the celebration of Hanukkah, but prohibit any mention of Jesus' birth at Christmas. It can get even stranger than this. A teacher from Minnesota wrote to a web site stating, "At Christmas time nobody can talk about Christmas or have any Christmas decorations up—especially a tree. The children are not allowed to sing Christmas carols. And on the last day before Christmas break, the school celebrates, not Christmas, but 'Back to the Fifties' with decorations and clothing from that era and fifties music blaring in the cafeteria."

I don't know about you, but that quote made me realize how pathetic the situation is. Additionally, I think the biggest problem we face in teaching about Christian values and faith in our schools, is the theory of evolution. Charles Darwin had a theory as to how life began and from that he introduced to the world the idea that man evolved from another species. This theory is commonly taught in all public schools, particularly in science classes. Unfortunately, evolution is taught as if it is "the truth." Many teachers have disagreed, arguing that it strips children of any significance or purpose in life. This is the real heart of the educational issue.

Evolution contradicts the Christian belief system. So is it any wonder that students act like the animals teachers have told them they are? If evolution continues to be taught, we shouldn't be surprised in the steady increase in rebellion against authority. Students are being taught that they are nothing more than chemicals and atoms. This is another good reason why so many young people commit suicide or kill others, because of what they have been taught in school.

Yet, public schools and many private schools have been following this path for years. Some recognize the problem, but most dismiss it. If schools would allow the idea of intelligent design as an alternative theory, they could provide a better balance in approaching the concept of faith and Christianity. What most people don't realize is that intelligent design actually has more evidence to explain the origin of life than evolution ever had. It's ironic how far from the truth evolution really is. I think the majority of you would agree that the concept of a designer or a self-aware creator is a scientific valid theory, and it deserves at least equal treatment in education.

The problem at hand, however, is that many are uncomfortable with the idea of teaching intelligent design because the theory presumes the existence of God. But the theory of evolution presumes the absence of God. So is this freedom of religion or freedom from religion? Should all religions be considered in school, or only those that don't offend someone?

In my opinion, the public school systems needs to weigh their options and not only consider the teaching of intelligent design, but accept the Bible as literature to learn moral lessons. If the Bible were offered as an option in the public schools not only would the students be getting a better education, but they would be exposed the Truth that is the Word of God. Then God the Holy Spirit could take it from there as Jesus himself promised in the Gospel of John when he said, "It is the Spirit that maketh alive."

From the president's desk...



One of the best year-end events is our Senior Banquet. Each senior invites to be his guest one cadre member who has had a particular influence over him during the course of his life as a Cadet. This year we dined on roast pork medallions, asparagus and garlic whipped potatoes at Cedar Grove in Vicksburg. Cheesecake or their signature bread pudding was the dessert choice to cap the meal. The real highlight, however, are the testimonials that follow dessert.

Each Cadet in turn addresses the other seniors and their guests, explaining why he invited the cadre member whom he did. Reasons are often funny, but are always tempered by a serious expression of appreciation for something said or done to make the Cadet's life at Chamberlain-Hunt a valuable experience. To be an invited guest is an encouraging honor. Following the Cadet's testimonial, his guest gets to speak. Again, sometimes cadre testimonials about the Cadet are humorous—in fact, they are humorous without exception. (What Cadet has not said or done something funny during his time at Chamberlain-Hunt?) They are also always an expression of gratitude and affection, best wishes and advice for the Cadet. This year one of my aides, Josh McNair, invited me to be his guest. The words I spoke to him, and to the other seniors, I drew liberally from J. C. Ryle's "Advice to Young Men." The advice boils down to this, "Never forget that nothing is more important than your soul."

Mr. McNair and the other seniors all have grand accomplishments to look back on; all of them will achieve even greater things in the future because of the training they received at Chamberlain-Hunt. But as Ryle reminded his students, I reminded the Cadets, "God does not show favoritism or respect the honors bestowed by men... he does not see with man's eyes. God does not look at riches or rank, education or beauty when he judges us. He measures all men by one standard, one measure, one test, one criterion, and that is the state of their souls."

The world and all it contains will pass away—except the souls of men. Bearing this fact in mind gives us an eternal perspective, helps us make wise choices in the present and provokes us to cling to Christ and his merits. This is a lesson we desire all our Cadets to learn, whether they stay with us a year or six.

Our 130th Year Comes to an End...

The last two months of school are not a time of slowing down. In fact, from the return from Easter Break to the final Pass in Review, it feels like a sprint to the finish line with dogs nipping at your heels! All the hard work—and occasional fun—culminated with three days of exams for everyone and Baccalaureate service, Sports Banquet, Awards Presentations, and special graduation requirements for seniors.

To graduate from Chamberlain-Hunt, seniors must not only pass their regular academic work. They must also complete a research paper, orally defend their paper in the face of questions from a panel made up of the president, the principal and a teacher of the Cadet's choosing, and turn the paper into a speech, which they must deliver to the Cadet Corps, cadre, parents and friends. The speeches are judged on content and delivery, and the winner is awarded the prestigious Gage Award at the final Pass in Review. This year's competition was close, and Cadet Koers (CA) clinched a win by his smooth delivery. You can hear several speeches by visiting the News & Announcement's page of our Web site (www.chamberlain-hunt.com/news.shtml): Koers's "God...Where is He?", Cadet Schaffner's (AR) "Daddy Wasn't There" and Cadet Hahn's (TX) "Jog a Marathon or Run a Sprint."

The day before the final Pass in Review was a particularly full day that began with the Baccalaureate Service, at which Highlands Presbyterian Church minister Dr. Joseph Wheat gave an encouraging sermon on the power and growth of the kingdom of God. The Service was followed by the Sports Banquet. While there were many notable sporting achievements this year that were recognized at the Banquet, we cannot neglect to mention two particular spring sports: Cadet A. Hamilton (GA), placed second in the State for Number 1 boys singles tennis and Cadet JM Hanks (MS) placed first in the State in Number 2 boys singles. In track and field events, Cadet J McNair qualified for State meet in high jump.

This year we had a tie vote in the Cadre Scholarship Award, so we gave both Cadets the prize: T. Giordano (DC) and JM Hanks (MS). The Scholarship is funded by voluntary contributions throughout the year from teachers and staff, and everyone who contributes gets to vote for a junior to receive the scholarship for his senior year. A Cadre Scholarship is worth \$2,000.

A frequently asked question is "How many of your graduates go into the military?" Usually, about a quarter of a senior class pursues a military life. This year we had an unusually high percentage, half the Class of 2009, seeking to serve our country:

- M. Chavoustie (CO) - Air Force (MMI)
- M. Collins (MS) - Army
- C. Gary (LA) - Coast Guard
- B. Johnson (TN) - Army
- N. Looney (TN) - Army (West Point)
- J. McNair (MS) - Marines
- B. Streit (PA) - Army (West Point)
- W. Sykes (MS) - Air Force
- K. Windham (MS) - Marines

A short week later, and we are back at it. Adventure Summer School starts 01 June and runs until the 27th.



APRIL AND MAY GIVING THAT HONORS LOVED ONES & HELPS CADETS

Memorial

- Mr. John R. Blossman
- American Welding and Tank
- Mr. Harris Baker
- Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gove, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Toxey Hall III
- Mr. and Mrs. Neil Harris
- Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jetmundsen
- Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Mitchell
- O'Neal Gas, Inc.
- COL Jack West
- Dr. and Mrs. Edward G. Boyce
- Mrs. Karen Logan
- Mr. Edgar Cain
- Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hynum
- Mr. J. Clark Cochran
- COL Jack West
- Mr. Mark E. Cox
- COL Jack West
- Ms. Louise Fulghum
- Mr. and Mrs. Steven Segrest
- Mrs. Alma Keen Gray
- Mr. and Mrs. John S. Roan, Jr.
- Dr. David Gruchy
- Mrs. Karen Logan
- Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Mitchell
- Mr. Abijah Murry Hunt
- Mr. Mott R. Headley II
- Mr. Thomas Daniell Magruder
- Ms. Jane M. Walman
- Mr. Wilkens Henry Montgomery, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. John L. Hyland III
- Mr. Bobby Mitchell
- Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Chester Mercer
- Ms. Isabella Person
- Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hynum
- Mrs. Mary Burdette Russ
- Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.
- Mr. Robert Stockett
- Ms. Ellen C. Bear
- Mr. Cloyd Stiener
- Mr. and Mrs. George L. Hand
- Mrs. Nell Taylor
- Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.
- Mr. Jake Tull
- Mrs. Anne Brady Baxter
- Mr. H. Shannon Williford
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Bowen, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Mitchell
- COL Jack West

Honor

- Mr. Richard Walker Flynt
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Flynt
- Mrs. Dee Hyland
- Ms. Camille Atwood
- Mrs. Martha Ann May Klaus
- Mr. Bradley Ross Howell
- Ms. Jane M. Walman
- Dr. Whip Kennedy
- Ms. Jane M. Walman
- Mr. and Mrs. John Marshall
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. West, Jr.
- Mr. John Hunter Nance
- Ms. Jane M. Walman
- Mrs. Dorothy Sierveld
- Mr. Leonard R. Sierveld II
- Mr. Thomas H. Walman
- Ms. Jane M. Walman

APRIL & MAY ACTIVITIES

Chamberlain-Hunt is accepting applications for August 2009 enrollment. Please contact the admissions office for details: 601.437.8855 or admissions@chamberlain-hunt.com.