

Cadet LIFE



SECOND QUARTER 2011

Principal's and President's Lists
(3.7 GPA and above)

EARNESTLY SEEKING TRUTH

by LTC Quentin Johnston

In Oscar Wilde's play, "The Importance of Being Earnest," two men are caught up in interlocking double identities, each using his alter ego to his apparent benefit. Jack uses his false identity to escape the responsibilities of his country estate so he can indulge himself in the city, while Algernon adopts Jack's city name, Ernest, in order to woo Jack's wealthy ward, Cecily.

This play came to mind as I was thinking about the boys who have passed through the portals of our academy. Many come to us like Jack, living one character at home and another "at play." Of course, all too often the worlds collide and the fraud is exposed. Despite their best efforts, the activities, attitudes and deceptions of the "other self" leech into the rest of life and cause pain. As we know, the truth is that there is not really "another self," it is same self seeking escape from responsibility and accountability. In the play, Jack eventually decides to renounce his double life, but because he uses a lie to do so, he creates more problems than he had bargained for. It is a glorious farce, so I will leave you to enjoy reading the play for yourself, however at the risk of spoiling it, I will say that the play's denouement resolves everything when Jack discovers he is the long lost first son of a general (and elder brother to Algernon), and so his previously shaky social status was secured.

For many of our Cadets, it is not until they discover that they are the lost younger brother of Christ, that the tensions in their lives are resolved. This is surely one of the prayers of our hearts and the joys of our lives; seeing young men make commitments to follow Christ. Last year, five Cadets publicly affirmed their decision to renounce their "double life" and to seek to live consistently as God's men.

Often, when a young man determines to follow Christ, his greatest trials appear. It is in these moments of crisis that he learns how to be Christ's, and just as the great Apostle Paul was not without sin and failure, neither will he. Committing to live a certain way, and actually living in the light of all we are learning is fraught with difficulties, so it should go without saying that in their new Christian life Cadets will be successful some of the time and less successful at other times. Even the Apostle Paul declared himself to be the "worst" of sinners (1 Timothy 1:15), and lamented, "I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate." (Romans 7:15). Paul goes on to notice that at the very moment we desire to do good, evil is close at hand. It is in the learning to resist temptation that Christian maturity develops.

When Cadets ask how they can free themselves of the entanglements of sin we may turn their attention to Romans 7 and 8 where Paul answers this question with hope and precision, "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!...There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." Their only hope is faith in Christ and resting solely on His work to save them and to give them eternal life.

As the new year begins, be assured of the prayers of the cadre for your son. As he continues through the year, we will continue to proclaim the greatness and goodness of God, and to encourage him to earnestly seek a life of faithfulness to God, honor to his family, and commitment to truth.



Bourgois, A (LA)	07
Cherry, J (LA)	11
Chesser, A (TN)	09
Draper, J (IL)	12
Dunlap, J (MS)	08
Easton, J (NV)	12
Fong, D (LA)	11
Goodwin, R (FL)	09
Guthrie, S (MS)	10
Hobbs, B (TX)	12
Kimani, D (GA)	11
Law, C (CO)	11
Lian, C (PRC)	12
McKenzie, R (IL)	11
Medina, E (CA)	09
Misner, A (MS)	07
Pittman, M (MS)	11
Robin, J (LA)	11
Skinner, J (FL)	11
Straka, G (MS)	10
Wilson, R (AL)	10

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS, Spring 2012

Jan. 3	New Cadets Report
Jan. 6	Returning Cadets Report
Feb. 5	Phone Calls
Feb. 10	Winter Break
Feb. 20	Cadets Report
Mar. 7-9	Term Testing
Mar. 12-16	Crusader Challenge
Mar. 24	Alumni Day
Apr. 1	Phone Calls
Apr. 6	Spring Break
Apr. 16	Cadets Report
May 13	Phone Calls
May 15-17	Term Testing
May 18	Baccalaureate Sports Banquet Awards Ceremony Senior Speeches Seniors' Reception
May 19	Final Pass-in-Review



on October 24, 2011. When the race was over, four of the top ten finishers were wearing the Wildcats' jersey!

The individual results for the Wildcats are as follows:

J. Draper 2nd 19:21.55, L. Howse 3rd 19:46.74, G. Merrill 5th 19:55.26, T. Smith 9th 20:58.96, Z. Hudson 17th 21:41.58, D. Kimani 19th 21:44.93, R. Goodwin 22nd 22:07.68, R. Roberts 27th 23:08.86, C. Law 29th 23:20.94, D. Fong 31st 23:22.02, S. Dyer 33rd 23:29.85, R. Wilson 37th 23:48.42, B. Hobbs 41st 24:04.59, S. Schauf 45th 24:13.02, G. Straka 48th 24:18.61, and P. Merryman 69th 27:22.53.

Highlights:

Cadet Draper, Battalion Commander (IL), 2nd place!
 Crusader Howse (MN), 3rd place
 Cadet Merrill (FL), 5th place
 Crusader Smith (AL), 9th place

State Champs:

Draper, J (IL), Dyer, S (SC), Fong, D (LA), Goodwin, R (FL), Hobbs, B (TX), Howse, L (MN), Hudson, Z (MS), Kimani, D (GA), Law, C (CO), Lian, C (PRC), Merrill, G (FL), Merryman, PJ (MS), Nero, I (LA), Roberts, R (LA), Schauf, S (FL), Smith, T (AL), Straka, G (MS) and Wilson, R (AL)

GO WILDCATS!

Underdogs *and* Reigning Champs

(This story is about more than just another trophy)
 by Stephen Allen

The Chamberlain-Hunt Wildcats win the A Division Cross Country State Championship for the second consecutive year! But read on, there are a couple reasons why this particular win was not at all to be expected. This was a unique and amazing championship.

Yes, this is the second year in a row; however, it was an almost entirely new team. Only two athletes from last year's championship team ran again this year; Cadets Roberts and Straka. Secondly, the Wildcats not only dominated in their division, but sent a message to the larger schools as well.

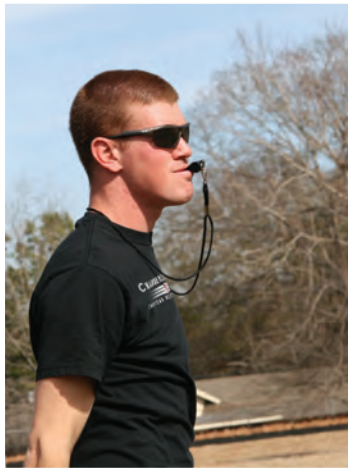
Coach Daniel Slayton had focused the team's attention on the championship all season. His message to the team was this: "Each meet is as important as the state meet." Firstly, even though most of his runners were new to the team this fall, if they wear that black jersey, they bear the Academy's name and, therefore, the Academy's championship status.

Also, at every meet along the way, the team ran against several larger schools—just they way they would at the state meet. In every sense, the reigning champs were also the underdogs.

Coach Slayton acknowledges that each season is an unknown. He is essentially building a team from scratch; trying since August 16th to see who he has running. He commends his team; "They have made a vast

improvement from day one." Slayton singles out Cadet Fong. At the start of training he couldn't break thirty minutes on the 5K run. At the end of the season, he was closer to 23 minutes. "Stories like his are what this season is about."

Chamberlain-Hunt Wildcats were ranked 4th or 5th all season long; right behind AA and AAA schools like Jackson Prep and Jackson Academy. There were eight teams consisting of a total of eighty-two runners at the state meet, held at Choctaw Trails, in Clinton, MS



The Value of the Westminster Shorter Catechism: Achieving the Goal of Teaching the Whole Counsel of God

by Jeff Brannen

As a Bible teacher, I face the daunting task of communicating the whole counsel of God clearly and understandably to middle school students who, by and large, have had little or no exposure to the Word of God. The question I have wrestled with is how to give to them, over the course of a year, an undistorted picture of who God is and what he requires of his creatures.

Initially, my plan was to try to cover as much as possible as quickly as possible. If I could just talk fast enough and give enough lectures, I would be able to fill the massive gaps in their thinking. Unfortunately, I hadn't counted on the limitations I was going to encounter. First and foremost, what was clear to me and made sense in my head frequently didn't connect with my students. Issues such as poor vocabulary, reading and comprehension skills, were compounded by an assumption that the stories of the Bible were disconnected from each other, and that their meanings should always be simple.

Finding out the hard way that this plan was not helping the Cadets apply the teaching of Scripture in a meaningful way to their lives, I went back to the drawing board. One of the requirements placed upon all Cadets at Chamberlain-Hunt is that they memorize a question and answer from the Westminster shorter Catechism and an associated Scripture portion. This is a graded exercise and is a part of the overall Bible grade.

In my background, that of being raised in a Bible-believing home, but broadly evangelical (read: no clear doctrinal position except the Bible is God's inerrant Word), I had no real use for the Westminster Shorter Catechism. It was part of the requirements to graduate seminary and now was being required of these students, but I just didn't see any lasting value and meaning in it. Oh sure, it was helpful, but it certainly wasn't necessary or important.

However, something very odd happened my first year teaching at Chamberlain-Hunt —as we drilled and worked in class the boys became increasingly engaged with what the Bible had to say. They wanted to know how the particular passage we were studying fit into the whole message of Scripture. There was greater excitement and interest overall to the extent that the boys would use extra time in the study halls to reinforce what was being learned in the morning devotions.

In teaching at CHA for two years, in developing my own curriculum, in exploring options with catechism memorization, here are my



practical conclusions on the value of memorizing the Westminster Shorter Catechism in conjunction with a careful, prayerful study of Scripture.

1.) By memorizing a Bible passage and catechism that are related to each other, the Cadet begins to see the relationship of individual passages of Scripture to a complete system of theology. Instead of "proof texting" my verse against yours, they begin to see how the individual verse fits into the whole picture the Bible gives us.

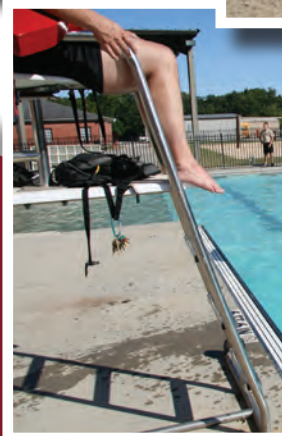
2.) We are equipping the Cadets with a rudimentary systematic theology. That is, in the memorization of the Westminster Shorter Catechism, all the major fields of theology are dealt with. Who is God? What is man? What did sin do? How bad is our condition? What is the remedy? Who is Jesus and what did he actually accomplish? How is a person saved and what process does it take? What is the law of God? How are we supposed to live our lives? How should we worship? What should our prayers be like? By answering these questions, the Cadet learns to think biblically about life.

3.) We are giving the Cadets a common vocabulary to begin considering the claim of Christ on their lives. Many of them know that they are supposed to "give their lives to Christ" but they don't know what that means. The Catechism puts genuine content into those answers.

4.) Lastly, I believe the most important reason is that we are giving cadets a long-term resource. At the end of every quarter, the Cadets physically (and often mentally) dispose of their notes. What they have memorized will stick with them. But what else? By requiring the Catechism to be memorized and retained, Cadets have a measure with which to judge good theology from bad. They can relate the parts to the whole. Essentially, we are giving them the skeletal structure that will be filled out over time. But without the skeleton, all you really have is an uncoordinated mess.

Is the Westminster Shorter Catechism the best tool out there? It is certainly not the only tool. But it is a great one and well worth using.







Chamberlain-Hunt is accepting applications for Adventure Summer School 2012. Please contact the admissions office for details: 601.437.8855 or admissions@chamberlain-hunt.com.

Crusader Challenge

September 19 was a beautiful warm day. It was about to be a lot hotter as 27 Cadets lined up for the first event of the Crusader Challenge. Cadets from 7th through 12th grade were there to pit their wits, physical strength and mental stamina against the toughest challenge of their lives.

The first event, standing at the position of attention for two hours, may not seem to be much, but it requires both physical and mental strength. Out of this, one of the strongest fields in the last few years, only one

was lost. Next came the Physical Fitness Test (PFT) involving timed two mile run, push-ups and sit-ups.



Fourteen emerged from this event, eager to push on. Of those who were unable to pass, there was a cheerful, albeit rueful, attitude and most committed to try again in semester two.



Two failed the gear check, and that gave us 12 who marched off the pavilion into the night on their way to what would seem the longest night of their lives. Armed with a small cloth and buckets of water, the Crusader Candidates scrubbed a 1000 square foot outdoor cement floor at Camp Killingsworth, the training camp situated in our 70 acre wilderness. All survived, and the next day was filled with a five mile run, a 20 ascent hill climb carrying a 40lb backpack, a swim across the wilderness lake, and finally the order to dig a fighting hole with a buddy.



Next morning, PT, a little food, first aid class, M4 disassembly and assembly, marksmanship training, the pool event, and land navigation filled the day. At night they were allowed to sleep in shifts while the awake Cadets kept a log of every event, sight and sound throughout the night. The morning brought more PT, instruction in writing operations orders, combat formation leadership and the use of hand and body signals. Last thing was to prep for the 10 mile road march. By this time seven remained.

Three AM comes early! Too early!! But up they were and with the finish tape, as it were, in sight, they marched off into the darkness led by LTC Patterson, SSGT Knecht, and our Command Sergeant Major, Crusader Wilcox. All did well, and then on to the final event, the assault on the paintball house with loads of paintball ammunition. The three "hostages" were rescued and it was a fun conclusion to the toughest 84 hours they could ever imagine. Exhausted, but proud to have completed the challenge, the Cadets returned to the front of the DFAC for the traditional rest before their well earned Warrior's Breakfast of steak and eggs.



Monday night, exactly one week after the first event began, the Cadets who completed the challenge were inducted into the Crusader unit. With a huge bonfire behind them, they vowed "with God helping me" to uphold the Crusader Creed which includes service to others, keeping physically fit, mentally alert, and spiritually submissive. As they rose from their knee, they were no longer "just" a Cadet, but now honored with the title "Crusader."



We are proud of these young men, and pray that the Lord will indeed help them as they seek Him.

Conratulations to:

Crusaders Chesser, A (TN), Easton, J (NV), Howse, L (MN), Kimani, D (GA), Nero, I (LA), Smith, T (AL) and Straka, G (MS)

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This list of Memorial Gifts records gifts given since the last issue of *Cadet Life* but before November 17, 2011. Subsequent Memorial Gifts and Honor Gifts since the last issue will be printed in the next issue of *Cadet Life*.

**Now accepting applications for
Spring Semester 2012.**

**Please contact the
admissions office for details:
601.437.8855 or
admissions@chamberlain-hunt.com.**

From the president's desk . . .

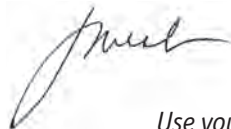
Too much has happened this semester to begin to try to recount it all. The photo spread gives you an idea. Perhaps the most significant event was not on campus or felt by Cadets. In our 133 year history, Chamberlain-Hunt has been governed by several different entities. The last change in governance was in 1998, when the board of trustees of French Camp Academy picked up the torch. This December the board resolved that it is ready to pass it on.

Over the past 14 years, the board has put millions of dollars into the renovation of campus buildings and into the operation of the school in order to build a sure foundation for its future. Anyone who remembers the Chamberlain-Hunt of 1998 will recall that it was an altogether different place. For its generous rescue of our school, we owe the board undying thanks.

We have prayed fervently over the past several years about what God would have our relationship to be as we move into the future. That prayer was answered at the recent board meeting when the board adopted a resolution clearing the path to new ownership. What exactly that will look like remains unclear; however, we are confident that as God as brought us thus far, he will carry us forward.

When I was a child I heard my mother quote lines from the Whittier poem, "The Eternal Goodness": *I know not what the future hath of marvel or surprise, assured alone in life and death His mercy underlies.* That is where we are now. Though uncertain about the future, we are certain of God's mercy. We are certain that he knows—and controls—the future.

With confidence in Him, we look to the future of Chamberlain-Hunt Academy as place that continues to demonstrate to the world that God *is*. Join us in praying that we will be wise and faithful as we move forward, being good stewards of what God, through the French Camp board, has provided. Please stay tuned for further announcements!



Use your smart phone to see a message from the president:

