

# Patriot Press

November, 2007

## More Than Just Words

by Lindsey Layden

Meetings during lunch, hunting people down for the meeting, hushing everybody to a bearable minimum, laying out the articles and pictures, and distribution have all one thing in common: the making of a great paper. Each month, students receive the finished copy of the *Patriot Press*, but what you don't see is all the hard work and effort that is put into producing our newspaper.

The process starts on the first Tuesday of the month, when the newspaper staff meets during lunch to discuss ideas for the upcoming issue. With our lunch in tow, we gather in a room, ready to bounce ideas off each other. Guided by our editor, Andrew Girgis, we brainstorm about what we consider important to the student body. Once we have narrowed down our list to just a few options, we discuss the relevance of each topic and how it pertains to the students. While this seems like a simple task, in reality, it requires ample consideration. What may be important to one student, may not be significant to another. A question always in the forefront of our minds is: "Would I want to read this?" After considering all the choices, we pick the select few that will be featured in the upcoming month's issue. Then comes Andrew's job of assigning the topics to a specific writer and laying down a deadline for our articles to be due. Once the articles have been assigned and the deadlines have been set, we dismiss and make our way back to classes. It is then up to the individual writers to get their stories done on time. With deadlines quickly approaching, we gather our information and begin formulating our articles.

As deadline day arrives, the staff meets to discuss the layout of the newspaper and determine what "extras" we want to add in. The writers turn in their articles and patiently wait for the layout process to begin. Once the articles have been proofread and approved by the editor, the layout editors can finally begin the tedious task of formatting the newspaper. Andrew Girgis, Bret Davis, and Jordan Kester compose the "layout team," which for a continuous week, work on the layout of the newspaper. After every article, comic, or extra bit of information has found a place, the newspaper goes through the final steps of publication. The editor checks to make sure that all the information is accurate, while another staff member proofreads the newspaper one last time. Once the issue has been corrected and approved, it makes its way to the printer where all the copies are made. The staff members chip in and help fold every paper and get them ready for distribution. After every copy has been folded, the newspaper is finally ready to hand out. Finally, the weeks of hard work have paid off as we are able to see the finished product being dispersed throughout the school.

So, as you read this edition of the *Patriot Press*, remember you're not just reading a simple newspaper that was effortlessly put together, but rather an elaborate assortment of articles and pictures that were effectively manufactured for our readers' enjoyment ... YOU!!

The *Patriot Press* is a student-run newspaper of  
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### The Intrepid Staff

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Tracy Aliaga, Research Editor



## From the Editor

This year, as the new Chief Editor, I believe that the school newspaper needs to have a different role. The *Patriot Press* has not always been taken seriously by many students due to the fact that it has traditionally only been four issues per year. This in part has to do with the busy schedules of the writers. Not only that, but editing is done by the newspaper staff and the administration, which will usually take about a week. Unfortunately, our November issue is very late. Our goal is to print a

paper once a month within the first week and to also have it updated online (a new feature this year!). Your comments, ideas, and suggestions for what you would like to see in future issues would be appreciated. Please email me at [playbeautiful11@yahoo.com](mailto:playbeautiful11@yahoo.com) (yes, I spelled it that way on purpose) and send me your comments — I would love to hear from you. We hope you enjoy this paper and we wish you a Merry Christmas.

*Andrew Girgis, Chief Editor*



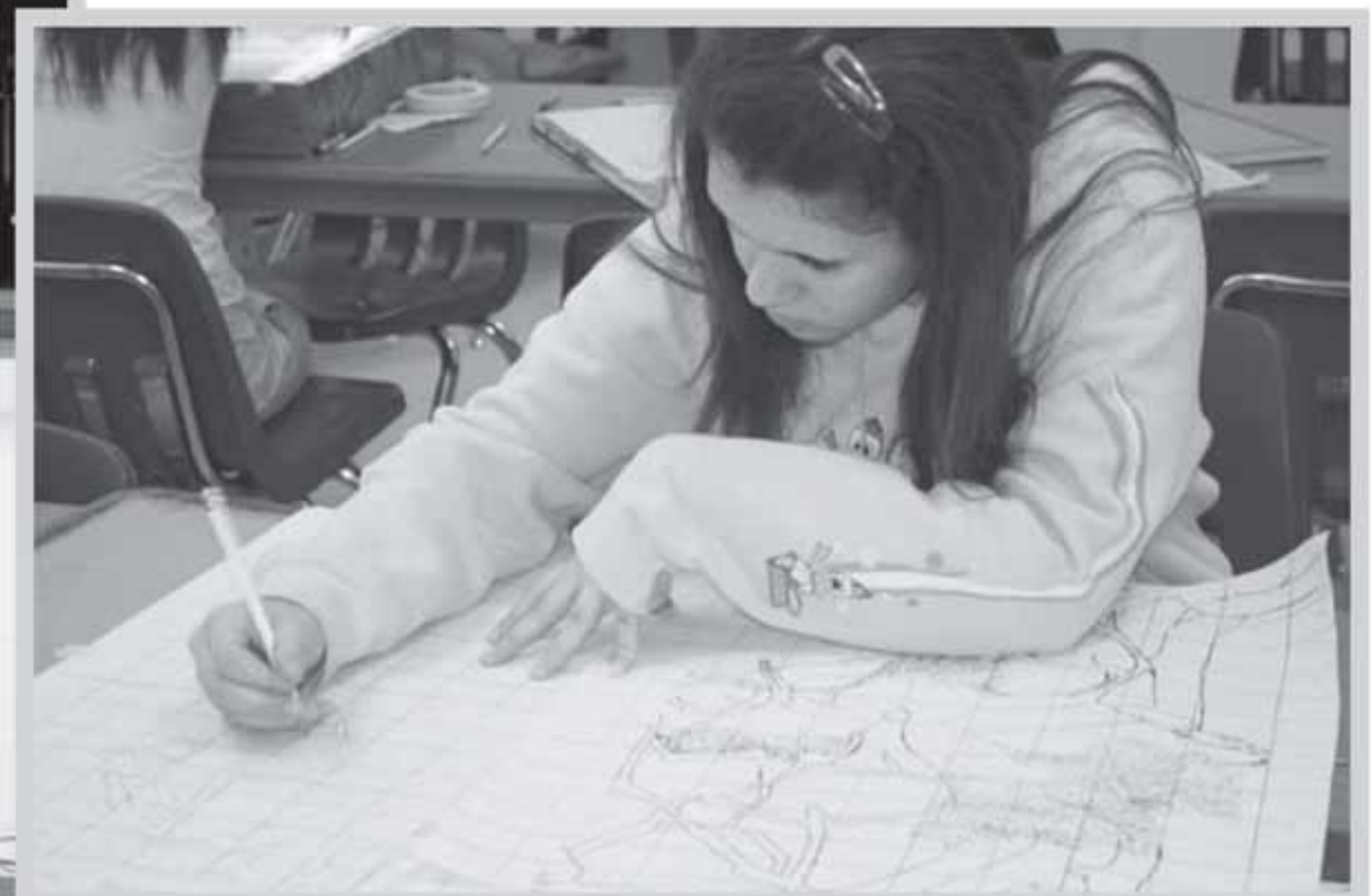
*Antonia Miller double-checks her drawing on the light table.*

*Carla Menacho makes a mess with her drill and metal pieces.*

## ODACS Art Day



*Mrs. Sue Lewis helps Jordan Kester in planning his composition for the mixed media competition.*



*Amberly Myrick carefully works on her detailed line drawing.*



First time Champs

## The "Joga Bonita" Team

by Sameh Saleh

**T**eamwork + Hustle = All for Christ. The FBTA Patriots guy's soccer team revolved their season around this principle. On and off the field, one can see the true dedication, heart, hustle, and teamwork that worked together to provide the 2007 FBTA Patriots an unprecedented finish and an inextinguishable place in our school's history. For the first time in FBTA's history, the guy's soccer team has claimed an undisputed, outright STATE CHAMPIONSHIP! The road to glory truly required a team to stick together to overcome the setbacks and to celebrate in the victories.

At 3-0-1, the Patriots were poised and directed toward another great season. Two more games led to two more inspired wins against Landmark and Keystone. However, the season soon demanded the compounded effort of a team, not individual players. More grueling practices that included laps, Indian sprints, quick touch pass drills, team drills, and scrimmages were necessary as a heated rematch was about to ensue against a major rival, Faith Baptist. Gathered in the huddle, the team put their hands together and yelled the team's motto: "All for Christ!" A well-fought physical game on our home field led to the identical score as the matchup earlier in the season — a 1-1 tie. Unfortunately a star player, James Lyle, suffered a sprained ankle. Injuries and ineligibility left the team debilitated against opponents Evangel (lacking four key starters) resulting in a painful 4-2 loss; although hopes of an undefeated season were dashed, the loss tested the team's character and allowed the team to get even stronger. They were determined to never lose another match.

The FBTA Patriots were ready to prevail over the recent slump and clinch first place in the tournament. To finish off the regular season, for the next three games, the Patriots dominated with a combined score of 17-0 against Leesburg (7-0), Mt. Carmel (5-0), and culminating with a 5-0 win over archrival Heritage. This display of great soccer led to a first place bid, only a win ahead of the second place team, Faith, and consequently, a bye in the preliminary round. With a solid week and a half to practice for the tournament, Coach Probus focused on improving endurance, teamwork, and awareness with laps and push-ups, scrimmages, and set plays.

Tournament day finally arrived; the excitement was evident in the faces of the soccer team, the students, and the teachers. At 1:30 p.m., the team proceeded into their normal routine of stretches, one-touch passing, offensive and defensive drills, ending with four corners. The entire student body gathered to watch their beloved Patriots team. Two o'clock rolled around and the semifinal game against Heritage got underway. By the end of the first half, an array of beautiful passes and teamwork led to a score of 4-0; the game ended at the same score. The Patriots were on to the final game against Faith, the team the Patriots could not beat during the regular season. Pressure mounted and nervousness gripped the players on the team. Year after year, the Patriots had achieved a magnificent season but had fallen one or two wins short of the title. Winning the state championship is no easy task; this year's Patriots soccer team was ready to reverse this trend to capture the ultimate goal. Joseph Aliaga tucked in a goal early to give Fairfax an early 1-0 lead. With stifling defense, the Fairfax Patriots were able to preserve their lead for 78 minutes en route to the narrow win. And then it was over — we had won! The players on the bench rushed onto the field and the whole team gathered in a huddle jumping in jubilee as they had just accomplished what no other FBTA soccer team had.

Soon after, the awards ceremony began where the coveted 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy would be presented. The All-Tournament team was announced which included Peter Massoud, Andrew Girgis, and Joseph Aliaga. The MVP of the ODACS tournament was Justin Probus. Finally, the 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy was presented and our captain, Justin Probus, went forward to receive it. He lifted the trophy high up in the sky. Truly, indeed, the 2007 FBTA Patriots had done all for Christ!

## A Surprising End To A Surprising Season

by Lindsey Layden

**I**t's safe to say that as the state tournament drew near, no one expected the volleyball team to be *in* the tournament, let alone place. After a 4-9 record, reality seemed to suggest that they would not go far, but I'm proud to say that they exceeded everyone's expectations and proved their critics wrong.

As the preliminary round for the tournament approached, the team grew anxious about the outcome of this important game. Their opponent would be Tabernacle, a team they had not yet faced during the regular season. Not knowing what to expect from this unknown team only increased their pre-game apprehension, nevertheless, the Patriots went into the game determined to do their best. They emerged victorious from the game, and found themselves seeded as the #4 team in the tournament, an accomplishment in and of itself.

The team had exactly one week to prepare for their final two games, and they didn't waste one minute of it. They put forth an increased effort to improve their skills and grow together as a team, determined to make it to the finals. However, to get there, they would have to go through Bethel, an undefeated team who was seated at #1. Having previously lost to Bethel, everyone seemed certain of the Patriots' fate. The two teams met at FBTA on Saturday morning ready to battle it out. As the final buzzer rang, everyone was shocked and surprised at the end result. The Patriots' hard work and dedication paid off as they were able to defeat the #1 team in the tournament to move on to the final game. Complete elation ran throughout the team as they had accomplished what was deemed impossible. The Patriots could only relish in their excitement for a short time, for in just a few short hours they would face Heritage for the title. The task seemed daunting considering the fact that Heritage was a formidable foe to confront, but the Patriots remained strong and placed the game in God's hands. As they said their team motto, "All out, all the time, all for God, or not at all," one last time, they entered the court, ready to give it their all. While they gave it a hard-fought effort, the Patriots weren't able to overcome the challenge, making Heritage the State Champs. Although the team's disappointment was evident, they were able to



celebrate the fact that they had made it this far in the tournament. They had surpassed every expectation placed upon them and achieved something that no other FBTA volleyball team had. Still, the sting of loss hurt. As tears and frowns appeared on the girls' faces, Coach Reynolds attempted to encourage them, "You have nothing to be ashamed of," she said as she continued to express how proud she was. The girls had played with all their heart and never gave up, even in the most difficult circumstances. She told them to hold their heads up high and be proud of their accomplishment, and with that confidence boost, they gladly accepted their 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy.

It's truly been a challenging yet unifying season for the 2007 girl's volleyball team, and even though they didn't achieve the ultimate result they wanted, they still have every reason to be proud of what they were able to accomplish. Congratulations, Lady Patriots!

## Cream Algebars by Amy Abadir and Tracy Aliaga

Anyone who has had the opportunity to be in one of Mrs. Hansen's math classes knows that baking "goodies" for her students was a common occurrence. On the dreaded test day, when students nervously arrived to take their test, they were eager to get a little "something special" from their beloved teacher. The treat they looked forward to was none other than Mrs. Hansen's famous Cream Algebars. Mrs. Hansen's famous Cream Algebar recipe dates back to over 20 years ago. Several ladies in FBT's *Women For Christ* group were making special treats for college students. One of the recipes they made was a "Devil Bar Cookie." Mrs. Hansen thought to herself, "There is no way I can make something named 'Devil Bar'!" So she ventured out to find a new name! In addition to the college students, she planned on making them also for her algebra students. She and Mr. Hansen were listening to a report on the radio about the basketball player, Kareem Abdul Jabar. Instantly, she turned to Mr. Hansen and exclaimed, "That's the name! The cookies will be called Cream Algebars!" When she introduced her new recipe to students, it immediately became a favorite and a trademark of Mrs. Hansen's class.

### Ingredients

- 1 18.25 oz. box of milk chocolate cake mix
- 1 stick + 1 tablespoon of butter
- 1 7 oz. jar of marshmallow cream
- 1 Cup or more of creamy peanut butter

### Preparation

- Cut butter into dry cake mix until it is crumbly by using a pastry cutter or 2 knives
- Firmly press the chocolate cake mixture into a greased 9 x 13 inch baking pan
- Mix marshmallow cream and peanut butter in a bowl
- Use clean wet fingers to spread the peanut butter and marshmallow mixture evenly over the chocolate cake mixture
- Bake at 350° for 15 to 20 minutes
- Let it cool slightly for 30 minutes
- Cut into bars with a sharp *wet* knife

## "As Evening Falls"

by Ashly Alapide

Amongst dimly-lit  
Shadows in Winter,

Eminent bursts of light appear  
Venturing off into the  
Evening's dreary hours.  
No sun is evident  
In the sky's black ocean,  
Not even the mere  
Glow of one ray

For but only  
A few moments  
Light cannot find a  
Looming path but through the  
Shivering stars.

## W O W Words of Wisdom

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to a garage makes you an automobile." ~ Billy Sunday