

SOARING EAGLE

GRACE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 11, 2011

Where Were You?

This question is and was the main one asked in reference to 9-11. Students, faculty and staff on the Crossroads Campus share a unique role: we will be the generation to keep this memory alive.

As Christians, we know that our best efforts can be used to pray for those directly affected by these events. Many still hurt and need peace brought through Jesus Christ.

SO, WHERE WERE YOU?

As we use our first issue to commemorate the tragedies of 9-11 terrorist attacks, we invite you to share your stories.

Even now, you have developed strong memories, emotions, and feelings about that day. We would like to turn your story in to the larger GRACE story. E-mail your story to the staff at soaringeagle@gracechristian.net.

We will collect some stories for later issues. Inside, read Senior Pi McLain's award-winning poem on page 2.



Preschool Memories

On September 11, 2001, all I can remember is that I was sitting on the floor in the family room watching the news with my mom. It was her birthday, and nobody would've ever thought this was going to happen.

As we watched the replay of the Twin Towers fall, I didn't really know what was going on, but my mom looked shocked. Even though I was only five, I knew something was up when I saw those buildings collapse.

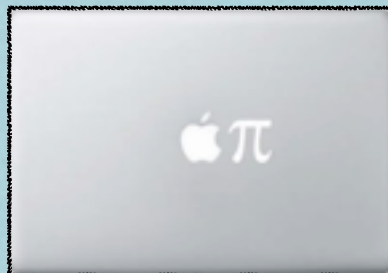
continued on page 2



Did You Know?

Student Council works for you.

Have you checked in with your class representative lately?



Inside this edition:

Katie Honaker thought she was returning to the same school this fall; instead, many changes met her on the first day. Read about her impressions on page 3.

E4 - how are you transitioning? Look on page 3 for Jared Russell's early impressions

Where were you

by Pi McLain

Senior

••

Where were you

The moment it happened, splashed
All over the news, silencing
anchors and viewers everywhere
with the horror of it all? When the
false sense of security, the
loopholes in the system, like the
weak bolts in the Titanic's hull when
they were revealed for all to see;
when that iceberg, reincarnated
As a billowing, suffocating cloud,
Poured into the beautiful blue
sky above?

Where were you?

I was at a history museum--
In a place that would soon be
Dedicated to the event that
would change everything.
A small child, led around by
Her mother, looking at the
exhibits she was too young
and too uneducated to
appreciate fully, then whisked
home in the midst of disaster,
halfway across the country.

Where were you?

I was getting coffee--
In a Starbucks I visited every
workday during lunch break
at my mediocre work.
A white-collar worker, same
As every other, nose to
the grindstone of a job
and running the rat-race
of my life, then choking on dust
that enveloped the now-grey maze,
two blocks away.

Where were you?

I was in a boardroom--
a room high up with a
view that I admired as my
co-worker and I talked.
A suit-sporting businessman, on the
'fast track,' climbing
the necessary ladders and
making the right choices at the
right time, then watching
frozen as dreams crashed,
right across the street.

Where were you?

I was on a plane--
Going to Washington DC
to visit my cousin and to
look at jobs in the area.
A just-graduated job seeker, hoping
to find success, looking in
newspapers and emailing
resumes to people with
important titles, then bravely
making the final decision of my life,
somewhere in US airspace.

Where were you?

I was on patrol--
Driving in the city and
waiting for a call from
dispatch so I could work.
A doctor working EMS, riding
around town, saving
lives every single day
alongside my coworkers and
friends, then rushing into
the throng of terror and hysteria,
ground zero.

Where were you?

Continued from page 1

That day, my mom was shopping at
Target for my older brother Alex's
birthday. She left when my grandma
called her, telling her to go home and
turn on the T.V.

As she watched the replay of the
plane crash, her mouth opened with
disbelief.

When she gathered her wits, she
tried to call her cousin, Terry, who lives
in Bayonne, New Jersey. From Terry's
apartment, the skyline of New York City
is clearly visible.

My mom was worried about her
because she worked on Wall
Street, and she traveled through the
World Trade Center subway station to
commute from Jersey City to Manhattan
every day at nine a.m.

My mom couldn't get in touch with
Terry until the next day. Luckily for our
family, she stayed home sick and didn't
go to work. If she had not been sick, she
may not be alive today.

It is amazing to think how little things
can drastically alter a person's future.

I am so grateful for my
aunt, but as America remembers this
tragedy, I will continue to pray for the
families who were less fortunate than
mine.

By: Freshman Rachel DenBleyker

Joined a Club?

TRY - Spanish,
French, Art,
FAN, or Fashion

New Year / "New" School

...

New faces, new places and E4, with so many continuous changes happening to GRACE I feel that I am going to a totally new school each year.

I've been at GRACE for two years and from last year to this year we have already had to say teary goodbyes to six of our girls and three of our boys. We have though, made a friendly welcome to a few new students in our sophomore class.

Students are not the only ones who have changed the environment for GRACE. The school has also had to say their goodbyes to a few wonderful teachers as well. Though the old has gone the new has come. We have a new math teacher, English teacher, a new head of the Department of P.E., a new principal and a new Spanish teacher.

Then there are those few teachers who are just switching positions around to keep things interesting.

Not only do we have new faces, and old faces in new places, but we have a new way of going about everyday life in the school of GRACE. Little did we know that at the end of our 2010-11 school year that our pens, paper, and pencils would never see the light of day again. We're going E4 style.

No problem once we just get past the blackouts, black screens of death, reloads, freezes, I can't get to RenWeb, error /please go back to your

log in's, my computer did something scary, and 'screams' from Mr. Blesh.

Hopefully we will all be cruising along 2011 style, all plugged up and plugged in, soon.

But even through all the changes, some things will never change, like the rare event of Mr. Whelpley cutting off his hair, freaking out about it, and then moving on.

Then there are those other little moments such as a friendly hello from Mrs. Howard when you come down the hall and that huge smile from Mr. Smitley on occasion.

Some things go, but there are always those things that will stay that make GRACE, well GRACE.

By: Sophomore Katie Honaker

E4- a New Way

This year at GRACE Christian, instruction is evolving into a new technologically advanced format. This initiative includes all students, 4th through 12th grades receiving their own Macbooks, with the fourth graders having to keep them in the classroom.

Because E4 is still in its early stages, errors exist, and students are creating names for the more frequent errors.

Some students have given these errors nicknames, such as the "black screen of death", the "rainbow wheel of doom" and the "mysterious missing dock". With the "black screen of death", a screen slowly floats down and blankly stares you in the face, forcing you to restart your computer. I myself have lost some work because of this error.

With "the rainbow wheel of doom", the cursor turns into a spinning rainbow wheel, which usually leaves within 10 seconds. When it doesn't, a restart is forced. For the "missing dock", after your computer is restarted or started up, the dock may have some of the apps missing.

Personally, I'm hoping that all the teachers can use the same websites for homework. One of the flaws in the system is the way homework is submitted. Some classes have Dropbox or email, some use the blogs or wikis, and some use Google Docs. It would be wonderful if I had one way to submit homework. With the new MacBooks, most students can easily access their homework and schedules, making everything a lot simpler.

Though some issues need to be resolved, I myself am thoroughly enjoying the efficiency of the new system...when it works.

By: Freshman Jared Russell

Looking for places to go, people to see, things to do?

Watch middle or high school athletics - cheer on Tennis, Soccer, Cross Country or Volleyball.

Find Schedules:

<http://www.gracechristian.net/page/teams-schedules>

SOARING EAGLE STAFF 2011/2012

Katie Honaker

Rachel DenBleyker

Jared Russell

Robert Hauser, special contributor

Pi McLain, special contributor

Kate Rose, Journalism Helper

Donna Howard, advisor

SOARING EAGLE

Volume 11, issue 1

Publication of the Journalism Class
GRACE Christian School
Crossroads Campus

soaringeagle@gracechristian.net