

THE SOARING EAGLE

Christmas Edition!



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What On Earth?

"All faculty come down to the stage if you are one of the participants in this next event."

Already the lower school was cheering for something that hadn't even happened with more a piercing screech then the sound of a harmonized roar. The rest of the gym was curious as well as worried.

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What was this school up to? And what were the teachers doing on the floor? Every game so far we had done would cause these, well we'll say more fragile beings injury.

I could imagine just one of the ladies trying to hula-hoop, and saying in the middle of twisting their hips "OH, I think I just displaced my hip" and watch them hobble back to the bleachers. Or in the tug of war. I could just see one of our male staff pulling out his back or pulling a bicep. They're not as young as they once were you know.

So when the announcer (Mr. Sabucco, disguised in a dapper little wig) said, "Faculty and staff come down if you are the next participant in this next competition," I was just sitting there saying to my self "someone's going to die! Go ahead Emily Pletcher," seated beside me, "call the EMS; get ready for disaster."

Emily just laughed, well chuckled, and had a look of wonderment mixed with great fear.

As the teachers lined up to start, I could tell this was going to be some kind of relay.

Running perhaps; that's not too dangerous. Well, for the older, less stretched-out people it could be fatal. A heart attack, or you know broken ankle, who knows the possibilities?



When they brought out the helmets, my heart just sank. “Were gonna lose those fabulous teachers, aren’t we?” I said leaning over to Pletcher.

“Yes, Katie I do think we are. Shall we pray?” she asked me.

When they brought out the scooter, well that was the moment of truth; they really are

going to kill the staff. As we watched the first batch of our wonderful staff gear up for what might be some of their fate, I watched Dr. Smitley as he stepped on to his scooter to glide away to what I thought would be his end. As the announcer counted down to one, the teachers took off.

A few of the teachers actually tried to scoot, but the Doctor decided ‘forget this,’ picked up his scooter and sprinted down the lane, around the corner, and to his teammates for the pass off. (NOTE- I went before Mr. Smitley and was the first teacher to pick up my scooter after my foot slid off early in the lap.) Mrs. Howard lagging back at still the first stretch.

When finally, as the second batch of teachers took off, with Mrs. Walters, a lower school

campus teacher, and Mr. Inman, racing each other. All, except for Mrs. Walters, picked up their scooters and made a run for it.

Mrs. Walters, being an honest women, would not allow herself to cheat, that is until she about ‘met’ Jesus.

She, on the second leg rounding a corner, got off pace; her body got ahead of the scooter and crashed with a thud. She picked herself up, just as Dr. Inman passed her on foot with the scooter in hand. Mrs. Walters decided to do what the doctor and others had done.

As she bolted ever so quickly down last stretch to hand it off to the final group, Mrs. McLain, Mrs. Barkett and an elementary teacher charged down the straight and narrow road.

I have to admit this last group was the most graceful until Mrs. McLain head butted someone accidentally as she tripped herself up. With her scooter in hand, she tried to get off in an attempt to save the victory. All in all it was the funniest thing I’ve seen in my lifetime.

No one got to mortally wounded, and the Dr.’s team of high school teachers won.

Shocking us all with the speed they have on foot and the talent of riding a Razor, the truly should be proud of their abilities to head butt, roll as far as some of them in James Bond style when they took a tumble, and get back on their feet with the heart to win a Christmas wreath and some tissue paper flowers.

Have to say that that was the greatest, most entertaining pep rally EVER!

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Rachel's Perspective of the Pep Rally

The pep rally at the end of spirit week got all of the students riled up and ready for the kick-off basketball games. During spirit week, so many students participated in dress up days, especially on movie day. Most noticed senior Steven Dalgetty, who dressed up as Peter Pan...wearing tights. That must have been kind of uncomfortable, but it seemed like he had fun anyway. But I digress.

At the pep rally, many students and faculty took part in the games. For those of us who watched, the games were fun. Students participated in a hula-hoop contest, and the faculty raced with scooters. Well... they tried to at least.

Another thing: Mr. Sabucco had hair.....he had hair! Although it was most likely a wig, it was really surprising. Almost everyone on my side of the bleachers didn't recognize him at first.

The hula-hoop contest had two winners, one from elementary school and freshman Alex Moore. He looked excited because when he stood on the top platform he raised his arms up in the air. My friends, who were sitting around me, all laughed and cheered.

The scooter race was really funny. Many of the teachers that participated ran holding the scooter instead of actually riding it. Of course they all tried to ride successfully, but Dr. Inman seemed to be one of the only Crossroads' teachers to succeed in doing so, even though he tripped. In the end, Mr. Smitley won because right when the race started, he bolted across the gym running like a mad man, almost

hitting a cross-country runner in the face with the swinging scooter. Many teachers also fell or stumbled in the process of trying to win the race. The scooter race became dangerous.

Throughout the event, the cheerleaders did a great job with their performance. They really took the crowd with their cheers and dance routine. "Let's go GRACE, let's go!" was the one everyone followed along with. After the torch was lit, the pep rally was a hit (yes, I notice that rhymed).

The fall and winter sports teams were all acknowledged and honored. Everyone in the crowd cheered as they circled the gym after they were introduced. After all, the whole pep rally was held for them. This year's winter sports seem like they'll be really , just like our fall ones, as they have the support of our student body cheering them on every step of the way.

By: Rachel DenBleyker



GRACE Christian School has an infestation. An infestation of mysterious doors. They are hidden in corners, shadowed hallways, and sometimes brazenly placed in a crowded hall. Marked with no labels, no one knows of their origin.

Two freshmen girls, both of whom would prefer to be kept anonymous, began to investigate these cryptic portals on November the 29th. Going a bit astray on a trip to the water fountain, both students jogged up to an unmarked door (this one being near the men and women's restroom). Curious about what it led to, they turned the handle. The students found it too be locked. Though dismayed, the two girls had no further time to investigate due to the class bell sounding off.

This report shows how troubling the existence of these doors are. Students wonder what they could be hiding: A store of candy? Confiscated cellphones? Troublesome students who mysteriously disappear throughout the day? No one knows for sure.

Hopefully, an investigation will be organized to find or create a meaning for the doors. For now, they remain locked, with only the students' wild imaginations providing a window into the darkness behind these cryptic portals.

By: Ally Jordan

It's the holidays again, which translates to some people as the day they have to go visit their eccentric, quirky relatives. However, after seeing Christmas lights up on our neighbors houses ever since Halloween, I'm not anticipating it the way I used to. Nonstop Christmas music on the radio ever since Thanksgiving. Commercials and ads trying to get you to buy the latest coffeemaker or TV. Christmas doesn't seem to be the same thing as it was when I was younger. We keep putting the presents and decorations ahead of what we should be focusing on. Though its nice to be able to give presents to other people, we also need to keep in mind what the point of Christmas is really about: Jesus's birth. So on Christmas when you're opening your presents, try to keep this in mind: keep Christ in Christmas.

By: Jared Russell