

Big Turnout at College Fair

Students planning to go to college have much to consider. What school will fit my interests? How do I apply? Are there scholarships or is financial aid available? What about housing? Thanks to the Central Texas Homeschool College Fair held on December 6, many students can answer those questions.

Over 250 people came to look into the 40 colleges which visited the fair at Crestview Baptist Church. Schools who attended were from all over Texas and across the United States. Students visited with representatives from universities and colleges as diverse as the University of Texas, Harvard, Virginia Tech, West Point, and the University of Dallas. A number of small schools were there as well.

Lydie McVay, One Day's guidance counselor and the fair's hostess, said, "I sent invitations to as many colleges and universities I could, especially all of the Texas schools."

A key to the fair's large number of colleges was timing, "We scheduled the fair today because this was the week for all the college fairs in Austin."

One Day Academy Administrator Patti Ashley, who helped run the event, said that the fair would not have been possible without the sponsors which came alongside One Day,



One Day Academy student Paul Benoit learns about West Point at the 2008 Central Texas Homeschool College Fair, held at Crestview Baptist Church December 6. Photo by Anna Bright

including Greater Texas Federal Credit Union of Austin, American National Insurance (Stephanie Myers, Round Rock), CHEACT, Standards of Excellence, and College Bound Financial Aid Consulting.

The students found the event to be very helpful in the process of deciding where to attend college. Spencer Phinney, a sophomore interested in music and swimming, talked to a school at the fair that appealed to his interests perfectly. "I found the University of the Incarnate Word to be a great option," he said, "It gives scholarships for its Division II swim-

ming program, has a great music school, and is close to home."

Another sophomore, Christopher Levinson, wants to go into medicine, but he also wants to serve his community while going to school. "Harvard has a very good medical school," he said, "and I also found out today that they have lots of community service opportunities."

Alex Gould, a junior who wishes to major in biology, said this of the helpfulness of all the schools in attendance at the fair: "If a particular college doesn't have what you are looking for, they will gladly tell you about other schools that do." Alex is now leaning toward attending Texas A&M or one of its branches.

Many other students found the fair to be a great venue, including junior Ashley Bright. She wants to go into graphic design, and after the fair is now considering the University of Phoenix.

Most students agreed that the College Fair was a great way to view a wide range of collegiate options and to have some important questions answered. The event was a great opportunity to get excited about college and what God has in store for the future.

-Joel Asmussen

Chess Champ



Chess, among the most celebrated of intellectual activities, is not only a game battled out over the coffee table, but it also is a sport with thousands of participants in many tournaments across the country.

One such competition was the 2008 Canyon Vista Chess Tournament, which took place on November 15 here in Austin. One hundred chess enthusiasts attended. Among these players was Josef Hale of One Day Academy, a student in Jim Fleener's chess class at Lakeline campus.

To the immense pride of his instructor, Josef won an impressive four out of five games, making him the third place winner in his division. It can most definitely be said that he earned his trophy.

Photo by Laura Peisker, Article by Lauren Manske

The History of Hot Chocolate

When the weather gets cold, people like to pull out decorations and eat special treats that can only be enjoyed around this certain time of year. One of these enjoyable things is hot chocolate. Nothing beats coming in from the cold and sipping a fresh steaming cup of cocoa next to the fire. But where did this drink come from? The roots of hot chocolate can be dated back to the Mayans almost 2,000 years ago.

Hot chocolate was much different back then than it is today. For starters, it was served cold. The Mayans ground up cocoa seeds from cocoa pods until it formed a gooey paste. They then stirred in water, chili peppers, cornmeal, and other ingredients. It was transferred many times from a pot to a cup until a thick foam developed. Cocoa was made by all social classes, yet those of the royal class often drank it out of fancy elaborate glasses.

After learning about chocolate from the Aztecs, who conquered the Mayans, Spanish conquistador Hernando Cortes brought back to his homeland cocoa beans and equipment to make the drink.

King Charles V of England eventually discovered the drink and introduced it to his court. It was soon adopted into the English society as a luxury class delicacy. Originally hot chocolate was very bitter. To counteract this problem, the Europeans took out the chili peppers and replaced them with sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, and other spices. The modern day sweet-tasting hot chocolate we have come to know and love was born.

Around the world, people drink hot chocolate in many different ways. In the United States the most popular way is the instant form, usually made from a packet containing cocoa powder, sugar, and dry milk. This method makes a thinner drink.

In Germany and Italy cocoa is thick and heavy, almost like a chocolate pudding. If you ordered hot chocolate in Belgium or in other parts of Europe, you would most likely receive a cup of steamed milk with a few bittersweet chocolate chips sprinkled on top.

At One Day Academy, most people say they prefer the traditional, American hot chocolate with marshmallows. However, students interviewed in the journalism class enjoy their cocoa with cinnamon, and some stir it with candy canes to give it a minty flavor.

-Jacob Asmussen

The Greatest Gift

Christmas is a time for giving. Even if we do not have much money ourselves, a gift we give to others from our heart is following in Jesus' footsteps.

I have given this a lot of thought. I plan to donate money and toys to the Brown Santa drive in Austin. They will give the toys they collect to poor children, who would otherwise not receive anything.

Other One Day Academy students are participating in similar outreach and ministry efforts. Gabi Disraeli and Amy Buescher donated to Operation Christmas Child. They filled a box with toys and living essentials for poor kids in Africa.

Ryan will do community service with members of his church, while David Bulgerin and his family will donate canned food to The Storehouse in Pflugerville.

Nick Mortensen and his friend were collecting the tabs off of coke cans. One jar of a certain size filled with these tabs will help one child receive a needed operation. Kyle Rowland and his family are participating in Just Because, an effort to buy toys and give them to underprivileged kids.

These One Day Academy students are donating some of their time and talents to help others. What will be the greatest gift you give this Christmas? I am sure you will make someone very happy. Merry Christmas!

As long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me. Matthew 25:40

-Maverick Moses

Announcements

The **2009 One Day Academy Academic Fair** will be held Saturday, January 17, from 10 to 12 at Crestview Baptist Church. Students may compete in science and art divisions. For more information contact Patti Ashley at p.ashley@onedayacademy.com.

The **2009 One Day Academy Graduation** is scheduled for Saturday, May 23 at the Church of Glad Tidings. The first meeting for parents and students is January 10 at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Patti Ashley at p.ashley@onedayacademy.com.

Join the **Psalm 91 Ministry** and pray for the One Day Academy staff. Contact ministry coordinator Contact Tom Schoeneck at 512-785-9897 or t.schoeneck@onedayacademy.com

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