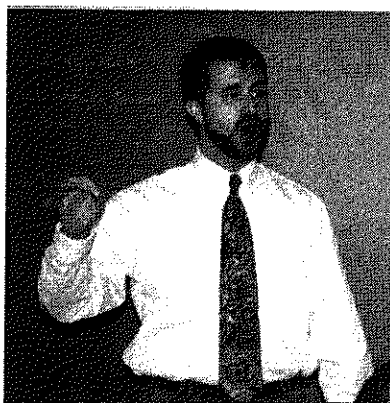


The Innocent Bystander

25¢

Music is the Stuff for Hoff



Above: Mr. Hoff leads the high school choir during 6A.

by: Kristin Levanduski

Pastor Mark Rice resigned from his position as high school choir director on January fourth, 2000. "I counted it a great joy to work with the students," said Pastor Rice. He wanted to "develop in the students a heart to share the ministry of music."

Pastor Rice is now the Associate Pastor at Faith Baptist Church in Amherst. He leads the children, youth, and adult choirs. He also does counseling, visitation, and preaching.

Mr. Hoff has replaced Pastor Rice as high school choir director. He has an extensive musical background. Aside from being involved with music throughout high school and college at Cedarville, he was the director of music at Abbe Road Baptist Church before coming here. He has also directed a choir at another church in Curwensville, PA. for eight months.

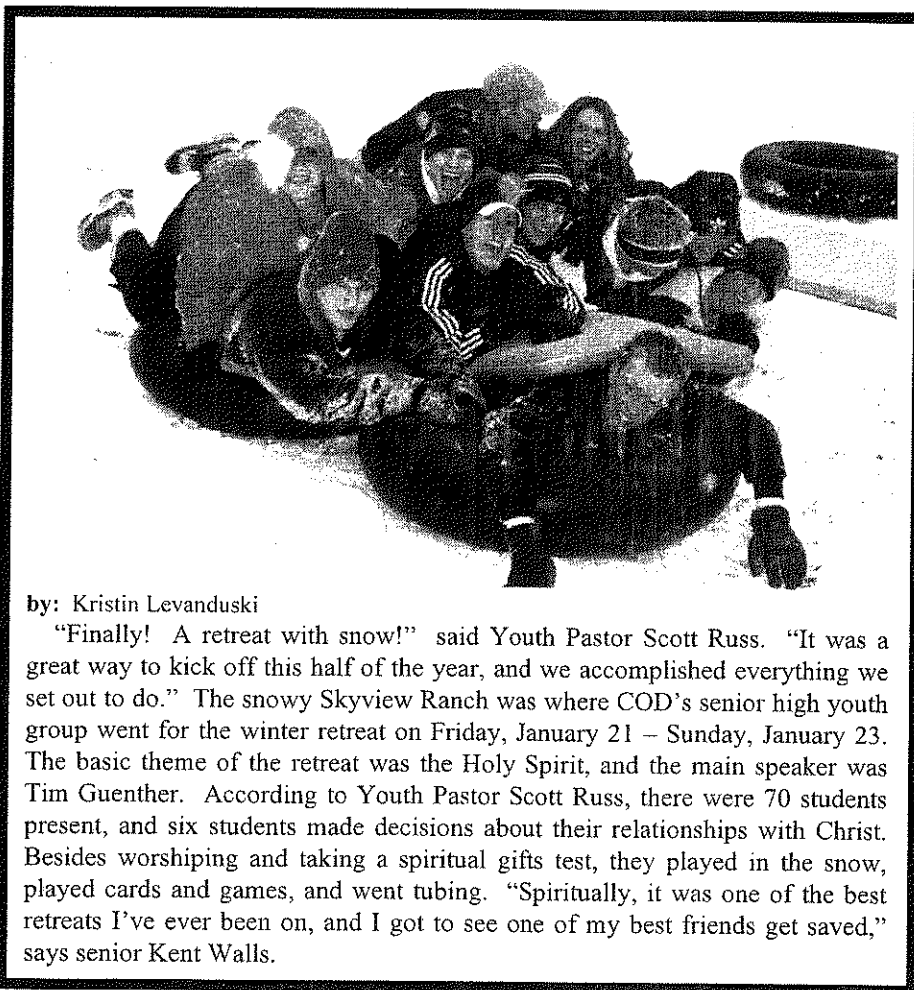
Mr. Hoff will probably not continue as choir director next year. He is to-

wards the end of his requirements for his teaching certification at Ashland University and is looking for a full time teaching position.

So in addition to his duties as the school's full-time substitute teacher, Mr. Hoff is adding the high school choir and ensemble to his plate.

Mr. Hoff is still planning a tour; however, it will be to Cincinnati rather than Niagara Falls. The trip will be March 31-April 3.

Choir students have said that Pastor Rice was a "fun guy all the way around," and he will be missed.



by: Kristin Levanduski

"Finally! A retreat with snow!" said Youth Pastor Scott Russ. "It was a great way to kick off this half of the year, and we accomplished everything we set out to do." The snowy Skyview Ranch was where COD's senior high youth group went for the winter retreat on Friday, January 21 – Sunday, January 23. The basic theme of the retreat was the Holy Spirit, and the main speaker was Tim Guenther. According to Youth Pastor Scott Russ, there were 70 students present, and six students made decisions about their relationships with Christ. Besides worshiping and taking a spiritual gifts test, they played in the snow, played cards and games, and went tubing. "Spiritually, it was one of the best retreats I've ever been on, and I got to see one of my best friends get saved," says senior Kent Walls.

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Sports

Jr. High Basketball Changes Look, Leaders

by: Dominic DeMaria

In any sport, it's unlikely to play seven games in a nine day period. But that's one obstacle the jr. high boy's team has had to endure this season.

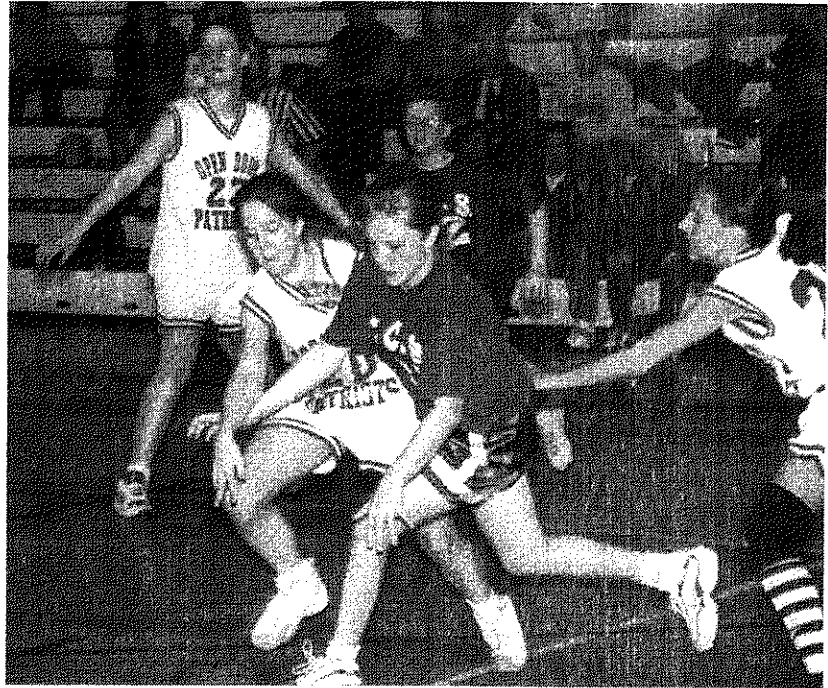
This year also marks Mr. Dunckel's return to coaching the eight grade boy's team. The last time he coached was 1981. Some of this year's seniors weren't even born yet!

Both Joey Bott and Mike Asbury, who play on the 8th grade team enjoy Mr. Dunckel's experience and his knowledge for the game. He also leads the team spiritually, which Mike sees as an asset.

Mr. Dunckel commends this years team on being good athletes with speed and a good work ethic. One weakness that he pointed out was that the team needs to improve their shooting.

Mike also believes that if they grow and become stronger as a team they'll have the opportunity to show their ability and talent in the future.

Mr. Freeman is a coach for both the seventh and eighth grade



boys. Mr. Freeman also coached at the YMCA before coaching here at Open Door. One area of the game that Coach Freeman demands from his teammates is positive sportsmanship. He has noticed improvement in that area since last year.

a degree in Elementary Education from LCCC.

Hannah has always wanted to coach a basketball team, and she's excited to be working with the jr. high girls this year.

Brittany Alaska, an eighth grader, says that the coaches are well organized, and they feel very confident in them.

Both jr. high teams seem to have adapted well to the new coaches. With their coaching experience this year, both teams will be ready for the challenges that lie ahead in varsity basketball.

The jr. high girl's team is coached by Hannah Washburn and Jared Riley, both graduates of the class of 1999.

Jared says that practice has been a learning experience for him. He also plans on coaching next year, while trying to obtain



Above: Eighth grade girls Kaitlin Wilkin-son and Brittany Alaska scramble for the ball while Anna Gittinger looks on.

Below: The seventh grade boys get pumped in the huddle.

Sports

Hats Off to Marco's

by: Amanda Snyder, Kent Walls, and Dominic DeMaria

The Marco's Pizza School Spirit Invitational became a huge success as Patriot students took on the night. On Friday, January 14, ODCS used over 400 Marco's Pizza boxes to make outfits and decorate the gym.

It all began with a single phone call by Mr. Dunckel who called the Plain Dealer regarding Josh Green and his ability in sports. ODCS students had approximately 24 hours to pull together outfits and decorations.

Joe Faber was one of the students that went all out in the competition, "I love to do that kind of stuff, it's just an awesome way to show spirit," he replied. Although he wishes that more students would have helped out.

Sixteen school competed

in the first round, which the Patriots were one of the four winning schools! Those four schools will go on to have a pep rally completing the final round. The pep rally will be Thursday, Feb. 10.

So far, there have been two ideas for the theme of the rally. Development Director Mr. Rodgers suggested a Village People take off of 'Marco Man' instead of the disco hit 'Macho Man.' The other idea was to build a wrestling ring made out of Marco's boxes.

Once the winner is determined, the winning school will receive a pizza party for all students. Just think every Friday for a month, an all school pizza party! So get off your little "too cool attitude" and let's win this competition!



Above:
"Princess"
Diana Buchanan won first place in the best dressed competition.

Below:
ODCS seniors bring extra cheer to the basketball game.



Elementary

Prayers Go Up for the Missionaries

by: Kristin Shimko

A girl, Robin Miller, attended a Wednesday night activity at Church of the Open Door and was given a challenge that changed her life. "Are you willing to give your life to the mission field? You don't have to be a pastor, doctor, or teacher. Anyone can be used by God to spread the gospel."

Robin and her husband, Vern, took this challenge and they spent seven and a half years on the missions field in Papua New Guinea. There they were regional center

managers in this small town north of Australia. Robin and Vern were in charge of distributing the mail, building and repairing homes, and providing supplies and transportation for the translators.

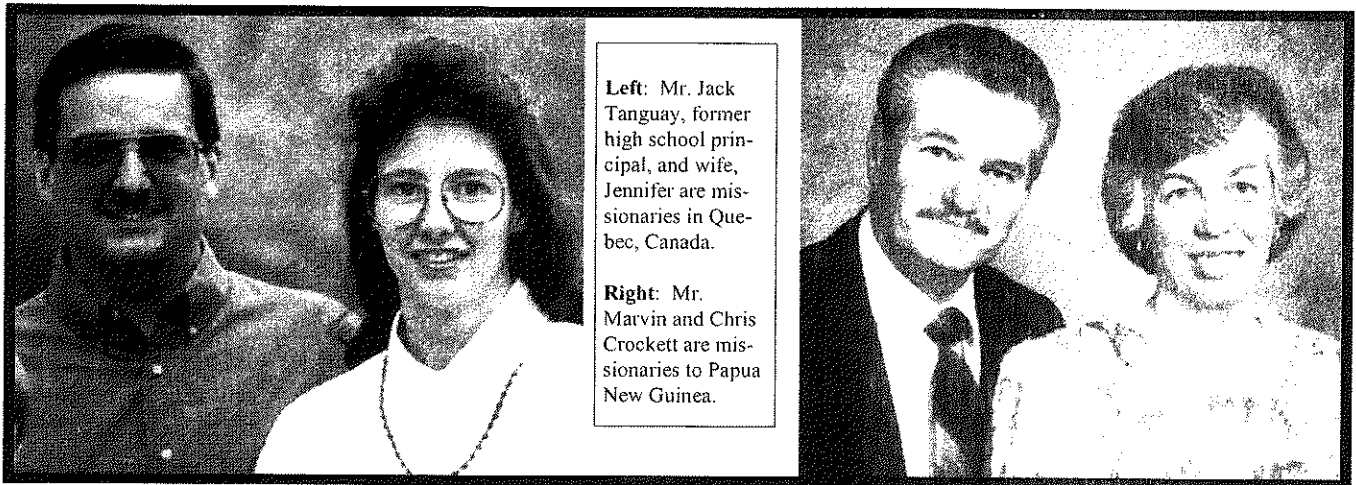
Robin's most memorable moment was the time that she had the opportunity to teach the pastor's wife at her church about God's grace. The pastor's wife was under the impression that you had to do good works in order to get to heaven.

A previous missionary had taught the people that living a Christian life

included doing service projects every week, gardening only on certain days, wearing particular outfits to church, and many other works which earned salvation.

Robin was able to explain to the pastor's wife that you didn't have to "do anything" in order to be right with God, because of His grace.

Robin and Vern hope to return to Papua New Guinea and continue their ministry there, but they realize that everything will happen in God's time.



Left: Mr. Jack Tanguay, former high school principal, and wife, Jennifer are missionaries in Quebec, Canada.

Right: Mr. Marvin and Chris Crockett are missionaries to Papua New Guinea.

Why Missions Month?

by: Aaron Schollmeier

"There are places with a lot of Christians and there are places with very few or no Christians, missionaries are to go to those places without the light (of Christ) and bring those people to know Christ," is Mrs. Ereditario's (3rd grade teacher) definition of a missionary.

She, like all of the elementary teachers, is participating in the ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) sponsored Missions Month. Missions Month is a program that is designed to expose elementary students

to the diverse variety of missions fields, and the need for missionaries all over the globe.

This year students are involved with Missions Month in many ways. One way that several students are involved in is e-mailing our former high school principle Jack Tanguay and his family who are missionaries in Quebec, Canada.

Another way the students are involved is through workbooks dealing with missionaries and various mission fields.

Finally, throughout the month of January missionaries to Papua New Guinea and Irian Jaya are speaking to the students during the elementary chapels.

Elem. & H. School

'Bear-riffic' Discoveries



by: Amanda Snyder, Reggie Rice

Last Thursday, the whole Kindergarten went back to the 'bear necessities of life'. It was "Bear Day" for our nap-takin', toy-play'n tykes. Each student got to bring his or her favorite stuffed bear to class with

them. The bears got to participate in lessons, crafts, music and games, and the students got to learn about their fuzzy, w u z z y friends.

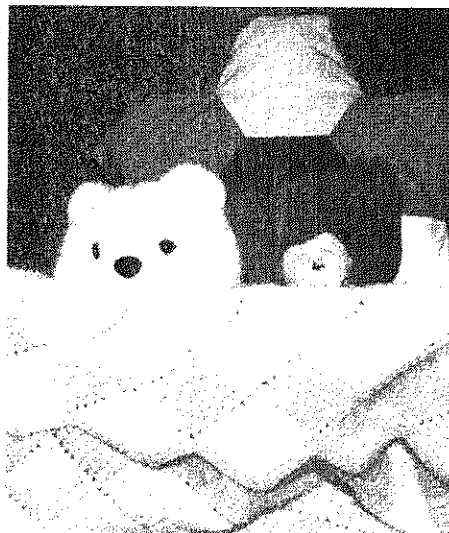
T h e y learned about hibernation, the food bears eat, and the different characteristics which make each

bear special. As the day was wrapping up, they all put their beariffic discoveries in a bear book they made themselves, or should we say with a little help from a stuffed friend.

The love for a bear buddy can last a lifetime. What starts as a childhood toy can quickly turn into a friend that lasts through the ages.

High school teacher Mrs. Conner has had the same bear ever since she was a little girl with pig-tails. His name is Frankie and she loves her bear so much that she even risked her life trying to save him.

One time, she was on a canoe trip with her family when a catastrophe struck. The canoe with her,



Frankie, and her Mom flipped over. Her mom hollered for little drowning Miriam. Little Miriam reached out as far as she could to grab hold of Little Frankie. She swam towards Frankie instead of her mom. Mrs. Conner risked her life to save her little friend.

Many other people in our school have teddy bears. "Mabel" Jones, 12th grade, has a koala bear named "Keykey." Pete Roberts, 10th grade, named his bear, "Booboo." And Mrs. Bova named her bear, "Teddy!"

Maybe you are one of those people who still sleep with a bear. If you have your bear this valentines don't be embarrassed, you're barely in bad company.



Top Left: Emily Lowe shows her smiles during playtime with her bear-friend.

Top Right: A couple bears are tucked in tight for nap time.

Bottom: Anna Shetter snuggles with her Bearenstein Bear named Sister Bear.

Features

Coloring Contest Winner and Runners Up

by: Kristin Shimko

Name:

Mike Radar

Age:

7

Grade:

2nd grade

Teacher:

Mrs. Mann

Residence:

Grafton

Favorite Food:

Marco's extra cheese pizza

Favorite Pastime:

Riding his four-wheeler

Favorite Sport:

Basketball

Pets:

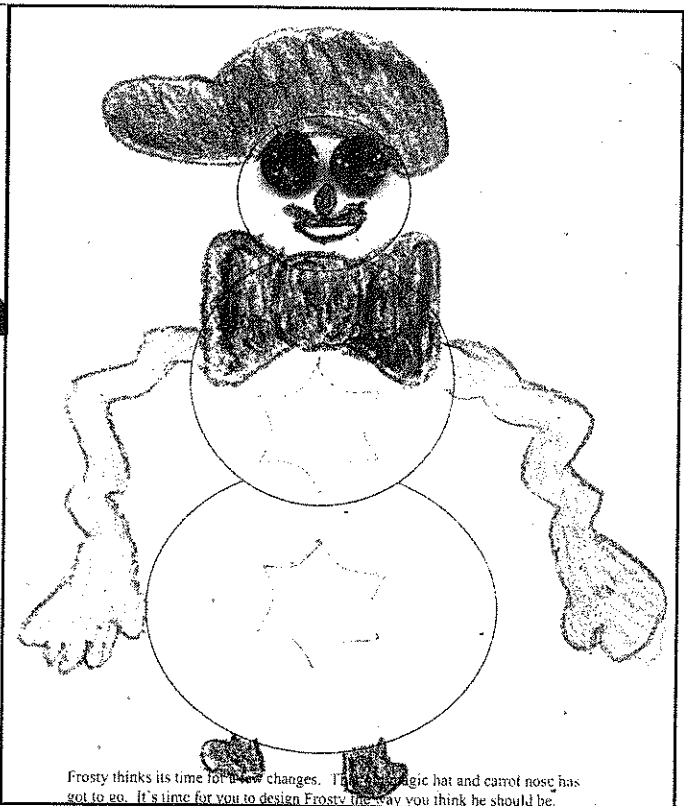
Cats-Sparky and MJ
Bird-Tiger,
Hamsters- Kane, Stone Cold,
and Tutti



Above: 1st place winner Mike Radar of Mrs. Mann's 2nd grade and his prize winning drawing on the right.

Bottom right: 2nd place winner Emily Brownfield of Ms. vanWingerden's 3rd grade.

**3rd place winner was Sarah Gall of the 9th grade



Frosty thinks its time for a few changes. The old magic hat and carrot nose has got to go. It's time for you to design Frosty the way you think he should be.

Favorite Cereal:

Rice Krispies

Favorite Super

Power:

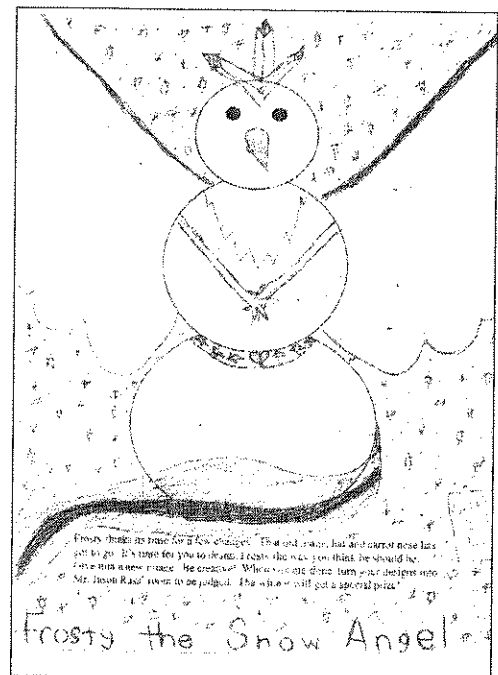
Flying

Favorite Cartoon:

'Dexter's Lab' on Cartoon
Network

**What he wants to be
when he grows up:**

Paramedic



Frosty thinks its time for a few changes. The old magic hat and carrot nose has got to go. It's time for you to design. I hope this is the way you think he should be. I've given him a new nose. He designed. When you are done turn your designs into Mr. Frosty Radar's office to be judged. The winner will get a special prize.

Frosty the Snow Angel