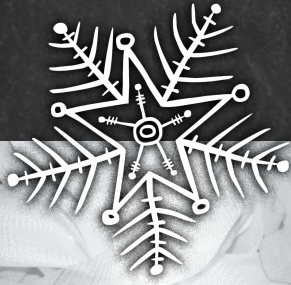


CougarNow

AND THEN
AND NEXT

Volume 2 • December 2016



Attitude
of
Gratitude



Contents

Dear Parents, Students, Faculty,
Staff and Friends,

During this **2016 Christmas Season...**
I Humbly **Reflect on the Past...**
Call upon me in the day of
trouble; I will deliver you and you
shall glorify me. Psalm 50:15

I Gratefully **Rejoice in the Present...**
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as
you teach and admonish one another with
all wisdom, as you sing psalms, hymns, and
spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts
to God. And whatever you do, whether in
word or deed, do it all in the name of the
Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father
through him. Colossians 3:16-17

With Great Hope, I **Embrace the Future...**
For I know the plans I have for you,
declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and
not to harm you, plans to give you hope
and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

To God Be the Glory!

To all **Alumni...**
Come and see what the **Lord** has
done! Psalm 66:5

To the **Board of Directors...**
I thank God through Jesus Christ
for all of you... Romans 1:8a



In His Service,

Monty Ortman

Monty Ortman
Chairman of the Board

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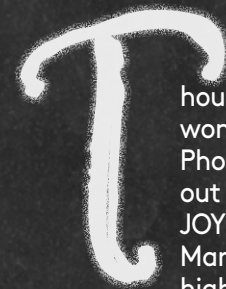


Dawn Nelson – 3rd Grade Teacher and daughter, Angelina - Preschool



Joy & Gratitude

If the Halls Could Talk



Thousands of wonderful young men and women have made a remarkable difference at Phoenix Christian. One such graduate stands out who exuded undeniable and unwavering JOY and GRATITUDE, Amber Egelston Martinez, Class of 2003. After spending her high school years studying, cheering, and engaging in student government activities, she attended Anderson College where she studied special education and French. She fell in love with the adventure and mission of spending time in other cultures and countries and had the chance during college to serve and study in Hong Kong, Romania, Mexico, Quebec, Guatemala and Peru. She also joined a women's cooperative in Guatemala City and moved there to help them start a bilingual kindergarten for a year. At one point, she bought a one-way ticket to Senegal and taught there for 6 months. Later Amber returned to Phoenix and taught 2nd grade for the next four years. She became very burdened by the divisions and brokenness in our city through her involvement with a ministry in downtown Phoenix called Apprenticeship to Jesus. Wanting to continue her education, she started a master's program in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Amber shared, "I met an intriguing fella named Anthony about two years ago and lo and behold, we were married this past January." She not only became the mother of Anthony's five year-old daughter, but soon after gave birth to beautiful baby Wren.



When asked her most notable moment at PC, Amber reflected, "Winning the State Cheer Competition with our cheerleading squad for the fourth year in a row, 4-peat! We had so many after-school and weekend hours of choreographing, learning, conditioning, and practicing, practicing, practicing — ah, the joy of it all paying off!" She continued by giving a "shout-out" to one of her favorite teachers. "Mr. Blake was definitely the "stand out" teacher throughout my high school days. Being in Student Council for three years amounted to a great deal of time under his influence both in the classroom and at events beyond the school day. He was passionate and easily excitable about whatever he taught or oversaw, from the driest of details about AP US History to the impact that we as student leaders had the opportunity to wield. Yes, this potent and compassionate energy was inspiring. There was never a doubt that he personally cared about me as a student and his encouragement constantly compelled me to strive for excellence in whatever I did."

Amber made one last plea to our students, "While dreaming and future-planning are terribly important, I beg that you'd fight for the wisdom and humility to give of yourself fully to the relationships and opportunities that you have right now in front of you. Seize the moments you have in this fleeting season and don't let preoccupations with the future rob you of engaging with the good things now in our midst."



Go Cougars

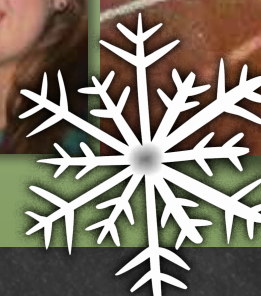


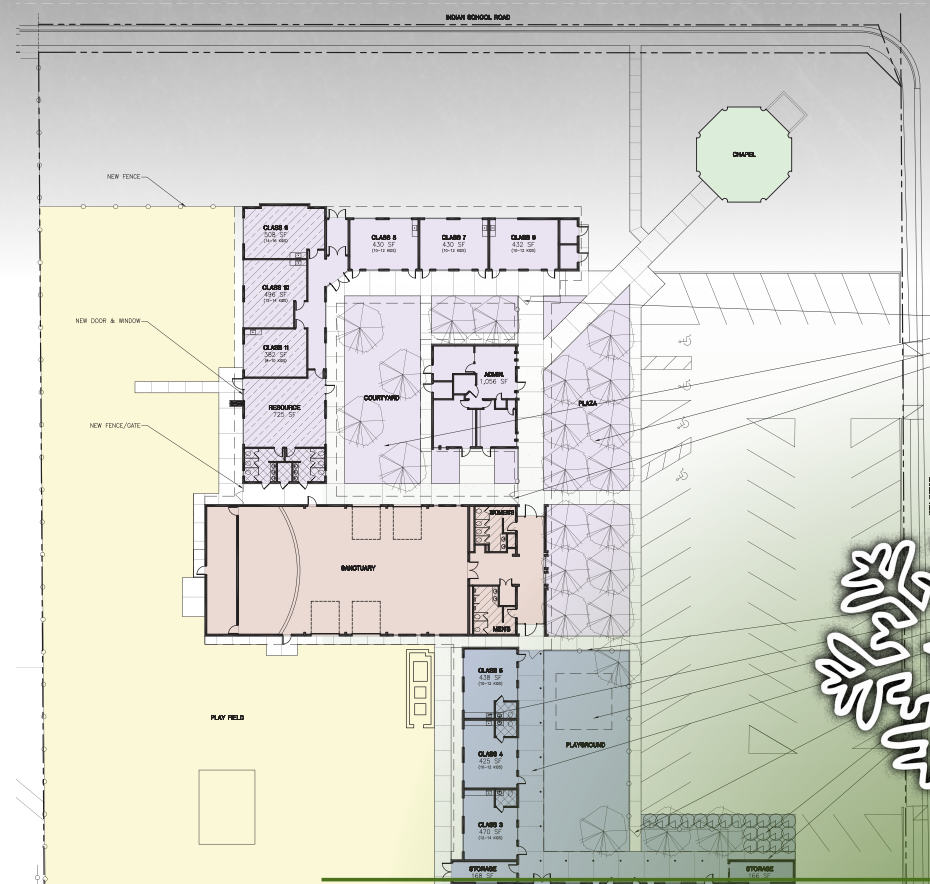
Homecoming 2016

By Lisa Blake

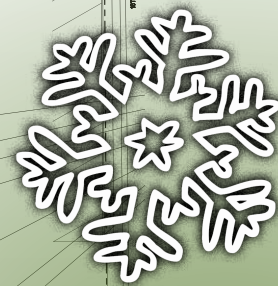
We enjoyed such a beautiful night of celebration during Homecoming late in October. So many old and new friends met and reconnected as we shared a wonderful meal together under the twinkling lights. Following the festivities in the courtyard, we moved into a packed Cougar Stadium to cheer our football team on to another win closer to this year's regional championship. It was a treat for the cheerleaders to welcome some PC cheer alumni to the sidelines. It's only been ten years for these young women, and they amazed us with their stunts! We even welcomed

back friends from the 1950s and 60s who happen to still look amazingly youthful. Homecoming is certainly one of our very favorite times of year. We anticipate many more opportunities to enjoy the little things and a few big things as well in the days ahead.





New Early Ed Center



Cougar Cubs

By Jeanne Bookhout

Great News!!! We are growing!! The NEW PC Early Education Center on the Asbury church property to the east is really going to happen! We are so excited to have drawings for Phase 1 which would allow us to almost double our current capacity! Presently we are FULL and have had to turn so many families away this year due to our current space constraints... this makes us sad! We are looking forward to five brand new classrooms that either have a shared bathroom or that have a bathroom in each classroom!

God is so good and we cannot wait to have a larger facility to increase our Phoenix Christian family! Please continue to pray for this incredible possibility. Pray that God brings finances to complete this facility and that we will have the opportunity to partner with many more families.



Little Cougars

What are you most thankful for?



Abigail,
Kinder – Mom and Dad
– they give me something pretty.



Joy,
Kinder – Mom and Dad
– they pick me up!



Bryce,
Kinder – Grandma and Grandpa
– going to church with them.



Annie,
Kinder – Mom and Dad
– their hugs.



Natalie,
1st – Mom and Dad
– they're happy, nice and fun!



Hannah,
1st – Mom and Dad
– they love me.



Kaden,
1st – Dad
– he takes me places.



Cailynn,
3rd – The air

What are you thankful for
that you can't
touch?



Emmanuel,
5th – The Holy Spirit



Fernando,
4th – A cactus



Serenity,
4th – God



Phoenix,
4th – The Holy Ghost



Wyome,
3rd – A skunk



Rueben,
4th – God

Cougars in the Middle

A special opportunity for our students

The middle school played a valuable role in the annual Veteran's Chapel. They had the distinct privilege of welcoming some of our displaced veterans to the chapel and a very special catered Thanksgiving meal. Each veteran received a warm welcome as they listened to both our amazing preschool and our high school Voice ensemble sing the *Star Spangled Banner*. They also witnessed the Marine Color Guard, a greeting from a Staff Sergeant in the Marines, and a beautiful rendition of *God Bless America* sung by one of our parents and retired military, Shelley Munos. Jeff Blake, MS & HS Principal, interviewed a new member of the PC family, Jonathan Palmer. He reflected on his two tours in Iraq. Every day he wakes up wondering why God brought him home and so many of his friends did not return.

Mr. Palmer has no doubt that God has a plan for him and he wants to do everything possible to obey Him. What a special opportunity for our students to reflect on the tremendous sacrifice so many have made for our freedom.



...documenting her experience...

Cougar Territory

To honor veterans, our middle and high school students served more than 1000 hours at over 15 different non-profit organizations: St. Vincent de Paul, Hospice of the Valley, local nursing homes, Heart for the City, Arizona Baptist Children's Services and also several friends of PC. Miriam, a 10th grader at PC, accepted the challenge of documenting her experience at St. Vincent de Paul.



Miriam



We were accompanied by four amazing, hard working international students and their beautiful smiles.



The boxes were stacked as a team.



Working hard and enjoying their assigned task.



Working on the assembly line to serve bread, stew, Brussels sprouts and bananas to the many guests to walk through the doors.



Beautiful people all coming together to stand in the gap for others with smiles to share all around.

First Region Championship since 2008

Cougar Football

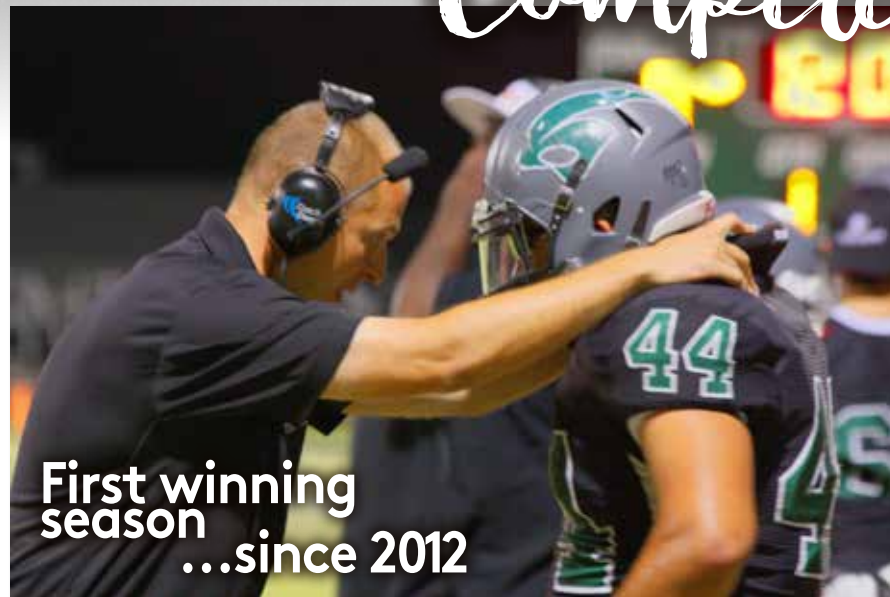
By Adam Olson

Our 2016 football season started the moment we finished the 2015 season. We had gone 3-7 in 2015 and several young players contributed significantly, so the foundation for talent was at PC. When we found out in late May that an additional group of students would be joining us, we embraced them. Our motto for the 2016 season was C.E.D. (Compete Every Day). We competed against ourselves and other schools throughout the summer. When we scrimmaged American Leadership Academy, a playoff caliber team from the division above us, we competed with great effort. It was at that time our coaching staff knew we had a chance to have a great season.

We battled through adversity, dealing with injuries, some student-athletes having to sit out five games and fatigue that can wear on anyone. Amidst such difficulties, PC Cougar Football finished with the best season since 2008! Our team as a whole and several student-athletes enjoyed all-section honors. We graduate nine outstanding senior student-athletes and one unbelievable student-manager. Their contributions will be tough to replace but we have a talented group returning. The past is remembered, the present is beautiful and the future is bright.

God Bless!

Compete Every Day



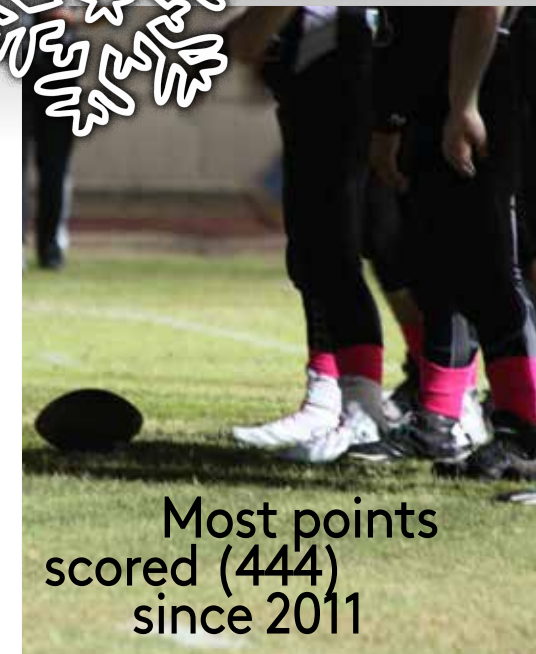
First winning
season
...since 2012



First playoff game
win since 2008



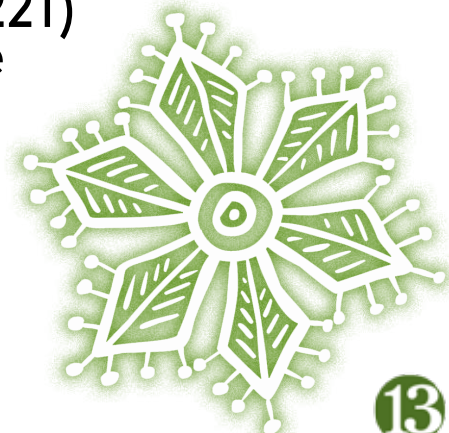
First playoff
game
...since 2012



Most points
scored (444)
since 2011



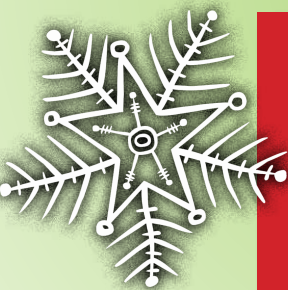
Fewest
points
given
up (221)
since
2008



What's New with You?

We love hearing from you! Please send updates to CougarNow@phoenixchristian.org. As we begin planning for our special sweetheart edition, we are looking for all PC high school sweethearts who are now married. Please send us your "then & now" pictures and your love story!

CougarNow@PhoenixChristian.org



December
1-3
Pink Panther Strikes Again
Dec 1 & 2 - 7:00pm
Dec 3 - 2:00pm
PC's Black Box Theatre

December
8
Middle and High School Vespers
6:30pm
Trinity Bible Church

December
10
Glendale Hometown Parade
11:00am - 2:00pm
PC Football and Cheer

December
14
MC Cash Christmas Party
4:00pm
PC Quad & Café

December
1-3
PC Holiday Hoops Women's Basketball Tournament
PC Gymnasium

December
15
Elementary Christmas Concert
6:00pm
PC Gymnasium

Calendar

December
17
Parents Night Out Foster Care Program
5:00-8:00pm
PC Gymnasium
RSVP to: awalker@phoenixchristian.org

December
28-30
PC Holiday Hoops Men's Basketball Tournament
PC Gymnasium



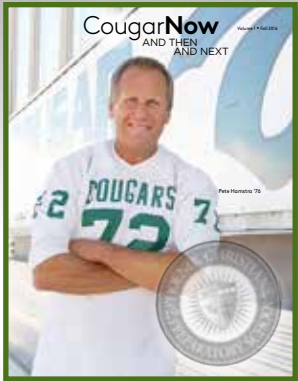
Letters



I'm so glad to receive emails from Phoenix Christian, like CougarNow. They always bring a smile to my face and a flood of memories when I see a building on campus or the football field/the gym. I have been living in Atlanta for 3+ years and I don't think I have been back to PC since the fall of 2008, but my heart is always there. I can't believe that I now have an 11, 8, 5 and 1 year old. Here is a recent picture. I imagine there are not too many people at PC who would have known me and my family, but there are still some. Please give them my love and hopefully sometime in the future I'll make my way back "home" to PC.

— Mark Tefteller, Class of 2000

Thanks for writing, Mark. We remember fondly your success on and off the field/court at PC and we appreciate you and the Tefteller family. What a great picture of your family. We hope you make it "home" to PC sometime soon.



Love the magazine. What took you so long? God bless you all.

— Marti McCollum Dobkins, Class of 1963

Thanks for the positive feedback! We're glad you love the publication! With regard to "what took so long?" – We share your sentiments, and thought, "better late than never" was the best approach! We plan to share on a more regular basis what God is doing here at PC with you and many others.



Produced by the PC Family
for the PC Family

CougarNow

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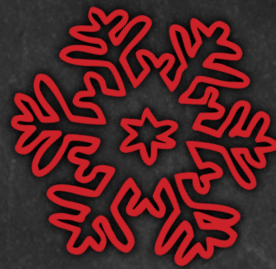


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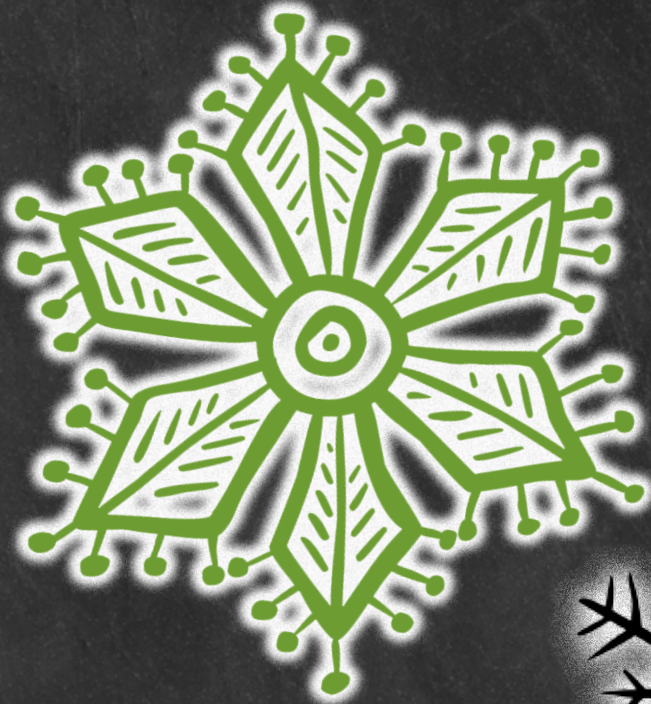
We'd like to hear from you.
Send your emails to:
cougarnow@phoenixchristian.org

Phoenix Christian
wishes you and your family a beautiful
Christmas season!

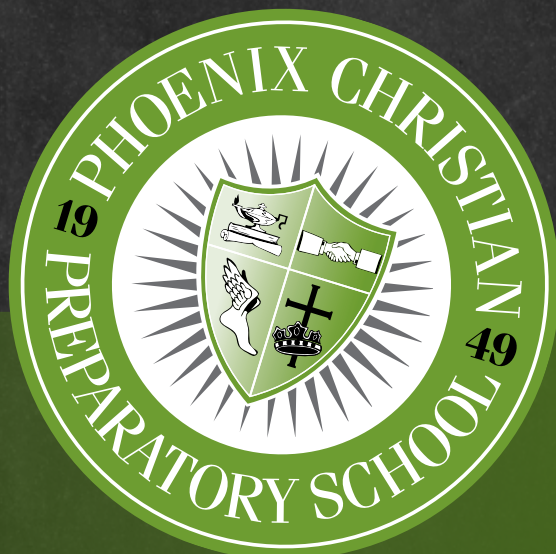


May His love
surround you at
Christmastime and
always, and may you find

Joy & Gratitude
in the smallest
of blessings.



The Lord has done
great things for us and we are
filled with Joy.



Phoenix Christian Preparatory School