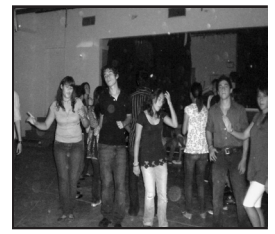




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Olympic Gold Medalist

PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL Eagle X-Press



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PPAS Dance

SEPTEMBER 24, 2008 • VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 1 • KINGSVILLE, TX 78363



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PPAS students honor anniversary of 9/11

■ by Kate Thompson
Editor-in Chief

September 11, 2008 marks the seventh anniversary of the tragic day where hearts were crushed and lives were changed forever. On September 11, 2001, America was attacked by Al-Qaeda.

Four commercial flights were hijacked and three successfully hit their targets. Two flights hit the World Trade Center, one flight hit the Pentagon, and the fourth was headed toward Washington, D.C., however passengers aboard attempted to regain control of the plane and crashed in a field near



USS New York



9/11 Wall

Shanksville, in rural Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

From this tragedy 2,740 Americans died, 2,976 in total, and 24 were missing or presumed dead as well.

In result of this day many memorials were built and are still in construction. The first memorial for September 11, 2001, was formed on the internet, with various blog entries, photos, and thoughts and feelings about the day.

Other memorials include, the thousands of pictures placed all over ground zero, the Tribute in lights, and Reflecting Absence. In addition, when the Pentagon was rebuilt, they added a private chapel and indoor memorial where the flight hit.

Many still are under construction, such as, one at the Pentagon, a Flight 93 National Memorial in the field where flight 93 hit, an International Freedom Center and many more.

PPAS students, although many lived in Mexico when 9/11 hit, were still affected. JUMP, PAGE 7



photo by Kate Thompson

MINISTER JOE ANDREWS PRESENTS A 9/11 ANNIVERSARY SERVICE DURING CHAPEL



photo by Kate Thompson

FIRST YEAR STUDENTS AT PPAS, FROM LEFT, MEAGHAN PESQUEIRA, CHRISTIAN ORTIZ AND RODRIGO PALMÁS.

First year students enjoying PPAS

■ by Kate Thompson
Editor-in Chief

Numerous students will enroll in high school around the world every fall and will adjust to new classes and sometimes new faces and hallways. At Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS), the adjustment is twice as great. Not only are students new to the school, but adjust to being away from their families, to living on their own and sometimes even living in a

new country.

"It is hard to be away from my family because I haven't been away from them this long before," said Meaghan Pesqueira, 17-year-old junior from San Antonio.

Pesqueira's parents did not want her to attend a public school and wanted to prepare her for her future, she said.

"PPAS is different. I come from this big city and now I am in the middle of

nowhere. I like it," said Pesqueira, a first year student.

PPAS' student body is small but has grown since it first started in 1912. The school receives an average of 20-40 new students each year, said Joe Garica, Director of Admissions. "I like that it is a small school. We are more like a family," said Christian Ortiz, 15-year-old sophomore and first year student. "I like being with my

friends, joking and laughing."

Ortiz is from Kingsville and attended Memorial Middle School but moved to Valle Hermosa, Mexico when he was 13. His father took a job there so Ortiz lived there for two years. He moved back to Kingsville in August and is living on campus. "I came back because I didn't like it there," he said. "I didn't speak Spanish and my classes JUMP, PAGE 7

DEAN'S
DESK

Congratulations to the staff of the Eagle X-Press and their advisor, Ms. Gutierrez, on the publication of the first edition of the new school year. The administration is proud of the excellent reporting that the students do in highlighting events of Presbyterian Pan American School and the accomplishments of our students.

A special welcome is extended to the new teachers, staff and students. Our student body is a diverse community that represents countries and cultures from around the world. Each new class of students arrives as strangers and become family members. The lessons learned here at PPAS extend beyond the classroom and textbooks as we take a holistic approach to education. Our mission is to prepare young people for college through a unique program at Pan Am that combines academics, spiritual development, cooperative work and a supportive community.

We look forward to the school year, the development of new friends, challenges, opportunities and the stories that are yet to come.

■ by Sergio Barrera
Staff Writer

Joshua Wade Perkins, government teacher at Presbyterian Pan American School, had a project in mind for his class this school year.

The project, which is expected to take five to six weeks, consist of students researching an memorizing famous speeches throughout history such as Dr. Martin Luther King's "I have a dream," speech.

Perkins's goal is for students to deliver a speech with political and historical importance, Perkins said.

Perkins said that this project is a good way to give students prospective on the complex subject of government.

This project not only includes delivering the speech, but being able to summarize its impact on history and government.

Sheree Flores, a 17-year-old senior, is taking part in this project.

"I think that is a good opportunity to learn about important people in history,"



17-YEAR-OLD SENIOR CECILIA RUIZ PRACTICES PRESENTING HER SPEECH FOR GOVERNMENT CLASS WITH JOSH PERKINS. RUIZ'S PROJECT IS ON ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S "SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS." THE CLASS HAS BEEN WORKING ON THIS PROJECT FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, WHICH ALSO INVOLVES RESEARCH FOR THE PROJECT.

photo by Sergio Barrera

Flores said.

Flores' project is John F. Kennedy's, "I have some very sad news for you," speech.

"Standing in front of people, giving a very famous speech is really hard because I have stage fright and my voice starts shaking," Flores said.

Rodolfo Guerrero, an 18-

year-old senior, is taking part in this project as well.

"It is a good opportunity to learn about important characters in U.S. government history and the decisions that they made and the impact that their speech made in U.S. and what they were defending," Guerrero said.

Guerrero's project is General Douglas McArthur's, "Old Soldiers Never Die; they just fade away."

"It is a honor for me to perform this speech," Guerrero said. "They are legends and we should keep on honoring them."

COUNSELOR'S

ELLIE PEREZ



CORNER

~WELCOME~

I am looking forward to starting off the school year due to the addition in Health and Wellness (Counseling Department). Her name is Reili Cantu, also known as Coach Cantu. She is the Assistant Counselor and Assistant Athletic Director. Her high energy and sincere love for the students is a perfect match for what our PPAS family is all about. On behalf of the PPAS family I would like to welcome you to your new mission at PPAS of "Building Young Christian Leaders since 1912."

2008 Coastal Bend Students

Alejandro Amaro-English 1301, American Government
 Karina Bello-English 1301, American Government
 Azri Flores-English 1301, American Government
 Elisa Godinez-English 1301, American Government
 Christa Gomez-English 1301, American Government
 Rodrigo Palmas-English 1301, American Government
 Olivia Pun-English 1301, American Government
 Josue Rivera-English 1301, American Government
 Kate Thompson-English 1301, American Government
 Walter Flores, English 1301, American Government
 Han Sol Lee-College Algebra
 Adalberto Fernandez-College Algebra
 Hong Hui Choi-College Algebra
 Kyoung Jea Lee-College Algebra

New school year brings new faces

Faculty & Staff Members take their place at Pan American

■ by Sara Gonzalez
Staff Writer

As the school's new year started at Presbyterian Pan American School, there are many new faces not only from the student body but from the faculty and staff as well.



Joe Garcia, from Corpus Christi, is the new Director of Admission in charge of admitting and registering students into the school.

"Every new student has to go through me," he said. Garcia likes to fish and enjoys playing ping pong, tennis and American football. He also spends his time singing solos at weddings and funerals.



Sheryl O'Hair, from Rivera, is teaching English III, IV and computer applications this year. O'Hair had the opportunity to work at the school in the summer for the IEP program and had her fingers crossed to be able to teach during the school year, she said.



Kay Smith is the new ESL and speech teacher from Kingsville. She has a Bachelor's degree in communications and is also certified for ESL.

"I like the Christian atmosphere and I'm excited to work with international students," she said.

Smith is married and has two kids, whom she would like to attend PPAS in the future.



Reili Cantu, from East Europe, teaches P.E./health. She is assistant athletic director and counselor for 9th and 10th grade.

"I like to be active and I really enjoy help-

ing and educating people, Cantu said.

Cantu feels related to foreign students and she is willing to help them. Cantu also likes the school's atmosphere.



Joe Andrews, from Fredericksburg, is the pastor and is the spiritual wellbeing teacher, who just graduated from the seminary.

"My job here at Pan Am is you guys," Andrews said.

Andrews' hobbies are playing golf but most of all taking care of his eight grandchildren. He has been married to his wife, Jean, for 37 years and has four children.



Jean Andrews, the pastor's wife, works at PPAS as a permanent substitute and is teaching spiritual development class for the senior class.

"I like getting involved with students and I also enjoy helping the students," Andrews said.



Araceli Gonzalez is from Brownsville and is the choir director who use to sing in the Lady of Guadalupe Church Choir. She loves and simply enjoys singing

and working with students, she said.

Gonzalez found out about the school and the job opening that was available at PPAS because of a friend of hers who showed her an advertisement in the local newspaper.

"The international students are so outgoing," Gonzalez said, "and I love working with them."

photo by Sara Gonzalez

Q+A WITH SENIOR KYEONG JEA LEE

Interview with 2008-2009 Student Council President

■ by Hong Hui Choi
Staff Writer

Q. How long have you been in student council?
A. It's my second year.

Q. What was your position in student council last year?
A. I was junior representative.

Q. What made you run for president?
A. I wanted to make a better school.

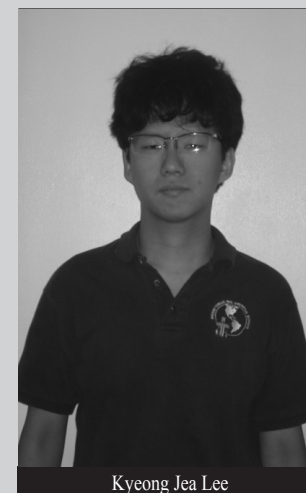
Q. How did you feel when you were elected as president?
A. I felt thankful to all students who trusted me.

Q. What do you think student council is?
A. I think it's a meeting to make a better school.

Q. What do you want members of student council to be?
A. I hope they become more active in participating and have responsibilities in their behavior.

Q. What is student council working on right now?
A. We are discussing weekend activities and raising funds.

Q. Tell me something that you are trying to achieve as a president this year.
A. I want to make more various kinds of activities.



Kyeong Jea Lee

WHY DO YOU THINK IT



BECAUSE IT IS AN IMPORTANT WAY TO REMEMBER ALL OF THOSE INNOCENT PEOPLE WHO DIED.-PAOLA ESCAMILLA, SENIOR

IS IMPORTANT TO HONOR



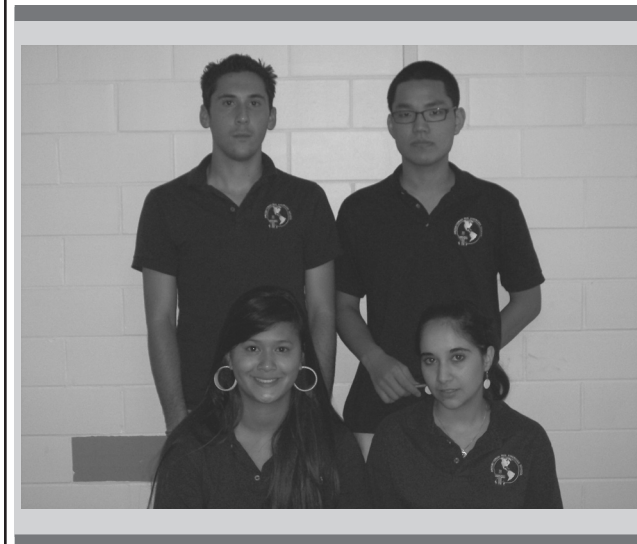
IT WAS A HORRIBLE TIME AND ALTHOUGH WE LOST A LOT OF PEOPLE, WE CAME TOGETHER AS A NATION.-RICARDO SAENZ, FRESHMEN

AND PAY TRIBUTE TO 9/11?



BECAUSE WE SHOULD BE PROUD OF THE COURAGE THAT THOSE MEN AND WOMEN SHOWED THAT DAY.-CHRISTA GOMEZ, SENIOR

Eagle X-Press Staff



Senior Editor remembers 9/11

September 11 was a wake up call and lesson learned for the nation



■ by Kate Thompson
Editor-in-Chief

September 11, 2001 was a day full of confusion and fear. Televisions were set to CNN, tears fell from faces and minds were filled with shock.

9/11

Most people remember that day crystal clear, all down to what they were doing and where they were.

The funny thing is that I remember that day so clear as well, but I have a hard time remembering what I did on my last birthday.

When the attacks started I was in Aberdeen, Scotland in school. I remember all the upper classmen were called to the gym for an assembly.

All my classmates and I didn't think much of it and just went on with our class.

That afternoon I returned home with a smile on my face and quickly that changed. I told my mom hello like always from the front door, but got no response.

I kept walking through the house and found my mom glued to the television. I glanced over to what she was watching and I remember the image on the television as if it was a picture.

CNN kept showing clips of the Twin Towers getting hit by the two commercial flights.

My mother looked as if she was about to cry and was in pure shock as my brother and I were too. That whole night our

television didn't leave CNN and our phone was ringing all night long from relatives living in America.

The news about the attacks broke out like a plague the next day and everybody was affected by the disease.

American flags were raised and patriotic pride was high in spirits.

People learned to fear that day, to show sympathy, and to come together as a whole.

That day taught me to help people in need, not to just look past someone in tears.

To help everyone that is on there knees crying out, or even if you can't help--just to be there for them.

Presbyterian Pan American School's (PPAS) theme for this school year is Fish, to fish for knowledge and the right attitude.

One of the main points of the program Fish is to "be there."

We need to be there for each other, to help each other in a time of need. Not to just look over them and continue with our day.

9/11 was a big wake up call for America and it is horrible that it took lives to be lost for us to finally dismiss the Alarm.

So don't just hit the snooze button and ignore the alarms. Take care of it when the alarm first sounds.

Kate Thompson, Editor-in-Chief
Sara Gonzlaez, Staff Writer
Sergio Barrera, Staff Writer
Hong Hui Choi, Staff Writer

Dr. James Matthews, President
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FIVE PPAS STUDENTS

Three Days and One "Celebration"

■ by Kate Thompson
Editor-in-Chief

On August 30, five Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) students set off on a God seeking Journey called "Celebration." Celebration is a three day camp in Austin where high school students go to grow closer to and worship God.

On its 10th Celebration, Caroline Hunt the moderator for this year set the theme as "Renew, Refresh, and Revive."

Javier Villegas, Hector Villegas, Elisa Godinez, Jimena Hernandez, and Anyul Abud were the five chosen by Pastor Joe Andrews to attend the retreat.

Although, Andrews said that he was not the one who chose the five students.

"God chose them, he (God) wants to use them, God wants to work through these students," Andrews said.

Along with our PPAS students two other churches accompanied them, West Lake Presbyterian Church of Austin and Grace Presbyterian Church Corpus Christi.

"At first I didn't know anyone and it was scary, but like the next day I had like 50 friends, it was awesome," said Hernandez 17-year-old junior.

Through out the three days, the participants were separated into groups known as their families and went through different activities. They also sang songs, worshiped God, and heard speeches about applying Christ into your life.

"My favorite part about Celebration was when we received letters from our family and friends," said Javier, 17-year-old junior.

Godinez said her favorite part about Celebration was the night worshiping.

"We all gathered around and just listen to the band play and we prayed," said Godinez 17-year-old senior.



photo by Javier Villegas

FIVE STUDENTS ATTENDED THE SPIRITUAL RETREAT IN AUSTIN.

Hernandez, Villegas and Godinez did not want to leave the camp. They felt they could worship God however they wanted.

"I could raise my hands and get on my knees and not think about what people thought," Javier said.

Hernandez said she felt as if God really touched her at the camp and had a sudden happiness in herself.

PPAS students came back on September 1st and spoke about their trip in chapel September 2.

"You could see the change in attitude glowing off them," said Olivia Pun 18-year-old Senior. "God really had an impact on them."

Andrews hopes to use these students to instill leadership and help grow PPAS.

"I want underclassmen to see them as mentors, help change and better the spiritual development here," Andrews said.

Students participate in Diabetes event at TAMUK

On September 6, approximately 22 Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) students participated in the 2nd Annual Cub Scout Pack 354 "Back to School" 5k Run/2 Mile Walk at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

The event helped two causes, Boy Scouts and Diabetes and the turn out increased by approximately 50 people from last year, said Ostine Watts, Assistant Den Leader of Cub Scout Pack 354 Den 1 and Race Director.

Out of the 22 PPAS students, four received medals. Juniors Javier Castrejon, Tania Rodriguez, Ilse Ibarra and freshmen Viviana Garcia received awards at the event.

Ibarra received her medal for second place in her respective age category for the 5K run with a time of 23 minutes.

Ibarra said she participated because it was for a good cause.

Castrejon won a medal for placing first in his age category in the 5K run.

Garcia won an award for coming in first place in the 5K run in her age category.

"I was very excited when I got the medal," she said. "I am in the track team and everyone was required to participate but I wanted to participate anyways."

Rodriguez received a medal at the event for coming in third place for her age category.

"I was very proud because I was not expecting to get a medal," she said. It was a good experience and it is always good to help and have fun at the same time."

Dr. Stottlemeyer, Dean of Students for PPAS, and Reili Cantu, Assistant Counselor and Assistant Athletic Director, also attended the meet. Cantu's cross country team participated in the event.

"The event was to raise funds and awareness for diabetes," Stottlemeyer said. "I want students to be aware of health issues and want all young people to be healthy."

Stottlemeyer also said she is proud of the students who participated and impressed with the students for caring about health issues.

The entry fee was \$12 for students and \$15 for adults. The funds raised went to the local American Diabetes Association.

"We were incredibly honored to have such strong support from PPAS for this event both this and last year. It seems that the participants enjoyed themselves, had a physical work out, and garnered some great door prizes in addition to get a neat T-shirt," Watts said. "We are very pleased with the success of this event. We are anticipating that it will become a longstanding annual fitness event in Kingsville and it's so exciting especially considering that PPAS has participated from the beginning. We hope to see a group again next year on the first Saturday after Labor Day 2009."

PPAS SOCCER

The Eagles stand Undefeated

by Hong Hui Choi
Staff Writer

With the beginning of the school year, the boys athletic program is already off to a good start.

The Presbyterian Pan American School's boys soccer team beat Lutheran High School's soccer team on September 5 in San Antonio, 8-0.

Seniors Javier Aguado and Juan Chavez scored two goals each. Junior Israel Gomez, Senior Gustavo Guzman, Santiago Jimenez, senior, and Erick Luna, sophomore, scored one goal each.

PPAS' soccer team also played Keystone School in

San Antonio on August 29 and won the game, 7-0.

After Jimenez made the first goal, Aguado made three, and Gomez, Luna, and Antonio Santos, sophomore, made one goal each.

"I was somewhat disappointed by Kingston's soccer team. It was actually worse than I expected," Jimenez said. "I expected the game to be more exciting."

Aguado felt really good when he made three goals, he said.

"I started to think that if we continue to play like those games that we had already



photo by Alejandro Cervantes

The PPAS Eagles soccer team won first and second place at a tournament in San Antonio.

played and won, then we can win the state championship," Aguado said.

As for Keystone's soccer team, they played the game differently that what the Eagles soccer team is use to, said Walter Flores, senior.

"During the game, I tried not to get hurt," he said. "Many players of Kingston's

soccer team were fouling. Our team did not foul, because our coach told us not to."

Most of the audience who attended the game cheered Kingston's soccer team, Jimenez said.

Only the family of our coach [Jimmy Grant] cheered us, he said. So generally, the game created a quiet atmosphere.

"Eight wins and no team have won against us," Grant said.

PPAS' soccer team is scheduled to play Concordia on Friday, September 26 at 4:30 p.m.

"We are practicing everyday to get in good shape," Grant said.

Soccer and Volleyball Schedule

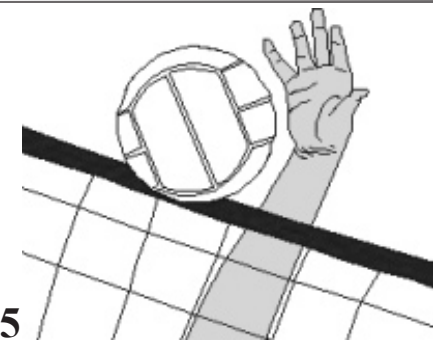
PPAS Eagles Soccer

9/26 @ Concordia @ 4:30
10/3 @ Keystone @ 4:30
10/10 Vs Lutheran @ 4:30



PPAS Eagles Volleyball

9/25 Vs John Paul II @ 5
10/7 Vs Annapolis @ 5
10/9 @ John Paul II @ 5
10/11 Pan-Am Tourney
TBA
10/14 Vs Riviera TBA



Calendar

10/2-Open House
 10/4-SAT (Seniors)
 10/10-End of First Grading Period
 10/13-Columbus Day
 10/15-PSAT (Juniors)
 10/15-ITP TOEFL

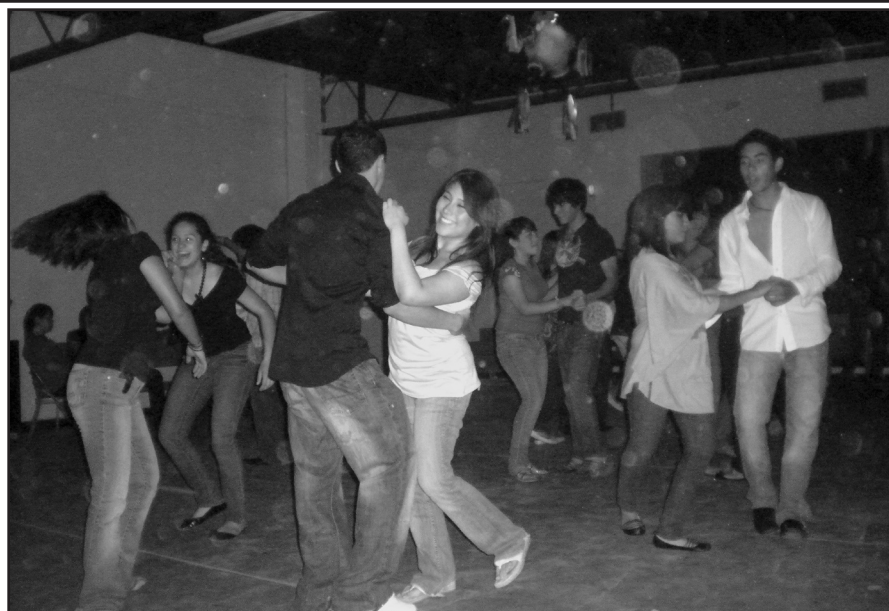
Announcements

Lab Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 7:30-9:00-Boys
 Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30-9:00-Girls

Birthdays

Hector Villegas, 9/26
 Shirley Panana, 9/29
 Edmundo Castellon, 10/5
 Ovidio Morales, 10/5
 Zian Rivera, 10/12
 Dorian Morales, 10/14
 Antonio Santos, 10/14



PPAS Dance in Honor of Mexican Independence

■ by Sara Gonzalez

Staff Writer

On September 20, students at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) celebrated Mexican Independence by having a dance sponsored by the junior class.

According to wikipedia.org, The Mexican War for Independence started in 1810 and ended in 1821. It was an armed conflict between the people of Mexico and Spanish colonial authorities that started on September 16, 1810. On the night of September 15, 1810, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla declared war against the colonial government and on the dawn of September 15, the revolutionary army decided to strike for independence and marched to Guanajuato. On September 28, the rebel army captured the warehouse. On August 24, 1821 representatives of Spanish crown signed the Treaty of Cordoba, in which it recognized the Mexican independence under the terms of "Plan of Iguala," ending three centuries of Spanish colonial rule.

PPAS celebrated Mexican Independence because many students are from Mexico. The music played was mainly Mexican with reggeaton, rancheras and electronic.

The junior class sponsored a concession stand and decorated for the dance.

Student Council provided a piñata to serve as a decoration.

"I liked the decorations even though we didn't get to break the piñata, I still had so much fun," said 17-year-old Pamela Martinez, pre-university student.

Senior Gabriela Quiroga, 17, said she had fun at the dance and enjoyed the music.

17-year-old Merybeth Arredondo also said she had fun at the dance.

"I think the idea of making a dance was a great idea because for Mexicans, it is important," Arredondo said.

Meaghan Pesqueira said having a dance in honor of Mexican Independence is nice.

"To think about the Mexican traditions and carry them into an international school and that students are still able to celebrate it even though they are not in their country, said Pesqueira, 17.

JUMP, 9/11

"9/11 changed my life. I remember exactly where I was and how I felt--shocked on how fast everything happened," said Alejandro Amaro, 18-year-old senior.

Senior Azri Flores, 17-year-old felt as if not to take her freedom for granted.

"9/11 taught me not to think that we are invincible, untouchable, the attack happened in a blink of an eye," she said.

On September 16, PPAS students paid tribute to those who died on 9/11 by having a special chapel service. Pastor Joe Andrews spoke about a war ship built out of the scrap metal from the twin towers. He also spoke about how that day impacted our lives and the pride we should have for our country.

"Having this service was important to show the students the devastation that 9/11 was and how we (Americans) picked ourselves up from it," Andrews said.

Students fell silent as Andrews spoke about 9/11.

"The service was a good reminder on how proud we should be of America and to never forget about 9/11 even though it happened seven years ago," said Soo Won Yoo, 17-year-old junior.

Memorials remind us of 9/11 and the lives lost that day.

"I think that all the memorials that have been built are a good reminder to our freedom and the horrific day," said Christa Gomez, 17-year-old senior.

JUMP, NEW STUDENTS

were difficult for me. I felt out of place. At PPAS, we are more like a family and I have tons of friends here."

Rodrigo Palmas, 17-year-old senior, said PPAS is different from his former school in McAllen. He is a first year student at and is originally from San Luis Potosi, Mexico but moved to McAllen. His parents decided to move back to San Luis Potosi this year but Palmas wanted to stay in the U.S. so he transferred.

"There are no clicks here, everyone gets along with everyone," Palmas said. "And I like living here with all my friends."

Students at PPAS are from different parts of the world, but most from Mexico. The school also has students from South Korea, Taiwan, Costa Rica, India, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Thailand, Peru and the United States, specifically cities in Texas such as Corpus Christi, Victoria, McAllen, Houston and Premont. Many attend to learn English, improve their English skills, receive an American diploma and/or attend a U.S. college. Recently more native English speakers are joining the PPAS family either.

"I speak English and Spanish, but it doesn't hurt to come and improve my skills even more," Palmas said.

Pasqueira, Palmas, and Ortiz all agree that it was difficult at first, but have come to enjoy their experience.

"I really like it here--having a roommate, eating here and being responsible for myself," Pasqueira said.

Along with school, these students are involved in athletics and participate in clubs and organizations.

Palmas is in cross country and is enrolled in American government and English 1301 at Coastal Bend College in Kingsville as part of the dual credit program.

Ortiz plays on the Eagles soccer team and plans to join the basketball and track teams as well.

CD ALBUM RELEASE SCHEDULE

2008 SUMMER OLYMPICS UPDATE

Artist	Album Title	Release Date
Plain White T's	Big Bad World	9/23
Pussycat Dolls	Doll Domination	9/23
Pretenders	Break Up the Concrete	9/23
Flecktones	Jingle All the Way	9/30
James Taylor	Covers	9/30
Oasis	Dig Out Your Soul	10/6
Sarah McLachlan	Closer Best-of	10/7
Michelle Williams	Unexpected	10/7
The Cure	Dream 4.13	10/14
Kenny Chesney	Lucky Old Sun	10/14

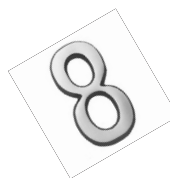
provided by www.metacritic.com



RANK #1, MICHAEL PHELPS, US



1. Men's 400m Ind. Medley-GOLD
2. Men's 200m Freestyle-GOLD
3. Men's 200m Butterfly-GOLD
4. Men's 200m Ind. Medley-GOLD
5. Men's 100m Butterfly-GOLD

WORLD
RECORD
BREAKER

6. Men's 4 X 100m Freestyle Relay-GOLD
7. Men's 4 X 200m Freestyle Relay-GOLD
8. Men's 4 X 100m Medley Relay-GOLD

FORBIDDEN KINGDOM MOVIE BRINGS MIXTURE OF COMEDY AND MARTIAL ARTS

BY SERGIO BARRERA

~Forbidden Kingdom~

Starring: Jet Li

Jackie Chan

Liu Yifei

Collin Chou

Li Bingbing,

Michael Angarano

Budget: \$55,000,000

Gross Revenue:

\$111,604.290

The Forbidden Kingdom, rated PG 13 and directed by Rob Minkoff, was released in theaters on April 18 and on DVD on September 2. The film, written by John Fusco, takes place in Anji bamboo Forest, Jiangsu, China.

The movie starts in the present (2008) with one of the lead roles and main characters Jason Tripitikas (Michael Angarano).

Jason, an American teenager has an obsession with kung-fu movies and is magically transported back in time to ancient China by the long-lost staff of the Monkey King (Jet Li) where he learns that he has been chosen to return it to him. 500 years earlier, the mischievous martial arts master Monkey King had been imprisoned in stone by the Jade Warlord (Collin Chou).

On his journey, Jason comes across the drunken beggar Lu Yan (Jackie Chan in one of his two roles, the other being Old Hop) who teaches him kung-fu so that he will be able to take on the Jade Army.

They are also aided by The Silent Monk (Jet Li in another role) and The Golden Sparrow (Yifei Liu).

I especially like the scene where Lu Yan and The Silent Monk fight over how to train Jason to defend himself, with Lu Yan's crazy methods and the Monk's more traditional approach.



photo provided by www.entertainmentwallpaper.com

FILM FORBIDDEN KINGDOM WAS RELEASED ON DVD SEPTEMBER 2 STARRING JET LI, JACKIE CHAN AND MICHAEL ANGARANO.

I got a lot of enjoyment from this 113-minute film and watching the magnificent grace of action stars Jackie Chan and Jet Li, in their first movie together, plus nice kung-fu.

I definitely recommend this film because it is a fun action film filled with comedy as well. If laughing and kung-fu is what you are looking for--this is your movie.