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**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY**

**PandaPress Weekly**

*Educating Women to Make a Difference*

*An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy  
March 28, 2012*

**LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Greetings Parents,

As the fourth quarter is underway, we all welcome signs of spring and the hope that the Easter season brings. Of course this includes the anticipation of Spring Break and time to relax and enjoy family and friends. Next Wednesday, before everyone leaves for Spring Break, we will celebrate an Easter prayer service with a special focus on the importance of service.

This week we are celebrating "Body Peace Week" to promote self-respect and positive body image. Young women receive many images especially in the media that support the imperfect notion of a "perfect" body. Our goal this week is to make students aware of how their sense of respect for their own bodies empowers them to make a difference in our world. The week includes a speaker from the Women's Crisis Center addressing the topic of "Safe Dating", a Self Defense class presented by a Kenton County Sheriff and a presentation on the Theology of the Body focusing on the value of Chastity. On Friday, we will speak to the juniors and seniors about how appropriate prom attire relates to their own body image and respect for themselves.

We continue to have students who excel in their academic pursuits. This year 51 students received gold or silver medals in the Scholastic Writing competition. Most notably, sophomore Szofia Komaromy-Hiller received a gold medal on the national level as well as national awards in three different categories for her humor piece titled "In That Case, I'll Stick to Politics." Junior Megan Bieschel and Senior Kathleen Gatti received national silver medals. National award winners receive their recognition at an awards ceremony held at Carnegie Hall in New York City this coming May.

On Wednesday, April 4, our students are invited to attend a Diocesan Mixer at Thomas More College. Members of the NDA Student Council have been involved in planning this event. The cost is \$5 and proceeds will go to the tornado relief fund organized by St. Vincent de Paul to assist the many displaced families. This has been a very successful event in recent years and I hope your daughter can attend.

May you know God's goodness each day,  
Dr. Laura Koehl

## CONGRATULATIONS HONOR STUDENTS

Honors are calculated on the quarter weighted scholastic mark. A student achieves First Honors if she has an average weighted scholastic mark of 95 or higher and no weighted mark below 93 with no failures or incompletes. A student achieves Second Honors if she has an average weighted scholastic mark of 87 or higher and no weighted mark below an 85 with no failures or incompletes. [Go here for a listing of the Quarter 3 Honor Students.](#)

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Members of the Notre Dame Academy Science Research class participated in the Science and Engineering Fair of Northern Kentucky (SEFNK) on Saturday, February 25. All won awards and qualified for the state science fair on March 31. First and second place overall were taken by Laura Irons and Cassie Schoborg. The award for the outstanding high school went to NDA.

Several awards open the way for students to participate in international competitions. Laura Irons and Cassie Schoborg will compete at the International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in Pittsburgh in mid-May. Cassidy Ryan and Monica McFadden are entered in the International Sustainable World (Energy, Engineering, Environment) Project Olympiad (ISWEEEP) in early May. It will take place in Houston. Laura Irons and Giannina Rokvic qualified for the International Genius Olympiad taking place in Oswego in late June. [Go here for more results.](#)

## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Congratulations to Soccer Coach Sara McSorley for her selection as the Greater Cincinnati - Northern Kentucky Women's Sports Association High School Coach of the Year. Joining Coach McSorley in celebrating this selection, are Caitlyn Forman (swimming), Carly Scheper (diving), and Chandler Clark (soccer) who were selected as Northern Kentucky Women's Sports Association High School Sportswomen of the Year in their respective sports. In addition, the NDA 2011 State Soccer Championship team and individual state swim champion, Caitlyn Forman, will also be recognized at this ceremony. The awards dinner honoring their accomplishments will be held on Monday, April 23. Congratulations Pandas!

The winter sports award program will be held Thursday, March 29 at 7:00pm at NDA.

## GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

This week is Body Peace Week, sponsored by the Teen Leadership Club. This year's theme shows the tie between our body image and the influence it can have over us. When you feel good about yourself, you can feel empowered to make a difference in the world. [Check out the schedule of activities here.](#)

## PLEASE SUPPORT LEFT TURN SIGNAL

Park Hills Police Chief Cody Stanley is making a concerted effort to add a left turn arrow to the light onto Hilton Drive. For those of you coming south on Dixie Highway, you know the difficulty in making that turn before and after school each day. If you are willing to support these efforts, please contact the KY Transportation Department at 859-341-2700 to ask them to put a left turn arrow at the light at Dixie and Hilton Drive (south bound direction) from the hours of 7:30-8:10am and 2:30-3:15pm.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

[Scholarship descriptions, requirements and applications for our current students are now available on our web page.](#) Applications will also be available at the front office. All applications are due May 1.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

[The PSAS \(Private School Aid Service\) Form is available on our web page.](#) This form will need to be postmarked no later than April 20 to apply for financial assistance, work-study program and some scholarships. Please contact Sr. Mary Paul Ann at 859-292-7736 or email her at [hannekenp@ndapandas.org](mailto:hannekenp@ndapandas.org) if you have any questions.

## PTO NEWS

Please volunteer to work in the **cafeteria**, [go here to sign up](#). Dirty dishes still need to be washed in the springtime! We would like to have two volunteers for each day. There are no workers 3/29, 4/2, 4/4. After spring break we have no workers on the 4/16-18 and 4/20. Contact Kelly Micek at [kmicek@insightbb.com](mailto:kmicek@insightbb.com) or 859-992-3144 for more information.

**After Prom** is just around the corner. Permission slips and registration forms should be coming home soon. Please complete and return as soon as possible. All girls returning their forms and payment before April 4 will be entered in a drawing for two admissions to After Prom (\$40 value).

Parents: We need your help and presence the night of After Prom, [please go here to sign up](#) or contact Mary Beth Sheridan at [m.sheridan@insightbb.com](mailto:m.sheridan@insightbb.com).

We also need food donations delivered to After Prom. Please email Peggy Niehof at [pe99y@zoomtown.com](mailto:pe99y@zoomtown.com) if you want to find out what foods are needed.

Prizes! We still are in need of donations for prizes. Let us do the shopping for you and send in cash or checks (payable to NDA After Prom). Gift cards and gifts are also welcome (think iPod docking stations, ear buds, GPS, go in with three of four friends on a Kindle Fire or a TV). Contact Tricia Kennedy at [tsktennis@yahoo.com](mailto:tsktennis@yahoo.com) with any questions.

## CALENDARS...UPCOMING EVENTS

[Check our calendars on our webpage for the latest on all the upcoming events. The calendars are separated into many different areas.](#)

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