

The Gavel

*ART 3 Students work
gets acknowledged in this
month's Gavel!*

*Flashback from 1992 to see what
Silverbells was like*

*Get to know your School
and Class Presidents!*

*Beyond the Classroom:
See what the Publications Class
has been reporting*

*Looking ahead in 2012 for
each grade level!*

*Find out what the Service Learning
Program is!*



**Volume 86
No. 3
January 2012**

Beyond the Classroom

Preparing for the Life March

The Life March in Washington D.C. happened this past Monday and all those participating, including myself, were very excited. We had a meeting on Thursday January, 12, where we went over some rules, some of the things we would be doing on the trip, and certain places we will be meeting while we are there. We left from Notre Dame Academy on January 22nd and we returned to Notre Dame Academy on January 24th. The life march is a way for NDA students to express our love for life and show everyone that we respect it and love it. With us going to Washington to participate in this march, we are saving lives and we are one step closer to ending abortion. As we went on this trip, we knew that God was with us and He was leading all of us on this march. Notre Dame girls were very excited and hoped to make a difference in the lives of many we marched for life in Washington D.C.

By Tori Thaman

Movie Review

We Bought A Zoo is a must see! It is a great movie, and is truly inspiring. I loved this movie so much that I already saw it in theatres twice. It is about a family who loses their mom, and shows the struggles within the family that they eventually overcome by coming together as a whole. The daughter falls in love with the house, as well as the dad, but the realtor says “well I wouldn’t get your hopes up”. He told them it was a Zoo, but they still wanted the house. I was truly inspired by this movie and can’t wait until it comes out on DVD. One quote that sticks with me is, “sometimes all you need is 20 seconds of insane courage. Just literally twenty seconds of just embarrassing bravery. And I promise you, something great will come of it.”

By Carly Jones

Beyond the Classroom

Golden Globes Awards

On Sunday, January 15, 2011, the 69th annual Globes was seen by 16.8 million viewers. The stars all came out in their finest attire and some were liked, others disliked. Some winners include Madonna, George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Michelle Williams, and many others. It is very exciting to see how much these men and women have accomplished. Every year there are many people discouraged by the results and many other people very pleased. These shows are something that keeps us all up-to-date on the “in” actors and actresses and keeps us a little entertained when we get to see the “worst dressed” and the “best dressed” on the red carpet.

By Jodie Klensch

So Fast

This school year at NDA has been going by so fast. We are already more than halfway through the year! We just had our Christmas break, and our exam grades are finally finished so now we are at the halfway mark. This weekend, January 14 - 16, we have a three day weekend! We were off school on Monday, January 16, to celebrate Martin Luther King Junior. It is very nice to have a three day weekend. You have more time to spend with your friends and family. You also can relax more with an extra day. Your weekend is more eventful and productive. The best part is, when you get back to school, you only have four days of school, and then its already the weekend! I love three day weekends!

By Danielle Stegman

Looking Ahead

Freshmen

The Freshman class experienced many new things this year. Their first event was Freshman/Senior breakfast where they met the senior class while enjoying a nice breakfast. They also experienced their Soph-Frosh bash where they participated in fun activities, met the Sophomore class and got to know their fellow classmates better. In the next couple of weeks, they will be looking forward to their first Father Daughter dance. This is a time when the fathers to get to know their daughter's new friends and have a wonderful night out.



Sophomores

The Sophomore class experienced Soph/Frosh where they took on the leadership role. They welcomed the Freshmen into the school and this experience helped the two classes bond. At the beginning of January, the Sophomore class planned Silverbells. This was their first Notre Dame Academy semi-formal dance that they could participate in. The dance ran smoothly and was a great time for all Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors. In the next few months, the Sophomores will be looking forward to becoming upper-class women and a bigger part of the NDA community. The class rings have been a tradition of Notre Dame Academy and the rings show that they are fully a part of the NDA community. When the Sophomores get their rings, they will then have a ceremony where they will each receive their blessed rings.



Looking Ahead

Juniors

This Juniors have experienced many new things this year as upper-class women. Junior Retreat took place in November and was a night to remember. The Junior class not only became closer to God, but even closer as a class. It bonded the class as a whole. Throughout the year, the Juniors have been participating in a service activity. Juniors go out to service once a week to the same agency in the Northern Kentucky region. Juniors work with small children, the elderly, the disabled, and the homeless. This requires stepping out of their comfort zone and has become an eye-opening experience for them. The Juniors will be looking forward to their first Prom in April. This is a formal dance that is hosted at the Drawbridge Inn. It is a night of food, fun, and friends that everyone has looked forward to since Freshman year.



Seniors

The Seniors have been waiting four years to be the leaders of the school. This year they have experienced many great things as Seniors. Many of the girls have already experienced their Christian Awakening Retreat. The girls go away for a weekend and connect with God and their classmates. The senior class also experienced another eye-opening experience, by attending lectures by Islamic women. They also received a personal tour of the Mosque and they even had some time to pray. The senior class is looking forward to graduation and the other celebrations that follow this event. They will also have a final time to pray and worship together at the Baccalaureate Mass.



Service Learning Project



MS. STAGGS

"The goal of the Service Learning Project is to do service within the classroom," says Ms. Staggs, our freshman teacher involved in the Service Learning Project. The Freshmen read the novel "Speak", a story about a girl who is raped the summer before her freshman year. The freshmen wrote editorials pertaining to the topics in the novel, such as bullying, depression, cutting, suicide, drinking, and partying. Four of these articles will be sent to an all boys school in De Barton, New Jersey, with whom they have been discussing the novel on an online board. The articles will give the boys a woman's perspective on topics such as domestic violence and respect for women. The articles will be published in their newspapers, and we will feature some of their articles in later editions. Staggs states, "It is an eye opening experience for students, seeing new perspectives on difficult, but timely topics."



MRS. PROUDFIT

Mrs. Proudfit's AP Biology class is working on a Service Learning Project. Their project focuses on educating themselves and our Ugandan sisters about HIV/AIDS. First they watched a documentary called "The Age of AIDS" where they learned more about HIV/AIDS. After the film, they had guest speakers from Caracole, an organization that provides housing and transportation to people with an HIV positive status. The speaker also spoke to the students about the nature, transmission, treatment, prevention, and demographics of HIV/AIDS in the Cincinnati area. In the second part of their project Sister Rita, from Notre Dame Academy in Uganda, shared with the class how HIV/AIDS effects the Notre Dame Academy in Uganda and the rest of the Ugandan area. After all of these events, the AP students wrote a paper where they drew connections between AIDS in America and Uganda.

Profiles

Executive Council



Ellie Fathman

Gavel: What role do you have on Student Council?

Ellie: Sophomore Class President

G: What do you want to bring to NDA for the future?

E: Rosary bracelets that I would like to start selling at NDA, because all of the prophets go to China to help crisis pregnancies. This means it would help those who DON'T want to have an abortion.

G: What is one of your favorite memories from StuCo?

E: Silverbells was great. I was happy everything worked out good.

Gavel: What role do you have on Student Council?

Ana: Sophomore Class President

G: How has being on StuCo affected your time at NDA?

A: Since joining Student Council, there is always "the next thing on the list," so I'm kept busy and working hard for my school. I have also learned much about NDA's history and what it truly stands for.

G: What is one of your favorite memories from StuCo?

A: The day of StuCo orientation day in the summer. Together we did a variety of activities that helped us get to know each other, learn to work together, and have fun.

Ana Calvopina



Nicole Zembrodt

Gavel: What role do you have on Student Council?

Nikki: Junior Class President

G: What do you want to bring to NDA for the future?

N: NDA and CCH doing more things together such as, charity events, mass together at St. Agnes once or twice a year, and more fun events.

G: What is one of your favorite memories from StuCo?

N: The skit for Club Orientation, the Junior StuCo's video for the talent show, and planning Junior Retreat with Megan.

Gavel: What role do you have on Student Council?

Megan: Junior Class President

G: How has being on StuCo affected your time at NDA?

M: Student council was by far the best decision I have made at NDA. It's not only a lot of fun, but also a great way to actually make a difference at school.

G: What is one of your favorite memories from StuCo?

M: Any of the videos/skits we do for assemblies. Especially the ones that are embarrassing. So all of them.

Megan Beischel





Alexis Fischer

Gavel: What is your role on Student Council?

Alexis: Senior Class President

Britney Brohier

Gavel: What is your role on Student Council?
Britney: Senior Class President.

G: What do you want to bring to NDA for the future?

B: I would like NDA to get out earlier than CCH. Ladies first,

G: What is one of your favorite moments from Student Council?

B: Mrs. Gronotte singing "Y'all gonna make me lose my mind, lose my mind up in here up in here", because it's so fitting.



Anna Schuh

Gavel: What is your position on Student Council?

Anna: School President

G: How has being on Student Council affected your time at NDA?

A: It has made me a better leader. I've learned how to interact with people I'm not very familiar with and how to effectively get things done. It's also really exciting to see your work pay off.

G: What is one of your favorite moments from Student Council?

A: Club Orientation, because it was the first "big" thing we planned. Katie, Ali, and I came to school before and stayed after the whole week leading up to it. It was crazy, but great to see it

Katie Stewart

Gavel: What is your role on student council?

Katie: School President

Gavel: How has being on Student Council affected your time at NDA?

K: Student Council has made me more outgoing and through student council I have learned how to communicate with all different types of people.

G: What is one of your favorite moments from student council?

K: My favorite moments are the effects of hard work and planning. It makes me feel awesome to see people at the events having a great time.



Ali Kloska

Gavel: What is your role on student council?

Ali: School Secretary

G: How has being on Student Council affected your time at NDA?

A: Stuco is very time consuming, especially with certain events, but it's also very fun to see all your hard work be put into something.

G: What is one of your favorite moments from Student council?

A: Club Orientation.... It was a Ton of work, but in the end it was really fun to see it come together and hearing positive comments from students made it well worth it!

Art 3



Tara Quinn kneeling next to her latest painting that she is working on.



Shannon Salzman working on her work of art.



Madeline Stewart showing her creative project. She melted colorful crayons with a hair dryer!



Katie Arstingstall with her awesome painting.



Jonna Wilson holding her colorful art work.



Above: This beautiful painting was done by Ali Cheesman



Maria Pohlabein's interesting sculpture in a very creatively designed box.



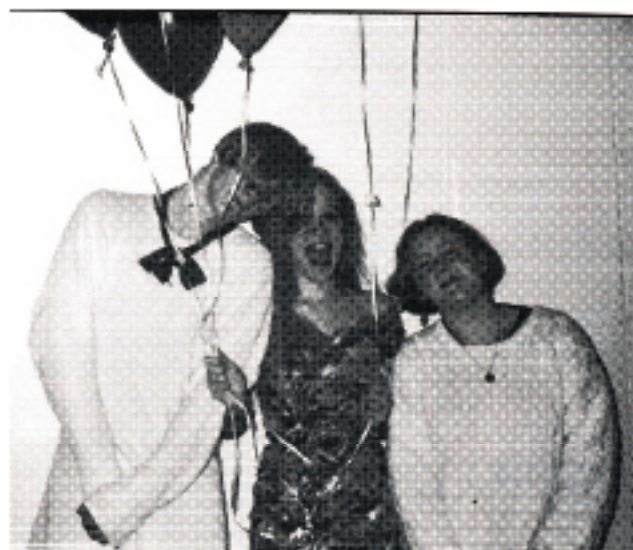
Anna Fister working on her latest art piece.



Shelby Reid sitting next to her awesome painting!

Flashback

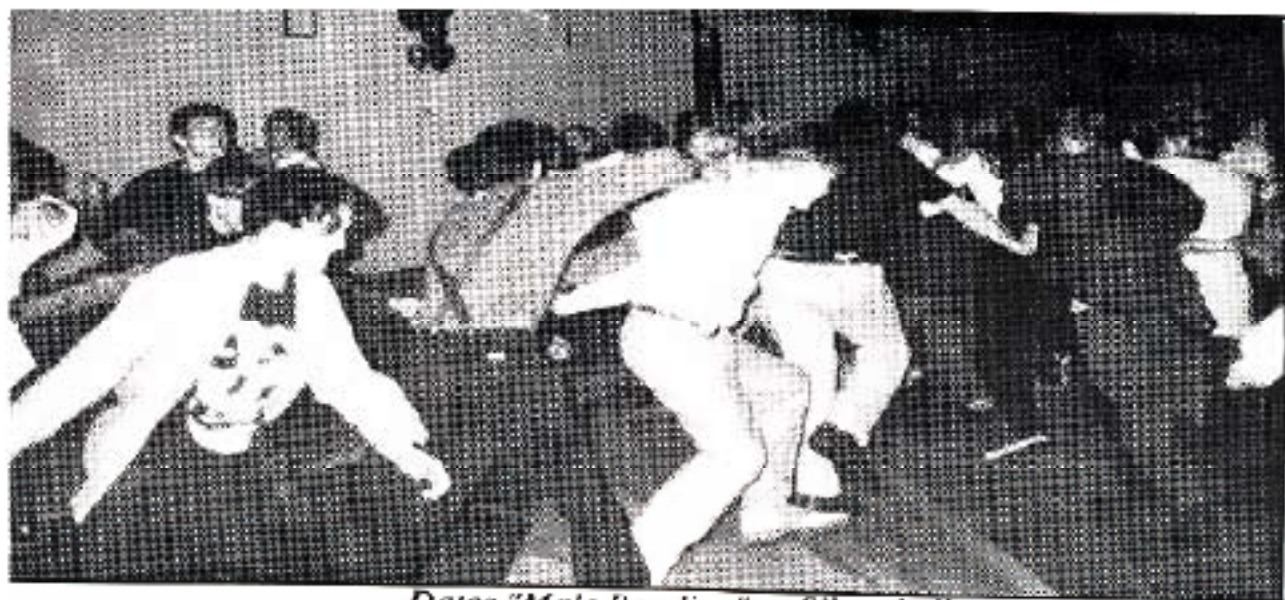
Silver Bells Enjoyed By All By Virginia Gribben



A crowd of people gathered on Friday January 10, for one purpose: to dance the night away at Silver Bells. The theme this year was "It Had to be You", and the decor of forest green, silver, and burgundy gave the gym a festive look. Andy Scott was the D.J., even though he did not play the theme song, he still did a good job.

According to Tara Bricking, 298 tickets were sold, and she commented "Silver Bells was successful; it seemed like everyone enjoyed themselves a lot."

Assisting in the festivities were Ms. Weathers, sophomore class moderator, and Sister Maria Francine. Meghan Geiger said "Ms. Weathers was very helpful. She is different outside of class. I enjoyed working with her."



Dates "Male Bonding" at Silver bells.

JUDGEMENT DAY!

By Michaela Beechem

“And the first sounded, and there followed hail and fire, mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of the earth was burnt up, and the third part of the trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up” (Revelation 8:7).

Is the Apocalypse coming in 2012? There are many theories based on religion, science, and prophecies. One example is the Mayan Calendar and the mystery of why it ends in 2012. The Mayan Calendar is based upon the cycle of evolution, which they have ending on December 21, 2012 A.D. This cycle is linked to the sun orbit. Due to this idea, it is believed that the date will bring about a new creation or an Apocalypse. Many scientists believe that the sunspot cycles will flip the magnetic field, which will cause earthquakes and flooding during this year. Along with the importance of the sun, is the importance of the stars. It is believed that in the season of winter the sun will be aligned in the center of the Milky Way. This hasn't happened in 26,000 years. “Whatever energy typically streams to Earth from the center of the Milky Way will indeed be disrupted on 12/21/12 at 11:11 p.m.” says Lawrence Joseph. 2012 is also the dawning of the Age of Aquarius.

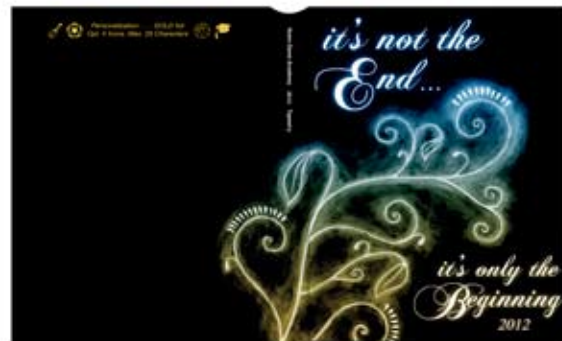
Until now the world has been in the midst of the Age of Pisces. This new age brings about a dawning of a new age. Aquarius is known as the servant of pouring out water of knowledge to quench the thirst of the world. Each zodiac sign has a ruling planet. The ruling planets of Aquarius are Uranus and Saturn. Uranus is known as a catastrophic planet and Saturn signifies chaos. Knowing these signs are coming into play in 2012 brings a lot of worry and questions as to if it is a sign to a new world. A thought that has crossed many philosophers minds is the end of 2012 may bring about world peace, but not until the world has gone through a costly lesson for all mankind.

There are those who don't think the world is coming to an end. Many believe the entire thing is a hoax. Nasa tells all to “sleep well on December 21.” Some think the Book of Revelation should not be read literally and those who do are the ones who believe the world will end. People question if “judgement day” is true, but we will never know until 12/21/12. It is up to you, the reader, in deciding what it is if you believe.

WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

Catholic Schools Week:
January 30-February 3
“Faith, Academics, Service”
Monday: Nunday Monday
Tuesday: Service Day
Wednesday: Teacher Appreciation
Thursday: Old School Day
Friday: Decade Day
Valentine's Day: February 14
The Variety Show: February 16-18

**DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR
YEARBOOK! GO TO NDA WEBSITE
UNDER CURRENT STUDENTS**



ENJOY FATHER DAUGHTER EVERYONE!