



THE *nda* LIFE

Dear Panda Families,

It is hard to believe how quickly this school year is coming to a close. These final weeks always seem to move faster than we expect, and before long, we will be celebrating the many milestones that mark the end of another wonderful year at Notre Dame Academy. While there is much to look forward to, there is also important work still ahead, and I encourage our students to stay focused, finish strong and take pride in all they have accomplished.

One of the highlights of this past week was Prom 2026, which you can read more about on page 3 of this issue. Despite a rainy start, the evening turned into a beautiful night on the river. What stood out most, however, was not just the setting, but the way our students represented themselves and NDA.

We received incredible feedback from the captain and crew of BB Riverboats, who shared that they had never had such a kind, respectful and fun group of students on board. They were so impressed that they even invited a few of our students to briefly take the wheel. What a memorable moment, and what a powerful reflection of the character of our young women.

Moments like this remind us that our mission is alive and well. At NDA, we are not only preparing students academically, but forming young women rooted in faith, guided by integrity and committed to treating others with dignity and respect. These are the values of our Catholic identity, and it is a gift to see them lived out so naturally by our students.

As we move through these final weeks, I invite all of us to pause and give thanks for the many blessings of this school year. Let us continue to support one another, celebrate each other's accomplishments and trust in God's plan as we finish strong together.

Please know of my gratitude for your partnership and for the gift of your daughters.

Walk in Faith,

Mrs. Lisa Ruwe Timmerding '97



FAITH IN ACTION

FAITH FORMATION

UPCOMING LITURGIES

We will celebrate mass in the chapel at 7:20 a.m. on Friday, April 24 and Tuesday, April 28.

We will pray a decade of the rosary in the chapel at 7:45 a.m. on Thursday, April 23 and Monday, April 27.

The St. Gemma Galgani Family will come together to pray the rosary on Friday, April 24 during homeroom.



VOCATION STORY

FAITH WITNESS

On Wednesday, April 15, Sr. Kelley Rush, SND visited with the Sophomore and Senior Religion classes. Sr. Kelley is the Novice Director for the Sisters of Notre Dame and lives in Chardon/Cleveland, Ohio. During her visit she shared her faith witness with the students encouraging them to be open to the plans that God has in store for them. She answered questions, talked about what it is like living in community with the other Sisters and prayed with the students as they near the end of the school year.



STAYING CONNECTED IN FAITH

SENIOR PARENTS

This week, we shared with your daughter information about the Faith Forward Program with Newman Connection. This is a great way for your daughter to stay active with her faith and connect with the local faith community at her college campus. You can find a parent letter about the Faith Forward program [here](#) as well as the link to the Newman Connection. Encourage your daughter to take 30 seconds to connect!



PROM 2026

ANCHORS AWAY FOR PROM 2026!

A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT ON THE RIVER FILLED WITH JOY, MUSIC, AND MEMORIES

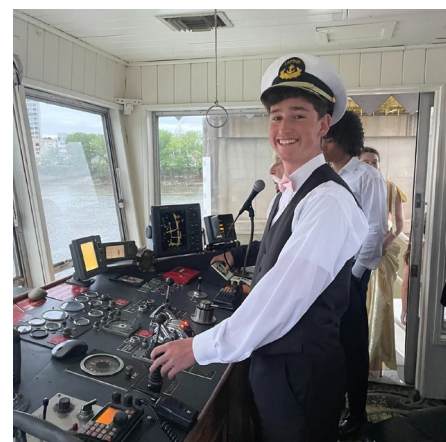
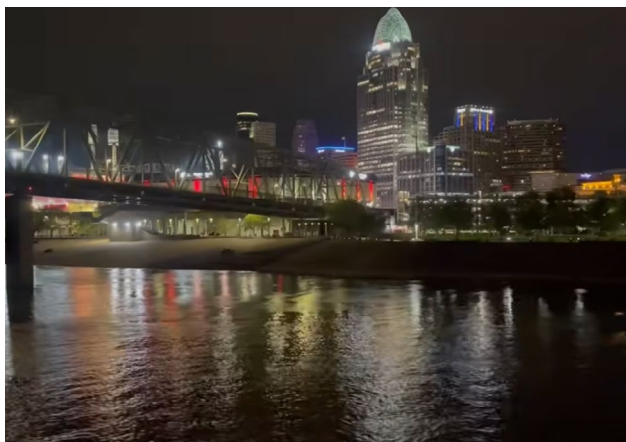
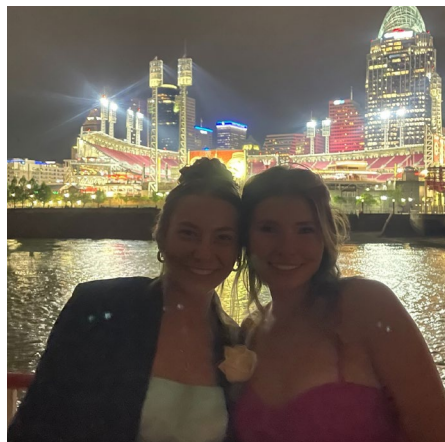
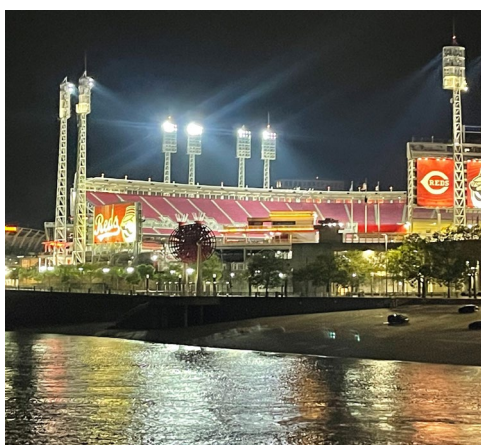
Notre Dame Academy's Prom 2026 set sail on Saturday, April 18, aboard the BB Riverboats, creating a memorable evening for juniors and seniors.

Although the night began with rain, the skies cleared just in time to reveal beautiful views of the Cincinnati skyline, setting the stage for a truly special celebration. From the moment students stepped on deck, the evening was filled with music, laughter, and the joy of being together.

Students enjoyed dancing, spending time with friends, and celebrating the end of the school year in a unique and festive setting. The captain of the boat was so impressed with the students and their dates that a few were even invited to briefly take the wheel, adding an unforgettable highlight to the night.

Congratulations to Prom Princess Jacie Hail and Prom Duchess Olivia Eibel, who were honored by their classmates during this special moment.

Prom 2026 was truly a night to remember, as the NDA sisterhood came together to celebrate friendship, joy, and the unforgettable experience of a night on the river.



PROM 2026 FASHION SHOW

PANDA RUNWAY FUN AND FASHION!

Last week, students, faculty and staff enjoyed a lighthearted Prom 2026 Fashion Show featuring dresses from proms past.

Students modeled gowns from different years, including some that once belonged to their moms, which added a nice connection across generations. We also had a few alumnae and moms join in, along with special appearances by Sr. Anita Marie and Sr. Maria Francine, which made it even more fun.

It was a great way to celebrate NDA traditions and share a few smiles during the school day!



Student Life



FINAL EXAMS AHEAD

SCHEDULE RELEASED FOR FRESHMEN THROUGH JUNIORS

Final exam week is approaching, and Notre Dame Academy has released the [exam schedule](#) for freshmen, sophomores and juniors.

We wish all of our Pandas the very best as they prepare for a strong and successful finish to the school year!



FELICEM DIEM NATALEM!

HAPPY 2,779TH BIRTHDAY, ROME!

Each year the Latin classes celebrate the city of Rome getting even older. According to legend, Rome was founded by Romulus in 753 BC, and April 21 is traditionally considered Rome's birthday, or, Natale Di Roma, as the holiday is called in Italy.

Every year on this day, and for the days leading up to it, there are widespread festivities around Rome and its historical sites, involving parades, gladiator fights, elaborate costumes, performances, ceremonial rituals, and various other forms of historical reenactments, games, and celebrations.

On Tuesday, April 21, Rome turned 2,779 years old! Et multos annos...!



SAVE THE DATE!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

ACADEMIC AWARDS

We will celebrate the achievements of our many freshmen, sophomores, and juniors on Wednesday, May 13 from 7 until 8:30 p.m. in the Theatre. Save the date! Students will be notified prior to the event if they will receive an award. Awards are given out for Academic Excellence, Governor's Scholars Program, departmental awards, etc.

FBLA

REAL-WORLD INSIGHT

FBLA STUDENTS ENGAGE WITH ENTREPRENEURS

By Lizzy Fite

On Monday members of FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) attended a field trip to UC and Xavier. At UC they met up with NDA Alum Ms Anna Resing (2019). The 1819 Innovation Hub is the university of Cincinnati's front door for industry inventors, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Some guest speakers they had was the assistant vice president, Kate Harmon as well as the director of events, experience, esports, and engagement Patty Moser. They also had two young women Noelle Scheper and Nina Aslam who are apart of a startup The Motiv app.

After UC they traveled to Xavier University and met with Thomas Lebesmuehlbacher who is the associate dean & associate professor of economics at the Williams college of business. They had guest speakers of students at Xavier and Ellen Heekin, a former economics teacher at Xavier and a financial advisor at Wells Fargo. They had lunch in the cafeteria, had a campus tour, and got to participate in a mock class by Mr Lebesmuehlbacher and did a fun game!

The students had an amazing time and represented NDA extremely well. Thank you to UC, Ms Resing, Xavier Univeristy, Thomas Lebesmuehlbacher, Ms Dooling, and FBLA amazing club advisor Mr Lonneman!!!!



IMPORTANT DATES

2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR

As we look ahead to the 2026-27 school year, we are sharing key dates to help families plan for holidays, breaks and important milestones throughout the year. Please note these dates on your calendar as you begin making plans for the year ahead.

Schedule for the 2026-27 School Year

August 18 — First Day of School

September 7 — No school: Labor Day

October 8-9 — No school: Professional Development Days

November 25-27 — No school: Thanksgiving Break

December 8 — No school: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

December 16-18 — Exams (early dismissal on exam days)

December 21 — January 3 — No school: Christmas Break

January 4 — School Resumes after Christmas Break

January 18 — No school: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 15 — No school: Presidents Day

March 12 — No school: Professional Development Day

March 25 — April 2 — No school: Easter Break

April 5 — School Resumes after Spring Break

May 28 — Last day of school

May 28 — Graduation



SENIOR GRADE LEVEL INFORMATION

EXCITING EVENTS AHEAD!

Senior year is filled with unforgettable moments, and the weeks ahead are some of the most meaningful of all. From special traditions and celebrations to final milestones and graduation, there is so much for the Class of 2026 to look forward to.

You can find full details, schedules, and important reminders [HERE](#). We encourage families to review this page together and mark their calendars so they don't miss these special moments.



Week of May 4	AP Exams Begin
May 5	Academic Signing
May 6	Pancake Breakfast
May 8	Painted Skirts Day
May 9	Senior Dinner Dance
May 11-13	Senior Spirit Dress Days
May 13	Last Official Day of School
May 14	Senior Luncheon & Send-Off
May 15 & May 18	Final Exams (Half Days)
May 18-21	iPad Turn-In
May 20	Graduation Practice
May 21	Graduation Practice Baccalaureate Mass
May 22	Senior Breakfast Graduation

SENIORS SUPPORT THE SISTERHOOD

HONORING SR. PAUL ANN THROUGH A CHERISHED NDA TRADITION

As the Class of 2026 prepares for graduation, seniors have a meaningful opportunity to give back to the NDA sisterhood by donating gently used uniforms and spiritwear for the annual Sr. Paul Ann Used Uniform Sale.

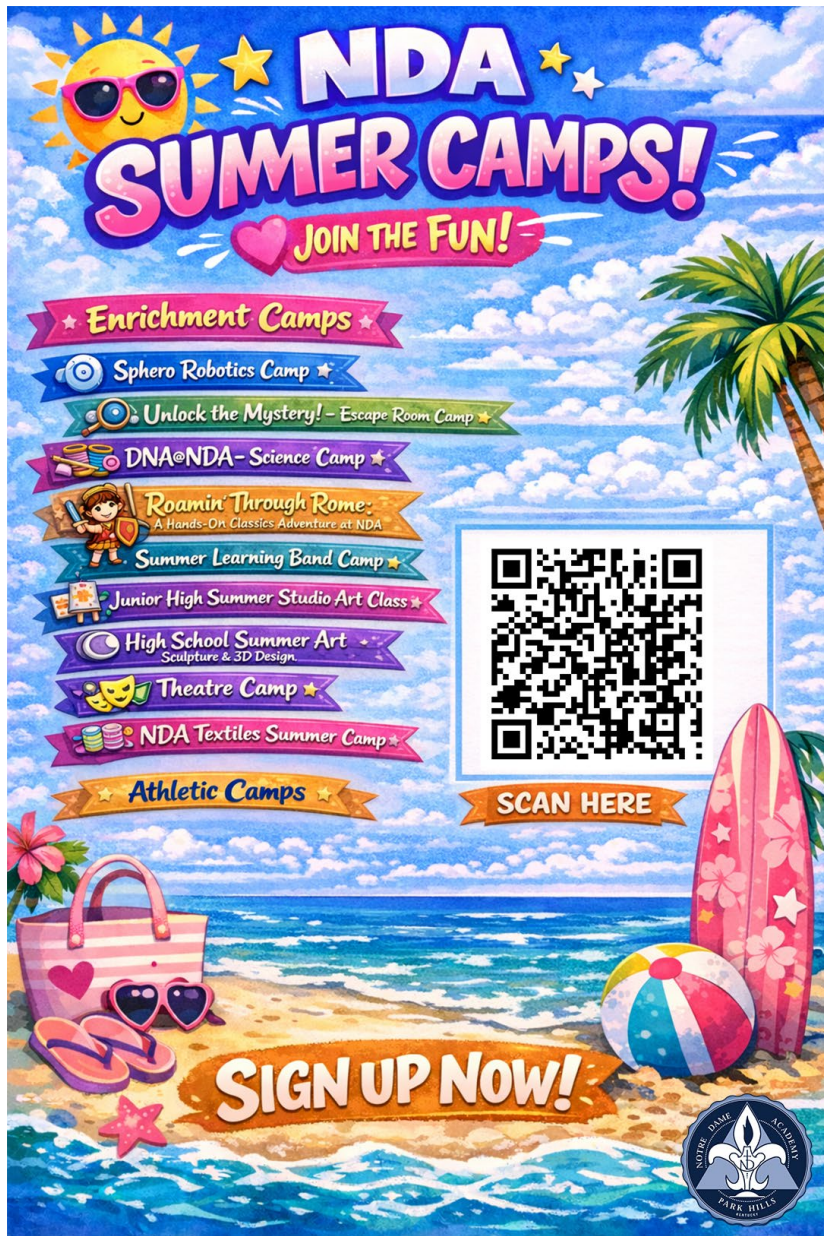
This special tradition was started by our late and beloved Sr. Paul Ann, whom we lost earlier this year. Her care for students and commitment to making NDA accessible to all continues to live on through this simple yet impactful act of generosity. It is our hope that this tradition will continue in her name for years to come.

Seniors are encouraged to bring in any clean, gently worn uniform pieces or spiritwear items they no longer need. These donations help support current and future Pandas by providing affordable options for NDA apparel and ensuring every student feels confident and included.

Collection details and drop-off information can be found on the Senior Grade Level Information Page. We are grateful to our seniors for honoring Sr. Paul Ann's legacy and for continuing to care for one another in such a meaningful way.

Thank you, Class of 2026, for carrying forward this beautiful tradition of sisterhood!





JOIN THE FUN!

NDA SUMMER CAMPS 2026: OUR BEST LINEUP EVER!

Get ready for a summer full of creativity, exploration and fun at Notre Dame Academy! Registration is now open for NDA's 2026 Summer Camps, offering a wide range of engaging opportunities for students of all ages and interests.

This year's enrichment camps include hands-on experiences in robotics, science, art, textiles, theatre and more. Whether your daughter is interested in coding with Sphero robots, solving puzzles in Escape Room Camp, exploring science in DNA@NDA or expressing her creativity through studio art and textiles, there is something for everyone.

Students can also travel back in time with Roamin' Through Rome, build musical skills in Summer Learning Band Camp or take the stage in Theatre Camp. In addition to these enrichment options, NDA will once again offer a variety of athletic camps.

These camps are a wonderful way for students to build skills, make new friends and experience the energy and sisterhood of NDA in a fun and supportive environment.

Spots fill quickly, so we encourage families to register early.

Register [HERE!](#)

We can't wait to welcome you to campus this summer!



ON THE WORLD STAGE

TOP HONORS AT REGIONALS

Congratulations to Emilie Bowman on an incredible achievement! This past weekend, Emilie competed at her regional event and placed 1st in her category and 3rd overall—an amazing accomplishment that reflects her hard work, discipline, and dedication both on and off the stage. As she prepares for the World Championship competition in Orlando, we are so proud to see her representing Notre Dame Academy with such excellence. Best of luck, Emilie, as you take on the world stage—we are cheering you on every step of the way!

YEARBOOK

ORDER TODAY

YEARBOOK SENIOR ADS ON SALE!

Attention parents of Seniors, We know you are incredibly proud of your daughter, why not celebrate her in the NDA yearbook? Senior ads are now on sale for the next month, with prices starting at just \$75! This is a great way to honor your senior while also supporting the Notre Dame Academy yearbook program. To create your ad, visit jostens.com and search for Notre Dame Academy. If you have any questions, please contact glynnr@ndapandas.org. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate your senior's accomplishments and memories!



ADVENTURE AWAITS!

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY IS HEADING TO SPAIN & PORTUGAL IN JUNE 2027

Experience the history, art, and beauty of the Iberian Peninsula with your classmates and NDA faculty chaperones as you journey from Lisbon to Barcelona. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to explore two amazing countries in one unforgettable trip!

Attendance at an info meeting isn't required — everyone's welcome! Click [here](#) to learn more and register. Any questions? Contact [Ms. Dooling](#) for more details.



DELICIOUS NEWS

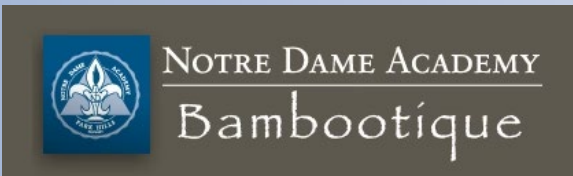
LUNCH MENU

This week's lunch menu and the cafeteria price sheet are available [HERE](#) for easy reference. Families are encouraged to check the menu often to help students plan ahead for meals they'll enjoy.

SHOW YOUR NDA SPIRIT

SHOP THE BAMBOOTIQUE

Pick up something to wear while you are cheering on your favorite Pandas this spring! Visit the Bambootique in person or shop [ONLINE](#).



PLEASE NOTE!

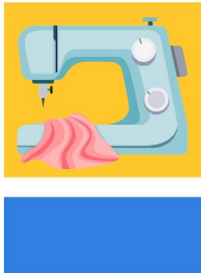
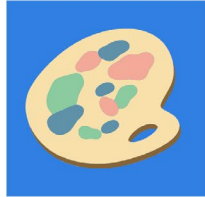
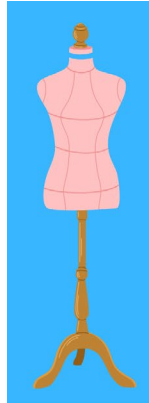
REPORTING ABSENCES

ATTENDANCE POLICY

We have an attendance email for parents to call in a sick child or if a student is leaving early from school. Please use this email if your daughter is sick or needs to leave school early: attendance@ndapandas.org. Remember you can always call the school office with any questions (859) 261-4300.

FINE ARTS

NDA ARTS FEST



SAVE THE DATE NDA ARTS FEST 2026

Mark your calendars for our second annual NDA Arts Fest on Tuesday, May 12 at 5:30 p.m.! This special evening celebrates the creativity, talent, and dedication of our students across the visual and performing arts. From fine art, band, chorus, textiles, theatre, and design, Arts Fest showcases the many ways our young women express their gifts and bring beauty to our community.

Join us as we honor the hard work of our student artists and celebrate an evening filled with inspiration, performance, and Panda pride. More details will be provided as the event approaches. We look forward to seeing you there!

A CELEBRATION OF SOUND

NDA/CCH BAND TAKES THE STAGE FOR SPRING PERFORMANCES

The NDA/CCH Band will showcase its talent and growth this spring with two special performances featuring both concert and jazz music.

The Spring Band Concert will take place on Sunday, April 26 from 4:30–5:30 p.m. in the Covington Catholic High School Theatre. This annual concert highlights the full ensemble and offers a dynamic program of traditional concert pieces alongside lively jazz selections, giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their versatility and musicianship.

The celebration continues on Tuesday, May 12 at the NDA/CCH Art Fest, held from 5:30–6:40 p.m. on campus. During this event, the band's jazz musicians will provide an energetic soundtrack to the evening, adding to the vibrant atmosphere of student artwork, creativity and community.

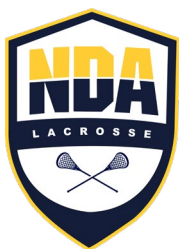
Led by the one and only Greg Cerimele, the NDA/CCH Band program reflects a unique and collaborative partnership, bringing together students in a shared commitment to excellence, creativity and performance. These spring events offer a meaningful opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate the dedication and artistry of our student musicians.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

PANDA ATHLETICS



Lacrosse

Lacrosse brought home a big win last Tuesday, defeating Dixie High School 21-0. Tonight, the team takes on the Ryle Raiders for Senior Night—come out and support our seniors! On Thursday, April 23, the Varsity team will travel to Summit Country Day for a 6:00 PM match.

Our JV team will host a tri-match on Saturday with McNicholas and Centerville:

NDA vs. McNicholas – 10:00 AM

McNicholas vs. Centerville – 11:30 AM

NDA vs. Centerville – 2:00 PM

Good luck, Pandas!



Softball

Softball is coming off a busy and successful week! Last Tuesday, they defeated Beechwood 12-1. On Wednesday, they fell in a close game to Dixie Heights, 3-4. They bounced back last evening with a dominant 17-0 win over Dayton.

The team travels to Holy Cross tonight and will be on the road again Friday at Scott High School. Keep up the great work, Pandas!



Tennis

Tennis is gearing up for a full week of matches:

- Wednesday vs. Beechwood
- Thursday vs. Conner
- Friday vs. Scott

Senior Night will be held on Monday, April 27, as they take on East Central High School. Come out to the NDA tennis courts to cheer on our Pandas!



Track and Field

Track and Field is coming off a strong showing at the Diocese Meet, finishing 2nd behind Bishop Brossart, with too many personal records to count!

They head to the South Dearborn Invitational this Friday—excited to see what the Pandas accomplish next!

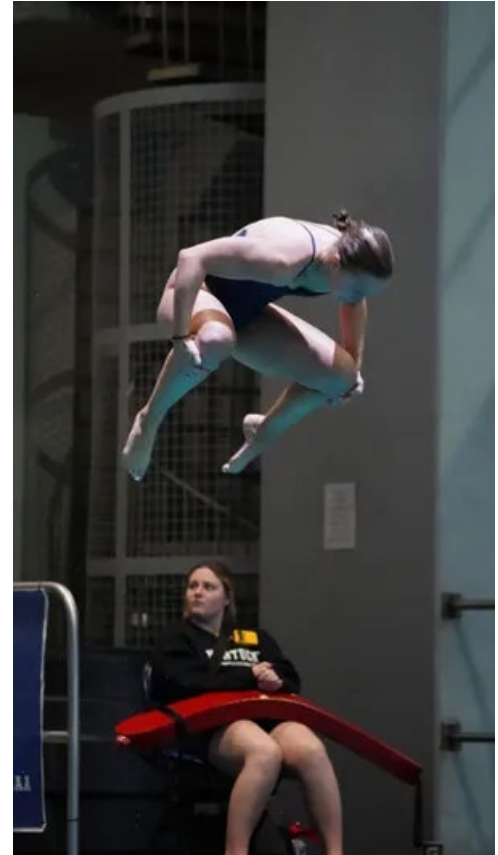


Swim and Dive

Notre Dame Academy's swimming and diving program is celebrating an exceptional showing in the 2025–2026 winter all-city teams, recently released by the The Cincinnati Enquirer.

In the Northern Kentucky/Indiana Girls Swimming and Diving category, NDA earned top individual honors, highlighting the strength and depth of the program.

Sophomore Clare Herfel was named Swimmer of the Year, while junior Savannah Bien earned Diver of the Year. Head Coach Jamie Kelly was also recognized as Coach of the Year, a testament to the program's continued excellence.



Clare and Savannah were both named to the First Team, with Clare earning her third First Team honor and Savannah her second, after previously being named to the Second Team.

Additional First Team honorees include junior Abby Carnes, who has now earned First Team recognition for three consecutive years, and senior Danaka Tucker, who also secured her third straight First Team honor after previously being named to the Second Team.

Senior Liv Wallace and sophomore McKenna Bien were named to the Second Team. This marks Liv's fourth all-city honor and McKenna's second Second Team recognition.

Congratulations to all of these outstanding student-athletes and to Coach Kelly on these well-deserved accolades.

Be sure to [register](#) for our Annual NDA Athletics Golf Outing—we'd love to see you there!



NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

**ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT
GOLF OUTING**



Kenton County Golf Course

5 JUNE, 2026

18 HOLES - 8AM - \$150

9 HOLES - 10AM - \$90



**Scan the QR
to register!**

Advancing the Mission



GIRLS' SCHOOLS UNITE KICKS OFF APRIL 27 NDA ALUMNAE INVITED TO SHOW THE POWER OF THE SISTERHOOD

Girls' Schools Unite returns April 27-29, bringing together alumnae from across the region for a shared effort to support the next generation of young women. Notre Dame Academy is proud to be part of this collective campaign, which aims to reach 5,000 alumnae donors across participating schools.

At NDA, this initiative reflects who we are. Rooted in the mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame, we form young women who lead with faith, courage and purpose. The strength of that mission is sustained by the lifelong sisterhood of NDA alumnae, who continue to show up in meaningful ways for the students who follow them.

Participation is the focus of Girls' Schools Unite. Every gift matters, and every alumna plays a role in building momentum. Whether through a personal gift, a quick message to a classmate or a post on social media, small actions come together to make a lasting impact.

Throughout the three-day campaign, alumnae are encouraged to connect with their classmates, follow the friendly competition on the leaderboard and help their class show up strong.

Together, we are forming the next generation of women who make a difference in the world!

[SUPPORT GIRLS SCHOOLS UNITE HERE](#)

Alumnae Rosary



JOIN US ALUMNAE ROSARY

Tomorrow, April 23, at 9:30 a.m., Notre Dame Academy will host an alumnae rosary in our Mary, Mother of the World Chapel. This monthly tradition offers an opportunity to pause, pray and reflect together as a school family.

All are welcome to attend and join the NDA community in prayer.



SHARING OUR
Community News

You can find a complete list of community news [HERE](#).

- Fr. Picchioni April 23, 3 p.m. Reality Tuesday Cafe
- Electronic Recycling Drive

Important dates

April 22	Mid-Quarter
April 23	Alumnae Rosary
April 24	Food Truck Day
April 26	Spring Band Concert at CCH
April 27-29	Girls Schools Unite Fundraiser
May 1	May Crowning Mass
May 2	Math and Language Placements Tests for Incoming Freshmen
May 4	AP Exams begin
May 5	Academic Signing
May 6	Senior Pancake Breakfast
May 9	Senior Dinner Dance
May 11-13	Quilt Show
May 12	Art Fest - Quilt Show
May 13	Academic Awards
May 14	Senior Luncheon and Senior Send Off
May 15	AP Exams end
May 15, 18	Senior Exams
May 16	Theatre Banquet
May 18-20	Exams
May 21	Cleaning Day Alumnae Rosary Baccalaureate Mass
May 22	No School - End of Semester Senior Recognition Breakfast Graduation
June 5	NDA Golf Outing
June 18	Alumnae Rosary
June 19	Athletic Dead Period Begins