

Irish Gazette

Faith, Knowledge and Service

Catholic Schools Week



LUNCH MENU

Monday Feb. 12
 Corn Dogs Cottage
 Cheese Mixed
 Veggies

Tuesday Feb. 13
 Taco-Salad Pinto
 Beans Nacho Chips/
 Salsa

Wednesday Feb. 14
 Fish
 Green Beans
 Butter Noodles

Thursday Feb. 15
 Salisbury Steak
 Salad Bar
 Parsley Potatoes

Friday Feb. 16
 Grilled Cheese
 Sandwich
 Tomato Soup
 Salad Bar



How does Notre Dame truly celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

By: Erin Turner

Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Schools usually spend the week with spirit days and fun celebrations that involve the school, the parishioners and the community members. [Con. pg. 2]

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 appreciate Mrs.
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ALL COUNTY BAND MEMBERS

By: Maya Dalton

While Notre Dame takes pride in its students who excel on the field and in the classroom, the school also takes great pride in those that excel in the arts. Specifically, those involved in band.

The Irish are represented by five students on the Harrison County All-County Band this year: sophomores Michelle Carter, Matthew Ellis, and Isabelle Stamm, along with freshmen Fiona Smith and Paige Rinschler. Matthew Ellis also earned a spot on the WV honors band.

Those wishing to be on the All-County Band must go through an audition process, and are given seats based on how high they scored. For example, Smith is the third chair flute out of eight chairs, meaning she received the third highest score in the county.

"My favorite part is the fact that everyone on the band truly wants to be there," said Smith. "All of the participants are good at what they do, and have a passion for music, which makes being on the band an even better experience."

Those that receive seats on the band are given music weeks before their concert, but don't practice as a group until the day before the show. It sounds like chaos, but the group practices all day.

See the Notre Dame students play with the band during their next performance Feb. 27 at Robert C. Byrd High School. The show begins at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 a person.



Continuation of Catholic Schools Week...

Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to the Church, local communities and the nation.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year was "Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." Through this, Notre Dame led service projects such as thank you cards to the troops and soup to the needy, while having fun dress down days such as America Monday, where students wore anything American themed.

Students also had the opportunity to bring in a friend from another school so that they can see what Notre Dame is like for a day. We also had an all-school mass Thursday with St. Mary's grade school.

And what's Catholic Schools Week without a snow day? Every year, we happen to have a snow day at some point during the week. This year, it happened to be on Friday, which would have been our annual volleyball tournament.

This week is really a week for us to show the community and those around us that we care by involving them in our school.

"I like that it's a national celebration not just a school celebrations," said Bailee Yokum, a sophomore at Notre Dame, who is also in her first year as a Catholic school student.



BOYS BASKETBALL

By: Clare Cistaro

Jan. 26 was a busy night for both the boys and the girls basketball. Tucker also faced the boys after the Lady Irish played. The boys' team came up a little short and didn't quite beat Tucker. With good effort and hard work, the Irish lost 67-59.

The boys quickly bounced back and headed to South Harrison on the Jan. 29. They came out on top with a final score of 77-56.

Charleston Catholic came to town on Feb. 2. The Irish played very well and won, beating Charleston Catholic 83-76.

Notre Dame traveled to Tug Valley Saturday. With a long road trip and a long day, the boys put up a great fight and a great game. They couldn't quite grab the lead and bring home a victory. The Irish lost 67-66. The boys were back on the road Tuesday and took on Tygarts Valley. The Irish won 86-62.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

By: Clare Cistaro

The Lady Irish are back in action. Two weeks ago, Tucker County came to town. The Lady Mountain Lions gave the Irish a game. Notre Dame was down six at halftime but couldn't quite get over the hump. Tucker County took home a victory, 53-28.

The Lady Irish then traveled to Weirton Jan. 31 to take on Madonna and came home with a great win. The final score was 51-28.

On Feb. 3, the Irish traveled to Parkersburg Catholic and couldn't quite give them the game they wanted, coming up short with a final score of 49-29.

Last night, the ladies were on the road again, taking on the Bulldogs of Tygarts Valley. The Fighting Irish played very well and started the week off with a win, 58-37.

Notre Dame will face Clay-Battelle at 7 p.m. Feb. 7. It is an important game for the Irish against sectional opponent Clay-Battelle as the season winds down.

WRESTLING

By: Serena Sestito

Last Friday and Saturday, the Notre Dame High School wrestling team went to the Class A state meet at Ritchie County High School. They competed against all Class A teams.

Sophomore Brent Robinson came in fifth place, and freshman Michael Alvaro came in sixth place.

This upcoming weekend, the wrestling team will compete at all-county regionals at Braxton County High School, where they will face off against schools such as South Harrison, Liberty, and Philip Babrou.

SWIM

By: Serena Sestito

This past week, the Notre Dame High School swim team had its meet at West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Jacob Coole, Kevin Nygaun, Nicholas Palmer, Stephen Groves and alternate John Kolodziej qualified to go to states at West Virginia University on Feb. 15-16.

At that meet, they'll compete with swimmers from every region in the state.

"I'm grateful to qualify for states in my last year of swimming and can't wait to see the competition and outcome of states," said Coole.

Visit the Irish on Social Media!



ION is looking for volunteers to help with basketball broadcasts. Any student interested should email Nick Farrell at nfarrell@wvillustrated.com.

Check Out The Irish Online Network for games, info and more!

Go to notredamewv.org and click on the ION link.

Teacher Feature:

By: Rebecca Baker

Mrs. Dianne Kinney went to high school at West Springfield High and graduated in 1991.

She grew up in West Springfield, Massachusetts, where she remained until she left to go to the United States Military Academy at West Point. There, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree.

After college, she joined the army for three years, in which she was stationed in Hawaii and trained in North Korea and Alaska. She was able to get a picture of her standing on the border between North and South Korea.

While she was in the army she met her husband of 22 years, Chris. After her service, she had two children: Timmy, 19, and Sarah, 16. Sarah attends Bridgeport High School.

Kinney spent some time as a stay-at-home mom. Her children go to public school, even though she teaches here at a Catholic school. Her opinion on public-versus-private school was that she loves the family aspect of a Catholic school, loves the common bond of prayer and the ability to get to know everyone personally.

Kinney later went back to school, studying at Fairmont State, where she earned a master's degree. She taught at Fairmont State for 12 years before coming to teach at Notre Dame, where she now teaches Chemistry and AP Chemistry to her students.



Mrs. Kinney

Marielle Carter, one of Kinney's students, said Kinney is unique in the way she helps students learn.

"While we do our work in her class, she is very patient with us and helps us to understand the material," said Carter. "Also, if we ever have a question on the homework she would always respond up to a certain time."

"At first, I was intimidated by taking general chemistry my junior year, but after having class with Mrs. Kinney, she made it less intimidating and gave me the courage to do AP Chem."-Marielle Carter