# The Crusader

A STUDENT PUBLICATION OF NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

Volume 30, Issue 2 Spring 2023




# FOR THE KIDS!

## ND Students Dance the Night Away!

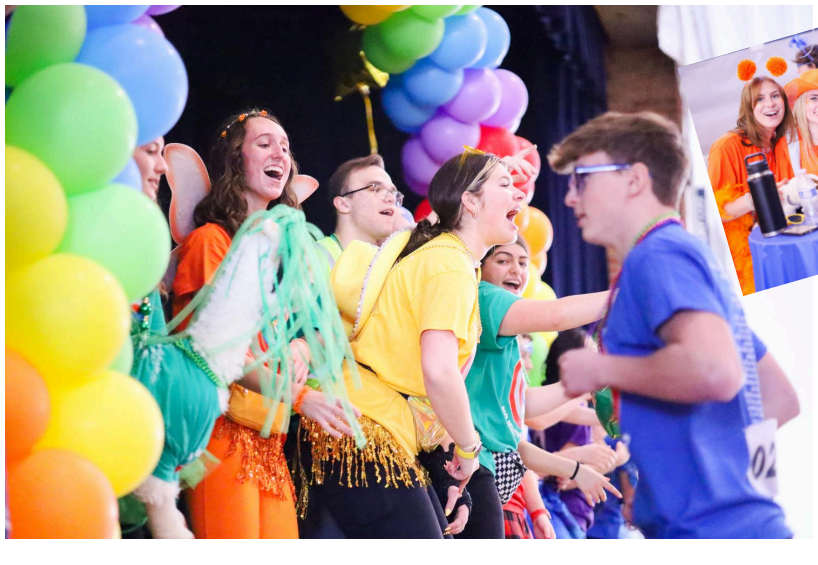


Writer Angela Salamone

On the morning of February 18th, over three hundred Notre Dame students, faculty and staff gathered in the gym for an exhausting yet exciting twenty-four hour event known as the Notre Dame Mini-Thon. What is so special about Mini-Thon is that our school raises funds for pediatric cancer research and comes together to “stand up against cancer” and “dance for life”. The senior class was the only group of ND students that have undertaken such an arduous, but worthwhile philanthropic event due to the pandemic. Luckily, just as everything is returning somewhat back to normal, ND had the opportunity to revive an event so near and dear to them as a school community. Seeing as no other class had any experience with the event, the seniors took the initiative to lead the rest of the ND students to successfully complete this spectacular twenty-four hour endeavor. The Notre Dame community came together for dancing, socializing, zumba, games, and powerful speeches, (for more information about the speeches, see Rosie’s article) and even head shaving!

That's right, ND students not only donated money, but some also chose to shave their heads as a symbol of support to those who face the brutality of cancer every day. Adrianna Raneri, one of the students who shaved their heads said, "I guess the reason for shaving my head at Mini- THON was that I had always wanted to shave my head, but I never had a reason, and Mini-THON raises awareness for such a great cause that I just went for it and I don't regret a thing".

It was so brave of Adrianna, as well as the other students who decided to make this sacrifice in the name of abolishing cancer. Aside from sacrificing their hair and time, students, as well as the Notre Dame Community were able to raise a grand total of $106,206! What an impressive feat, especially considering the two years off and coming back with all sorts of new people. Thankfully, many members of the ND community were open to this amazing event and made the return of the ND Mini-THON a spectacular and unforgettable experience.









**Spring Kairos!**

Reflections on this amazing experience!

See page 3



**Vandalism at Notre Dame!**

How do you feel about vandalism?

See page 6

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**ATTENTION CRUSADER COMMUNITY!**

KEEP AN EYE ON THE LOCAL PAPER, THE BEHTLEHEM PRESS! THEY WILL BE RUNNING STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS ON SEVERAL OF OUR OUTSTANDING ND SENIORS!
ALSO, OUR OWN EDITOR, **MICHAEL HODGSKIN**, WILL BE FEATURED AS A WRITER FOR THE NEWSPAPER.

# Congratulations to the New Members of ND's National Honors Society!




# Guys and Dolls

Editor Lauren Raniszewski

This year the Notre Dame Theater Company put on the musical *Guys and Dolls*. This show is set in New York City in the 1920/30s. There are two major plots, saving The Save A Soul Mission and floating gambling. The four main characters are Nathan Detroit, Miss Adelaide, Sky Masterson, and Sarah Brown.

Nathan Detroit is trying to find a place to illegally gamble. While Sarah Brown is going all over town in search of sinners to join The Save the Soul Mission. Nathan then bets Sky Masterson to take any girl on a date, that girl turns out to be Sarah Brown. Now at this moment Nathan is betting that he wins so he can marry his finance, Miss Adelaide. Sky visits Sarah and gets her to go on date with him in exchange for 12 dozen sinners delivered to the prayer meeting, since the mission is closing down. Sarah agrees. Later on, Nathan finally finds a place to gamble: the sewers. Nathan loses all his money but Sky saves him by telling him that Nathan won the bet. Sky then rolls and tells the sinners that if he wins they all have to go to the prayer meeting. Sky does win. They venture off to the prayer meeting on request by Sky, which saves the mission. While this whole story is happening, Sarah falls for Sky and at the end they get married. After all this running around, Nathan finally marries Miss Adelaide.

Here's to a successful inaugural performance in the auditorium!



# 2023 SPRING Kairos Retreat!

Writer Emma Soergel

From February 28 to March 3, 2023, Notre Dame High School held their annual spring Kairos retreat in Malvern, Pennsylvania. Kairos is a four-day, three-night retreat for high school seniors and select juniors that unites them closer to God, each other, and themselves. Students are divided into six groups of seven or eight, one being a student leader who attended Kairos in the fall, along with an adult leader, with whom they participate in certain activities throughout the retreat. This year, between the fall and spring, Notre Dame had the most students attend Kairos ever, about 80% of the senior class.





Kairos is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and I personally encourage everyone to go. It's a really incredible opportunity for self-growth and strengthening relationships that you never knew you needed. Friendships formed on Kairos are unlike any other; they're very unexpected, but deeply cherished. You do not have to be Catholic to attend, I personally am not, and I know many other retreatants were not, but I still got so much out of it. Kairos is a spiritual retreat, not a religious one. There are religious aspects, but it is really for yourself. I, like everyone else, was hesitant at first, but I am so glad that I opened my heart and my mind to Kairos. I hope next school year, even more students will attend and experience Kairos.

## Student Reflections on Kairos

Kairos honestly changed my whole perspective on my relationships with God, my peers, and myself. I loved watching Kairos bring out new sides of everyone there. I highly encourage the rising seniors to consider going next year - take a chance! Kairos is 100% worth it!

- Katie

**THE TIME YOU NEVER KNEW YOU NEEDED.**

**- JAMES**

**Kairos helps you grow with life lessons. Kairos is a lens to the soul to self-reflect, learn, and grow in all aspects of life.**

**- Eddie**

**Actually, it was the best experience of my high school career because it gave me an opportunity to think about myself and connect with other students. I know have a tight group of friends who support me!**

**- Christine**

Kairos was an amazing experience. I got to connect and learn more about my classmates and teachers, while participating in group oriented activities. The whole trip was truly a life-changing experience, but day two was by far my favorite; I have never felt those emotions in my life. I'm glad I went on Kairos and I would suggest it to everyone.

– Braydon

# Notre Dame's 2023 Mini-THON

Editor Rosetta Shupe

## Inspiring Speakers Motivate Dancers

During Mini- THON this past February, Notre Dame High School welcomed a few guests to speak about their experiences with pediatric cancer. The speakers reminded the students of what they were standing for. The first speaker was a young boy named Colton McGregor. Colton's mother spoke of his experience with pediatric cancer, and how Colton is now cancer free. To show their support for him, the student body wore cowboy hats because Colton is a huge cowboy fan. The next speaker was the Augustine family who spoke about their child's experience with cancer. Next, a woman named Bridegt Kosierowski talked about how her son dealt with cancer, and how he is now cured. After that, Dr. Decker spoke about the organization he runs to raise money for cancer. His group goes to Disney each year and participates in a run. Dr. Decker also mentioned a little girl he knew who had cancer, and how much her story impacted him. Finally, Janelle Massey, the founder of the Sassy Massey foundation spoke about her daughter Jillian, who sadly passed away from pediatric cancer. Janelle left many of the students in tears, and really encouraged everyone to keep fighting. Though only a few were able to share their testimonies, many other families are suffering from the same thing as these families, and that should remind us all of why we stood for 24 hours against childhood cancer.


BLUE
Team
GO PURPLE
WE ARE
DJ SHARBEL
NDHS Mini THON 2023
NOTRE DAME
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL
THON
Dance For The Kids

# The Crusader

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*Special Thanks to Mr. Steinruch and all who provided pictures for this edition of The Crusader!*


# Vandalism Article

**Editor Michael Hodgskin**

For as long as there have been public establishments, there has been vandalism. People vandalizing property is not a new concept to the modern world, but in recent times this crime has slowly begun to creep into more private locations. Vandalism no longer just consists of graffiti on brick exterior walls, but it is now taking the form of deliberate destruction of private property, and it is most commonly found inside of schools.

This issue has risen above the excuse that "teenagers will be teenagers," and is more than just a prank, it is a crime. It is vandalism.

However, it is interesting to hear the thoughts of the students within Notre Dame High School, a school which also suffers from these crimes. After interviewing multiple students, several different viewpoints on the issue have been recorded, which allows many people to see this problem in a different light.

Matthew Hatzakos says "If I see somebody do something, I'm not gonna snitch." He states that if it doesn't directly affect him, he's not going to do anything about it. However, there are less indifferent views on this subject matter. Lucas Castro, an international student this year, says that "vandalism messes up the image of the school." Graceann Mattair worries about the staff, and how "it's disrespectful to make an unnecessary mess for them to clean up." Melissa Skibinski believes that "if it damages the property then it is bad, because it is annoying and expensive to fix." We can see here the consideration for other people involved. There aren't just the perpetrators, but also the people left to clean it up. How is it fair to make the jobs and lives of these people so much harder? There are other noteworthy points though, where students like Sophia Ronca believe that "creating vandalism like graffiti is beautiful. If it is for a good cause and doesn't cause harm on purpose, then it should be promoted. However, if it is just out of pure disrespect, it causes more work for others and should be stopped."

# Scavenger Hunt - ND Rooms

**Writer Sophia Kilmer**

When you finalize your guesses, present this page to Mrs. Klabunde. If your guesses are correct, you will be entered to win a prize!

Room: _____ Basketball hoop, TV, pictures of students that are in the class on the wall, fridge, couch

Room: _____ Always something on the whiteboard, a plushie, a cabinet with books, a cart, pencils on the wall

Room: _____ Colored shirts on the wall, a fridge in the back of the room, skulls and shoe prints, has "Courage" written on the wall, and long black tables

Room: _____ Plexiglass around the teacher's desk, a shelf filled with textbooks in the front of the room, UPenn banner on the wall

Room: _____ Ramp, a TV that always remains on, five doorways, a couch

Room: _____ Literature books, patience sign, "Someone is paying attention; it's just not me."

Room: _____ Container where all the volleyballs, basketballs, etc. are stored, scoreboard, basketball hoops

Room: _____ An old TV, old maps, giant hall pass, an old American flag

Room: _____ Figurines along the wall, decorated tissue boxes, pro-life posters

# Notre Dame Basketball

**Writer Sophia Kilmer**

The Notre Dame boys basketball team did an outstanding job this year, winning eighteen out of twenty-one games. The team had a great season, winning the Colonial League Championship against Saucon Valley and playing multiple rounds in playoffs. They won the Colonial League match due to a singular defensive play by Chase Marcks with 1 minute and 24 seconds left. “I was really upset because I felt like I got a clean look and I should have made that shot,” he said, “I was just happy to make up for it in the end.”



The Notre Dame girls basketball team came in at seventeen wins out of the twenty-three games this season, and played all the way to Colonial League semi-finals. They were tied in the third quarter with 2 minutes and 50 seconds remaining, they ended the fourth quarter with a score of 31-26, ending the season for the Notre Dame team.



## Thank you to our Sponsors!













# Notre Dame High School Wrestling and Swimming

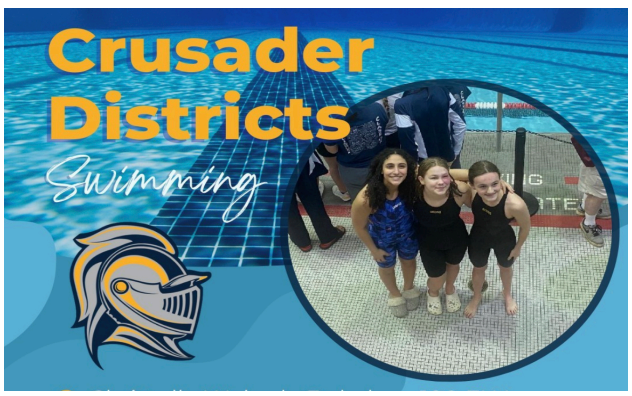
**Writer Britney Peters**

Notre Dame Wrestling competed at Freedom High School for the 2023 District II Class 2A team wrestling tournament. The team won the championship against Saucon Valley. Afterwards, they competed at the 2023 Colonial League Individual Wrestling Tournament, where they had seven champions and gained the team title. They then competed at PIAA Class 2A on March 11. Seniors Holden Garcia and Aiden Compton won state silver medals, while Junior Ayden Smith and Sophomore Vince Bouzakis won state gold.





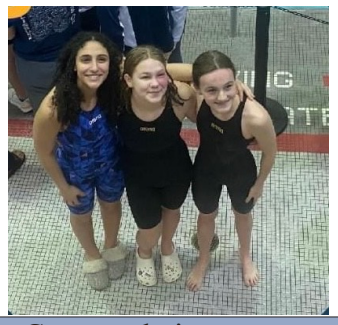
Notre Dame Swimming had made it to fifth place at Moravian Academy v. Pocono Mountain West. Christelle Waked, Claire Daukshus, and Donja Tripp qualified for the District XI Swimming Championships. Waked came in third place for the 100 Fly, Daukshus came in eighth place for the 200 Free, and Tripp came in third for the 500 Free and 100 Back.



# A Winter Season of Epic Accomplishments!



Notre Dame Wrestling had 4 athletes medal in states!



Congratulations to our swimmers in districts: Christelle Waked (3rd), Claire Daukshus (8th) and Donja Tripp (3rd)




Congratulations to our Colonial League "coaches pick" ALL-STARS in Basketball







Congratulations to all our senior winter athletes for an amazing season!



Congratulations to Ayden Smith for winning 100 matches!



The boy's basketball team won the 2023 Colonial League Championship.



Congratulations to Holden Garcia for receiving the Timothy Grube Memorial Wrestling Scholarship!



Congratulations to the Wrestling team on winning states!

