

THE blarney stone

A PUBLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY
OF NOTRE DAME PREPARATORY SCHOOL
AND MARIST ACADEMY

Notre Dame Preparatory School: 248-373-5300
Notre Dame Marist Academy-Middle: 248-373-5371
Notre Dame Marist Academy-Lower: 248-373-2573

Notre Dame getting greener

An expected bumper crop of hydroponic lettuce joins wide variety of new plants going into Notre Dame's new greenhouse.

In his “The Teaching of Botany in the High School,” published in 1907 in *The School Review* by The University of Chicago Press, author Otis W. Caldwell wrote about the importance of such a subject in secondary school curricula.

“The primary purpose of teaching botany in the high school is found in its relation to the educational and cultural needs of young men and women,” Caldwell wrote. “It offers an opportunity for directed experience and a study of the manifestations of life in one of its most important aspects.”

And while such words of wisdom came more than 110 years ago, it is still relatively rare to find botany as part of a high school course of study, at least in the U.S. In fact, a study conducted during the 1990s indicated that the percentage of high schools offering botany classes had decreased from over 50% in the early 1900s to less than 2% by the late 1990s.

All of which points to what a real

advantage it is for students in Notre Dame's upper division to not only have botany included in the array of science classes it offers, but to also have such an advanced facility — the new greenhouse — available to help study it.

HYDROPONIC HAVEN

Though the school's new greenhouse, which is part of Notre Dame's stunning new science, art and technology wing, has only been in operation since late August, it literally has been a hotbed of activity in spite of the cooling temperatures outside and shortening daylight hours.

“The beauty of having a greenhouse like ours is that we can grow year round,” said Carolyn Tuski, Notre Dame's botany teacher and greenhouse manager. “We have a controlled environment where we can regulate the temperature, amount of carbon dioxide, the amount of sunlight

and more.”

She also said she can adjust the greenhouse environment to fit the specific needs of the plants in order to promote a healthy growing environment for them. So far that has paid off as Tuski and her students have lettuce and kale mixes growing, along with multiple varieties of basil, rosemary, spearmint and now, even hydroponic lettuce.

“We are just in the beginning stages of the hydroponic lettuce, but it is very exciting to see our kids work on this alternative method of growing plants,” said Tuski, who's also a Notre Dame alum (2010). “We have so much technology and equipment in the greenhouse to help make it a controlled growing environment. And this hydroponic system is one

Please see GREENER, page 3

Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy provides its diverse student body a Catholic and internationally recognized college-preparatory experience of lasting value.



VILLANOVA SOPHOMORE IS
‘BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE OF THE
MARIST SPIRIT,’ PG. 2

‘Beautiful example of the Marist spirit’

Villanova sophomore says Notre Dame prepped him well for college rigor; one of his former teachers says he’s the embodiment of the Marist mission.

When Notre Dame alum John Greene ‘17 matriculated at Villanova University in the fall of 2017, his academic track included a host of freshman science courses during his first year on campus, which is located just outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The thing is, though, he didn’t take any of them. That’s because, according to Greene, his high school, Notre Dame Prep, offered an array of amazing AP science courses taught by some amazing teachers.

“My education at Notre Dame Prep started me off ahead in my first year at Villanova,” said Greene, who is majoring in biochemistry with a minor in humanities. “The AP classes I took allowed me to skip all freshman-level science courses and, thanks to the amazing teachers I had in those classes at NDP, I integrated quickly into sophomore-level classes.”

One of those amazing teachers is Sylvia Mulrenin, who co-chairs Notre Dame’s upper-division science department (along with Jocelynn Yaroch).

“Specifically, I’d like to mention Mrs. Mulrenin’s AP chemistry,” Greene said. “This course not only prepared me material-wise for organic chemistry in college, but it prepared me for what college courses in general would be like. If it wasn’t for the discipline needed for Mrs. Mulrenin’s class, I would’ve had a much more difficult task when I first got to Villanova.”

As far as Mulrenin’s concerned, however, Greene’s academic success in college is more likely due to his own work ethic.

“I remember John as a hard-working student with a great attitude,” she said. “Always cooperative and wanting to learn — not just in it for a grade.”

Greene also had props for NDP’s music and band program, which not only helped him land a spot on Villanova’s marching band, it helped get him a leadership position in that band. “I think another thing that was particularly influential for me at NDP was my time spent in the band, which provided me with an incredibly unique opportunity to grow as a leader and as a person,”

he said. “There I learned about how to be part of a larger community, and it’s something I carried over to the Villanova University band where I am now drum major and band manager.”

Greene also believes that the fact that his teachers in high school were always so accessible is another reason the transition to college was much easier for him.

“Mr. [Joe] Martin, Mrs. [Katrina] Sagert, Mrs. [Julie] Carman, Mr. [Mark] McCaskey, Mrs. [Heidi] Newby and many more teachers were always willing and excited to talk with me about just about anything I would ask,” Greene said. “That has helped me be more comfortable when talking to professors, which is a critically important in college. It also has enabled me to have many extracurricular discussions and find

many different opportunities, including some recent research with my organic chemistry professor.”

Now well-entrenched and very busy in college, Greene nonetheless still has time to reminisce about the Notre Dame community.

“I miss AP biology with Mrs. [Jocelynn] Yaroch, AP music theory with Mr. [David] Fazzini, and AP literature with Mrs. [Gretchen] Glick and Mrs. Sagert,” he said. “I especially miss my time in the pit orchestra for all the musicals, my time in campus ministry, and of course, band with Mr. Martin.”

A number of other NDP

teachers also weighed in on what they remember about Greene, whose future plans include medical school.

“I have always been impressed by how thoughtful John is, and I mean that in every sense of the word,” said English/social studies teacher and IB-MYP coordinator Katrina Sagert. “Of course he is smart, but he is also contemplative. He’s somehow able to override that frantic impatience we all have and is able to be present in the moment in his ideas and his work as well as the way he communicates and interacts with those around him. Everything he says seems carefully weighed and considered, but also authentically from the heart. It was as true of his English essays as it was of a hello in the hallway. He is a beautiful example of the Marist spirit.”

Julie Carmen, who teaches English in Notre Dame’s upper division, also remembers Greene as a great student to have in her classroom.

“John was very fun, energetic, and made public speaking the type of class it is meant to be — a blast,” she said. “I taught him in the same class I taught his brother Joe ‘15, and together they made my first year at NDP memorable!”



One of his former teachers at Notre Dame Prep called Villanova University sophomore John Greene ‘17 a “beautiful example of the Marist spirit.”

GREENER, from page 1

of the most exciting pieces of technology in our greenhouse. It's through this system that we can grow plants without soil. Using a specific recipe for our water and the types of plants we want to grow, we can grow lettuce, tomatoes and cucumbers using only the nutrients, water and light."

Tuski also noted that she hasn't planted a single seed herself in the greenhouse.

"My botany students have taken on total responsibility for planting seeds, watering the plants, transplanting them into larger pots and monitoring the plant needs," she said. "I am there to oversee and give my input, but they are the ones doing all the work."

Even though Tuski's botany classes so far are limited to high school students, she does have sixth-grade social studies students working in the greenhouse and learning about human/environmental interactions through the use of growing lettuce and kale. She said they come in everyday after school to check on their plants and to ensure they're getting enough water.

ADDRESSING 'PLANT BLINDNESS'

The upcoming spring semester will be a very busy one for the greenhouse and for the middle school and high school students who will be working in it. They will be growing many different kinds of



Notre Dame students prepare for growing hydroponic lettuce in the greenhouse.

annuals, including coleus, dahlias, heliotropes, salvias, pansies, geraniums and more, according to Tuski.

"Though I love seeing all the green in the greenhouse right now, I am excited to start introducing more color," she said. "We also will begin planting more vegetables and herbs, including sage, oregano, stevia, broccoli, peppers, pumpkins, zucchini and more. In addition, we will start our hydroponic tomatoes while continuing with the hydroponic lettuce during the spring semester."

Tuski also noted that one of the main reasons for having a greenhouse in the first

place is that they will be able to start their "outside plants" earlier.

"Sooner than later we will be taking the plants we started in the greenhouse and transplant them into the outdoor garden beds when they start to thaw in the spring," she said.

It's not all planting and transplanting for Tuski's students, however. In her botany classes, which are being held in a classroom near the greenhouse, she is teaching her students the important role that plants play in their lives.

"So often we ignore plants or think of them as just healthy foods to eat, but it goes beyond that," she said. "My goal is to address this 'plant blindness' and show the students that the study of plants is not only a science, but also an art. These plants are living organisms that are relying on us for survival."

Tuski also wants to ensure students are aware of some of the major issues affecting agriculture in the 21st century.

"We have talked a great deal in class about the agricultural industry and how we are seeing a decline in young adults entering that field," she said. "We also talk about how you don't have to be a farmer to work in this industry. And we've discussed how some of our everyday actions can impact the environment and climate around us and how working with plants can help us fight against the many environmental challenges we face today." 🌱



Senior Alissa Allen-Howard is ensuring the planted crops do not go dry.

Two from Notre Dame get Heisman honors

Notre Dame students Brad Blakeslee and Sydney Newby were named school winners for the nationally recognized Wendy's® High School Heisman Award. The seniors were selected based on their outstanding academic and athletic achievements, and leadership within their communities. At press time the pair was waiting to find out if they also were named state finalists, which could lead to national honors, typically announced during ESPN's broadcast of the college Heisman Memorial Trophy presentation in December.

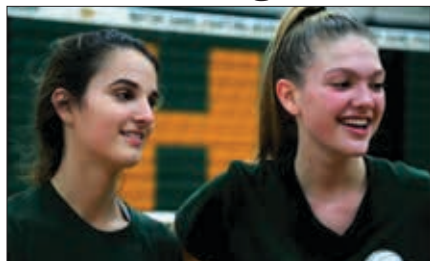


Eligibility for the high school Heisman begins with maintaining a GPA of 3.0 (B average) or better. Applicants also need to be proven leaders and role models within their school and community. And applicants must perform in at least one of the 47 school-sponsored sports recognized by the International Olympic Committee in the Summer and Winter Olympic Games or the National Federation of State High School Associations.

Newby is a three-sport athlete at Notre Dame as a member of the bowling, basketball and softball teams. She also was named to the academic all-state team for softball and bowling in 2017-2018.

Blakeslee has played soccer, basketball and baseball each of his four years in the upper division. He also was named to the all district first team for soccer and individual academic all-district team for baseball. 🏆

Two from NDP get All-America honors



Notre Dame seniors Natalie Risi, left, and Maddy Chinn also are finalists for Miss Volleyball honors in Michigan.

The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) announced last month that Notre Dame senior Maddy Chinn was named to the Under Armour Girls High School All-America Second Team. Chinn, who will be playing volleyball next year for Purdue University, was

one of only 150 All-Americans for the year.

In addition, NDP senior Natalie Risi was named an Honorable Mention All-American by the AVCA. Chinn and Risi also recently were named finalists for the prestigious Miss Volleyball honor, which is presented each year by the Michigan Volleyball Coaches Association. Risi will be playing for Ball State University next year.

A record 793 nominations were submitted through the AVCA and MaxPreps, resulting in 150 All-America and Honorable Mention All-Americans. Many, like Chinn and Risi, already committed to play collegiate volleyball at some of the top schools in the country. 🏆

NDMA debate ranks 22nd out of all middle and high schools nationwide

Notre Dame's middle division has been named the 22nd-ranked school in the country, according to the National Speech & Debate Association, which was originally founded as the National Forensic League. According to J. Scott Wunn, executive director of the NSDA, Notre Dame's middle division is ranked among the Top 1% of all schools nationwide, including middle and high schools, earning it membership in the association's prestigious Pentagon Society.

"This milestone is remarkable because it demonstrates outstanding commitment to teaching students essential life skills including communication, research, listening, writing and organization," Wunn said. "The hard work your school has invested to achieve this distinction will pay dividends for years to come. I encourage you to build upon this momentum to ensure that even more students are empowered to become engaged citizens, skilled professionals, and honorable leaders in our global society."

LeAnne Schmidt, who teaches the 8th-grade individuals and societies class and 7th-grade writing, and manages the debate activity at NDPMA, said she is proud of the students for earning such accolades, especially since the skills learned in debate and forensics can be utilized in so many other ways in school and life.

"We are honored that NSDA has recognized the hard work of our Notre Dame Marist Academy students as speakers and the committed teachers who challenge them to incorporate public-speaking activities in projects across all areas of the curriculum," Schmidt said. "I am also proud of the student leaders and faith-raisers who utilize these skills regularly in community presentations and events, such as Mass leadership and during our recent adoration service."

Notre Dame Marist Academy's debate activity's No. 22 ranking is out of more than 3,500 schools nationwide. Students earn points and degrees in the NSDA honor society based on competitive and service-related activities, ranging from the Degree of Merit with 25 or more points to the Degree of Premier Distinction with 1,500 or more points. 🏆



From left, seniors Alejandra Gonzalez, Dixie Lucas, Alena Manzor, Brianna Manzor and Marisol Rodriguez earned 2018 Ric Gonzalez Memorial Foundation scholarships.

Five seniors get special scholarship

Notre Dame seniors Alejandra Gonzalez, Dixie Lucas, Alena Manzor, Brianna Manzor and Marisol Rodriguez have been awarded college scholarships sponsored by the Ric Gonzalez Memorial Foundation, marking the 11th consecutive year that Notre Dame students have earned the annual scholarship.

The Ric Gonzalez Foundation, which since 2004 has been providing college scholarships to students in southeast Michigan, was formed after the passing of Ric Gonzalez, co-founder of automotive- and aerospace-supplier Gonzalez Design Group, based in Madison Heights. So far, according to the foundation, 117 scholarships have

Please see NEWS, page 7

High school comfortable

Notre Dame senior student ambassador and Model United Nations delegate says it's reassuring and comforting to enter the Notre Dame building every day.



Students come to Notre Dame for many reasons. Maybe it's because a brother or sister attends or attended Notre Dame. Maybe it's because a parent or relative is an alum. Or maybe it's because many of their friends from grade school are here. But for most, one of the most common reasons is that Notre Dame has such a great reputation.

Count current senior David Mikkola as one of those students. He enrolled at NDP from Walton Charter Academy and perhaps because of its close proximity to Notre Dame, Walton students know a little more about NDP than some of their peers from other area grade schools.

"I was fully aware of the multitude of opportunities that Notre Dame offered as a high school," said Mikkola, whose brother Nathaniel also is a student at NDP. "In comparison to other high schools in the area, it was clear to me that NDP outranks them in nearly every aspect, including spiritually, academically and with its extracurriculars."

UNITED NATIONS HIGH SCHOOLER

And Mikkola should know about extracurriculars. After all, besides a heavy academic schedule that includes a number of International Baccalaureate classes, he participates in a host of extra clubs and organizations.

He's one of the school's student ambassadors, which calls for him to help NDPMA's

admissions department with outreach to prospective students and parents. He's also a member of the National Honor Society, the Chinese National Honor Society, the Creative Writing Club, he's a "peer leader" and he's also on the speech and debate team. Plus, he's a regular in Notre Dame's award-winning theatre department.

Mikkola also participates in NDP's Model United Nations team, which basically requires him to hash out any number of world issues and conflicts in a public forum — just like the real United Nations.

Notre Dame's Model U.N. moderator, Dave Osiecki, who also teaches social studies, said Mikkola is doing quite well in the group.

"I recall David participating in a substantive debate on the North Korean crisis at the Southeast Michigan Model United Nations Association (SEMMUNA) conference last year at Bloomfield Hills High School," Osiecki said. "Like many in the MUN, as he gains more and more experience with Model UN, I look forward to his participation in college-sponsored MUN conferences in the future."

For his college plans, Mikkola is applying to Oakland University, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Western Michigan University, Dartmouth College, Bucknell University and Vanderbilt University.

"Any one of those colleges would be a blessing to be accepted to," he said. "But my top ones are the University of Michigan and Vanderbilt University as of now."

Even though a career is still a bit far off to make concrete plans, Mikkola nonetheless has been thinking about it.

"I'm keeping my mind open, but my top interests are political science and international relations," he said.

"Today, I'm planning on earning a bachelor's degree in those fields I mentioned and possibly furthering my education in law school. I'm not sure on exactly where to go

from there, but a policy analyst position or a legal professional sounds really great right to me right now."

Meanwhile, back at Notre Dame, whether Mikkola's more-immediate future includes more Model U.N. negotiations or work on Notre Dame's next musical theatre production, "Footloose," which opens November 16, it's abundantly clear he fits in well with the student body at large.

'LIKE FAMILY'

"I didn't realize it at first when I got here, but I came to learn that Notre Dame has a place for every student," he said. "No matter where you come from or what your hobbies or interests are, the NDP faculty and student body treat you like family. It's very reassuring and comforting to enter the building every day and feel happy with yourself."

Mikkola says he's not alone among his fellow students in looking forward to coming to the NDPMA campus every day for school.

"It really is different here," he said. "It's a place where kids like me really want to be versus a school where students just feel obligated to attend. And even though standards and expectations are definitely higher at Notre Dame, I believe most parents and students realize that this preparation will definitely benefit them in the future."

Mikkola also echoes what most alums from Notre Dame say about what they will find out about college.

"I know when I graduate from Notre

Dame I will leave feeling accomplished and ready for whatever the world has to throw at me," he said. "Notre Dame sets up all of its alumni for a path to success, and I know I will leave NDP feeling beyond prepared for anything college has in store for me."

He added that while it has been tricky to juggle everything in high school at times, so far it has been fantastic to have such kind, understanding people surrounding him on campus.

"I love the friendliness of the teachers and staff, and I know I've already met some real lifelong friends here." 📷



Notre Dame's Model UN team at the IA Crisis Conference in April 2018 included, left to right in back, Jon Raju, Nolan Lawroski, Yilun Zhou, Josh Montpas and Rowland Scheessele; in front, David Mikkola and Grace Mersino.

Musical mentor

Lower division music teacher has a background in ragtime and jazz, says providing her students with a safe and loving environment among her top priorities.

Patricia Hall is an accomplished professional musician who for many years had performed all over the world. But back when her now-grown son was born, she decided to go back to college and get her master's degree in order to teach. She got her first teaching job after her son started school.

"I became a teacher after my son started pre-kindergarten, said Hall, who has a B.A. from Wayne State University and an M.M. in music education from Oakland University. "I wanted a job back then that would allow me to spend time with him, plus, I was really impressed with his school at the time and his pre-kindergarten teacher."

Hall's son went to a Quaker school and he didn't really know he was at school until the fourth grade, according to Hall.

"He was learning primarily through play at the same time he was developing friendships that are still strong today," she said. "So I wanted to provide that kind of environment for the children in my classrooms."

'RESPECT AND SUPPORT'

Before coming to Notre Dame, Hall taught music in public schools to students in pre-kindergarten through high school. Now well into her third year as the music teacher in NDPMA's lower division, she's still very happy she decided to become a teacher. She also said she thoroughly enjoys working with the younger students at Notre Dame, which made quite an impression on her in the beginning.



Patricia Hall, Notre Dame lower division's music teacher, is an accomplished professional musician. Here she is performing at a recent Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival.

was totally blown away by the singing. I feel very blessed to have such a wonderful model for my young students to experience."

Diana Atkins, the lower division's principal, also feels blessed to have someone of Hall's caliber teaching the students.

"Under the direction of Ms. Hall, our music department has grown immensely," Atkins said. "Patricia has very high expectations for the students, but couples that with strong support for them so they can reach their full potential. Plus, even though her training is in chorus, our band has reached new heights under her leadership. Ms. Hall is a wonderful addition to the lower division."

CHILDREN ARE SACRED

For Hall, day in and day out she remains totally focused on what she says is the most important part of her job.

"The children at Notre Dame are the most important part of my job," she said. "I believe that children are sacred, and my responsibility as an adult is to provide them with a safe and loving environment in which to learn. I also believe that all children need to experience success and I feel a personal responsibility to help them achieve it. I think the best part of my job is seeing the confidence children develop when they realize they can accomplish their goals, no matter what they are."

Even though Hall is very content with what she now does for a living, she knows there's always something she could be doing if she wasn't teaching young Notre Damers.

"If I wasn't working in a school, I would probably be back performing full time, said Hall, who specializes in ragtime music and performs during the summer at jazz festivals throughout Michigan as well as in New Orleans. "But even while playing, I continue to educate as most of my performances involve informing the audience about all the great composers whose work I am presenting." 🎵

Hall works with choir students in Notre Dame's lower division.

"The first thing I noticed about Notre Dame when I got here was the respect and support given to the teachers," said Hall, the youngest of seven children and the third educator in her family. "I realized that at Notre Dame, teachers are treated as professionals and are respected for the expertise they bring to their classrooms."

Hall also was struck by the quality of the school's music department and singled out the choral activity.

"I was so very impressed with Mr. [Dave] Fazzini's choir," she said. "I heard them at the first all-school mass I attended and

NEWS from page 4

been awarded totaling \$407,500.

Scholarship funds can be used toward whichever college or university the students choose to attend and also can be used for tuition, room and board, or even books and other necessary school supplies.

Last year, then-Notre Dame seniors Carmen Aranda and Kyle Conroy were awarded the 2017 Ric Gonzalez Memorial Foundation scholarship.

A celebration and awards ceremony for those students receiving the scholarships this year was held on November 3 at Palazzo Di Bocce in Lake Orion. 🇺🇸

Record breakers

Notre Dame's girls swim team set four school records, placing eighth out of 32 teams at the 2018 Oakland County Championships, which were held in early October at Waterford Mott High School.

Every Irish swimmer swam a personal best time in the meet.

In the first event, the 200 medley relay team of Alina Stanczak (frosch), Josephine Honoway (soph.), Rhianna Hensler (jr.) and Libby Stacey (jr.) placed third among very tough competition and broke the school record for the event with a time of 1:48.99.



According to NDP head coach Mark McGreevy, Lindsey Creek (soph.) started off the individual wins with a 16th place finish in the 200 free, then went on to break the school record in the 500 free, capturing all-county 8th place with a time of 5:12.03, smashing the previous record by almost 10 seconds.

"Hensler then placed 3rd in the 50 free with an NDP record time of 23.74, and repeated as champion in the 100 butterfly (54.96), beating her D3 state record time set last year at the state meet," McGreevy said. "Rounding out the all-county individual honors was Stanczak, taking 8th in the 100 back (59.50) and 25th in the 50 free."

Stacey placed 26th in the 50 free (25.73) and 25th in the 100 free, with a D3 state qualifying time of 56.21. Honoway placed 31st in the 100 breaststroke, with a new personal best time of 1:11.29.

In the 200 freestyle relay, Allison Healy (jr.), Kasia Bennett (soph.), Deirdre Schiefer (sr.) and Isabella Vecchio (jr.) teamed up to finish 25th with a time of 1:49.93, all swimming their personal best times. In the 400 freestyle relay, the team of Stacey, Creek, Stanczak and Hensler fished in 10th with a time of 3:42.78. 🇺🇸

Notre Dame makes it matter

On Friday, October 5, all three divisions of Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy came together both on the Pontiac campus and off campus to "make it matter."

"Make It Matter Day," which is what the school calls the event, is an annual opportunity for the more than 1,000 students and their teachers to focus even more on the "Christian persons" and "upright citizens" aspects of the school mission. The goal is to make some-

thing useful for people in need in the metropolitan Detroit area and in some cases, in other parts of the world.

Upper division Principal Fr. Joe Hindelang, s.m., has said the faculty, staff and especially the students look forward to this special day each year. "It's a great opportunity for us to put our faith and mission into action as a school community."

Among the many projects in this year's Make It Matter Day, students worked on making baby blankets for newborns at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, writing letters for the school's Polyglot Club's Pen Pal Exchange and assembling "miracle boxes," which are care packages for our troops serving overseas that contain a variety of items, including socks, pocket foods, letters from home and "a whole lot of love." 🇺🇸



Two seniors from Notre Dame named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists

Notre Dame Prep seniors Joseph Joppich and Christopher VanDieren were named semifinalists in the most recent National Merit Scholarship Competition. These two academically talented students now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition.

More than 90 percent of NMSC semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and about half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

In addition, Joppich recently learned that he scored a perfect 36 on his ACT, an accomplishment shared with VanDieren, whose perfect ACT was announced in May.

NMSC also named NDP seniors Arjun Anand and Thomas Frost "commended students" for their exceptional academic prowess. Although they will not continue in the 2019 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, commended students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2019 competition by taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). 🇺🇸



Christopher VanDieren, left and Joseph Joppich, both NDP seniors, were named semifinalists in the most recent National Merit Scholarship Competition.

Notre Dame coach named to CCCAM hall of fame

Longtime cheer coach and five-time Notre Dame state champion coach Beth Campbell has been named to the Competitive Cheer

Please see NEWS, page 8



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NEWS from page 7

Coaches Association of Michigan's hall of fame.

According to CCCAM officials, Campbell earned her honor by virtue of her outstanding contribution to the sport of competitive cheer, outstanding contribution to the CCCAM organization, outstanding achievement in the sport of competitive cheer, and cheer coaching experience of at least 15 years.



Notre Dame Prep competitive cheer coach Beth Campbell, who was named to the CCCAM hall of fame, is no stranger to championships and trophies.

In nominating Campbell for the hall of fame, Walled Lake Western High School cheer coach Amber Stocks said Campbell has not only been a mentor to her, but a mentor to many.

"Beth's helpful demeanor and her passion for the sport has inspired me and many others," Stocks said. "I don't think there is anyone better for this honor. When you think of all the great

people in the cheer world, her name immediately comes to mind. Plus, her knowledge of this sport and the ideas and creativity she brings each year have, in my opinion, helped change the evolution of the sport."

Now into her 21st year of coaching, the seventh heading the Irish cheer program, Campbell spent 13 years as head coach of Troy High School's competitive cheer program. She was named district coach of the year in 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, and regional coach of the year in 2009, 2014 and 2015. In 2018, Campbell earned state coach of the year honors after completing her fifth state championship season with Notre Dame (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018).

Notre Dame honors SPCS members with special event

Notre Dame held its annual St. Peter Chanel Society Membership Dinner on Sept. 12, and for the first time in many years, it was held on the school campus. In fact, the event, which recognizes SPCS members for their generous support of NDPMA, was held in the courtyard adjacent to the school's stunning new science, art and technology wing.

The St. Peter Chanel Society recognizes individuals who display exceptional enthusiasm for the future of Notre Dame. Through their contributions of leadership gifts to

The Notre Dame Fund, SPCS members demonstrate a belief in the enduring value of a Notre Dame education. Members of the St. Peter Chanel Society include alumni, parents, alumni parents, grandparents, friends, and faculty and staff who share a genuine concern for Notre Dame and who contribute on an annual basis to its continued excellence.

The food and ambience at the dinner were exceptional, according to attendees, and this year's program included a tour of the new wing for SPCS members.



St. Peter Chanel Society members Mark and Carrie Gaynor enjoyed the festivities at this year's SPCS Membership Dinner with NDP Principal Fr. Joe Hindelang, s.m.