

# DeTales

February/March 2008

A Recognized  
School of  
Excellence



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## Students Success in Classroom Earns High Honors

### National Merit Finalists Named

Senior *Elizabeth Nelson* has been named a Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program. She was chosen from over 16,200 Semifinalists. Elizabeth demonstrated high academic achievement on her PSAT Test taken her junior year, and is now in the running for a National Merit Scholarship. She is also a finalist for the Batelle Scholarship. Senior *Patrick Omameh* has been named as a Finalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation in the National Achievement Scholarship Competition Program for outstanding Black American Students. Patrick has also been recognized for his high test scores on his PSAT Test taken his junior year, and will now compete for a National Achievement Scholarship.

### NHS Induction Ceremony

Sunday, January 27, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Francis DeSales Gymnasium, the St. Francis Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 79 students. The evening began with a prelude performance by NHS members Caitlyn Gantzer and Jennifer Rish, followed by the procession of NHS inductees and members. NHS member Robert Niehaus performed Purcell's Trumpet Voluntary during the procession. NHS member Megan Zaworski gave the invocation, followed by a few moments to remember the deceased DeSales NHS and faculty members, led by NHS member Andrew Gilbert. NHS president Thomas Heitker welcomed the inductees, members, and guests, and began the program with an explanation of the qualities of a National Honor Society student, beginning with the quality of scholarship. NHS secretary Tara Bennett explained leadership, NHS Vice President Alissa Brooks spoke about character and NHS Treasurer Garrett Messmer described the importance of service.

Mr. Garrick, Mrs. Messerschmitt and Mr. Jones presented certificates to each new member. The evening concluded with a

### NHS Cont.

candlelight ceremony and the National Honor Society Pledge. Mr. Garrick and Mrs. Scott, NHS advisor, made the closing remarks.

Congratulations to the following 2008 inductees: Kateline Allenbach, Tylar Allison, Ikenna Ariguzo, Benjamin Aring, Vincent Balzano, Monica Begazo, Danielle Bernert, Paul Biancone, Blair Blumenscheid, James Braun, Mary Grace Brown, Carly Campbell, Jaimee Chamberlain, Leah Ciminello, Natalie Cole, Shalyn Cook, Rachel Denz, Trang Doan, Matthew Dobner, Gregory Dolcich, Nathaniel Dumm, Adam Ellis, Jonathan Engle, Mary Erwin, Andrew Fernandez, Carrie Foster, Katherine Gallaher, Thomas Gentile, Kelsie Gerardi, Eric Glasstetter, Jeremy Gray, Jennica Gray, Amanda Hastings, Jonathan Herrick, Patrick Higgins, Sean Hobbs, Jennifer Holton, Anthony Iannarino, Megan Johnson, Taylor Jones, Gordon Jones, Ryan Kincaid, Maureen Kuisti, Alyssa Magnacca, Kyle Mathews, William McCandlish, Natalie McComas, Amber Morgan, Margaret Mulligan, Gina Mussio, Alissa Nelson, Carmen O'Connell, Bridget O'Riordan, Jay Osborn, Jill Parker, Keri Plymale, Kiera Power, Robert Ray, Joshua Richmond, Jessica Salerno, Michael Sarson, Caitlin Satkowiak, Meredith Schlabig, Nell Seggerson, Catherine Shively, Adrienne Shough, Kyla Smith, Alexa Smith, Douglas Stauffer, Andrew Steller, Troy Streacker, Carl Svagerko, Tiffany Thompson, Stephen Thorley, Alexandria Tresoline, Jodi Tuttle, Mary Vitullo, Allison West, and Natalie Yoon.

### Mock Trial

Students on the school's Mock Trial teams had a strong performance at the District Mock Trial tournament held Friday, February 1. Senior Gabby Morbitzer and junior Natalie Cole were named the Outstanding Attorneys of their trials, while freshman Keyona Castleman was recognized as the Outstanding Witness.

**Serve and love  
God well...This  
should be our  
only intention.  
-St. Francis  
DeSales-**

## **Principal's Corner**

Dear Friends;

I hope this edition of DeTales finds you and your families dealing successfully with the challenges of a typical Ohio Winter. As I sit to write this letter I am looking out upon a freshly fallen snow. And while there is little doubt the snow can lead to disruptions of our daily routines it is truly beautiful. I really believe that God speaks to us through nature...whether it is a sunny day or a day filled with storms if we take a moment to observe we can see the majesty of our creator.

It seems to me that this clear manifestation of God's presence in our lives is perfect as we find ourselves in the midst of the solemn liturgical season of Lent. This incredibly poignant time of the church calendar is apparent daily through the actions of our students and faculty. The season of Lent provides us with a powerful opportunity to reflect on God's unquestionable love for all of us. A love so encompassing that he would sacrifice his only son so that we can enjoy eternal salvation.

While there are times that we may all wonder if our contemporary society understands the magnitude of this act I find great comfort that our young people seem to have a profound appreciation of our heavenly Father's ultimate act of love and sacrifice. I make this assertion not just because the kids can articulate or write in a way that conveys their understanding but rather because I am blessed to witness them living it on a daily basis. Simply put, I see our kids attempting to live in a way that states that they want to reflect God's love in their daily endeavors.

This is not to say that they are always successful in living in accordance with this standard or that they do not at times lose their way-but that is to be expected-we as adults do as well. What is most important is that they learn from what can sometimes be painful life lessons. If this occurs they will have, in fact, learned the most important of all lessons that when they do face hurdles in life that they should entrust God.

The profound love at the center of God's sacrifice serves as a great example for all of us that he is there for us at all times. It is my firm conviction that our kids have a mature understanding of this and for that we should all be thankful.

In closing, it is my sincere hope that the beauty of the lessons associated with Lent be embraced by all of those in our community; moreover, that all of God's people be blessed with the divine understanding of the love that is so richly exemplified during this beautiful time in our Church's calendar. With this in mind I pray that you are all blessed with health and happiness. Please be safe during your upcoming Easter Break.

God's Blessings,  
Daniel J. Garrick

## **Empty Bowls Wrap-up**

St. Francis DeSales High School raised \$2,193 from its annual Empty Bowls event, with all proceeds going to the Mid-Ohio FoodBank. A check was given to Cathy Barr, a representative from the non-profit organization, at the school's Winter Sports assembly held last Friday.

## **The Cat's Meow**

The Mother's Club is selling a Cat's Meow of the DeSales Alumni Stadium (with a description of the stadium printed on the back) as a fundraiser. Proceeds this year will benefit the Mother's Club scholarship and used uniform program.

The wooden keepsake is 5 1/2" wide by 3" tall and is approximately 3/4" thick. It makes a great gift item for students, teachers, coaches and alumni. The price is \$20 and checks can be made out to DeSales High School. It can be purchased in the book store or you can contact Cathy Wickert at [cwickert@insight.rr.com](mailto:cwickert@insight.rr.com) and she will arrange to have the piece delivered to you.

## **Future Artists Enlightened**

Artist Todd Camp visited the DeSales ceramics studio on February 20th, presenting a power point of his work as an artist, painter and potter. He also addressed some of the workshops he facilitates as an art educator. He is a graduate of Columbus College of Art and Design, and formerly worked with Columbus Recreation and Parks Department as an arts specialist. He also worked with the YMCA as an arts specialist while he was establishing himself as a full-time artist. He has done numerous workshops through ARC industries, and the Artists in Schools Program. His exhibition record is extensive and he has a national level reputation as an artist. It was a pleasure to have such a knowledgeable artist present to our students.

## **Marketing Committee**

Parents who have an expertise in the area of Marketing are asked to consider joining our school's Marketing Committee. If interested, please contact Karen Cofojohn at 267-6822 or [kcofojoh@cdeducation.org](mailto:kcofojoh@cdeducation.org).

## Athletic Achievements Lead to Scholarships

The following seniors (to date) have signed letters of intent to play sports at the collegiate level: **Ryan Curl** (Baseball, Miami University), **Josh Fitzpatrick** (Football, U.S. Naval Academy), **Johnny Hiles** (Wrestling, The Ohio State University), **Kayla Klosterman** (Soccer, Grand Valley State University), **Barbie Lewis** (Tennis, Walsh University), **Lisa Lubke** (Soccer, Radford University), **Patrick Omameh** (Football, University of Michigan), **Byron Regester** (Soccer, Providence College), **Kenny Stafford** (Football, University of Toledo) and **Justin Thompson** (Football, Kent State University).

Senior **Jeff Walsh** was nominated as the Ohio High School Athletic Association Scholar Athlete from DeSales. He also received the Trustees Scholarship from the Ohio State University for \$1,050 per year, renewable each year for four years.

Seniors **Tara Bennett** and **Kevin Cooler** were nominated as the Columbus Dispatch Scholar Athletes from DeSales.

## ALUMNI NOTES

### 2008 Alumni Awards of Distinction

St. Francis DeSales would like to celebrate the accomplishments of members of the St. Francis DeSales family with the 3rd annual Alumni Awards of Distinction. If you feel you know someone deserving of this award, please honor them with a nomination. The nomination deadline is March 15, 2008.

### Career Fair

St. Francis DeSales will be holding a Career Fair for current students on the evening of April 2, 2008. In the past, students have had the opportunity to speak with individuals in more than 50 professions. We are asking alumni as well as parents to share information regarding their occupations with our students. All are invited to participate, however a few specific careers that we are looking to include are Architecture, Pharmacy, Physicians Assistant, Dietitian, Nutrition and Advertising. If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Colleen Cook in the Alumni Relations Office at [ccook@cducation.org](mailto:ccook@cducation.org) or 267-7808.

### St. Francis DeSales High School Cluster Reunion

The St. Francis DeSales High School Cluster Reunion will take place on July 11, 12, and 13 2008, in conjunction with the annual Alumni Softball Tournament! Activities include: Alumni softball tournament, Casual get together at Gordy's, Golf outing, Dinner-dance at Embassy Suites, Mass and Family picnic. More details will be available soon! Contact Colleen Cook at [ccook@cducation.org](mailto:ccook@cducation.org) for more information! *Out of town guests can reserve hotel rooms now at Embassy Suites. Please call 614-890-8600 or 1-800-embassy. Reservation code: DeSales Cluster Reunion.*

## Support Prom Fundraising!

Stop by California Pizza Kitchen (Easton) on February 27 and/or April 24 for lunch or dinner, and 20% of your bill will go to help raise funds for Prom! Fliers are available on the office countertop.



## Leaders in Business Studies

On February 15th, Mr. Montenaro piloted a personal finance module for members of the FDIC. The FDIC is developing projects to reach high school students about financial literacy items. The company they partnered with, Information Experts, asked Mr. Montenaro to demonstrate the module on consumer loans to his Advance Personal Finance class.

## Writing Club News

Congratulations to our Quarterly Contest winners! First place: Sean Feverston with his poem "Troubled Blooms", Second place: Kailee Smith with her poem "Untitled", and Third place: Rachel Huff with her poem "Today". Grateful thanks are also extended to Mrs. Pam Van Arsdale and Ms. Greta Ode for helping review the entries. The Writing Club welcomes any student who enjoys writing and who would like to meet others with similar interests. We meet each Monday after school from 3:15 to 4:00 in Room 203. We invite you to join us!

Congrats to **Michaela Lacko** for being named Student of the Month by the Westerville Rotary Club.

Recycle your inkjet and/or laser ink cartridges and cell phones at DHS! Drop off the items to Mr. Stevens' office.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- 27** Sophomore Class Liturgy  
Senior Open Lunch
- 28** Parent/Teacher Conferences  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

The Grove City Community Winds Band (which is directed by world famous composer Jim Swearingen, and in which Mr. Porretta is a member of) will be performing a free concert at St. John's Church (59 E. Mound St.) on **Friday, February 29 at 7:00 p.m.**

### MARCH

- 2** Parent to Parent (Library)  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Mother-Son Dance (Villa Milano)  
5:00 PM
- 3** Senior Class Liturgy
- 5** Reconciliation-offered to all students
- 7-8** Opening Weekend of the Spring Musical - Curtain call at 7:30 PM

*Annie Get Your Gun* returns to the Little Theatre stage! This all time favorite guarantees to keep your toes tapping as Annie Oakley (senior Jen Rish) and Frank Butler (senior Josh Fitzpatrick), supported by a fantastic cast, brings to life the adventures of two feisty sharpshooters of the Wild West.

- 9** Parent to Parent (Library)  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Father-Daughter Dance (Villa Milano)  
5:00 PM
- 10** Ohio Graduation Test Week - all sophs.  
DHS will host Rev. Terry Law and General Georges Sada for an all-school assembly on **March 10, 2008**. They are also scheduled to speak at Christian Assembly on March 9 at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. To read their bios, please visit the DeSales website.
- 12** Mothers Club - 6:30 PM (Fran. Ctr.)
- 13** Spring Musical - 7:30 PM
- 14** Early Dismissal - 1:00 PM  
Mulch Sale Delivery Weekend
- 15** Spring Musical - 7:30 PM
- 18** Senior Special Lunch (FC)
- 20** Spring Break Begins!

**CLASSES RESUME ON MARCH 31**

### APRIL

- 2** Career Fair - 6:30 PM (Gym)
- 8** Senior Kairos Retreat #4 (thru 4-11)
- 9** Mothers Club - 6:30 PM (Fran. Ctr.)
- 10** Early Dismissal - 1:30 PM
- 13** Sophomore Optional Overnight

### JUNIOR STALLION WEIGHTLIFTING CLUB

Beginning Sunday, March 2, 2008, St. Francis DeSales High School will open its weight room to all boys in grades 5 through 8 who are interested in joining the Junior Stallion Weightlifting Club. The club will focus on the basic fundamentals of weightlifting, and will be led by the St. Francis DeSales Football Coaching staff, along with the school's certified Strength and Conditioning Coach. The program is strictly instructional and age appropriate. Parents are welcome to stay and watch.

The club will meet every Sunday from March 2 through April 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the St. Francis DeSales Weight Room (located behind the high school). Participants are invited to attend as often or as much as they like. And, the program is free! Lifting t-shirts are available for \$5.00. Athletic wear and tennis shoes are needed. Please contact Coach Ryan Wiggins at [rwiggins@cducation.org](mailto:rwiggins@cducation.org) or 614-267-7808, ext. 205 with any questions.

### HISTORIC EUROPE TOUR

Where: Germany - Poland - Czech Rep  
When: Spring 09  
Sites Include: Berlin Wall, Check Point Charly, Potsdamerplatz, Nazi death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, St. Vitus, Charles Bridge  
*History, friends, fun, a trip of a life time!*  
Pick up an information sheet in Rm 211 or email Mr. Ulry at [sulry@cducation.org](mailto:sulry@cducation.org).

### SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID REMINDER

Scholarship applications for 9th through 12th grade students must be submitted to the Development Office by **March 15th**. FACTS applications for tuition assistance grants must be postmarked by no later than **March 15th** to be eligible for consideration.

Relay For  
Life!

May 3-4,  
2008

Start a team -  
team captain  
meetings are  
March 6 and  
April 3 at  
3:30/6:00.

If you'd like  
to be on the  
committee,  
meetings are  
March 18  
and April 15  
at 6:00 p.m.

Go to  
[relayforlife.org](http://relayforlife.org)  
for more info  
to sign up!