

TITAN TIMES



Photo by: NDHS Media

Varsity cheer holds up the Homecoming run-through for the Varsity team. This week's run-through shared in the spirit of Homecoming

HOMECOMING 2023 UNVEILED

By The Titan Times Team

This past week was very eventful and filled with many fun activities all due to a very special event: Homecoming! During the week, we showed off our school spirit with spirit week as many students came dressed up in fun little themes. All of this was to prepare for our 2023 Homecoming football game where we went against Bloomington High School. This was then followed by a fun dance held at the Life Arts Center!

Spirit Week!

This year's Homecoming spirit week sure was a party! Everyday we celebrated a different type of party, starting with a 'Party in the USA' on Monday, and ending with a *Mardi Gras* celebration on Friday. Students went all out dressing up for this week's themes, as we saw great participation from all of the Student Body! It was amazing to see so much Titan Pride, and experience all of the celebration taking place in our community!



Photo by: NDHS Media



Photo by: Kaden Rodriguez

Students enjoying the Homecoming Dance!

Homecoming Game!

This week's game saw our Notre Dame Titans going against the Bloomington Bruins at our home field. The first drive of the game had our Titans going on defense and the Bruins scoring within five plays on offense. But as soon as our Titans got the ball back, our offense was set on getting a touchdown to try and tie up the score. Within three plays, our running back, Deon Sanders, took the ball down the middle and ran for a fifty-five-yard touchdown. That set the tone for the rest of the game as we kept scoring and eventually leading the score by six points before halftime. As our defense did a great job trying to stop the run all night, the Bruins hit us with a few passes, in which they eventually took the lead and won the game with a score of **47-41**.

Homecoming Dance!

Anthony (9)- This year's Homecoming was full of excitement. Since it was my first one, I'm glad I wasn't disappointed.

Elyza (11)- The Homecoming Dance was the first high school dance I had ever attended! I was extremely nervous at first, but the dance turned out to be such a blast! The music and the people helped me have a great night!

Carter (12)- Seeing as I am a senior, this marks my last homecoming at Notre Dame High School. It was a lot of fun to dress out and have fun with my friends. Overall, it was a really fun night and a memorable last homecoming dance!

Ana Sofia (10)- This year's dance was so much fun! I especially loved being able to dance with my friends. I also think the game room was a great opportunity to take a break when we needed it!



Photo by: NDHS Media

Homecoming King, Deon Sanders (left) and Queen Makenna Coreia (right)

"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."- Philippians 3:13-14

Flipping the Script: Who should make the first move in changing times?

By Lubicianca Gaitan (11)

Everyday society changes more and more, especially when it comes to Romance. In older times, there was a very traditional stance of the man making the "first move" and trying to win over the girl. Some would buy flowers, ask to go on dates, or do some extravagant action to impress a girl. But as we go through these changing times, the roles are starting to change and who should make to first move is a big question of many. Here's what some students had to say:

"In what I have experienced, I would say it's better for girls to make the first move. We think that the guys should always make the first move because that's just what we have seen and learned from society. [But] I think us girls, if we love the person, we should not be afraid to be bold and make the first move. Honestly, some guys prefer that. I love when girls try and make the first move because it shows ourselves and everyone that we can also have control in the situation and that we aren't afraid to be bold or be ourselves."

—Soma Kpaduwa, 12 (below)



Photo by: Lubicianca Gaitan



"I feel like lately girls have to do it all in making all the moves and I feel like boys aren't the gentlemen they should be anymore :(Like, what happened to the boys from the 1960s who tell girls "You're so pretty?" Most guys say things like "Oooh she's bad" or "she is so fine," like time has definitely changed. Like, if you find someone who is loyal and likes, loves, and cares for you for who you are as a person, then wife them up because that's a keeper."

—Arelly Urena, 11

"I mean, it depends. I feel like if both people maybe like each other, it shouldn't matter who makes the first move. But it is always a little scary to make a first move since you don't always know if the person is [gonna] like u back. But I think that a guy should take out a girl for a date, so in that case, the guy would make the first move because men are more outspoken and just say things without thinking, therefore if the guy is confident enough to ask a girl, that might say a lot about a guy's character. And even if she says no, how he carries himself should speak to others."

—Anthony Elias, 9 (right)

"Honestly, I would say it depends on who likes who. For example, if a guy liked a girl a lot, then he should make the first move; but if a girl likes a guy a lot, she should ask first."

—Brian Garcia, 9

WHAT'S NEW

By Elyza Lansang (11)

What Just Happened?

Students enjoyed Homecoming spirit week, game, and dance! The second quarter just began as well! Keep up the good work Titans!

Coming Up!

10.25: Cultural

Experiences Night!

10.26: PSAT/SAT Test Day!

We hope all Notre Dame students do excellent on their tests!

10.27: NO SCHOOL!
(Diocesan Inservice)

11.01: All Saints Liturgy

11.02-04: Student Directed One Acts!



Photo by: Lubicianca Gaitan

"If I'm being honest, it's [gonna] have to be the guys making the first move. I feel I like it's always been like that and why change it. Girls deserve a lot since they go through a lot so why not treat them like queens."

—Julian Rodríguez, 11

"In my opinion, I think it very much depends on the type of girl/guy we're talking about. For instance, if the girl is more outgoing and the guy is shy, vice versa. BUT in most cases, I'd say it is still more common for guys to make the first move, and I mean it works. Girls like to experience effort!!!"

—Makenna Corea, 12

Anxiety vs Anticipation: The PSAT & SAT countdown

By Ana Sofia Ramirez (10)

The month of October has gone by in a flash, and with its fast-approaching end, comes a very important day. Some have been dreading, while others have been anxiously waiting for this Thursday, October 26, the day of the **PSAT and SAT**.

This will be the first time most Freshman will be taking the PSAT. Some share about the anxiety going into the test. *Jaslene Elizondo (9)* shares, "I'm scared, [...] I don't know what's going to be on there." Meanwhile, many Sophomores prepare for their second time taking the PSAT. Being that it is their second time, many sophomores feel better going into the exam day. "I feel like I will do better [this year]"

- *Xavier Felix (10)*



Photo by Joshua Avila

As upperclassmen prepare to take the SAT, they share words of encouragement to those younger than them. They also share that they feel less pressure about taking the SAT now that many schools are going test optional. "Since colleges aren't really looking at SAT scores anymore, it's more of a weight off my chest, to be honest." - *Milo Zreik, 11* (above)



Photo by Joshua Avila

Some seniors, get the day off on Thursday, and they share words of encouragement to their peers. *Lilly Webster (12)* recommends using **Khan Academy** and says, "If you put in the effort, you'll do good, and you got it!" As we go into the test this Thursday, on behalf of all of us here at the Titan Times, I wish you the best of luck and I know you will do amazing!

Dish Diaries

By Carter Worthington



What's up, guys?! This week's dish diaries take us back to the snack bar. This dish is a good Pesto Chicken Ciabatta. It's got a so it didn't overwhelm the overall flavor, but in between two pieces of ciabatta in each bite. All of bread. The bread these flavors was crispy on the outside and had a really good that airy chew on Ciabatta sandwich. the inside, along it is definitely with that buttery something that I taste. The chicken would had that grilled recommend look and was checking out at the snack bar.

Gym rat of the Week

By Lubianca Gaitan (11)

This week will be recognizing a gym rat of the week, and this week it is none other than our very own **Aidan Taylor!** Taylor is currently a senior at Notre Dame and part of our football team. Let's learn a little more about his workout routine. Aidan works out 6 times a week. His split consists on Chest/Tri's, Back/Bi's, & Legs (he hates back days). As far as diets go, his consists of "Dino chicken nuggies and lots of protein shakes." Very yummy and I think I might try that myself. Now let's hear Aidan's advice to people new to the gym or thinking



Photo by Lubianca Gaitan

Aidan Taylor (left) flexing with Anthony Elias (right) of joining the gym: "Consistency is going to be the best thing for you and don't be scared to workout. Everyone is on their own journey. And find friends that support you and have fun doing it." What a nice guy. If you ever need help with fitness related things, don't be scared to ask him. I think it's very clear to see why he is our Gym Rat of the week for this issue!

Football

By Jude Cramer (10)

As a member of the Notre Dame Titan football team, I know firsthand how difficult this season has been. We are currently 0-9, and it's hard not to feel discouraged and defeated. It's not an easy task to keep our heads held high when everything seems to be going wrong.

However, as an offensive lineman on the team, I have been inspired by the resilience and determination of my fellow teammates. We have continued to put in the work, day in and day out, knowing that eventually our efforts will pay off.



Our most recent game against Bloomington was a tough one, but it has given us a glimmer of hope for the last game of the season. We lost by only five points, and it was a game that could have gone either way. Despite the heartbreaking loss, our team morale has been boosted by how close we came to winning.

We may be 0-9, but we are not giving up. Instead, we are using this experience to fuel our motivation to come back stronger and smarter in the next game. We are taking the lessons we've learned from each game and applying them to our practices, constantly improving and pushing each other to be better.



Photo by NDHS Media

As an offensive lineman, part of my job is to protect our quarterback and give him time to make the right decisions on the field. We did really well last game so shout out to all my boys! I know that we can't win every game, but I also know that we can't let losses get us down.

We only have one game left this season, and I believe that we have what it takes to win the last one. Our team has grown closer because of our struggles this season, and we are more focused than ever on achieving success. We refuse to let our record define us and instead, we will use it as motivation to finish the season strong. It may not be easy, but we are ready for the challenge.

Athlete of the week:

This week's Athlete of the week is Dominic Ozeta (12)! Dom has been playing football for 3 years.



What he enjoys most about football is being able to play on Fridays with the boys. His favorite memory playing football was "I beating Fontana on senior night last year because it was such a back and fourth game. From this year, my favorite memory is my fake punt against Aquinas because everything went as planned." As a senior, Dom's advice to new football players is "don't get discouraged, and to take the off season seriously."



Scholar

By Lubianca Gaitan (11)

These past two weeks have been quite eventful for people as Quarter finals came about. For Dr. Bakhsh's AP Calculus class, many students have shown effort in this very rigorous class, but one excelled above all others: Chris Campbell (below).



Photo by Lubianca Gaitan



Photo by Lubianca Gaitan

Spot-

In Mr. Cooney's Geometry class, our recognized scholar is Barragan (bottom right). Congrats to everyone!

Our ASB Senior Cabinet consists of (in order from left to right) Steven Thomas, Sara Escobar, Grace Alosi, Kaya Escobar, Aliyah Gonzalez, Bella Barragan, Alondra Castaneda, Alejandra and Thomas Huelskamp. These seniors worked hard to plan and still maintain good grades!

Academics are very important but so are some extracurriculars that help our school spirit such as ASB! We would like to recognize the ASB Senior Cabinet! They helped plan and organize this year's Homecoming.



Photo by Lubianca Gaitan

Light!

Teacher Feature: Mr. Cooney

By Anthony Elias

As a teacher at Notre Dame, Mr. Cooney has been here for fourteen years. He is an alumnus of Notre Dame and was part of the football team as a Left Tackle and Defensive End during his time here. Along with this, he was also part of the baseball, basketball, and golf teams. After he graduated, he became an engineering student at Illinois college, and then transitioned his career to education, where he began subbing and then teaching permanently.

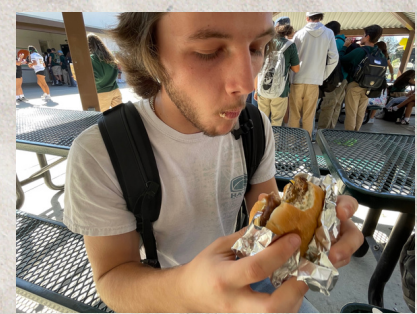
The reason he enjoys teaching is mainly because of the kids. "It's fun to see the different personalities and getting to see the various types of people". He feels that the gift he gets from teaching is not the students directly thanking him for what he is teaching them, but instead them becoming smarter every day and eventually making a mark wherever they go with how smart one can make them. He enjoys the fact that the time you spend with your students molds them into the people they will become once they leave high school.



Photo by Lubianca Gaitan

Behind The Scenes! By The Titan Times Team

This issue, we'd like to start a new section showing off our students behind the scenes as they enjoy campus life.



People Featured:

Mr. Cooney, Anthony Elias(9), Milo Zreik(11), Kip Castillo(10), Mr. Avila, Jonathon Medrano(10), Sophia Saldana(10), Elyza Lansang(11), Hector Rodriguez(12), Michael Rodriguez(11), Lubianca Gaitan(11), Valos Branch Owen(11), Braeden Mitchell(11), Lauren Petty(12)



The Arts

By Carter Worthington (12)



Photo by NDHS Theater

With October coming to an end, that means that we are drawing closer and closer to the Fall One Acts Performance! The One Acts is a collection of student-directed acts, that can range from scenes from musicals and movies to solos and can even be student-written. This year, we've got scenes from

Chicago, Ride the Cyclone, and so many more! We've been working really hard to put together a wonderful show, and we can't wait for everyone to see it! Show dates are November 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at 6:00 pm, with a \$10 admission. Come out and support!

Laughology

By Chris Campbell (12)



My actual APUSH teacher



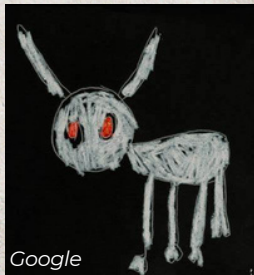
Tom Richey APUSH simplified Heimler's History

Why yes we are in AP World. How could you tell?



Music

By Valerie Arredondo (11)



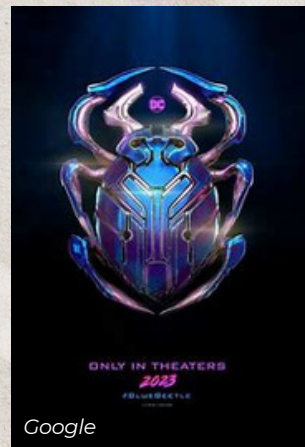
For *All the Dogs* by Drake was released on October 6, 2023 as a hip-hop/rap album. With excellent features from Teezo Touchdown on *Amen*, Adonis on *Daylight* and even *Sexy Red* and *SZA*. I have found elements of Drake's old and new sound mixed onto this project, mainly since fans have been urging for Drake's old sound from eras of 2009-2015. In my opinion, Drake is producing music that he believes is what

the fans want rather than what he wants. When *'Honestly, Nevermind'* released, a good majority of his audience did not enjoy the new house genre he experimented with, which is what I believe leads Drake into making music strictly of what he thinks others want rather than an album that will age well based on his own sound that he enjoys. Overall, I liked more songs rather than disliked, *Tried Our Best* was my favorite song, and oh my lord, that song hits. Honorable mentions would be *Virginia Beach* (I know we all broke down on that Frank sample) and *Tried Our Best*. Don't forget to check out our [playlist on Spotify](#) and add your own music recommendations.

Film

By Lubianca Gaitan

For some odd reason, DC Comics does not seem to do too well when it comes to making superhero movies, which is why *Blue Beetle* surprised me with how good it was. The story follows a young man named Jaime Reyes who gets possession of a blue scarab that is out of this world (literally). With it, he is given powers that come in the form of a suit equipped with everything needed to protect its host, in this case, Jaime. The woman who originally found the scarab is our antagonist and will do anything to get the scarab back, even killing Jaime. Jaime does anything and everything to protect



Google

his family and fight the woman. The film does a good job of expressing Hispanic culture and demonstrating the importance of family. I would recommend this to anyone who wants to watch a new and good superhero movie, especially those of Hispanic culture, as they might relate to it most. Overall, I would rate it an 8.5/10 and think everyone should give it a chance.

Advice Archives

Q: Ok so I like this person. I've liked him for a while now. Literally, since the beginning of school. Him and I have mutual friends. We have talked here and there, and he knows I was interested (still am but I'm not sure if he knows that now lol). Anyway, I normally rush into things when I like a guy, but with him it's been different and I [wanna] keep it that way. I normally tell a guy that I like them right away without getting to know them first, but with this guy, I haven't really told him and I'm getting to know him day by day. I've been getting very subtle hints that he might like me back, but I'm not too sure. Should I tell him I like him or wait for him first?

A: Personally I love when the guy makes the first move, I feel like it's more romantic and overall, I feel like it means that much more. I wouldn't consider myself a bold person so I would personally wait until I know for sure that he likes me back just because I know I would be heartbroken to put in my all and for him to still not want me. If a guy likes you, he'll make it known soon enough. Good luck with everything!

Q: Okay so, I feel really bad because one of my friends always starts talking to any guys that I start to like. I plan on making a move, but she always gets close to them, and they start to like her while she doesn't like them. What do I do?

A: First off, stop referring to them as your friend, they are not. A true bestie for the restie would never do such a thing. If you are keeping things private, no one can ruin it. My advice is to just stop telling her or try to keep things on the low until you and that person start dating so that you can go toxica and tell him to stop talking to her 🙄🙄

Q: Dear Titan Times, how should the class let Nathan Hott know that he should cut his hair? -Concerned Teacher

A: The middle part is getting old, how about a mullet, or even a buzz! I would slowly hint at him getting a haircut and eventually start casually mentioning that he should get a haircut to avoid hurting his feelings. Or maybe Nathan doesn't have to cut it and instead could invest some time on Pinterest and get some inspo for a new style!

Submit an Advice Request!

Editor's Note

By Lubianca Gaitan

In this new edition, we've had many changes and for this week, I'd personally like to give a special shoutout to someone that is a crucial part of our team: Joshua Avila! He is the Titan Times' super amazing photographer, and we wouldn't be able to share with you all these amazing pictures without him! Joshua is barely a sophomore at Notre Dame and already accomplishing so many things. We can all thank him for giving us such beautiful visuals that really give life to our newspaper.



Don't forget to also check out his own special corner 'Picture of the week' to see his great photography outside of the Titan Times!

Picture of the week:

By Joshua Avila



This is my photo of the week, from Thursday October 19th's Homecoming Football Game. During this game, the lights shut off, but the student section was still there waiting to cheer on the Titans again. It was nice to see all the students in the section sticking it out to see the outcome of this close game.

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