

Notre Dame Academy NEWSLETTER

# TAKE A BOW, NDA!

Students wave a thank you to the crowd after a sold-out performance of, "The Little Mermaid"

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE A LOVE FOR LACROSSE: ROOTED IN CULTURE NEW CLASSES OFFERED AT NDA | ACADEMIC & ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS



### A Message from the President:

Last fall I described how a sense of excellence permeated the work of our alumni, teachers and coaches. This spring I am pleased to reflect that this "sense" has become real through the work of students, coaches, and teachers. NDA has a great deal for which to give thanks as athletic teams have triumphed on statewide and division-wide levels, performers have set new records for attendance and adulation for the musical and students have posted both outstanding grades and numerous college acceptances. In the world of service, our students reach out across communities in need locally and have traveled to Canton, MS to assist in building parts of the Mississippi community as they build strong bonds with each other in answering God's call to serve.

Our work of planning is taking shape and growing as we discuss our plans with multiple stakeholders. The most recent publication of our Strategic Plan is available and can be viewed by scanning the OR code. As we build upon others' ideas, observations and insights, we develop into the community we seek to become, and in this "sense" make ideas "real" just as our students have demonstrated in so many areas.

Best regards,

Thomas J. Kiely, DHL President tkiely@notredameacademy.com







### **Prepares Leaders for** College & Life. Explorations



Finding a dream job takes trial and error, which is why the NDA Career Explorations program as a teenager is very beneficial! Even students who are certain about their career path will benefit from this experience.

### Where do you want to go? Apply Today.





Find out more about the NDA Career Explorations Program on page 4!



# A Love for Lacrosse: Rooted in Culture

Julian Greendeer NDA 2023, a member of the Oneida and Ho-Chunk nations, has been playing lacrosse since the third grade, leading him to a deeper connection with his Native American culture and a scholarship to a D1 college, the University of Detroit Mercy, Michigan's largest Catholic university well known for its vigorous athletic programs.

UDM's lacrosse team, the Titans, are part of the Horizon League conference, are consistently ranked one of the top teams in the conference and two players on the team are ranked among the top ten in the Nation.

"My initial reaction to having Detroit Mercy message me was complete excitement," shared Greendeer. "I got the message during school, and read it right after. I was pumped. I sent a screenshot of the message to my parents and responded back to the coach."

Lacrosse has its origins deeply entwined in Native American culture, which helped Julian connect to the game at a deeper level. "When I first started playing lacrosse, I didn't really understand the cultural significance of it," Greendeer said. "Once I started playing for Team Oneida, I became more aware of its significance and lacrosse became very special to me." Julian first joined lacrosse when he saw a flier promoting it. His uncle also played the sport, teaching Julian a few things, helping to grow his interest.

His advice to a new player to the sport is the importance of being familiar with the lacrosse stick and knowing how to use it. "Get comfortable with your crosse, it is an extension of your body, and the more comfortable you are with it, the easier the flow of the game will be."

As for Julian, he cannot wait for the opportunity to continue playing the sport he has so much connection to. He also would like to add, "I would love to give a shout-out to my parents for sacrificing their time in order to get me to and from all my practices, out-of-state tournaments and to where I'm headed next year."



Julian, center, takes on a defender

Lacrosse is very special to me because it's rooted in my culture.

### About the Author

#### Cassi Garrison

Cassi Garrison is a sophomore excited to enter her second year of writing for the Online Tritonian. She is very interested in politics and current events, particularly local elections and the environment. Outside of journalism, she enjoys playing pickleball, engineering and reading.



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# The Creator's Game

Lacrosse, one of the oldest North American sports, has deep roots in the Native American culture creation story. It is believed that lacrosse was a gift given by The Creator in order to entertain and heal the community, also referring to it as the medicine game.

Lacrosse is also used to teach a greater appreciation for all life and to remind us that all things are given to us for a purpose. The hardwood of the stick, usually hickory, represents all the trees and the netting made from dried out hides represents all the animals. The lacrosse stick has such value that many men receive a lacrosse stick when they are born and then are buried beside their lacrosse stick upon their death.





To read more about lacrosse and Julian Greendeer, scan the QR code below for an article from UW-Madison and Dan Ninham from Native American Sports News.



The Career Explorations program is a two-year program, starting junior year, in which students engage in language development, service learning and cultural development. They take a Personal and Professional Skills class and complete a reflective project based on an ethical dilemma, where they explore different ideas, philosophies and solutions behind the dilemma. NDA introduced this program this past year with much success, and the class has great potential for the future.

"That's kind of the whole idea, the Career Explorations. We're exploring all sorts of careers and career clusters. Society's changing; education is changing. Career planning is more valuable now than it ever has been," said Mr. Christian Dory, NDA Director of Career Explorations.

The Personal and Professional Skills class is a required aspect of the program that will benefit all students, no matter their career path. They will cover personal development, intercultural understanding, effective communication, thinking processes and applied ethics within the class. "It doesn't matter what job you plan on doing, those skills will help you no matter what," said Dory.

During the second semester of their senior year, students have the opportunity to take a Career Technical Education Class, or CTE, where they can leave school sixth through seventh hour, along with eighth hour, if they have senior privilege. Students are able to go to internships, jobs, or any career-related position.

Currently, a student is working as a CNA at Bellin College, one at a real estate agency and another at Nicolet National Bank in the finance department. These are just some of the unlimited possibilities that students can choose from. This allows students to gain hands-on knowledge about future careers and prepares them for life after high school.

Students in the program have also had the experience of guest speakers from wildlife fishery biologists to lawyers, doctors and military personnel. They have also taken a number of field trips throughout the region to get a firsthand experience of how businesses are run and how jobs operate. Dory attributes a big portion of this first year's success to businesses' and community leaders' willingness to share their knowledge and time with students. "There has been, overwhelmingly, a lot of support from businesses and the community - they want to be a part of it," said Dory.

Dory hopes to see an even closer partnership between NDA and businesses within Green Bay as this program develops further. He wants to see as many students as possible take advantage of the program and get out into the community while gaining work experience before graduation. This is something that can't be replicated in a school setting and is a vital part of students' growth.

"We as educators can only take students so far, and the work experience will be that next step in their education," said Dory.

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#### About the Author

#### Frannie Wied

Sophomore Frannie Wied is a ballet enthusiast who is a lover of all things to do with the arts. She takes interest in social justice and exploring new cultures and locations through traveling. She has a special curiosity in marine biology and environmental affairs. She also has a passion for unbiased journalism and reporting the truth.



Career planning is more valuable now than it ever has been





# **Morning Show**

One of the most enjoyable aspects of my high school experience has been watching the evolution of NDA Triton News. As a freshman, the announcements were read over the PA without any thought of it ever needing to change, but change it did when COVID-19 hit in 2020.

With everyone at home, NDA had to find new ways to deliver its news. This led to live-streamed announcements by Mrs. Laaksonen, German teacher, and Mr. Masarik, Associate Principal, over You-Tube from a small room in the NDA library.

While the announcements were very primitive, with only an Ipad, a tv, and a laptop to use, I still found the show to be a very enjoyable way to be informed on the news around NDA. They also kept it very entertaining with competitions like "Where at NDA is Mr. Novotny?" A picture of the school's Director of Maintenance would be shown, and students could guess where in the building he was hiding. It was clear though the show could be improved and worth looking into for the following school year. The decision was made that the live-streamed show would continue, this time with student involvement. Already being involved in the school's tech crew, I was encouraged to get involved my junior year as a technician.

The show got some major upgrades, due largely in part to the involvement of our school's Technical Director, Mr. Jake Gerlikovski. Because of him, a set was built in the school's science closet. Initially, there was a black drape, lights, a large television and a video switcher that could switch between different inputs. The main struggle with the show at this point though was the amount of effort that students had to put into the show. They were tasked with gathering information, writing a script and performing that script live, all of which had to be done in their free time.

Excitingly, when the 2022-23 school year began, NDA Triton News had evolved into an elective class called Audio Visual Production that juniors and seniors could take during their first hour. I will never forget when I walked into the school's new studio for the first time. The set was relocated to the former computer lab adding ample space for

equipment. The show now has at least eight student technicians producing so much more in an episode including playing videos full screen and running the show from other locations in and out of the building.

Having a full class period to write scripts and prepare content also takes a lot of pressure off the students who were writing scripts on their own time last year. The class has really pushed every student to create content that the school will find interesting and informative, which is much easier said than done. The various skills taught in the class like on-air experience, script writing, video switching, etc. will be very beneficial to anyone interested in going into any technical or news-related field.

Watching NDA Triton News grow from simple PA announcements to an elective first-hour class has been an unforgettable experience that I am so grateful to have witnessed. While it is hard to imagine how this class could get much better, I believe there is still potential for growth. I can't wait to see what the future of technology holds for this class and its future students.

### About the Author

#### **Riley Guyette**

Senior Riley Guyette, whose journalistic preference is writing feature/human interest stories, spends a lot of his time at NDA working as a member of the tech crew. The son of math teacher Doug Guyette, Riley enjoys traveling



around the country and hopes to expand that interest to traveling around the world. His favorite subject is philosophy and other interests include video/board games and art.



Interested in becoming a part of NDA's Career Explorations program? Scan the QR code to contact Mr. Christian Dory today!

Whether we are in the classroom, performing on the stage or have our jersey on, Tritons are always striving for excellence.

Addie Weiss - will be attending Boston College in the fall, on a FULL-RIDE, as the recipient of the prestigious Questbridge scholarship! Addie is the second student in NDA history to receive this scholarship.



**The Little Mermaid -** Featured on the cover, NDA's production of, "The Little Mermaid," was a recipient of the Center Stage High School Musical Theatre Program recognition. Competing against around 2,000 other students and 31 schools, Emily Hoeppner (Ariel) NDA 2023 was awarded Outstanding Performance in a Lead Role, Amelia Chrudimsky (Flounder) NDA 2025 was awarded Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role and for the second year in a row, Mrs. Andrea Gilson, NDA English Teacher and Musical Director was awarded Influential Theater Educator.



**Boys Basketball –** The NDA boys basketball team made school history for being the first boys basketball team to win a D2 regional championship, defeating Ashwaubenon 61-48.



**James Shade -** Earned the highest score you achieve on the ACT, a 36! Such a score is earned by less than half of 1% of students who take the ACT each year.

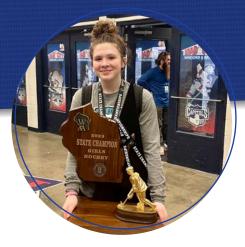


**Boys Cross Country -** The NDA boys cross country team won the school's first ever boys cross country state title. Coach John Gard was awarded the WCCCA Boys D2 Coach of the Year.



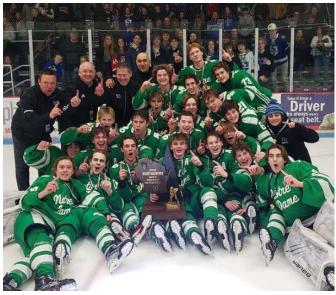
**540 students** earned themselves High Honors or Honors totalling 76% of the entire student body!





**Girls Hockey -** Addison Dahl NDA 2026, a member of the Bay Area Ice Bears, a co-op with 11 other area schools, won the state championship title for girls hockey. Addison scored one of the goals in the 3-0 victory over Superior/Northwestern.





**Boys Hockey -** The NDA boys hockey team completed their perfect 28-0 season defeating Verona in the D1 state championship title game 8-2. Coach Cory McCrackin also surpassed 300 career wins during the season.

#### Future Triton Band program -

Spearheaded by senior Madeline Janssen, Notre Dame Academy's Future Triton Band program was implemented this year and has been extremely successful. The program invites GRACE middle school students to play alongside NDA high schoolers to learn what it's like to play for the Triton band. **Girls Basketball -** The NDA girls basketball team took home their 'back-to-back-to-back' state D2 championship title after defeating Pewaukee 64-49. They have been added to the WIAA elite group of only six teams who have won three state championship titles in a row. **Coach Sara Rohde -** was name the AP Wisconsin Coach of the Year. This is the second year in a row she has been awarded with this honor. In total, Sara has been named the AP Coach of the Year three times in her career at NDA.

# <u>85%</u>

of students are involved in extracurriculars! Lessons learned outside the classroom can be as impactful as lessons learned inside the classroom.

With smaller class sizes, NDA is able to offer an increased opportunity for students to participate in sports, plays/musicals, band/choir or take part in over 30 clubs offered.





610 Maryhill Dr. Green Bay, WI 54303



# Follow Us on Social Media



### More ways to connect with NDA

- **1. FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA** LinkTree: linktr.ee/tritonsnda
- 2. UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION notredameacademy.com/alumni
- 3. UPCOMING 2023 EVENTS

#### **Triton Golf Classic** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 Thornberry Creek Golf Course (4470 N Pine Tree Rd, Hobart. WI)

Alumni Weekend/Hall of Fame Friday & Saturday, September 22 & 23, 2023

#### **Reunions & Gathering**

**SCAN QR CODE** for more detailed information on Reunions and Gatherings.





#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Notre Dame de la Baie Academy, as an educational ministry of the Roman Catholic Church, educates the whole person by developing each student's Christian faith, commitment to service and full academic potential within a caring, safe, diverse, Church community committed to the common good.

#### CORE VALUES

- Faith Responsibility
- Learning Service
- Respect
  Trustworthiness

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