

# HOLY WAR 2024

**By The Titan Times Team**

Gael Campos, Lubianca Gaitan, Jude Cramer

Every Fall, two schools face off not just for victory but for pride, tradition, and belonging. This is not ordinary football game; this is Holy War. As the Notre Dame Titans take the field against the Aquinas Falcons, students from both schools gather, draped in school colors, their cheers echoing through the stands. It's a rivalry steeped in history and fueled by faith, where both sides hope to outplay, outlast, and out-cheer their opponents, knowing that this game means more than just points on a scoreboard. For the players, it's a test of skill and resolve; for the students and fans, it's a night of unforgettable moments that will be talked about through the halls and quads long after the final whistle blows.



Photo by NDHS Media



**Pep Rally**

Whether it be the wave of suspense flowing through the entire student body as they collectively sit in the dark of their warm, populated gym, awaiting something big to knock them off their feet, or the rush of adrenaline making its way up their vocal chords as they shout in unison, declaring the pride that comes with being a Titan, the ND seasonal pep rally is definitely an event to look forward to. From impressive performances by the song and cheer teams to whacky games that entail things like eating bananas and whipped cream off a plate with no hands involved, students are in no doubt entertained in many ways.

**The Game**

The Notre Dame Titans suffered a significant defeat against the Aquinas Falcons, losing 48-0. The game took place on Thursday night at Ramona High School, where a large crowd gathered to support the Titans.

From the beginning, Aquinas established control, scoring multiple touchdowns in the first half and leaving the Titans unable to respond. As the game progressed, the Titans struggled to gain momentum, and despite several attempts to find the end zone, they were unable to score. Though the scoreboard didn't reflect the hopes of the Titans this

year, the spirit of Holy War goes beyond a single night's outcome. The pride, camaraderie and unity that brings together the student body and athletes alike remind us that, win or lose, our school spirit will continue to strive. After all, Holy War isn't just about one game; it's about what it means to be part of something bigger; a community bound by faith, determination, and the persistent belief in what it means to be a Titan. As the stadium lights dim and the crows disperses, one thing is for sure: the legacy of Holy War will continue on, growing stronger with each passing year and more motivation to retrieve that shield!



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"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." – Proverbs 3:5-6

# ND Community Honors Grandparents in Special Mass

By Minh Lai

Sophomore, News Editor

Among the closest bonds we develop are those with our grandmothers and grandfathers. While most people usually live and spend time at home with their immediate family, there is always the occasional visit to your grandparents. No matter how brief or rare such visits are, they remind us of how much we are loved and supported. Our grandparents were the ones who raised the people that would one day raise us. They are people with years of experience behind their back, who thus can offer advice and consolation when we need it. Likewise, they are a source of joy when present, whether through their delicious and often non-replicable homecooked meals, the fun and wacky stories of their childhood which they would relay to you—sometimes more than once—the treats they would sneak into your pockets, or the fun little

activities like card games and outside trips they would get you involved in.

Out of appreciation for grandparents' contributions to good memories and their acts of love, Notre Dame High School hosted a special mass on Friday, September 13th, at 9:45 A.M. Grandparents Liturgy, as it was called, was not merely an event to offer gratitude, but an exceptional display of respect and admiration that—too unfortunately—is rarely



Photo by NDHS Media



Photo by NDHS Media

shown publicly to these Church was completely emptied. essential figures.

Students and their extended family gathered for this awaited day, with multitudes having quickly filled spots they reserved previously. During the homily, Father Paul talked about his early experiences with his grandparents, and before the Mass concluded, a passionate ovation was extended to all those invited. After 11 A.M., the Saint Catherine of Alexandria

Just as the students had settled back into campus, lunch began. Grandparents of students who still remained were welcomed in the gym for a luncheon that involved many snacks, various fruits, refreshments, sandwiches, and an opportunity for additional bonding time with their grandchildren. Ultimately, the day was successful in its attempt to bring families closer to one another and remind us of the importance of our elders.

# ND Surprised as Power Outage Cancels School

By Jaslene Elizondo

sophomore, writer

What started off as a seemingly normal day on Sept. 11, ended up taking a drastic turn. Students were in their fifth period taking notes and learning when all of a sudden everything went dark. All power had gone out in ND and we were left in the dark.

After a few minutes we were told that once fifth period was over we would be free to go home and leave early. Students were able to stay in the learning commons, gym, and hallways



while they waited for their rides. It was not until around 2:30 when the power came back on, followed by a few small outages after. We asked students what their experience with the outage and here were their answers

**Caroline Corr (9)**

"I was there when the blackout happened. I was in fifth period Spanish I with Señor Alcalá. We were reviewing for an upcoming test when the power went out. At first I remember thinking 'oh my

gosh, yay! no cuaderno or homework!' being told that we could leave early was the highlight of my week, I was so glad!"

**Doug Cube (10)**

"So basically I was in Nolte's class and we were watching a video about 9/11 and at a very convenient part of the video, the power went out turning off the TV. When it first happened I was only really thinking about the snack bar. I was devastated that

all the food was going to be unrefrigerated and go bad. But then I just stopped caring and ended up watching Instagram Reels in the corner. When the amazing news came that school ended early I was very happy, I got to miss my next class. Then I rushed over to the snack bar where I got some free grub"

**Joseph Sonsma (11)**

"I was in my fifth period anatomy class. I was honestly really mad when the power went out because I was playing speed golf on my iPad and I was shooting 1800 on the fifth hole and then I kind of threw my iPad. I did get happy that we wouldn't have to do work. but then we were made to do it on paper. When I was told I would get to leave school early I was so excited. I went straight to DeMatteo's and got a pizza."

It is safe to say the school power outage was definitely an interesting experience, this power outage was for some, a fun little surprise- a surprise I know some are hoping for again.

# NFL Week 3

By Ethan Lansang

Senior, Guest Writer

## Early window highlight - Steelers continue to go undefeated

In a battle between the Jim Harbaugh led (2-0) Chargers team and the Mike Tomlin led (2-0) Steelers team, the Steelers get a big home win. Justin Fields had his best game as a Steeler, as he threw for 245 yards, scored two total touchdowns, and threw one interception. The Chargers unfortunately suffered many injuries; the most significant being Justin Herbert having to leave the game in the third quarter due to an aggravated ankle injury.



## Late window highlight - The Ravens gets their first W in Dallas

Throughout the first three quarters of the Ravens Cowboys game, the Cowboys were proving to be the same old Cowboys from last season who only beat on the tomato cans (AKA, the losing teams) and always lose to the real Super Bowl contending teams in blowout fashion. The Cowboys get a lot of credit as they did not give up and nearly overcame their 28-6 deficit coming into the fourth quarter. The Ravens dominated the Cowboys defense in the run game as Lamar Jackson and Derrick Henry combined for 238 rushing yards and three rushing touchdowns. With less than three minutes in the fourth quarter, the Ravens kept the ball in their reigning league MVP Lamar Jackson's hands and were able to put the Cowboys away. The Cowboys need to seriously look at themselves in the mirror if they are to be the true Super Bowl contenders they like to perceive themselves to be.



## Most impressive wins of NFL Week 3

1. Washington Commanders march into Cincinnati and Jayden Daniels gives the Bengals fans nightmares. Jayden Daniels puts on the best performance by any rookie quarterback yet as he threw for 254 yards and two touchdowns and ran for a touchdown. He was also very efficient.
2. Denver Broncos win outright against the hot Tampa Bay Buccaneers.
3. The Vikings blow out the Texans at home to go (3-0).

## Ethan's MVP Rankings through the first three weeks of the NFL season



1. **Josh Allen** has scored nine total touchdowns with zero interceptions and with a passer rating of 133.7. His team is currently undefeated.
2. **Sam Darnold** has thrown for eight touchdowns with two interceptions and with a passer rating of 117.3. His team is currently undefeated with impressive wins over San Francisco and Houston.
3. **Baker Mayfield** has thrown for six touchdowns with two interceptions and a passer rating of 110.7. He also has one additional rushing touchdown and an impressive win in Detroit.

# Swing the Racket!

By Elyza Lansang

Senior, writer

On Sept. 18th, Varsity Girls Tennis played their first League Match against Jurupa Hills High School in Fontana.

After player introductions, the Notre Dame team grouped up to rally and motivate one another with team cheer. Placing trust in God for the matches to come, the girls prayed together before heading out to their respective courts. Singles and doubles players played three sets each.

Once the sets began, the courts were immersed in silence other than the sounds of players' rackets hurling the ball back towards their opponent. After every set, the girls would return to their group spot. The girls would share whether or not they won their match and fellow players celebrated along with them or reassured them and helped encourage them that the next set would end in victory. In the end, the Varsity team prevailed and won with a score of 12-6! The team went to Chick-fil-A afterward for a well-deserved meal. Great job Lady Titans and keep up that hard work!



# The Big Number 68

By Roman Nunez

Sophomore, writer

Colton Dufour, sophomore, tri-sport athlete, and friend, this kid is really a great person. Colton has shown his true athleticism from middle school to his sophomore year in high school and I don't think it's ever going to stop. Being a part of ASB, Colton shows he can be a true leader in our school. He doesn't just show his leadership roles in clubs and in school, he is also a captain on our Notre Dame High School Football Team. Rocking the number 68 and Notre Dame crest with pride shows he cannot be stopped. During his Freshman year of high school, he was a starting tackle on the Varsity squad laying down pancakes to whoever he could. The day of his middle school graduation, he left to start his training early, focused on one goal, proving himself. Then after football, he decided to try out for the soccer team and made the team as a goalie. His talent couldn't be matched.



Unfortunately, he was injured towards the end of the season and it was devastating to see. That did not stop this absolute stud, and right after he was cleared it was back on for football. Another attribute he has that makes him stand out is his academics. Balancing grades on top of his athleticism makes him a true Titan, showing morals, honesty, and strength.

# Philosophical Minds

By Elyza Lansang

Senior, writer

Hi Titans! This week on Scholar Spotlight, I would like to highlight two amazing students, Joseph Huelskamp and Cali Gonzalez! They are both students chosen by Mr. Norman, and they are both students from his Honors Philosophy class. Honors Philosophy is an intellectual class where students are challenged to learn the views of classic and inspirational philosophers of the past and engage in philosophical discussions. This class helps its students to grow in wisdom and to think critically with logic and reasoning. Mr. Norman is a fantastic instructor as he is very knowledgeable of the philosophers of old, his questions are always challenging and deep, and he lovingly pushes his students with follow-up questions to encourage more understanding as they seek the truth.



Students also aid others as students during discussions by listening quietly to understand the thinking of their peers and challenge them to see something in a different light. One truth-seeker who does this exceptionally is Joseph Huelskamp! After inquiring from Mr. Norman why he chose Joseph, he explained, "He's always very thoughtful. He thinks through his responses and he's willing to challenge others respectfully and be challenged." - Mr. Norman

Another student who would like to highlight who is also Holy Spirit filled in her intellectual and wise remarks is no other than the Peer Ministry President herself, Cali Gonzalez! When asking Mr. Norman why he chose Cali, he said, "Her points are usually very sharp. She catches the philosophers' ideas very quickly and she's able to see the implications beyond the idea itself." - Mr. Norman  
Great job Titans! Keep up the amazing work! Always seek out the truth Titans!

# Fried Falcon

By Doug Cube

Sophomore, Spotlight Editor

On thursday, after the pep rally, Ms. Bri, cooked us up some Falcon to celebrate Holy War. While, she didn't actually cook us falcon (it's illegal :)), she fired up the grill and sold us some chicken made with her titan pride, as well as barbecue sauce and chili powder. The meal came with the chicken, as well as a sugary blue drink, and if you were like me and got there first, it came with some mac and cheese. I would have to say that this was some of the finest dining that I've ever had as my experience being a Titan. The chicken was very delectable. So delectable, that I had to get a second serving after I finished my first plate. The taste of the chicken paired even better with the blue beverage, and the texture of the mac n cheese. This meal was truly an experience

If you didn't try this, you missed out :( Maybe next time you can hunt a falcon a cook it better. Or just ask for Ms. Bri for the recipe. Happy Munching!!!

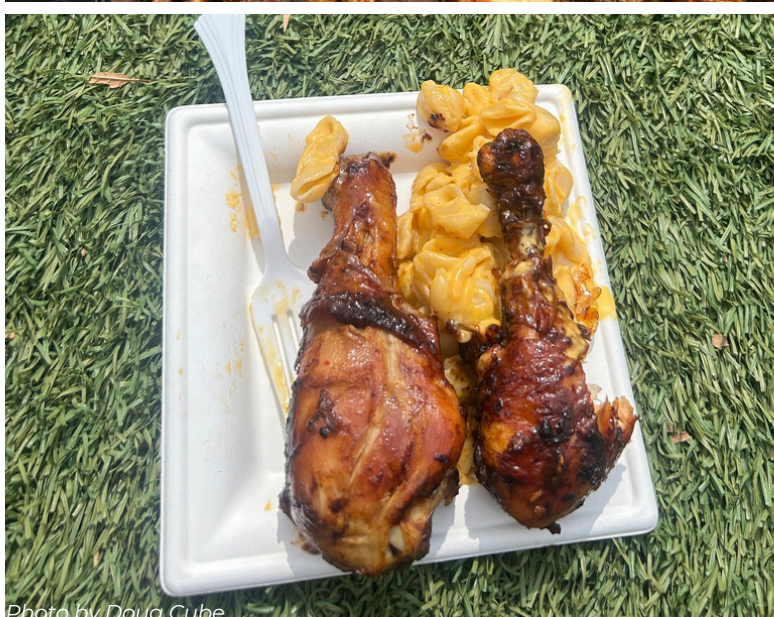


Photo by Doug Cube

# Mr. Carlton

By Doug Cube

Sophomore, Spotlight editor



In the past two weeks, Notre Dame has welcomed a brand new Athletic Director, just in time for holy war. Mr. Carlton, also known as Coach Carlton, joins the Titan Family!!

**Q: "What if your favorite part of ND so far?"**

A: "So far, I think my favorite part i've seen is the students. The culture and energy is some of the best I've ever seen."

**Q: "Favorite football team?"**

A: "The Denver Broncos"

**Q: "Favorite TV show of all time?"**

A: "House M.D."

**Q: "Favorite ice cream flavor"**

A: "Coconut"

**Fun Fact:**

Coach Carlton is really into fishing.

Let us all give Coach Carlton a warm welcome as he joins the Titan Community, and if you haven't already, say hi the next time you see him.

# Unpopular Opinon, but...

**"Rap sucks and is overrated, rock is better" -Anonymous**

**Submit your unpopular opinion**

# She's the Man!

**By Lubianca Gaitan**  
Senior, Editor-in-chief

In the spirit of football, let's move onto what the British call football but we Americans call Soccer. Although "She's the Man" is a rom-com at heart, the plot has some hints soccer as a theme, making it more than just a simple love story. The story follows Viola Hastings, a high school girl who is passionate about soccer. But when her school's girls' soccer team is cut and the boys' coach refuses to allow the girls to even try out for the boys' team, Viola finds herself in a tough spot. Her love for the sport and determination to compete aren't easily put down, so she decides to take matters into her own hands. At the same time, her twin brother, Sebastian, is sneaking away to London for two weeks to pursue his music career. Viola sees this as her golden opportunity.

With Sebastian gone, Viola disguises herself as her brother,



enrolls at his new boarding school, and tries out for the boys' soccer team in his place. Her goal? To prove her talent by beating her former school in a match, especially since the boys' coach there had completely disregarded her abilities based on the fact that she was a girl.

As Sebastian, Viola has to navigate the world of teenage boys, which is a culture shock for

her. Amanda Bynes, who plays Viola, does a great job of balancing the physical comedy and emotional weight of her character. Viola must not only learn the ins and outs of being "one of the guys," but she also experiences the pressures and expectations placed on young men. Her struggles, like sharing a room with Duke (Channing Tatum), her tough and athletic teammate, and trying to blend

in with the rowdy soccer players, lead to some of the film's funniest moments.

Overall, "She's the Man" is more than just a rom-com with a sports backdrop, it's a film about breaking expectations and showing the difficulties of being a guy. Whether you like soccer or want a feel-good movie with a deeper message, this is for you.

Everybody has a secret...  
Duke **wants** Olivia who **likes** Sebastian who is really Viola whose brother is **dating** Monique so she **hates** Olivia who's with Duke to make Sebastian **jealous** who is really Viola who's **crushing** on Duke who **thinks** she's a guy...



# Lo-fi Beats: The Soundtrack to Student Success

**By Matthew Baculo**  
Senior, Music writer

Imagine this, you've just gotten home after a long day and have lots of homework to do. You sit down and try to do your homework but you can't concentrate; so you search up things to help you focus and it says to listen to music. However, all the music you like to listen to just ends up distracting so you search up "music that helps you focus", and you find a genre of music called Lo-fi. You start listening to it and after a while, you feel more focused, productive, and less stressed. You breeze through your homework and even feel good after doing it! What is this genre of music called Lo-fi? How is it that I am able to focus better when listening to this music compared to other genres of music? To understand this, let's dive into common themes heard in Lo-fi.

**Consistent Rhythm and Tempo**  
Usually Lo-fi consists of a steady, slow, and melodic rhythm and tempo to it which promotes a state of relaxation and focus.



### Minimal Lyrics

Most Lo-fi tracks have little to no lyrics at all. Having lyrics in music usually distracts the brain as it processes the words said. This makes it hard for your brain to focus on the task at hand.

### Ambient Sounds

Ambient sounds such as rain, wind, or soft chatter have been known to create a calm and peaceful atmosphere also masking any disruptive background noises in your environment.

So Titans, whether you're having trouble focusing, doing homework, or studying, try to listen to music with the common themes found in Lo-fi. Some might find Lo-fi distracting and some might find it helpful, give it a try!

# Tech Talk

**By Sebastian Bou Harb**  
Senior, Tech writer

What's up Titans!  
In this week's issue I want to share a very cool experience I was able to have last week at the Apple Store in Victoria Gardens. You may or may not have heard about the Apple Vision Pro, Apple's new high-end, augmented and virtual reality headset, that is packed with hardware stronger than a laptop, crisp resolution, and insane physical interaction. I was fortunate enough to have a demo session at Apple where I was sat down for half an hour to use the device.



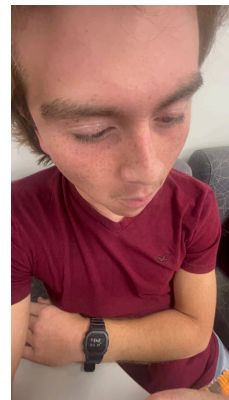
At the beginning, I did a tutorial on navigating the interface, where all you have to do is look at the object on the screen you want to select and pinch your fingers together while they are relaxed on your lap.

Through the demonstration, I was instructed on doing different tasks like zooming in and out, scrolling, and window resizing, which again, was done by using your eyes to select and using pinching your fingers to confirm. If you ask me, this is basically mind control. But this was just the basic stuff, towards the end of the demo, I was shown a 3D, spatial, 8K video showcasing the graphical ability of the Vision Pro. But what would really blow me away was the app called, Jigspace.



In this app, I was able to observe and dissect parts of real life machinery, like a plane engine, and my personal favorite, the Formula 1 car. All I had to do was pick up the piece from the machine that was sitting right in front of me, in AR, obviously. My favorite part was being able to sit in the cockpit, making me feel like I was actually driving the car, a feeling I will never forget. Thanks for tuning in to this issue's version of Tech Talk!

# Behind the Scenes



**People Featured:** Jared Rodriguez (12), Diego Gonzales (12), Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Brier, Doug Cube (10), Jaslene Elizondo (10), Heidi Hutter (10), Luke Webster (10), Merek Crane (10), Tawny Haluskey (11), Diego Rojas (11), Ximena Gonzalez (11), Flor Castañon (11), Ethan Lansang (12), Elyza Lansang (12), Matthew Baculo (12), Kaitlyn Nguyen (12), Nichless Calderon(10)

**Submit your own pictures online!**

# Advice Archives

**Q:** Hey, so I'm like stressing about a relationship. I'm dating someone outside of my school and we only know each other because of our like shared friend groups since I grew up in a private middle school while they went to public school all their life. The thing is, we struggle to find time for each other and like I wonder if you can give me tips to strengthen our relationship. How do I know if he's cheating or like keep communications?

**A:** It sounds like you're in a pretty tricky situation, but there are definitely some solid ways to strengthen your relationship! First off, make it a point to communicate openly—try to set aside some time each week to just talk and share how you're feeling. Planning regular dates, even if they're just virtual hangouts, can really help keep that connection strong. Trust your gut, too—if something feels off, don't hesitate to bring it up because trust is super important. Setting boundaries is key, so talk about what you both expect from the relationship. And don't forget to send little texts or messages during the day to keep the spark alive! Just remember, trust and communication are everything; if you both really care, you can totally work through this together!

## Submit your requests online!

**Q:** How to chill out when I see my ex girlfriend with my old best friend everyday.

**A:** Seeing your ex with your old best friend can be really tough, but there are ways to help you cope. Trust. First, try to give yourself some space. If you can, take a break from being around them and focus on your own hobbies and interests. It also helps to talk about how you feel with a trusted friend. Sometimes just sharing what you're going through can make a big difference. Put your energy into things that make you happy, like sports, hobbies, or hanging out with other friends. If seeing them together is too hard, it's okay to set some boundaries and limit what you see online or in person. (maybe blocking or muting) And most importantly remember why you and your ex broke up! Thinking about that can help you realize your old best friend is maybe a little crazy, and I'm sure your old best friend is not deliberately trying to hurt you. Healing takes time, so be kind to yourself!

## The Titan Times

[notredameriverside.org/titantimes](http://notredameriverside.org/titantimes)

### Editor-in-Chief

Lubianca Gaitan

### Moderator

Mrs. Arguelles

### Editors

Jude Cramer  
Gael Campos  
Minh Lai  
Sydney Cramer  
Doug Cube

### Staff Writers

Elyza Lansang  
Matthew Baculo  
Sebastian Bou Harb  
Jaslene Elizondo  
Roman Nunez

### Social Media

Jaslene Elizondo  
Doug Cube

### Photography

Lubianca Gaitan

Questions regarding the Titan Times should be directed our email at [titantimes@ndhsriverside.org](mailto:titantimes@ndhsriverside.org)

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