

TITAN TIMES

VOL. 3, ISSUE 7 | DECEMBER 17TH, 2024

CHRISTMAS: FAITH, TRADITIONS, AND HOLIDAY WISHES!

By The Titan Times Team

The History of Christmas

by Doug Cube

The traditional Christmas that one thinks about was not always as it is today; the way we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ was a development throughout many centuries. In early Christianity, Jesus' birth was not a major holiday, instead Easter was. However, when Emperor Constantine had legalized Christianity in 313, many things changed. With the increase of popularity, churches began to celebrate Christmas as the birth of Jesus, as it had aligned with other Pagan holidays. This amalgamation of traditions ended up creating a carnival-like holiday, in which people slowly began to disassociate from. This led to a time from the 16th to the 19th century, in which the holiday lacked much celebration, and instead became a day focused on the family.

However, during the 19th century, with the eve of religious freedoms, Christmas started to become a more secular holiday. Stories such as *A Christmas Carol* and *The Little Match Girl* had warmed people's hearts, creating the modern association of Christmas, with love and giving. After this, the celebration of Christmas only became more popular, creating the modern holiday as we know it.

How ND is Celebrating

by Minh Lai

Notre Dame High School brought in the Christmas spirit early on and in school so as to encourage the festive attitude of the season. Even as students continued going to class whilst preparing for the semester's end, events like the Ugly Christmas Sweater & Jeans Spirit Day certainly set the mood in these busy times. As the name suggests, Ugly Christmas Sweater & Jeans Spirit Day took place on the 13th of December. Students adorned



Photo by Google Images

themselves with their best—or rather, their ugliest—sweaters. Another noteworthy event included the Holiday Food Drive hosted by Peer Ministry, which ended on the same day but had been going on for some time. In this special time of giving, many cans were donated and will be used to feed the hungry.

Christmas Lists

by Lubianca Gaitan

No matter the age, we will always have a Christmas list, whether it be intended for Santa Claus or for our close relatives and friends. Now, let's see what's on ND's list!

Q: What's something on your Christmas list?

"New Sony XM5s in black because mine got stolen" - Amanda Martinez, 12

"Hair Diffuser" - Annie Kluge, 9

"Small Sony digital camera" - Marek Crane, 10

"Pinterest inspired clothing, plushies, Lego fairy Batman, Bible plushie, and a working phone" - Flor Castanon, 11

"New softball glove" - Teresa Avila, 9



Photo by Google Images

THIS ISSUE:



See Page 2



See Page 3



See Page 4



See Page 6



See Page 7

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" - Isaiah 9:6

Eucharistic Procession and our faith

By Elyza Lansang

Senior, writer

On November 22, Notre Dame came together as a family and to celebrate before being released to Thanksgiving Break, prayerfully went on a Eucharistic Procession. Led by Peer Ministry and Father Paul and priests from St. Catherine of Alexandria, Jesus was processed around the Titan Mile pathway. With help from teachers, students were kept safe while following where the Lord went. Some students led holding a Notre Dame banner followed by four students who held a canopy over the priest and Jesus. Two groups of students, one



Photo by NDHS Media



Photo by NDHS Media

near the front of the group of students and one near the end, prayed the Rosary. Rosaries were given out to students by Senior Peer Ministers before the procession. Jesus was processed through St. Catherine of Alexandria's Catholic School before returning to Notre Dame. As students filled the seats set up on the field, the choir sang praise and worship as Jesus was placed on an altar prepared beforehand. After this, students and staff helped clean up the chairs and take apart the stage setup. Students were provided refreshments like water and snacks and were officially dismissed for break.

What is a Eucharistic Procession? A Eucharistic Procession, or a Corpus Christi procession, is a public witness of the veneration toward the most holy Eucharist, it's like a holy parade that brings Jesus, truly present in the Holy Eucharist, into the world He loves. The priest walks around with Christ so that the Lord may be adorned and worshiped by all. Why is this important? This is important because it is a symbol of our faith. It shows the world who Notre Dame is and a reflection of our Catholic identity. Holding a Eucharistic Procession right before break was a wonderful way for Notre Dame to come together as a family to give our gratitude and love to Christ for all the memories of this year, for our friends and family, for our teachers, for all staff, and for Thanksgiving Break! Thank You Jesus for always protecting our school! We love you Lord!



Photo by NDHS Media

Go into Christmas break with a good mindset: We have so much to be thankful for! Praying that everyone has a blessed break and comes back refreshed and ready to finish the rest of the school year strong. I hope all students are filled with God's peace after the procession and leave school with that peace. It was truly a blessing to experience. I'm praying this beautiful Eucharistic Procession touched some hearts as Our Lord was processed around. Rest up Titans and have a wonderful Christmas Break! God bless you all, remember this is a time to spend with our loved ones in peace and gratitude. Jesus loves you all!

Dressing Above and Beyond to Impress

By Gael Campos

Junior, Sports editor

At this point, it would be surprising to come across a single person who is not already familiar with, or has at least heard of, the global phenomenon known as Dress to Impress. Released on October 18, 2023, via the incredibly popular platform Roblox, the multiplayer fashion game has since amassed millions of loyal fans and received praise from renowned institutions like The New York Times. In it, users compete against a server of other players by compiling an outfit that will be presented on a runway and rated on a scale of 1 to 5 by those same players. The Roblox user attributed as being

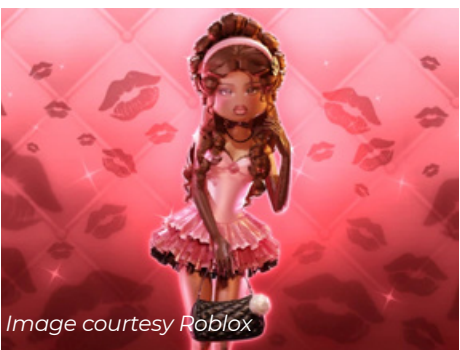


Image courtesy Roblox

one of the game's main developers is reportedly a 17-year-old girl named Gigi, who was only 14 when she and her team of creative designers and animators began planning prototypes. Now, the award-winning game is collaborating with big-name artists such as Charli XCX, who has received significant recognition for the release of her newest album Brat and catering to varying fan interests by taking inspiration from animes like Madoka Magica and Kakegurui. For those unfamiliar, each round is assigned a specific theme for players to coordinate their outfits with, essentially serving as a rubric for voting on other models. With the new Christmas update on the horizon, this week's issue includes a survey asking students which of the many themes on Dress to Impress they consider their favorite. The sample pool included 20 Notre Dame students and 10 other individuals unaffiliated with the school. With the youngest being 12 and the oldest 19, the age range may not be significant but is still fairly diverse. In the interest of time, responses are grouped by similarity rather than listing each.



Image courtesy of X

Ten chose Coquette, five picked Pastel Goth, three selected Freeplay, and two preferred Cowboy. While this particular case is likely unable to account for the preferences of all groups out there, it highlights the variety in which players express their tastes and how trends continue to evolve. Recently, there has been a significant amount of attention drawn to the increasing number of minors populating these servers and producing what could be considered less-than-five-star outfits. However, upon noticing that the theme is anything such as Frutiger Aero, they will make their confusion

known in the public chat room and ask what the theme in question calls for. A new feature has been implemented, however, that allows players more information on whatever topic they may be assigned by clicking a single button at the top of their screen. Despite these intergenerational differences, the whole of Dress to Impress stands as a testament to the invincible strength of fashion, particularly fashion trends, considering that it singlehandedly prompted young Roblox players around the world to explore old inspirations and visions in a fun and lighthearted way.

Winter Sports

By Sofia Navarro
Freshman, writer

Towards the end of the year, we start to see many changes come about. With the changing seasons come the changing sports, with Winter just around the corner. Notre Dame has a variety of winter sports, including Girls' Water polo, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Girls' wrestling, and Boys wrestling. If you're planning on joining one of these sports, are already part of one, or simply want to learn more about the sports going on at Notre Dame, then keep reading.



Photo from Zoe Roykowski

Girls' Water Polo

The Girls' Water polo had their first league game on December 4th. This year Amanda Ortiz, Emma Senn, Annika Rocha, Olivia Smith, Nathaly Romero, Serena Waked, Leilani Olivia, Victoria Slawsby, Cali Gonzalez, Sophie Bou Harb, Shyanne Williams, Caroline Corr, Ashley Chavez, Clarie Morrow, Summer Wilbur, and last but not least Daisy Wilbur, will be participating in this Water Polo season. Mr. Villescas, our amazing Statistics and Honors Algebra II teacher will be the head coach of the Girls' Water Polo team, as he has done for the past couple of years now.



Photo from @ndhsfc

Boys' Soccer

Mr. Alcalá, our lovely Spanish teacher, is also the head coach of the Varsity Boys' Soccer team and their assistant coach is Christian York. They have their first league game on January 6th, so let's make sure we all go out and support them.

Girls' Soccer

This year, Girls' Soccer is led by Coach Campos, with Seniors Ally and Alexis as captains. While this may be their last year, they are sure to leave a lasting impression and set up the field for the years to come.

Girls' Basketball

With two teams this year, we saw two different starts for the season. The Girls' Varsity Basketball season started on November 21st and the JV Girls' started on December 11th. We have head Coach Josh Scarborough assisted by Gio Mendoza and Kelvin Smith who will be hopefully leading our Varsity girls to victory. Kelvin Smith will also be the head coach of the JV basketball team. Seniors Bailey Milenkiewicz and Calista Constantine will share their wisdom to their teammates as team captain.

Boys' Basketball

Similarly to Girls' Basketball, this year we see Boys' Basketball with two teams: Varsity and JV. The Varsity team had their first game November 18th, which they sadly lost but as they continue to grow, who knows what things they may accomplish this season.

Wrestling

Following some big wins last season, we can't overlook our wrestling team. With many hardworking athletes, we look forward to what the team will accomplish this season.

Tips from student athletes

By Alan Baltazar
Freshman, writer

Being a student who does sports can come with its challenges, whether that be wanting to reach a goal in sports or even just juggling academics with sports activities. Thankfully, there are so many students at Notre Dame who have been doing sports for many years now and have some tips and advice to share for those who may just now be starting their journey into an athletic, sports-involved life. It is good to have some perspective and knowledge of what to do when starting a sport, and how to improve overall, so here is what some students shared:

Anthony Lepe, 9: "I play basketball. My advice is when you go to practices, listen to the coach. Also, eat a lot of protein to gain muscle and stamina."

Teresa Avila, 9: "Be committed to whatever sport you play, and learn to improve time management skills. In order to play a sport, you must be able to juggle academics as well."



Photo from NDHS Media

Losing a game might be tough, but it is important to realize that you cannot win them all. You learn more when you make mistakes. In order to meet success, you must first meet failure. Keeping a healthy diet and a good condition will also help you become a better athlete. Getting a good daily protein intake and working out daily will help you to gain muscle and stamina. The moment you become inconsistent in working out, you will see a rapid decline of energy and muscle. Being an athlete is not easy. It will provide you with a lot of work to improve yourself at the sport you play, and a possible mental struggle. But it can also provide you with a mental boost, as many people love sports! Sports are great, and it is always nice to have some tips with you when you go play.



Photo from Mahim Govender

Marek Crane, 10: "Condition your body and work out for whatever sport you do."

Mahim Govender, 12: "Don't fall behind on grades and be up to condition. Don't be lazy and never lose confidence. Keep a good mentality and never give up."

Kenna Cosme, 11: "I play Volleyball and Song. I have played Volleyball since 4th grade, and Song since Sophomore year. Both are a lot of hard work, so you have to be committed to both. If you believe you can go farther in, put in the work. One challenge I had with these sports was connecting with my teammates. These sports are not individual sports, so you need to connect with your teammates to really do the best that you can."

These athletes all have given great advice on how to improve yourself as a player, and not only that, as a student as well! One problem that most athletes seem to have with sports is also keeping their studies in check. As an athlete myself, my advice is to not prioritize sports over school. If you want to play a sport, you need to be ready for the challenges ahead. When people think of sports, they never think of the mental battle that a sport can bring. You need to keep a good mentality. Making a mistake in the game might leave you upset and angry at yourself, but it helps you build character and can make you a better athlete overall.



Photo from NDHS Media

Scholar Spotlight

By Dana Clark

Junior, writer

"How many bones make up the human body?" One of the very classic, yet intellectual questions asked within: Ms. Loyola's classes! Ms. Loyola is the wonderful teacher for both biology and anatomy at Notre Dame. During her lectures, students are able to learn insightful material on how life works, ranging from cells (the fundamental piece of Earth) to the specifics of our body's functions. Fortunately, I received the opportunity to hear about the environment of her classes and insight on some of her many outstanding students. To begin with, Sebastian Bou Harb is emphasized for being consistent with his passion for learning as he has shown the most thoughtful observations of scientific and medical principles discussed. Additionally, he is the embodiment of Titan spirit as he helps out his classmates and stays behind to help clean



after labs. Your hard work is very first day of school. Her much appreciated, understanding of science Sebastian! Next, Elyza and ability to quickly grasp Lansang is known to be such new concepts is both very a fantastic student with a remarkable and inspiring. To add on, Isabella shares her intellect with her evident through not only her classmates and uses it to help her peers when work. Despite her busy understanding class schedule, she maintains stellar lab work and a profound understanding of difficult medical concepts. Keep up the amazing work, The Titan Times is proud of Elyza! :) Lastly, Isabella you all, keep up the great Lauchang has been work. Let's all finish out this recognized for her first semester strongly and impressive mind since the efficiently!

Christmas Food Fun

By Doug Cube

Sophomore, Spotlight Editor



As the Christmas season falls upon us, we begin to partake in Christmas traditions that are very dear to all of us. For me, this tradition will be building gingerbread houses with my family and friends. Building gingerbread houses is something I'm sure we're all familiar with. After all, you can walk into a target and buy a gingerbread Target superstore. Anyways, this holiday season, I will be partaking in this festive activity, whilst listening to Christmas music. On the topic of gingerbread, another fun Christmas activity you can do is decorating gingerbread men. While this activity is not as popular as the aforementioned one, it is still a fun activity you can do with your friends. One twist on this is to decorate your gingerbread men as your friends. Whether your friend is the gingerbread man or a ginger man,

I'm sure that you will all find this activity fun during your next Christmas party.

One final food I would like to discuss, is candy canes. Recently, I had a candy cane for the first time in ages, and I have to say that it was fire. The peppermint flavor left me with an essence reminding me of childhood. This was followed by me buying a multitude of different flavored candy canes. I cannot gatekeep this any longer, but I feel like you all should be eating more candy canes, regardless of the flavor. The shape of this delectable brings one back to simpler times, and I encourage all of you to buy some more. With that, I wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

King Culver

By Lubianca Gaitan

Senior, Editor-in-Chief



Our special teacher feature this issue is our very own Mr. Culver, otherwise known as King Culver! Why is he called King Culver, you may ask? Keep reading about this great teacher to find out!

Q: "Where does the nickname King Culver come from?"

A: Because I was in a Burger King commercial many years ago long before I taught at ND. The students just sort of find it on their own. I like to wait until they find it, see how long it takes them. Usually, what happens is students from previous years tell my current students"

Q: "What is your favorite conspiracy theory?"

A: I think it was the JFK assassination that got me into it all. It's the king of all conspiracy theories. I'm happy to talk about it anytime.

Q: "Being the film history teacher, you must like all sorts of movies. What would you say is your favorite movie and why?"

A: I would say Chinatown from 1974. It's a Jack Nicholson movie. It's a perfect plot and you never get tired of figuring out. It's like a complicated puzzle.

Q: "If you weren't a teacher, what other profession would you pursue?"

A: I'd probably sit at home and write conspiracy books. That would be my jam.

Q: "Knowing that you are an author and love literature, what is your favorite genre?"

A: Right now, I've gotten really into Russian literature from the 20th century. It was a lot of socialist realism, a lot taking place during the Soviet Union.

Well, it seems our King Culver has some pretty interesting stories that one might not think about at first glance. Sure, he may be an English teacher, but as we now know, there's more that meets the eye. If you ever have some free time and want to learn more about conspiracies, be sure to pop by his classroom to have a chat.

Christmas Films to Fill You with the Holiday Spirit

By Lubianca Gaitan
Senior, Editor-in-Chief

As the year winds down and the festive season approaches, there's no better way to immerse yourself in holiday cheer than with a good movie. Here are four beloved Christmas classics to fill your heart with warmth (and maybe a little action).

The Holiday (2006)

Directed by Nancy Meyers, *The Holiday* is the ultimate rom com for the festive season. The film follows Iris and Amanda, two women from opposite sides of the world who decide to swap homes for Christmas to escape their romantic lives. What comes after is a fun little tale of self-discovery, new friendships, and unexpected love. A mix of laughter, tears, and in a way holiday magic, *The Holiday* reminds us that new beginnings can come at any time of year.



The Santa Clause (1994)

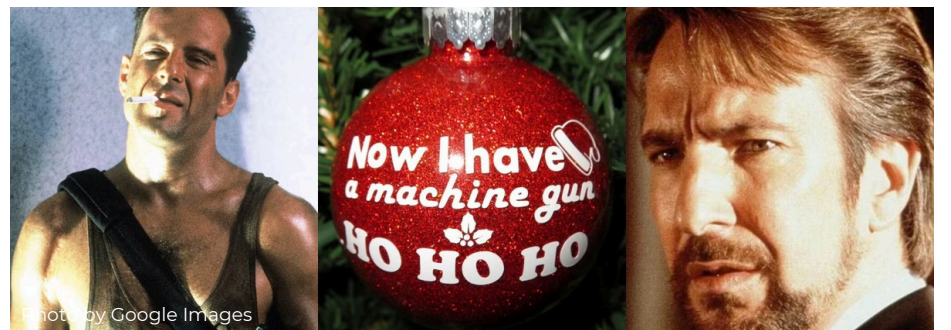
Tim Allen stars in this wonderful holiday favorite (one of mine as well) as Scott Calvin, a divorced dad who accidentally causes Santa Claus to fall from his roof on Christmas Eve. To his surprise, Scott finds himself taking over the role of Santa, complete with a magical sleigh and a growing belly to match. As one of my personal favorite Christmas movies, the mix of humor with Christmas magic really makes it something anyone can enjoy, no matter the age, with the importance of Christmas wonder for both kids and adults alike.

Home Alone (1990)

Let's face it, *Home Alone* is less of a Christmas movie and more of a holiday phenomenon. Decades after its release, Kevin McCallister's silly traps and attitude remain iconic. But what makes this movie so special isn't just the comedy or Harry and Marv getting hurt, it's the way it captures the chaos and warmth of this season. And who can forget the timeless lesson? Sometimes, the greatest gift is the realization that family (even the most chaotic kind) is what really matters. Watching *Home Alone* feels like opening a well-loved gift year after year, predictable, but always joyful.

Die Hard (1988)

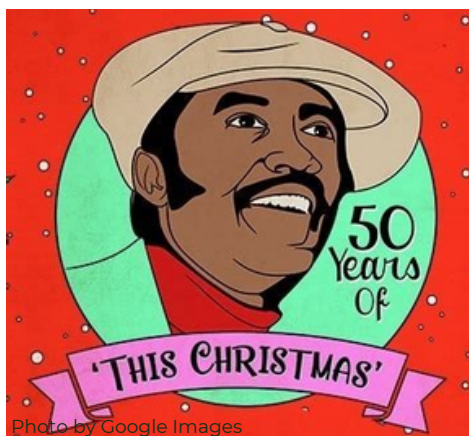
Is it really Christmas without a little action? While *Die Hard* may not feature sleigh bells or snowmen, this thriller can always be considered a great holiday movie, and to some, "the greatest Christmas movie." Set on Christmas Eve, the film follows NYPD officer John McClane as he battles terrorists who have taken hostages during a company holiday party in Los Angeles. Its enduring debate as to whether it's a Christmas movie only adds to its charm. (Spoiler: It absolutely is.)



Underrated Christmas Songs

By Matthew Baculo
Senior, Music writer

Don't be alarmed if you suddenly hear Mariah Carey on the radio while driving or while shopping in the mall because we are finally in the Christmas season, Titans! Personally, I enjoy kicking back and listening to some good old Frank Sinatra or Michael Bublé during this time of year as they have some great Christmas songs, but it seems that every Christmas season, the same Christmas songs are played over and over again. There are hundreds of Christmas songs that aren't as popular yet are still really good! Here are two great underrated Christmas songs that I'm sure you won't regret listening to!



"Christmas in L.A." by Vulfpeck

Don't you ever wish Michael Jackson made a Christmas song? Well, we can all dream, but the closest thing to that dream would have to be "Christmas in L.A." with Vulfpeck's sweet voice that is reminiscent of Michael Jackson. I would definitely give this a listen if you like Michael Jackson!

"This Christmas" by Donny Hathaway

Wooh! Who knew that trumpets could be so well attuned to fit into that of a Christmas song? That's what I thought when I first heard this song, with its creative lyrics and catchy tune, this goes into my favorite classics in terms of Christmas music.

Give these two a listen and have a great Christmas Titans!



"Tech" the Halls

By Sebastian Bou Harb
Senior, Tech writer

Hey Titans! It's good to be back to talk tech with you all, and in this issue, I am coming to you with some great suggestions for Christmas tech gifts. Let's jump right into it!

1- Headphones: I cannot express how much of an impact headphones have made in my life since I got them. They are one of the few things that calm me down and help me locked in while studying. Especially just listening to my playlist or using the noise cancelling feature. A gift like this could really up your everyday experience and can be found for some really good prices around the holidays. I recommend brands like Sony and Bose for an amazing sound experience and a price that doesn't break the bank.



Photo by Google Images

2 - Portable charger: This is a great idea as a stocking stuffer for someone, because a portable charger/power bank gets you out of so many sticky situations. With one of these, you can say goodbye to asking to charge your iPad in the corner of the class or fighting over who's got a lower power percentage. Keeping one of these in your backpack will save the day (and your device) and takes up little space.



Photo by Google Images

3 - Boxbollen: Want to try to make it to February with your New Year's Resolution? The viral Boxbollen boxing toy helps you stay active while having fun. What's so special about it you may ask? The Boxbollen is simple on the surface as it looks like a ball that you attach with a string to a headband, but it's the inside that counts. It has a chip and sensor that connects to a phone app and challenges you to consecutively punch the ball to reach a high score, whether against family and friends, or the international leaderboard.

“I Drive”

By Lubianca Gaitan
Senior, Editor-in-Chief

Many of you may be reaching that age where you're able to start driving. Now, before any of you can become Ryan Gosling in *Drive*, you're going to have to go through a certain process to get that beautiful license that will allow you to drive. Don't worry—it's not as scary as it sounds, and I'm here to guide you through it step by step.

Step 1: Getting Your Learner's Permit

If you're between the ages of 15 ½ and 17 ½, your first milestone is obtaining a learner's permit. Here's what you'll need to do:

- Complete Driver's Education by taking an approved course, which you can take online, to learn the rules of the road.



- Study the California Driver Handbook and practice online quizzes to prepare for the permit test.
- Visit the DMV: Bring documents proving your identity and residency and pass a vision test along with the written exam.

Once you have your permit, you can start practicing driving, but only with a licensed adult (25 or older) sitting in the passenger seat.

Step 2: Practice, Practice, Practice

Driving isn't something you learn overnight, it takes practice! The state of California requires that

you complete:

- 6 hours of professional driving lessons with a certified instructor
- 50 hours of supervised driving, including 10 hours at night, with a parent or guardian

These practice hours will help you build confidence and get comfortable with everything from freeway driving to parallel parking.

Step 3: Take the Driving Test

Once you've had your learner's permit for at least six months and completed your practice hours, you're ready to take the behind-the-wheel driving test.

- Schedule your test
- Bring your documents
- Practice key skills such as turning, parking, merging, and stopping smoothly

The test may seem intimidating, but if you've practiced enough, you'll be ready to impress your examiner. Once you pass, you'll receive a provisional license!

Step 4: Earning your full license

Until you're 18, your license will have some restrictions. You won't be allowed to drive with passengers under 20 unless supervised by an adult, and you can't drive between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Once you turn 18, these restrictions are lifted, and you'll officially have a full California driver's license.

Getting your license is a big step towards independence and adulthood. It's not just about being able to drive, it's about taking on the responsibility that comes with it. So, put in the work, stay patient, and soon enough, you'll be cruising down the streets like a pro (just maybe not quite like Ryan Gosling in *Drive*). Safe travels!



How to Stay Motivated

By Sydney Cramer
Sophomore, Hot Topics Editor

As the days get colder and the holidays draw near, staying focused on school can become a challenge. Between studying for finals exams, last minute assignments, and winter break being just barely out of reach, it's easy to lose motivation. However, do not fret, for there are ways to push through and finish this semester strong while still enjoying the season.

1) Setting Short Term Goals

Instead of thinking, "I have to ace all my finals," focus on smaller goals like finishing a study guide or revising an essay at a time. Making a to-do list will feel less overwhelming and give you a sense of accomplishment.

2) Creating a Cozy Study Environment

Take advantage of the winter vibes! Light a candle, make some hot cocoa, or wrap yourself in a



blanket while you work. When your environment feels comfy, it's easier to stay productive.

3) Reward Yourself

Motivate yourself by setting up little rewards for completing tasks. For example, finish reviewing for a test and watch twenty minutes of your favorite show. Write that essay and get that cookie. Knowing there's something enjoyable at the finish line can help push you through tough assignments.

4) Remind Yourself Why It Matters

Take a moment to realize why finishing the semester strong is important to you. Whether it's improving your grades, making your parents proud, or simply proving to yourself that you can do it, keeping your goals in mind can help motivate you more.

While the holiday break may seem like a faraway dream, remember that the hard you put on now will make your time off even better. Stay focused, keep your eye on the prize, and soon enough, you'll be enjoying a well-deserved break with no worries in mind! Good luck studying Titans!!

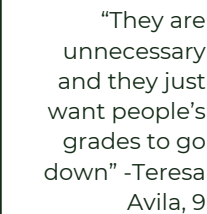


Weekly Question:

How are you feeling about finals?



"I hope that my kids do well. I try my best that they are understanding the concepts so there shouldn't be any failing grades" -Mr. Marin, Biology



"They are unnecessary and they just want people's grades to go down" -Teresa Avila, 9



"Finals aren't that bad" - Joshua Wooten, 10



"Lowk, finals have been the death of me. I'm struggling to stay alive. I don't have as much cushion as I'd like." - Ana Sofia Ramirez, 11



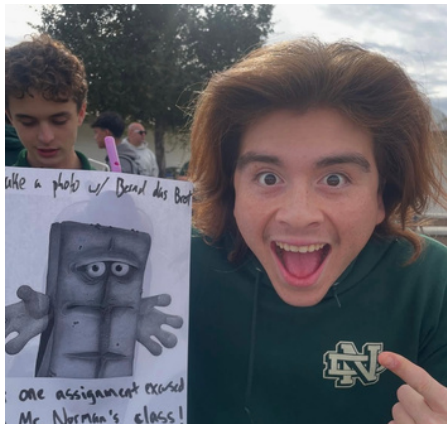
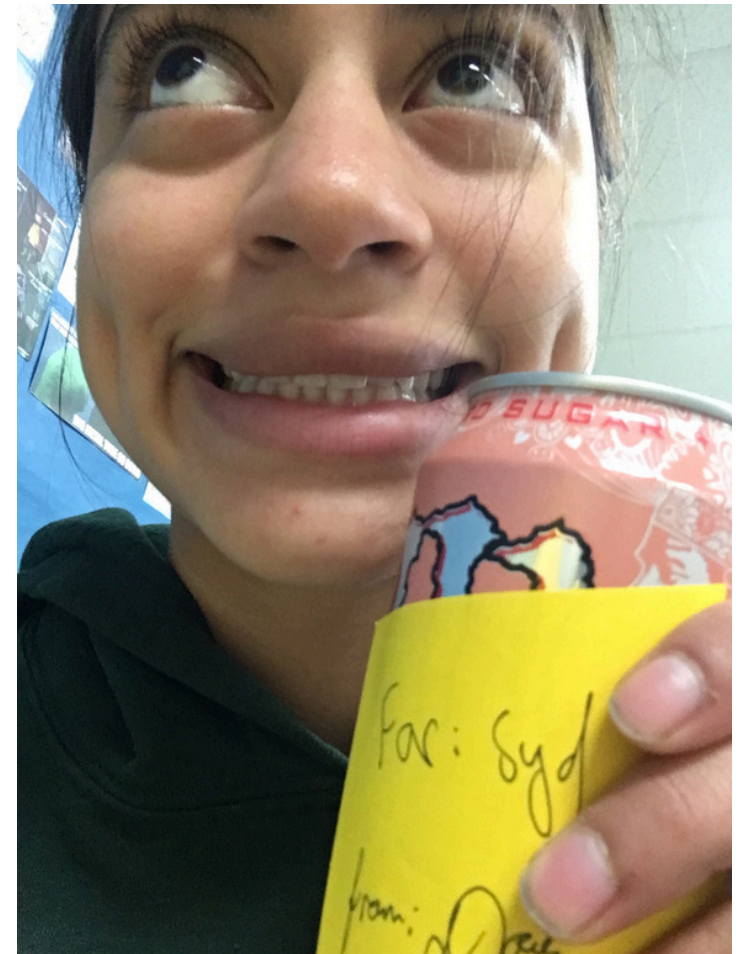
"Honestly, I'm kind of not really stressed about it. I'm just scared for Gov for some reason" - Amanda Ortiz, 12

Unpopular Opinion, but...

“Nerds are actually cute” - Anonymously submitted by a junior

Submit your unpopular opinion

Behind the Scenes



People Featured (from left to right going down):

Joshua Avila (11), Matthew ... (11), Matthew Baculo (12), Ethan Lansang (12), Tawny Haluskey (11), Tristian Hollero (12), Diego Gonzalez (12), Bishop Rojas & Alumni, Nicholas "Nico" Kendall (12), Mahim Govender (12), Nichless Calderon (10), Emma Senn (10), Sydney Cramer (10), Joshua Wooten (10), Mr. Avila,

Submit your own pictures online!

Advice Archives

Submit your requests online!
(It's completely anonymous)

Q: I still have a crush on a senior from last year, and we snap/talk occasionally. This crush has been going from my freshman year. Idk what to do or how to stop it.

A: Oof, the lingering crush—like that one song stuck in your head since freshman year, except it's not catchy anymore, just confusing. Here's the deal: having a crush on someone who's moved on to the magical land of "post-high-school life" is totally normal, but it's also time to ask yourself a pretty hard question: *Are you holding on to the person, or the idea of them?*

You've both probably grown and changed a lot since your freshman year. Maybe the senior you're crushing on is still that cool and mysterious person in your head. But let's be real- they're probably out there figuring out college or clocking in at their first job.

Meanwhile, you're in your own story. A story that has plot twists, character development, and, of course, new crushes waiting to make their debut.

If you really want this to stop, you should start focusing on *you*. Start doing things *you* love, hang out with *your* friends, or pick up a new hobby for *you*. When you're busy living your own life, there's a lot less room for overthinking every little Snapchat conversation. Staying friendly is fine, but don't mistake the occasional chat for something bigger than it really is.

And here's a question I want you to ask yourself: *Are we ever really in love with someone, or just the version of them we create in our heads?*

Thanks! Hope this helps :)

Q: I like a guy, but I'm a freshman and he's a senior. I know it can't be a feasible relationship, so how do I cope?

A: Alright, let's keep it real, liking someone older than you can feel like you're reaching for the stars, but sometimes, it's better to enjoy the view from where you're standing. The best way to cope? Shift your focus. Crushes go away when you stop giving them all your mental energy. Instead of worrying about what can't happen, think about the fun that you can have by just being a freshman. High school is full of chances to meet new people, try new things, and figure out what you really want. So put your energy into making this year amazing, you even might find yourself crushing on someone new before you know it!

The Titan Times

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

Sonny Dominguez

Dana Clark

Alan Baltazar

Nichless Calderon

Social Media

Doug Cube

Photography

Lubianca Gaitan

Xitllali Ortiz

New Issue bi-weekly on
Tuesdays

Questions regarding the Titan Times
should be directed our email at
titantimes@ndhsriverside.org

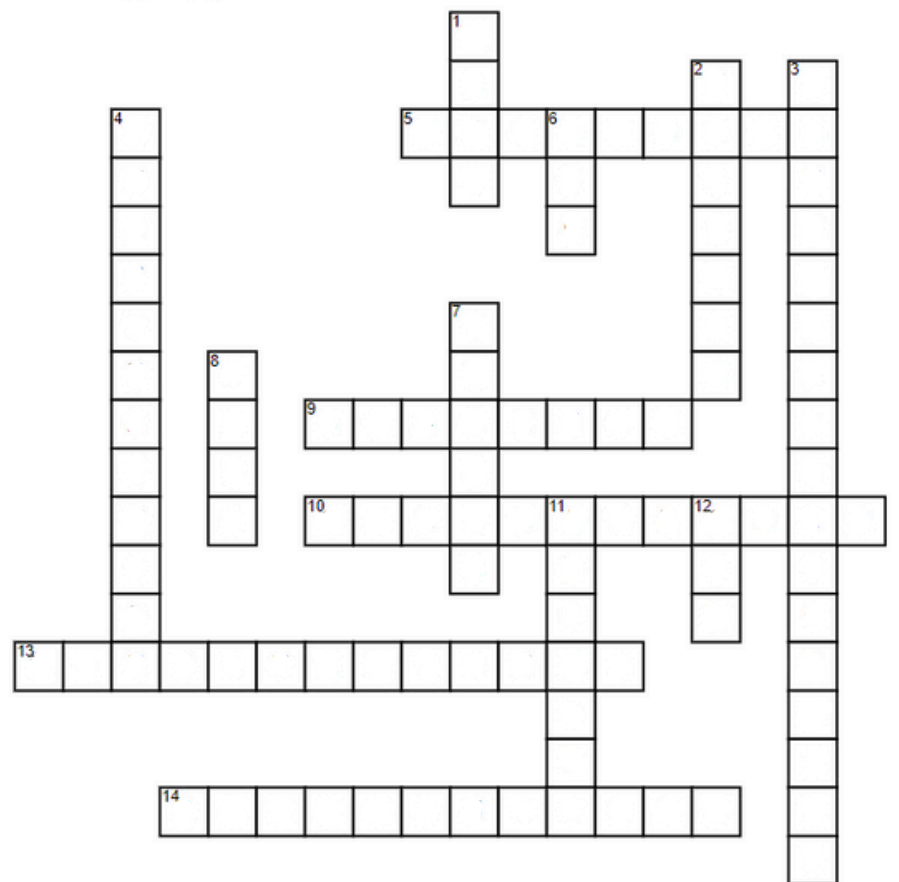
Across:

- 5) Current Principal
- 9) The beloved math teacher who has been part of the Notre Dame family for over 30 years
- 10) Official school colors
- 13) The name of the student-run newspaper at Notre Dame.
- 14) The Notre Dame program focused on helping students grow in their Catholic faith.

Down:

- 1) Saint the school is named after
- 2) Important game against our rival school
- 3) Name of our chaplain
- 4) Area around school known as _____
- 6) Group responsible for most school spirit events

Save this to Notability or [CLICK HERE](#) to solve!



- 7) Location for daily Mass.
- 8) The year Notre Dame was founded
- 11) Prayer done every day after lunch
- 12) This building hosts theater productions and assemblies

