



The Howler

Fall 2010

Student Newspaper Staff

Maddie Arnold
 Lindsey Arvin
 Madison Bond
 Sophie Bougeois
 Meghan Brino
 Cassandra Carrasco
 Harley Chapman
 Ryan Cobb
 Jake Griesmer
 Jake McClure
 Clare Morris
 Kirkland Schuler
 Sarah Turner
 Alex Wadovick

Faculty Advisors

Michael Jeffrey
 Cathe Brickhill
 Eileen Scrivener

Inside this issue:

Sports Page 2

Volleyball
 Swimming
 Soccer

Field Day 3

Prayer Partners
 Academics Team

Play 4

Beta Club
 Generation Day

Art Gallery 5-6

Photo Gallery

Christmas Gallery 7

Blue Ribbon

In November our principal, Mrs. Beth York, and one of our teachers, Mrs. Sara Clark, traveled to Washington, D.C., to receive the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence in Education. This highly prestigious award is given annually to fifty private schools nationwide. To



receive the Blue Ribbon, a school must score in the upper tenth percentile nationally on standardized tests, must excel in instruction and assessment, must provide

differentiated instruction for various learning abilities, must offer on-going staff development, and must share its methods of success with other schools. Blue Ribbon schools are models of how to do things right in education.

Since learning that SFA won the award, Mrs. York has been beaming with pride. "I think winning the Blue Ribbon Award is an affirmation of the awesome job our staff, teachers, and students do. It also affirms the hard work and the support of our parents in putting academics first." Like Mrs. York the entire staff is thrilled with the honor of being one of the fifty best private schools in America. One of our teachers summed it up perfectly, "There are four things that make a school great: outstanding leadership, super teachers, wonderful kids, and helpful, supportive parents.



We've got them all in bunches!"

To celebrate the accomplishment, November 19th was designated Blue Ribbon Day at SFA. The entire school attended a ceremony with congratulatory speeches by Monsignor Buchignani, Dr. McDonald, Mrs. York, and WMC-TV personality Ron Childers.

After the speeches, the officers of the Student Government Association presented the Blue Ribbon banner to the school. It is now proudly displayed in the gym for all to see.

Introducing: Father Gallagher

By Sophie Bougeois

You may think that you know Father Gallagher, but there are things that you don't know. Hopefully you will know them after reading this article.

He was born thirty years ago in Covington, Louisiana. At age fifteen, he came to believe that he would become a Protestant minister. As a youth pastor, he read the Early Church Fathers and became very interested in the early teachings of Jesus Christ, which led him to the Catholic Church. After much studying and learning he had a calling to

become a Catholic priest. He studied at St. Meinrad Seminary for five years. On June 5, 2010, he was ordained at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Memphis, Tennessee. He said that he is very grateful to be here at St. Francis because in his opinion, "St. Francis is full of very welcoming and supportive people." He would like to get more involved with our school, possibly starting a service project in the future. I

In his free time, he enjoys watching sports, singing Gregorian chants, fishing, and playing the banjo. He said, "Everybody gives me a funny look when I say



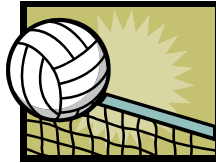
that I am learning the banjo." There are several other interesting things about Father Gallagher. He loves history, collects old books, and he used to be a social worker. As I was leaving our interview, he told me, "Don't go writing lies about me," and I replied, "Why would I do that when the truth is always best?"

Champions! Again!!

By Madison Bond

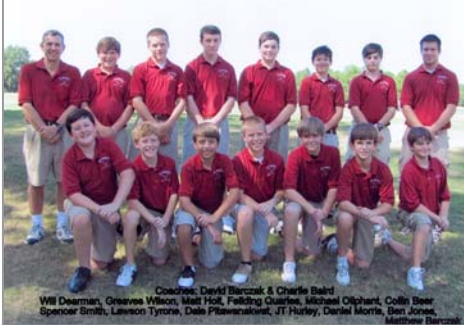
Congratulations to the eighth-grade Lady Timberwolves volleyball team! They had an undefeated season and have now won the PAA Championship four years in a row. The 2010 team consisted of players Lauren Hunter, Emily Harding, Kate Kheradvar, Hannah King, Clare Morris, Alex Fuelling,

Rachel Powell, Madison Bond, and Kennedy Gorman. The team was led by Coach Eric Bond. Please congratulate the team on another outstanding year!



GOLF TEAM

St Francis of Assisi Timberwolves 2010



Congratulations to John Krueger, 8th Grader West TN Regional Cross Country Champion



What a catch! Hayden Ferrari, 8th Grader catches a huge catfish!



The seventh-grade volleyball team: Margaret Sell, Anna Graziosi, Abi Naquin, Courtney Parker, Mary Conroy (front row); coach Gayla Arvin, Meghan Wolfanger, McKenna Wharton, Gabrielle Sciortino, Lindsay Arvin, Gina Iovinelli, and coach Amy Iovinelli (back row).

Swim Team

By Meghan Brino

The St. Francis of Assisi Swim Team is composed of five boys and fourteen girls from sixth through eighth grade. They practice every Tuesday and Thursday from seven to eight p.m. at the YMCA in Cordova. The team's coach, Maria Sanders, works with the swimmers on their strokes and techniques. The team will swim throughout autumn and winter. In the first meet of the season, J.D. Dudek had several first-place finishes, proving to all the team members that hard work and determination pay off.



Swim team members from left: Maggie Callahan, Lauren Gates, Brett Wagner, Erin O'Brien, J.D. Dudek, Matthew Barczak, Jessica O'Brien, Matt Holt, Caroline Siciliano and Meghan Brino



SFA takes on MUS

Soccer

By Kirkland Schuler

Congratulations, Lady Timberwolves! The seventh and eighth grade girls' soccer team defeated Harding Academy twice this season. Seventh-grade English teacher, Michael Jeffrey, who does not like Harding at all, attended the first game and was very pleased with the girls' win. Like all other SFA athletes, the girls were excited and happy that one of their teachers got a

chance to see what they can do outside the classroom. The team went on to complete their season with a 4-1-1 record under the leadership of Coach Paul Stoddard and Coach Jenny Conroy.



7th and 8th grade Combo Team

Field Day Fun

By Sarah Turner & Jake McClure

On October 4, 2010, St. Francis of Assisi School had its sixth annual field day. The day started out with an all school mass and afterwards, the blessing of the pets. After many service projects and fun activities, it was time for the main event, field day! Field Day is set up by our school's coaches and parent volunteers in order to let everyone unwind and take a break from regular school. The weather was perfect, and everyone had fun! As usual, we had the traditional games,

such as tug-of-war and the obstacle course. This year, they added some new games: ultimate ball, flag tag, and kickball. Another change included using the SBA football and softball fields. The whole day was a slam dunk for all the kids, and they can't wait until next year!



Go Red team—2nd graders enjoy a game of tug-of-war!



J.D. Dudek and Madison Cox seem to be winning the tug-of-war.



Blessing of the Pets



Prayer Partners

By Clare Morris

At a simple picnic, a special bond was formed between second and eighth grade students. Only those two grades participate in this event known as the Prayer Partner Picnic which kicks off a year of special activities.

Prayer Partners is a program in which second and eighth graders do different activities together to grow in

faith. The grades are paired in this way because second-graders are preparing to receive the sacraments of Communion and Reconciliation and eighth-graders are preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation.

At the Prayer Partner Picnic, eighth-graders are assigned an animal sound to make. They find their prayer partner by searching for the second-grader who is making the same animal noise. During the picnic, the groups

played and got to know each other better.

The groups meet almost every Friday in the second-grade classrooms to participate in different activities. They have made Advent wreaths and birdfeeders, and participated in other projects. As the year progresses, the groups will do even more great projects together. Prayer Partners is an activity that increases faith in God and creates lasting friendships between second and eighth grade students.



Academics Team

By Ryan Cobb

The game is close to an end, the score is close, and tension floods the air. A buzzer sounds and one team walks away victoriously, the other in disappointment. But this isn't an athletic game such as basketball or football; this is a competition involving the SFA Middle School Academics Team. The team is composed of middle school students who compete against other schools in the diocese. Two teams

compete against each other answering general knowledge questions individually and as a group. Questions are asked in trivia style format and can be based on a variety of topics. Team members need not be exceptionally brilliant; they just have to have a lot of random facts stored in their heads.

One team has to win, one has to lose. It just so happens that for the last two years SFA has always been the winner! Undefeated and hoping to stay that way this year!



On left row from left to right: Will Nash, JR Jamora, Kirkland Schuler, Maddie Arnold, Yuzuka Karube, Harley Chapman
On right row from left to right: Jake Griesmer, Lawson Tyrone, Ryan Cobb, Matthew Crowe, Louie Siligato

King Arthur's Quest



By Harley Chapman

Missoula Children's Theatre came to town for the second time to produce this year's SFA school musical, *King Arthur's Quest*. Under the direction of the Missoula personnel, SFA students were picked as cast and crew. Everyone worked really hard because the whole thing had to come together in one week. It

was really tough because some nights practice went from after school until 8:00 pm. King Arthur was played by seventh-grader Alex Wadovick. The part of Guinevere was ably handled by eighth-grader Stephanie Le.

and other aspects of the production. Everyone had a blast on stage and off. The play was a great success and an awesome experience for everyone involved.

Mrs. Chando and Mrs. Crone were tremendously helpful with the music



Mrs. Taylor's second grade class has fun during the Blue-Out.

Blue Schools; Something to Celebrate

By Cassandra Carrasco

Out of all the schools in the country, only fifty are chosen for the Blue Ribbon Award. St. Francis is now one of those lucky fifty. To be a Blue Ribbon School, you must be above and beyond normal. Sound like SFA? To celebrate this amazing accomplishment, we had something called a blue-out. We came to school dressed in blue from our heads to our toes. Everyone had a blast and it sent a great message; aim for the top, because it is possible. All in all, it was a great day for a great school!

Beta Club

By Madison Bond

The National Beta Club is an organization that promotes the ideals of academic achievement, character, service, and leadership.

The 2010-2011 St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School's National Beta Club officers were elected by their fellow Beta Club members and the results are as follows:

President – Madison Bond, Vice President – Hannah King, 8th Grade Secretary – Will Nash, 7th Grade Secretary – Monica Milczek, and Treasurer – Katie Barkley. The National Beta Club officers and members will work to make SFA the best school possible.



Generation Day

By Lindsey Arvin

St. Francis went back in time to the 50's, 60's, 70's, and 80's for Generation Day. During Homecoming week, St. Francis students in fifth through eighth grades dressed up in costumes representing the decade for their class level. Even the faculty joined in the fun, and the eighth grade teachers out did themselves. People were wearing go-go boots, platforms shoes, poodle skirts, and neon leggings! Generation Day is a fun activity that the students look forward to every

year and gives them a chance to show their school spirit. So from "back in the day", Generation Day was a neat-o, groovy, far-out, and gnarly activity for Homecoming Week!



Mrs. Odom and Mrs. Jones. Even the teachers dressed up! Mrs. Lomasney and Mrs. Tyer



Art Gallery



St. Mark
by Kathleen Bula, 3rd grade,



Colony Project
by Mark Brouwer, 5th grade



Picketing Turkeys
by Sammy Bosque, 2nd



Charioteer
by Sam Childers, 6th grade



Memphis Zoo Cheetah
by Lucas Ferro, 1st Grade



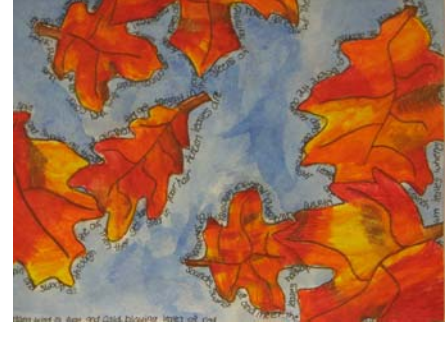
Christmas Card Design
by Jake Griesmer, 7th Grade



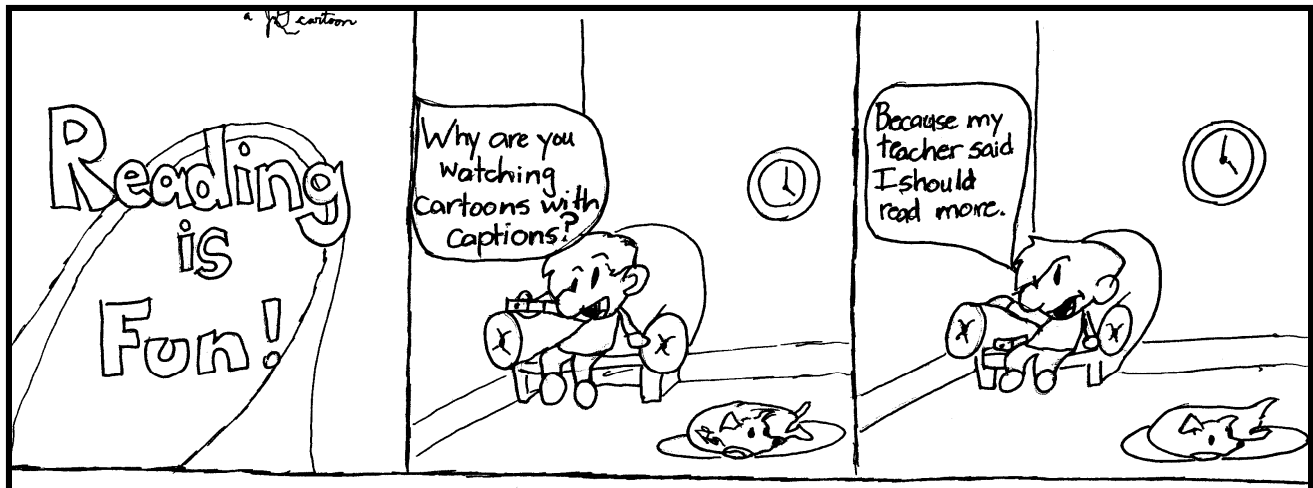
Christmas Card Design
By Melanie Chando, 8th grade



Peace Poster
by Rebecca Saunders, 7th grade,



Autumn Leaves
by Rachel King, 6th Grade



Cartoon by: Jake Griesmer



Great Hall of Saints 8th Grade



Braxton Powers and seventh grade friends enjoy a blue donut in celebration of Blue Ribbon Day.



Courtney Parker and 7th grade PE Class



Kathryn and Rachel Hosp taking a break in their mom's 7th grade PLUS classroom



Lena Woodcock, Piper Jimmerson, Ben Kollasch, and Mrs. Kollasch on the Jr. K Agricenter field trip



Jr. K students Wesli Helms, Samantha Henley, and Baylor Bartlett in the cotton field on the Argicenter field trip



Zoe Speer, 7th grade, 1st place winner of the Lion's Club Visions of Peace poster contest.



Nurse Dawn's caring bedside manner



3rd grade Silver Rose runners

Can you find yourself?

The Howler

