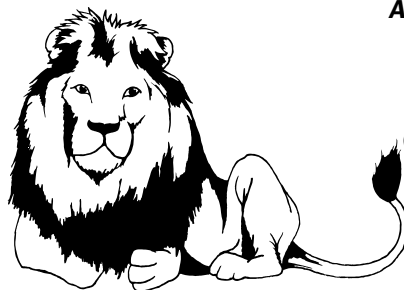


The Crown Prints

November 24, 2020 Volume 59; Issue 2



Aquinas Catholic
3420 MN Rd
David City, NE
68632
(402) 367-3175

Seniors receive honor

By Maggie Svec

“Noblesse oblige.” Qualifying members of Aquinas’ Class of 2021 recently were inducted into National Honor Society (NHS). The Class of 2021 NHS Induction was held on in late September after being postponed from the first week of school. Fifteen students were inducted into National Honor Society this year. The inductees were seniors Russel Brezina, Rylan Chromy, John Dalton, Payton Davis, Bethany Emswiler, Alli Hartman, Madisen Jelinek, Keegan Lavicky, Kyle Napier, Julia Nemec, Ruth Plasek, Emma Sellers, Ben Shonka, Peter Sisco, and Zach Zitek.

According to guidance counselor and Aquinas’ NHS moderator Mr. John Svec,

one of the requirements for selection to NHS is a service project. For senior Keegan Lavicky, this service project was helping at the food bank. “I learned that there’s a lot of people we can help around here,” Lavicky said. Other examples of service projects include music ministry, volunteer youth wrestling and basketball coaching, and a mission trip.

According to Svec, Aquinas has had a National Honor Society chapter since 1963. NHS at Aquinas has changed since then, but the honor still means a great deal to students. Senior Ben Shonka considers being inducted as an honor as “not many people are in it.”

At the induction ceremony the officers

spoke about the four pillars of NHS, which are scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Shonka spoke to his fellow NHS members and parents about the value of character and how to maintain good character. Lavicky spoke about leadership and what it takes to be a leader. Additionally, chapter president Russel Brezina spoke about scholarship and knowledge and chapter secretary Madisen Jelinek spoke about service.



ABOVE: Senior Kyle Napier and Emma Sellers light ceremonial candles at NHS inductions. The induction ceremony took place in September, but did not include the traditional reception due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

RIGHT: Mr. John Svec hands certificate to Senior Kyle Napier. Fifteen seniors were inducted into NHS this year. *Photos by M. Svec*



Encountering God's love

What did you do on your Bishops free day?

By Maggie Svec

Encounter. Healing. Admission. Earlier in the school year the Freshmen Class learned more about these three main points at their Freshman Encounter.

Freshman Encounter is an event started by the Lincoln Diocese campus ministry team. The diocese created Encounter for freshman across the Diocese of Lincoln to give the students a chance to build up their faith and to replace Quest, a former retreat for freshman and sophomores.

Originally Encounter was an event planned held at Pius X High School, where all the freshman in the diocese congregate to listen to speakers and have a chance to discuss faith with one another. A few changes to procedure had to be made due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but according to Aquinas Catholic Schools Campus Minister Mrs. Beth Nemeč, a change in location allowed Encounter to still be possible for Aquinas freshman. Rather than being held at Pius, Aquinas held Encounter for only Aquinas freshman at the Dwight Assumption parish.

The freshman did many activities at Encounter, including having group discussions and prayers, listening to a variety of speakers, and having adoration time and Mass. The different speakers covered many topics, including how to improve and expand your faith. The small group discussions gave freshman a chance to sit down and discuss faith with one another.

Freshman Cecilia Sisco enjoyed this retreat and learned a lot about

herself and her faith. Sisco's favorite part of this retreat was the final discussion she had with her group, when she got to talk about her faith in general. Regarding this final discussion Sisco said, "It was like a check up on what I'm doing and how to proceed and get better with my faith."

Freshman Josiah Brezina believes retreats such as Freshman Encounter are important, as they gather people together to get them involved and talk about faith. Brezina said that he learned a lot at Encounter while still being able to have fun.

Nemeč hopes that the freshman were able to learn more about God's love at Encounter. She believes retreats like this help students to get out of the norm of day to day life and encounter new things students will be able to bring back to school. She looks forward to future classes of freshman being able to experience Encounter.



Fr. Allan Phan talks to freshmen Jacob Moravec, Clayton Zavodny, and Jakob Kavan during lunch break. Fr. Phan has taught freshman religion for three years. Photo by B.Nemeč



Senior Dee Villa:
"It was my dogs' birthday. I took him for a three hour walk and gave him peanut butter."



Faculty Mr. Seth Peirce:
"I was in Vermilion and I took care of Elle, my girlfriend's dog. Then came back to David City."



Sixth grader Riley Cambell:
"I made Tik Toks and I watched T.V. I had dance and I hung out with my cousins."



Junior Paul Buresh:
"I went to the pumpkin patch and then slept."



Sophomore Delayne Adamy:
"I carved pumpkins with my friends."



Students take 'stock' in class

By Keegan Lavicky

Entrepreneurship students in Mr. Tony Smith's class invest simulated game money in stocks throughout the year. Additionally, these same students started their own small businesses as part of the class.

Smith began using the stock market game as a way of teaching fifteen years ago. "I use it for getting a basic understanding of risk and reward, but most kids try to be a little more conservative," Smith said. The game teaches risk and reward of owning a business and owning stocks.

For the game students slowly invest the money into different stocks they can analyze. Smith said, "The stock has to be priced between two dollars and a thousand

dollars. This helps get rid of the very risky stocks and helps the students diversify their stock portfolios."

Senior entrepreneurship student Josh Uhrmacher enjoys the stock market game. "My stocks are okay. They aren't good, but they aren't bad. I've learned it's a lot harder to predict how markets turn than I thought it would be." Senior entrepreneurship student Julia Nemec added, "The highest I've ranked in the game is fifth. I've invested in Zoom, Maderna, Johnson & Johnson, McDonald's and Walmart." Nemec also said she will probably not invest in stocks in the real world.

Students also learn about the business

world by creating a business in entrepreneurship class. Uhrmacher will be selling snack mix packs with senior John Dalton. Nemec plans to sell kettle corn as part of her business with fellow seniors Addie Zook and Will Eller. Other class businesses include, a t-shirt company, a tie-dye business, a highlight video business, a Chex mix business, a cutting board business and another snack business.

The students in entrepreneurship class each begin with their own business idea. The idea follows the BizInnovator curriculum that Smith is licensed to teach through the University of Iowa. This allows the students to take the class as a dual credit class.

Banding together for better results

By Mara Yindrick

Band, horns, are up! The sixth and seventh graders are playing catch up to the rest of the middle school band due to the covid pandemic which cut the 2019-2020 school year short.

In the past the Aquinas middle school band was made up of just seventh and

eighth graders. However, this year the band is made of sixth, seventh and eighth graders.

During the 2019-2020 school year, Ostdiek directed two beginning band classes, so Aquinas could have a true, full size, middle school band in the next years. Last year's fifth graders were the first to have be-

ginning band.

Ostdiek felt beginning band a year earlier was justified. "[The change] wasn't just for the bigger band, but there was a scheduling conflict with the sixth grade beginning band. And at the Malcom band competition, the bands we were going against were sixth, seventh, and eighth, so we were behind and needed to step it up."

Due to social distancing requirements, this year's band rehearses in the gym. "Setting up the chairs and stands everyday has been the biggest negative this year, but a big positive to the larger band is seeing the younger kids work extra hard to catch up," Ostdiek said.

Sixth grade tuba player William Podolak, said, "I feel like I've improved a lot this year because I've learned more notes." Of course, the band members deal with usual problems. Eighth grade percussionist Finley Zook added, "The band struggles the most with keeping a steady rhythm."

Ostdiek believes that the band's strong suit is sight reading. "When I give them a song, they can usually play it very well the first time around." Ostdiek's favorite part about directing is watching the older kids develop leadership skills and take those skills with them as they get older.

Eight grade french horn players Ava Daro and Flora Dalton rehearse during middle school band class. This year the middle school is composed for the first time of sixth, seventh and eighth grade musicians. A total of 41 members comprise the 2020-2021 middle school band which is under the direction of Mrs. Helen Ostdiek. In addition to large group practice middle school students may also take individual lessons to improve their skills. Depending on the status of the Covid-19 pandemic precautions, the band is planning concerts at Christmas and in the spring, in addition to a spring concert. Photo by M.Svec





Volleyball team finishes up season

By Kolby Baer

Serve's up! Aquinas Catholic High School's varsity volleyball team barreled into the late season competitions and post regular season play while falling short of an appearance of the state tournament.

In their final action of the season, the Lady Monarchs ventured to Centennial High school for the 2020 sub-districts tournament. Aquinas lost to Cross County, winning only one set, to Cross County's three sets. According to assistant coach Mr. Will Reiter, "I think a lot of our struggles throughout the season and during the game with Cross County came from the battle to control our side and our emotions."

The varsity volleyball team also battled in the David City Triangular in late October. The Lady Monarchs played against David City. The team also competed against the Centennial Broncos. Accord-

ing to sophomore setter Mara Yindrick, "We lost two sets to Centennial. Our energy level was low which made it a large turning point in the season."

The Lady Monarchs traveled to Lincoln Lutheran for a late season game. The team played Lincoln Lutheran twice during the regular season. "Lincoln Lutheran was a very talented team. We lost to them twice," Reiter said. For the regular season game against Lincoln Lutheran, Aquinas lost 0-2. Additionally, the Monarchs played Lincoln Lutheran in conference tournament action.

The Centennial Conference volleyball tournament was held at Grand Island Central Catholic (GICC) in early October. Aquinas competed against GICC, Lincoln Lutheran, Hastings Saint Cecilia, and Lincoln Christian. The varsity team lost 0-3 against Lincoln Lutheran, lost 0-2 against Hastings Saint Cecilia, lost 0-2 against GICC, and won against Lincoln Christian. According to senior outside hitter Madison Jelinek, "We battled well against Lincoln Christian. Our energy levels were high and our defense was excellent."

Senior outside hitter Madisen Jelinek serves the ball. This is Jelinek's ninth and final year playing volleyball. Photo by K. Lavicky

Softball team meets season goals

Despite a rough end to the 2020 softball year, the team sees an overall improvement and special recognition.

By Kolby Baer

Strike 3, you're out! Head coach Mr. Paul Gahan led the Aquinas Catholic High School's varsity softball team into the late season, along with other competitions and post regular season play.

The Lady Monarchs traveled down to Malcolm to compete in sub-districts at the end of their season. According to freshman catcher Bianca Romshek, "Our defense was weak." Gahan added, "We played one game. We lost to Milford 20 to 25." At the beginning of the season, Nebraska Sports Activities Association (NSAA) changed Class C softball's sub-districts to single elimination.

The varsity team ventured over to Bishop Neumann to compete in a late regular

season action tournament. "The Neumann Tournament was a struggle bus. We played Neumann, Guardian Angel Central Catholic (GACC), and Elkhorn North. We lost all three games," senior co-captain and right fielder Caitlyn Yindrick said.

The Lady Monarchs also played West Point Beemer in a regular season game early in October. "The West Point game was wild; we won 23 to 14," Gahan said. During this regular season game, freshman short-stop Jordyn Bohuslavsky broke a Class C record for the amount of home runs hit in a single game. Bohuslavsky broke that record with 3 home runs.

For the 2020-21 season, the varsity

team achieved their seasonal goals. "Our two goals were to get double digit wins and to have a better record than last year. We reached both of those and got a stronger defense as well," Yindrick said. "This year we went 10 and 14 for a 42% win record. Last year was 8 to 19 for a 30% win record," Gahan added. Additionally, Bohuslavsky's name appeared on the Class C all state roster for the second team.



Tough in the trenches

By Kolby Baer

Touchdown Aquinas! Head coach Mr. Ron Mimick led the Aquinas Catholic High School's varsity football team into the late regular season along with post season play.

The Monarchs battled against Ord on their home turf for the second round of Class C2 playoffs. According to sophomore quarterback Luke Sellers, "Ord was the hardest team to play because they were predicting what we were going to do before we did it." The score ended up being 12 to 24.

"Ord was a very good team to compete against, I enjoyed the challenges they gave us," Mimick said. Due to the loss to Ord, the Monarchs' season was over, as playoffs are double elimination orientated.

In the first round of playoffs, the varsity team ventured over to Norfolk to play against Norfolk Catholic. According to senior offensive running back and defensive

back Kyle Napier, "I was looking forward to playing Norfolk Catholic the most in playoffs." Aquinas had lost to Norfolk earlier in the regular season. The Monarchs declared victory over Norfolk with a score of 27 to 10 in the playoff game.

The last regular season game was against Tekamah-Herman at home. "My goal for the year was to start a varsity game, and I was able to start against Tekamah-Herman. I felt like I played well against them," Sellers said. Aquinas triumphed against Tekamah-Herman with a final score was 46 to 7.



Junior Paul Buresh and Senior Josh Urmacher block Ord defender. Ord won the class C-2 state championship game. Photo by: G. Wollmer

Growing from many challenges

By Mackenzie Kobza

Bump, set, SPIKE! The Aquinas middle school volleyball teams finished their seasons with challenging matches.

The Monarchs competed in the Scotus "A" team tournament to end two out of the four middle school teams' seasons. The seventh grade "A" team took home a 1-1 record. The eighth grade "A" team faced some hard competition and finished with two losses at the tournament. "It was a little rough, but we played decent," eighth grade player Brooklyn Stutzman said.

The seventh "B" finished their season

facing Lakeview. The seventh grade "B" teams' game got cut short, having only two sets. Each team took one set, resulting in a tie. The eighth grade "B" team did not play against Lakeview.

The seventh grade "A" team lost in three sets at Lakeview. According to head coach Miss Dede DeMuth, the eighth grade "A" team played one of their best games against Lakeview. "[Aquinas] ended their season serving ninety-four percent against Lakeview."

The Monarchs played against Twin River to finish off the eighth grade "B" teams' season. "We played okay," seventh grade player Kaitlyn Schneider said. The girls lost in two sets.

All the teams faced Scotus earlier in the season. The seventh grade "A" team won against Scotus. According to DeMuth "seventh 'A' was the only team to walk out with a win against Scotus."

The "B" teams also participated in the Scotus "B" team tournament. Seventh grade "B" team went undefeated with a 2-0 record at this tournament. The eighth grade "B" team won one game and lost another. According to eighth grade player Ally Prochaska, "We actually did pretty good."

The Monarch teams faced Neumann late in September. Neumann was the Monarchs hardest competition this year according to Demuth. The seventh grade "A" team faced tough competition and lost. Seventh grade player Kenadi Hotovy said "We lost and could've played better." Both eighth grade teams also lost these games.

For these girls the game is not about just winning. Volleyball is about the friendships made on the court according to Hotovy.



Seventh grader Danica Bohoslavsky serves that ball. Coach Dede Demuth taught all the players how to serve overhand, to prepare for highschool volleyball. Photo by M. Svec



Seventh grader Ainsley Wollmer spikes the ball. Coach Dede Demuth is planning on working on serving and serve receive next year. Photo by M. Kobza



State champions!

Payton Davis earns second individual championship and helps his team garner the Class D state title.



LEFT: Senior Payton Davis finishes his second individual state championship with a time of 16:41. Davis will be running cross country at the University of Nebraska-Kearney next year. ABOVE: Varsity and junior varsity cross country members receive the Class D championship award. BELOW LEFT: Senior Peter Sisco sets his pace for the championship run held in Kearney, Sisco placed sixth overall with a time of 17:21. BELOW RIGHT: Senior Jacob Witter accepts congratulations for the success of the day. Other team member who ran included seniors William Eller and Terrence Wachal. Photos by M. Svec



CrownPrints

The *Crown Prints* is published six times a year to inform, educate, and entertain the Aquinas community. We urge letters to the editor. Letters should be given to Ms. Jean A. Brown in Room 16. Letters must be signed; however, anonymity, if requested, will be granted if deemed necessary.

Issue Editor: Kolby Baer, Gracyn Wollmer

Staff: Aletha Breiner, Mackenzie Kobza, Keegan Lavicky, Maggie Svec, Mara Yindrick

Advisor: Ms. Jean A. Brown

Principal: Mr. David McMahon

Chief Administrative Officer: Fr. Sean Timmerman

Asst. Chief Administrative Officer: Fr. Michael Ventre

The *Crown Prints* is a monthly publication produced by the journalism department at Aquinas High School, David City, Nebraska 68632.