

# BULLDOG SPIRIT



Vol. XVII Issue V March-April 2017 St. Joseph High

## Basketball Awards Presented by Caleb Strack



Amber Briggler and David Beck with their awards for being the best all-around senior basketball players on and off the court.

## Ring Mass Held



Father Tony blesses class rings presented to the Junior Class on April 26.

The High School Basketball Awards Program was held March 12 in the school cafeteria. Athletes in the 7th-12th grades, including cheerleaders, were recognized for their achievements.

The highest of these awards are named in honor of persons instrumental in the creation of our school's basketball traditions. The Jim Banks Award went to senior David Beck. It's given to the player for his "athletic ability, leadership, integrity, his treatment of fellow students, and for his commitment to his school and church." It was first presented in 1973. (continued on pg 3)

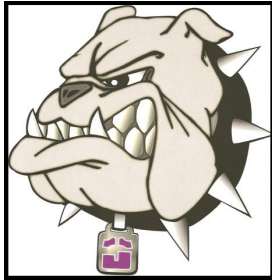
## Historic Buildings Make Way for Progress by Joseph Murphy



During Spring Break the Parish Administration Office and Spiritan Hall were demolished to make way for a new two-story multi-purpose building to be completed some time next year.

Spiritan Hall was built in 1926 and was named after the Spiritan order of priests (continued on page 2)

The **Bulldog Spirit** is written and produced by St. Joseph's journalism classes.



**Reporters/Photographers:**

Gage Berger, Gretchen Carden, Wyatt Davis, Georgia Dayer, Holly Detten, Daniel Emerick, Emily Hambuchen, Natalie Hambuchen, Daniel Kordsmeier, Zach Martins, Andrew Marks, Joseph Murphy, Evan Pollock, Dawson Schreckenhofer, Caleb Strack, Cory Strack, Jacob Welter, Peter Woodson, Lizzie Whitley and Will Zinno  
Advisor: Mr. Ray Nielsen

**Demolition** (from page 1)  
(also known as the Holy Ghost Fathers) who established our church and school in 1879.

When the building opened, it only served students in the first through eighth grades. A new grade was added each year thereafter so by 1930 the school reached the 12th grade.

When a new high school was built in 1951, Spiritan Hall continued to serve students in the lower grades. It ceased to function as a classroom building after the 2001-2002 school year. It remained opened for meetings and theatrical productions until its closure in December.

The PAO was built in 1966 and was the church rectory and business office until a separate priests' home was constructed in the early 2000s.

## She Has Stars In Her Eyes

By Emily Hambuchen



When Julia Hambuchen looks at the stars at night, she probably knows them better than most students. That's because she's been studying astronomy for some time.

"It's something so much bigger than the Earth," Julia said. "It's all around us, and it's important for us to learn about the stars." Julia was first exposed to astronomy from watching a TV show called "How the Universe Works." Ever since then, she's loved it and studies it every day. She has her own telescope and has attended planetarium events at UCA.

One of Julia's favorite activities is studying the star known as Deneb. It's found in the northern constellation of Cygnus which lies on the plane of the Milky Way. Deneb is one of the brightest stars in the night sky.

Although she'd love to become an astronomer, Julia is realistic. "This is just a hobby because I'm not good enough at math," she said.

## St. Joseph Day Observed



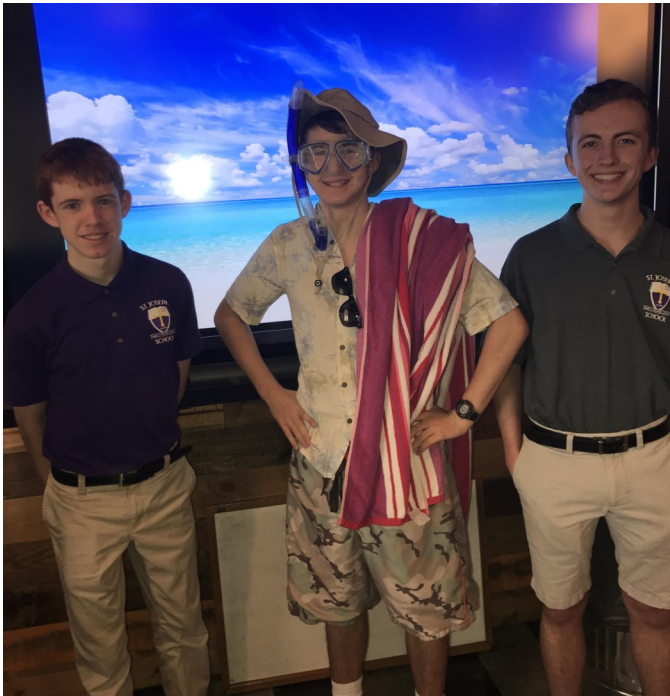
March 19 is the principal feast day of St. Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster-father of Jesus Christ. He was declared to be the patron saint and protector of the Catholic Church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. He's also the patron saint of the sick and of a happy death. St. Joseph is a model for fathers and the patron of several countries and regions as well as our parish.

There were a number of activities taking place in observance of his feast day. Beginning March 12, a St. Joseph Table was on display in the Chapel. Novena cards were placed on it for personal and community prayer. The Table was blessed during the 6:00 p.m. daily Mass on March 14. Spaghetti was served in the Parish Hall on March 15 as one of the Lenten Dinners. Since feeding the needy is a St. Joseph Day custom, non-perishable food items were collected to help those in need through the Central Arkansas Community Action Program (CAPCA). There was also a bilingual Mass on the 20th in honor of our patron.



# Spanish Class Models are Muy Bonita

By: Elizabeth Whitley



Pictured from left to right: Brent Yrle, Spencer Pope, and Ian Martin in their "Under The Sea" outfits.



Pictured from left to right: Aidan Lambe, Caroline Hambuchen, Lauren Holbrook, and Michael Frost in their "Cowboy" outfits.

Ms. Kristen Piraino's Spanish classes were recently given a special project involving styles of clothing. "We are currently completing a unit on colors and clothing in Spanish I and II," she said. "I wanted to give students a chance to use what they have learned in a fun and creative way."

The students were asked to perform a fashion show. They worked in small groups to select a theme, choose outfits and work up detailed descriptions of them. The student models walked around the room as other students gave a running commentary of what they were wearing in Spanish. "I really enjoyed the fashion show," Spencer Pope said. "It is one thing to take a test on Spanish phrases, and it's a whole new ballgame to speak Spanish out loud." Lauren Holbrook elaborated. "It allowed us to be interactive in class and made learning fun," she said. "It was so funny to see everyone dress up, and it allowed us all to improve our clothing vocabulary." Caroline Hambuchen had another view. "I learned how to accurately describe different clothing pieces in different colors," she added. "I also loved getting to model the clothes."

## Basketball Awards (From page 1)

David is the son of Gary and Natalie Beck who also received the President's Award for their work with the Athletic Booster Club.

The Father James Beagan Award went to Amber Briggler. Father Beagan was an Associate Pastor at St. Joseph in the mid 1950s who helped organize girls basketball. This award was created in 1978. It also goes to the student athlete who best demonstrates dedication, work ethic, and a love for others. Amber is the daughter of Keith and Alisha Briggler.

Other awards for Senior Girls Basketball included Outstanding Offense, Joanie Elsinger and Mary Hartman; Outstanding Defense, Brianna Wells and Erin Sterka; Sixth Man, Piper Mullaney; Coaches' Award, Rachel Prall and Alexis Roach; and Bulldog Spirit Award, Manager Peter Woodson. Piper Mullaney, Amber Briggler, and Joanie Elsinger were named All-Conference.

The Senior Boys Awards went to Daniel Lee Kordsmeier, MVP; Brad Vandivere, Coaches' Award; Jack Briggler and Spencer Pope, Outstanding Offense; Jacob Welter and Zach Martins, Outstanding Defense; and Gage Berger and Triple Williams, Sixth Man. David Beck, Daniel Lee Kordsmeier, and Jacob Welter were selected All-Conference.

The Junior Boys received awards for MVP, John McKenna; Coaches' Award, Caleb Hiegel and Ryan Davis; Outstanding Offense, Luke Bruich; Outstanding Defense, Will Schichtl; and Sixth Man, Christian Skinner, Lukas Welter, and Hunter Watkins.

The Junior Girls Award winners included Emily Briggler, MVP; Lauren Berger and Abbie Flake, Coaches' Award; Brooklyn Kordsmeier, Outstanding Offense; Lilly Hill, Outstanding Defense (Continued page 4)



**Basketball Awards** (From Page 3)  
Shannon Trantina, Most Improved; and Savannah Mooney and Rebecca Chamoun, Sixth Man.

Cheerleader Coach Amy Covington presented three awards. Most Improved went to Natalie Ross. The Purple and Gold Award was given to Anna Claire Bailey. Abigail Covington received the All-Star Award.



Daniel Lee Kordsmeier  
Most Valuable Player



Brad Vandivere  
Coaches Award



Outstanding Offense  
Spencer Pope & Jack Briggler



Jacob Welter & Zach Martins  
Outstanding Defense



Gage Berger & Triple Williams  
6th Man Award



Joanie Elsinger & Mary  
Hartman  
Outstanding Offense



Piper Mullaney  
6th Man Award



Brianna Wells & Erin Sterka  
Outstanding Defense



Rachel Prall & Alexis Roach  
Coaches Award



Mgr. Peter Woodson  
Bulldog Spirit Award



Ryan Davis & Caleb Hiegel  
Coaches Award



John McKenna  
Most Valuable Player



Hunter Watkins, Lukas Welter &  
Christian Skinner- 6th Man Award



Luke Bruich  
Outstanding Offense



Will Schichtl  
Outstanding Defense

Go to  
page  
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Junior  
Girls  
photos





# Faculty Funnies

By Gabby Hathaway



## Cool Carz

By Wyatt Davis



### Christian Charlton's 1985 El Comino



**Bulldog Spirit:** How long have you had her?

**Christian:** Had her for two years now

**Bulldog Spirit:** What is the fastest you've gotten her?

**Christian:** Got her up to 105 mph

**Bulldog Spirit:** Any Extras?

**Christian:** We recently gave it a hood scoop due to the bigger air intake, and we also gave it a new paint job.

#### Stats

**Year/Make/Model:** 1985 El Comino by Chevrolet

**Engine:** 305 v8 5 liter

**Drivetrain:** 2x4

**HP/Torque:** 200 HP/160 ft lbs

**0 to 60:** 7.9 seconds

**0 to 100:** 12.8 seconds





# High School Profiles

By Caleb Strack and Joseph Murphy



**Peter Woodson**

**Peter~**

1. No
2. I don't know
3. Going to Texas, I believe.
4. Not that I can think of.



**Triple Williams**

**Drew~**

1. Heck no!
2. I got to hug Staton when acting out for Prom introduction.
3. Going to New Orleans, 'The Big Easy'
4. Um, no. We aren't that cool.



**Drew Lewis**

**Zach~**

1. No
2. I found \$20
3. Going to the beach
4. No, I do not have a family tradition.



**Zach Royal**

**Triple~**

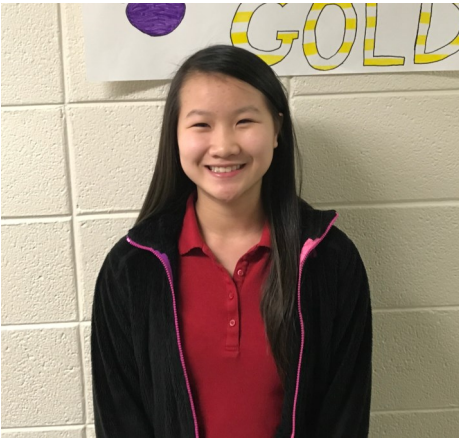
1. Yes
2. I won a gun.
3. Lots of sleep and video games
4. We usually go on a camping trip.





# High School Profiles

By Caleb Strack and Joseph Murphy



**Amber Tran**

**Amber~**

1. No
2. I came to America.
3. Stay home and relax
4. Nope

**Audrey~**

1. No
2. I went to the islands.
3. Stay home and just relax
4. Not one that I can think of



**Audrey Flanagan**

**Cameron~**

1. No, I did not.
2. Going to the principal's office and not getting in trouble
3. Hitting balls on a cruise
4. Yeah... no



**Gage Kordsmeier**

**Gage~**

1. No, I didn't
2. I was sent to the principal's office and didn't get in trouble.
3. Nothing
4. Yeah, I don't think so.



**Cameron Martin**

## Bulldog Spirit



Emily Briggler  
Most Valuable Player



Abbie Flake & Lauren Berger  
Coaches Award



Brooklyn Kordsmeier  
Outstanding Offense



Lilly Hill  
Outstanding Defense



Shannon Trantina  
Most Improved



Savannah Mooney & Rebecca Chamoun  
6th man



Natalie Ross  
Most Improved Cheerleader

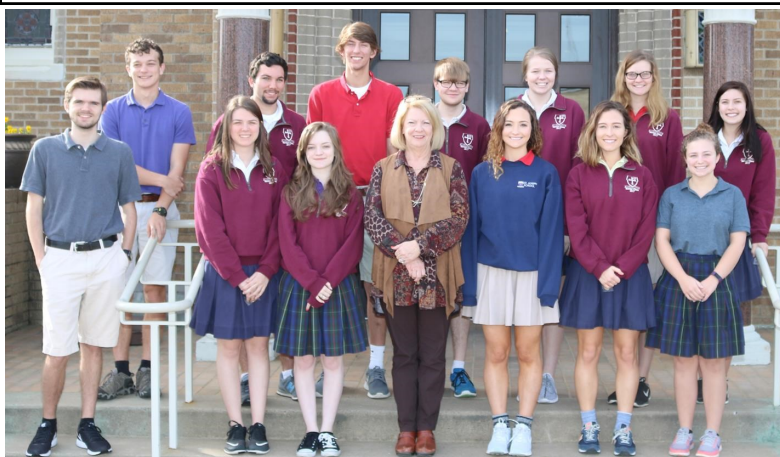


Anna Claire Bailey  
Purple & Gold Award



Abigail Covington  
All-Star Cheerleader Award

## Students Consistently Excel by Joseph Murphy



Principal Dr. Diane Wolfe with Honor Roll group.

These students, who'll be graduating next month, have the distinction of being on the Honor Roll, with either all A's or A's and B's, in every quarter since they were in the 9th grade.

They include, left to right, (front row) Colton Broman, Abigail Covington, Gabby Hathaway, Patricia Lambe, Madison Beck, and Mary Hartman. (back row) Nick Davanzo, Brad Vandivere, Daniel Kordsmeier, Hunter Trussell, Emily Flake, Rachel Prall, and Amber Briggler. Not pictured is Zach Martins.





Noah Decker, Lauren Holbrook, Emily Hambuchen, Abby McKenna, Caroline Hambuchen, Olivia Huett, and Chloe Kordsmeier in front of the New York skyline near the United Nations building.



### Students Invade New York City by Caleb Strack

Seven SJS students spent a few days in “The Big Apple” over Spring Break and saw many interesting sites.

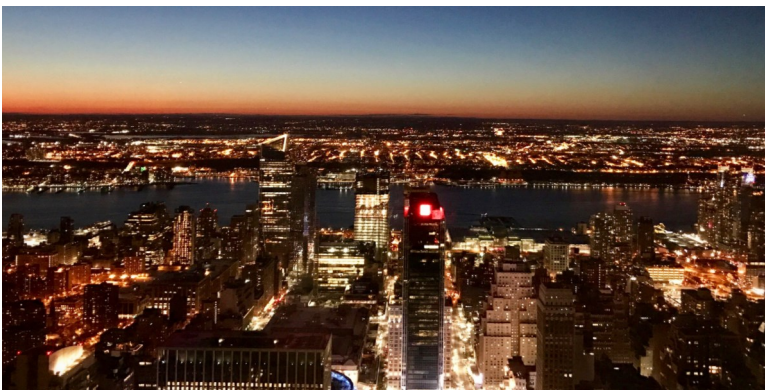
These included the Statue of Liberty, which was a gift from the people of France in 1886. It stands 305 feet tall.



The group surround a statue of Theodore Roosevelt at the Museum of Natural History.



This mosaic at the 9/11 Museum has tiles representing The 2983 victims killed in 2001.



A view of New York City from the Empire State Building.



A couple of NYPD officers pose with the girls.



# Seniors Help The Hungry

by Caleb Strack & Elizabeth Whitley



(Left) Seniors deliver non-perishable food items to Soul Food Café Mission. (Right) Seniors Hunter Trussell, Natalie Hambuchen, Joanie Elsinger, Dawson Schreckenhofer, and Zach Martins worked the serving line at the Church of the Nazarene.

Seniors in Mr. Kyle Zinno's religion classes delivered non-perishable food items to Conway's Soul Food Café Mission on March 16.

The students personally shopped for the food with \$375 they obtained through the school's Robert and Mary Margaret Taylor Foundation grant which supports evangelization efforts.

The delivery was part of the classes' Catholic Social Teaching that takes place throughout the school year. The Soul Food Café Mission gives out food boxes to the needy each Tuesday at the First Church of the Nazarene in Conway. The Senior class chose one of these Tuesday's, April 11 to help the Soul Food Café Mission. The students packed food boxes for distribution, helped prepare and serve hot meals, and also handed out clothing and other necessities to displaced persons.

## Interact Volunteers Honored

by Caleb Strack



Katie Grigg, Breanna Woodson and Bridget Porcaro earned the most Interact service hours.

More than 80 St. Joseph High School students in the 7th-12th grades who are members of the Interact Club were rewarded for their many hours of service to their school, church and community with a picnic at the Don Owen Sports Center in Conway on April 12. The picnic was sponsored by the Conway Noon Rotary Club which is the parent organization of Interact service clubs.

More than 2,100 hours of service were accumulated by the club, and each student with 15 or more hours received a recognition certificate. The three students with the most hours were also given gift bags.

Sophomore Katherine Grigg earned 405 service hours, senior Breanna Woodson had 102 hours, and junior Bridget Porcaro gave 218 hours of her time. Rotary Club President Lisa Garner, President-Elect Michael D'Almeida and members (Continued on page 12)

**WE ♥ VOLUNTEERS**



## Eighth Graders Attend Girl Power Conference



Seven 8th grade girls attended the Girl Power in STEM Conference at UCA on April 28. Girls their age from across the state came to gain hands-on experience and learn about careers related to science, technology, engineering and math.

While there, Eva Palmer, Emma Pasierb, Ella Jones, Geena Porcaro, Shannon Trantina, Cindy Castro, and Megan McWilliams interacted with female professors and current UCA students to develop a greater understanding of their own potential and power at a time in their lives when girls tend to lose interest in science and related fields.

Girl Power in STEM commends girls for their current successes and future potential while helping them visualize what they can become if they aim high.

The conference's featured speaker was just such a girl. Dr. Amber Straughn grew up on a farm near Bee Branch, and she's gone on to become an astrophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD.



"As an astrophysicist, I study how stars and black holes form in the distant galaxies and how those processes change over time."

Dr. Amber Straughn

## St. Joseph Wins Kids Run



Truman Martin ran the fastest mile in his division.

St. Joseph School won the 9th Annual Kids Run Arkansas held at Laurel Park on April 21 for the 8th straight year. We did so by having the largest number of participants representing a school or organization with 244 of us on hand. The run was sponsored by the Conway Regional Health and Fitness Center to promote physical activity and wellness.

The event was a 1 and 3-mile fun run/walk for kids of all ages. A cash prize is awarded to the winning group, so St. Joseph receives \$2,000 to support our Elementary and Middle School's Physical Education Department. P.E. teacher Karen Vandivere organized our involvement in the event.



Cross Country runner Ian Martin took part.



Kinley Thessing was also there.



Ashleigh Mallett had fun.







# Fun at the Interact Picnic



Interact members gave many hours of their time.



Rotarian Bob Leffert grills burgers.



Club members line up for lunch.



Zach Royal pitches in a kickball game.



Several girls played volleyball.



"Up and Under" was an organized game.



Joseph Murphy shoots a 3-pointer during a pick-up game.



Rotarian Joan Shofner distributes service hour certificates.

## Senior Signs With Ozarks



Senior David Beck has agreed to attend the University of the Ozarks at Clarksville in the fall where he'll play baseball. His academic record will earn him \$14,500.00 a year in scholarship money. David is following his brother Andrew to the U of O who's been a star baseball player there. He graduates this year.

## Interact Picnic (from page 10)

Joan Shofner, Rachel Steele, Jacqueline Kordsmeier and Bob Leffert helped cater the food, organize games, and distribute the service recognition certificates. awards.

Interact members gather in a circle to increase their team bonding skills.

