



Hammer & Nails

SJM Student Council has New Officers and Class Representatives!

By Catherine Coulter



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Student council has officially started. On September 23, 2011, eighth grade candidates presented their speeches to fourth through eighth graders. After all the speeches given, a vote was taken. At the end of the day, the results for the 2011-2012 student council officers were posted. Congratulations to all of you! We also want to thank all of you who ran because it takes a lot of courage to do that.

Executive Officers

President- Riley Slike
Vice President- Jack Berg
Secretary- Celia Oatis
Treasurer- Dominic Bier

Commissioners

Assemblies- Matthew Pinkelman
Historian- Catherine Coulter
Public Relations- Timothy Glaza
Safety- Zachary Hoover
School Spirit- Samuel Orians
Religious Affairs- Sydney Huffman
Sergeant at Arms- Jayson Cleg-horn

Student Council had its first meeting and all officers and class representatives were sworn in. Ideas were brought up for what activities we should

do for the year and they are being discussed with Mrs. Knopps. The officers have already begun their jobs by leading the meetings, taking notes and pictures, cleaning up assemblies, helping with Mass, finding ways to make our school more safe, showing school spirit, managing student council money, and much more. They held a great first meeting and hope to continue with a great year!

Special points of interest:

- Bryce's Brain Busters, courtesy of fourth grader Bryce Rich, return in our next issue! Get ready to think!
- Here's a sneak peek from Bryce...:

Q: What is a turkey thankful for?

A: A vegetarian!

Libya Seeks Hope and Peace Without Gaddafi

By Dominic Bier

October 20, 2011 was a historic day in Libyan history as their dictator Muammar Gaddafi was shot and killed. After over 40 years of rule, this dictator has finally been killed and now Libyans have new hope that they can have a

better government. Gaddafi had been captured that day by Libyan forces near his hometown of Sirte. He was kept as a prisoner and then later shot and killed. After he was killed his body was put on public display for anyone to see. Many peo-

ple still have doubts that it is him though it looks like him and most likely *is* him. Now that Gaddafi is dead the Libyan people can have peace and hopefully grow as a country together.

What's Up with this Season of Fall?

By Tim Glaza



Now let's get this straight. Right now. I like fall. Don't think I'm some "season hater," but why is it so indeterminate during fall? It wouldn't be so bad if it would warm up a little bit. Can't we have a smooth transition from summer to winter? Can't we have a month when

you don't need to go straight to the Weather Channel to see if you should wear pants or shorts? It's not the cold I hate; it's the uncertainty. Winter's okay because I know that no matter how hard I pray, I will still have to put long pants on in the morning. I just don't like the tempera-

ture swings. One week it might be shorts, hey come outside, weather. The next week it's pants, you put on a coat right now mister, weather. It's annoying. Make up your mind Mother Nature. Or at least find a happy medium. I don't care just, make a choice.

Fall: Just About the BEST Season Ever!

By Matthew Pinkelman



It's the most wonderful time of the year! Fall has to be my favorite time of the year because all the trees turn yellow, red, or orange; it's just an amazing sight! Ever since I was a little boy I have loved to rake up the leaves and do a big cannon ball into them. I love fall because

during the summer, winter, and spring, I'm always so busy. In the fall it's great to catch up with my family and have a good time. In fall there is always amazing food like my favorite pumpkin pie, apple pie, and many more delicious treats! Fall also mean football! You

can never go to a football game and not tailgate! Some of the best holidays such as Thanksgiving are in the fall. I love to go out with my Mom, Dad, and brother and look for the perfect pumpkins. I could just go on and on about how much I love fall!

It's a Fantastic Sport! It's Gymnastics!

By Sydney Huffman



Gymnastics is a great sport for everyone and provides great exercise! Gymnastics requires balance, conditioning for stamina, elegance, grace, and poise. The four

events for females are the vault, the uneven parallel bars, the balance beam, and the floor exercise. The highest score that you can receive is a 10.00.

Gymnasts train at local clubs and the YMCA. It is competitive and fun! You could even end up participating in college or the Olympics!

Gobble, Gobble, Gobble! Let the Fun Begin!

By Kaitlyn Oberski

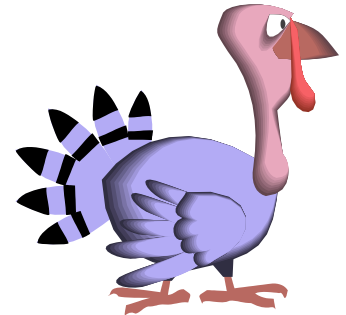
As many of you know, it will soon be time for the Feather Party. It celebrates the holiday of Thanksgiving and is sponsored by the SJM Boosters. The Feather Party is on November 18 and is for the entire parish. There are games that the children can play and win prizes, a sit down dinner, and a raffle to win turkeys and hams. All of the

money that is raised helps benefit the Boosters in their mission to provide sports and scouting to the youth of SJM.

To play games, you give purchase tickets from sellers who are walking around in the, community center. One of the best and highly anticipated games is the spinning wheel domino numbers game where you

can actually win money. There are many other great games and sometimes even a sundae bar.

You will be sure to see someone you know, so don't forget to come and take part in the action. It is a great event that the whole family can enjoy and participate in. Hope to see you there!



"I'm coming to the Feather Party as a *guest*, not a *prize*!"

Mission Fair is Good Friendly Fun!

By Gabe Intagliata

Recently we had a mission fair for our school. All the kids were able to buy game tickets for 25 cents each games. There were over fifteen games and activities to do. There was even a game where you could put someone in jail for a couple minutes which a lot of

kids found to be very fun. Many teachers spent time in "jail" courtesy of their students who thought this was hilarious!

There was a game called Pop Toss where for two tickets you got to toss three rings from behind a line

and make them wrap around a two liter bottle. If you got a ring around one, you won your choice of any can of pop you wanted. There was also an activity where you could get your face or nails painted. Mission Fair was great!

"I run a tough jail! No one gets out without serving at least a full minute."

Mr. Cary Weaver

PE Teacher and Mission Fair Sheriff

Pie! Did Someone Say, "PIE?"

By Hammer and Nails Staff

As many people know, each November means pie month at St. Joe's. Fourth and Fifth graders sell pies through Market Day so that they have funds for field trips to the Toledo Symphony, Sauder's, and mini-golf. This year, Parent Association sponsored a Penny War be-

tween the homeroom classes of the entire school. Money raised will be used to buy apple and pumpkin pies for donation to the Helping Hands of St. Louis Soup Kitchen.

The goal was 12 pies which would equal 14,400 pennies. The generous students of SJM

were able to raise enough funds to buy 20 pies! This equals 24,000 pennies!

The winning classes (3rd and 7th grades) will be treating Mrs. Knopps and a mystery guest to a pie in the face very soon!

Thanks, Mrs. Knopps!





Local Farmers Have Been Busy in the Fields!

By Jayson Cleghorn



It's that time of the season again; the farmers have been harvesting corn! Harvesting corn is picking the ears of corn when they're at the best flavor for the most profit. To harvest corn, the farmer must have a combine with a corn header attached. The combine will separate the stock and the grain.

After the farmer harvests the field, he must dry and clean the corn right away; most farmers do this in a silo. After all this is finished, the farmers usually sell their corn or they use it to feed their cattle.

Corn is a very popular crop grown by farmers all over the world. There is corn grown on

every continent except Antarctica. In America corn is the number one grown field crop. More than 55 percent of corn grown in America goes to foreign markets. Corn produces many products we use today; some of the main ones are cereals, peanut butter, snack foods and soft drinks.



Happy Thanksgiving from the staff of Hammer and Nails! Enjoy your long holiday weekend with your family and friends. Be sure to give thanks to the One who blesses us everyday: God the Father!

Reminder: The last day of school before the holiday break is Tuesday, November 22. Thanksgiving vacation is Wednesday, November 23 through Sunday, November 27.



“In the Garden There was a Small Egg...the Story of Bailey and Ben and Their Life Cycle Journey”

By Kayla Crandall Grade 3

In each issue of Hammer & Nails, we will try to focus on student-written pieces from other grades besides middle school. As the teachers submit articles and other written material their students have composted, we will feature them here in Hammer & Nails.

Mrs. Stookey's third grade recently explored the life cycle of a butterfly. The end project was to create a poster and a story for a butterfly's life. Our featured story this month is written by Kayla Crandall and was part of her final project.

In the garden there was a small egg. This is how Bailey started out, as a small egg. When she was a caterpillar she met a good friend named Ben, who too was a caterpillar that was older. Then weeks later Ben was forming his chrysalis, poor Bailey thought she had lost her best friend Ben. She looked everywhere for him. About two weeks later a butterfly came along and said to Bailey, “have you missed me?” Bailey was confused how did this butterfly know her name? Ben laughed and said, “It’s me, Ben, your best friend”. “ You’re not Ben, my friend. Ben is a caterpillar, not a butterfly!” Ben laughed and said, “let me explain what happens to us. First we start out as a tiny egg, and then we turn into a caterpillar, where we eat and eat and grow. Next comes the chrysalis stage, it’s like a protective cage where we transform into a butterfly. Our wings are wet, so they need to dry, and then we can fly!” “Oh,” said Bailey, “I hope I change soon so we can fly together.” Ben said, “we don’t have to wait, just crawl on my back and we will go for a ride.” Then a few days later Bailey turned into her chrysalis stage. Ten days later she wiggled her way out and flew to find Ben, her best friend. They flew together happily ever after.