

SAYDEL HIGH SCHOOL

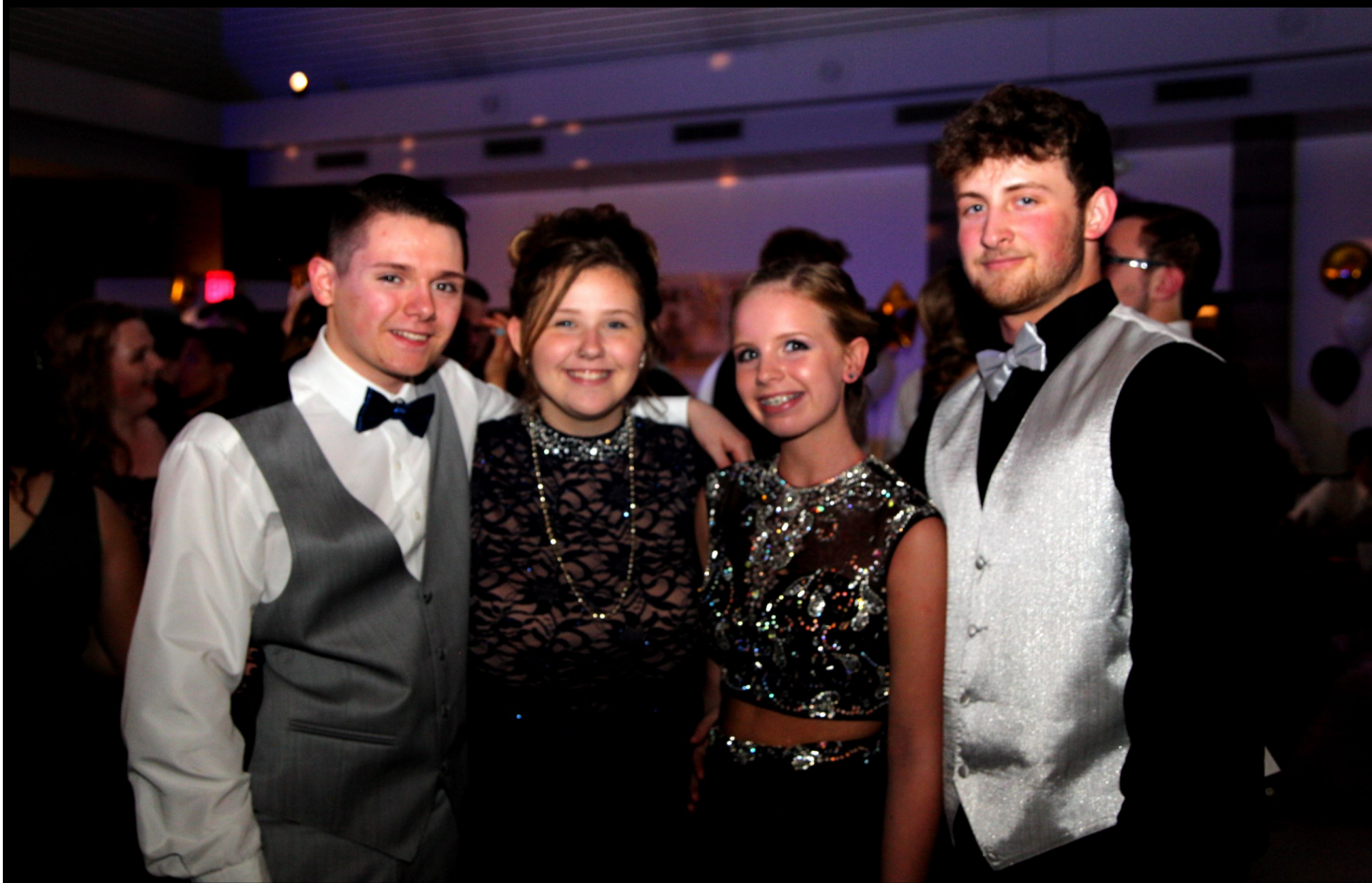
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# *The Saydelphic*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017

5601 NE 7TH STREET  
DES MOINES, IA 50313

[WWW.SAYDEL.K12.IA.US](http://WWW.SAYDEL.K12.IA.US)



by Casey Campbell

# Large Group Contest

by Casey Campbell

Large Group Contest is an event in which both the Saydel band and choir participated. Eleven schools came together to perform their music and try to get the best scores possible. This year, Saydel High School had the very special privilege of hosting Large Group. “Our school is set up beautifully to host this event,” said choir teacher Mr. Michael Puffett.

The band performed two songs during the event: “Song for Lindsay” by Andrew Boysen, Jr. and “Rush” by Samuel R. Hazo. When asked about his thoughts on the pieces the band performed, junior Lucas Graham said, “I like [the songs]; they are fun to play.”

The chorus had three groups participating in Large Group: Mixed Choir, Bass Clef Choir, and Treble Clef Choir. Mixed Choir performed three songs: “Gloria” by Franz J. Haydn, “Cool Moon,” and “Beautiful City.” Bass Clef Choir performed “If Ye would Drink Delight” and “Vive L’Amour.” Lastly, Treble Clef choir performed “Dance on my Heart” and “He’s Gone Away.”

Large Group Contest was held on Friday, May 5, starting at four o’clock and ending at approximately nine o’clock. Each group was awarded a I rating, which is the highest score possible. “We have a tradition of having a very smooth running festival and accomplished another one May 5,” said Mr. Michael Puffett. The musical arts program was very proud of what they were able to achieve and they are excited to do it again next year.



The Vocal Fusion choir all sing a song together at their concert.

# Fellowship of Christian Athletes

by Alyssa Monroe

F.C.A. stands for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. This group is about students coming together, having fun, eating food, and sharing fellowship. Several students have taken a leadership role in the student-run group: President junior Hannah Bowman, Vice-President junior Jayda Tolentino, Secretary and Treasurer Katie Plascencia, junior Katie Schmidt, freshmen Katherine Tylavsky and Seth Plascencia. This group started planning events in January and had their kickoff in April.

The kickoff consisted of bubble soccer, ping pong, nine square, and life-size Hungry Hungry Hippos. The ping pong champ was senior Nate Sepich and the winning team for the bubble soccer was sophomore Andrew Malone, junior Jayda Tolentino, junior T.J. Stephenson and senior Nate Sepich. There are also many teachers involved in this group including Mr. Caleb Hales, Ms. Eliana Johnson, Ms. Victoria Hoogendorn, Mrs. Tristen Ingle, Ms. Allison Drees, and Mr. Jeff Fleming.

Their first huddle welcomed guest speaker R.J. Sumrall who spoke about his journey with God. Students also enjoyed amazing food from Chick-fil-A and Mrs. Ingle's cookies. The night also included a fun game of dodgeball with our principal Mr. Kevin Schulte playing along.

The second huddle included a balloon stomp, which is where two balloons are tied to your ankles and other people tried to step on them. They also had smoked meat for their meal of the evening.

I interviewed some of the members to see their input on the group. Freshmen Seth Plascencia says his favorite part of F.C.A. is the "opportunity we get to spread the gospel and knowledge about with students who usually don't get the chance." During the group Seth says he loves to spend time with friends who have the same interests as he does. Seth says the reason he joined was because he knew this would be a great opportunity to join a group of other Christians and spread gospel to others.



Front : Juniors Jayda Tolentino and Katie Schmidt. Back: Freshman Seth Plascencia, sophomore Katie Plascencia, freshman Katherine Tylavsky, junior Hannah Bowman and R.J. Sumrall (an Urban Representative) take a group picture.

Katie Plascencia says she likes being part of the group and having fun with other students and being able to serve God in this way. Katie says she is excited for the next huddles and being able to listen to more speakers. "The goal of F.C.A. is to help show care for students and share gospel in a fun way," Katie said. F.C.A. would love for you to attend their last meetings on Wednesday, May 10 and Wednesday, May 24 from 5:15 pm to 6:15 pm.



# You're Almost Done Seniors!

by Megan Schmidt



**Alitzel Rodriguez**

**What are your after high school plans?**

"I plan to attend the University of Iowa to study medicine."

**What's your favorite memory of high school?**

"I think it's all the bus rides for marching band and choir."

**How do you hope people remember you?**

"As a queen! No, really I hope people remember me as someone who helped a lot of people."

**What is something you would change about your high school experience?**

"I would have started off less shy as a freshman if I could."

**What are your after high school plans?**

"Get an English degree and be in debt."

**What are you most looking forward to after high school?**

"Going to college and being free."

**Any senior advice?**

"Actually do your work."

**How do you hope people remember you?**

"[I hope they remember] my sparkling personality and my pettiness."



**Caleb Ellsworth**

**What are your after high school plans?**

"The Air Force."

**Are you going to decorate your cap?**

"I'm gonna have a really nice background and have it say 'Hi, Mom.'"

**What would you change about your high school experience?**

"I would do more. Make more memories with friends."



**Andrea Seals**



**What are your after high school plans?**

"Attend Iowa State."

**What are you most looking forward to after high school?**

"Being able to interact with and meet new people."

**Any senior advice?**

"Everything is what you make it. You can make something boring or you can make it fun."



**Nathan Sepich**



# Baseball



by B'Elanna Trulove

Batter up! The Saydel baseball team has been working hard for the upcoming season. Between spring league and other activities, the team is preparing themselves well. Mr. J.R. Gebhart is the head coach of the baseball team. He has been coaching baseball for 24 years, but he's been the head baseball coach for 14 years. Every year, his goals for the team are the same. "Our goals never change. We want to win them all. Be conference champs, district champs, win sub state, and then win state." Senior baseball player Brandon Reese also has the same goals for the season: "I want to win state."

Coach J.R. Gebhart has high expectations for the upcoming season. He explains, "We finished 28-6 last season winning the conference championship. Our expectation is to continue the success that we have built on and continue to push ourselves to get better everyday so that we can compete to the best of our ability during the post-season." As a player, Brandon also has expectations for the future season. "My expectations are to become the second team with 30 or more wins and become the third team to make it to state."

Every coach has a favorite part about the sport they are involved in. Coach J.R. Gebhart explains what his is: "I love watching the players grow and develop into better baseball players and more importantly into better young men over the course of their careers. It is very rewarding to see a young man who works hard and puts in the time and effort required to make himself a better player, gain success and use baseball as a tool to further their education."

While the players are excited for the season, it is a bittersweet time for seniors. Brandon explains how he feels about this being his last season. "It's upsetting that it's my last season, but I have had 3 unforgettable seasons." His favorite part of baseball is "being able to spend time with all of my friends doing what we love."

It is evident that the coaches and players both have a strong passion for the sport of baseball. Baseball season officially starts in May. The first game is May 23 at 7:30. Plan on supporting your Eagles throughout the summer! Hope to see you there!

# Rounding Spring into Summer



by Taylor Newell



As the school year comes to a close and we finish up our spring classes, our summer sports begin. May 8 beings the first softball practice of the 2017 season. The Saydel Softball team has been working hard all winter and spring to improve their skills and setting and reaching high goals. Last year the team had a great season, best the program has had in a long time. They were close to becoming conference champs, being just one win away, and also made it far in the postseason. The Eagles have had determination and don't plan on going anywhere but up.

Starting the beginning of April, the softball team has already been playing games and working to improve themselves. Senior Lyndsay Bianchi said, "It took us a while to get in our grove but we've been working hard all winter and spring and are ready to do big things this season." They've competed in weekend tournaments and scrimmaged other schools. Spring league gives the coaches the opportunity to see the players in a game setting before the actual season rolls around. It also gives the players a chance to work hard and be prepared and ready to go come game time. With the help of parents and coaches, spring league allows players to feel ready and more relaxed during the first game of the season.

The Saydel softball team is reaching high this year with the goals they hope to accomplish. "Our first goal is to be number one in conference then hopefully earn our way to the state tournament," said senior Kaylee Polke. As the season begins to start, the girls are beginning to work together to achieve the team goal of conference champs. Of course, everyone's goal is to be at the state tournament at the end of July, and the Eagles hope to get their one step at a time. Make sure during those warm summer nights you take a trip on up to the softball field and see all the Eagles' hard work and determination pay off!

# Summer Break

by Carolyn Rose

The end of the school year is fast approaching. The last day of school is May 26, which means summer break will be starting soon. Summer typically means a lot of outside time and a lot of sun. Summer break is a time to relax and to not worry about school. "I'm looking forward to the break from everything. I'm involved in a lot and it can get overwhelming. So I'm excited to finally be done and just worry about softball and my terrible tan lines," said senior Anneliese Barton. It's a great time to take a long break. When talking about what her plans are over break Anneliese said, "I plan to play softball and hang with friends."

If you're someone who has no idea what to do over summer break here are some suggestions: hang out with friends, go swimming, go on a bike ride, go to Adventureland, or take your pet for a walk. Anneliese suggests going to a Saydel baseball or softball game or scoping out the best ice cream places such as Granny's or Van Dees. With Summer break there are also things to be careful of, such as sunburns. So have fun in the sun but make sure to be safe by wearing sunscreen and drinking lots of water.



*School's ALMOST out  
for the summer...*

**GET YOUR MENINGITIS VACCINE!**

If you are heading into 7th or 12th grade next school year, make sure your parent or guardian schedules an appointment with your doctor for your meningitis vaccine.

You CANNOT come into the school building, go to class or be in any school activity if you haven't had this vaccine.

Ask your school nurse if you have questions.

Have a fun and safe summer!





**BARNSDALE'S  
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