by Joe Boomgaard

Assistant Editor

Valenti Handbell Choir spreads holiday cheer to Wege

by Joe Boomgaard

At noon on December fourth, the Valenti Handbell Choir filled the lower level of Wege Center with their tinkling versions of popular Christmas carols. Selections included holiday classics such as “Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella,” “Jolly Old Saint Nicholas,” “Up on the Housetop,” “Jingle Bells,” and “The First Noel.” The group also played some non-seasonal songs including “Mountain Spring” and a beautiful arrangement of “Kum Ba Yah.” The concert lasted for nearly an hour, delighting those in attendance.

The handbell choir, directed by Ms. Stephanie Wilten, meets every Wednesday from 12:00 – 1:15 in the AMC. “I love being in handbell choir,” says Senior Jennifer Giddings. This attitude seems to be unanimous among the other members of the group.

“Handbell Choir is cool!” says member Pani Lapema. Senior ringers Nicole Plante extends an open invitation to the Aquinas Community. “If you’re free on Wednesday next semester, come and join us.”

There are no prerequisites for getting involved. “You don’t even have to read music,” said Giddings, who has been a ringer for three years. “They teach you all you need to know.” The concert entertained the small crowd that formed. Video recordings of the performance are available through the Art and Music Center.

Governance bodies gather for business, give diploma in special ceremony

by Joe Boomgaard

Wednesday, December 4 marked this year’s annual joint luncheon and meeting of the Aquinas College Board of Trustees, Faculty Assembly, Staff Assembly and Student Senate in the Wege Ballroom. After most had finished their meals, Aquinas President Dr. Harry Knopke made a special diploma presentation to Clement Chiwaya.

Chiwaya, who came to Aquinas via Malawi, was set to graduate this month, but had planned to return to his native country prior to the commencement ceremony. His extraordinary example warranted this special presentation, according to Knopke.

“Clement has been a gift to Aquinas and to our community. His achievements have been inspiring,” Knopke told the crowd before making the presentation of the diploma to Chiwaya. “To think that he came here with only $500 in his pocket that was given to him by his bishop back in Malawi and now he’s graduating with a degree in Political Science and Community Leadership, what a success story!” Knopke said.

Chiwaya was visibly moved by the whole ceremony. “To think that he came here with only $500 in his pocket that was given to him by his bishop back in Malawi and now he’s graduating with a degree in Political Science and Community Leadership, what a success story!” Knopke said.

“Dr. Harry Knopke”

Chiwaya said. “I’m just a poor peasant from a poor country and by getting this diploma, I want to help others like me to achieve the same.”

After the special presentation, Provost and Dean of Faculty Dr. Ed Balog gave the attendees the challenge of a group project. The aim of the project was to devise a list of strengths and weaknesses of the opportunities for and the threats to the College internal. The group consisted of a mix of trustees, faculty and students. The project was part of the strategic planning sessions that the College performed in preparation for North Central Evaluation.

According to Balog, a select group will review the results of the surveys and will use the collected information as a gauge to determine what priorities the college should set in the upcoming years.

Last year, the project focused on internal communication and governance and required the participants to reevaluate the Aquinas Mission Statement. Issues that were being discussed in the various groups included the current need for library expansion and a new facility, hiring practices, aesthetic concerns, salary and parking.

Sister Margaret Hillary, O.P., a graduate of Aquinas and member of the Board of Trustees, commented that one forte of the College, in particular, was the caliber of its students.

“Students like Clement really bring out that strength,” Sister Hillary said. “People like him are part of the driving force of this institution.”

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What happens when Andrew WK songs are synched with The Lord of the Rings? Find out (8)

Look for the next issue of the TIMES in January. Have a safe vacation!
Chesley reads nonfiction
by Curtis R. Burdette
Editor in Chief

On Tuesday, December 3, Aquinas College Lecture Series hosted Associate Professor of English Dr. Brent Chesley in the Weyer Student Center Ballroom. Chesley read his creative nonfiction piece, Siddhartha’s Son-in-Law.

The event drew a crowd of nearly thirty storytellers and faculty. Chesley’s whimsical storytelling voice brought listeners back to his high school years when he decided to experience Buddhist enlightenment.

Listeners chuckled at Chesley described his teenage attempt to reach inner harmony by sitting on his cold bedroom floor and chanting the stereotypical Buddhist mantra, “Oooooommm...”

Chesley delighted the audience by explaining the difficulties of reaching enlightenment. He described how his attention span dwindled as the coldness of the bare floor grew intolerable. This caused young Chesley to decide to meditate atop his sleeping bag.

The Buddhist neophyte lost focus as his mind questioned his reasonings for wanting to reach enlightenment. Young Chesley’s self-doubt and comedic thoughts help to explain his initial motivations, much to the amusement of the crowd.

Throughout the reading, Chesley’s rhythmic pulse kept listeners captivated and his intensity energy brought a feeling of immediacy to the piece.

Chesley has had several pieces of creative nonfiction published and he teaches a course on the genre at Aquinas, along with British Literature and Creative Writing. Chesley has a special interest in helping students to prepare their creative nonfiction for publication.

hey business majors, want to make some money?

The Aquinas Times is currently interviewing for the position of Business Manager. To make an appointment, give us a call at ext. 4106.
George W. Bush declared war on terrorism, but the safety of the nation takes a lower priority than dealing with a homophobic military policy. The United States Army fired nine linguists for the sole reason that the soldiers were gay. Seven of the linguists admitted to superior officers that they were gay. In a surprise inspection, two other officers were caught together after curfew.

Army officials issued the dismissals during a time when Congress has discussed the shortage of interpreters. The Army has aggressively recruited Arabic linguists since the 9/11 attacks. Six of the linguists were concentrating on Arabic; two were studying Korean, and one was studying Chinese.

How does the United States benefit from such a policy? According to skeptics of homosexual soldiers, allowing homosexuals in the ranks would interfere with the effectiveness of the military. Heterosexual soldiers would fear losing a position of privacy and fear uneasy around homosexual counterparts. Pentagon officials suggested that hostile Feeling among soldiers would be uncontrollable.

Suggested that hostilities against homosexual counterparts. Pentagon officials mentioned that the military needs to take a stand. Homosexuals should be part of the military, allowing homosexuals to expect equal rights in the military. If candidates train in the military and prove themselves as fine soldiers, dismissal shouldn't happen just because superior officers learn that the soldier is homosexual. At the very least it seems that it is time to reevaluate the "Don't ask, don't tell" policy, because it threatens the mission of the United States military.
Drum ensemble beats a good Christmas tune
by Sarah Kommer

When told I was to review the Aquinas College Percussion Group recent performance directed by Rupert Kettle, I spent the day envisioning myself listning to loud, beating drums and an occasional gang spell out the beat to "Little Drummer Boy." Fortunately, my preconceived notions of a "drum ensemble" proved unfounded as the Aquinas students did a lot more than simply hit the drums in beat.

Thursday's performance by the music department announced me. I've never had the opportunity to see exclusively percussion groups, mostly unaccompanied, create an entire show. The group had great synchronicity and played off each other's sounds well. The student performers have really mastered their music and played most pieces without any sort of formal conducting. In their second piece, "A Whispering" by William Timberlake, they were able to appreciate some of the world's greatest.

Drums like the Pacific Island Dancers from New Zealand helped us appreciate the different culture that mimics a similar dance style as the Hawaiian dancers. Student viewer, senior Andrea Covert, appreciated the performance. "I enjoyed watching how other cultures express themselves through dance because it's different from the traditional American style dancing," Covert said. Three women and two girls performed the dance.

Other acts included junior Brooke Murphy's own beautiful rendition of slam poetry entitled "Who am I?" and sophomore/junior (be claimed to be a lost soul) Johnny Howell's harmonic voice singing "I'm Moving On!" by Rascal Flatts. The audience took a stroll down memory lane with sophomore Scott Markwart's interpretation of Nintendo's Super Mario theme song played on a steel drum. The club scene, coordinated by freshman Anthony Smith, was entertaining due to the appearance of pop icons, Justin Timberlake and Britney Spears.

Now we are not just talking about any Justin Timberlake here, this was a composition of combined impersonations by sophomore/junior Johnny Howell, sophomore Scott Markwart, and junior Brooke Murphy that got the girls screening.

"The whole [cost] scene was put together in, like, 2 1/2 days," Smith said. "We had a whole new group then planned and they helped me by doing their own thing."

Another fashion scene that used some "funky" dance moves was the formal wear section, coordinated by junior Rachel Sova and senior Jennifer Ladanyi. After viewing the gorgeous dresses and dramatic tedious, the group of seven couple whipped off their shoes and danced the prom scene from the movie "She's All That." The music also got the crowd rocking.

"It was my first time dancing in front of people and I wish I had done it years previously," senior and formal wear participant Casey Korth said. "My partner, Scott, was great and I'm glad I get to work with him. I loved watching everyone else have fun too."

The show demonstrated the great talents Aquinas students have and the willingness to withstand the embarrassment both of getting up on stage in front of a full house and of strutting their stuff.

Fortunately, the participants did not embarrass themselves for just the audience, but for some good causes also. All proceeds of this program went to the Casa Hogar Orphanage in Lurin, Peru and the canned goods that were taken at the door went to a local charity.

Book Review: The Straw Men
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Movie Review: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
by Pat Hurley

For those of you who have never heard of Harry Potter (and to you, I would like to ask you where is the cave that you live in?) it's a wonderful book series by author J.K. Rowling about a boy who discovers that he has the ability to do magic and must attend Hogwarts School of Magic along with his fellow wizards and witches. In fact, the series of books (one for every grade that Harry attends in Hogwarts) has taken the country by storm. And, as when something becomes popular, then it must be marketed in every single way possible, including toys, lunch boxes, magazines, Legos, posters, and, of course, a movie series. However, in this case, a movie was not such a bad thing.

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets is the second installment in the series and was terrific fun to watch. Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) and his friends Ron (Rupert Grint) and Hermione (Emma Watson) get into all sorts of adventures as they must try and figure out where and what the Chamber of Secrets is and who is unleashing the monster within it. You could tell that all the actors had fun in this movie. All three children do a fair job of capturing their characters from the book, and Grint is particularly funny as a comedic sidekick Ron. I really liked the soundtrack and the special effects in the movie are phenomenal, though some of the scenes were actually scarier than I thought they would be. My little brother whom I took to the film covered his face a few times (not me however, heh, heh.) The film moved along at a fast pace which leads to a stunning (well, stunning if you haven't read the book) action-packed conclusion.

The one criticism that I have of the movie is that it tries to put too much of the book in the movie. When a movie is based on a popular book, I believe that it should follow the book closely, of course cutting some things, but does the opposite: it attempts to keep the general spirit of the book. While the Count of Monte Cristo totally departed from the spirit of the book and really changed the plot around, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets does the opposite: it attempts to keep too much of the book in the movie. It makes mention of almost every little thing that happens in the second book, which has the effect of giving the viewer too much to pay attention too. I think it would be better if movie had cut and really changed the plot around, but then put more effort and focus on the elements central to the plot.

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That being said, I really did enjoy the film and would recommend it to anyone who is a fan of the series or likes spiritual lyrics and hard rock rhythms to captivate audience.

Concert Review: AG Silver takes home top prize in local talent search

Local band combines spiritual lyrics and hard rock rhythms to captivate audience.

by Andrea Prisby

"And there must be something better," lead singer and guitarist Jon Ondreik sang to the crowd of 1,000 as he looked toward the sky. "Somewhere else where I can live/cause I'm tired of living life."

These spiritual lyrics come from a band of four male twenty-one year olds who came out from their "break" to compete in the 101.3-FM The Fox Hometown Rock Search, hosted by Arti Hamper, a DJ at the station. The event, which was held at the Orbit Room on the night of December 1, consisted of six local bands that made it to the semi-finals out of an initial count of 162 bands that entered approximately five weeks ago.

The winner of the bands, determined by a group of judges, got $1,000 worth of recording time at Mackinaw Harvest Studios, a free photo shoot at Nodak Point, Ltd., gift certificates for Firehouse Music and a $1,000 piddel gig as the opening act for next summer's Fire Fest.

Ag Silver, an under-the-table Christian rock band from Grandville, was among the six bands who performed for their screaming fans, both over and under age.

Despite a small equipment failure, the band got it together in time to start at 9:30 p.m. With standing room only, the Orbit Room was packed with a spirited crowd as the guys appeared on stage, barefoot and all. Their apparel consisted of classy gray and black shirts; Ondreik, in a silver tie, was definitely eye-candy for the crowd.

Along with Ondreik, the group includes Chris McKellar on guitar and backing vocals, Dustin Ingham, who could not be there that night, on bass and backing vocals, and drummer Craig Vanderwaar.

The Search is On AG Silver vocalist/guitarist Jon Ondreik sings his heartfelt lyrics to a crowd of nearly a thousand people during the Hometown Rock Search.

Their sound is comparable to Matchbox 20, with a harder rock beat. Ondreik's strong voice reminded me of Eddie Vedder's of Pearl Jam. McKellar's amazing guitar solos got the crowd bouncing and cheering. The group's charisma on stage was great. They act and play as if they have known each other forever.

Ag Silver's lyrics to their very deep songs got me thinking as I was listening to them. The one critique I had for the night was that a good majority of the songs played over their 45 minute set were ones about relationships, specifically breaking up relationships and questioning that period of their life. This theme appeared in their songs so much that I became cliché after a while. They need to get some new songs, maybe some happier ones. And I did find out that they would be releasing a second CD in the near future - another "must have" for my collection.

Yet, I couldn't help keep a smile off my face as I recognized their songs. Their music is definitely something that captured my attention because they sure do know how to rock. They could just be the next popular band from Grand Rapids. They don't have that "local band" sound like most of the others do - it's more of a professional rock sound.

Ag Silver ended the concert by thanking the crowd at the end with the intellectual words from Ondreik: "You're beautiful and we love you all."

Look for more updates on the group, or check out their web site with more concert information at www.agsilver.com.
Passion for football displayed in high school games
by Shaun Markwars
What a scene it was at the Pontiac Silverdome during Thanksgiving weekend. In a show much more entertaining than the Lions put on in their final years at the Dome, the state high school football championships were contested.
It’s rather remarkable just how big these games have become. FOX Sports Net televised all eight of the state championship games over a two day span for all of Michigan to see.
The Friday, eight-game event produced many fond memories.
It was a sign of things to come when the opening game was over. In the extra period, Waterford’s Lady of the Lakes coach Mike Boyd passed up a chance to go for a tying field goal when he elected to go for the touchdown on fourth down and goal from the one-yard line. Can you imagine a professional coach making that decision?
In Saturday’s St. Ignace and Boyne Falls boys football championship, it was all over. Neugonee’s Rod Barr ran for a seventh touchdown, and then switched to running from the two-point conversion to lead the team to a 28-20 victory over Hancock. Hancock had a chance to tie, but quarterback Mike William’s pass sailed over his receiver’s hands from the end zone on fourth down.

As good as the two overtime games were, the individual star of the weekend was St. Ignace’s Mark Cutlin.
Cutlin, Lowell’s senior quarterback, shattered the record for total yards in a state championship game. He racked up 529 rushing yards and 191 passing yards for for 411 total yards. The previous record was 297 total yards by Mill Coleman of Farmington Hills Harrison in 1989.

Despite all of Cutlin’s offensive heroics, Lowell’s Division 3 championship victory over Berrien Springs’ Brother Rice was not looked up until Cutlin, playing defensive back in addition to quarterback, intercepted a Brother Rice pass and returned it for a touchdown in the final minutes.
Cutlin’s performance enabled Lowell to come away with a 31-14 victory, although the game was closer than the score indicated.
The most anticipated game of the weekend took place on Friday afternoon in Southfield.
Veteran Catholic Central coach Tom Mach called it “one of the greatest games I’ve ever been involved with.”
As great as the action on the field was, the biggest story of the weekend was the team from Grand Rapids South Christian.
One week earlier, junior Derrick De Ziegler, the women’s qualifying score, hit the end zone on fourth down.

"This was our team this year. It was the first time at Nationals for many guys on the team, so they didn’t have a good idea what to expect,” Mach said.
Foley attributed the Saint’s performance to plain bad luck. “It was a nightmare,” said Foley, after describing the team’s sub-par performance.
Coach Mike Wojciechowski agreed that luck was not on the team’s side.

“It’s hard to be perfect 365 days a year. This was the happiest day not to be though. We just picked a bad day to do sub-par,” Wojciechowski said.

After the meet, Coach Wojciechowski was awarded NAIA coach of the year, an award given to the top seven coaches in the country.

The Falcon’s run to the final came at the expense of both the men’s and women’s sides, the Saints will continue to strive for excellence.

“Success, in athletics, is not measured by one defining moment. What really defines people is what they do after failure. We’ll continue to work and eventually we will have success,” Wood said.

Despite high expectations, cross country teams fail to cap off season in Nationals
by Jackie Hurley
Contributing Writer
The Aquinas cross-country team fell short of high performance expectations at the NAIA national meet at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside on Nov. 23.
Having won their conference and regional meets, the men’s team goal was to place among the top four teams at the National meet.

Junior Millis and Jenny Ziegler, the women’s qualifiers, hoped to finish in the top 30 individually.
In the men’s race, the Aquinas pair, consisting of James Jones, Lee Foley, Nate Kaiser, Josh May, Emin Potter, Shawn Gast and Josh Miller, was on pace for a top five finish during the first mile, but then slowed in the second mile and faded from there.

Senior Nate Kaiser led the team with an 8K time of 26:54, placing 52nd. Freshman James Jones (kaiser, placing 82nd. Saints standout runner Leo Foley struggled through the meet, placing a season 184th out of a field of 224 runners. Overall, the Saints placed 18th out of a field of 90 teams.

"Kaiser attributed the Saints difficulties to the young age of the team."

"It was a young team this year. It was the first time

Intramural co-ed v-lan teams take to the courts
by Shaun Markwars
Sports Editor
Many students have taken the opportunity to join this competitive league

The rallies are not always long, the serves are not always crisp, but the action in the Aquinas intramural volleyball league is competitive and entertaining.

On Wednesday and Sunday nights in the Aquinas Field House, teams of co-ed volleyball players compete in the intramural league. The league consists of ten regular season games, which will be followed by playoffs that get underway this week. The league is made up of eleven teams of male and female players.

Thus far, first place of the league is shared by the Court Mites, captained by Carla Winteringham, and Jenny Ziegler’s Long Ball team. Each team sports an undefeated 8-0 record, and they could meet up come playoff time.

On December 4, the ‘Knock, Knock, it’s the RAV’s Cooming’ team did battle with the East-West Coalition. The teams are in the middle of the league standings, but that did not stop either side from going after the victory.

"I would not have been a happy camper if we lost,” said Dave Williams, the RAV’s team captain.

Obviously inspired by their leader’s passion and exuberance, Williams’ team overcame a final game deficit to pull out a classic three set victory.

Though his team isn’t 4-5, Williams is confident his team can surprise some people in the playoffs.

"Anything can happen,” said Lena Tompkins, a teammate of Williams, echoing the mottos of her team.

Tompkins helped explain why so many people are playing intramural volleyball. "It’s fun and I get to meet new people,” she said.

According to intramural supervisor Jamie Senez, the season has gone quite well, and the turnout has been great. She calls the games “good competition” and says that everyone seems to be having fun. She also says that there are plans for men’s and women’s intramural basketball leagues early next semester.

Tomkins summed up the view of the players in the league when she said, “It’s great to win, but I think the most important thing when you’re playing sports is that you are enjoying yourself.”

Sports Calendar
Compiled by Shaun Markwart

Men’s Varsity Basketball
Taylors University Tournament
December 13, 6:00 p.m.
vs. Tri-State
December 14, 1:00 p.m.
Third Place
December 14, 3:00 p.m.
Championship
St. Xavier Tournament
December 20, 7:00 p.m.
vs. St. Francis (Ind.)
December 21, 5 or 7:00 p.m.
Second Round
December 22, TBA
Final Round

Women’s Basketball
December 11, 7:00 p.m.
at Calvin
December 13, 6:00 p.m.
Home vs. Taylor

Men’s Basketball
December 27, TBA
vs. St. Ambrose
December 28, TBA
Second Round
December 29, TBA
Final Round
Horoscope: Get a reading of your future from "The Aquinas Times" pessimistic psychic

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): You will encounter some very interesting people in the next few weeks. Some people will be good for you, but a majority will be nothing but trouble. Be on the lookout because that one diamond in the rough may just be the one you’re waiting for. But if you’re feeling sick, you probably are; chances are good that you won’t pull through and that you will die, thus easing the burden from your family and friends.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20): You will travel to a new place and find a great new food. During your travels, you will also encounter someone who is sure to be a catastrophic event. Be very weary of leaving your lodgings without accompaniment; doing so might jeopardize your safety and well-being. Be on the lookout for someone who is everything – they are just an easy target.

Aries (March 21 - April 19): You will join a very special person in a very difficult plot to hurt another person that you used to know intimately, but have grown apart from. In this plot, you will wind up injuring a friendship a you didn’t think existed. It’s likely that you will be too afraid to even consider taking action. Also, a nice ride in yellow cabs with bald Goodyear tyes and a driver with seven fingers – the one ride might be your last.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): People you know will try to intervene in your best interests. You will push them away, thus isolating yourself. Try to think of yourself for once. Don’t do anything for anyone else but you. Crawl up inside your own world and sit there. Spare everyone else the pain of your existence. Beware of sharp objects, you just might cut yourself.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20): Of all people, you will have to come out of your tiny existence to see where you are going. You will be uncomfortable in your new position, but get used to it. It’s all downhill from here. You’re going on a trip down a one-way street, my friend. Get used to it, and quit whining. Avoid sitting on sharp objects – doing so can be a major pain.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): Shut up! People are sick and tired of hearing your voice. Let other people get a word in now and then. You aren’t the only person in the room, unless you’re by yourself. If you are alone, find people to talk to for advice. What, did you think that you were getting advice here? HA! Try to avoid traveling in anything with wheels – you might just roll all the way to your end.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22): You’re a strong person – you know it, we all know it. Therefore, you don’t always have to remind us about it. Give others the chance to do the same. A friend will believe that they are more powerful as you are. Let the attempted usurpation be the grounds of terminating your friendship. Abandon all hope of ever making a long-term relationship – it’s just not for you. Know that you will be unhappy and alone forever.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): Love awaits you, but you’re too stupid to notice. Open your eyes, you just might find something that you’ve been seeking. Remember, looks aren’t everything – they’re the only thing. Sometimes even a blind squirrel finds a nut; this might be your one chance. Besides, a restraining order is just another way of saying, “I love you.”

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): Don’t ask for help from people you know. Your bittersweet actions have upset enough people. Learn to do things on your own. Seek out new roles in life: be the clown for once and let people laugh with you, not at you, as they have done up until now. If you intend to travel by plane, please do not yell out the greeting “Hi” should you see a friend of yours who goes by the nickname Jack.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21): You should feel good – you’ve just ended a seriously unhealthy habit. It’s time to look for new and even more dangerous ones. Hey, if things get bad, you can always quit this habit next month. Lighten up and don’t be too uptight. Your last few friends dislike the fact that you’re so cheap. Dust off the wallet and do something good, like buying more stuff for yourself. Hey, maybe you can support your bad habits.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Surround yourself with people who have problems. They’re fun to mock. Chances are that one of them will be worse off than you are, thus making your situation seem better. Beware of numbers that are multiples of one.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Learn to slow down your life. Take in all the little unpleasantness that life puts in your way. Maybe then you’ll quit being so damn happy. Life sucks, don’t make it out to be a walk in the park. You should revel in grief and misery like the rest of us. Everyone is sick and tired of your chirpy attitude. Maybe youwalk in grief for awhile – then you’ll find reality, you happy jerk.

December 11, 2002

SPORTS/HUMOR

Lady Saints split games in tourneys, win big against Cornerstone and Andrews

by Annie Scott and Shaun Mackwart

Contributing Writer and Sports Editor

The weekend of November 22-24, Aquinas hosted the Women’s Basketball Tournament. The participating teams were the Saints, and the non-conference Goshen Maple Leaues and Saint Xavier Cougars. Each team came out with a victory but also with a defeat.

The Saints opened the tournament with a back and forth game with five lead changes before the Maple Leaues came out with a 57-56 loss. Leading after the first half 29-25, they looked to set the tone for the season, after being defeated by Goshen earlier in the season. During the second half the Saints had the largest lead defeated Hope College Flying Dutchmen.

"They threw everything but the kitchen sink at us," said Franko. "We had a lot of turnovers and that cost us the game."

The Saints hosted the International Academy Dragons and the Saints defeated the Dragons 82-69. The Dragons had a 19-point advantage during the first half but the Saints were behind by only 10 points at the half. The Saints won by 23 points.

The Saints also lost to the Cougars 66-57 in another back-and-forth game, with ten lead changes. However, Saints head coach hosted the last half 35-29 and kept the lead through the second half, coming away with a 67-57 win.

Koselanky had a huge game against St. Xavier with 22 points and 18 rebounds. His soft 19 points, while Katie Green notched 13 points and 10 boards.

The Saints got an early crack at conference action when the two teams met up during the third place game of the Thanksgiving Tournament at Calvin College.

Head Coach Franko led the Saints to an 82-76 win over Cornerstone with 24 points on 8-of-12 shooting from the field. Cassee Chan added 18, thanks in large part to five 3-pointers. Koselanky and Jessica Staubus chipped in with 12 points each. The win pushed the Saints to 4-3 on the season and gave head coach Linda Nash her 100th career victory.

The Saints followed up the win with an easy 97-33 victory over Andrews and then split two games at the Olivet Comet Classic.

The 6-4 Saints visit Calvin on December 11 before returning home to meet Taylor on December 13.

Where’s the Ball? Kris Koselansky, left, eyes the basket to see if a shot will go in during a game against the St. Xavier Cougars. The Lady Saints won the game 66-57.

"Thanks to all the fans, we are really starting to get a six-man out there and get a lift from it," said Head Coach Rick Aerts, who triumphantly hugged Nickson, the Saints’ mascot at the end of the game.

After Receiving All-Tournament honors from Aquinas were Tony Fernandez and Andy Sekerten.

"It was a good win for the team, both teams are very competitive," said Head Coach Rick Aerts.

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Pisces

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Andrew Smith was fouled by Heather Orr.

Burdick then broke into a happy dance, probably displaying the kind of emotion most of the team was feeling.

Saints men’s basketball wins annual charity tournament

by Leah Herland

Contributing Writer

The Aquinas Saints men’s basketball team posted a big win Saturday against the previously unbeaten Hope College Flying Dutchmen.

The game was the championship match in the second annual Brann’s/Ship Shootout. The Tournament proceeds were to benefit the Kent County Toys for Tots Campaign.

"It was a good win for the team, both teams are very competitive," said Tony Fernandez of Hope.

"We worked hard and played together as a team," T.J. Burdick commented. "We really fed off the crowd."

Burdick then broke into a happy dance, probably displaying the kind of emotion most of the team was feeling.
Create your own music video
by Adrian Proctor

Hi, I’m Adrian, your friendly neighborhood housekeeper. I’ll tell ya something about housekeeping: it ain’t brain surgery! So while straightening classrooms and vacuuming floors, the mind is free to wander for a bit. Some of my more creative ideas come while I’m working. For example: last week just before Thanksgiving break, I was thinking about how Andrew WK would sound great accompanying some scenes in Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring. To come Thanksgiving weekend, I decided to try it out with excellent results! I showed it to my brothers and sisters and they, too, were amazed by how well the movie synched with the songs.

Here’s what you do: put in the DVD Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, the theatrical version (not the extended version), and cue it to 1 hr 56 min 23 sec into the movie and pause it. Now load up Andrew WK “I Get Wet” in the CD player; press play on the first song, “It’s Time to Party.” Now, unpause the movie and let the fun begin!

Another one to try is at 1 hr 58 min 17 sec into the movie and play the fourth song “Ready to Die.” The song has a comical Casio-keyboard-sounding intro, but don’t fast forward through it — just let it play through. That’s all.

I hope you enjoy this. If you’ve gotten a kick out of Pink Floyd and the Wizard of Oz, then this should be right up your alley!

O Christmas Trees Trees adorned with lights make the festive season just a little brighter.

Dome of Lights Van Andel Museum proved to be another festive location.

Light the menorah Celebration is diverse.


Five Seconds Sara Heckman

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Sorry kid, we don’t serve food here.