

THE VISTA



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Women's Woes Worldwide Create Worry

Women's State of Education

HALEY DEKEYSER

As women in the U.S. are graduating from college and running for president, the majority of women in many countries around the world cannot read or write.

According to United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), two-thirds of the world's 796 million illiterate adults are women, and less than 40 percent of countries provide girls and boys with equal access to education.

"Some laws and customs have prohibited women's ability to get an education," social studies teacher Mrs. Susie Huffman said.

In Afghanistan, girls were not allowed to attend school until the Taliban lost power. Even though they can receive an education now, hundreds of schools in their country are attacked each year.

A woman's role in the household may trump the importance of her education.

This is prevalent in regions of sub-Saharan Africa, where few women attend school and many families live on less than two dollars per day.

Poverty, young marriage and young pregnancy are among the major reasons why women drop out of school or do not attend school altogether.

"It is proven that when women are educated, the standard of living in their society advances because they are better adapted to saving money for their family. Educated women are more likely than men to spend their income on their family as well," Mrs. Huffman said.

To make education more accessible to girls, many organizations build schools in poverty-stricken areas, provide scholarships for girls and work to find safe ways for girls to travel to school.

According to the Global Campaign for Education, "education, especially for girls and women, is the best way to break the cycle of ill health, hunger and poverty."

The State of Women's Health

BRIANNE SZYMANSKI

Often the slightest advancements toward a more equal state for women mask hideous discriminations. This is regrettably the case with the condition of women's health matters.

In many countries, health is rarely featured in political debates due to lack of funding. This contributes to misinformed, or even uninformed, citizens.

Women are unrepresented in most health related issues that are brought to political or national attention. Many argue that women are voiceless in the trials of drugs, health research and laws pertaining to medical matters.

A prominent but unaddressed health concern is Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), procedures that calculatedly alter, injure or remove female genital organs. It has no health benefits and is associated with cultural ideals of modesty and femininity.

FGM is usually performed during puberty, and 100-140 million women are currently living with its consequences. It is commonly practiced in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and certain immigrant communities in North America and Europe; no religion requires FGM.

Many countries and organizations have worked to eliminate this practice, but partiality to tradition perpetuates it.

Health concerns also arise about the amount of sexually transmitted diseases that overrun many underdeveloped countries due to a lack of funding for contraceptives.

"Developing countries are much harder for women's health care. This is due in part because in many of these countries, women do not have equal rights in society and are not given access to proper medical care. Laws continue to evolve even in countries like the United States," social studies teacher Mrs. Amy Kasprzak said.

The Political State of Women

EMILY THOMAS

*"Oh, we were suffering until suffrage,
Not a woman here could vote, no
matter what age,
Then the 19th Amendment struck
down that restrictive rule."*

No song sums up the voting rights of women in the U.S. like the *School House Rock* classic, "Suffering till Suffrage."

However, while "the 19th Amendment struck down that restrictive rule" in America, the same cannot be said for other countries across the world.

Several nations have not yet taken steps to allow women to have a larger role in politics through voting.

"Women are underrepresented in politics," AP Government and Politics teacher Mrs. Kristine Malik said.

Underrepresentation tends to occur most often in the Middle East, Africa and developing nations. This is a result of religious and cultural practices that have been passed down through tradition.

"In these places, the role of women is different. Even in western societies, women are not equal. They do not have equal opportunities," Mrs. Malik said.

Inequality occurs even in nations where women have been granted the right to vote, including in the U.S.

"In the U.S. Congress the majority is men. Only 17 percent of Congress is women, but over 50 percent of our population is women," Mrs. Malik said.

The list of nations who do not allow women the right to vote is getting shorter as time passes.

Saudi Arabia recently dropped off of this list by granting women the right to vote and run for office for the nation's 2015 local elections.

However, the nation still does not allow women to drive or leave the country without the permission of a male relative.

Even with voting rights, women worldwide continue the battle for equality.

Food Insecurity in U.S.A Goes Unknown

LEXI AUGHENBAUGH

Although many people are aware of food shortages across the world, only few are alert to the seriousness of this problem for children within the United States.

It is common knowledge that food insecurity is causing countless people to suffer globally every day. However, it is widely unknown that one in four children within the U.S. is food insecure, while one in six American adults experience food scarceness as well.

A food relief organization known as "Feeding America" is the nation's largest food charity and also has a network of over 200 food banks. Feeding America distributes three billion pounds of food products throughout 61,000 agencies within the U.S. and provides annual emergency food support to nearly 37 million Americans.

This organization conducted a study in 2011 known as the "Map the Meal Gap: Child Food Insecurity 2011." The investigation found that households with children experience rates of food

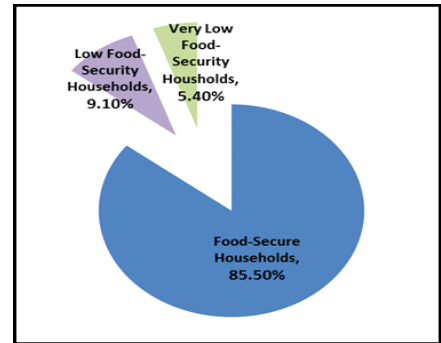
deficiency at about 21 percent, significantly higher than the general population at about 15 percent.

The study also verified that food insecurity at the county level is increasing. In 2009, food deficiency rates within the county started at 7 percent of children and eventually reached 50 percent.

"I think, in general, people need to be more aware of the situation. Food is the basic staple in one's life and, in order to survive, people need to have proper nutrition when they eat. More people should donate to the cause," junior Meghan Thebes said.

With nearly 17 million American children living with food limitations, severe long term effects can be a concern. When young people are limited in their food intake, the constant malnutrition or famine can result in possible health issues in the future. Research has also showed that food insecurity is a reason for students' lack of attention in school, resulting in poor academic achievement.

There are several different programs in



place for helping those living in poverty such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Eligibility for these nutritional and financial programs is often based on the federal poverty guideline, varying based on the household size. These programs can offer families assistance through electronic benefit cards, monthly benefits and school meal reimbursements.

Through supportive programs and general awareness, the increasing food insecurity in the USA can be stopped.

Online Classes Offer Change

BRIANNE SZYMANSKI

For many, online classes create feelings of apprehension. However, online classes offer immersions that traditional NDA coursework does not.

"I love taking online classes because, although it is a different experience, it has given me a newfound outlook that I would have never experienced through normal classes," junior Alexandria Saba, who is in her second year of online classes through the University of Toledo, said.

Students choose courses with the guidance of a University of Toledo advisor and a Notre Dame Academy counselor.

After registering online through the myUT portal, students have access to a Blackboard account, a program that allows them to access unit lectures, reading materials, their professor and their classmates.

Junior Jacqueline Burns is taking Introduction to Exercise Science through UT.

"My class is in the resource center. I can work on the unit or on NDA class work. On gold days, I also have a regular study hall, so I have two school periods that allow me to access my online class.

I can also work on my online class work at home," Jacqueline said.

Online courses present possibilities that would not regularly be available, including time and geographical flexibility; students have post-secondary educational options through Brigham Young University, a private university in Utah.

"Online classes offer more of a variety than AP or IB classes," Alexandria said.

Shy students may also feel more comfortable with an online environment, as limited interaction may be less intimidating.

Discipline and time management skills are imperative to success in an online class.

Students who already procrastinate or have difficulty with schedules may not benefit from the responsibility online classes demand.

"The hardest part is remembering to look to see if you have homework and managing your time to get your work done," Alexandria said.

Nevertheless, online classes help students develop academically.

"Taking an online class through UT provides me to experience a new way of learning," Jacqueline said.

NDA News Briefs

BREANN MCDEDE

Senior Kairos

Seniors will be leaving to go on their Senior Kairos Retreat Sunday, Nov. 20, and will be returning Wednesday, Nov. 23. Kairos is a spiritual bonding experience that the seniors participate in to develop closer relationships with God and each other.

Jostens

Jostens will be at NDA Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 a.m. in the Resource Center for seniors who need to order caps and gowns and for juniors who need to resize their class rings.

Injuries Cause Emotional Pain

BREANN MCDEDE

It is becoming more common these days to see high school athletes sitting on the side lines, crutches in hand or boot on foot. While the physical injury is waiting to heal, the athlete must work to heal the accompanying emotional pain.

At NDA, five or six girls may be walking around the halls at the same time with some sort of sport related injury.

Senior Tylar Young, a varsity basketball player, tore her Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) in the middle of her junior year basketball season.

"My ACL kept me from playing for a while because my knee was no longer stable," Tylar said.

Being unable to play a sport is something that is difficult for athletes to accept.

"I cried a lot of times because I wanted to play so much and I couldn't," Tylar said. "I was angry at times, but I was always there to support my team."

Senior Carley Ferguson, varsity soccer player, has had many injuries, ranging from concussions to stitches in her head to spraining her Medial Collateral Ligament (MCL).

"It has affected me emotionally. It is difficult to miss any practices or games, especially when it is for an extended period of time," Carley said.

Many go to physical therapy to work on the injury, and seeing progress often helps injured athletes to see that they really can recover.

"Without physical therapy, I wouldn't be playing right now. It helped me to regain strength," Tylar said.

For many athletes who play team sports, teammates are an important part to mental recovery.

"To cope with sitting out, I focus on helping my team by supporting them as much as I can," Carley said.

Once both physical and emotional wounds have healed, the memory of the injury stays. For many, the risk of another physical injury is too high, but the fear of another injury also plays a role.

"The idea of getting re-injured is intimidating," Carley said. "It takes some time to strengthen the injury and be 100% again."

Many athletes have their own methods to cope with their injuries, and with the help of others, they can make a full mental, physical and emotional recovery.

Snapshot



Freshman Baleigh Fleck, a member of NDA's Blue bowling team, puts force into her release as she rolls the bowling ball down the lane. NDA's Blue and Gold bowling teams compete at Southwyck Lanes weekly. Photo by Haley DeKeyser

Gym Reviews

Gyms Toughen Teenagers

LEXI AUGHENBAUGH

Many NDA girls work hard to keep healthy figures, but the question is which local gym presents the best fitness opportunities?

Among the various athletic facilities around Toledo, the gyms most commonly attended by NDA students include Urban Active Fitness, the YMCA of Greater Toledo and Synergy Sports & Fitness. Cost, quality, location and exercise programs are a few considerations to remember when choosing a good gym.

Although a membership at **Urban Active Fitness** is expensive, this gym has several pros. It has convenient locations in Toledo, Maumee and Perrysburg, making it easy to access because of its close distance. Also, Urban is prized for having machinery of great quality.

Among the extravagancies of the two-story building in Toledo, Urban Active includes an indoor track, a swimming pool, a basketball court, a racquetball court, a women's exercise room, a cycling room, tanning beds and various yoga rooms for special programs.

Most of the programs, such as cycling and yoga classes, are enjoyable and enhance a person's physical fitness.

The **YMCA**, like Urban, is a great gym because of its many nearby locations in Toledo, Perrysburg and

Oregon. The YMCA of Greater Toledo has a lot of quality equipment such as treadmills, exercise machinery, a swimming pool and a racquetball court.

The YMCA, along with a good facility and affordable membership, also has a virtuous mission dedicated to youth development, health and responsibility.

However, one noticeable con at the Y is the great amount of children at this facility.

It makes it difficult to find open machines or have silence in the pool. On a positive note, the instructors are tolerable of the children and encourage them to stay active.

Located only in Toledo, **Synergy Sports & Fitness** is a beneficial gym in that it is known for its excellent exercise programs. It can help athletes achieve their goals through programs such as performance training, tennis, volleyball and weightlifting. Dance, aerobics, Pilates, spinning and personal training classes are offered as well.

Synergy provides all its members with exercise machines, weights, a volleyball court, an indoor basketball court and a running track.

This gym is convenient for athletes that seek personal attention to reach a more competitive level in their sport.

When choosing which gym to attend, NDA students should focus on which facility best toughens teens.

Mandating Vaccine Would Protect, Punish HPV Vaccine Saves Lives ↻ Crosstalk ↻ HPV Vaccine Stabs at Freedom

BRIANNE SZYMANSKI

EMILY THOMAS

Look at the girls sitting around you; about 1 in 4 of you will be affected by an STD and possibly cervical cancer.

It is estimated that 80 percent of all men and women will be infected with Human Papillomavirus (HPV) in their lifetime, and nearly 4,000 women per year die of HPV induced cervical cancer.

That is far more deaths than those caused by mumps or chicken pox, whose vaccines were mandated over 5 years ago. Yet, vast numbers of people are opposed to a compulsory HPV vaccine that would reduce cervical cancer by 80 percent in about 25 years.

HPV vaccines such as Gardasil and Cervarix undergo extensive safety testing before being licensed. Once in circulation, careful monitoring continues to ensure effectiveness and security.

Vaccinations have not been known to cause death or serious adverse effects. Why risk lives to HPV to avoid the slight chance of side effects that are even prevalent with vaccinations for the common flu?

Many objections arise from emotional and moral standpoints, arguing that mandating the vaccine is an infringement on rights. However, most proposed laws authorize parents to refuse to have their daughter vaccinated if they are strongly opposed to it; they must simply manifest their denial, as is permissible with all government mandates.

These vaccines cannot treat or fully protect everyone, but they guard against the causes of 75 percent of all cervical cancers. While these drugs do have minor flaws, they still save lives. Moreover, the CDC and the FDA recommend vaccination of all girls, proving it to be safe and effective.

A mandatory HPV vaccine will merely help prevent you and your friends from becoming a statistic.

Though Gov. Rick Perry has admitted that mandating the HPV vaccine in Texas through executive order was a mistake, his doing so and the idea of mandating the vaccine nationwide has caused great controversy.

The mandating of the HPV vaccine would be an infringement on the freedoms Americans are granted when it comes to parental rights and financial decisions.

Requiring an HPV vaccine would be far different from requiring a vaccination for illnesses like chicken pox.

Unlike diseases such as chicken pox, HPV cannot be spread via common activities such as touching a doorknob.

It is an STD, transmitted through sexual activity only, and mandating this vaccine would infringe on parents' rights to make decisions regarding their child's sexual health.

Parents of the 50 percent of teens who are not sexually active would be forced to vaccinate their child even though it is not necessary.

This would be expensive and force parents to talk to their child about the protections of the vaccine. This would add to the exposure of younger children to information about sexual activity.

Mandating the injection could cause great stress on those who fear the side effects of HPV vaccines such as Gardasil.

Gardasil has been shown to have serious side effects, such as in the case for Gabby Swank.

After receiving the Gardasil shot, she went from straight-A student to missing school on a regular basis due to illness and neurological problems her doctor attributed as reactions to the vaccine.

Gardasil promises kids "one less," but mandating HPV vaccines could make them "one more" child who has to suffer the consequences of someone else's poor decision.

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Editor's Corner

Hey, Eagles!

I would like to congratulate everyone involved in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. I am proud of you all for putting on such a great show! Fall sports scored big as well. Let's carry this momentum into the winter sports season!

Enjoy this jeans and sweatshirt weather while it lasts because pretty soon, our teeth will be chattering in the snow. As Thanksgiving approaches, be thankful for all we are blessed with, and do not forget about those who may not be as fortunate. The approaching holiday season will offer plenty of opportunities to help out the community!

To my fellow seniors, get pumped for Kairos!

Women: Learn to Stand on Feet before Being Swept Off Them

In a world where it seems like more relationships end rather than last, women need to be independent before they trust a man.

This is not meant to insinuate that all relationships end, and women should prepare for the worst. The fact is that a woman should *want* to be with a man, not *need* to be with him.

Having this outlook protects a woman from entering a downward spiral if she breaks up with a man that she depended on for more than love and affection.

Part of being an independent woman is finding one's identity. Women must form a strong sense of self and be confident in who they are as individuals to truly fend for themselves successfully, in or out of a relationship.

To establish one's own identity, women can have their own hobbies and careers. This will lead women to form their own goals and aspirations, giving them something to work toward that helps define them separately from their relationship with men.

It is important for women to maintain a sense of self by engaging in activities that make them unique and happy.

Working at a hobby, career or goal enables a woman to have time to herself or with friends, away from her significant other.

Wrapping up all of one's time in a man is simply an unhealthy way to live one's life. If a woman spends all of her time with her boyfriend or spouse, she

will begin to lose sight of who she is and what is important to her.

Females should always have something to fall back on that will allow them to support themselves.

An education is an excellent safety net that is invaluable in today's competitive society. If a woman has a good education, she will have the ability to score a decent job and support herself financially.

Being financially stable and being able to live on one's own are important points for a woman to check off of her list before she lets a man into her life.

One of the worst things that can happen when a relationship falls apart is that the woman suddenly feels lost, not knowing how to take care of herself.

If a man leaves a woman for any reason, she should be able to fall back on the independence that she worked hard to build for herself.

Even if a woman is in a healthy, happy relationship, she should maintain her own goals, friendships and activities so that she can maintain her sense of self and independence.

Being an independent woman is not about having a pessimistic view of the outcome of relationships. It has to do with being an empowered, productive member of society that is able to support oneself, instead of relying on a man for everything.

Women are too powerful to be defined by and completely dependent on men.

An Eagle's View

Respect for Body, Respect for Self

BREANN MCDEDE

In today's society, a person can walk down the street and see a 12-year-old girl wearing a belly shirt and short shorts, with glitter rubbed on her face and body. She could even be seen grinding and twerking at a junior high dance. Why is this considered acceptable?

"The times they are a-changin'," as Bob Dylan once wrote. What would have seemed outrageous 30 years ago is now considered the norm.

As the years go by, younger and younger generations are becoming more inappropriate, improper and indecent.

What was once considered risqué is now considered acceptable.

Ladies of NDA, you do not have to follow this so-called norm.

NDA Women of Vision are individuals who do not follow a path, but rather make their own.

Fashion trends cannot be stopped. Once they begin, they gather many followers, those who are willing to buy and wear just about anything to be up to date.

While a mini skirt which barely covers one's leg might seem like the trendy choice, it is not the respectable one.

It is giving others the go-ahead to stare at parts of your body which are not meant to be seen.

At NDA, respecting your own body is stressed to its fullest, and wearing revealing clothing is not respecting your body.

Another growing problem in the culture of today's youth is the dance moves. More and more inappropriate dance moves are popping up all over the place. What ever happened to the Electric Slide?

This not only disrespects your own body, but it also shows disrespect to those around you who are trying to enjoy a nice dance.

Next time, mix up your dances moves and incorporate appropriate dancing at a school dance. It will not only help you gain self-respect, but it will also prove to be a lot more fun.

Women around the world are disrespected and degraded through their bodies. Here at NDA, we can make a difference by standing up and saying no to trends and yes to self-respect.

Cheers and Jeers

It's important for NDA girls to keep on top of what's happening today, so here are the best and the worst of some of the most recent current events.



Cheers to beta blockers which, based on a Great Britain study, possibly reduce the metastasis of breast cancer.



Jeers to BP for continuing deep-water drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, even after the oil crisis on June 25, 2010.



Cheers to future plans to turn the Springfield Health Department into an employment facility for those with disabilities.



Jeers to the ever-growing national debt, reaching almost \$15 trillion and still counting.



Cheers to the upcoming holiday break and spending time with the family for Thanksgiving.



Jeers to the anxiety of seniors waiting for college acceptance letters!

Speaker Leah Darrow Models Modesty

LEXI AUGHENBAUGH

On Nov. 10, 2011 former model Leah Darrow will be speaking at Notre Dame Academy about the issues of modesty, chastity, dignity and mercy.

Ms. Darrow was once a contestant on the popular reality TV show *America's Next Top Model* and later became a professional model.

However, her career as a model came to a close after her spiritual conversion during a photo shoot, which she now speaks about across the world.

Before starring on *America's Next Top Model*, Ms. Darrow attended the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where she achieved a few main accomplishments including earning a bachelor's degree in psychology, graduating with Magna cum Laude honors and also becoming the President of the Psychology Honor Society, Psi Chi.

Currently in the Institute of Pastoral Theology program (IPT) at Ave Maria University, Ms. Darrow is working on earning her Masters in Pastoral Theology.

She is also a full-time apologist for Catholic Answers, meaning she practices the defense of the Christian faith and reveals the inaccuracies of non-Christian religions.

According to www.chastity.com, Ms. Darrow said, "When I dressed immodestly, modeled immodestly, it told those around me that I was a party girl, there for a good time and had very few boundaries [or] limits. I attracted people, friends, job, boyfriends, etc. that also behaved in this same way. This makes perfect sense; when you believe in garbage logic, all you get is garbage.

"After my reversion, I chose to allow Christ to change me, although I didn't think Jesus was a fashionista! As a fashion model, one of the things that defines us, is our clothes—what we wear and how we wear it."

Ms. Darrow strives to show her listeners the importance of love, happiness and dignity, which she speaks about with humor and passion. She focuses on her lifestyle choices and relates the power of clothing to the



Former model Leah Darrow will be speaking about modesty at NDA. Photo provided by www.leahdarrow.com.

message she communicates about God.

"Our culture today tends to treat women like objects, but women also buy into this by what they wear. The key to chastity and protecting ourselves from being objectified begins with modesty," theology teacher Mrs. Kelly Reed said.

Ms. Darrow's seminar will be a positive reminder to the students of Notre Dame Academy on how to follow the way of Christ while also informing girls how to stay in touch with their style, modesty and classiness.

Inside Scoop on NDA's Theology Retreats

HALEY DEKEYSER

NDA students have the opportunity every year to switch up how they reflect on their faith by participating in one of NDA's retreats.

Each grade level has its own unique retreat. However, all four retreats have one thing in common: they offer a welcoming setting to express and grow in one's faith while strengthening bonds with fellow classmates.

Link leaders conduct freshman retreat. Freshmen come into school for one day and participate in a variety of activities focusing on faith and friendship.

"Freshman retreat helped the freshmen class come together as one and become familiar with each other," senior link leader Haley McPartland said.

Freshmen start the day off at Mass. From there, they work on a scavenger hunt, participate in a question and answer session with their link leaders and write down their feelings throughout the retreat in a prayer journal. To top off the day, a prayer service is held in each link crew.

"My favorite part about the retreat was the prayer service in the gym because it made us all a lot closer after we shared a



Senior link leader Haley McPartland bonds with freshman Sarah Gardner on freshman retreat as they decorate prayer journals. Photo by Haley DeKeyser

lot of stuff about ourselves," freshman Erin Delaney said.

Following freshman year, sophomores participate in a service-based retreat. Each sophomore theology class travels to a different location where they help out those in need in the community.

"Even though it may seem like you are not doing a lot, you are actually making a big impact on many people. You should not slack off," junior Olivia Miller said.

Food banks, soup kitchens and nursing homes are just a few of the places

sophomores volunteer at on this retreat.

"Sophomore retreat helped me to realize it is not about what you have in life; it is what you make of it. Helping those kids made me realize all of the small things that I take advantage of, and it made me really grateful," junior Madison Shindorf said.

Junior year, students are divided into groups and travel to one of three different retreat centers where they stay overnight.

On this retreat, juniors share their stories and learn about their classmates on a deeper level.

"Junior retreat was a bonding experience for the whole class, no matter who you were with. I gained a better insight on who everyone really is in my class," senior Maegan Cline said.

NDA students complete their final retreat, known as Kairos, on the four days leading up to Thanksgiving. The events that occur during Kairos are kept a secret until seniors experience it for themselves.

"Have an open mind. Do not anticipate; participate. Do not worry about what everyone else will think about you. You are all feeling the same way," senior Kairos leader Lindsay Wisniewski said.

Literature Beats “Based-on-Book” Movies

BREANN MCDEDE

Book lovers all around rejoice when their favorite novel is made into a film, finally receiving the chance to see the characters and scenes come alive on a screen. However, one thing remains: the book is always better than its movie.

Here at NDA, many girls enjoy both reading and watching movies. They do both in many of their classes by first reading a novel and then watching the movie based on the novel.

In Mrs. Gallaher’s AP English class, seniors read *The House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton, and watched the movie.

“In the book [*The House of Mirth*], the characters were so much better than in the movie,” senior Tori Zajac said. “I imagined them differently, and that definitely had a huge influence on why the book was better than the movie.”

Many believe that books are better than the movies based on them because of the changes that are occasionally made in films, which differ from books.

“In *Where the Red Fern Grows*, they changed a lot in the movie. Once you read a book, you expect the movie to be the same,” sophomore Rachael Cannon said.

The actors that directors cast in films

also make an impact on the viewer’s opinion.

“The actors play a huge role in whether or not I like a movie that was made from a book,” senior Jae Huth said. “If it is not who I picture, it is just a huge let



Freshman Ellie Lepkowski reads *Romeo and Juliet* before watching the movie in English class. Photo by Breann McDeDe

down.”

Another reason why people believe books are better than the movies is the fact that the characters have thoughts which the reader knows about, but movies rarely include those thoughts.

“Books show characters’ thoughts and emotions,” English teacher Ms. Lindsay Sutton said. “They take the time to

develop internal conflict, but movies cannot do that.”

One of the most popular examples of literature made into a film is the *Harry Potter* series.

The discussion of whether the *Harry Potter* books or movies are better is an on-going debate. Many have strong opinions on which they believe is best.

“I just imagined *Harry Potter* so differently when I was younger and read the books, from when I watch the movies,” Tori said. “I think that they commercialize the movies a lot, and the books just were not commercialized in that way, which I think makes a difference.”

The strong consensus among many is that one’s own imaginations are better than what Hollywood movie producers create.

While reading a book, the mind has to come up with what one believes the words are describing, but movies do not allow one to do that.

“There is so much more detail in a book,” Rachael said. “Movies do not give you the true meaning or the full effect that a good, old-fashioned book does.”

Use YouTube Your Way: Make Videos, Cash

EMILY THOMAS

With the economy in disarray, and unemployment rising, the girls of NDA are always looking for creative ways to make money.

When looking high and low, they often forget opportunities right in front of their eyes, such as the videosharing site YouTube.

“I first created a YouTube account to track different videos and to make playlists so I could show my friends and use them for educational purposes. Later on, I used it to share videos of my own,” Video Editing Club moderator and YouTube user Mr. Matthew McEwen said.

While many NDA girls use the video-sharing sight to listen to music or post funny videos of their friends, few utilize it for money making purposes.

This may be because people do not think about cashing in on their videos.

“I think people are aware that it happens, but they do not really realize that they personally could make money off of their own YouTube videos,” Video

Editing Club President Julia Chandler said.

There are a few basic ways for NDA girls to use YouTube as a source of some income.

The easiest of these is through allowing advertisements to be displayed on popular videos they have created and posted.

“If a video is deemed popular/viral, YouTube will contact the creator about running an ad on the video at the bottom of it or before it. Then, for every so many people that see the ad, the creator will receive some of the ad revenue,” Mr. McEwen said.

However, there are some exceptions even for extremely viral videos.

According to Mr. McEwen, if a video contains a popular song or movie clip there is little likelihood of eligibility for revenue sharing because of various copyright issues.

A less common method of earning revenue is by having a contract with YouTube.

“To get a YouTube contract, a person

has to have done enough awesome videos that YouTube will actually hire you,” Mr. McEwen said.

Another much more difficult way to make money through YouTube is for a girl to post a video of herself or her friends performing, and then be discovered by a talent scout or agent.

“I think one of the main reasons I post videos on YouTube is in the hope that they get discovered or get some kind of reaction,” Julia said.

While very rare, this can occur for a few very lucky, very talented people, such as, pop star Justin Bieber.

He was discovered by music mogul Usher who saw YouTube videos that showed Justin performing.

He now has a multi-million dollar recording contract, a movie, a book about him, and an incredibly expansive fan base.

For those girls with a passion for creativity, YouTube and the many opportunities it provides, can help to turn an everyday hobby into a great source of cash.

Holy Toledo!

BREANN MCDEDE

What's Happening at Catholic Schools around Toledo?

What is the best part of the Thanksgiving meal?



"Having all of my extended family come together and being able to spend quality time with each other."

Jami Huth, NDA Freshman



"Definitely the stuffing. It is usually only served around Thanksgiving, and it tastes so good with mashed potatoes."

Sydney Pickett, SUA Sophomore



"Smashing on the mashed potatoes and gravy!"

Robert Goldsmith, SFS Junior



"Enjoying a delicious meal with family. Nothing feels better than to devour a whole turkey with your closest relatives."

Rhett Davidson, SJJ Senior

Alum Spotlight

HALEY DEKEYSER

Abby Beham, NDA '09 alum, is really going places—literally and figuratively.

Last June, Abby traveled to Ireland for a week with three other female classmates to present research at an international conference attended by mainly English professors.

"We were the only undergraduate students presenting, so that was really amazing," Abby said.

They presented the research they conducted using digital technology in their class titled "From Amazon to YouTube." Abby snatched this opportunity as one of the first to respond to the announcement of the trip.

"[At NDA], I learned never to pass up an opportunity that might help me grow as a person," Abby said.

Abby, an architecture major at Miami University, continues to immerse herself in new cultures as she is studying abroad in Australia this semester.

"After traveling so much this past year, I caught the bug—I want to see the world," Abby said.



Ms. Abby Beham '09

Elders Elicit Affection, Insight

BRIANNE SZYMANKSKI

Whether we need a sage to provide an adage, fresh-baked cookies or a new knit sweater, our grandparents always have a special reserved place in our hearts.

"I love that my grandfather is always there to support me and he takes everything that I say seriously. I can always rely on him to help back me up when I need it," freshman Lilly Richter said.

However, with age not only comes experience, but also some meritorious quirks.

"I admire my grandparent's spunk and sense of humor. Though they do not make sense 99.9 percent of the time, they always put out what they are thinking and are not concerned about others judging them," senior Rebecca Funke said.

With our parents harping on us to get our homework done, complete our chores and eat our vegetables, sometimes what every girl needs is someone who refuses to say no: our favorite elders with a propensity to spoil us.

"I usually spend time with my grandparents by going to over their houses. While I am there, we always eat way too many desserts and end up playing cards late into the night," junior Emily Held said.

Being addressed by charming terms of endearment and listening to the wisdom acquired from generations so different from our own not only gives us new perspectives, it strengthens our family bonds.


"What sets my grandparents apart from other grandparents is that they treat me like an adult. They never treat me like a baby and converse with me based on my level of understanding. They're never afraid to introduce things to me that I haven't learned yet because they feel this is the best way to a higher education. I love them so much!" Lilly said.


It is the simple things in life we love, and the simple things we take for granted. We should cherish the time we have with our grandparents and let them know how truly important they are.





EAGLE SHOUT OUT

EMILY THOMAS

 The Varsity Soccer Team defeated St. Ursula's team for the first time since 2000.

 Senior Megan Herr's chalk pastel flower was honored with the Principal's award and a monetary prize.

 Varsity Tennis qualified for the State Team Tournament and JV Tennis won the Three Rivers Athletic Conference Co-Championship.

 The Eagles Varsity Cross Country Team won the league/conference championship for a tenth consecutive year.