



Pallotti

## St. Vincent Pallotti High School E-Newsletter

December 2008

A Monthly E-Publication Featuring People, News, and Events In & Around Pallotti High School

### Holiday crowd, shoppers enjoy Christmas at Pallotti

#### Panther says 'Ho, ho, ho!'

Even the Pallotti Panther gets into the holiday spirit during the school's annual Christmas at Pallotti festival, held here at school on Wednesday, December 10.



The evening featured the Tree of Lights ceremony, the Pallotti Chorus, and a shoppers emporium.

#### Tree of Lights honors & remembers

Central to the evening was the lighting of the school's Christmas tree, on which members of the Pallotti community are both honored and memorialized by an individual light on the tree. The reading of the names was done by students **Danika Allen** and **Michael Florenzo**.



#### Chorus hits high holiday notes



Under the direction of **Mr. Saunders Allen** and **Ms. Kelli Young** (pictured), the Pallotti Chorus treated a large crowd in the school gym to a wonderful evening of Christmas and holiday performances.

Our thanks to Mr. Allen for the hours spent decorating the school!

#### Emporium caters to shoppers

Over 23 vendors turned out to participate in the first ever Holiday Shoppers Emporium. Many thanks to event coordinator **Linda Anderson** for her tireless efforts.

(Pictured) Justin Dean & members of the Junior class wrap presents at the emporium.



### Middle States Team awards Pallotti with the gold!



Pallotti President/Principal **Mr. Steve Edmonds** recently received notification that the school has received a Gold Standard 10 year accreditation from the Middle State Association of Secondary Schools.

Members of the Middle States accreditation team visited Pallotti last spring along with members of AIMS (Association of Independent Maryland Schools).

## Pallotti's Downs honored as 'Outstanding Soldier'



Pallotti alumnus **James P. Downs '02** (referred to by his middle name, Patrick, during his days here) has been honored by the U.S. Army as an Outstanding Soldier of the Cycle along with four other of his classmates from his platoon.

Each platoon of a graduating company nominates one individual to appear before a board of cadre. Nominees are questioned on military subjects and current events. They are also judged on personal appearance and general knowledge. The board then selects the one soldier who has outstanding qualities of leadership, competence, and discipline.

Congratulations to Patrick on his honor and for his service. Pictured at left, Patrick's father **Thomas** serves on Pallotti's Board.

## Pallotti claims victory in 'It's Academic Laurel'



In a battle of the only two high schools actually located within the city limits of Laurel, Pallotti defeated Laurel High School in the city's It's Academic Laurel contest. Pictured at left, social studies teacher **Mr. Gerald Connolly** holds the championship trophy.

Sponsored by the city, the contest pitted six students from each school against one another in a trivia contest about the city history of Laurel. The teams were given 30 seconds to answer a question, with five points awarded for each correct response. Pallotti prevailed by a score of 79-43.

The six students representing Pallotti were all members of Mr. Connolly's Honors American Government class: **Jonathan T. Noland**, **Paul Nycz**, **Christine Palmeter**, **Paolo Perez-Howard**, **Peter Vassiliou** and **Keegan Woche**.

## Senior Carly Van Zanten signs letter of intent to Jacksonville



Senior girls lacrosse player **Carly Van Zanten** recently signed a Letter of Intent to play collegiately at the University of Jacksonville, a Division I school in Florida.

Pictured at left, President/Principal **Steve Edmonds** holds up a Jacksonville sweatshirt and Carly is holding her newly signed Letter of Intent. A signing ceremony was held here at the school.

Also of particular note, Senior Defender **Jazzmine Chandler** was named to the girl's soccer 2nd team all-metro squad by the Baltimore Sun. Jazzmine received honorable mention by the Washington Post.

## State of the art Matlamp installed for wrestlers



Through the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. Angelo Falcone, a new \$5,000 state of the art Matlamp was recently installed in the gymnasium (pictured at left). Developed by two former wrestling coaches in Oregon, the Matlamp focuses all attention on the wrestlers and creates an exciting environment for matches.

The 400 watt halogen lamp lowers electronically from the ceiling as is the only light in use during matches.

"There are not many schools in the State who have this," claims Pallotti's VP of Operations, Mr. Rick Diggs. "The kids on the team are extremely excited!"

## Boy's basketball team sprints out to 6-1 start



Under the leadership of coach Shae Johnson and senior guard Leon Porter, the boy's basketball team is off to an impressive 6-1 start on the season. Porter (pictured at left) dropped in a season high 39 points in a victory over Annapolis Area Christian. The team's lone loss of the season came in a closely contested battle versus John Carroll, with the Panthers being edged out by a final score of 75-72.

The team's next game is at home this Friday afternoon at 4:00PM versus St. Mary's.

## 2009 Spring Spectacular

### Donate an item today or win a free tuition!



Pallotti's 2009 Spring Spectacular Live & Silent Auction, *an Evening on the Emerald Isle*, is fast approaching (March 14 at Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville).

The Procurement Committee is eagerly accepting item donations for both the live and silent auctions. Tickets are also now on sale to win a free tuition for the 2009-2010 school year.

Please visit the [AUCTION WEBSITE](#) today!

## Christmas season makes Pallotti Families stop to give 'paws'



Paws for Pallotti, a student club devoted to promoting the well-being of animals in our local community, just concluded its annual drive to collect unused items for animals from Pallotti families. These items will be passed along to animal shelters in Prince Georges, Anne Arundel, and Howard counties.

"Once again we were overwhelmed by the tremendous response from our community," stated club moderator Mrs. Nina Gass (pictured at left with co-moderator Ms. Kelly Hawse, along with the many items donated).

Formed just two years ago, the club now has over 20 members.

## Sophomore Rachel Bacarella, a member of Mrs. Sefton's photography class, took this incredible picture of Pallotti wrestler Nate Tharp attempting to pin an opponent from a recent match.



The St. Vincent Pallotti High School E-Newsletter is published monthly by the school's Office for Advancement. We actively encourage our readers to submit suggestions for articles on newsmaking members of the Pallotti community. Please direct suggestions or comments to Joe McCall, Director for Advancement (email: [jmccall@pallottihs.org](mailto:jmccall@pallottihs.org) phone: 301-725-3228 x213).

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