



# the Amity

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peaceful relations, friendship

Queen of Peace High School Burbank, IL

November 24,  
2008

Volume 32,  
Issue 2

# The Many Faces of Spirit Week



Inside *The Amity*

## NEWS



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**Career Week 2008**

**“When I grow up, I want to . . .”**

**BY SIMONA JURCIK**  
REPORTER

Career Week is a special time when students get to explore different career options with the help of guidance counselors and “Career Cruiser,” an interactive web-based career exploration program used in over 13,000 schools across North America that produces personalized career options based on an interest inventory .

Juniors, sophomores and frosh all utilized this program to learn about different jobs, educational requirements, and earning potential. In addition, all teachers took a day to introduce students to careers pertaining to the class they



teach, some even debunking myths about their subject. Mr. Layton, for example, showed students how English majors can actually make a lot of money in advertising, sales and marketing.

Even though most students find this process helpful, others claim that it's just a time-waster. As one senior put it, “I'm going to study nutrition in college, and I'd like to take time to research that field exclusively.” Other girls felt that they were losing valuable time researching a career that they have no interest in. But what if there are some interesting careers that might be missed if you didn't learn about it in class? Students should keep an open mind and learn about their options.

**Engineering a Future at IIT**

**BY YASMEEN ABDELLATIF**  
REPORTER

What is engineering? Why is it important? Is it a career that could actually be right for me? For the students of all physics and engineering classes, these questions and many more were answered in the first of hopefully many Queen of Peace trips to IIT.

The day started off with remarks from an IIT professor and successful engineers who were also Queen of Peace graduates. The speakers talked about their engineering experiences and how they came to be engineers, and then answered questions from the students.

The students were then split into groups for fun and educational activities that ranged from building balloon towers to making robots, all to teach about the different aspects of engineering. After lunch, the day ended with inspirational words from a Queen of Peace alum reminding the students that they can pursue any career they want.



**Seniors Theresa Yerkes and Amanda Ranftl work on their robot.**

Everyone agreed that it was an eye-opening experience. “The IIT field trip was fun and educational,” frosh Anastacia Favela explained.

Who knows? In a couple of years one of the students who went to the trip this year might be one of the successful engineering speakers!

**First Frosh Retreat =**

**FUN**

**BY YASMEEN ABDELLATIF**  
REPORTER

How do you relieve the stress of the first quarter of your first year of high school? What do you do to come to terms with your new life filled with new classes and new faces, tough tests and confusing schedules? And who will ever forget the dreaded “locker angst”?!



**Seniors Jaime Monreal and Ariel Cisneros lead the frosh on retreat.**

You go to the frosh retreat of course! On September 6-8, the Frosh participated in their first ever Queen of Peace retreat hosted by Campus Minister Ms. Kathleen Greenan. Each day of the retreat, a group of frosh met in the Ruffner Room wearing comfy clothes and carrying only a purse – not a uniform or laptop in sight!

The day was filled with fun games and activities like group poster making, Boggle, and purse races. The retreat was not all fun and games however; a lot of time was spent in small groups reflecting about our experiences at Queen of Peace so far, the things we are worried about, and even our own relationships with God. Exercises included praying with M&Ms and putting on skits. The day ended with a prayer service led by Ms. Greenan and all the retreat ministers.

# Vote, Vote, Vote, Vote, Vote, Vote, VOTE!



Seniors Anna Tucker and Erin Gallagher as John McCain and Sarah Palin

**BY ARIEL ALONSO**  
NEWS EDITOR

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, Americans across the country went to the polls to elect Barack Obama as their new President – and so did the students and faculty at Peace, participating in a “mock election” where over 90% of students and faculty cast ballots. The Democrat ticket was the winner with Senator Barack Obama and Senator Joe Biden receiving 70.5% (408 votes) and Senator John McCain and Governor Sarah Palin with 29.5% (171 votes).

Senior Kara Zuro said, “Never have I learned so much about politics until American Government and this election. It was a very interesting and fun process. Not only did I learn about our very own government but also about myself

and my classmates. Every student in Ms. Cruse’s government classes put so much effort into their work and each contributed to our success.”

Just like the real election, the mock election at Peace was the culmination of weeks of hard campaigning, including posters, campaign stops in home room classes, locker decorations, opinion polls, and rallies for each candidate. Perhaps the most demanding activity for the students was the debates where students on both sides spent hours of research developing position

papers and rehearsing responses to questions posed by the moderators and the students in the audience. Each class nominated students to represent each candidate. Amanda Ranftl, Abby Point and Joy Jones represented Senator Barack Obama, and Jaclyn Kantecki, Rebecca Solofra and Anna Tucker stood in for John McCain. Tania Stanford, Alicia Gonzalez and Nancy Estrada played the role of Vice Presidential running mate Senator Joe Biden, and Governor Sarah Palin was represented by Nicole Maes, Kaitlyn Seldal and Erin Gallagher.

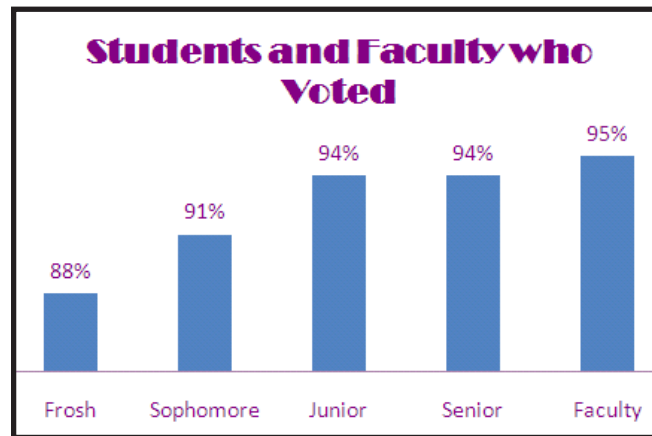
“Everyone did so much for these campaigns. The amount of creativity, dedication and hard work put forth by everyone was just amazing to me. I honestly didn’t think that



Seniors Nancy Estrada and Joy Jones as Joe Biden and Barack Obama

ultly also voted.

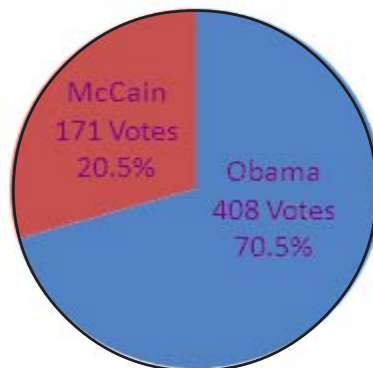
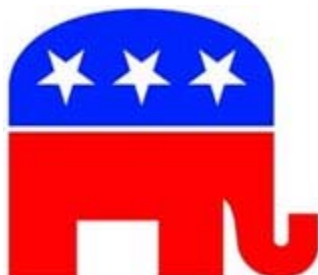
Senior Tania Stanford expressed the opinion of many in the school about the results. “I was so happy and excited when Barack Obama was elected the next president of the United States of America. I was happy to be able to see this moment when the first African American became president. This election is definitely historic, a moment that I will never forget and that I will tell my children and grandchildren about. Barack Obama has brought unity to the United States. I believe that our generation can put the dream of Martin Luther King, Jr. into action. ‘Yes, we can!’ We can all get along and put aside our differences to learn about each other. Barack Obama and his family have inspired me and many others across the United States.”



papers and rehearsing responses to questions posed by the moderators and the students in the audience.

Each class nominated students to represent each candidate. Amanda Ranftl, Abby Point and Joy Jones repre-

many people even cared about politics, so I was really surprised by the enthusiasm,” said senior Anna Tucker. Out of each class, 88% of the frosh voted, 91% of the sophomores, and 94% of both the juniors and seniors. 95% of the fac-



## “Day of the Dead” Part of Hispanic Culture

BY COLLEEN RUSSELL  
REPORTER

The Day of the Dead was first celebrated centuries ago in Mexico and has since spread to parts of Central America as well as the United States.

Rooted in ancient Aztec culture, this holiday has merged with Catholic traditions and theology surrounding All Saints Day and All Souls Day. The day is spent remembering family and friends who are de-



A “Day of the Dead” altar features photos of deceased family members, along with other traditional decorations.

ceased.

Traditions differ from region to region and even from family to family. In tra-

ditional societies, families gather at grave sites to pray and remember the deceased. In addition,

people build altars to honor the deceased. Sugar skulls, marigolds, and other food and drinks are traditional items. November 1st is when deceased children and infants are remembered. This day is also referred to as Día de los Inocentes.

Although this celebration takes place right after Halloween, they are not alike because the Day of the Dead is about respecting and remembering the deceased.

## Food Drive Part of Spirit Week

BY ARIEL ALONSO  
NEWS EDITOR

According to America’s Second Harvest (now known as “Feeding America”), 6 out of 10 children in America and 15.4% of Illinois children face food insecurity, a term that refers to the lack of access to enough food to fully meet basic needs at all times due to lack of financial resources.

This year, Queen of Peace students joined the archdiocese in support of a food drive in honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Amate House, a young adult volunteer program in the archdiocese.

This food drive helped meet the increasing need for food at city and archdiocesan food banks and brought awareness to the need to help feed all of Chicago’s poorer resi-

dents.

The goal of Amate House was to raise at least 25 tons of food to be distributed to local food pantries. Many parishes, colleges, universities, and high schools including Queen of Peace participated in the food drive.

The food that Queen of Peace collected was directed to the food pantry at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, a local pantry that receives regular support from the Queen of Peace community.

Since the drive lasted through November 1, it allowed Queen of Peace students to focus on the event during Spirit Week and turned the drive into an all-class competition. As the winning class, the seniors got to sit in the front row at the Faculty Assembly.



## Seniors Rest — Others Test!

BY YASMEEN ABDELLATIF  
REPORTER

National Testing Day was October 15, and after three and a half exhausting hours, the question on the minds of most students was – WHY! ?

In fact, these tests are actually important. The Explore test for frosh, the Plan test for sophomores, and the Online Practice ACT test for the juniors prepare students for the future tests that really count.

But perhaps even more important, they can also provide some possible career options. The results may not be 100% accurate, but they can open student’s eyes to careers that they may never even have heard of.

Who knows? Taking this test can be the first step in finding that dream job!

## Get your Peace Brand™ Sneakers

BY VICTORIA  
VANCOEVORDEN  
REPORTER

One of the most effective ways to recruit new students are "Sneaker Days," when Queen of Peace opens the doors to seventh and eighth grade girls from area elementary schools.

So far this year, over 200 girls have experienced the life of Peace students as they "shadow" their hosts, following them throughout the day to their classes where they introduce themselves and are warmly welcomed by teachers and students.

Although many shadows sit quietly, others actively participate in class activities and contribute to class discussions.

Usually, shadows return to the cafeteria at 2:15 p.m. to go home, but on October 13, they stayed to watch Queen of Peace's spectacular Faculty Assembly.

As seventh grade shadow Elizabeth Vancoevorden put it, "I really enjoyed the atmosphere at Peace and the friendliness of all the students."

## Faculty "Olympians" Compete for Laughs



The faculty has just as much fun putting on the show as the students do watching it.

BY MICHELLE KNAPCZYK  
REPORTER

In addition to what they come up with in their classroom, every year the faculty finds new ways to entertain the students at the Faculty Assembly, a decades-old tradition where each department creates a skit around a common theme, which this year was the summer Olympics.

Our administration hula hooped into the gym dancing to the Olympic theme song. Then the "Olympic Torch" was lighted, and the competition began, but not before the Fine Arts Department introduced the celebrity judges, who looked an

awful lot like Mr. Bell, Ms. Hansen, Ms. Saylor, and Ms. Ziemba, even though the students were assured that it was really Michael Phelps, Nastia Liukin, Dara Torres and Jennie Finch on stage.

The language teachers, dancing to the "Flight of the Bumblebees," ran the "Amazing Race" from Mexico City to Paris. The counselors, dancing to "Leaving" by Jesse McCartney, counseled the losing "athletes."

The science teachers did synchronized lab experiments, the math teachers had a "slowest pi(e) eating contest," and the English department staged a

"ROWing" Contest (Reading, Organizing, and Writing). The religion teachers wrapped gifts, but instead of wrapping gifts, Mr. D rapped the "Fresh Prince of Belle-Air" theme song. And the social studies teachers dressed up as Barack Obama, Joe Biden, John McCain, and Sarah Palin, comically presenting information on the candidates for both sides while dancing to "Walk this Way" to persuade the voter (Ms. Owens) to take their side.

As always, students screamed their appreciation. Afterwards the faculty seemed relieved to return to the less strenuous demands of classroom humor.

## The Amity

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### Editorial Policy

*The Amity* is an award-winning newspaper produced by a diverse team of female students and is dedicated to educating and informing the community, proclaiming the unbiased truth and upholding the values of our school. The newspaper is published once a month and is distributed free to all students, faculty and staff.

The paper serves as a medium for expression for the community. Those interested in writing a column should see Mr. Layton in Room 102. Columns are published at the discretion of the editor and may be edited for libelous content, clarity and/or length.

### Editorial:

## Peace in the World!

We all expect Queen of Peace to teach us how to live the five Dominican Values here at school. But we are also fortunate to learn how to spread Justice, Compassion, Community, Truth and Partnership into the world at large.

We're lucky to be in a place that is dedicated to teaching us how to go out and create peace in the world, far beyond our classrooms and playing fields. But how exactly do we do this? As it turns out, we do it every day in our classes and clubs and even when we relax.

All Peace students have the opportunity to explore the world in their classrooms, from using Google Earth to conducting mock elections. But we are also able to take our classroom experiences out into the real world.

This year, for example, the frosh class, along with physics and digital engineering students, were given the opportunity to go to IIT and work with college students and professors on various engineering activities and hopefully open their eyes to the possibilities of a career in engineering.

In addition to plunging into the real world through their classrooms, student participation in clubs involve them in more real life

problems and issues. Through the Hunger and Poverty Task Force, we give food to impoverished families. Through the Student Council, each homeroom makes Christmas happier for needy children and their parents. The Human Rights Task Force fights for those suffering from AIDS and from other deprivations such as slave trading and war atrocities. The French Club and FNHS raise money to benefit doctors all over the world. The National Honor Society conducts food drives and visits shut-

ins. And each Class Council has its own service project, reaching out to the community with projects such as the Autism Walk, Toy Drives, Book Donations, and Seniors for Seniors.

And every time we relax on a class retreat, we also spend time focusing on service. And the girls who go to Nazareth Farm over the summer always report that this service project is one of the highlights of their entire four year high school career.

So if somebody asks you where you go to school, don't say Queen of Peace in Burbank – instead tell them Queen of Peace in the World.





Dear Miss Pride,

At the Spirit Assembly, I wanted to be part of one of those teams and have my fellow classmates cheer me on. The thing is I'm not really a jock. I'm not tall enough to play basketball or volleyball. I don't run fast enough for cross country or track. But at the same time I still want to be on a team. Should I try out for sports anyway?

Sporty Sammy

## ASK MISS PRIDE

Dear Sporty,

If only those girls who thought they were big enough, fast enough, and strong enough to be the best tried out for the teams, then there probably wouldn't be enough girls to field a team in any sport! Remember Muggsy Bogues? At 5' 3", he was the shortest person ever to play in the NBA, yet he was a successful player for over 14 years. So even if you think you're the world's biggest sports nerd, try out. In addition to volleyball and basketball, there's always swimming, golf, tennis, soccer, track and field, cross country and softball. And if you don't make a team the first time, ask the coaches what you need to work on so by next year you'll be ready. All I can say is, 'You go, girl!'

Kicking it up,  
Miss Pride

## PHOTOPOLL

COMPILED BY RANA MAZEN-ABDELLATIF

### *What do you want to be when you grow up?*



"I want to become an actress. I love to act and my experience here would help me be more confident."

Emily Williams,  
Class of 2012



"I definitely want to do something with art. I feel that's my strongest field. I think being a cartoonist would be pretty cool!"

BriElle Munizzi,  
Class of 2011



"I want to major in political science, minor in international studies, study abroad, begin my career as a public defender, and then run for public office."

Megan Graves,  
Class of 2010



"I want to be a cinematographer. I've always been interested in film. WQOP influenced me even more. This is something I'm really passionate about."

Cristina Arenas,  
Class of 2009

## Drama Production: *Les Belles Soeurs* a job for cast and crew!

BY BRIELLE MUNIZZI  
REPORTER

When the fall play arrived, no one was more excited about the show than the cast and crew!

Not only were the members of *Les Belles Soeurs* thrilled about showing off their amazing acting abilities, but they were also excited to see the audience's reaction to all of their hard work in order to make this show a success.

Auditions and choosing the cast for the play was a job in itself. The production staff held auditions over three days at the beginning of the year. During this time, they got to learn a little more about the actresses to help them decide who was best suited for each role.



Frosh Sarah Barrera builds the set.



Junior Emily Nelson; seniors Sarah Orozco, Pascha Rasco, and Danielle Sepulveda; and sophomore Kathleen Tischer at a dress rehearsal.

After choosing the cast and announcing the play, it came time for the production staff to recruit the crew, and a large number of the cast also wanted to help behind the scenes.

"The cast made up a large part of the crew this year," said stage manager Robert Edstrom, a senior at St. Laurence. "To me, this is great because I believe people in theatre should experience it from every point of view." In addition to Peace students signing up for crew, St. Laurence students also volunteered to help.

The cast spent many

long hours after school preparing for the show. The actors met three times a week to help each other block scenes and practice lines.

The cast and production staff also had to help teach the new crew members how to handle tools.

Not only did the members of *Les Belles Soeurs* learn a lot about acting and construction skills, but they also learned how important it is to work as a team. "The cast actually had a lock-in," says senior Mollie Heath. "We were

able to get to know each other better so that it would be more fun and easier to work on the show. In a play, you really do need everyone to work as a team; it is the most important thing." And as opening night grew closer and closer, the cast, crew, and production staff met more frequently.

*Les Belles Soeurs* has been a great experience for the cast and crew members alike. "Even though we're always in our costumes, we have lots of fun," says frosh Lauren



St. Laurence senior and *Les Belle Soeurs* stage manager Robert Edstrom creates an ad poster for the show.

Bourret who won the part of Rose at the beginning of the year. "We joked around and laugh a lot during our breaks. Overall, it was a really great experience."

# "Bees" Movie Sweet as Honey

BY JULIANNE LOPEZ  
FEATURES EDITOR

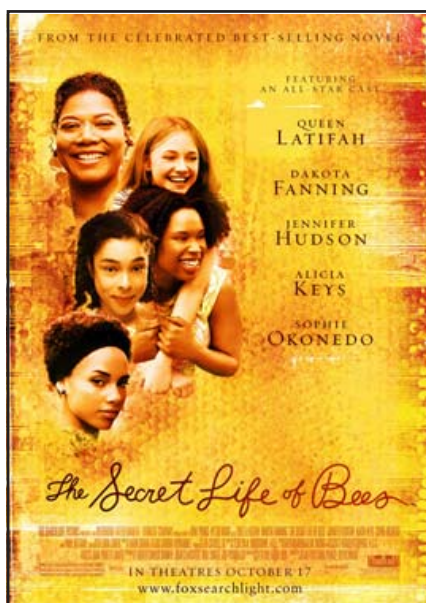
It's a mother daughter story if there ever was one, showing the inseparable bonds between mother and child, even if one isn't still living. In "Secret Life of Bees," 14 year-old Lily Owens leaves her father and troubled home in search of her deceased mother's past. Accompanied only by her nanny and best friend Rosaleen, the two set out on a journey where the characters they meet and the adventures they experience change their lives forever.

Set in 1964, "Secret Life of Bees" is more than a great coming of age story. It's also a tale of racial understanding and female empowerment. Sue Monk Kidd's story is brought to the big screen in a perfect feel good movie to see with your best friend, sister or mom.

An amazing crew of actors and actresses, including Jennifer Hudson, Queen Latifah, Alicia Keys, and Dakota Fanning, bring the fictional characters to



Three strong black women help restore the soul of a young teenage girl.



The movie poster captures the feel of the story - a journey of discovery and self-awareness for a young teen age girl.

life. The plot thickens as Lily and Rosaleen embark on a journey to find the truth about her mom. Inspired by the label on a mysterious jar of honey from home, they see the same jar in a café along the way, and the story unfolds. They learn that the makers of the honey are the Boatwright sisters and travel to their house in a little town in South Carolina, where Lily meets August and her three sisters. Although racial tension at this time is high, the three African American women

take in the blond-haired, blue-eyed girl, and their lives are never the same again. They become a family, working together and learning to love one another.

Full of drama, laughter, sadness, and even romance with an onscreen kiss between Lily and an African American boy Zach, the movie has everything needed to make the perfect chick-flick!

"Be the change you wish to see in the world" describes Lily in a nutshell. In a world where brutality and segregation were still the norm, August, her sisters and Zach befriend Lily, setting an inspiring example for all viewers. Although the ending is somewhat different from the book, both present a great feel-good tale that leaves you ready to take on the world!



Queen Latifa as August Boatwright reveals the "secret life of bees" to Dakota Fanning as Lily Owens.

Every year before Homecoming, the big question is . . .

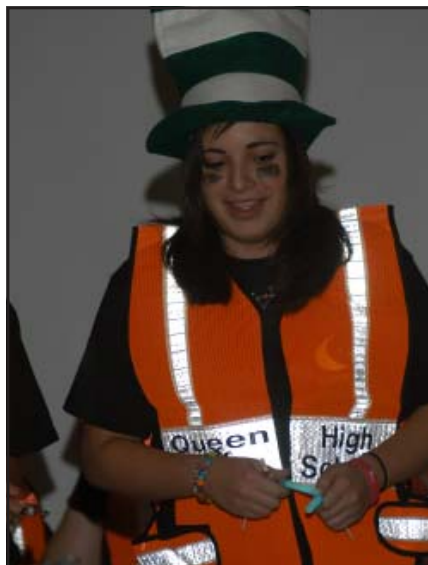
# What are the Spirit Week Themes?

BY JULIANNE LOPEZ, FEATURES EDITOR

**Monday** was Past-and-Future Day, where seniors took the opportunity to sport their possible colleges, and others chose to remember the "good old days" of grammar school!



**Tuesday** was Duo Day, where condiments like Pepper and Salt, and Ketchup and Mustard were popular, although "Thing 1 and Thing 2" were also sighted!



**Wednesday** was a Peace Pride day featuring the Spirit Assembly.



**Thursday** was Superhero Day when The Incredibles, Batman and Cat Woman prowled the hallways.



## A Night to Be Bright!

was **Friday's** theme to create excitement for the Homecoming dance.



But one can't forget all the school spirit that was on display at the Homecoming volleyball game with a victory over Guerin Prep.



# "A Night to Be Bright"

BY JOY JONES

CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Of her first Homecoming, frosh Crystal Sweiss exclaimed, "I was very excited!" Of her last, senior Mary O'Malley mused, "It was my favorite homecoming, which is great because it was my last. And for the first time, the music was actually good!"

Homecoming Dance is always bittersweet, as it is the first ever for the frosh and the last for the seniors. But for everyone, it was a time to be bright.

Students and their dates were given glow-in-the dark

sticks and bracelets, but no one knew that they would

later be used for the grand finale light show. As students continued past the sign-in desk and coat check, they were met with a black lit hallway decorated

with a sign with the dance's theme glowing brightly on it.

And those who danced the night away were rewarded

by a surprise balloon drop that prompted senior Tania

Stanford to exclaim, "I think that my last homecoming at Peace was the best homecoming I've ever been at in my four years at Peace."

Most students seemed to appreciate the new policies. Both students and their dates had to check in, and a much-

needed purse check was also introduced that greatly reduced the risk of loss. Students were relieved when they were able to enjoy dancing without worrying about their purses. Proclaimed Dean Nancy Halbauer, "I had no problems with anyone. It seemed like everyone had a great time and me, too!"

Everyone seemed to like the DJ. According to sophomore Asia Curry-Smith, "The music was better this year." Homecoming pictures taken with a purple, and pink backdrop were a big hit, along with the usual cookie and punch delights.



It's time to twist and shout at the '08 Homecoming Dance!



## Hall of Fame honors former Peace athletes

BY ANGELA  
ROEBACK  
REPORTER

On October 2, twenty-five women were inducted into the newly formed Queen of Peace High School Athletic Hall of Fame for their outstanding contributions to the athletic program including former athletes, athletic directors, and coaches.

Current Athletic Director Darlene Graf remarked, "The progress made in women's Sports over the last 35 years



Members of the 1977 Championship Volleyball Team are among the first inductees into the Queen of Peace Athletic Hall of Fame.

has been truly amazing." "Everyone who attended the Hall of Fame induction realized the

contributions these women have made to the success of the Queen of Peace athletic program,"

she said.

The entire 15 member 1977 volleyball team, who came in second place at the IHSA class AA state girls' volleyball tournament, were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Other inductees were Jennifer Burns, Lynn Diaz, Delilah DiCrescenzo, Amy Birmingham Fitzgerald, Latoya Howell, Marianne

Keating, Heather Mack, Mary Pat Fowler Martin, Dolly Reardon, and Doris Boyer.

## Frosh/JV Volleyball advance to 2009!

BY SIMONA JURCIK  
REPORTER

The Frosh Volleyball team ended their season with 6<sup>th</sup> place finish at the GCAC Red Conference.



Frosh Jennifer Tomicki gets ready to serve.



Teamwork is everything!

The J.V. finished their season with 15 wins and 15 losses and came in 6<sup>th</sup> in the GCAC tournament, which is better than they did last year. JV coach Marypat Pearson said,

"I'm really proud of the girls. They all improved throughout the season." And according to team captain sophomore Lindsey Frederick, "This season was really fun,

and we all learned a lot. Our coaches were terrific, and we did really well! Everyone worked hard and showed commitment. By the end of the season we all were playing volleyball with all of our hearts."



Sophomore Caitlin Hecker sets up the attack.

# Swim team victorious in second season!

**BY MARKELLA SARANTOPULOS**  
REPORTER

What a difference a year makes! When the swim team formed as a club last year, we felt we had accomplished something just by showing up at 5:00 a.m., getting in the pool, and swimming practice. We swam in only two meets, and the Fenwick meet was like a scrimmage to introduce us to what a real meet was like.

But this year, we competed in five meets, two invitationals, and the Metro Catholic Championship Junior Varsity meet! This year, we truly became a team, capable of competing against any school – and winning! We dominated Morton High School and placed second at the tri-meet against Reavis and Richards.

Individual standings also improved. Senior Carla Uhlarik placed third in the 100 yd. breaststroke at the IMSA invitational. Junior Markella Sarantopoulos placed in the top 16 for the 500 yard freestyle at the MCAC Championship. And at the

Reavis meet, junior Monique Cruz took 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 200 freestyle, and junior Simona Jurcik finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 100 breaststroke.

Times also came down. Sophomore Nicole Holmes knocked 50 seconds off her 50 yard freestyle time and junior Elisabeth Andrade trimmed 30 sec-



**The Queen of Peace Swim Team —  
on their way to a great 2008 season!**

onds from her 500 yard freestyle time.

Coach Heather Saylor commented, “Our swimmers are dedicated and committed to excellence. They work hard and play hard. With a maximum

of only three practices a week we have achieved so much.” The intense early-morning practices improved the girls’ personal times and the team’s achievements. Junior Kerri Baley exclaimed, “I improved with my times, by knocking a couple seconds off. I also have gotten faster and now attempt strokes in meets that I never would have expected!”

The team finished their season at the Metro Catholic Conference Championship Junior Varsity meet on Sunday, October 26, at Fenwick High School, competing against 190 girls from nine other Catholic schools, including Mother McAuley, St. Ignatius, and Resurrection, earning a 9th place finish, but more important taking home the feeling of a real team experience.

Sophomore Aja West said, “I feel our strongest point as a team is that we always try to help each other.” According to junior Jessica Lietz, “I think the team’s strongest point is the fact that no matter how well or fast a girl is swimming, the rest of the team is right there supporting her and cheering her on.”

# Golf ends “fun-filled season” at Cog Hill

**BY MAGGIE GERACI**  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The golf season came to an end at the GCAC Championship held on the famed Cog Hill course in Lemont on October 1, and although the girls may not have achieved many wins this season, they had a fun-filled season that proved to be very memorable.

Senior Megan Marshall reflected, “I will always remember my last GCAC Championship. Even though Peace didn’t place, it was simply a great experience, and our team really got to have fun and bond at the last game”.

The tournament lasted from 8am until 4pm — one long day, but a great experience for the team!



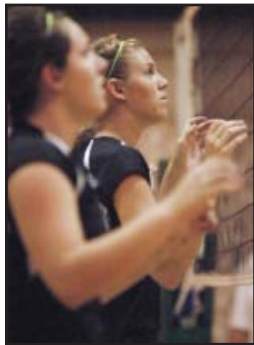
**Senior Maggie Geraci and Sophomore Dana Testa  
get loose before teeing off!**

# Varsity VB victorious at IHSA Regionals

## 1st Round Sectional Loss

BY THERESA YERKES  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Pride took home the IHSA Regional Volleyball championship, beating Oak Lawn in the finals 28-30, 25-18, and 25-16, which followed a drubbing of Argo 25-13 and 25-23 in the first round. However, the Pride did not fare as well in the sectionals, concluding

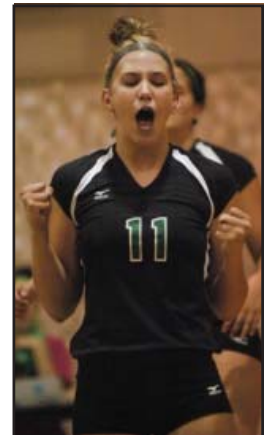


Junior Kelly Gierman and Senior Jillian Lippman prepare for the attack.

their season with a hard-fought loss to Lyons Township. Even though the team lost the first game 20-25, they came out the next game with the most drive I have ever seen. They wanted that win. They knew that this was their chance, and they were going to give it their all. They came out with so much fight in them and took the second game 25-21. Then they knew the hardest game they would ever play would be coming up next. This third game would decide if they would move on to the next round of sectionals. "It was the toughest game we have ever played," exclaimed senior Kara Zuro. They lost that third game 25-23, but they went down fighting. "That is all I could ask for," Coach Malone said to her team. "You have no reason to be crying. You gave

that game your all, and as a coach that is all I can ask for," she told them.

While the seniors said their final goodbyes to Peace volleyball, they leave knowing that this year was one they will never forget, nor will ever be forgotten by the school. When they and future teams return to Queen of Peace in years to come, they will see that number on the banner and remember: "That was my team. We did that together."



Senior Kara Zuro celebrates a victory!

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# Injury and illness plague Peace Pride Pack

BY DARLENE ARIEL  
SPORTS EDITOR

Interesting and exciting are two words that describe this year's cross country season. The team came into this season with two new coaches and new courses but also an eagerness to prove their worth on the course.

Whether the ground was muddy or the temperature in the high 90s, the Pride Pack came to the meets with a dedication to run their best. This dedication paid off as the team started to see their times drop!

Unfortunately, the times were not the only thing to drop during the season. "It seemed like for every practice we had a few girls at the trainer and a few more girls home sick," senior Maureen Foley explained. Injuries and illnesses ranged from

strep throat to a fractured foot.

The team had to constantly change the roster and move certain players



Junior Marcella Perez and Sophomore Jessica Risley watch for the competition.

from JV to Varsity. Going into the conference meet at Turtlehead, the team had a strong pack that was determined to rock the new course, but unfortunately, the team took 8<sup>th</sup> place.

The next Saturday at Regionals, however, the team came with a determination to run much better, and the first five varsity runners finished with places of 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23 with times ranging from 21.10 to 21.28 minutes for the three-mile course.

Overall, the team took fourth place at the IHSA Regionals meet with 95 points. Marist was first with 28 points, McAuley second with 32 points, and Morgan Park third with 94 points. The Peace Cross Country team finished the season by competing in the IHSA Sectionals meet on Saturday, November 1 at Reavis High School.

# SPORTS

The Amity

November 24, 2008

## Tennis team takes first-ever GCAC Championship



BY TARA BECKER  
REPORTER



### Members of the 2008 Queen of Peace tennis team, reigning GCAC champions!

For the first time in Queen of Peace history, the varsity tennis team won first place in the GCAC tournament.

Nothing could get in the way of the Pride's march to victory – not the heat, nor the swarms of bees, mosquitoes, and ladybugs. First doubles seniors Amanda Wagner and Kaitlyn Seldal, second doubles senior Tara Becker and junior Michelle Olvera, and third doubles juniors Sarah Majewski and Sarah Seweryn all won first place. First senior Monica Budzak and second singles frosh Paige Seldal took third place. The Varsity tennis team rejoiced with laughter and singing while they rode home from the GCAC tournament and began to prepare for the sectional tournament.

Tennis Sectionals were Friday October 17.

First singles senior Monica Budzak became the fourth Peace player ever to advance to the Illinois State High School tennis tournament, having qualified by winning her first and second round sectional matches. Second singles player frosh Paige Seldal lost in the first round. Both doubles teams were able to make it to the second round. Junior Michelle Olvera and senior Tara Becker played their hearts out against Reavis while Amanda Wagner and Kaitlyn Seldal, both seniors, played an intense match against Sandburg. Both ended in victories for the other team, but neither Reavis nor Sandburg were able to break the team's devotion to each other created by a season of hard work and great victories.

## “She got game!”

*Budzak only fourth Peace player at IHSA*



BY TARA BECKER  
REPORTER

Senior Monica Budzak became only the fourth Peace player ever to advance to the Illinois State High School Tennis Tournament. She played well against Richwoods High School and Belleville East High School but unfortunately lost.

Coach David Bell was effusive in his praise for Monica. “She played her best tennis ever, losing to two tough opponents. But she played as she had all year – with great determination. Her second match was particularly exceptional. She pushed her opponent to fits of anger when she was able to get to almost every shot. Monica truly represented her school and her team in a way that few have done in my tenure here as coach.”