



**HOLY NAME OF  
JESUS SCHOOL**  
A LOYOLA UNIVERSITY PARTNER

HNY STUDENTS PRESENT

# THE LIFE OF A GATOR

A SPECIAL EDITION STUDENT NEWSPAPER  
WRITTEN BY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE  
JOURNALISM ELECTIVE FOR THE FIRST TRIMESTER



# THE LIFE OF A GATOR

## ELECTIVES AT HNJ

**By: Elizabeth Erspamer, Erin Kim, Gavyn St. Julien, and Lydia Yurgil**

Holy Name of Jesus Middle School has so many fun elective opportunities.

What are electives anyway? Every trimester, Middle School Students fill out a form choosing what elective they want to take. After lunch recess, Monday-Thursday, students go to the electives they ended up getting, which staff try to make their first or second choice from the form they filled out. These can be a good way to find people with similar interests as you and to bond with people in other middle school grades.

Some electives given are scrap booking, checkmate, organization, financial literacy, social media marketing, journalism, etc. The electives offered change from trimester to trimester so students can try different things.

Middle School students have reported that electives are really fun and that they will miss them after graduating HNJ. 4th grader Sebby Miller reported that he is very excited to start taking electives next year. Teachers also enjoy teaching the electives. We have gathered that some potential future electives could include Connect 4 taught by Coach T, typing from Ms. O'Connor, drumming or film taught by Ms. Ptak.

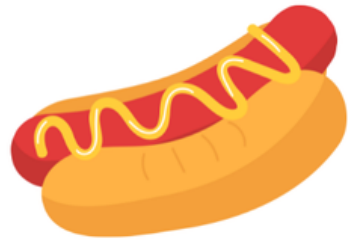
Electives are a fun experience that many middle school students look forward to everyday.



Trimester 1 middle school electives  
2025-26 school year



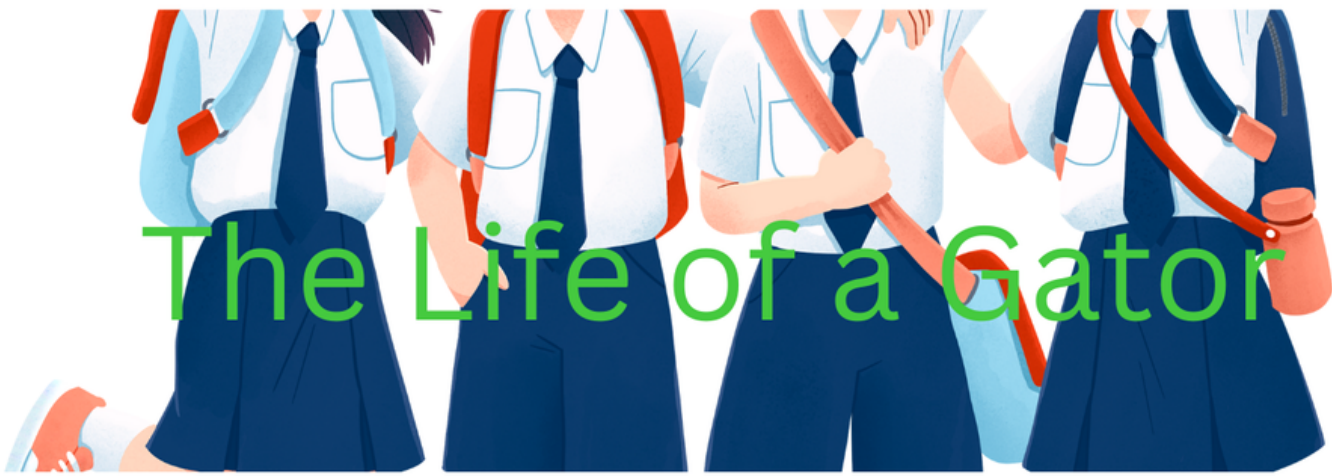
## The Life of A Gator Back To School Barbeque Food, Games, Fun



Most of the school was at the Back to School Barbecue, and there was good food and lots of fun. We went to serve people and we asked them if they liked hamburgers or hot dogs better. People liked hamburgers better than hot dogs more than hot dogs.

At the Back to School Barbeque, there was a stand that sold hamburgers and hot dogs and hamburgers were way more popular. Everybody seemed to have fun with their friends. Some people played Gotcha, some other people played Three Flies In and a few kids played football. And some played with soccer balls. We also interviewed Mrs. Williams. She said she will be there and that she does it. She also says that she works with Mr. Jeremy and finally Mrs. Williams said PTA and Mens club help with the food. We have the Mens club help with the food.

Written By: Graham Gardner, Henry Frein, Marcel Inderbitzin, Paul Frein



# The Life of a Gator

## The Second Celebration



The second celebration for the gym is what everyone is thinking and excited about. Father Mark and the workers are even there. This is a real celebration. Even the workers are stopping to see the celebration.

This is a big expansion for HNJ. One of our answers said they were thinking about a turf area after the gym instead of the blacktop .

## Perspective of Coach T.

### Questions

How do you feel about the gym.

“ the new gym is a great sign of  
Giving the students a great educational experience “

The experience of the gym.

“home sport games, volleyball, etc. having our 7th  
grade vs. teachers game, having our running teams  
practice indoors on rainy days.”

If HNJ expanded more what would be after the gym.

“A turf field instead of the blacktop.”

I asked a fourth grade student  
and her answers were

I asked

“How do you feel about the  
gym?”

she said “Kinda excited.”

**The experience of the gym  
(what are we going to do with  
it?)**

“PE” she said

If our school expanded more,  
what would be after the gym?

“Another little gators  
building”

7th grader

How do you feel about the gym?

“Excited but upset since the seventh graders won’t get  
to use it much.”

The experience of the gym:

“During PE and some elective.”

If HNJ expanded more what would be after the gym

“More roofed area.”

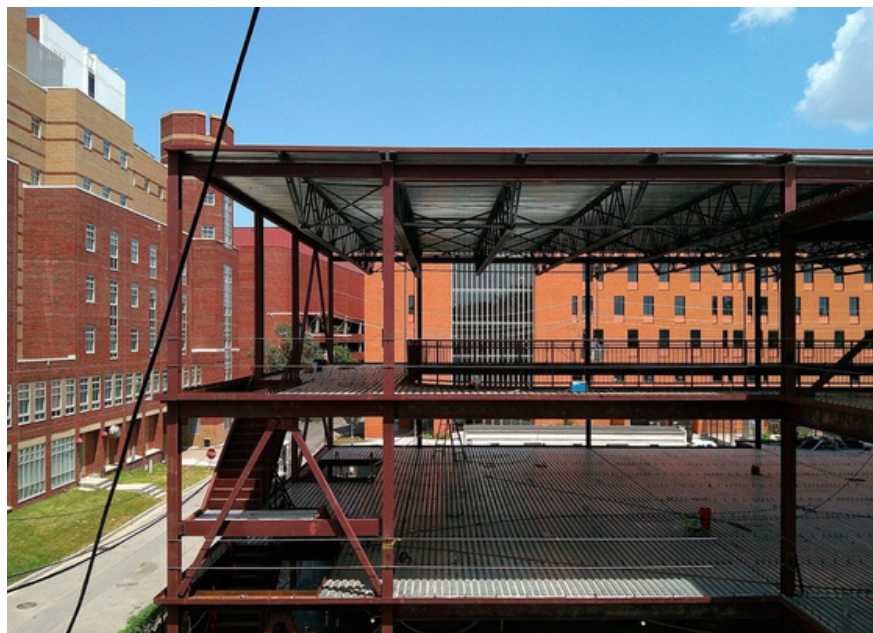


By: Henry Merlino

# Construction on Holy Name of Jesus

There will be a basketball court with a track around it and volleyball holders, maybe done in April. It costs \$9.2 million dollars. We have only raised \$8.9 million though. We need \$3 million for funding. It's 26,000 square feet and there are 34 workers in one day. And on September 4th the cement took twenty trucks to fill the slabs. Mrs. Williams set daily and weekly updates. The entire building will cost \$9,869,102. The building will have 7 little gator classrooms and three Pre-K classrooms. The capacity of sports stuff stored is 30-40. On rainy days we will run in the gym. A new sport is PICKLE BALL.

-Banks Lunsford and Logan Ryan



# THE LIFE OF A GATOR

BY WILLIAM BAXTER,  
JAMES ZUBIC, AND  
CHARLIE CHIU

## GATOR FEST

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, ANOTHER GATORFEST IS ON THE HORIZON! CONGRATS, PARENTS; YOU'VE SURVIVED AND STARTED ANOTHER YEAR! BUT ALL JOKES ASIDE, THE QUESTION IS UPON US: WHAT WILL GATORFEST BE LIKE THIS YEAR? WELL, LET'S FIND OUT!

FIRST OFF, THE QUESTION WE ALL ARE WONDERING. WHAT ARE THE RIDES, AND WILL WE EVEN HAVE ANY? WELL, ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPAL KIRSH WILLIAMS,

RIDES WILL BE AT THE GATORFEST OF '25.

THESE RIDES WILL CONSIST OF THE TORNADO, ZERO GRAVITY, THE FERRIS WHEEL, AND THE LITTLE KID RIDES SO ALL AGES CAN ENJOY THE FUN! AND GUESS WHAT? THIS WILL BE THE SAME AMOUNT OF RIDES AS LAST YEAR!

YES, WE KNOW SOME OF YOU ARE NOT BIG FANS OF RIDES. WELL, HAVE NO FEAR OF STANDING AROUND BECAUSE THE FAMOUS GAME TENTS AREN'T GONE YET AND THEY HAVE MUCH MORE TO SAY! THE TENTS WOULD BE ON CROMWELL, ACROSS FROM THE LITTLE YARD.

GATORS, IF YOU REMEMBER, THE GAMES WILL BE NEXT TO THE LOYOLA LIBRARY ON THE CROMWELL SIDE OF HOLY NAME. SPEAKING OF THE GATORS, LET'S SEE WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY:

\*LINE SALESMAN, A FOURTH GRADE STUDENT SAYS, "I THINK IT WOULD BE LESS FUN WITH FEWER RIDES." BUT WHEN WE TOLD HER THAT THERE WILL BE MORE RIDES SHE SAID THIS, "THAT WOULD BE AMAZING BECAUSE MORE RIDES MEANS MORE FUN!"

\*SAMUEL JOHNSON, A THIRD GRADE STUDENT SAYS, "I THINK IT WILL BE SMALLER. I AM ASSUMING THERE ARE LESS RIDES EVEN THOUGH RIDES ARE THE BEST." AND WHEN WE TOLD HIM ABOUT THE RIDES HE SAID, "THAT IS CRAZY! ALTHOUGH THAT SOUNDS IMPOSSIBLE, I BELIEVE IT."

NOW, THERE'S STILL THE FOOD TO DISCUSS. WE INTERVIEWED MR. ETHAN ZUBIC, PRESIDENT OF THE MEN'S CLUB 2025-2026. IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW, THE MEN'S CLUB RUNS THE GATOR GRILL, A GATORFEST FAVORITE, THE GATOR GRILL

NOW THAT WE HAVE WHAT'S LEFT OF THE YARD, TWO STREETS, AND THE BASEMENT, THE TEAM HAS MANAGED TO CREATE A MAP LIKE THIS:



AS YOU CAN SEE, THE RIDES WILL STILL TAKE UP THE WHOLE YARD, WHILE THE BOOK SALE, TICKET BOOTH, SWEET BOOTH, AND MADE BY ME WILL STILL BE IN THE BASEMENT. THE GAME BOOTHS AND THE MAIN STAGE WILL BE ON THE LOYOLA GRASS AND CROMWELL, RESPECTFULLY. THIS YEAR'S GATOR FEST WILL BE, HOPEFULLY, NO DIFFERENT THAN THE LAST. THE LIVE BAND APPEARANCES ARE STILL TO BE DETERMINED BY THE RED HOT GENTILLY PEPPERS WILL BE THERE

THE GREAT GATOR GRILL WILL STILL STAND IN MEMORY OF CHAD BARCIA, A DE LA SALLE AND HOLY NAME ATHLETE WHO SUFFERED CARDIAC ARREST DUE TO AN UNDISCLOSED HEART CONDITION.

THE GATOR GRILL WILL HAVE THE USUAL CHICKEN FINGERS, FRENCH FRIES, HAMBURGERS, AND OTHER FAVORITES. MAKE SURE YOU STOP BY THERE TO GET SOME POPCORN!

FEELING DEHYDRATED? WE ALWAYS HAVE THE RING TOSS BOOTH! NOW FOR THE ADULTS, DON'T GET TOO EXCITED BECAUSE, YES, WE STILL HAVE THE ALCOHOL BOOTH! FRESH REFRESHING DRINKS WILL PLEASE YOUR HOT DAY. AND, OF COURSE, WE'LL STILL HAVE THE CLASSICS. THE CONFETTI/SILLY STRING BOOTH, AND THE FAMILY-OWNED BOOTHS, SUCH AS THE BALLOON POP AND THE PAINTING BOOTH.

IN THE END, GATORFEST IS HERE TO STAY! WHETHER YOU LIKE THE RIDES, THE GAMES, THE FOOD, OR ANYTHING ELSE, IT'S ALL COMING BACK, AND BETTER THAN EVER! JUST REMEMBER, NO CONSTRUCTION IS EVER GOING TO STOP THIS SCHOOL'S TRADITIONS!

# Life Of A Gator

## Student Council



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### ABOUT IT!

This has been a very exciting school year so far! A lot of new things have been happening this year! One of which is the student council! The student council is a middle school thing where middle school students can run for roles like President, Vice President, class rep, etc. 4<sup>th</sup> graders can vote but they can't run. So, that means that 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> grade can vote. Let's go ahead, and show ya'll the list of the winners!

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### WHO WON?

#### House of Executive

President= Annie Muller

Vice President= AJ Merlino

Advisor= Veronica Douglas

Recording Secretary= Louis Le Boeuf

Corresponding Secretary= Gia Phillipi

Treasurer= Catalina Rice

Chaplain and Executive Historian= Liam Bustamante

Co Chaplain= William Baxter

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#### House of Representatives

Chairperson for class representatives= William Baxter

Co Chairperson for class representatives= Elizabeth Erspamer

Secretary for class representatives=Juliana Reed

5<sup>th</sup> Grades Class representatives= William McCormick, Elise Young,  
Stella Miller, Margaret Keoglar, Adalie Queyronze, and Elodie  
Trahant

6<sup>th</sup> Grades Class Representatives= Juliana Reed, William Khors,  
Camille Hunnicutt, Lynen Jordan, Rain Garside, and Joia Sunda  
Meya

7th Grades Class Representatives= Anders Mortillaro, Olivia  
Watson, Charlotte Suire, and Elizabeth Erspamer

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#### House of Judicial Branch

By-Laws Committee Chair=James Zubic

By-Laws Committee Co Chair= Charlotte Suire

By-Laws Committee Recording Secretary= James  
Hunnicutt

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# Life of a Gator

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## House of Treasury

Fundraising Committee Chairperson=

Eleanor Leinenger

Fundraising Committee Co Chairperson=

Mary Ryan Deluca

Fundraising Committee Secretary= Olivia

Hand

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## House of Committees

Community Service and Outreach Committee Chairperson= Olivia Shaw

Community Service and Outreach Committee Co-Chairperson= Addie Majoue

Community Service and Outreach Committee Sectary= Mae Baldwin Wands

Public Relations/Journalist Committee Chairperson= Anna Kramer

Public Relation/Journalist Committee Co-Chairperson= Charlie Chiu

Public Relation/Journalist Committee Secretary= Olivia Caside

Social and Public Events Committee Chairperson= Lottie Wilson

Social and Public Events Committee Co-Chairperson= William Khors

Social and Public Events Committee Secretary= Amelia Greiffinstien

School Spirits Events/Activities Chairperson= Camille Hunnicutt

School Spirit Events/Activities Co-Chairperson= Stella Esteve

School Spirit Events/Activities Secretary=Peyton Johnson

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This is you 2025-2026 student Council! These Candidates will make sure that you have the best school year possible! If you have a question go to one of these Students, and if you see something that is not positive going on about Student Council then report it to Ms.

Clanton as soon as possible

By: Stella Miller, Molly Mortillaro, and Marian Keller