Speaker Details Horrors of Japanese Internment Camps to U.S. History Students

When he was only 8 years old, Mr. Ed Ezaki's idyllic life on his family's fruit and vegetable farm in California's Santa Clara Valley took a horrifying turn. It was December 8, 1941, the day after Japan bombed the U.S. Naval base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. There was a knock on the door. FBI agents soon were swarming inside, herding the extended family into one room and searching the house. When they left, they took Mr. Ezaki's grandfather with them. It was the beginning of a four-year nightmare.

"The 'day that will live in infamy' affected my life profoundly," shared Mr. Ezaki at a gathering of history teacher Mr. Nick Roaldi's U.S. History students. "I went from riding a horse with my Red Ryder BB gun, playing cowboy, to boarding a train with my family in what was described as a move to protect those of Japanese ancestry."

Mr. Ezaki was one of 120,000 Japanese Americans and those of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast forced to live in internment camps, or "war relocation camps." "The majority of us were American citizens," he shared. Despite the deplorable, crowded conditions and being surrounded by armed guards with bayonets affixed to their rifles, "I'm proud to say that many Japanese Americans volunteered to fight for America, becoming one of the most decorated units statistically in history," he stated.

See Page 4 for a photo montage of the Christmas Concert and Thursday's Ugly Christmas Sweater Day!

Save the Date for an Academy Parents Event!
Grab your 2013 calendars if you have them already, and mark Tuesday, January 15 with a Jaguar paw! That is the date of the Academy Parents First Annual "Dine to Donate" fundraiser at Applebee's restaurant. More details will follow.
It is my sincere wish that all our students will enjoy their Christmas break, taking time to create memories with their families. May the blessings of the season be with the entire Saint Joseph Academy community.
Merry Christmas!
~ James M. Cantwell, Ed.D.
College Corner

VILLANOVA

Location: Villanova, PA (6.5 hours from Cleveland, just outside of Philadelphia), Suburban
Enrollment: 6,400 undergraduates.

Strongest Programs: Liberal Arts, Sciences, Business and Engineering, Nursing.

Fun Fact: Villanova has had an alum or a student compete in the summer Olympics every year since 1945!

www.villanova.edu

Students Enthusiastically Embrace Paws 4 a Cause

The month-long Paws 4 a Cause project ended on a high note this week, with freshmen and sophomores donating boxes filled with peanut butter and socks for a Sisters of the Congregation of St. Joseph-sponsored drive to benefit the West Side Catholic Center.

Paws 4 a Cause was four weeks of giving in which each class sponsored a project. Seniors spearheaded a week of collecting items for Transitional Housing, juniors asked students to bring toys for Catholic Charities and sophomores and freshmen handled the CSJ donation. Thanks to everyone who contributed!

Kairos Retreat Brings Attendees Closer to God

Last week, 40 juniors, eight seniors and seven teachers gathered to form the Kairos XXIV community. This retreat marked the 10-year anniversary of Kairos here at SJA. It was started by members of the Class of 2003, who led the first Kairos retreat for the Class of 2004 in December, 2002. Since then, many students and adults have nurtured their faith through the Kairos retreat experience, which encourages reflection on one’s personal identity, relationship with God and living the Christian message in today’s world. The theme song for Kairos XXIV was “Speak Life” by TobyMac. “Junior year has been particularly hard for me, and I thought I lost my relationship with God. However, I learned on Kairos that God is closer to me than ever through the unconditional love and support of my friends and family,” shared Melissa Johnson ’14.

Graphic Designer Explains the Creative Process at a Marketing, Design Firm

The creative process hasn't changed much since grade school ... it still involves colorful paper, cutting and gluing. In other words, it's still fun, even when you are a working graphic artist, according to Mr. Christian Woltman, a senior designer at Little Jacket, a Cleveland/New York City-based marketing and design firm. Mr. Woltman was visiting art teacher Mrs. Beth Pleban's Graphic Design I class this week, talking to students about what is entailed in a design career.
"I am obsessed with creating something that doesn't exist," shared Mr. Woltman. "Whether it is a logo or a video, I find the entire process both inspiring and terrifying."
Mr. Woltman, who has a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Kent State University, detailed how he arrived at his career, and also mentioned that Mrs. Pleban was his teacher at Lorain Catholic High School!
"Seeing the entire design process was interesting!" shared Sam Hollenbeck ’15. "I'm so glad he could visit our class."
Auditions Set for St. Edward, Saint Ignatius Productions
Auditions for the St. Edward High School production of "Parade" will be held Tuesday, January 8, and Wednesday, January 9, between 6-9 p.m. in the Band Room at St. Ed's. Students who wish to audition need to be present for one 30-minute time slot on either day. Students are encouraged to schedule auditions early, as the number of students auditioning is limited to 8 per 30 minutes. Packets are available in the SEHS band room between 11 a.m.-4 p.m. daily.

Saint Ignatius High School will have an informational meeting for its spring musical, "The Wizard of Oz," on Thursday, January 10, at 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. in the Thomas Room of the Breen Center. Auditions will be on Tuesday, January 22 and Wednesday, January 23.

Elementary School Students Enjoy an Evening of Crafts, Fun at "Christmas at the Academy"
On Friday, December 14, SJA welcomed more than 150 girls in grades 5-8 for an evening of activities to celebrate the Christmas holiday. Girls enjoyed making a sleigh for Santa and his reindeer, played Christmas bingo, had a scavenger hunt and decorated gingerbread houses to take home. Guests also helped collect more than 100 non-perishable food items and nearly $100 for a local food pantry.

This was the final admissions event of 2012 and arguably the most popular! We hope to see many girls at our Easter Egg Hunt in March, Open House in April, or Leadershop in May!

Swimming & Diving
On Tuesday, December 11, the Jaguars took on the Cleveland Heights Tiger Sharks. With sophomore Kiera Grady's first-place finish in the 100 Fly and freshman Emma Stalder's third-place finish in the 500m freestyle, the Jaguars out-swam Cleveland Heights by close to 40 points, finishing with a score of 108-71.

On Saturday, December 15, the Jaguars participated in one of the biggest meets of the year, the Viking Invitational at Cleveland State University. This meet is for the best of the best, so all the top swimming schools were in attendance. Anmimarie Russo '15 and Maddie Zimmerman '14 both swam their best split of the year in the 200m free relay. The Jaguars missed finals by less than a second. The Jags compete tomorrow, December 22, against Stow High School. Meet time is 1 p.m. at Lakewood High School pool.

Basketball
The Jaguars are now ranked 7th, up from 12th place, in The Plain Dealer Top 25 Poll!
On Wednesday, December 12, the visiting Jaguars defeated Cleveland Heights, 57-43. The Jaguars were sparked by junior Nicole McManamon's 7 points in the crucial 4th quarter. Daija Jones '13 led the scoring with 14 points, 6 assists, and 7 steals. Katie Battaglia '13 added 9 points, 6 assists and 7 steals. Ann Conroy '13 added 9 points, 10 rebounds, 2 blocks and 4 steals. JV: 25-23 loss

On Saturday, December 15, the Jaguars upset the No. 6 ranked St. Vincent St. Mary's 57-47. The Jags were led by the energy of sophomore Brittany Morrison with 11 points and 10 rebounds, and the poised floor game of senior point guard Daija Jones, with 10 points and 6 assists. Seniors Katie Battaglia and Sarah Schwind also contributed 10 points.

JV: 30-19 loss
Freshmen: 50-20 win
Christmas 2012 at Saint Joseph Academy

It wouldn't be Christmas without the annual SJA Christmas Concert and ... to make for a day of continual visual surprises ... Ugly Christmas Sweater Day. Here is a compilation of this week's holiday highlights. SJA singers and musicians also wowed the crowd at last weekend's River's Edge Christmas Concert benefitting the Congregation of St. Joseph's Women's Outreach Center. Merry Christmas to all from the Saint Joseph Academy community!