

Canevin Celebrates Catholic Schools Week

BC Receives Middle States Reaccreditation

Jack Mickle | Editor-in-Chief

Similar to most things being planned by people this year, Catholic Schools Week did not start off as planned. Monday, February 1, brought a large snowfall to the Pittsburgh area so students stayed warm at home and learned virtually. Tuesday, February 2, was originally to be “Tik Tok Tuesday” but that was moved to Friday and merged with other events.

Wednesday, February 3, was “Twin Day” and Mass. After Mass, a special ceremony was held to celebrate a number of special people and events. First on the agenda was Dr. Jeff Suzik, Director of the Falk School at the University of Pittsburgh and Chair of the Middle States visiting committee. Through a videotaped presentation, he commended Canevin on many aspects, particularly its community atmosphere, its new learning spaces, and its response to COVID-19. Dr. Suzik was proud to announce that Bishop Canevin had been recommended for Middle States reaccreditation for the next seven years.

Following Dr. Suzik’s presentation, Principal Joyce announced that Erin Egan ’21 was the newest recipient of the coveted AMDG award. He recited her outstanding academic achievements and

involvement in many extracurricular activities as reasons for being chosen.

Then Mr. Checketts, Athletic Director, distributed various awards and certificates from the fall sports programs. The highlight of this part of the assembly was the presentation of the WPIAL medals and trophy to the girls’ volleyball team. Present at the ceremony was Mrs. Janet Walters, wife of the team’s late coach Kevin Walters, who accepted his medal on his behalf.

Thursday, February 4, was “Grout-fit Day” where students wore gray clothing. It was also the day of Faber House’s Matball Tournament, a much-contested event which ended in a rock-paper-scissors match to determine the winner. Friday, February 5 was a BC dress-down day and students ended the week by watching the pep rally video and several student and faculty-created Tik-Toks while enjoying hot chocolate and donuts.

All in all, Student Government was able to piece together a relatively “normal” Catholic Schools Week in an abnormal year. A well-deserved thanks goes to Mr. Casavale and all those involved in Student Government.

Canevin Affiliates with Heinz History Center

Bishop Canevin High School recently became an Affiliate of the Sen. John Heinz History Center in association with the Smithsonian Institution. The only Diocesan high school member, it joins more than 125 regional historical societies and diverse organizations such as the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, the Historical Society of Carnegie, Marketing Pittsburgh, California State University, Crafton Public Library, and Woodland Hills School District. Not only will Canevin have access to Heinz’s expert archivists, museum specialists and fundraising personnel, it will also have access to all the Smithsonian Institute resources. Canevin’s admissions materials will also be displayed in Heinz’s visitors’ center.

Canevin students may participate in all affiliate educational programs and have been invited to eventually work with California University of Pennsylvania’s digital storytelling project and the new History Near You program that will connect Canevin and its feeder schools with the local community history.

The Heinz History Center

is also starting a new initiative with all its affiliates with the goal of activating local history to foster and nurture empathy in our communities. This work will aim to help people of all ages understand different perspectives so they are better positioned for deeper and more sustained civic engagement.

Additional projects where school affiliates may be of assistance might be working with the local historical societies to develop programs, index resources, computerize and organize files, prepare exhibits, take photographs, record oral histories of senior citizens, research histories of local houses, and compose marketing materials.

“We welcome the opportunity to work with Bishop Canevin as it enters its 61st year of educational excellence in the community,” said Robert Stakeley, manager of the History Center Affiliates Program. “Its ‘person for others’ mission statement dovetails with all our affiliates’ focus on collaborating and providing an incredible impact on our communities as we explore and preserve local history and promote a better living environment for all.”

Top 50 Love Songs of All Time

Christian Andrews | Staff Reporter

The top 50 love songs of all time according to Billboard Magazine are:

1960s

- “I Can’t Stop Loving You” – Ray Charles (1962)
- “This Guy’s in Love with You” – Herb Alpert (1968)
- “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feelin’” – The Righteous Brothers (1965)

1970s

- “How Deep is Your Love”

- Bee Gees (1977) “My Love”
- Paul McCartney and Wings (1973)

- “Love Hangover” – Diana Ross (1976)

1980s

- “Endless Love” – Diana Ross and Lionel Richie (1981)
- “Crazy Little Thing Called Love” – Queen (1980)
- “I Wanna Dance with Somebody

- (Who Loves Me)” – Whitney Houston (1987)

1990s

- “I Will Always Love You” – Whitney Houston (1992)
- “The Power of Love” – Celine Dion (1994)
- “That’s the Way Love Goes” – Janet Jackson (1993)

2000s

- “Let Me Love You” – Mario (2005)
- “Crazy in Love”



- Beyonce featuring Jay-Z (2003) “Love Story”
- Taylor Swift (2009)

2010s

- “We Found Love” – Rihanna featuring Calvin Harris (2011)
- “White Ferrari” – Frank Ocean (2016)
- “Hold On, We’re Goin’ Home” – Drake featuring Majid Jordan (2013)

The Leonid

The Leonid is a member of Quill and Scroll and the Pennsylvania School Press Association.

It is published six times a year by the journalism students at Bishop Canevin High School.

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The policy of the *Leonid* is to provide a forum for student expression.

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Ask Us Anything

*Two staff reporters
anonymously give their best advice*

What is your favorite restaurant?

Texas Roadhouse is, by far, the best restaurant known to man. Their buttery golden rolls are to-die-for! Plus, the cinnamon butter is heaven served in a dish. Everything from their music selection to the dancing and to the food itself is just spectacular. The service is wonderful and, can I just say again, that the food is more than delicious?

Which is better: milkshakes or smoothies?

Milkshakes are definitely superior to smoothies. I mean, who doesn't love blended ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top? Besides, it is by far the best dipping sauce for French fries. While some people prefer the fancy flavors, my favorites are Oreo, vanilla and strawberry.

Sometimes it feels like things are piling up so high, I don't know what to do.

Ms. Albin is always here to help you with any problems you may have. If you don't feel comfortable setting up a meeting, there are tons of helpful resources on her website. I've been in school for a long time and here are a few things that I've learned: Don't pull all-nighters! It is actually a lot better for your health to just go to sleep and start again in the morning. Don't be afraid to

ask for an extension. Just explain to your teacher what has been going on and most of the time they will understand. You can't do this all the time though, and you'll still need to finish the work as soon as possible. High school is supposed to be one of the best times of your life. Stay social and talk to friends you trust. Remember, Canevin is a community. You're not alone.

How do I distinguish between toxic friends and real friends?

If one of your 'friends' is talking behind your back or putting you down, it may be better to distance yourself from this person. This is not an easy task but, in the long run, you'll be thankful. Personally, I have had to let go of a few of my so-called friends. When we were together, I felt belittled and almost inferior to them. I realized, after time, that the people who used to be my friends didn't really care about me. These people were always dragging me down and our friendship was a lot of one-sided work. Real friends, on the other hand, are the ones who are always there, especially when you don't want them to be. They stick with you through thick and thin. You need to remember that it is okay to think of yourself. Your number one priority is your own mental health and happiness.

A Day in the Life of the Bookkeeper



“I enjoy being a part of a tight-knit community rooted in the Catholic faith,” said Bishop Canevin’s bookkeeper, Judi Palastro. She has been the school’s bookkeeper for more than ten years. For numerous generations, Canevin has been a cornerstone of the Palastro family. Her husband, children, brothers-in-law, sister-in-law and nephews have all graduated from Canevin.

A typical day for Palastro begins with checking and responding to any emails or phone calls. Next, she reviews any bills that need to be paid and handles payment. Twice a month, Palastro deals with the school’s

payroll. Some of her other responsibilities include paying invoices, processing deposits, and reviewing tuition accounts. Despite the pandemic, Palastro has been able to continue working in an efficient manner. “I’ve been very lucky that the pandemic has not made my job more difficult,” she said.

Being the school’s bookkeeper is not an easy task. It takes a lot of time, effort and accuracy. Palastro works hard every day, but it is a job she enjoys doing. She is proud of being employed at a school that has been a part of her family for many years, and Canevin is very lucky to have her as part of its family.

Book Review: *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue*

Renee LaGrosse | Section and Sports Editor

Meet Addie LaRue, a young oppressed village girl in 1714 France. Addie craves freedom and, in a night of desperation, she receives it. But at what cost? On the night before her wedding she runs for the woods. She hopes that one of the gods will hear her pleas and grant her the freedom she so desperately desires. But Addie knows that she shouldn't pray at night. She prays for more time and freedom, and darkness answers her pleas.

The darkness – the devil – offers her a deal: she will live forever, but she will be forgotten by everyone she meets. She will get her time and freedom. She is no longer remembered, and no one can oppress a girl who is all but invisible to their memories.

Three hundred years surrounded by people but utterly alone. At the end of

the night no one remembers her name or even the freckles on her face. It is now 2014 and Addie is in New York City. Soon her invisible life is changed; a boy remembers her name.

It pains me to even critique this beautiful novel by V. E. Schwab, but then there would be no review to write. The beginning of the story is slow, like watching water come to a boil. The writing itself is almost poetic which makes me wonder what the author's true intention was. But once readers get past this slow start, they won't be disappointed. The book increasingly gets better and, by the time I had gotten to the middle of the book, it was as if it was glued to my hand.

I highly recommend this book and rate it 4.5/5.

Leonid To Sponsor 2nd Annual Writing Contest

Once again *The Leonid* will be sponsoring a writing contest. Any student (who is not on the newspaper's staff) may enter as many poems or short stories as he or she wishes.

All submissions must be typed and sent to smithc@bishopcanevin.org (or handed to Mrs. Smith

in G105) by March 9. Entries will be judged and the winner will get a five-day supply of cookies from the cafeteria.

The winning poem or short story will be published in *The Leonid's* March issue and all other entries will be published in the Spring *Oracle Literary Magazine*.

Get Published in the *Oracle Literary Magazine*

April 9 is the deadline for submissions of poetry, short stories, artwork, and photographs for publication in the Spring issue of the *Oracle Literary Magazine*. Please submit all works to Mrs. Charlotte Smith in G105

or email her at smithc@bishopcanevin.org.

The *Oracle Literary Magazine* is a proud member of the Quill and Scroll and the Pennsylvania School Press Association.



Movie Review: *Wonder Woman 1984* is a Wondrous Snooze Fest

Adam Reyes | Arts and Entertainment Editor

The DC cinematic universe has been growing in the shadow of the Marvel universe ever since the release of *Man of Steel* in 2013. Due to DC's late entrance into the realm of shared cinematic worlds, their movies have often been compared to Marvel movies which sets the bar incredibly high for all of DC's films. While some have failed to deliver and others have carved out a place in movie lovers' hearts, all of DC's previous films have, at the very least, kept me entertained and excited for the future of their shared universe. That is, until *Wonder Woman 1984* came out.

Wonder Woman 1984 is directed by Patty Jenkins and stars Gal Gadot as the Amazonian warrior, Diana Prince. In this film, Diana finds herself living in the 1980s as she struggles to move on after the death of her lover, Steve Trevor, played by Chris Pine. Now she must deal with the threat of Maxwell Lord, played by Pedro Pascal, and his powers to grant any wish in the world, as well as her friend turned feline, the Cheetah, played by Kristin Wiig. Right from the start until the credits roll, I had to fight myself to pay attention to this film.

Wonder Woman 1984 suffers from some of the worst pacing issues I have ever seen in a film to date. Long dialogue scenes, a very slow start, atrocious scene cuts, and just not a very interesting book to begin with. Not to mention the enormous plot holes in this film which include, but are not limited to, how inhumane the movie brings back Steve Trevor, Diana for

some reason learns to fly, and Maxwell Lord can walk into the Oval Office and literally see the exact device he needs to fulfill his evil plot. These are just a few brief examples of the incompetent film writing of Patty Jenkins who, I thought, knew the character after the first *Wonder Woman* film and had a real understanding of Diana, but apparently she doesn't.

The previous film gave Diana this feminist power and made her one of the coolest superheroes who stood for power and flipped the script when it came to female heroes. This film tosses all of that character development with feminist power and tosses it out the window for Diana and Trevor's terrible plot line which make it feel like *Wonder Woman*, of all people, has to rely on a dead man to be a powerful Amazonian princess. Every other aspect of this movie is just mediocre to bad; the action isn't memorable and is just a boggy CGI mess; and the '80s theme brings nothing we haven't seen before in the thousands of other '80s era films and shows.

Cinematography in this film is just bland except for maybe two very good shots; the sound design is alright with some nice '80s inspired tracks; and the setting is overall excellent except for maybe Kristin Wiig as Cheetah who just feels like she doesn't know how to play her own character.


Wonder Woman 1984 is a bogged-down mess of a film with plot holes the size of the DC universe and an overall mediocre production that made me want to fall asleep.

Photographs Needed for Canevin Exhibit

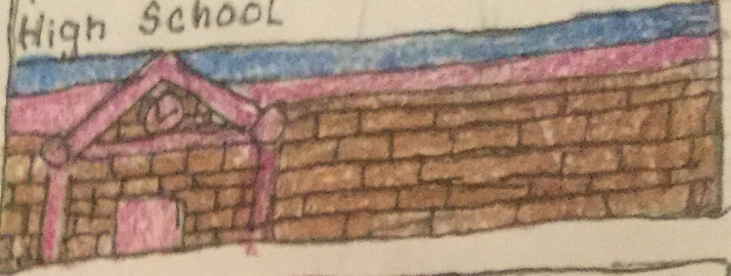
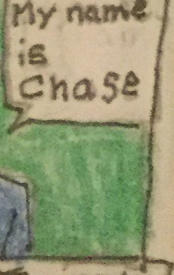
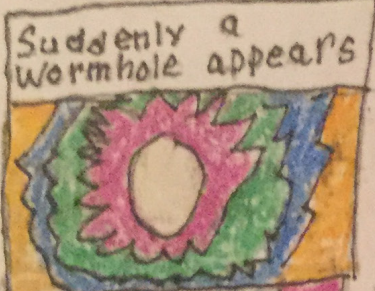
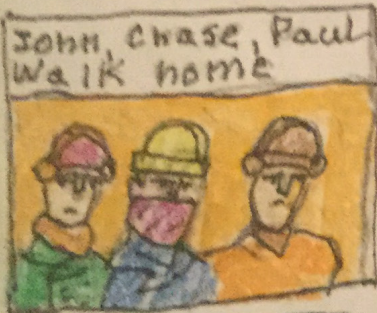
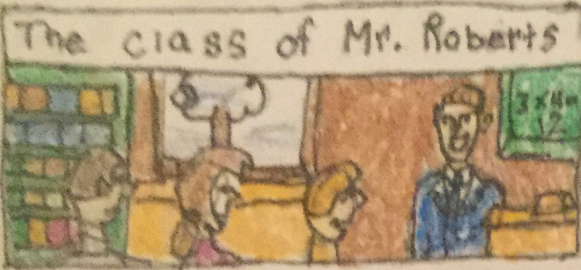


The Carnegie Municipal Building will again be the site for the 2nd Annual Spring Exhibit of the Photography Club. Any student who wishes to exhibit should give a 4x6 print of their work to Mrs. Charlotte Smith, moderator, in G105 by March 15. All photographs will be then framed and labeled. The exhibit will run from April 1-May 31.

The Time Traveling Teenagers
 Meet Esther Howland
 By Gabriella Gerbino



1 Day at
 Martin Van Buren
 High School

LaGrosse Wins Two Writing Awards

Rutanya Taylor | Staff Reporter

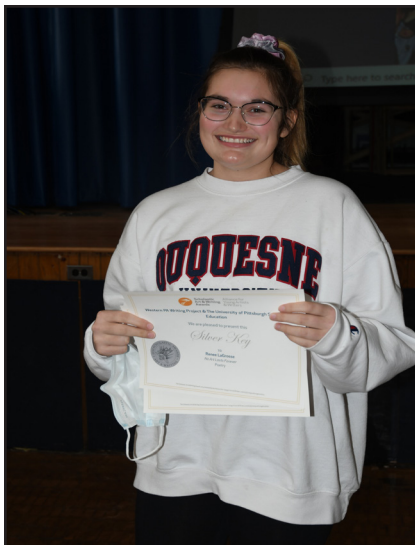
Junior Renee LaGrosse was recently notified as a winner of two awards given by the 2021 Scholastic Art & Writing Contest presented by the Western PA Writing Project and The University of Pittsburgh School of Education.

She won a Silver Key for her poem “No Art Lasts Forever” (printed below) and an Honorable Mention for her poem “Toxic Times.”

LaGrosse is also Section and Sports Editor with The Leonid and a member of the Girls’ Tennis Team.

Since 1921 the Awards have recognized some of America’s most celebrated artists and writers while they were still teenagers, including Stephen King, Andy Warhol, and Joyce Carole Oates.

Due to COVID, the Writing Project will be unable to host a regional ceremony but LaGrosse’s remarkable work was recognized by a panel of creative professionals as the most outstanding



submitted among her peers. She received Certificates of Recognition and was invited to apply for a Scholastic Awards scholarship. Bishop Canevin was the only Diocesan high school named among the regional winning schools.

No Art Lasts Forever

I knew a girl once, whose head was always down, and lips always in a frown.
 She smelled of cinnamon and a soft winter wind.
 I didn’t see the ghostly smile on her face or the sadness in her eyes.
 I saw the ghost of who she used to be.
 It was there all along, hiding under the suffering and anxiety.
 This girl and I grew apart, like rain falling on chalk art.
 She was a friend of mine. I don’t think she considered me one too, but we always stuck together like glue.
 We laughed together and cried together; we were together forever.
 And this girl and I were friends, but it seemed forever wasn’t very long.
 I still remember her whenever I hear our song.
 I cry out silent tears, remembering the girl who smelled like cinnamon and of the time we danced in the rain.
 Her and I were unstoppable together, but that night in the rain, something had changed.
 The wind blew away the remnants of our years.
 The night of whistling wind had cried to the music of the spheres.
 Those dreadful tears came down softly, mixing with the rain.
 The same rain that washed away the chalk memories,
 And nothing WAS LEFT, nothing at all.
 The rain washed the memories away, pulling it apart, just like chalk art.
 How much I long to be there again, listening to our song while dancing in the rain.
 It seemed as if it was in vain, all of our memories down the drain.
 And even if I never see her again, I will still remember how beautiful our friendship was.
 Even if it wasn’t meant to last, I loved the chalk art before it was splashed.

Journalism Students and Photography Club Enriched by Visiting Speakers’ Talks



Jennifer Jordan, the co-founder of Unabridged Press of Point Park University, recently Zoomed with the Journalism I and II students to discuss her roundabout way to becoming a journalist and publisher. When she was a student at Our Lady of Grace elementary school, she became interested in diversity and inclusion topics through a liberation theology class they offered. As an adult, she worked with Emmaus House in Albany, NY before moving back to Pittsburgh and becoming the environmental reporter, host and managing editor of “The Allegheny Front” public radio program. Eventually she became director of All-Abilities Media for the Center for Media Innovation at Point Park. One of her goals is to get newsrooms in the region and across the country to create more inclusive content for people with disabilities.

Additionally, journalism students recently learned how to make a viewbook using Canva as taught by Madeleine Doyle, BC Director of

Admissions, who uses Canva for many of her marketing tools and presentations.

The class also had a two-day session on using Photoshop to edit photos and online content which was taught by Ross Insana who has been producing original creative content for Canevin’s football and basketball teams and Upper St. Clair High School’s football team. He has worked in video for the MLB and NHL Networks and won a Sports Emmy Award in 2015.

The Photography Club, chaired by junior Alysha Cutri, sponsored Jason Minear as a speaker during one of last month’s activity periods. The Executive Vice President of Sales for HealthPlus, Inc., his “hobby” is taking and editing photographs with his cell phone. He does not use a camera. His work has been seen in Capture::Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Creative Advertising Agency, and Pittsburgh Beautiful and has been rated one of the Best in Pittsburgh Photographers.



Get to Know the Class of 2021

Sarah Barron | Staff Reporter



Matthew Mell is an exceptionally active senior who is not only on the Boys Volleyball team and the bowling team, but is also captain of both the Academic Team and BCDC (audio visual/digital) and President of the National Honor Society. He directs the technology crew for BCTV's show that airs every Friday. He is a member of the St. Ignatius Scholars and the Stage Crew for the Spring Musical. When asked about one of his favorite memories during his time at Canevin, he shared a story about creating a "Cake Club" during his sophomore year with Adam Reyes, Samuel Nicolella, Christian Andrews and Jack Mickle. During the entire year, every Wednesday a different club member would bake a cake and bring it to school where they would eat it and critique it at lunchtime. He said it was a fun way to bond with his friends and create great memories. After high school, Matt plans on attending either The University of Pittsburgh or Carnegie Mellon University to study Computer Science.

Brennan Hipkiss is another senior following a long family line of Canevin alumni including his two brothers. He has been a powerful member of the Boys Basketball team for the last four years and ran a successful season on the cross country team this past fall. He is involved in the International Club and the St. Ignatius Scholars program. He also hopes to be on the track team this spring. He enjoys playing basketball with his friends and video games or watching Netflix in his spare time. His favorite memory is appreciating his freshman year because it was all so new and exciting. He made new friends and cheered on his classmates at many Canevin sports events.



Victoria Legleitner, or Tori as she prefers, has played a dominant role on the Lady Crusaders Soccer team for the last four years, two of which she played as goalie, leading the team to many victories. This past fall she helped the team in achieving their first Section Championship in a long while. Her brother also went to Canevin. Tori is involved in the International Club, St. Ignatius Scholars, Student Government and the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). One of her favorite memories is the New York City trip that the St. Ignatius Scholars went on two years ago. Currently she is unsure of which college she will be attending in the fall.

Elizabeth Volz, or Lizzy, has followed her two sisters in attending Canevin. She is involved in the International Club, the swim team, the cross country team, and the cheerleading team. She has been a competitive runner for the last four years and is considering running while in college. Lizzy is also a Student Ambassador and president of her local district of the 4-H Club. Her favorite memories at Canevin involve the summer Mission Trip. She enjoyed helping her community alongside her friends. Lizzy plans on studying business at college.



Abby Sysak belongs to Koska House and has played on the Lady Crusaders Soccer team for the last four years as well as running on the cross country team. She is part of the International Club and the National Honor Society and is this year's Vice President of Student Government. She enjoys painting and likes to travel. One of her favorite memories involved a bug on the floor in the cafeteria which frenzy was handled with grace by Mr. Schlicht. She plans on attending college and maybe law school afterwards.

Swim Team Update

Sarah Barron | Staff Reporter

This year, as with any other activity, the pandemic has definitely taken its toll on the Canevin Carlynton Swim Team, coached by Emily Brill and Michael Schneiderlochner. However, the team is doing their best and achieving great success in doing so. They are well on their way to clinching their fifth Section title in a row this season.

Their biggest competitor was Keystone Oaks and both the girls and the boys teams defeated them. The girls' win came down to the last event, the 400 freestyle relay, in which Canevin's Libby Hitchings and Sarah Barron got first place, along with two other girls from

Carlynton High School. The team has 11 seniors, including Canevin's Jack Mickle, Samuel Nicolella, Carson Gaitens, Lizzy Volz, Garrett Nolf, Gavin Nolf, and Sarah Barron.

The team additionally has two juniors, six sophomores and two freshmen. They will be competing in four more section meets to determine their place. Due to the pandemic, the qualifying times for the WPIAL Championship have been lowered, making it more difficult to qualify. This is to reduce the amount of people at the meet to maintain social distancing outside of the pool. The coaches are still hoping to have several boys and girls from this team qualify for the meet.

Girls' Basketball Keeps Pushing Through

Keyshawn McCaskill | Staff Reporter

The Bishop Canevin Girls' Basketball team has hit some bumps in the road, but that has not stopped them from pushing through. As of publication date, with an overall record of 4-2 and a league record of 3-2, the girls have shown that even with obstacles, they are determined to achieve greatness.

Make sure, if you get the chance/time, to come watch them live and show your support as there are only

five games left. The team is led by Senior Captains Rutanya Taylor and Savannah Abbott. Taylor started playing basketball while at John F. Kennedy Elementary School and Abbott began eight years ago at Holy Trinity. Both have played all four years of high school ball and have showed great dedication and leadership to the team and their sport.

Canevin Candid



The girls' volleyball team were presented with their WPIAL medals.



Library Club members show the "Date with a Book" choices.



Ms. Barber is greeted at the door by the football team giving out Valentine's Day flowers.



Girls' basketball captains Rutanya Taylor and Savannah Abbott before a game.



Two members of the Ski Club enjoy the Seven Springs trip.



Mrs. Miller and Ms. Barber get in the spirit of Twin Day during Catholic Schools Week.



Erin Egan is the latest AMDG winner.



Roses are Red
Violets are Blue
I bought my yearbook
And you can too!

Order your yearbook by
February 28th at
www.jostens.com for \$85

Piece together a part of history!

**Bishop Canevin 150-piece puzzles
are available for \$10 each**

**Contact Charlotte Smith at
smithc@bishopcanevin.org to purchase one
today! Limited supply available**

***Proceeds support the Bishop Canevin Hall of
Fame and Museum—
set to open late summer 2021***

