



Colleen Smythe and NDA Principal Kim Grilliot

Colleen Smythe Named National Merit Finalist

Notre Dame Academy (NDA) senior Colleen Smythe was named a 2010 National Merit Finalist in February. She joins a unique group that represents the 15,000 highest-scoring entrants in each state, less than one percent of each state's high school seniors.

Ms. Smythe has continually earned first honors since freshman year. She's taken numerous Advanced Placement (AP) classes including AP Chemistry, AP Calculus AB, AP Spanish, AP U.S. History, and the Honors Engineering Class.

She has been involved in Student Council for three years serving as executive secretary this year, she is editor-in-chief of VISTA, the school newspaper, and performed on the speech team. She played freshman and junior varsity volleyball for the Eagles, has run cross country her junior and senior years and serves as team captain this year, and has participated in track for three years. She earned varsity letters in cross country and track.

An avid community volunteer, Ms. Smythe has worked Race for the Cure, did office work for St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, and helped with the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Toledo newsletter, *Up the Down Staircase*, for two years. She has participated for three years in the NDA Christmas service trip to Harlan, Kentucky helping to organizing a toy store and hosting a Christmas party for local families. In addition, she has served at NDA as a tour guide and at summer volleyball camps.

She is considering University of Dayton, The Ohio State University, and University of Michigan.