

# Students trim tuition with summer chores

By Rob Cullivan  
Staff writer

ELMIRA — In the event of enemy attack, Shawn Chamberlain is the man to turn to here.

Chamberlain, a junior at Notre Dame High School, is one of the select few privy to information on the whereabouts of the high school's old network of fallout-shelter tunnels.

The student spent one of his days this summer storing items down in the tunnels. But Chamberlain isn't preparing to survive Armageddon; he's just looking to survive the next school year.

Like several other Notre Dame students, Chamberlain is performing maintenance duties this summer to help pay off part of his tuition. On average, 10 students a week show up to help the school's maintenance staff strip floors, paint walls and fix signs to make the learning institution spick-and-span for the fall.

For every week he or she works, a student knocks off \$100 from his or her tuition. Chamberlain said he's worked off \$800 since he started in June.

"We've had a lot of fun," he said. "We got to go to the fallout-shelter tunnels. We almost got lost. We had to take something down there and had to go through one of the tunnels and one of the maintenance guys turned the light off. We were down there falling over things, screaming and yelling."

Fortunately, the maintenance man returned and shed light on the situation, as it were. Chamberlain and his friends emerged unscathed from their escapade, though their panic might make one question the wisdom of the nation's Civil Defense planning.

Above ground, sophomore Richard Kunz has been cleaning desks, mopping floors and putting up lights. For Kunz, who began working at the school the summer before his freshman year, the job has expanded his social circle in addition to his repertoire of cleaning skills. "I met kids who were in it last year, so that helped a lot," he said. Kunz also met Sister Arlene Semesky, a home-economics instructor who has helped supervise the student workers for the last three summers. Sister Semesky will oversee the school cafeteria this fall, a job which will give her a chance

to admire Kunz's work, which included buffing the cafeteria's floors this summer.

"They do a wonderful job," Sister Semesky commented.

From his vantage point on third base, senior Bryan Granger, a varsity baseball player, can look upon the Notre Dame dugouts he painted last month with his father Alex, a member of the Notre Dame Athletic Association.

Granger did the work to help out the school's athletic program, not to pay off tuition. But why not just go to a school that doesn't need volunteers to maintain its facilities?

"Well, that would be no fun," Granger responded. "Everyone's a close unit at Notre Dame, that's why I like it. Everyone helps each other out."

Kunz expressed similar sentiments. He noted that the extra time and effort he expends to attend a Catholic high school is worth the trouble.

"Everybody knows your name," he said. "You're treated friendly."



Freshman Jason Seeley gets a little more paint on his brush during Friday's work. Students who perform maintenance duties at the school receive reductions in their tuition.



Megan Barbier and Richard Kunz, students at Notre Dame High School in Elmira, arm themselves with mops to help get the school ready for opening day, Sept. 6.

Christopher Millette

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A: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Each week, the Catholic Courier, in conjunction with the House of Guitars will feature a Music Trivia contest. All you have to do to enter is answer the question, fill in your name and address and the school you attend (if applicable), cut out the coupon and send it in to the Catholic Courier. If more than one correct entry is received, a drawing will be held and one winning entry will be drawn.

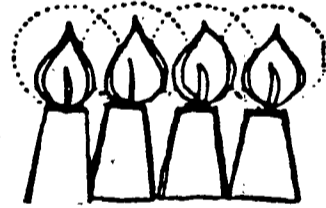
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All entries must be received within seven days of this paper's issue date. Winning names and answers will be printed the week following each drawing.

The Catholic Courier  
Music Trivia  
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\*\*\*Each participant may choose ONE of the following Workshops.

- A. Liturgy/Scripture: understanding the season through the prayers and readings of Advent/Christmas/Epiphany; directed especially for planners.
- B. Music: exploration of the music of the season and contemporary options, directed toward Liturgical Musicians.
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