

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 1, 2010

St. Mary's Carnival offers fun and diversion Feb. 5-7 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – It's a community tradition that continues to be enjoyed by people of all ages: the St. Mary's Central High School Carnival. Now in its 59th year, the fun starts Friday, Feb. 5, and runs through Sunday, Feb. 7 and features live auctions, a silent auction, bingo and Midway games, prizes, baked goods, a used book sale, meals, concessions and more. In addition, lucky raffle ticket holders will win a 2010 Ford Mustang convertible and other great prizes. All activities take place at the school at 1025 N. Second St. in Bismarck.

Hundreds of volunteers from Bismarck's five Catholic parishes make the event possible. They are donating white elephant items and used books, preparing baked goods, running carnival games, preparing and serving dinners on Friday and Saturday night, and a brunch on Sunday, and helping in many other ways.

The live auction on Friday night is new this year, event chairman J.P. Moszer said. There is also a live action on Saturday and some of the items up for auction this year include time share vacation packages, pheasant hunting trips, Minnesota pro sports packages, and much more. The live auctions start at 7:45 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and will be held in the school's West gym.

The silent auction, which runs all three days, includes items such as collectible memorabilia, gift certificates to local businesses, and many other unique items. There will be several tables featuring "buy today" items, so the selection will change as items are sold and new items go on the auction.

Raffle tickets are on sale now at the Catholic parish offices and at the St. Mary's Central High School office and can also be purchased from parish members and at the carnival. Raffle prizes include the Ford Mustang, 40-inch high definition TV, laptop computer, Bose Wave sound system, digital camcorder, Ipod, and a Playstation PSP. The drawing will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 7. Winners do not need to be present to win.

St. Mary's Central High School is handicapped accessible and parking is free. Shuttles will also run from the West parking lot of the Capitol to the school.

More information is available at www.smchs.org. Proceeds support Catholic education.

- MORE -

St. Mary's Central High School Carnival Schedule of Events:

Friday: Roast pork dinner, 4:30 – 7:30, \$7 adults and \$4 children under 12; Ladies activities including white elephant items, baked goods, used book sale, 4 – 9:30 p.m.; Bingo 5 – 9:30 p.m.; Midway games, silent auction, concessions, pull tabs and more 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.; and live auction, 7:45 p.m. Shuttle service from the West parking lot at the Capitol will be available 4 –10 p.m.

Saturday: Midway games, silent auction, concessions, used book sale, white elephant items, baked goods, pull tabs, and more, noon – 9:30 p.m. (including kids' matinee on the Midway, noon - 4 p.m.); bingo, 1 – 9:30 p.m.; fried chicken dinner 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. (\$7 adults and \$4 children under 12); and live auction, 7:45 p.m. Shuttle service will be available noon -10 p.m.

Sunday: Brunch featuring pancakes, sausage, ham, eggs, and fruit, and beverages, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (\$7 adults and \$4 children under 12); Ladies activities including white elephant items, baked goods, and used book sale 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Midway games, concessions, and more 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; silent auction continues with bidding ending at 3 p.m.; Bingo, noon – 4 p.m. The raffle prize drawing for the car and other prizes is at 4 p.m. Individuals do not need to be present to win. Shuttle service will be available 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

###