



Mr. Suska to lecture at conference

Alan Suska, the instrumental music teacher at JPPI, this summer will travel to California where he has been invited to be a guest performer and lecturer at the Christian Scholar Conference at Pepperdine University.

In January, Mr. Suska played trumpet for a recital by a voice student at Lipscomb University. When her proposal to perform at the Christian Scholar Conference was accepted, she asked Mr. Suska if he would like to play for her again and to be a lecturer at the conference.

He will speak about the use of trumpet in the piece, "Let the Bright Seraphim," from the oratorio "Samson" written by Handel, and performance techniques, Mr. Suska said.

It won't be a new experience for Mr. Suska. He's lectured before on brass techniques and brass pedagogy as a clinician for Yamaha Musical Instrument. He's also lectured on the Smart Music software, produced by Make Music Inc. He is a clinician for that company as well.

"I love it, absolutely love it," Mr. Suska said. "I enjoy teaching. ... I enjoy the questions, enjoy the problem solving."

COMPLICATED JOURNEY BRINGS MR. FINDLEY TO JPPI

Chris Findley's life has taken many twists and turns leading him to Pope John Paul II High School, where he is the chair of the theology department. As a teenager, he dreamt of a life in the sky flying airplanes. After college, he ended up as an officer in the U.S. Army. From the military he moved into ministry and was ordained as an Episcopal priest. But after leaving the Episcopal Church and converting to Catholicism, Mr. Findley found himself as a teacher at JPPI. "I enjoy the process of teaching," Mr. Findley said.



Chris Findley

After graduating from high school in Jackson, Miss., Mr. Findley majored in aviation management at Auburn University. While a student at Auburn, he earned his pilot's license and became a flight instructor. He attended college on a ROTC scholarship, and after graduating was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1994. For most of his time in the Army, he served as a battalion logistics officer at Fort Campbell. But while he was in the Army, his life was already taking another twist that would send him to the ministry.

"I got really involved in my church," Mr. Findley said. After leaving the Army, he and his wife, Sheryl, moved to Pittsburgh where he enrolled in the seminary. After his ordination, he was used by his diocese in Tennessee as a church planter, charged with starting a new church in Goodlettsville. But even as he was having success in building the congregation, he was wrestling with his vocation. "I always felt a bit like a fish out of water," he explained. "I'm a traditional guy," but the

JPPI DRUM LINE BEGINS COMPETING

The Percussion Ensemble class at JPPI has reached a new landmark. For the first time, the class has begun competing as a drum line.

"We've been growing the drum line and people are growing more interested," said Alan Suska, the instrumental music teacher at JPPI. The percussion ensemble class performed at an exhibition at Long Hollow Baptist Church in September, that included drum lines from several schools in Sumner County, he said. "They saw what some of the other drum lines were doing," and asked Mr. Suska about the possibility of competing. They are ecstatic about starting to compete," Mr. Suska said.

The class competed for the first time in a competition at

Episcopal Church was moving in another direction, he said.

"I wasn't looking at Catholicism at all," Mr. Findley said. But after studying the issue he realized, "This is sort of where I've been my whole life and I didn't know it."

He was confirmed and received into the Catholic Church in 2007. JPPI's founding headmaster Hans Broekman and Nashville Bishop David Choby encouraged him to consider teaching, and he joined the JPPI faculty in the fall of 2007. "They were taking a chance," Mr. Findley said. "It has worked out. It's been a blessing to me and my family."

Teaching the church history and sacraments classes at JPPI give him the chance to continue his ministry, Mr. Findley said. "I want to balance the academic and the pastoral. I want the kids to really love their faith, love their God and live lives that are faithful. ... I'm hoping we're planting seeds that will bear fruit in time."

For the last two years, Mr. Findley has also served as the chair of the theology department, working with the other teachers and trying to shape and guide the school's theology curriculum. "Overall we want the kids to have an awareness and knowledge of their faith that leads them to living out their faith," Mr. Findley said.

From his first days at JPPI, Mr. Findley has been impressed with the school's faculty. They all share the same goal: doing whatever it takes to help their students succeed. "That to me is very impressive," Mr. Findley said.

Since coming to JPPI, Mr. Findley has rekindled his passion for flying. He now teaches flying at Wings of Eagles Flight School at John Tune Airport in Nashville. Taylor Holmes, a 2010 graduate of JPPI, was one of Mr. Findley's students and earned his own pilot's license. "I love the freedom of flying," Mr. Findley said. "When I'm up there I'm fully in that moment."

Greenwood High School in Bowling Green, Ky., which was part of the Southeastern Color Guard Circuit. They competed in the Scholastic Non-moving Class this first year, which is for new programs, Mr. Suska said. The Percussion Ensemble class has 13 students, and all of them participated in the drum line competition, Mr. Suska said. Seniors Jacob Leshikar and Mimi Glass are the captains of the drum line. "I would like to see a max of 18 (students). That would allow them to use some larger percussion ensemble works."

Chris Nelson, a professional percussion player in Nashville, helps Mr. Suska teach the course, gives private lessons, and helps with the drum line.

"I've been real pleased with the kids' effort," Mr. Suska said.



117 Caldwell Drive
Hendersonville, TN 37075

info@jp2hs.org

www.jp2hs.org

VISION 2016 STRATEGIC PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC TO READ

Continued from page 1

Among the recommendations included in the plan is an increase in opportunities for international travel for JPPI students, Mr. Weber said. Work has already begun on several initiatives in that area, including a new exchange program with a Catholic school in Germany. The program will be similar to the Loughlin Scholars program where JPPI rising sophomores spend three weeks in England staying with families of students at St. Edmund's College. The JPPI students then host their British counterparts for three weeks at the start of the school year. The programs will provide JPPI students a relatively cheap way to spend significant time in a foreign country, Mr. Weber said.

The school is planning a trip to the Holy Land and a mission trip to Honduras in the future. JPPI will try to maintain a two year calendar of trips abroad so families can plan ahead, Mr. Weber said.

Among the academic initiatives included in Vision 2016 is a plan to offer a class in Mandarin Chinese within the next five years, Mr. Weber said. JPPI also will expand its Advanced Placement program, with the goal of every student taking at least one AP class before they graduate. Research has shown that students who take an AP class in high school, do better in college. Also, Mr. Weber hopes to expand an Independent Research Class that has been piloted this year. "I think that is a great model for seniors as they get ready for college."

Vision 2016 calls for the development of a long-term, comprehensive master plan for the school's facilities, Mr. Weber said. The board would like to expand the fine arts wing and make additions to the athletic facilities, he said.

The plan also calls for the school to be greener through efforts that will involve students, faculty and the school's business office, Mr. Weber said.

JPPI plans to advertise the new strategic plan by inviting not only the Sumner County community to read it, but also the broader Catholic community throughout the Diocese of Nashville, which donated money to open JPPI. "We regard them as stakeholders," Mr. Weber said.

JPPI cheerleaders win Jamfest in Indianapolis

The Pope John Paul II High School Football and Competition Cheerleaders traveled to Indianapolis Jan. 14-16 and returned home winners of the Jamfest Cheer Super Nationals competition earning the title of "Class Champion" distinguishing them as the best overall school team. The cheerleaders also won first place in their division, Large Varsity-Spring Floor division. JPPI competed against 16 other schools including two from the Nashville area, Goodpasture and White House Heritage (also winners of their division). To see a video of the JPPI Cheerleaders' performance, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EuBvFWSXXH0>.



Headmaster Faustin Weber ■ 615-822-2375 ■ www.jp2hs.org

FEBRUARY 2011

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR JPPI SUMMER CAMP

The weather outside is frightful, so it's the perfect time to start thinking about the summer at JPPI, when students of all ages will swarm the campus for nearly 50 different summer camps.

"We feel like we have a beautiful facility and beautiful campus," said Sharon Hager, summer camp director for JPPI. The various camps and classes are a "great time to come and try on our campus" and meet some of JPPI's teachers.

All the camps will be taught by members of JPPI's faculty and staff, Mrs. Hager said. "It is a good time to get a taste of what we have physically ... but also what we have talent wise."

The camps will begin the week of June 6-10, and all camps will be half a day with some meeting 9 a.m. to noon and others 12:30-3:30 p.m. This summer, JPPI will once again have a football camp, but it will be held in the evening, 5-8 p.m. June 6-10, Mrs. Hager said. Holding the camp in the evening "gives moms and dads a chance to come out and watch their kids," she added. JPPI

Continued on page 3

VISION 2016 STRATEGIC PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC TO READ

Vision 2016, the new five-year strategic plan for Pope John Paul II High School, is available for people in the community to read on the school's website: www.jp2hs.org.

"I'm very happy with the plan because it represents a real collaboration of parents and faculty and the board," said JPPI Headmaster Faustin Weber. "There's been an elevated sense of Catholic schools since JPPI was founded," he added, and the plan tries to continue that progress.

The plan is organized along six groups of foundational goals, Mr. Weber explained: Faith Initiatives, Academic Initiatives, Environmental Initiatives, Facility Initiatives, Stewardship Initiatives and Professional Development Initiatives.

Continued on page 6



Cassidy Johnson, Shelby Turner, Maggie Finaly and Katherine Roy had pieces accepted for the highly competitive Scholastic Art Show at Cheekwood Museum of Art.

ART STUDENTS SELECTED FOR SCHOLASTIC ART SHOW

Four Pope John Paul II High School visual fine arts students had works accepted in the highly competitive Scholastic Art Show held at Cheekwood Museum of Art.

Junior Maggie Finaly was awarded a Gold Key award for her sculpture, "Balancing Act"; senior, Katherine Roy was awarded a Silver Key award for her sculpture, "Patricia"; junior Shelby Taylor was awarded a Silver Key for her mixed media piece "vivacious"; and junior Cassidy Johnson was awarded a Gold Key and American Vision Nominee for her photograph, "Sanctuary."

These four pieces were among the nearly 900 pieces submitted to the 2011 Scholastic Art Competition, of which only 42 pieces were accepted into the categories of Sculpture, Mixed Media, Ceramics/Glass and Photography.

Although JPPI has had a student receive a Gold Key in the past, this is the first year JPPI has numerous acceptances into the competitive Scholastic Art Show. The work that is awarded Gold Key is juried in New York and has the possibility of going on to the National Show.

The awards reception to honor Gold and Silver Key winners and teachers was held Jan. 29, and the pieces by Gold Key winners will be on exhibit at Cheekwood through Feb. 20.



THIS ISSUE:

- SUMMER CAMP
- STRATEGIC PLAN
- ART HONORS
- JPPI PEOPLE
- MODEL UN
- ALUMNI NEWS
- CONCESSIONS VOLUNTEERS
- SHADOW DAYS
- SIGNINGS

RUTLEDGE TO JOIN HALL OF FAME

ALL COUNTY

SUSKA LECTURE

DRUM LINE

CHRIS FINDLEY

CHEERLEADERS

Admissions Office

615-822-2375

info@jp2hs.org

JPII STUDENTS SIGN SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS



Four Pope John Paul II High School seniors have accepted scholarships to continue their athletic careers in college. Julian Virgo, from left, has signed to play football at Austin Peay State University, Mary Leonard has signed to play women's lacrosse at Davidson College, Leah Loven has signed to play women's soccer at Bellarmine College, and Seth Walker has signed to play football at Yale University.

in 2009 and second team in 2010.

Seth Walker, the son of Debra and Allen Walker, will play football for Yale University in New Haven, Conn. Walker is the first JPII player signed to play football for an Ivy League school. A two-year starter on both the offensive and defensive line for the Knights, Walker was recruited to play defensive line for Yale. He was named an All-Region Scholar Athlete in 2010.

Four seniors at Pope John Paul II High School have accepted scholarship offers to continue their athletic careers in college.

Mary Leonard, the daughter of Kathleen and Ed Leonard, will play women's lacrosse at Davidson College in North Carolina. Leonard is the first JPII student to receive a scholarship to play women's lacrosse in college. She was named All-Region in 2009 and 2010, All State in 2010 and Academic All American in 2010. She is a two time member of the Women's Development National Team in Tennessee and was one of five Tennesseans selected to try out of the national u-19 team.

Leah Loven, the daughter of Leslie and Dr. Keith Loven, will play women's soccer at Bellarmine College in Louisville, Ky. The four year starter for the Knights, she was the All State Defensive Most Valuable Player in 2010, a three-time member of the All-State team, a three time member of the All Midstate team, All Sumner County four years in a row and Sumner County Defensive Player of the Year in 2010.

Julian Virgo, the son of Monica Virgo, will play football for Austin Peay State University in Clarksville. A four-year starter on the offensive and defensive lines for the Knights, Virgo was recruited as an offensive lineman. He was named to the Sumner County All-County first team

COACH RUTLEDGE NAMED TO ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to JPII head football coach Jeff Rutledge who was named to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame for the class of 2011.

This year's inductees include household names such as former Alabama and Seattle Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander and Auburn and Chicago White Sox baseball standout Frank Thomas.

The honor tops off a stellar football career for Coach Rutledge, who quarterbacked Frazier Banks High School in Birmingham to two state championships. Rutledge was a three year starter at quarterback under legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant at the University of Alabama. His teams won three Southeastern Conference championships, and the 1979 National Championship when the Tide beat Penn State 7-0 in the Sugar Bowl. He was named All SEC in both 1977 and 1978.

After graduating from Alabama, Coach Rutledge spent 14 years in the NFL for three different Super Bowl teams, the Rams, Redskins and Giants. Upon retirement from the NFL, Coach Rutledge became the quarterback coach at Vanderbilt University and then became head coach at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville for five years, where he won two state championships. He was then hired as the quarterback coach for the Arizona Cardinals, with direct supervision of future NFL Hall of Famer Kurt Warner. That was the year the Cardinals made the Super Bowl, losing to the Pittsburgh Steelers 27-23.

JPII hired Coach Rutledge in the spring of 2010.

He will be officially inducted to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame on May 21, 2011.

JPII ATHLETES NAMED ALL COUNTY IN FALL SPORTS

Congratulations to Cailin Harris, named Sumner County soccer player of the year, and Leah Loven, Sumner County defensive player of the year, for their exceptional seasons leading the Knights' girls soccer team to the state semi-finals for the third straight year. Also making the all county team from JPII were Lael Smith (first team), Sierra Anglin, Sarah Galvin, Megan Mihaliak and Anna Steele (second team), and Montana Hinson, Bethany Loven (honorable mention).

Other JPII student athletes named All County after the fall seasons were:

Volleyball: Jessica Rogan and Sarah James (first team), Lucy Martin

CONCESSION STANDS PROFIT SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

The JPII Parent Association, with help from teams of parent volunteers, is turning popcorn, hot dogs and drinks into financial support for some of the many teams, clubs and organizations at JPII.

The Parent Association has been asking the various clubs and organizations to provide a group of parents to work the concession stands at JPII football and basketball games, explained Melody Noah, concessions committee chair for the Parent Association. At the end of the season, the profits are divided among the organizations that participated, Mrs. Noah said. "They get one share for every game they work," she said.

Among the groups that have participated so far are the soccer teams, softball, swimming, the prom committee and the jazz band. "It's a great way to get clubs involved," Mrs. Noah said. "One of the things I've enjoyed the most is meeting parents from so many different groups."

At the end of the football season, each participating organization received \$400, Mrs. Noah said. The basketball season had not yet been complete by press time, but Mrs. Noah said, "We're doing very well."

Mrs. Noah would like to expand the concessions program to include games for some of the spring sports, such as soccer and lacrosse. The school has a concessions trailer that can be moved to the lower fields for the spring sports she said. "Hopefully, that will encourage more students to come (to spring sports games) and stay if they have the chance to get a drink or something," she said.



Kim Fox, left, takes money from Martha Hayes while she works in the concessions stand during a recent basketball game with other soccer team parents.

The Parent Association also raises money through the year that it distributes at the end of the school year as teacher grants. One of the fundraisers for those grants is the Publix shopping program. The store makes a donation when JPII parents use a Publix card when shopping there. The Parent Association just earned \$672 for the fourth quarter of 2010, bringing the 12-month total to \$2,342. Publix cards are available in the school office.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR JPII SUMMER CAMP

Continued from page 1

has three former NFL players on its staff, Head Coach Jeff Rutledge, Roger Jones and Justin Geisinger, and all three will be coaching during the camp.

The schedule of camps are divided into three categories: art classes, athletic camps, and academic camps. "We will often have over 475 kids over the course of the summer," Mrs. Hager said. "We have a lot of new offerings this summer so I expect those numbers to be up."

Among the new camps will be a Spanish Immersion class to be taught by JPII Spanish teacher Jackie Beals. As a companion to that class will be "Get Dramatic: Exploring Creative Dramatics and Readers Theater," during which the students will prepare a Readers Theater presentation of the humorous Spanish folk tale, "The Riddle of the Drum."

Other new classes will include: Building an O-Gauge Model Railroad, taught by JPII history teacher Gordon Sutla; All About Girls, taught by JPII English teacher Devin Donovan, using games, role playing and discussion to help girls grow socially, emotionally and intellectually; Teen Leaders - Leadership Training, taught by Ms. Donovan, for students interested in participating in student government; Computer Photo Magic, taught by JPII fine arts teacher Lisa Deal; Digital Documentary: My Family's Journey, taught by JPII history department chair Jennifer Walden; Explore Nashville!, taught by JPII Christian Service Coordinator Melissa Vaughn, who will lead students on field trips to a host of uniquely Nashville historic and cultural locations; and many others. A full list of the camps and registration information is available

JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

We hope to highlight the high school careers of some of our students with reference to their "feeder school."

T.W. Hunter Middle School

Lauren Beedles and Emily McRen first met as fifth graders at Beech Elementary School, and they continued their friendship as students at T.W. Hunter Middle School. And as eighth graders they came to the same decision separately: They both wanted to go to Pope John Paul II High School.



Lauren Beedles

Lauren's father, Mike, runs the Nashville Knights youth sports program at JPII. "Out of the blue one day I told him I wanted to test for here," said Lauren. She liked the cheerleading and sports program at JPII and wanted a better education.

Last May, Emily reached a similar conclusion. "I made the decision to come here for the academics and the lacrosse program," she said. Emily has played with the Hendersonville youth lacrosse program since the sixth grade, and several older brothers and sisters of teammates have gone to JPII. They told her "the school is just a great place to be."



Emily McRen

Besides top notch academics, JPII offers students a wide variety of opportunities to get involved in activities outside the classroom. "There are tons of opportunities here," Emily said.

Lauren is a basketball cheerleader and Emily is playing lacrosse. She also participates in JPII's successful College Model UN program, attending two conferences already and planning to go to her third in April. "It's a really good way to learn about the world," she said. She also hopes to participate in the Loughlin Scholars student exchange program in England this summer.

JPII People ... Lauren Beedles and Emily McRen!

View Points

JPII STUDENTS WIN 31 AWARDS AT AMUN CONFERENCE

The Pope John Paul II High School College Model United Nations (UN) team earned 31 awards at the Arkansas Model UN Conference to bring their eight year total to 276.

Bryan Melcher was elected President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to preside over the court's final case, which is the seventh time in a row that a JPII student was elected to fill this position. Freshman Caleb Pracht was elected Vice President of the ICJ.

Pope John Paul II received five awards for Best Position Papers: the United Kingdom (Maggie Musacchio, Tommy Joe Bednar, Julia Ross, Wilhelm Bunjor, Avery Story, Andrew Jefferies, Bryan Melcher, Rob Wieber), Iran (Ally Harpootlian, Scotty Wright, Will Vanderslice, Eric Stolz, Christian Iversen, Ryan Phillips, Courtney O'Connor, Joe McLaughlin), Finland (Olivia Lovell, Sarah Galvin, Taylor Dunn, Shaughn Phillips, Phillip Bradley), and Poland (Abby Fordham, Alex Price, Emily McRen, Jon Adams, Michael Resha, Carlee Pritchard).

Seven students were selected by their fellow committee members for the prestigious award of Rapporteur or Best Delegate, including Ally Harpootlian, Tommy Joe Bednar, Julia Ross, Wilhelm Bunjor, Avery Story, Andrew Jefferies and Bryan Melcher. Tommy Joe Bednar, Julia Ross, Avery Story and Mack Mayberry earned Outstanding Delegate Awards and an engraved gavel while Jose Aguilar, Taylor Dunn, Ryan Phillips, Alex Abdo, Shaughn Phillips, Eric Stolz, Maggie Musacchio, Ally Harpootlian, Andrew Jefferies, Caleb Pracht, Bryan Melcher, and Rob Wieber received Outstanding Delegate Honorable Mention Awards.

In addition, Pope John Paul II earned an Honorable Mention Best Delegation Award for Iran (Ally Harpootlian, Scotty Wright, Will Vanderslice, Eric Stolz, Natalie Semrow) and Finland (Olivia Lovell, Sarah Galvin, Taylor Dunn, Shaughn Phillips, Phillip Bradley) and for the second year in a row earned the highest conference honor, the Overall Best Delegation Plaque, for the United Kingdom (Maggie Musacchio, Tommy Joe Bednar, Julia Ross, Wilhelm Bunjor, Avery Story, Andrew Jefferies, Bryan Melcher, Rob Wieber).

Overall, 33 of JPII's 54 delegates or 61 percent received one or more awards at this conference.



UPCOMING EVENTS

FRESHMAN/ NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

FEB. 22, 5:30 P.M.

CALL (615) 822-2375 FOR DETAILS

Alumni News

Anna Hartzheim, class of 2005, after a training stint in Texas with lions, tigers and grizzly bears, is now employed as a keeper at the Primate Rescue Center in Kentucky.

John Hartzheim, class of 2007, spent five months in India through St. Olaf's study abroad program. He graduates in May in molecular biology.

Sarah Hartzheim, class of 2009, loved her very busy first year at Ohio Wesleyan as a Spanish/international studies major.

Tanner Taddeo, class of 2010, qualified for three out of five golf tournaments this season for William and Mary College. In the Old Dominion Intercollegiate Invitational Tanner tied for the fourth best first round score in school history.