



Online registration open for Camp JP II

Online registration for the Camp JP II summer program is now open. Those interested can register online by visiting the school's website, www.jp2hs.org/CampJP II.

The Camp JII webpage also includes a link to the program's brochure outlining the 40 camps being offered this summer, including 18 new camps and the return of many all-time favorites like Science Sleuths, Cupcakes and Cookies and the many athletic camps.

Camps are half-day and last for a week. The cost is \$140 each with the exception of the Civil War in Middle Tennessee and Civil Rights in Nashville camps. Both are full-day field trip adventures in and around Nashville.

New this year, Camp JP II is offering early drop off and afternoon care. "First Burst" allows parents to drop off their camper at 7:30 a.m. each day. "Last Blast" allows afternoon campers to stay until 5:30 p.m.

Sign up now and reserve your space for a summer of fun at JP II.

MR. ARCHE RETURNS TO JP II ART DEPARTMENT

At Pope John Paul II High School, the arts are seen as a central part of a Catholic education, said Harvey Arche, the 3-D art teacher this year. That attitude was established by the school's founding headmaster Hans Broekman, Mr. Arche said.



Harvey Arche

"I like it that the arts are so totally integrated into the overall vision of the school," said Mr. Arche, who returned to the faculty this year after a two-year absence. "It's highly beneficial to the school," he said. The emphasis on the arts teaches students that being a human being isn't all about processing information, Mr. Arche said. "It's being able to process the depth and wonder of the world and the beauty of it."

It's important for students to be exposed and introduced to various forms of art, Mr. Arche said. That is an experience "they'll keep for the rest of their lives."

JP II requires its students to take three years of a fine art. In most schools, art is available as an elective, and it is unusual that three years of art is required, Mr. Arche said.

"We don't let kids off the hook," Mr. Arche said. "From the start here, they're put into an amped up art program. It's a more serious program than they're going to encounter at other schools." The goal of the faculty is to help every student succeed, he said. Students need "to trust us to know how to make it work for them."

Mr. Arche grew up in Jacksonville, Fla., and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Florida. After receiving his graduate degree from the Art Institute of Chicago, he taught at the college and university level for

16 years. His first non-university job was teaching art at a private K-12 school in Joplin, Mo. After four years there, he arrived at JP II in the fall of 2005.

During his first stint at JP II, which lasted four years, Mr. Arche taught a variety of visual arts classes, including 2-D art. Now, all his classes are 3-D, which focuses on sculpture and design using a variety of materials.

In many 3-D art programs students work only with clay and ceramics. At JP II, "I'm trying to provide a broad program," Mr. Arche said. "We use all sorts of stuff." For some projects, the students bring in "cast-off odds and ends from home," he said. His students also have used toothpicks, clay that is not fired and plaster. "Anything you can think of is used for sculpture."

Mr. Arche encourages his students to follow their imaginations when they start a new sculpture. Don't start with a finished product in mind, he advises them, but start working and "figure out where it's headed as you go."

Over the years, Mr. Arche has worked in a variety of mediums, including drawing, printmaking, sculpture and photography. For about 10 years, he worked almost exclusively in sculpture. "All of my own work now is photography," which was his introduction to art when he was 12 years old, he said. "I've always done photography to some extent."

Teaching at JP II has been a good experience, Mr. Arche said. "In this place there are things that aren't happening that you would see in other schools," such as competition among the faculty for resources and space. At JP II, it's a team effort among the faculty, according to Mr. Arche. "The faculty here is terrific," he said. "The teachers who come here buy into the mission of the school and welcome it."

"What a great bunch of people to work with," he said.



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KNIGHT ATHLETIC CLUB LENDS HELPING HAND TO JP II SPORTS

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Most of the money the club raises comes from the sales of banners that hang at all the school's sports venues and sales of advertisements in the program, Mr. Lascara said. Other fundraisers include the annual golf tournament held each fall and membership fees, Mr. Lascara said. This year, the Knight Athletic Club bundled its membership fee with an all-sports pass to all events on campus for \$150 he said. In previous years, the all-sports pass cost \$175, so the new program offered a discount and a way to support all JP II athletics through the booster club, he said. "Not only was it our objective to boost membership, but to boost attendance at all events," Mr. Lascara said. "They've been very, very successful."

The club also raised money the last two years through the Ford Test Drive program held at a home football game in conjunction with Miracle Ford of Gallatin. For every test drive taken, Ford Motor Company made a donation to the Knight Athletic Club, Mr. Lascara explained. "It doesn't cost anybody anything to come drive a car."

Besides the fund-raising, the Knight Athletic Club is trying to build a sense of community among the school's supporters, Mr. Lascara said. "I got into it to bring people together," he said. "Work with me side by side and let me get to know you."

The club is open to everyone, including parents, grandparents and alumni, Mr. Lascara said, and members do not have to have a child

participating in sports at JP II. The biggest membership drives come during the summer on the day the school offers free physicals and the day students register, Mr. Lascara said.

Other club officers this year include: 1st Vice President Celeste Duzane; 2nd Vice President John Pelka; Secretary Michele Vanderslice; Treasurer Andrea Bringard; At large Sue Baechle; At Large Eddie Vaughn; At Large Tony Davis; At Large Denise Beedles. Elections of officers are held in May.

"We've really had a great year," Mr. Lascara said. "We're slowly building support. People know what we're about."

JP II, HOUSE OF PIUS IX TO HOST CALDWELL CLASSIC 5 K RUN

Pope John Paul II High School and the House of Pius IX will host the inaugural running of the Caldwell Classic 5K run to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

The race will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 31, at the Jim Carell Athletic Complex. Besides the race around the campus, the event will feature music and lots of fun. Runners and walkers who register before March 14 will receive a free T-shirt commemorating the event. The cost of registration is \$20 and online registration is available at <http://www.active.com/5k-race/hendersonville-tn/the-caldwell-classic-5k-2012>.



JANUARY 2012

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



Jim Carell, who donated the funds for the Jim Carell Athletic Complex at Pope John Paul II High School, gives the thumbs up sign to the crowd during the dedication of the complex in August. Mr. Carell will be the honoree at the JP II Gala on Feb. 11.

JP II TO HONOR JIM CARELL AT GALA ON FEB. 11

Pope John Paul II High School will honor Nashville businessman and philanthropist Jim Carell at its annual gala, to be held Saturday, Feb. 11, at Bluegrass Country Club in Hendersonville.

The school is one of many who have been the recipients of Mr. Carell's generosity. Last year, he donated \$115,000 to the school to pay for the renovation of its weight room. At the dedication of those improvements last May, Mr. Carell surprised JP II's coaches by announcing that he would donate another \$2.7 million to have a new artificial field turf installed in the football stadium, to build a concessions building and restrooms for the stadium, and build a new eight-lane track around the school's soccer field.

Work on the concessions building, restrooms and new field turf were completed in less than 70 days and were dedicated at JP II's first home football game of the 2011 season.

"It's been a transformational gift," JP II Headmaster Faustin Weber said of the project before the dedication.

Mr. Carell told the appreciative crowd gathered for the game and dedication, "This brings tears to my eyes. God has blessed me, and I am happy to be able to do

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KNIGHT ATHLETIC CLUB LENDS HELPING HAND TO JP II SPORTS

Supporting all JP II's student athletes from the stands is the Knight Athletic Club. "The mission is to help all the sports teams" at JP II, said Matthew Lascara, the president of the athletic booster club that was established three years ago.

The club acts as the vehicle to raise funds for all the teams in JP II's athletic program, Mr. Lascara said, "to keep baseball from selling candy bars, to keep basketball from selling poinsettias, to keep it under one umbrella."

The money raised by the Knight Athletic Club helps

fill a variety of needs of the JP II's teams, Mr. Lascara said. "We purchase anything from windscreens to video cameras, soccer goals, and signage for the weight room. We want to help in any way we can."

Recently, the club made a donation of \$49,000 to the school for the Jim Carell Athletic Complex. In exchange, the club received the naming rights for the meeting room in the new concessions building in the complex, Mr. Lascara said.

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JPII STUDENTS MARCH FOR LIFE

This January, 65 JPII students will travel to Washington, D.C., for an experience of participatory democracy, as they join the annual March for Life to protest the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

“We’ve gone four of the last five years and three straight,” said Deacon Brian Edwards, the campus minister at JPII. “If our Catholic faith means anything to us, we just plain have to do these kinds of things.”

“I think we’re as a culture becoming hardened to abortion, to its inevitability,” Deacon Edwards said. “It helps to wake up some of our own kids to what’s really happening, to take a public stand, to see how many others are also on board with that. That we’re not alone. And to hopefully spur them on more to pray about life issues and do something, whatever they’re able to do, to do something public about it.”

About 50 JPII students will ride a bus from the school to Washington and others will be on buses sponsored by the Catholic Youth Office of the Diocese of Nashville and Our Lady of the Lake Church in Hendersonville, Deacon Edwards said.

The JPII bus was scheduled to leave on Saturday, Jan. 21, and to stay overnight at St. Martin of Tours Church in Gaithersburg, Md., outside Washington. Sunday they will attend Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and later that night they will gather for

dinner, a concert and Eucharistic adoration. Monday, the students will travel to the Verizon Center for the Youth Rally and Mass, then walk to the National Mall to hear speeches and prepare for the march to the steps of the Supreme Court building. Deacon Edwards expects to leave Washington that evening for the drive back to Hendersonville.

Interest in making the trip has been growing in recent years, he said. In large part, that’s due to the efforts of brothers Shaughn and Ryan Phillips. Shaughn graduated from JPII last year and Ryan is a senior this year. “They’re really pushing it and getting people behind it. ... They’ve really helped to get a lot of students on board.”

The group will include non-Catholic students as well as Catholic students, Deacon Edwards said. In the past, one non-Catholic student who participated in the March called it “a life changing experience,” he said.

Another factor in the growing interest is the good experience students have had at the March for Life in the past, Deacon Edwards. “I think when they see at the rally the number of people gathered who believe as they believe, who go hundreds and hundreds of miles out of their way to stand up for it ... when they see the crush and crunch of people walking form the (National) Mall to the Supreme Court building who are singing and praying and holding their signs for life, it’s hard not to be moved and to have your way of thinking changed.”

FORMER PLAYERS RETURN FOR JPII ALUMNI HOCKEY GAME

The JPII Hockey Team held its annual alumni game at Centennial Sportsplex over Christmas break. The game pitted Even Year Grads and Varsity Players (Team White) against those of the Odd Year Grads (Team Blue). In a very competitive game Team White managed a 14 to 9 victory led by Dmitry Adams (’08) who scored three goals and had five assists. The White team also had a strong performance in goal from Taylor Holmes (’10) despite his not stepping on the ice in the last two years. Aaron Wiek (’10) and Clay Brewer (’12) also added hat tricks for Team White. Team Blue was led by Ryan MacConnell (’11) with two goals and one assist and Ricky Modrzyński (’11) with two goals. Pictures and full stats are available on JPII Hockey’s Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/groups/JP2Hockey/>.

Those participating were: Coach Pete Nieman, Coach Dean Campeotto, sophomore Hunter Williams, Tom Griffin (’10), Aaron Wiek (’10), senior Clay Brewer, Alex Klein (’10), Matt Wear (’10), Ricky Modrzyński (’11), junior Taylor Deakins, Max Rasmussen (’11), Chris Bourget (’07), Clark Henson (’11), Eddie Leonard (’10), Ryan MacConnell (’11), Jacob Bourget (’09), freshman Jack Mali, junior Mark Vanderslice, freshman Mitchell Honious, sophomore David Campeotto, sophomore Alex Reiland, senior Patrick Griffin, Dmitry Adams (’08), Taylor Holmes (’10), junior Henry Moore, junior Andrew Smith, junior Reed Davis, junior Dylan Follet and junior Michael Campeotto.



All in the family

It was a Peel family feud when the JPII girls’ basketball team traveled to Memphis to take on the St. Benedict Eagles. JPII senior Emily Peel faced off against her cousin Erin Peel, a sophomore post player for St. Benedict. It was the first time the cousins had met on the basketball court. Emily, a team captain, scored eight points in helping the Knights take the 45-37 win over St. Benedict.

STUDENTS FLY HOVERCRAFT TO LEARN SCIENCE



Jacob Telli rides a hovercraft during his freshman physics class. JPII’s science department uses a modeling teaching method to give students more hands-on experiences to learn science.

With more traditional teaching methods, students tend to write down what the teachers says and regurgitate it for tests, without fully understanding the material, Mr. Diamond said. “It’s kind of a game.”

But with modeling, students have to be able to explain the concept, work it out mathematically, graph it and demonstrate it in experiments, he said. With modeling projects like the hovercraft, the students complete accompanying worksheets and they have to articulate why they think they have the right answer, Mr. Diamond said. Their classmates can ask questions, and they all have to agree. The teacher’s job is to make sure they don’t settle on the wrong answer, Mr. Diamond said. The students have to think like scientists, he added.

“Kids tell me, ‘this is hard work. I have to think a lot.’ Right, that’s how we know we’re doing the right thing,” he said.

Teachers can’t cover as much material as with more traditional methods, Mr. Diamond said. “This goes literally at the pace of the kids. ... It’s slower than traditional (methods) ... but they really understand it now.”

Mr. Diamond is sold on the value of modeling. “Research nationally shows this is the better way to do it, especially for science,” he said. “Modeling is a better way of teaching.”

JPII’s freshman physics students have been flying across the auxiliary gym and down the halls – literally – on a homemade hovercraft. The project is all part of the modeling approach the school has adopted for science instruction.

“We’re doing this modeling approach with the whole science department but physics particularly,” explained Luke Diamond, one of the three freshman physics teachers. He, Jessica Rankhorn and Amanda Youell have attended summer workshops for training on the modeling approach in teaching science and last summer the instructor offered to help the teachers in the workshop to build a hovercraft they could use in their classes.

Mr. Diamond, Mrs. Rankhorn and Ms. Youell were among the nearly dozen science teachers at the workshop who took the instructor up on his offer, Mr. Diamond said.

The hovercraft is made of a plywood disc with a hole cut in the center. A leaf blower is attached and blows air through the hole. The underside of the hovercraft is covered with a landscaping tarp that helps trap the air and lift the hovercraft off the ground, Mr. Diamond said.

The freshman physics classes have been studying motion all year, Mr. Diamond said, and before the Christmas break, the students in the advanced classes were studying forces and how it relates to motion. The teachers used “tiny hover pucks” to introduce the concept, he said, and after the students returned to class in January they pulled out the large hovercraft to review the material. “But the hovercraft is cooler,” Mr. Diamond said.

Many of the students were reluctant to try to ride the hovercraft until Mr. Diamond did it first, he said. “They couldn’t believe it would work.”

But once the students started riding it themselves, they were able to cross the auxiliary gym easily as well as the length of the hallway in the athletic wing of the building, Mr. Diamond said.

So far, only the advanced classes have used the hovercraft, but before the school year is over all classes will get a chance to ride it, Mr. Diamond said.

Modeling is a teaching method for science that requires students to be more hands on with the material, Mr. Diamond said. “Instead of us telling you the answer, we provide experiences that allow you to discover the answer.”

JPII TO HONOR JIM CARELL AT GALA ON FEB. 11

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this for you.”

Among the many other gifts that Mr. Carell and his wife, Janet, have made in recent years are: \$4 million toward the construction of a new academic building at Aquinas College; \$2 million for a new athletic complex at Father Ryan High School, Mr. Carell’s alma mater, as well as another gift of \$3.5 million to Father Ryan to pay for a new fitness center, improvements to the Catignani-Drennan Fieldhouse and renovations of the school chapel; St. Cecilia Academy; the Vanderbilt

JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

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

Knox Doss at Drakes Creek Middle School

Macayla Dowdy and Taylor Elkins started middle school together as sixth graders and last fall started high school together as freshmen at Pope John Paul II High School. They are among the members of this year’s freshman class who came to JPII from Knox Doss at Drakes Creek Middle School in Hendersonville.

Macayla followed her older brother Anthony, who graduated from JPII in 2010, after she saw how a JPII education prepared him for college. “My brother got accepted into a really great college,” Macayla said of Anthony. “I decided to come here because it has a great education,” said Macayla.

Though it was hard to leave friends, Taylor and Macayla decided to take on the challenge of JPII. “I knew it was going to be challenging,” Macayla said. Both said the amount of homework they receive at JPII is a big jump from middle school, and Taylor was surprised by the amount of essay writing. “You can’t slack off,” Macayla said. “If you do your work, you can do well.”

Macayla and Taylor quickly made new friends at JPII. And the freshman retreat at Boxwell Boy Scout Camp before the start of the school year was a big help, Taylor said. “That’s how you meet most of your friends,” he added.

Taylor advised students thinking of attending JPII to be prepared for essay writing and to be ready to do all their homework. “Show ‘em your moves and show ‘em your grooves and you got it in the bag,” he joked. Macayla’s message to prospective students: “It will be worth it,” she said. “I really like the place.”

JPII people ... Macayla Dowdy and Taylor Elkins!



Macayla Dowdy



Taylor Elkins

View Points

MODEL UN TEAM BATTLES IT OUT IN BACK-TO-BACK COMPETITIONS

For the first time ever, the Pope John Paul II High School Model United Nations (UN) Team participated in back-to-back Model UN Competitions, attending the Southern United States Model UN Conference the weekend of Nov. 11 and the Arkansas Model UN Conference the weekend of Nov. 18. The team earned 16 awards, raising their nine year total to 323 awards.

On Nov. 11, 34 delegates traveled to Emory University in Atlanta to attend the third annual Southern United States Model UN (SUSMUN) Conference where they competed against 475 students from 27 high schools from Georgia, North and South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Pennsylvania, and as far away as Bermuda. The next weekend, 46 JPII delegates traveled to Conway, Ark., to participate in the 46th Annual Arkansas Model UN (AMUN) Conference, which included more 400 students from 24 high schools in Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi and Tennessee. The AMUN students were led by Head Delegates Meghan Sooker (Australia), Gina Botsko (Canada), Annalea Wilson (North Korea), Grace Wood (Estonia), Ana Volz (Finland), Chance Kuban (Israel), Raina Patel (Italy), Sarah Link (Morocco), Alex Price (South Korea), and Eric Stolz (United Kingdom). JPII delegates won 16 awards, more than any other school.

JPII received five awards for Best Position Papers, more than any other school. Recognized were Australia (Regan Givens, Meghan Sooker, Megan Reding, Anna Reding), Israel (Jacob Jarreau, Chance Kuban, Rob Dedman), North Korea (Hannah Vickery, Allie Smith, Zach Pelka, Annalea Wilson), South Korea (Taylor Wallace, Rachel Leonard, Alex Abdo, Alex Price), and the United Kingdom (Maggie Musacchio, Jonathan Adams, Taylor Dunn, Eric Stolz, Joe McLaughlin, Bryan Melcher, Lucas Pulliza).

Zach Pelka earned an Outstanding Delegate Award and an engraved gavel while Allie Smith, Taylor Dunn, Alex Abdo, Eric Stolz, Maggie Musacchio, Bryan Melcher, Lucas Pulliza and Joe McLaughlin accounted for JPII’s eight Outstanding Delegate Honorable Mention Awards.

In addition, Pope John Paul II earned an Honorable Mention Best Delegation Award for North Korea (Hannah Vickery, Allie Smith, Zach Pelka, Annalea Wilson) and for the third year in a row earned the highest conference honor, the Overall Best Delegation Plaque, for United Kingdom (Maggie Musacchio, Jonathan Adams, Taylor Dunn, Eric Stolz, Joe McLaughlin, Bryan Melcher, Lucas Pulliza).

UPCOMING EVENTS

ORIENTATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

FEB. 28
5:30-8 P.M.

Become part of JPII history

As JPII celebrates its 10th anniversary and the opening of the Jim Carell Athletic Complex, we invite you to become part of history!

JPII is blessed with the extraordinary gift from Mr. Jim Carell. How do we respond to such generosity? “Pay It Forward” with the purchase of a customized \$500 paver that will be placed between the pillars in the front entrance way. Alumni and current students may also be honored with the purchase of a customized \$150 brick engraved with their name and year of graduation.

Contact Patrick Weaver, Director of Advancement and Admissions, at 590-6013 for information on pavers and alumni bricks.

Go Knights!

