

CLASS OF 2013 RECEIVES DIPLOMAS



Photo courtesy of the Tennessee Register
Members of JPPII's class of 2013, from left, Annalea Wilson, Elizabeth Griggs, Alexis Cook, Allie Smith and Brennan Belev, celebrate after commencement exercises held at the Grand Ole Opry on Sunday, May 19.

NEW GRADS EARN \$20M IN SCHOLARSHIPS

The Pope John Paul II High School Class of 2013 was one of the most accomplished in the school's history. The 158 students in the class were offered more than 425 scholarships totaling \$20,665,000 during their college careers, the most in the school's history.

Students in the class were accepted to more than 160 colleges and universities in the United States and Europe and will be attending 57 schools in 20 states. In addition, the class has given more than 19,000 hours of Christian service to the Nashville community during their four years at JPPII.

As they prepared for their graduation on Sunday, May 19, several were honored for their academic, service and athletic accomplishments during their high school years.

Maddie Bologna and Bryan Melcher were announced as the Kmiec Award winners at the Baccalaureate Mass on Saturday, May 18, recognizing their achievements in a variety of areas of school life.

Ben Geist received the Hans Broekman Award for Christian Service, and Chelsea Gettelfinger and Brad Jarreau were honored as JPPII's Scholar-Athletes of the

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CAREER FAIR

ERIN RIGGS

**MATH
AWARDS**

**SPRING
FLING**

Admissions Office
615-822-2375
info@jp2hs.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALUMNI BBQ EXTRAVAGANZA

5-8 P.M.
SATURDAY
JULY 27

CARELL ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Art project wins third place in national contest

Congratulations to Holly Blankenship and Nicholas Baker for placing third at the National Level Catholic Campaign for Human Development's Multi-Media Youth Art Contest!

As the national third prize winner, they will receive a \$250 award and a matching gift to be designated in their name to a Catholic Campaign for Human Development funded group of their choice. In addition, their piece will be featured on the CCHD website and JPPI will receive a \$250 gift certificate from RCL Benziger, a Catholic publisher that sponsors the contest.

Blankenship and Baker's charity of choice is Worker's Dignity, which was founded by JPPI teacher Jack Willey.

View Points

FBLA TEAM TAKES HONORS AT STATE CONFERENCE

The JPPI Future Business Leaders of America team had a strong presence in Chattanooga at the State Leadership Conference. Twenty students competed in several areas including Public Speaking, Impromptu Speaking, Economics, Marketing, Global Business, Management Decision Making and others.

The following students represented JPPI: Zach Abdo, Abigail Cox, Aly Cox, Raina Devrai, Tyler Dorr, Robert Davis, Alyssa Fogolin, Brian Griffin, Heath Herrington, Nick Massa, Connor McCarthy, Greg Mills, Zach Pelka, Lucas Pulliza, Caleb Pracht, Luke Price, Carson Riley, Ben Silverman, Greg Silverman and Sara Williston.

Students placing first were: Tyler Dorr in Parliamentary Procedures, Greg Mills in Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Nick Massa, Connor McCarthy and Raina Devrai in Management Decision Making, Lucas Pulliza, Caleb Pracht and Luke Price in Entrepreneurship. Placing second in Mr. FBLA was Zach Pelka.

Students qualifying for Nationals are Nick Massa, Connor McCarthy, Raina Devrai, Lucas Pulliza, Luke Price, and Caleb Pracht. Nationals will be held June 22-July 1 in Anaheim, Calif.

JPPI business office members Laura Thigpen, Director of Finance and Operations, and Betsy Pierpaoli, Controller, sponsor the team.

STUDENTS ENJOY TRIP TO ITALY

A group of JPPI students and chaperones spent their spring break this year in Italy, visiting Florence, Assisi, Rome and Pompeii. The trip started in Florence where the group saw Michelangelo's David and were educated about Renaissance art, as well as enjoying pasta and gelato. The group attended Easter Mass at the Duomo in Florence. From there the group went to Assisi where they visited St. Francis' basilica.

The group traveled south to Rome where the students visited the Vatican and its museums, including visits to the Sistine Chapel. They also saw the Pieta, the Roman Forum and Colosseum, and the Pantheon. The group took a day trip to see the ruins at Pompeii.

Teachers Alana Wortman and Veronica Del Valle led the trip.

GRADUATES' COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

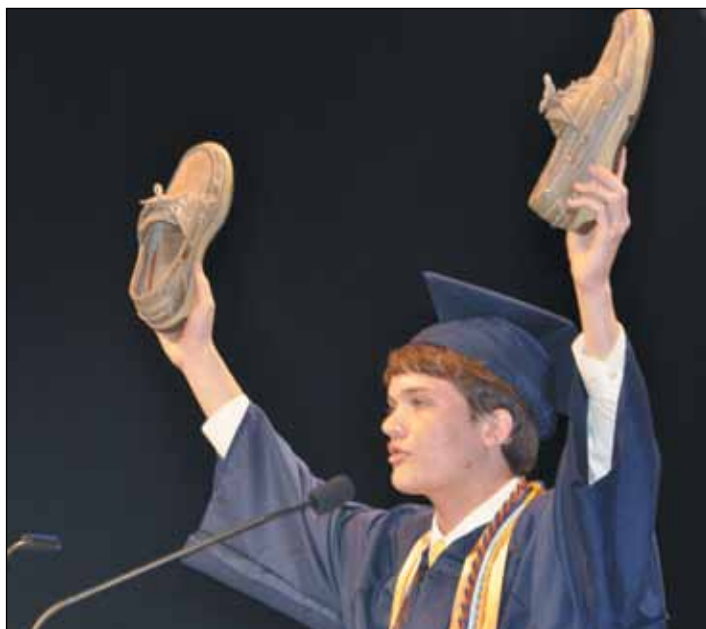
The 2013 graduates of Pope John Paul II High School were accepted to more than 160 different colleges and universities across the country. The schools accepting JPPI students in this year's graduating class were:

University of Alabama at Birmingham ; University of Alabama in Huntsville; University of Alabama ; Allegheny College ; Aquinas College ; Arizona State University; University of Arkansas; Athens Technical College; Auburn University; Austin Peay State University; Ave Maria University; Bard College; Baylor University; Bellarmine University; Belmont University; Berea College; Berry College; Bethel University-TN; Birmingham-Southern College; Boston College; Bryan College; Butler University; University of California at Santa Barbara; Canisius College; Carson-Newman College; Catholic University of America; University of Central Florida; University of Central Oklahoma; Centre College; College of Charleston; Christian Brothers University; The Citadel; Clark University; Clemson University; Columbia College Chicago; Columbia State Community College; Cumberland University; University of Dayton; University of Delaware; University of Denver; DePaul University; DePauw University; Drexel University; Duke University; Duquesne University; East Tennessee State University; Eckerd College; Elmhurst College; University of Evansville; Fisk University; Florida Institute of Technology; University of Florida; Fordham University; Freed-Hardeman University; Furman University; George Mason University; Georgetown College; Georgetown University; Georgia Institute of Technology; University of Georgia; Grace College; Grinnell College; Guilford College; Hanover College; Harding University; High Point University; Hofstra University; College of the Holy Cross; Huntington University; Indiana University at Bloomington; Iona College; Kennesaw State University; King College; Lane College; Lawrence University; Lee University; Lees-McRae College; Lehigh University; Lenoir-Rhyne University; Lincoln Memorial University; Lipscomb University; Louisiana State University; University of Louisville; Loyola University Chicago; Loyola University New Orleans; Marquette University; University of Mary Washington; Maryville College; University of Memphis; Miami University; Oxford; University of Miami; Middle Tennessee State University; Mississippi State University; University of Mississippi; Missouri University of Science and Technology; University of Missouri Columbia; Morehead State University; Nashville State Technical Community College; University of New Haven; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; University of North Carolina at Wilmington; University of Notre Dame; Oakland City University; Oglethorpe University; The Ohio State University; Oklahoma Christian University; Otterbein University; Oxford College of Emory University; Pace University; New York City; University of Pennsylvania; Pepperdine University; University of Portland; Purdue University; Queens University of Charlotte; Rhodes College; Rice University; Roanoke College; University of Rochester; Rollins College; Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology; Saint Joseph's University; Saint Louis University; Saint Mary's University of Minnesota; Saint Xavier University; Samford University; University of San Diego; Santa Clara University; University of Scranton; Seattle University; Sewanee: University of the South; University of South Carolina; Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; Southern Methodist University; Spring Hill College; St. Ambrose University; St. John's College; St. John's University - Manhattan Campus; Tennessee State University; Tennessee Technological University; Tennessee Wesleyan College; University of Tennessee, Chattanooga; University of Tennessee, Knoxville; University of Tennessee, Martin; Transylvania University; Tulane University; United States Air Force Academy; United States Naval Academy; Vanderbilt University; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; University of Virginia; Volunteer State Community College; Washington and Lee University; University of West Alabama; Western Kentucky University; Western New England University; Westmont College; University of Wisconsin, Madison; Wofford College; College of Wooster; Xavier University.



Photos courtesy of the Tennessee Register

The Class of 2013, above, lifts their shoes above their heads during the speech by co-valedictorian Nathan Edwards, below right, during the Commencement Exercises held May 19. Nathan talked about growing more comfortable in his school shoes at JPII over the last four years and how he and his fellow graduates are now preparing to put on a new pair of shoes for the next stage of their lives. Gordon Sutla, below left, a retiring history teacher at JPII, was the speaker for the ceremonies, selected by the students.





SENIOR WALK

Seniors Sara Williston, left, and Aly Cox hug a friend during the annual Senior Walk, when the graduating seniors take their last stroll through the halls of JPII saying goodbye to fellow students, teachers and staff.

NEW GRADS EARN \$20M IN SCHOLARSHIPS

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Year.

For the first time in the school's history, two students tied for the top academic honor of valedictorian: Nathan Edwards and Brennan Belew. The salutatorian was Aly Cox.

Honor graduates were: Madeline Bologa, Alexis Cook, Spencer Frost, Paul Kirby, Nick Massa, Randi Mysinger, Zach Pelka and Allie Smith.

Jenny Cawood received the Director's Award for four years of Outstanding Contribution to the JPII Choral Program.

Mathematics Achievement Awards were presented to Brennan Belew, Margaret Duzane, Nathan Edwards, Logan Frost, Spencer Frost, Rebecca Kaiser, Tony Liu, Mek Nitinunsupakit, Allie Smith, Ben Geist, Nick Massa and Daniel Weber.

Zach Pelka was honored for his Outstanding contribution to Model United Nations, Bryan Melcher for his Outstanding contribution

to Youth in Government; and Carson Riley received the Art Laffer Award for Excellence in Economics.

Hannah Montoney received the Brush Award for excellence in 2-D Design, Demisha Porter received the Chisel Award for excellence in 3D Art, and Holly Blankenship received the Lens Award for excellence in photography.

The School Orchestra Award was given to Elizabeth Griggs; the National Catholic Band Association's Robert F. O'Brien Award was given to Holly Blankenship; the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award was given to Malachi Walker; and the John Phillip Sousa Award was given to Gabe Tiamson.

In the Theater Department, Remington Giles was honored for Outstanding Contribution in Technical Theater; Bryan Melcher was honored for Outstanding Achievement in Performance by an Actor; Margaret Duzane was honored for Outstanding Achievement in Performance by an Actress, and Stefanie Hinesley was honored for

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JPII ATHLETES COMPETE FOR STATE TITLES

JPII's softball and baseball teams, tennis player Andy Druffel and track athlete Michael Koen all traveled to Murfreesboro for the Blue Cross Spring Fling to compete for a state championship.

The softball team wrapped up a stellar season finishing as the state runner-up. The Knights won the East/Middle Region for the first time with a 9-1 record. They earned a spot in the final four at the Blue Cross Spring Fling with two



Sophomore Chelsea Stephenson winds up to deliver a pitch during the Blue Cross Spring Fling. The JPII softball team finished as state runners-up.

wins over Brentwood Academy in the quarterfinals.

In Murfreesboro, the Knights opened the tournament with a 5-4 win over Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga, scoring the winning run in their last at-bat. In the semi-finals of the double elimination tournament, they topped St. Benedict 8-2, giving them a shot at the state championship.

But Baylor, who JPII had beaten 4-3 during the season, was too powerful beating the Knights twice, 10-1 and 17-1, to claim the championship.

The Knights reached several milestones during the season: winning the regular season region championship and beating the two Chattanooga powers, Baylor and GPS, in the same season.

The JPII baseball team also reached a milestone this year qualifying for the Blue Cross Spring Fling for the first time in school history.

In their first game in Murfreesboro, the Knights fell to eventual state champion Christian Brothers High School of Memphis 6-4. In the next game, they were knocked out of the tournament by MBA by a score of 13-3.

The Knights finished with a 24-10 record, and this year's seniors set a new school standard for the most wins during their high school career.

In tennis, senior Andy Druffel returned to the Blue Cross Spring Fling for the second consecutive year, but fell in the quarterfinals of the boys singles tournament to Walker Sims of Memphis University School 6-1, 3-6, 6-3. Druffel is the first boys tennis player from JPII to qualify for the state tournament.

Sophomore Michael Koen medaled in the triple jump, finishing eighth, in his first year competing in the event. He was the only member of the Knights track team to qualify for the state track meet.

Congratulations to all the Knights athletes!

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Outstanding Achievement in Stage Management/Leadership.

The Yearbook Award was given to Krystal Tran and Annalea Wilson.

French students Adam Wood, Meredith Noah and Anna Borowek received honored cards and were inducted into Société Honoraire de Français (French National Honor Society). Jenna Singer received two certificates and a medal for being a national winner on this year's National French Exam placing in the top 10 nationwide. Meredith Noah received Outstanding Senior in French for her overall performance over four years.

Brennan Belew received the Miguel de Cervantes Award from the Spanish Department. Allie Smith, Elizabeth Griggs, Brennan Belew, Spencer Frost, Jenna Singer and Annalea Wilson were inducted into the National Spanish Honor Society.

Nathan Edwards was honored for outstanding performance in

Latin class, for excellent results on the National Latin Exams, for persistence and determination in AP Latin and an A average, and for being a member of the National Junior Classical League and Latin Honor Society.

Holly Blankenship was honored for her commitment to Latin studies and for being a proud member of the Latin Club, National Junior Classical League and Latin Honor Society.

Daniel Weber received the Theology Department Award. Regan Givens won the Science Research Award and Allie Smith the Science Departmental Award. Bryan Melcher received the Journalism Award.

Veritas Council members were Maddie Bologna, Robert Davis, Elizabeth Griggs, Jenna Singer.

Strength and Conditioning Awards were given to Maria Myers as the Female Lifter of the Year and Benton Petty as the Male Lifter of the Year.

ERIN RIGGS EXCITED ABOUT NEW RESPONSIBILITIES AT JPPI

Next year, Erin Riggs will move from the classroom to the front office when she joins the staff of the Admissions Office. "I'd been thinking about doing something different," Mrs. Riggs said. "I love the school. I wasn't ready to leave JPPI, but I was definitely ready for a change."

Mrs. Riggs, who has been a social studies teacher at JPPI since 2005, teaching the Ancient Legacies class to freshmen and the AP Macro Economics class to upperclassmen, is looking forward to her new duties in the Admissions Office.



Erin Riggs

"I love talking to families," she said. "I believe in education and the idea I can help an eighth grader find a school that they are going to love and (where they are going to) grow and learn, I love everything about that."

Besides her duties as a teacher, Mrs. Riggs has also coached the award-winning football and competition cheerleading team at JPPI for the last seven years and has served as an assistant housemaster.

"I feel like I've been in every aspect" of the school, Mrs. Riggs said. "I've worn a lot of hats."

That varied experience will help her as she talks to prospective students and their parents about JPPI, she said.

"I know the school ... from a teacher's perspective. I genuinely know what's going to be expected of the student,"

Mrs. Riggs said. "I've taught freshmen. I know where these kids are going to be in a year."

Having taught JPPI students at all academic levels, Mrs. Riggs said, "I know where kids will fit in the academic program."

Among the features of JPPI that are good for students, Mrs. Riggs said, are the house system and the advising program. Students are assigned to one of six houses at JPPI and their advising group includes students of all grades who are in the same house. The house system and the advising groups allow students to interact with smaller groups within the school.

"I think there is always a lot of pressure about being at a large school, but also something personal about having those smaller groups," Mrs. Riggs said. Interacting with the 100 or so students in a house and the 12 students who meet every day in their advisory group "brings the school to a smaller level," Mrs. Riggs said. "Our advising program is special."

JPPI students "are incredibly diverse" in their talents and interests, Mrs. Riggs said. "We have a range from your typical all star athlete to stars in the choir and the lead of the play. ... There's no one role here that makes you more popular in the student body.

"Whatever your talent is, own it and embrace it," she said. "I love that about JPPI."

Students enjoy their experience at JPPI, Mrs. Riggs said. "What you hear most from the students is how much they love the teachers and how much they feel the teachers helped them. ... At the Senior Walk you see how many are so grateful for the whole experience here," she added.

JPPI STUDENTS WIN MATH HONORS

Pope John Paul II students earned six first place wins and three second place finishes at the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association regional contest, held at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin.

The association sponsors contests in six different areas: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Statistics, Precalculus, Calculus and Advance Topics. Contest exams are prepared one year in advance by college or university math departments. Exams last 80 minutes and include 40 multiple-choice questions.

JPPI's winners included: Algebra II first place Remilia Li, second place Alyssa Rentuza, third place Tyler Dorr; Geometry first place Carolyn Bologna, second place Grace Adcox, sixth place Thomas O'Berry, 10th place Devpaul Chani; Precalculus first place Daniel Edwards, eighth

place Queena Lu; Calculus first place Spencer Frost, fourth place Nathan Edwards, sixth place Allie Smith; Statistics first place Caleb Holton and Brennan Belew, second place Ben Geist, seventh place Stefanie Hinesley, eighth Alex Reiland.

The top scores from the west, middle and east regions will be compared and the top three winners in each subject will be recognized at TMTA's fall meeting in September.

The schools competing at Vol State included JPPI, Davidson Academy, Gallatin High, Hendersonville High, Merroll Hyde Magnet, Portland High, Station Camp High, Sumner Academy, Westmorland Middle, Rucker-Stewart Middle, Aaron Academy and Hendersonville Christian Academy.



First Alumni Career Fair a success

The Alumni office hosted its first annual Alumni Career Fair on May 14 under the direction of JPPI alumni coordinator Megan Forester. "The event provided a great opportunity for JPPI alumni to network with local organizations," said Ms. Forester.

Business professionals were able to provide career advice as well as present current and future opportunities with their companies. "Many alumni walked away with a new appreciation of the job market and insight on career paths they had not yet considered," added Ms. Forester.

Ms. Forester would like to thank the following organizations for supporting this new event and our alumni: Servpro, Deloitte, Kroger, Chick-Fil-a, Thrive Marketing, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville Sounds, Gupton Motors, Freedom Electric Services, OHL, Southwest Airlines, Primerica, Bank of America, Dollar General, Rodan and Fields Dermatologists, TVV Capital, The Therapy Center, New Shackle Island Veterinary Hospital, Holiday Inn Vanderbilt and Imagination Branding.