



Some of Pope John Paul II High School's newest alumni enjoy the graduation ceremonies held Sunday, May 18. Pictured are, from left, Collin Bryant, Garrett Burchfield, Zita Cabello and Angelo Calvo. See inside for more coverage of the Class of 2014's final days at JP II.

BON VOYAGE TO CLASS OF 2014

On Sunday, May 18, at the Grand Ole' Opry, Pope John Paul II High School said good bye to 142 wonderful seniors. They will be continuing their education at 46 colleges and universities in 17 different states and they have earned more than \$17.5 million in scholarship offers.

Congratulations in particular to our valedictorian Susanna

Edwards and salutatorian Raina Devrai, our Kmiec Award Winners (Ideal Graduate) Collin Bryant and Megan Gerstner, our Scholar Athletes of the Year, Paige Scheriger and Austin Hayes, and the Hans Broekman Award winner for Christian Service Ford Sanger.

Congratulations, graduates, and God be with you!



A KNIGHT'S TALE



JPII ALUMNI PAGE



ATHLETICS



SCHOOL



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MR. WEBER TO LEAVE AT END OF NEXT YEAR

Faustin Weber, the headmaster at Pope John Paul II High School, has announced that he will resign at the end of the upcoming 2014-15 school year and move back to the Gulf Coast area where he grew up.

"This last year was one of great change for Diane and me, including my father's sudden death in April, the weddings of our two oldest children, two college graduations and our youngest child's enrollment this fall as a (college) freshman," said Mr. Weber. "As 'empty nesters' now with no family in Nashville, we wish to move closer to my mother and members of our extended family in the Mobile, Ala., area."

Mr. Weber was hired as the school's second headmaster in 2008 after a long career as an educator, administrator and principal at Montgomery Catholic High School in Montgomery, Ala.

"Faustin Weber came to JP II at an important time in our school's young history and has continued the trajectory of excellence forward from our school's founders," said John Sooker, president of the school's board of trustees. "Numerous capital improvements to our facilities, increasing numbers and success in our AP program, new foreign exchange programs, and a deepening of our school's Catholic identity are among his

achievements these last six years. The board is thankful for his unwavering dedication to the school."

"Decisions like this make you take stock," said Mr. Weber. "I've been blessed to work with an outstanding group of men and women here, as well as students who are smart, fun and curious.

"On a personal level, Diane and I have two sons we are proud to call alumni of JP II," he said.

"This position will be one of the most highly desired appointments in the country among Catholic educators next year, and I'm confident the board and diocese will find a strong candidate as a result," Mr. Weber added. "I'll serve in whatever way I can to assist in my successor's smooth transition."

The board and diocese are forming a search committee, and intend to conduct a national search to find the school's next headmaster. The goal is to complete the hiring process by the early spring of 2015. The new headmaster will begin his or her tenure in late June of 2015.

JP II opened in 2002. The school features a classical, liberal arts curriculum and serves a co-educational student body of approximately 600 students.



Softball team earns trip to Spring Fling

Pope John Paul II High School's girls softball team returned to the Spring Fling state championships this spring. Last year, the Lady Knights finished second in the state and were hoping to take one more step this year and claim a Division II-AA state championship. But Chattanooga powers Baylor and Girls Preparatory School dashed those dreams.

The Lady Knights opened the Spring Fling with a 3-2 win over St. Benedict of Auburndale. JP II entered the bottom of the seventh inning with the score tied at 2. Senior standout Chelsey Smith scored the winning run when Alley McDonald reached first on an error with the bases loaded.

Smith led JP II offensively, going three for four at the plate with one run scored and one run batted in.

The win set up a rematch with last year's state champion Baylor, but the Lady Red Raiders were too strong and sent the Lady Knights into the loser's bracket with a 10-1 win.

Girls Preparatory School, which went on to win the state championship, then ended the Lady Knights season by defeating them 6-3.

Congratulations to the Lady Knights on a successful season!



NAHS INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

Megan Gerstner, president of the National Art Honor Society chapter at Pope John Paul II High School, inducts the new members. They are: Maddie Angell, Maddy Baechle, Izabelle Barnett, Carolyn Bologna, Travis Carroll, Chu Chu, Madeline Davenport, Bethany Erwin, Bobby Faust, Allison Fowler, Anna Fox, Elizabeth Gray, Ally Jenkins, Sam Kniery, Remilia Li, Tyler McCormick, Michelle Moore, Andrew Neely, Joanne Potthoff, Libby Reese, Hannah Roberts, Kari Sears, Helen Shaw, Ben Stringer, Zarina Tan, Taryn Wallace, Alie Ward, Natalie Wieber, Katherine Willoughby and Ashley Wynne.

GRADUATION 2014



Members of the Class of 2014 toss their caps, above, in celebration at the end of the commencement exercises held Sunday, May 18, at the Grand Ole' Opry. Isabelle Early, bottom left photo, congratulates new graduate Montana Michelson after the ceremonies. Susanna Edwards,

bottom right photo, the class valedictorian, addresses her classmates during the ceremony. The 142 members of the Class of 2014 will be attending 46 colleges and universities in the fall and received more than \$17.5 million in scholarship offers.



ONE LAST TRIP THROUGH THE HALLS OF JPII

One of the most emotional and touching traditions at Pope John Paul II High School is the Senior Walk, when the graduating class takes one last stroll through the halls of the school saying goodbye to friends they've made during the previous four years.

German exchange student Joanne Potthoff, photo at right, hugs a friend. Paige Scheriger and her mom, Justine Scheriger, bottom left photo, share an embrace at the start of the walk where the parents gather to watch. Assistant to the Dean of Students Sharon Hager, bottom right photo, says an emotional farewell to Jack Shea.



JPII GRAD TO ATTEND AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Alex Reiland, a 2014 graduate of Pope John Paul II High School, has received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. He will be the second generation of his family to attend one of the nation's service academies; his father, Douglas Reiland, is a United States Marine and attended the Naval Academy.

While at JPII he was captain of the hockey team, a member of National Honor Society and a student body leader. On May 22, Reiland was told that there was a spot for him at the Air Force Academy. He will start a six-week training program at the Air Force Academy at the end of June. Reiland will study mechanical engineering and at the end

of four years will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force for at least five years.

Reiland wanted to attend a service academy because "it gives me the opportunity to serve my country, and I feel like there is no greater honor that can supersede this," he said. "I also get to use my physical and mental capabilities to help others."



Alex Reiland

SENIORS HONORED FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Pope John Paul II High School honored the academic, artistic and athletic accomplishments of members of the Class of 2014 during the annual Senior Honors Night held Thursday, May 16. Seniors honored during the evening include:

National Merit Awards Recognition: Raina Devrai, Emily McRen, Susanna Edwards and Katie Swaringen

Recognition of Senior Societas Members: One-Year Cords – Gina Botsko, Collin Bryant, Natalie Cannella, Bethany Erwin, Brian Griffin, Josh Guitierrez, Jordan Lee, Briana Peach, Luke Price, Lucas Pulliza, Jacqui Ramos, Helen Shaw, Hunter Williams.

Two-Year Cords – Susanna Edwards, Alex Fordham, Austin Hayes, Maddie Kolbe, Madi Leonard, Bethany Loven, Josh McConnell, Comfort Onaghinor, Katie Swaringen, Taylor Wallace,.

Coordinators and Two-Year Cords – Megan Gerstner, Chloe Kilpatrick, Jeffrey LeCave, Caleb Pracht.

Senior Veritas Members: Gina Botsko, Caroline Graves, Raina Devrai, Megan Gerstner.

National Honor Society: Josh McConnell (president), Caleb Holton, (vice president), Taylor Wallace (secretary), Luke Price (treasurer), Christopher Baker, Courtney Baldrige, Gina Botsko, Collin Bryant, Kristen Carter, Raina Devrai, Victoria Dolan, Susanna Edwards, Megan Gerstner, Caroline Graves, Tristan Greeno, Josh Gutierrez, Victoria Hickam, Quincy Huff, Maddie Kolbe, Madi Leonard, Queena Lu, Emily McRen, Julia Meyer, Caleb Pracht, Jacqui Ramos, Alex Reiland, Stephanie Simpson, Illinca Sipos, Katie Swaringen, Joe Tan, Austin Whitmer.

Recognition of Senior Student Athletes: Sierra Anglin, Athletic Director's Award; Kyndal Hale and Hunter Williams, U.S. Army Reserve Student-Athlete Award.

English: Kristen Carter and Katie Swaringen, Excellence in Yearbook Journalism; Katie Swaringen, Colona Club Literary Award; Mary Margaret Blum, Poet Laureate Award for Creative Writing; Gina Botsko, English Department Award.

Choral: Mid-State Honors Chorus – Jacqui Ramos, Teresa Gilstrap, Madi Leonard, Loraine Illia; Tennessee All-State Chorus – Teresa Gilstrap, Madi Leonard, Loraine Illia; Director's Award in Choral Music – Teresa Gilstrap and Madi Leonard.

Instrumental Music: Jacqui Ramos, National School Orchestra Award; Emily McRen, John Philip Sousa Band Award; Collin Bryant, National Catholic Band Association's Robert F. O'Brien Award.

Theatre: Outstanding Achievement – Reuben Hoyos, Acting; Sarah Malone, Leadership; Daniel Worsham, Lighting Design; Kate Cannon, Costume Design; Sam MacCormack, Theatre.

Visual Arts: Susanna Edwards, Chisel Award (Sculpture and 3D Design); Megan Gerstner, Brush Award (Painting, Drawing and 2D Design); Kate Cannon, Lens Award (Photographic Media).

Foreign Language: National Spanish Exam award recipients: Tristan Greeno (level 3, Silver Award); all others were level 4, Honorable Mention: Christopher Baker, Courtney Baldrige, Bethany Loven, Josh McConnell, Sam McCormack, Julia Meyer.

Josh McConnell was awarded the Miguel de Cervantes Award for the senior student who most embodies excellence in Spanish and in their overall academics.

Mathematics: Mu Alpha Theta – Christopher Baker, Madi Leonard, Susanna Edwards, Katie Swaringen, Queena Lu; Regional Math Competition Placement – Julia Meyer (Geometry), Jacqui Ramos (Algebra II), Queena Lu (Pre Calculus), Danielle van der Linden (Statistics), Illinca Sipos (Statistics); Caleb Holton, first place Statistics in Regional Mathematics Competition 2013; Tristan Greeno, first place Statistics in Regional Mathematics Competition 2014 and sixth place in all of Middle Tennessee; Daniel Al-Nimri, Mathematics Achievement Award; Raina Devrai, Mathematics Department Award.

Science: Emily McRen

Social Studies: Alex Koeberlein, Social Studies Department Award; Christopher Baker, Excellence in Economics; Gina Botsko, Mock Trial; Lucas Pulliza, Model UN; Lucas Pulliza, Youth in Government.

Strength and Conditioning: Chelsea Fair, Female Lifter of the Year; Eddie Harrington, Male Lifter of the Year; Knight of Armor Recipients: Daniel Al-Nimri, Gunnar Scholato, Austin Hayes, Reggie Marshall.

Theology: Ben Stringer and Susanna Edwards.

Hans Broekman Christian Service Award: Ford Sanger

JPII Scholar Athletes: Paige Scheriger and Austin Hayes

Honor Graduates: Susanna Edwards (Valedictorian), Raina Devrai (Salutatorian), Christopher Baker, Collin Bryant, Megan Gerstner, Tristan Greeno, Caleb Holton, Josh McConnell, Emily McRen, Luke Price, Jacqui Ramos, Katie Swaringen, Taylor Wallace



Collin Bryant, left, and Megan Gerstner, right, were honored as recipients of the Kniec Award, presented by Dean of Studies Karen Phillips at the Baccalaureate Mass.

MR. JONES, SODEXO STAFF INTENT ON PROVIDING QUALITY

Every day, Jason Jones and his staff with Sodexo, work hard to provide students, faculty and staff at Pope John Paul II High School quality food at reasonable prices. The Sodexo staff, which manages the dining hall and food service at JPPII, wants to eliminate any worry for parents, said Mr. Jones. "We want them to send their students to JPPII knowing they will be taken care of."

Since he arrived at JPPII in February 2003 during the school's first year, Mr. Jones has served as Sodexo's general manager at the school. He oversees the staff, which prepares fresh meals daily for students, teachers and staff. "Everything is made in house," he said.

Each day begins at 6:30 for Mr. Jones and his staff. They serve breakfast, including sausage biscuits and chicken biscuits, every day from 7:30 to 7:50 a.m. They then turn to providing lunch, which is served from 10:50 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. "We can offer the students more variety" than a typical school cafeteria, Mr. Jones said. "They can pick and choose what they want to eat."

The day doesn't end with lunch. The dining hall is open from 3:10 to 3:45 p.m. after school each day offering students the opportunity to get a sandwich or snack before they head off to athletic practice, tutorials, or other

activities. "Some students don't leave on the bus until 4:45 or so," Mr. Jones said. "Some students are here until 7 or 8 every night" and need something to eat to tide them over.

The food service program has grown over the years with the school, Mr. Jones said. In the beginning, there was only one serving line for 163 students. As the school has grown, he has added a second serving line, the full-service salad bar and other features, all while still using the original kitchen and original equipment, Mr. Jones said. "The kitchen at JPPII is not as big as I would like, but we manage with what we've got."

The company also tries to help JPPII and its students in other ways, Mr. Jones said. Five percent of every sale goes back to the school, he explained, and Sodexo provides 10 meal plan scholarships per year. For the 2013-14 school year, Sodexo added four work-study positions. Students would help in the kitchen and dining hall and in return would receive a free lunch, Mr. Jones said. "It helps me out a lot, especially in the morning."

Mr. Jones' interest in cooking started as a child growing up in McCreary County, Ky. "I've always had a passion for cooking," he said. "My mom was a good cook and she would encourage me."

Mr. Jones and his staff see the students about two or three hours a day, he said, but he's impressed with the quality of the school's students. "We have some really good kids" at JPPII, he said.



Jason Jones

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