



Group to attend JP II beatification

A small group from Pope John Paul II High School will travel to Rome this spring to witness the beatification of the school's namesake. "It's important for our school because he's our namesake. He's on the road to becoming our patron saint," said Deacon Brian Edwards, the campus minister at JP II.

Beatification is an important step along the path toward canonizing a saint in the Catholic Church. Pope John Paul II, who died in April 2005, will be beatified, carrying the title of Blessed, on Sunday May 1. Deacon Edwards will be among four JP II High School teachers, one student and their parent who are traveling to Rome to witness the historic occasion. He was hoping to have two more people join the group.

Not only is the pope the school's namesake, Deacon Edwards said, "his story dominates our school," with the display of the pope's ski jacket outside the chapel, the pope wall display outlining his life story, and quotes from JP II displayed on the walls.

The school is still discussing how it will celebrate the beatification on its campus in May, Deacon Edwards said.

NEVER A DULL MOMENT AT JP II FOR MR. SABOE

As a high school student, "my plan was always politics or education," said JP II history teacher Paul Saboe.



Paul Saboe

"I had a healthy respect for my teachers," who inspired him and helped shape him, Mr. Saboe said. "I always thought of that as a worthy vocation, and it is a vocation."

Mr. Saboe got an early start on his teaching career. He convinced the administrators at his suburban Philadelphia high school to allow him to start shadowing teachers to see if he indeed did want to pursue a career in education. By the end of the year, he was being asked to be a substitute teacher for some classes, he said.

After high school, he graduated from Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va., with a major in public policy and then went to work for the U.S. Department of Justice's Inspector General Office traveling the country evaluating how state and federal prisons were spending federal grant money they had been awarded. But that job was not completely satisfying, Mr. Saboe said. "I wanted to do something more meaningful," he said, and he returned to his passion for teaching. "Education was inevitable for me."

For his first teaching job, he was hired at Subiaco Academy, a Benedictine boarding school in Arkansas, as a residential dean and journalism teacher, "with no experience in either," he said. But he quickly found his niche at the school. "I loved it," said Mr. Saboe, who met his wife Lyndsey while at Subiaco. He moved from teaching journalism to history and was named head of the department.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS LARGEST CLASS EVER

Pope John Paul II High School inducted 34 members of the junior class into the National Honor Society on Sunday, March 6, making it the largest incoming group in the school's history. The number of inductees is more than 25 percent of the junior class. Noted NHS Faculty Advisor Patrick Connolly, "Obviously, it's a talented group!"

The induction ceremony followed a dinner at Bluegrass Yacht and Country Club in Hendersonville and was conducted by the NHS officers: Jordan Julow, president; Joseph Griggs, vice president; Mary Leonard, secretary; and Samuel Geist, treasurer. To be eligible for induction into the National Honor Society at JP II, students must have a minimum 4.0 weighted grade point average after their first semester of junior year, and

Hans Broekman, the headmaster at Subiaco who hired Mr. Saboe, was hired as the founding principal of JP II, and he brought along several members of the staff at Subiaco with him to open the new school. "Just an opportunity to start a school from scratch" was a powerful lure for Mr. Saboe, he said.

"As we've grown in size, it's a school with never a dull moment," Mr. Saboe said. "I don't look at it as work in a sense. A day goes by and you think, 'Where did the time go.'" JP II has high expectations for students and faculty alike, "which I find challenging," he said. "We're building young adults here," trying to give them a toolbox or skill set that will help them succeed in life, Mr. Saboe said.

Besides teaching Ancient Legacies for freshmen and Global Studies for upperclassmen, Mr. Saboe is involved in several extracurricular activities. He helped start the student council and house systems at the school and is currently the faculty advisor for the student council/house system and the Veritas Council, which reviews alleged violations of the school's honor code.

Mr. Saboe also launched the school's successful College Model UN program. "We're having a fantastic year this year," Mr. Saboe said of the Model UN program. This year 116 students have participated in at least one conference, of which 66 are new to the program. Of the new students, 40 are freshmen. The team has won 46 awards to date and is on track to top last year's record haul of 57 awards, he said. The team has a chance this spring to go over 300 awards since the school opened.

"You get a thrill watching them," he added. "You know you're doing good when all the kids in a committee are gathered around your kids" as they work through an issue or resolution. Participation in the conferences helps students develop skills in public speaking, negotiating and conflict resolution, Mr. Saboe said. "They're developing skills that will last them a lifetime."

the completion of an application that details their involvement and achievements in the other three "pillars" of NHS: integrity, service, and leadership. A five-member faculty committee reviews each application to make the final decision. The students inducted this year include: Alex Abdo, Jonathan Adams, Maria Bednar, Brittney Brescia, Hogan Bryant, Ladd Caballero, Matthew Catignani, Hailey Cleek, Schyler Cox, Emily Garretson, Andrew Gilstrap, Patrick Griffin, Cailin Harris, Rachel Hinlo, Sierra Hooker, Mary Huddleston, Cassidy Johnson, Ashlyn Keightley, Summer Kennedy, Simran Mahtani, Lucy Martin, MacKenzie Mayberry, Sarah Missimer, Ashley Montgomery, Maggie Musacchio, Courtney O'Connor, Emmy Pearl, Emily Peel, Carlee Pritchard, Sydney Rein, Michael Scheriger, Andrew Scruggs, Hannah Strobel and Dylan Zenga.



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ALUMNI NEWS

Class of 2005

Crystal Johnstone will graduate in May from Middle Tennessee State University with a bachelor's degree in business management and a minor in business administration. Her son Parker turns 2 in May.

Class of 2006

After graduating from Vanderbilt University in the spring of 2010, **Megan Forester** started graduate school at Lipscomb University. As of March 7, 2011, she was hired as the assistant women's soccer coach for the University of Southern Mississippi. She will finish her MBA program through online courses and will have completed the program at the end of July.

Annie Musacchio will graduate this May from the University of Notre Dame with a master's of science in accountancy.

Class of 2008

Alexandra Patterson has been in London with some of her Kenyon College friends.

Bailey Staver attended O'More College of Design in Franklin, Tenn., where she studied fashion design and merchandising. After realizing that the fashion industry was not for her, she enrolled at the University of Tennessee where she is currently studying in the field of speech-language pathology. She loves the university life and is ecstatic for the

future!

Juan Alonzo provided music at the 2011 Peoplechase gala, which everyone enjoyed.

Kelsey Stinnett and **Adam Spiess** have been hired as staff members at Catholic HEART Workcamp for this summer. They will travel to different cities every week and work with high school students who are there to serve the less fortunate in those communities.

Maxson Bolster is currently working on a Pre-Physical Therapy Degree at Tennessee Technological University and on getting his LPN License.

Class of 2009

Kathy Musacchio is studying biology and playing soccer at East Tennessee State University.

NEW CLASSES ADDED FOR NEXT YEAR

Continued from page 1

The fine arts department is bringing back the AP Music Theory class after more than 20 students signed a petition asking for the class.

The school used a new software to register for classes, provided by Class A Signups, the same company that provides the software for scheduling classes at JP II, said Mike Brown, JP II's director of college counseling. "We hope it's going to be a little simpler process."



MARCH 2011

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

NEW CLASSES ADDED FOR NEXT YEAR

When JP II's returning and new students last month registered for classes for the 2011-12 school year, they had several new courses on the list of possibilities.

The English department will offer a new journalism course next year. The class, which is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors, will produce an online newspaper and will explore several other aspects of new media. The department also is bringing back its creative writing class, which will produce a literary magazine, and a Shakespeare seminar class that will examine the life and writings of William Shakespeare.

New to the social studies curriculum will be "International Politics: Dictatorship to Democracy," and returning will be "War and Politics in the American Civil War and the Vietnam Conflict."

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ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY COME TOGETHER

The cost of Catholic education should not be a deterrent to enrollment to JP II High School. JP II recognizes that the full cost of tuition at JP II is beyond the means of some outstanding students and families. In order to make JP II affordable to as broad a range of families as possible, the school provides assistance to students with demonstrated need.

A separate application for financial aid is necessary and is reviewed by the Financial Aid Committee which is independent of the Admissions Committee. More than a quarter of all JP II students receive financial aid. The Fund For Excellence annual fund is the major source of support along with the Ann and Monroe Carell Scholarship Fund. Together, these funds total more than \$500,000 for distribution to students in need.

Details about need-based financial aid can be found on the JP II website under the admissions link. Contact the Admissions Office for more information.



PEOPLECHASE A SUCCESS

The 2011 JP II Peoplechase gala, held Feb. 12 at Bluegrass Yacht and Country Club in Hendersonville, was another success. Betty Mayberry, right, the math department chair, was the evening's honoree. Carl Whitmer, above, checks out some of the silent auction items. JP II moms in the photo below, Christine Bryant, Kim Peel and Robin Zenga, enjoy the evening. Funds raised from the gala are used to improve the academic excellence JP II is known for.



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BEATIFICATION TRIP

PAUL SABOE

HONOR SOCIETY

ALUMNI NEWS

Admissions Office

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JPII TALENT SHOW

APRIL 5, 6-8 P.M.

CALL (615) 822-2375 FOR DETAILS

Two JPII students present science research work

JPII seniors Kevin Clavin and Joseph Griggs were invited to present their research at the Tennessee Junior Science and Humanities Symposium in Knoxville on Feb. 24. This is a highly selective research competition that invites only the best students from the state.

Kevin and Joseph had the opportunity to earn scholarship money and a chance to participate at the national symposium in San Diego, Calif.

Both students completed their research this summer at Vanderbilt University and have also been part of the Independent Scholars Research Program this year at JPII.

Congratulations Kevin and Joseph!

View Points

CSI PROGRAM AT THE HEART OF JPII EXPERIENCE

Service is at the core of the mission of Pope John Paul II High School, and at the core of that commitment to service is the Christian Service Internship program.

"It's so integral to who we are at JPII," said Melissa Vaughn, Christian Service Coordinator at the school. "You can't take it away from the school because it's who we are."

Every JPII student is required to complete at last 40 hours of service work each school year. Half of those hours for sophomores, juniors and seniors must be completed as part of a service internship with the same agency. The rest of the hours, called flex hours, can be completed with a variety of activities at a student's church or in the community. The split for freshmen is 10 hours with their internship and 30 flex hours. Each year, JPII students complete a total of more than 25,000 hours of community service through the CSI program.

"Internship is the meat of the program. That's when they can make a difference for somebody else and for themselves," Mrs. Vaughn said. With their internship, students serve "at a specific place to develop an ongoing relationship with that agency and the people they see."

The school sponsors a service fair at the start of the school year with representatives of more than 30 agencies on hand to explain to students the service opportunities they have available. The options for students are varied. There are several tutoring internships at places like Smithson Craighead Academy charter school in Nashville, the Backfield in Motion program on Saturdays at Montgomery Bell Academy, Children Are People and the Shalom Zone, both in Gallatin. Several students volunteer at various assisted living centers in the area. And there are several special ministries where JPII students volunteer, including four therapeutic horseback riding programs for children with disabilities, Habitat for Humanity, Room In the Inn and the Loaves and Fishes program.

"It's just very fulfilling to see what they're doing," Mrs. Vaughn said. "When it's done with an open heart that's when the differences are made."

The goal is to instill in the students a commitment to service that will last a lifetime, Mrs. Vaughn said. "We're trying to inspire them to live the Gospel. ... What an awesome challenge that is."

JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

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

St. Joseph School, Bowling Green

Pope John Paul II High School's reputation and appeal spreads far and wide, including across the Tennessee-Kentucky state line. Over the years, the school has attracted several students from Bowling Green, Ky., and this year Ben Stringer and Mary Margaret Blum are two of four JPII freshmen who ride a bus from Bowling Green to JPII each morning. Ben and Mary Margaret are both graduates of St. Joseph School in Bowling Green. The students on the Bowling Green bus have to get up each day between 5 and 5:30 a.m. to be on the bus by 6:30. They have an hour long ride to JPII. Three days a week, the bus leaves about 5:45 p.m., so the students can participate in after-school activities, and the other two days are early days when the bus leaves about 3:45. Ben said his friends thought he was insane for going to a high school so far from home, he said. "But it will be good in the long run to get a good education."



Mary Margaret Blum



Ben Stringer

Mary Margaret's older brother Geoffrey graduated from JPII in 2008, so she was familiar with the school before she arrived last fall. For Ben, his first look at JPII came last spring when he visited as part of the shadowing program, spending the day accompanying a freshman through the typical school day. "I was very impressed," Ben said. "Kids can see what the school is like from a student's perspective." It gave Mary Margaret a chance to meet the teachers, she said. "They were all really friendly."

The academics at JPII, Ben said, are "definitely a jump from middle school, but it will be worth it when you graduate. ... You'll have such an advantage over someone who isn't privileged to come here."

JPII People ... Mary Margaret Blum and Ben Stringer!

ROYAL POMS ADD KICK TO SCHOOL SPIRIT

When Ashlyn Keightley was a freshman she was interested in cheerleading but couldn't fit it into her schedule. So she convinced her older sister Briana and some friends to start a dance team at the school. The Royal Poms precision pompon high kick dance squad is now in its third year and has grown every year.

"We're mostly looking for the girl who is more focused on dance than cheer, because it's definitely different than cheerleading, but is interested in contributing to the spirit of the school," said Lynlea Keightley, Ashlyn's mother and the coach of the Royal Poms. "It's not your typical dance team, which lends itself more to hip hop dancing. We're focused more on using the pompons and the high kicks."

The team started small and has grown each year from eight members to 11 last year and 19 this year. The first year, the Royal Poms performed at one home basketball game, the next year five and this year 10, Mrs. Keightley said. The goal is to perform at all the home basketball games.

The squad practices twice a week, which allows the girls to be involved in other activities at JPII, Mrs. Keightley said. Mrs. Keightley has done most of the choreography so far, but next year she will ask all the team members to work on a routine to share with the squad. "That way they have more say as to what music we're dancing to," she said.

Although some girls come to the squad with a dance background, it's not a requirement, Mrs. Keightley said. "They don't have to lift or tumble. They don't have to say anything," she said. "They just have to be able to smile, and kick and count to eight." If the girls without dance experience are



Royal Poms members, from left, Kelsey Smith, Emily Garretson and Ashlyn Keightley, all juniors, practice one of their routines. Emily and Ashlyn helped start the squad.

willing to work hard, they can keep up, Mrs. Keightley said.

The squad will hold a clinic and auditions for returning students and incoming freshmen interested in the squad April 11-14. There will be a clinic April 11-13, "and they'll show us what they know on the 14th," said Mrs. Keightley, who also is the forensics teacher and coach at JPII.

The captain for the Royal Poms next year will be Ashlyn Keightley and the co-captains will be Teanna Groves, Tiye Barnes and Autumn Folse.

SINGERS GARNER OUTSTANDING RESULTS AT DISTRICT CHORAL FESTIVAL

JPII High School Chamber Choir and Advanced Women's Chorus returned to school from the District Choral Festival in Murfreesboro on March 2 with four trophies, earning a "superior" rating in both their performances and sight reading skills.

"These two choirs performed very difficult and sophisticated choral literature, and we were all worried about having enough rehearsal time due to the snow days," said Choral Director Jj Ebelhar. "I am very proud of these students for their hard work, determination, and focus."

Both singing ensembles now qualify to perform at State Choral Festival on April 28, at Lipscomb University in Nashville.



JPII's Chamber Choir earned a superior rating at the District Choral Festival.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM QUALIFIES FOR STATE COMPETITION

Congratulations to the Pope John Paul II High School Science Olympiad team, which placed second in the regional competition at Volunteer State Community College and will now advance to the state competition in Knoxville on April 2.

Every student who competed from JPII medaled in an event, which speaks to the full effort of the entire team. The team included: Derek

Robinson, Joseph Griggs, Devin Patel, Thomas Koen, Kyle Meadows, Jacob Buntin, Clay Brewer, Ashley Montgomery, Raina Patel and Holly Blankenship.

Scholarships for a class at Volunteer State in Gallatin were awarded for top performance of all competitors to Derek Robinson and Devin Patel.

JPII ATHLETES HAVE STRONG SHOWING IN WINTER SPORTS

The winter sports season brought numerous successes and achievements for student athletes at Pope John Paul II High School.

The hockey team, for the fifth year in a row, qualified for the Predators Cup Tournament to crown the Tennessee high school state champion at the end of another outstanding regular season, which they finished with a 13-2-1 record. After the first round of pool play, the Knights qualified for the semifinals as the number two seed facing Ravenwood High School on Friday, Feb. 25. Although the Knights had beaten Ravenwood 3-2 in pool play earlier that week, they were unable to repeat their success in the semifinal game. Ravenwood shut out the Knights on the way to a 4-0 victory. Four Knights were named to the GNASH North All-Star team: seniors Clark Henson, Ricky Modrzynski and Ryan McConnell and junior Clay Brewer.

Both the boys and girls bowling teams ended their seasons in the semifinals of the 2011 Division II state tournament. The girls bowling team entered the tournament as the East/Middle Region champions. In their first match, they defeated Baylor of Chattanooga 21-6. The top scorer in the match for the Knights was Julie Pionk who rolled a 560 series with games of 206, 200 and 154. Stephanie Brown and Mary Huddleston also both won all three of their games in the match. In the semifinals, the Knights fell 21-7 to St. Benedict of Memphis, which lost in the finals to St. Agnes. Pionk again led the Knights in scoring with a 533 series and a high game of 244.

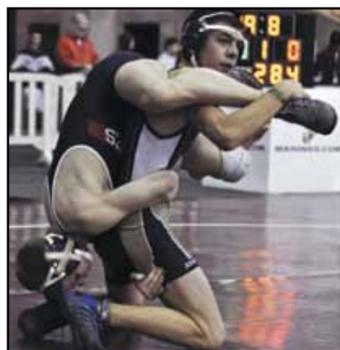
The boys team entered the tournament as the second seed from the East/Middle Region and won their first match 16-11 over Christian Brothers High School of Memphis. Ian Clausen was the top scorer for the Knights with a 634 series and a high score of 247. He was followed by Collin Neal, who rolled a 620 series and a high game of 267. In the semifinals, St. Benedict knocked the Knights out of the tournament 19-8. Neal led the Knights with a 536 series and a high game of 190.

JPII was represented in the Girls Individual State Tournament by



Goalie Jack Safford and defenseman Patrick Griffin put the squeeze on a Ravenwood player during the semifinal game of the Predators Cup Tournament.

Pionk and Brown. In the semifinals, Brown placed eighth with a score of 565 and Pionk finished 15th with a score of 528. Neal was the only Knight to qualify for the Boys Individual State Tournament, and he finished 19th with a score of 549.



Senior Robby Wieber tries to take down his opponent during the Division II wrestling state tournament. Wieber finished the regular season with a 22-6 record.

JPII's swim team once again proved itself Sumner County's most successful swim team, sweeping the county championships and sending nine swimmers to the Tennessee State High School Swim Meet at the Allan Jones Aquatic Center at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

The swimmers who competed in the state meet were: senior Samuel Geist, medley relay, freestyle relay, 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle; senior John Mainland, medley relay, freestyle relay and 500 freestyle; senior Abbie Wood, medley relay, freestyle relay, 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle; senior Angelia Calvo, freestyle relay; junior Brittany Zobl, medley relay; sophomore Ben Geist, medley relay, freestyle relay; sophomore Nick Massa, medley relay, freestyle relay and 100 backstroke; freshman Madison Kolbe, medley relay, freestyle relay, 100 freestyle and 100 breaststroke; and freshman Paige Scheriger, medley relay, freestyle relay, 200 individual medley and 100 breaststroke. Scheriger placed fourth in the 100 breaststroke and 14th in the 200 individual medley and Kolbe placed 12th in the 100 breaststroke.

The girls basketball team finished the season with a 16-10 record and one win from qualifying for its second consecutive appearance in the Division II state tournament. The highlight of the postseason for the Knights was a 69-64 double overtime win over rival Father Ryan in which junior post player Sarah Galvin scored a school record 46 points. The Knights lost to Girls Preparatory School of Chattanooga to end their season. The boys team finished the season with a 5-21 record. The highlight of the season came in a 50-49 win over Father Ryan thanks to a last second shot by junior Michael Sheriger.

In wrestling, senior Kenny Taylor was the only JPII wrestler to place at the Division II state tournament, finishing sixth in the 215-pound class. Taylor began wrestling for the Knights as a sophomore and placed in the state tournament all three years of his high school career. The team finished 11th in the team standings at the state tournament, after finishing the regular season with a 5-7 record in dual meets. The Knights competed in several tournaments during the season as well and had a high team finish of third at the Lookout Valley Tournament in Chattanooga.