



JPII teams excel in JA contest

Three teams of students from JPII recently competed in the Junior Achievement Titan business simulation hosted by CAT Financial.

During this virtual competition, the students spent the day strategizing about all aspects of operating a business including setting price and production levels, marketing, capital investment, and research and development.

Of the 18 teams competing, the JPII teams took two of the top three places. Team members Taylor Hinson, Alexis Reid, and Dominic Mahoney earned second place and Konner Spradlin and Laura Hickam took third.

Besides winning more than \$300 worth of Target gift cards, these students represented Middle Tennessee in the National U.S. Virtual Competition.

MS. DRUMWRIGHT BRINGS LOVE OF SCIENCE TO CLASSROOM

Abby Drumwright's interest in science began as a child growing up in Hendersonville. Her attraction to teaching wasn't apparent until she was a teaching assistant while a graduate student at Middle Tennessee State University. That's when she discovered, "I really liked teaching."



Abby Drumwright

And after participating in the National Science Foundation's GK12 Fellowship Program that brings graduate and undergraduate science majors into middle school and high school programs, she realized, "I started really liking the high school classes."

Now, Ms. Drumwright spends every day in high school classrooms teaching chemistry and anatomy at Pope John Paul II High School.

Teaching is a nice blend of her love for science and her desire for more interpersonal contact than she might find working in a lab, Ms. Drumwright said.

She was a bit surprised to find she enjoyed teaching teenagers more than college students, Ms. Drumwright said. "I really, really like teenagers. You can have real conversations with them," and the students are able to comprehend higher concepts, she added.

Ms. Drumwright grew up in Hendersonville and is a

graduate of Hendersonville High School. After she earned her undergraduate degree, she worked as a chemist for Environmental Science Corp. in Mt. Juliet. When she went back to MTSU for her graduate degree, she joined the GK12 program and met Jennifer Dye, chair of the science department at JPII.

This is her first year as a full-time teacher and she's had some help from her mother and sister, both teachers. They've given her good advice in how to address students both to praise their work and to point out concerns, Ms. Drumwright said.

Her interest in science began as a child and it was nurtured by her teachers along the way. "My high school chemistry teacher was a great teacher," Ms. Drumwright said. "I want my students to think the same thing about me."

She is one of several women teachers in the science department and hopes the girls at JPII can look to their teachers and see a future in science for themselves. "I really like the fact there are good women role models in science classes."

Ms. Drumwright has been impressed with all her fellow teachers at JPII. "I love the fact that we have such a strong group of faculty." In the science department, she added, the teachers work together to enhance the curriculum. "We can create a kind of thread that weaves through the subjects," she said. "We have the ability to accomplish so much because we're a team. It's a team effort."

She's also impressed with the quality of JPII's students. "They are so well behaved, and I think they represent us very well."



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SENIORS HEADED TO TOP COLLEGES

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are Yale, Duke, Cornell, the University of Chicago, Rice, Northwestern, Notre Dame, University of Virginia, Vanderbilt, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, McGill University in Canada, Emory, Davidson, Georgetown, Washington and Lee, Washington University in St. Louis, William and Mary, Southern Methodist University, St. Louis University, Catholic University, Boston College, the Citadel, and New York University.

JPII students are looking beyond a university's reputation, Mr. Brown said. "Our students are also focused on the schools that are the right match for them. I think that's important. They're not just following names, they're following schools that are the right match for them."

HARVEST AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Eleven JPII teachers received Harvest Awards recognizing excellence in teaching as voted on by the students. The awards were presented during the school assembly on April 29.

This year's winners were: Jacqui Long, Amanda Youell, Alana Wortman, Gary Schleimer, Paul Saboe, Gordon Sutla, Luke Diamond, Dr. John Barrow, Dr. Brad Peper, Scott Shaver and Alan Mila.

Jeff Rutledge, JPII's head football coach, was voted "Most Inspirational Coach" and Andrew Griffith was voted "Most Inspirational Teacher."

Dr. Judy Caron received the "Headmaster Award" for her exemplary service, commitment and leadership at JPII.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN

Summer on the Hill 2011 is ready for you! Spend your summer at JPII, with more than 12 new camps and many of your old favorites back again.

This year we have added online registration, so getting signed up is easy and convenient. For a full description of our camps and dates, go to the JPII website and follow the link to Summer Camps. To register for camps, follow this link: www.jp2hs.org/summercamp.

Contact Summer Camp Director Sharon Hager at sharon.hager@jp2hs.org if you have questions. Come join us for a fun Summer on the Hill.

JPII SOPHOMORE WINS FIRST IN COUNTY ART EXHIBIT

JPII sophomore Robin Hall recently won first place in the Sumner County High School Art Exhibit with her painting entitled "Mad Hatter." It is an extraordinary rendition of Johnny Depp as the Mad Hatter in director Tim Burton's film "Alice in Wonderland."

Two other JPII students received Honorable Mention for their work: sophomore, Marissa Rogan, for her 3-D piece "Light Vessel" and junior Cassidy Johnson for "The Language of This Water," a graphics and works on paper piece.

The exhibit featured work by students from 11 Sumner County high schools.



MAY 2011

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

SCHOOL CELEBRATES BEATIFICATION OF NAMESAKE



Father John Sims Baker celebrates a special Mass to mark the beatification of Pope John Paul II on May 1. The crowd for the Mass spilled out of the chapel at Pope John Paul II High school and into the hallway. The afternoon also included an exhibit of student art and a choral concert by JPII students.

SENIORS HEADED TO TOP-TIERED UNIVERSITIES

Members of Pope John Paul II High School's senior class have been accepted to some of the best colleges in the nation for the fall. "This year's class challenged themselves outside the Southeast region in terms of where they applied," said JPII College Counselor Mike Brown. "They took some risks."

And they were rewarded for their ambition, Mr. Brown said. "I think it says a lot about the quality of JPII students," he said. "We've always had strong students, but I think our name is really getting out there. ... As a new school, we've done a lot to establish ourselves as (providing) a top quality education."

For the first time, a JPII student, Seth Walker, will be going to Yale University (Tommy Joe Bednar also was accepted to Yale but

will be attending Washington and Lee University), and Devin Patel and Kyle Meadows are the first JPII students to be accepted to Duke University, where both will be attending in the fall.

Top-tier schools like Yale and Duke have had to get much more aggressive with financial aid, Mr. Brown said, "so there are some real possibilities for (students to afford) these top tiered schools." Some students are receiving financial aid packages from these schools that allow them to leave college without any debt, he added.

Among the schools that have accepted JPII students this year

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JULIE ROLLINS

DRUMLINE
ABBY DRUMWRIGHT

JA CONTEST
PERFECT SCORE
HARVEST AWARDS
SUMMER CAMP

Admissions Office
615-822-2375
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UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL PHYSICALS

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4
GRADES 9-10
9-10:30 A.M.**

**GRADES 11-12
10:30-NOON**

House of Peter wins House Cup

The House of Peter senior class claimed this year's House Cup, presented by Senior Class President Seth Walker. Kaley Stinnett, House of Peter president, accepted the House Cup on behalf of the class of 2011.

House of Peter finished with 1,152 points for the year, followed by House of John, 1,091 points; House of Leo, 1,045 points, and House of Gregory, 994 points.

Of special interest, the house competition for parent participation in the Fund for Excellence winner is the House of Leo with 64 percent, followed by the House of Peter with 55 percent, the House of John with 51 percent, and finally the House of Gregory with 50 percent. Overall parent participation is 55 percent.

View Points

FACULTY, STAFF GIVING TO FFE REACHES 100 PERCENT

For the first time in JPPI history, the advancement team is proud to report that 100 percent of the faculty and staff have participated in the Fund for Excellence!

The House of Peter was the first house to reach 100 percent and was to receive a catered lunch May 6. House of Leo had the highest parent participation at 64 percent and those students will enjoy an ice cream social May 17.

To show our gratitude, every faculty and staff member will be entered into a drawing to receive one of the following exciting gift cards: \$100 Target, \$50 Barnes & Nobles, \$50 Regal Cinemas, \$25 Cracker Barrel, \$15 iTunes. The drawing will be held May 18 during a special breakfast honoring this great achievement.

For JPPI to live its mission, it relies on the financial support of many, including parents, grandparents, alumni, friends, faculty and staff, board of trustees, benefactors, and foundations. Through the FFE, JPPI is able to remain a school that inspires academic excellence and instills a life of service. Three areas supported by the FFE this year are need based financial aid, the Christian Service Internship program, and a technology upgrade to Apple computers this summer.

The FFE campaign ends June 30, 2011. Our current parent participation is 55 percent, down from last year's record high of 74 percent. The advancement team would like to thank all who have already given and ask those who have not, to prayerfully consider a gift to the FFE. Please contact Pat Weaver or Lori Jones for more information.



SENIOR SENDUP

Isobel Ward portrays JPPI choral director Jj Ebelhar and Joey Telli portrays instrumental music teacher Alan Suska during the annual Senior Assembly.

JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

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

Merrol Hyde Magnet School

Bethany Loven and Molly Wear were very familiar with Pope John Paul II High School before they showed up on campus last fall, thanks to family connections. Bethany's sister Leah is a senior this year at JPPI, and Molly's sister Megan graduated in 2008 and her brother Matt graduated in 2010.



Bethany Loven

Both received good reports at the school from their siblings. Leah told her sister JPPI would do a great job getting her ready for college, and "it's a really good school," Bethany said. Molly's brother and sister told her "it was a lot more fun than Merrol Hyde" Magnet School, where Bethany and Molly attended from third grade through eighth, she said.



Molly Wear

Both were attracted to JPPI by its athletic opportunities. Bethany played on the varsity girls soccer team as a freshman and is running track this spring. Merrol Hyde didn't have a lacrosse team, which is Molly's sport at JPPI. Bethany and Molly also participated in the College Model UN program at JPPI this year.

Molly and Bethany have been impressed with their teachers this year. "They spend time to help us," Bethany said. JPPI teachers have high expectations for their students, she said, "so it makes them want to help us more."

Though only a handful of classmates from Merrol Hyde joined them at JPPI this year, Molly and Bethany didn't have any trouble making new friends. They already knew people from playing soccer and lacrosse with them. "It helps that we had siblings," at the school, Molly added. "We all know each other," Bethany said. Molly added, "It's a big family."

JPII People ... Bethany Loven and Molly Wear!

GERMAN STUDENTS ENJOY STAY AT JPII

German accents could be heard in the halls of JPPI during April with the arrival of 28 students, two teachers and three chaperones as part of a new exchange program between St. Mauritz School in Muenster, Germany, and Pope John Paul II High School.

"It's important that young people from both sides of the big pond get to know each other ... find out people everywhere are the same and can build friendships," said Joerg Bartikowski, one of the two St. Mauritz teachers accompanying the students during their three week stay in the United States. "It makes us look beyond clichés and prejudices," added Brigitta Dierkes, the other teacher from St. Mauritz, a Catholic school with about 800 students ages 10-19.

The exchange program, which is organized by Christian Youth Exchange, the same organization that brings German exchange students to JPPI for year long stays, is modeled on the successful Loughlin Scholars exchange program with St. Edmund's College, in Ware, England. The students from Muenster spent three weeks in the U.S., with the families of JPPI sophomores serving as host families. In the summer, the JPPI students will stay with their German host families while touring Germany and Austria and getting a taste of life in a German school.

The German contingent flew into Atlanta and then rode a bus to Middle Tennessee. During their visit to JPPI, they spent time in classes at JPPI, visiting sites in Music City, and meeting with Gov. Bill Haslam, when they presented him with a small gift. Before heading back to Germany, the group visited Washington, D.C., for four days.

Paula Eder got to see her first American baseball game on the trip to JPPI and Nils Bruggemann and Leon Breukel got to see the Harlem Globetrotters. Nils was looking forward to eating real American fast food, and enjoyed his visits to Wendy's and Taco Bell with his host family, he said. The food was better than the American fast food restaurants they have back home, he added.

All of the students were welcomed everywhere, Paula said. "The

SPRING FLING BENEFITS RELAY FOR LIFE

JPPI hosted the Spring Fling to help raise money for the school's Relay for Life team, benefitting the American Cancer Society. JPPI fans could enjoy a variety of athletic competitions held on the campus on April 19, while also bidding on baskets provided by the National Honor Society for a silent auction, or enjoying Smoothies from Smoothie King.

"We've raised about \$5,000 for Relay for Life," which this year will be May 13-14 at Station Camp High School, said Betty Mayberry, who leads the school's Relay for Life team.

Besides the National Honor Society members, also helping with the event were Gail Greene and Jolind Weaver of the school's staff, the Parent Association and Matt Lascara of the Knight Club athletic boosters, who brought his renovated fire truck to add to the event's festivities. Please contact betty.mayberry@jp2hs.org if you have any questions or would like to make a donation for Relay for Life.



Pia Wueller, right, reads a welcome message to Gov. Bill Haslam from a group of students from Muenster, Germany, who were in Tennessee as part of an exchange program at Pope John Paul II High School.

students are nice and friendly," said Leon. "And the teachers too, added Evelyn Denesjuk, another of the students.

The trip is a good experience for her foreign language students, said Brigitta, who teaches French and English. The trip gives the students an "authentic experience of the language and culture."

The German students are looking forward to showing their hometown, which was recently named one of the most livable cities in the world, to their American hosts this summer. In Muenster, "everybody rides a bike," Evelyn said. "And it has a nice downtown," Leon added.

The German Exchange program is one of several opportunities for international travel available to JPPI students. Besides the annual Loughlin Scholars program, JPPI is sponsoring a service and cultural exchange program to Honduras this summer, a trip to England in the fall, and a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in September/October. For more information about the program, visit the school's website, www.jp2hs.org and click on the International Travel link under the Campus Life tab.



Merri Gibbs, who works in the library at JPPI, checks out some of the baskets auctioned during the Spring Fling, which benefitted JPPI's Relay for Life team.



JULIE ROLLINS HONORED AS RETIRING ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Julie Rollins, who was JPPI's first and only athletic director, is retiring from the position at the end of the school. The school honored her for her service during the school assembly on April 29.

In his remarks, Headmaster Faustin Weber noted that Coach Rollins was a founder of JPPI, hired in 2002 as the school's first athletic director, asked to build an athletic program from scratch. Because of the deep respect she earned due to her successful career as a basketball coach, she was able to persuade first tier coaches to join the school – not an easy task, since JPPI had zero history or tradition and coaches were rightfully protective of their legacy and livelihood.

But in just nine years, she has built the school's program to be very competitive, including five state championships and numerous final four appearances, even while playing at the most difficult level in Tennessee. Coach Rollins held dual roles at JPPI, serving also as the girls basketball coach, where she lead the Knights to the state tournament several times.

In recognition of the fact that Coach Rollins' retirement will give her much more time with her many grandchildren, the school presented her with rocking chair, engraved: "With gratitude, Mrs. Julie Rollins, Athletic Director, 2002-2011."

As Coach Rollins was asked to "try out" the new chair in front of the student body, the students and faculty present gave her a standing ovation as a symbol of their appreciation for all she has done for the school.



Photos Courtesy of Rick Musacchio/Tennessee Register

JUNIORS RECEIVE CLASS RINGS

Colin Dugan, above photo, shows off his new class ring after the annual Junior Ring Mass and Ceremony on April 27, as classmate Shaun David Coppock looks on. Headmaster Faustin Weber, photo at left, congratulates Maggie Musacchio upon receiving her ring and a bible that each junior received.



Kyle Smith, right, and Emily McRen of the JPPI Drumline perform during the spring instrumental music concert.

DRUMLINE WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Congratulations to JPPI's newest Tennessee State Champions – your JP II Drumline! The drumline won the gold medal as Tennessee State Champions in the Scholastic, non-moving class during the Southeastern Color Guard Circuit Championships held at Lipscomb University's Allen Arena, April 1-2. The achievement is even more impressive considering the drumline was established only four years ago and is in its first year of competition. "I can't begin to tell you how honored I am to work with such a fine group of dedicated students," said Alan Suska, the instrumental music teacher at JPPI.