



### Tervis Tumblers on sale

The JPPI Parents Association Council is offering a new item to help you enjoy a cool beverage while watching your favorite Knights athletic team: Tervis Tumblers.

Tervis Tumblers are hard plastic, insulated cups that come in two sizes: 16 and 24 ounces. Travel lids are sold separately. They are dishwasher safe (top rack) and can be used for both hot and cold beverages. They do not sweat and a coaster is not needed to protect furniture. The tumblers for JPPI are custom-made with the Knights' emblem. Tervis Tumblers have a lifetime guarantee and can be returned to Tervis for a replacement should anything happen to break the tumbler.

The JPPI Tervis Tumblers are available in The Armory and will be sold at home football games this year. The cost is \$13 for the 16-ounce tumbler and \$16 for the 24-ounce. Travel lids are \$3 each. All profits benefit JPPI.

The Parents Association Council uses profits from The Armory, Public Partners, Used Uniforms and PAC dues to support the JPPI faculty and staff with hospitality events and to fund the annual Faculty/Staff grant requests.

Look for the Tervis Tumblers at the football games and at The Armory.

## JPPI 'NUMBER ONE' FOR MS. DONOVAN

Devin Donovan's dream of being a teacher started when she was just a child. "I taught stuffed animals when I was 7 or 8 years old," said Ms. Donovan, a new English teacher at JPPI this year.



Devin Donovan

Although this is Ms. Donovan's first year at JPPI, she was very familiar with the school long before being hired as a teacher. After graduating from Vanderbilt University, where she was elected student body president, Ms. Donovan took a job with Seigenthaler Public Relations. One of the clients she worked with was JPPI.

"I knew the strength of the community here," as well as the academic program, Ms. Donovan said. JPPI offers her a mixture of comfort and a challenge, she said.

Ms. Donovan grew up in Anapolis, Md., and graduated from Archbishop Spalding High School. "I have always wanted to be a teacher, so Peabody (College of Education at Vanderbilt) was always number one on my list," she said. After moving to Nashville to attend Vanderbilt, she said, "I fell in love with the city."

While at Vanderbilt, Ms. Donovan was elected student body president, an experience she called hectic and exciting. "It taught me a lot about leadership and management, which is what teaching's all about," Ms.

Donovan said. "With a love of literature and an ability to inspire teenagers, a teacher will be successful. But add to those qualities effective management, a teacher can really have an impact on the students' lives."

Ms. Donovan took a brief detour from her goal of teaching after graduating from Vanderbilt. "When I was student body president I had made the decision to explore the business world," she said. "Seigenthaler gave me an opportunity to learn about hundreds of businesses."

But working with clients like JPPI and others involved in education was what she enjoyed most, which reinforced her passion for teaching.

She left Seigenthaler to become a teacher at Cane Ridge High School in Antioch last year. This year, she got a chance to join the JPPI faculty. "I'm so glad to be here," she said. "The organization ... the community are things you don't find at any other school. It's so refreshing to walk into work and be greeted by people who want to be here and to teach kids who want to learn."

Ms. Donovan teaches freshman and sophomore English. She also is the assistant master of the House of John, the freshman house. "Freshmen are different," she said. "They are sponges. They're not afraid or accustomed to a certain style of teaching. Everything's new to them."

In the spring, Ms. Donovan will serve as the assistant coach for the women's lacrosse team.

Ms. Donovan was glad to join the JPPI faculty this year. "This was the number one school on my list."



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## BUS SERVICE BRINGS JPPI WITHIN REACH OF MANY FAMILIES

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start heading home at 3:40 p.m. However, there are several departures later so bus riders can participate in athletics and other school activities. "We've worked with the coaches to make sure bus riders are out (of practice) in time," Mrs. Thigpen said.

A total of 82 students ride the buses, with the most popular route being from Clarksville with about 30 riders. The newest route, Bowling Green, has the smallest number of riders at four, but Mrs. Thigpen is hopeful that number will grow in the future, drawing more students not only from Bowling Green, but also from areas in Tennessee close to the Kentucky state line. "My goal at some point would be to have a yellow bus up there," she said. The traditional yellow school buses hold 52 riders when full. The smaller, white buses, like the one now in use on the Bowling Green route, hold 14, she said.

The school bought two new smaller buses, which should be delivered by mid-October, Mrs. Thigpen said. One of the new buses will be used for the Bowling Green route and the other will be used to transport JPPI athletic teams to events.

The cost of the bus service is \$900 for most routes, and \$975 for students from Clarksville and Bowling Green. Families can pay a pro-

rated fee if they use the bus only in the morning, Mrs. Thigpen said. And students can buy a \$5 pass for individual rides, she added. "We work with families for whatever they need," Mrs. Thigpen said.

Using the bus service is actually a money saver for most families compared to the cost of driving their own car, Mrs. Thigpen said.

"We would love to get our ridership up," Mrs. Thigpen said. "We're always open to the needs of our parents."

## ADMISSIONS EVENTS IN FULL SWING

*Continued from page 1*

Do you want to see the school in action? Consider a "Coffee with the Headmaster" event Oct. 11 or Nov. 8 from 8:30-10:00am.

So, you think you might want to attend JPPI, but you're not sure. Well, now's your chance to get the inside scoop on a typical day inside JPPI! JPPI has pioneered a "shadow" day specifically designed to give prospective students a first-hand "feel" by attending a full day academic schedule.

Contact the admissions office at info@jp2hs.org or visit the JPPI admissions page for a complete list of admissions dates and activities.



OCTOBER 2010

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

## ADMISSIONS EVENTS IN FULL SWING

The season of autumn is full of new starts. The start of school, the start of football season, and the birth of beneficial weather conditions all signal the season of fall. At JPPI, the season of autumn means the commencement of a new school year as well as the start of the admissions cycle for the next school year.

Believe it or not, the admissions process for the 2011-2012 school year is in full swing. Online applications, school visits, shadow days, and special events are under way.

Now is the time to apply to JPPI. The easiest and most accessible method to make an application to JPPI is the online application. Visit the JPPI website jp2hs.org and look for the online application link located on the home page. Follow the prompts and a verification email will be sent from JPPI once the application is received.

The first placement exam date is Oct. 23. Nov. 13 and Dec. 11 are other alternatives to complete the exam.

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## BUS SERVICE BRINGS JPPI WITHIN REACH OF MANY FAMILIES

With students from 10 counties throughout Middle Tennessee, as well as students from Kentucky, providing transportation to students is important for the success of Pope John Paul II High School.

"Our kids are coming from all over" the area north of Nashville, said Laura Thigpen, the school's business manager. "It's important ... for them to have transportation to and from school."

JPPI runs five bus routes:

■ Downtown/West End, with stops at Belle Meade Plaza and St. Ann School in Nashville.

■ Hermitage, with stops at Holy Rosary Academy and Hobby Lobby.



## BE TRUE TO YOUR SCHOOL

Martha and Craig Hayes, parents of JPPI freshman Austin Hayes, check out the T-shirts on sale at the first home football game. The T-shirts and other JPPI items are available at The Armory in the school.

■ Lebanon/Gallatin, with stops at the Church of Christ next to Sports Village in Lebanon and Wal-mart in Gallatin.

■ Clarksville, with stops at Little Hope Baptist Church, Horizon/Wendy's and the Joelton BP.

■ Bowling Green, Ky., with stops at the Catfish House in Bowling Green, Susie's Fireworks at exit 117 off Interstate 65 and Wal-mart at exit 108.

"All of our stops are right off the interstate," Mrs. Thigpen said.

The earliest pickup is 6:20 a.m. in Bowling Green. All the buses arrive at school by 7:35 a.m. In the afternoon, buses

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COFFEE WITH THE HEADMASTER

JPPI PEOPLE

PLACEMENT EXAM SCHEDULE

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JAZZ ENSEMBLE

MARGARET NOAH

GOLF SUCCESS

COLLEGE FAIR

ALUMNI NEWS

NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

DEVIN DONOVAN

TERVIS TUMBLERS

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

## JPII HOSTS 130 SCHOOLS FOR ANNUAL COLLEGE FAIR

Pope John Paul II High School hosted its annual College Fair for its students on Thursday, Sept. 30, with representatives from more than 130 colleges and universities in attendance.

Every student, freshman through senior, had an opportunity to walk through the stations during the two hour fair. Many bee-lined it to a particular college they had in mind while others took the opportunity to learn about the countless choices available. Some of the schools represented were Harvard, University of Tennessee, Rhodes College, University of Colorado, Centre, Vanderbilt, Notre Dame, the Citadel and the U.S. Air Force Academy, among many others.

Admissions counselors were equally excited to talk to JPII students, cognizant of their excellent academic preparation and ACT scores. Last year, JPII's graduates were accepted to 159 different colleges and universities and were offered \$14.3 million in scholarships, an average of \$93,000 per graduate.

JPII's college counselors have been busy this fall helping seniors prepare for the college application process. The school hosted two College Application Saturdays, giving seniors a great opportunity to begin



JPII senior Braxton Marino speaks to a representative of the U.S. Air Force Academy during JPII's annual College Fair.

preparing their college applications with the support of the counselors and their peers. Help with writing college application essays also was available to the seniors. JPII students also can prepare for the ACT with classes offered at the school through Advantage Test Preparation.

## ALUMNI NEWS

### Class of 2007

**Grant Snyder** has transferred from the University of Mississippi to Tennessee Technological University. He has a double major in math and biology. He hopes to be a pediatric dentist. His dream would be to have an office in a large children's hospital like Vanderbilt or St. Jude's and treat children that are in long-term hospital care.

### Class of 2008

**Geoffrey Blum** went to Washington, D.C., last summer where he spent time at the Library of Congress doing personal research. Geoffrey has started his junior year at Centre College majoring in classics with a minor in physics.

**David Hill** is in his junior year at Tennessee Tech where he is majoring in finance.

**Kelsey Boone** has begun her junior year at Samford University where she is enrolled in the Moffett School of Nursing. She is a resident assistant and participates in intramural flag football and basketball each year.

**Rachel Wilkins** is still serving as the Athletic Hostess for the University of Alabama.

### Class of 2009

**Joseph Kimball** is in his sophomore year at Middle Tennessee State

University where he is majoring in physics with a focus on aerospace. The outstanding instruction he received from the JPII history department allowed him to test out of several history courses and receive college credits based on test scores. He began his second year as a second-semester sophomore.

**Natalie Beatty** starred as "Shelby" in "Steel Magnolias" Oct. 7-10 at Vol State Community College. Natalie has been involved in theater for the last 14 years and recently had the leading female role in a full length feature film, "Sound of Dogs," which debuted at the Belcourt Theater in December 2009.

### Class of 2010

**Corey Patton** is in Tuscaloosa attending The University of Alabama. He is majoring in political science and criminal justice.

**Aaron Wiek** is at UT-Knoxville. He is majoring in psychology, but is also considering political science as another option.

**Hillary Guinn** is a freshman at Lipscomb University and is starting her journey toward a BSN in Nursing.



Natalie Beatty

## JAZZ ENSEMBLE IS GROWING

JPII's Jazz Ensemble is growing, both in instrumentalists and resources.

"My goal was to start developing this into a premiere performance opportunity to represent JPII and (the students) in the best possible light," said Alan Suska, director of the instrumental music program at JPII.

JPII started the Jazz Ensemble program last year to offer students – and the community – a unique musical option. The Jazz Ensemble has grown this year to 30 students, and with more members, it can play more full arrangements, Mr. Suska said.

"What I would like is to see us develop two jazz ensembles," Mr. Suska said, "a premiere ensemble with the best players on each instrument and a developmental ensemble." As students improved, they would work their way into the premiere ensemble, he explained.

Last year, JPII started a Preparatory Instrumentalists class to develop players with little experience, Mr. Suska said. The success of that class is seen in the fact that six members of this year's Jazz Ensemble started in the Preparatory class last year, he said.

Mr. Suska also is looking for more opportunities for the Jazz Ensemble to perform in the community, raising the profile of the school's instrumental program. The Ensemble performed at St. Cecilia Academy's recent Heritage Day Festival.

The Ensemble made its public debut for the 2010-11 school year at the Sept. 17 home football game against Brentwood Academy, using a new stage built in the week before the game with the help of several parents and Ken Bilbrey, JPII's facilities director. The stage is located next to the student section and faces the stands so everyone can hear it better, Mr. Suska. The stage also is large enough to accommodate all the players and the sound system, he added.

The construction of the stage was made possible by the generous donation to the school by Country Music superstar Taylor Swift, Mr. Suska said. Money from that donation also was used to buy a trailer for the Jazz Ensemble that can be used to transport instruments and other equipment when it plays at community events, he said.

Mr. Suska also is working to grow JPII's orchestra, which this year has nine members. That has been a bit more difficult because not all elementary and middle schools in the area have a strings program, he said.

The instrumental music program has two upcoming concerts. On Tuesday, Nov. 9, the Jazz Ensemble and Orchestra will perform in the school's annual Veteran's Day Concert. They will perform their Christmas Concert on Thursday, Dec. 9.

"My interest," Mr. Suska said, "is to put the students here in a better position to be their best."



## NOAH PLACES FOURTH AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

JPII sophomore Meredith Noah, pictured at right, placed fourth in the hunter/jumper division at the 2010 American Quarter Horse Youth Association World Champions held in Oklahoma City.

Thousands of youth 19 and under around the world compete each year but only around 100 qualify in each event.

Meredith and her horse, Dancin' with Detail, flew through the preliminaries on Monday/Tuesday and saved her best efforts for the finals on Thursday. She edged out her older sister, Margaret, a 2009 graduate of JPII, whose highest placing in the world had been fifth.

Meredith has four more years of eligibility.

## JULOW, YOUNT COMPETE IN DII STATE GOLF TOURNEY

Senior Jordan Julow and junior Morgan Yount recently completed play in the state Division II golf tournament with favorable results.

Jordan fired a sizzling 70 in the first round Tuesday, putting him temporarily in third place. He finished at 148 for the tournament, good for sixth place out of 40 of the state's best high school golfers.

Morgan shot a 195 for the two day tournament, or 16th among 35 golfers.

Congratulations, Jordan and Morgan, for excellent golf seasons!

## FALL THEATER PRODUCTION OCT. 21-24

The JPII fall theater production, the comedy "You Can't Take It With You," will be performed Oct. 21-24. Show times will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Come out and see a great show!

## JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

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

### St. John Vianney School

When Megan Gerstner and James Puryear were students at St. John Vianney School in Gallatin, they heard a lot of good things about JPII. And two months into their freshman year, they found out people were right. "I just had a lot of people I knew who came here and were happy with the school, and I thought it would be fun," said Megan, who lives in Gallatin. "It has been fun. I think the classes are very interesting."



Megan Gerstner

James' family was heavily involved in the establishment of JPII, so he was familiar with the campus before enrolling. And the teachers at St. John Vianney told the students there that JPII was a school with "outstanding" academics, he said.



James Puryear

"I was expecting it to be really, really hard," James said. "It's challenging, but not as bad as I thought it was going to be." Megan has had a similar experience. "I thought it was going to be really hard," particularly balancing the class work with athletics and other extra-curricular activities, she said. "But it's worked

out really well."

Both James and Megan said it's been easy making new friends at JPII. "It was really helpful they had the freshman retreat," Megan added. The retreat helped her meet new people before the start of classes in August.

Megan advised prospective students: "If they work hard and manage their time, they can do well at JPII." James also had advice for prospective students. "They need to learn how to study and take notes," he said. "Write everything down."

JPII People ... Megan Gerstner and James Puryear!

## View Points

### JPII students receive 73 A.P. Scholar awards

JPII has learned that its students secured 73 Advanced Placement awards from the College Board in 2010.

Leading the pack were 2010 graduates Thomas Griffin, Amy Wigginton and Jeremy Wilson, each of whom had qualifying scores to be named "National A.P. Scholars." This designation is granted to students who receive an average score of at least four on all A.P. tests taken and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more exams.

Nineteen students were given the next highest honor: A.P. Scholar with Distinction, awarded to those with an average score of at least 3.5 on all exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams. Those students were: Sarah Buntin, Tim Clavin, Thomas Fleming, Jonathan Gautsch, Mary Gilstrap, Thomas Griffin, Sarah Hartzheim, Justin Hickerson, Stephanie Kerrigan, Bryan Mainhardt, Maria Massa, Ryan Moore, Elizabeth Pense, Greg Seals, Mason Taylor, Laura Walden, Aaron Wiek, Amy Wigginton and Jeremy Wilson.

Fourteen students received the honor "A.P. Scholar with Honor" for students who received an average score of at least 3.25 on all exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more exams. Those students were: Paige Baechle, Sarah Bourget, Wilhelm Bunjor, Gabriella Delgandio, Ben Garretson, Sam Geist, Joseph Griggs, Mary Hagy, Allegra Harpoortian, Jordan Julow, Devin Patel, Julia Ross, Tanner Tadeo and Robert Wieber.

Thirty-eight students were named A.P. Scholar, given to students who scored 3 or higher on three or more A.P. exams. They were: Meredith Allen, Maci Arms, Austin Barnes, Thomas Bednar, Kathleen Callahan, Julia Cude, Tiffany Davis, Katharina Foester, Christopher Garner, Kathryn George, Tanner Graham, Ambralin Griggs, Mitchell Hale, Alex Isaacson, Briana Keightley, Matthew Lambert, Leah Loven, Shiksha Mahiani, Abby Matheny, Mitchell Mayberry, Steven McCormack, Brendan Melcher, Richard Modrzyński, Alex Nieters, Taylor Norton, Jasmin Phillips, Shaughn Phillips, Frederick Reed, Carter Reese, Derek Robinson, Adam Sizemore, Daniel Steele, Philip Strobel, Charlotte Tandetzki, Joseph Telli, Isobel Ward, Aaron Weber and Breanna Wood.

In the last three years, JPII students have won more than 225 Advanced Placement Awards. Congratulations to these students and their teachers!



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### PLACEMENT EXAMS

OCT. 23  
NOV. 13  
DEC. 11  
JAN. 29

8 A.M.-NOON

CALL  
(615) 822-2375  
FOR DETAILS

#### Coffee with Headmaster

Coffee with the Headmaster returns on Monday, Oct. 11. All prospective parents and friends are invited to spend time with JPII Headmaster Faustin Weber to enjoy a cup of coffee and pastries while learning about JPII.

Parents can discuss and answer questions about a variety of topics, such as JPII's culture of learning, aspects of the curriculum, sports, art and music. Tours of the school are available on request.

Coffee with the Headmaster begins at 8:30 a.m. and lasts until 10 a.m. Another Coffee with the Headmaster will be held Nov. 8.

To make a reservation or for more information, email [info@jp2hs.org](mailto:info@jp2hs.org) or call (615) 590-6014.