



Center Point BBQ to cater football concessions

The concessions at JPPI home football games will get an upgrade this year. The JPPI Parent Association Council has reached an agreement to have Center Point Barbecue provide all the food for the concession stands. "We wanted to improve the quality of what we were offering... to our parents and our supporters," said Melody Noah, the concessions chair for the PAC.

Center Point Barbecue's staff will set up a barbecue pit and cook all the meats on site, she explained. All the meats will be smoked rather than fried or grilled. The menu will include pulled pork barbecue sandwiches, chicken sandwiches and smoked burgers and hot dogs.

The best part is that all the profits from the concessions sales at home football games will be returned to various clubs and teams at JPPI, Mrs. Noah explained. Robert Duke, the owner of Center Point Barbecue, will be offering his restaurant's services at basically cost, with the profits going to the school.

So make sure to stop by the concessions stands to enjoy some excellent food and help the varied student activities at JPPI.



New faculty and staff, from left: Melissa Vaughn, Lynlea Keightley, Sheree DiMenno, Jeff Rutledge, Kat Morris, Brian Sneed, Devin Donovan, Jessica Ford, Abby Drumwright and Laura Thigpen. Missing is Diane Weber

NEW FACES JOIN JPPI STAFF, FACULTY

Several people have joined the JPPI faculty and staff this year, including:

Sherree DiMenno: Mrs. DiMenno, a resident of Hendersonville for more than 30 years, is returning to JPPI. She was the school receptionist when it opened in 2002, and later moved to assist in the Registrar's Office, assisting in the Student Life Office, and assisting Academic Dean Karen Phillips. She now is working in the Admissions Office.

Devin Donovan: Ms. Donovan is teaching freshman and sophomore English. Ms. Donovan graduated from Vanderbilt University cum laude with a B.S. in education studies and English. Ms. Donovan served as student body president while in college. She interrupted her teaching career to work for several years at Siegenthaler Public Relations in Nashville before taking the position at JPPI.

Abby Drumwright: Ms. Drumwright, who joins the science department at JPPI, has both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in biology from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro. Last school year, Ms. Drumwright served as a National Science Foundation GK-12 graduate fellow.

Jessica Ford: Ms. Ford is teaching conceptual physics at JPPI this year. She earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and is currently working toward her master's degree at Middle Tennessee State University.

Lynlea Keightley: Ms. Keightley will teach forensics (speech and debate) this year, as well as coaching the school's forensics team and the JPPI Royal Poms, a dance/drill/high-kick/pom pon squad. Ms. Keightley graduated from the University of Kansas with a journalism degree and previously worked at various newspapers, in management consulting, sales training, competitive intelligence, corporate communications and project management, and has directed

community theater productions for the Steeple Players in Hendersonville.

Kat Morris: Ms. Morris is teaching Church History/Sacraments and Social Justice this year, and is faculty moderator for the Environmental Club and the school's recycling program. She graduated from the University of Dayton with a degree in secondary education and double major in religious studies. After graduating from UD, Ms. Morris was part of the Lalanne Program, a graduate program at UD, where she taught in an urban Catholic school in Dayton, while living in community with other teachers and receiving her masters degree in theological studies.

Jeff Rutledge: Coach Rutledge is the new head football coach at JPPI and will teach strength and conditioning. He's both played and coached at the high school, college and professional levels during his football career. As the head coach at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, Coach Rutledge led the Big Red to two state championships.

Brian Sneed: Mr. Sneed will teach algebra at JPPI and is an assistant coach for the football team. A 2006 graduate of JPPI, Mr. Sneed graduated from Centre College in Danville, Ky., last May with a bachelor of science degree in math and a minor in secondary education.

Laura Thigpen: Ms. Thigpen is the new director of finance and operations at JPPI. She previously was the controller for Marist School in Atlanta, Ga. She graduated from the University of Tennessee with both a bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting and is a Certified Public Accountant.

Melissa Vaughn: Mrs. Vaughn is the new Christian Service Coordinator at JPPI. She earned a bachelor's degree in English, with a minor in secondary education and sociology, from Middle Tennessee State University in 1982, and a bachelor's in mass communications from Middle in 1983.

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JPPI'S ANNUAL BRITISH INVASION

Nine students from St. Edmund's College, just outside London, England, visited JPPI for the start of the school year as part of the Loughlin Scholars program. "It's just like being in the movies," St. Edmund's physics teacher Sophie Kobylec said of her first visit to the U.S. as a chaperone for the British teens. "Everyone is really friendly."

The British students and their families hosted a group of JPPI students visiting England earlier this summer. When they came to the U.S., their JPPI counterparts returned the favor and played host to the St. Edmund's



The Loughlin Scholars visiting JPPI from St. Edmund's College near London, and their teacher-chaperones were: (front row, L-R) Liz Cobb, Katie Forbes, Isabella Cacciatore, Lia Economou; (back row) Sarah Bellis, Lilly Gossley, Alex Bellis, Kate Scheedy, Will Yates, Abi Eveleigh and Sophie Kobylec.

students, who were in America July 23-Aug. 12.

They spent some time in JPPI's classrooms getting a taste of what a high school education in America is like. "They're amazed at the amount of homework JPPI students have, and surprised by the different teaching style" in America, said Liz Cobb, a St. Edmund's teacher who has accompanied students to JPPI for several years.

NEW FACES JOIN FACULTY, STAFF

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She left a teaching career to raise her four children: Billy, a 2005 JPPI grad, Sam, a 2007 JPPI grad, Jackson, a JPPI senior, and Caroline, a JPPI sophomore. Prior to joining the JPPI staff, Mrs. Vaughn worked as a substitute teacher at St. Joseph School and Youth Minister at St. Joseph Church in Madison. She and her husband, Eddie, the Voice of the Knights, are also active in the Nashville Diocesan SEARCH program.

Diane Weber: Mrs. Weber joins the JPPI math department as a geometry teacher. She earned a bachelor's degree in education, with a certificate to teach math and biology for grades 7-12 from Auburn University in 1985. She met her husband, JPPI Headmaster Faustin Weber, when both were teaching at Montgomery Catholic High School in Montgomery, Ala. After staying home to raise their four children, she has served as a part-time math teacher since 2001.



SEPTEMBER 2010

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

STUDENTS BURST INTO NEW SCHOOL YEAR

On Aug. 4, students streamed back into the hallways, classrooms and athletic fields of Pope John Paul II High School to start the 2010-11 school year. "I think everybody's very excited about this year," said Headmaster Faustin Weber.

JPPI started the school year with 615 students, including 165 freshmen and 29 transfer students, Mr. Weber said. While overall enrollment remained steady from last year, the school saw an improvement in the attrition rate. Mr. Weber attributed that success to the Freshman Year of Studies program started last year. Under the program each freshman student is assigned an advisor who meets with them regularly to make sure they aren't falling behind in their school work.

The major change to the facility over the summer was the renovation of the library, which included a new conference room with a kitchenette for board meetings and other adult gatherings. The school also has installed a new phone and voice mail system and has purchased two new buses to transport athletic teams to events, Mr. Weber said.

The school has added a new bus route to Bowling Green, Ky., which will include several stops along Interstate 65 to pick up and drop off students, Mr. Weber said.

The school's board of trustees is busy working on a new strategic plan for the school, Vision 2015, reviewing all the comments



Sarah Missimer, a junior and a member of Societas, shows several freshmen where their classes are on the first day of school at JPPI.



Photos courtesy of the Tennessee Register
Mary Catherine Fleming, a junior at Pope John Paul II High School and a member of Societas, the school's student ambassadors, shows freshmen Luke Pulliza, center, and Jacob Polman, how to read their class schedule on the first day of school.

on the draft of the plan made by parents of JPPI students.

Mr. Weber said that although the economic slowdown of the last year has left some lingering issues for some JPPI families, for the most part, "we've crossed over the mountain top and we're coming down hill a little bit."

In a letter to parents, Mr. Weber encouraged them to become involved in the school. "It's a great way to understand the culture of the school, learn more about your child's friends and families, and make friends yourselves," he wrote.

There are two main parent organizations at the school: The Parent Association Council, lead by Eve Abdo (eve.abdo@comcast.net) and the Knight Club athletic booster club, led by Eddie Vaughn (evaughn@bpitem.com).

"There are also myriad opportunities to help teachers (you can reach them at http://www.jp2hs.org/staff_directory.cfm,) or assist the front office (contact Jolind Weaver at Jolind.Weaver@jp2hs.org), assist coaches with team duties (see your team coach) or even put yourself on the paid sub list (contact Jolind)," Mr. Weber wrote. "Whatever might interest you, I encourage you to pursue it. We are a stronger school when our parents are active."



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focusing on his major of history. He plans to teach high school history and coach either cross country/track or ultimate frisbee. He organized the first UD Ultimate Frisbee club team and as president of the club and coach/captain of the team itself, he finds himself quite busy.

Class of 2009

Sarah Naseman spent seven weeks this summer in Poland visiting with her older sister whose husband is the diplomatic attache in Krakow. She spent time touring the sights in Poland and Eastern Europe. Some of the highlights of her visit included trips to Wadowice, the birthplace and boyhood home of Pope John Paul II, Auschwitz, Czestohowa and the Shrine of the Black Madonna, Zakopane in the Tatra Mountains and Vienna, Austria. Sarah is now back at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where she is a sophomore.

Alex Simpson recently received two awards from Eckerd College. One was the award for Eckerd Cadet of the Year, which is given to one outstanding cadet enrolled in the ROTC program, for outstanding performance in academic, physical fitness, leadership and military skills. The other award is the Superior Cadet Decoration Award. This award is only given to four cadets within the entire Suncoast Battalion, awarded to the most outstanding cadets in each grade level.

Taylor Harrison spent 2 1/2 weeks in Bulembu, Swaziland, on a mission trip through Mission Discovery. Bulembu is on the border of South Africa. The country has the highest HIV/Aids infection rate in the world, resulting in an orphan crisis. Taylor worked with a team to prepare a road with pick



axes and shovels for laying brick. They also built swing sets for the 220 children who live there. He spent his day off at Kruger Park, Africa's most active wildlife park.

Nathan Forester was recently in Destin, Fla., where he realized that he had lost his JPII senior ring. Two weeks later, JPII received a phone call from a woman who had found his ring while snorkeling in Destin. This is proof there are really good people in this world.

Class of 2010

Sean Druffel just started class at the Community Based Classroom at Vanderbilt, through Hillsboro, and is enjoying it. He is anxiously awaiting the upcoming football season, and is looking forward to JPII visits.

Michael Nelson continues to write songs and also performed some of his newer songs downtown at the Blue Bar. He is currently attending Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, and is an ROTC Cadet. He will be majoring in English getting a teaching degree. Michael has already made the local Cincinnati news with his songwriting career, and he's hoping to continue playing music and writing songs while at Xavier.

Taylor Holmes recently passed his certification test by the FAA and received his private pilot's license. Taylor's training in a Cessna 172 included navigation, night flying, maximum performance takeoff and landings and emergency procedures. He was required to pass a comprehensive written examination, an oral examination and a flight test given by an FAA designated examiner. JPII theology teacher and pilot Chris Findley was Taylor's flight instructor.

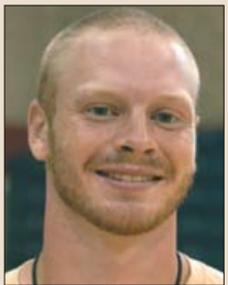


BRIAN SNEED FIRST ALUMNUS TO JOIN JPII FACULTY

Brian Sneed was there when JPII first opened its doors in 2002. He and the rest of the Class of 2006 were the first in the school's history to complete all four years at JPII. He's got another first under his belt now. He's become the school's first alumnus to come back as a teacher.

Mr. Sneed graduated last May from Centre College in Danville, Ky., with a bachelor of science degree in math and a minor in secondary education. He also was a three-year starter on the Centre football team and played as a freshman and a senior on the school's basketball team.

"I wanted to be a coach," said Mr. Sneed, whose father John was JPII's first boys basketball coach and softball coach. "Having family as coaches and being in sports my whole life, that was something I wanted to keep



Brian Sneed

ALUMNI NEWS

career hits, most career starts and most career RBIs. He was on the Atlantic Sun All Academic Team several times, an award given for maintaining a 3.0 GPA or higher during the season of your sport. He is also teaching batting lessons with several younger baseball players. As he continues to pursue his baseball career professionally he will be coaching at Lipscomb this season as the student assistant and completing his degree in business management with plans to graduate in May 2011.

Tania Buda, a senior at the U.S. Air Force Academy, spent a day recently with former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Tania played basketball and ran track at JPII, and among her many talents, she is fluent in seven languages. She is the older sister of current sophomore Mia Buda.

Class of 2007

John Hartzheim is going to India for a semester through St. Olaf College. He is majoring in molecular biology. Last year he studied chemistry in England. This summer he is at UC-Riverside, Calif., working and doing cellular research

Genevieve (Gen) Melcher is a senior at the University of the South, majoring in theatre with a minor in education, and spent the summer as an intern at the Children's Theatre in Minneapolis, Minn.

Derek Boone is beginning his senior year at Boston College. He was recently named captain of the BC Cycling team. He will graduate in May from the Carroll School of Management with majors in finance, information systems and marketing. He also completed a summer internship with an internet security firm in Boston.

Mandy Phillips Anderson graduated cum laude from Nashville State Community College in May. She received an AAS in visual communications with a concentration on graphic design. Mandy is now working for a local restaurant as a catering coordinator. She just celebrated her one year anniversary with her husband on July 18 and on July 23 gave birth to a daughter Olivia Laine, who was 8 pounds, 4 ounces and 20 inches at birth.

Class of 2008

Nicole Schoemer is studying at the University of Westminster in London. She was also selected out of many people to be an intern for GE Capital in London. Currently she is backpacking in Europe for the month before classes start, visiting many of the places she only dreamed about in Mr. Grabarek's Classical Mythologies class in high school!

Logan Taylor is attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville studying electrical engineering. He just completed his sophomore year from which he then took a co-op with Denso manufacturing in Maryville, Tenn. This is a very hands-on co-op where his supervisors give him jobs to work on that will eventually see the manufacturing floor.



Michael Falconer is entering his junior year at the University of Dallas

Class of 2005

Natalie Marasa finished the classroom portion of her master's in occupational therapy and started clinicals for nine months in June. She will graduate with her master's degree from University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in May 2011.

Anna Hartzheim graduated with a degree in biology and is now doing a zoo keeper internship. In September she will be at the Big Cat Sanctuary in Texas.

Chris Farris is teaching at Coopertown Middle School and is the head basketball coach and assistant baseball coach.

Andy Bulso is beginning his second year at the The Pontifical College Josephinum Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. He is on schedule to be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Nashville in 2015.

Erica Scheldt is attending the University of South Carolina for her master of social work degree. She is currently interning at the Charleston Center and is employed as a dance instructor; teaching ballet, jazz and tap to children ranging from pre-kindergarten to second grade.

Katie Gibbens is moving to St. Louis to dance for the Missouri Ballet Theatre. She is a graduate of SMU in Dallas, Texas.

Class of 2006

Katy Banks is in school at Paul Mitchell learning to be a hair stylist and plans on graduating in November 2010

Allison Erkman married Lance Mueller at Riverwood Mansion in Nashville on July 20, 2010. Allison is currently attending University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. Lance is in the U.S. Navy.



Kyle Smith worked over the summer as an intern for the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Tennessee in Knoxville.

Winder Buchanan graduated from Middle Tennessee State University on Aug. 14 with a bachelor's degree in exercise science

Adrienne Krebs is teaching Chemistry 1 & 2 and Physics at Friendship Christian High School in Lebanon. She and **Ashley Turner** are apartment roommates in Nashville.

Jack Gaughan started law school at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, Calif.

Ryan Wilkins finished his four-year collegiate baseball career at Lipscomb University in May and set three school records during his career there: most

JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

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

Ellis Middle School

It's a short trip from Ellis Middle School in Hendersonville to JPII, but for those students who make that trip it can be quite a different path than the one chosen by many of their friends. However, the destination can make the journey well worth it, said two of this year's freshman class from Ellis, Victoria Hickam and Anthony Tate.



Victoria Hickam

"I didn't think I was going to like it this much, but I love it here," Victoria said. "I like all the teachers and all the people here."

"People here are very nice people. They know how to treat people," echoed Anthony. "I'm really enjoying it."

Victoria was already familiar with JPII through her sisters, Laura, a senior at JPII, and Sarah, who graduated in 2008 and is a sophomore at the University of Notre Dame. Both her sisters "loved it" at JPII, Victoria said. Anthony had no family connections to JPII, but several friends he played football with encouraged he and his parents to check out the school. He spent a day shadowing a student at JPII last school year, Anthony said. "I liked what I saw there."

There's definitely a change coming to JPII from a public school, Victoria said. Although the academics might be more rigorous at JPII, it's nothing like some of the horror stories Anthony heard before arriving at JPII, he said. "There wasn't as much homework as people always try to say there is," he said. "You just have to know how to schedule your time."

Anthony said he would tell anyone considering coming to JPII, "It's a really, really great school. It will challenge you, but it will be worth it."

JPII People ... Victoria Hickam and Anthony Tate!



Anthony Tate

View Points

Fall sports rev into action

Pope John Paul II High School has turned the reins of its football program over to a new coach, Jeff Rutledge, who's career is packed with accomplishments as both a player and coach at nearly every level of football. Coach Rutledge is new to JPII but not to Tennessee's Division II-AA football. As the head coach at Montgomery Bell Academy, he lead the Big Red to two state championships. He's also been an assistant coach in the Southeastern Conference and the National Football League.

The last few months have been a learning process for both the coach and the players, Coach Rutledge said. "We're trying to establish our own program," he said. "They're having to learn about me and what I'm expecting," he said of the players.

The Knights had a rough start to the 2010 season, losing to Clarksville High School, 27-14. Their first home game will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 3 against McCallie of Chattanooga. The rest of the schedule is: Sept. 10 v. Baylor, 7 p.m.; Sept. 17 v. Brentwood Academy, 7 p.m.; Sept. 24 at East Hamilton, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 1 at Father Ryan, 7 p.m.; Oct. 8 at Ensworth, 7 p.m.; Oct. 15 v. Boyd Buchanan, 7 p.m.; Oct. 22 v. Battle Ground Academy, 7 p.m.; Oct. 29 at MBA, 7 p.m.

The football team is not the only group of Knight athletes competing this fall. The JPII men's golf team is off to a strong start beating Goodpasture by 12 strokes, and University School by 32 strokes. Both the men's and women's teams swept rival Father Ryan. The Lady Knights beat Ryan 90-100. Morgan Yount was the low scorer with a 44 and sophomore Christina Lindahl shot a 46. The men's team posted a 143-168 victory over Ryan, led by senior Jordan Julow, 33, and a trio of sophomores: Michael Resha and Jacob Svedin, both 36, and Connor McCarthy, 38.

Senior Jordan Drennan of the competition cheerleading team has been named one of the top 10 cheerleaders in the state of Tennessee by the Tennessee Cheerleading Coaches Association. All of the top 10 cheerleaders will perform during the state championship football game when the cheerleaders will be announced as the state's best. Jordan is the first cheerleader from JPII to receive this honor.

Other teams enjoying a new season include cross country, girls soccer and volleyball. Check out the JPII website, www.jp2hs.org, for all the schedules and come out to support your Knights.



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, Sept. 13. 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. Future dates for Coffee with the Headmaster include Oct. 11 and Nov. 8. To make a reservation or for more information, email info@jp2hs.org or call (615) 590-6014.