



Important dates for prospective students

The Admissions Office staff is inviting prospective students and their parents to the campus this year to find out more about the great opportunities at Pope John Paul II High School.

Coffee With the Headmaster will return this year, giving parents a chance to meet with Headmaster Faustin Weber and members of the school's faculty. The dates for Coffee With the Headmaster at Monday, Sept. 12, Monday, Oct. 10, Monday, Nov. 14, Monday, Jan. 9, and Monday Feb. 13. The gatherings will be from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Prospective students and their families are also invited to JPPI for an open house 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13.

Dates for the placement exam have also been scheduled. They are: Saturday, Oct. 22, Saturday, Nov. 12, Saturday, Dec. 10, and Saturday, Jan. 21. The testing is from 8 a.m. to noon.

For more information, contact the Admissions Office by calling (615) 822-2375.



JPPI's new teachers include: (front row, L-R) Karen Serra, Becky Roy, Jack Willey, Zac Campbell, (back row) Eric Morin, Mark Corliss, Kip Brown, Shane Kelley.



Julianne Staley



Rocky Zazzaro

JPPI WELCOMES NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

JPPI began the school year with several new faculty and staff members. The theology department welcomes Mr. Eric Morin and Ms. Julianne Staley. Mr. Morin teaches Sacred Scripture to freshmen and is the Head Coach for Freshman Football. Ms. Staley, a 2005 JPPI graduate, teaches Ecclesiology and Sacramental Theology to sophomores.

The English department welcomes, Mr. Mark Corliss. Mr. Corliss teaches junior and senior English. He has also taught Mandarin at Tabor Academy in Massachusetts and at Ensworth in Nashville.

The physical education department welcomes Mrs. Karen Serra and Mr. Kip Brown. Mrs. Serra teaches Women's Core Fitness and is the Girls Head Basketball Coach. Mr. Brown rejoins JPPI as a Physical Education and Wellness teacher. Mr. Brown is also the Boys Head Basketball Coach.

The foreign language department welcomes Mr. Jack Willey. Mr. Willey joins us from St. Joseph in Madison and he teaches Spanish and Advanced Spanish.

The science department welcomes Dr. Shane Kelley. Dr. Kelley teaches three levels of Chemistry including AP Chemistry.

The fine arts department welcomes Mr. Zac Campbell. Mr. Campbell teaches Beginning Theatre, Advanced Theatre and Stage Craft. He will also produce two major theatre

productions including a musical in the spring.

The admissions office welcomes two new Admissions Officers, Mrs. Becky Roy and Mr. Michael Brown. Mrs. Roy joins us from Summer Academy where she was the Director of Admissions and Development. In addition to admissions, Mr. Brown is also JPPI's Head Baseball Coach and Hand-In-Hand teacher. Mr. Rocky Zazzaro officially joins the staff as the athletics director.

SCHERIGER HEADED TO OLYMPIC TRIALS

JPPI sophomore Paige Scheriger, competing at the USAS Junior National Swimming Championships in Palo Alto, Calif., posted a qualifying time in the women's 200 meter breaststroke for the USA Olympic Trials Swimming Meet to be held next summer.

Paige turned in a time of 2:35.74 in preliminary heat competition, trimming nearly three seconds off her previous best. Paige finished 17th overall in the 200 breaststroke finals (in a time of 2:37.07) and then placed 30th overall in the 100-meter breaststroke later in the week, recording a time of 1:14.69 in the finals.

She is the first JPPI swimmer to ever qualify for the Olympic Trials Swim Meet. Congratulations, Paige!



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JIM CARELL ATHLETIC COMPLEX DEDICATED

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courtyard can be used for outdoor events such as student concerts and art shows as well as alumni gatherings, Mr. Weber said.

"It's been a transformational gift," Mr. Weber said of the project that normally would have taken six to eight months but was finished in 68 days.

Mr. Weber credited the work of JPPI parents like Matthew Lascara, who was onsite every day with Athletic Director Rocky Zazzaro working with the contractors to keep the project on track, and Jim Harrison, who engineered the project and helped expedite all the necessary city permits. He also praised the contractors, including three Catholic gentlemen, who made the project a success: Wayne Wantz, owner of Modern Construction Co., which built the new concessions building; Patrick Remke, the owner of Precision Sports Fields, which installed the new turf; and Brett Wesnofske, owner of Sunrise Contracting, which did all the site preparation and grading work.

"It's been an amazing collaboration to get it done," Mr. Weber said.

In the week before the dedication of the complex, an army of parent volunteers would show up each evening to help with landscaping and other projects. "Their work saved us thousands of dollars," said Mr. Lascara, who also is the president of the Knights Athletic Booster Club. It reminded him of the effort of volunteers to clean up the school's grounds after the record floods in 2010. "It was the same thing here with parents chipping in to help. ... That's what we're all about, to me."

Mr. Carell challenged the JPPI community to match his generosity by paying



JPPI parents Dr. Keith Loven, left, and Kelley Southard dish out some delicious Center Point Barbecue in the new concessions stand at the Jim Carell Athletic Complex, which was dedicated on Aug. 19.

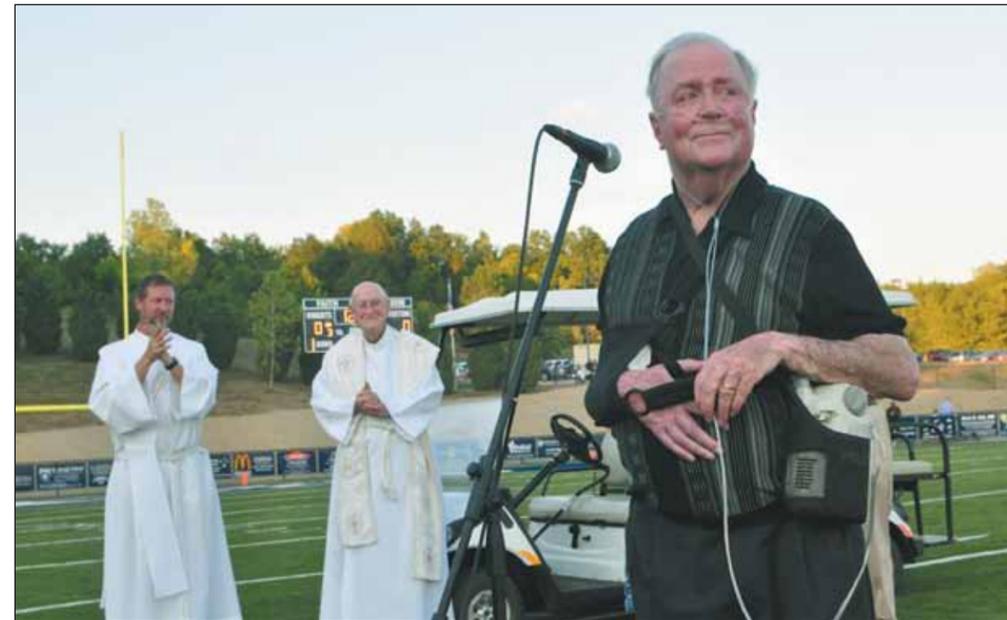
it forward. There are several opportunities to do that. Donors making contributions of \$5,000 or more will be recognized on a special donor wall inside the complex. Families who wish to make \$500 donations will receive a customized paver that will be placed between the pillars in the front entrance way. Alumni and future alumni (current students) will be able to purchase a customized brick for just \$150 with their name and year of graduation that will be placed in the Alumni Courtyard next to the pavilion.



SEPTEMBER 2011

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

FIELD OF DREAMS



Jim Carell, right, looks out at the crowd during the dedication and blessing of the new Jim Carell Athletic Complex at Pope John Paul II High School as Deacon Brian Edwards, left, and Father William Bevington, center, applaud. Mr. Carell donated all the money for the project, which included construction of a concessions and restroom building, a new track and the installation of synthetic field turf on the football field.

JIM CARELL ATHLETIC COMPLEX DEDICATED

Jim Carell stood on the new synthetic turf field at JPPI and looked out over the stands full of applauding students, parents and friends, thanking him for the \$2.7 million donation that made the new Jim Carell Athletic Complex possible.

"This brings tears to my eyes," Mr. Carell told the crowd. "God has blessed me, and I am happy to be able to do this for you."

The new complex, which includes the new turf, a new concessions and restrooms building with a pavilion and plaza

courtyard, and a new, eight-lane track under construction around the soccer field, was blessed and dedicated on Aug. 19 before the first football game of the season.

"We're dedicating an athletic complex, but if you walk around you understand it's much more than that," Headmaster Faustin Weber said. The turf field can be used not only for football, but school lacrosse and soccer games as well community and parochial youth league games. And the pavilion and plaza

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NEW TEACHERS

TOP SWIMMER

Admissions Office
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UPCOMING EVENTS

PLACEMENT EXAMS FOR 2012-13 SCHOOL YEAR

OCT. 22
NOV. 12
DEC. 10
JAN. 21

8 A.M.-NOON

JPII students selected for Governor's School

Four JPII students were selected to participate in the challenging and prestigious Governor's School programs for gifted and talented students. Brittney Brescia and Hailey Cleek were chosen for the School of Humanities at the University of Tennessee-Martin, and Jenny Cawood and Andrew Gilstrap were chosen for the School of the Arts at Middle Tennessee State University.

It is an honor to be selected for Governor's School and it speaks volumes for the quality of education our students receive. Congratulations to our talented students and teachers!

View Points

JPII STUDENTS EARN AP HONORS

Ninety-two students at Pope John Paul II High School earned AP Scholar Awards in 2011 in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP Exams. That's the most in school history.

Two hundred and eight JPII students took 493 AP exams last May with a chance to earn college credit, advanced placement or both. Four students qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average score of 4 or higher on a 5-point scale on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more exams. They are Joseph B. Griggs, Jordan R. Julow, Devin J. Patel and Derek C. Robinson.

Twenty-two students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams. They are Meredith L. Allen, Maci C. Arms, Thomas J. Bednar, Brittney M. Brescia, Kevin M. Clavin, Hailey M. Cleek, Samuel T. Geist, Joseph B. Griggs, Allegra Harpooldian, Jordan R. Julow, Leah H. Loven, Kyle D. Meadows, Brendan J. Melcher, Devin J. Patel, Derek C. Robinson, Julia T. Ross, Todd M. Scheriger, Kaley D. Stinnett, Joseph A. Telli, Carson L. West, Chasity N. White and Robert J. Wieber.

Fifteen students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are Alex L. Abdo, Hogan S. Bryant, Wilhelm P. Bunjor, Ladd M. Caballero, Andrew M. Gilstrap, Elizabeth M. Glass, Carlton T. Hency, Summer A. Kennedy, Laura F. Maas, Simran A. Mahtani, Diana Maros, Mackenzie C. Mayberry, Sarah Park, Emily K. Peel and Seth Q. Walker.

Fifty-one students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with scores of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are Jonathan D. Adams, Julianna M. Adams, Maria Bednar, Sean C. Brewer, Matthew J. Callahan, Angelia M. Calvo, David A. Carr, Matthew J. Catignani, Michael Colello, Natalie Colwell, Taylor L. Dunn, Andre Eikenkoetter, Jacob H. Foulke, Kathryn D. Fox, Emily B. Garretson, Rachael Geiger, Chris J. George, Patrick T. Griffin, Genevieve L. Guerry, Benjamin S. Guth, Mitchell E. Hale, Cailin D. Harris, Clare T. Healy, Rachel M. Hinlo, Sierra R. Hooker, Cassidy M. Johnson, Thomas A. Koen, Ricarda D. Laufer, Mary M. Leonard, Grace M. Lucas, Abby L. Matheny, Samantha A. May, Richard W. Modrzynski, Ashley C. Montgomery, Courtney N. O'Connor, Emily L. Pearl, Maxwell T. Rasmussen, Erin E. Roberts, Morgan M. Roth, Katherine R. Roy, Lucas M. Rudd, Andrew C. Scruggs, Rush L. Sowell, Hannah M. Vickery, Eric M. Stolz, William D. Vanderslice, Isobel M. Ward, Michael C. Wells, Abigail A. Wood, Randall S. Wright II and Dylan Zenga.

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, Madison

Meghan Sooker and Jacob Jarreau have had some insight to what JPII is like long before they showed up on campus as freshmen this fall. Both have older brothers at the school.

"He liked it. He said it was really good," Meghan said of her brother Sean who is a senior at JPII. Jacob's brother, Brad, a junior at JPII, had a similar assessment. "He just told me that school was fun," Jacob said.



Meghan Sooker

Both Meghan and Jacob, who came to JPII from St. Joseph School in Madison, were attracted to the school because of its academics. "Academically, I was ready for it because St. Joseph prepared us for it," Jacob said.



Jacob Jarreau

"It is harder than middle school," Meghan said. "It's a faster pace, but you can keep up with it." "Just don't procrastinate," added Jacob.

Because most of their classmates from St. Joseph came to JPII this fall, Meghan and Jacob arrived already knowing plenty of people. And the freshman retreat only served to widen their circle of new friends as they got a chance to meet more of their classmates. "It was really fun," Meghan said.

"It's really easy to meet people," at JPII Meghan said. "Not anyone around here is mean or anything," Jacob said.

They encouraged prospective students to come to JPII. "It's a great education and you know you're never going to get away from your faith," said Jacob. "Definitely come here," added Meghan, "because it's fun and it's a good education."

JPII People ... Meghan Sooker and Jacob Jarreau!

HOUSE SYSTEM REORGANIZED TO FOSTER COMMUNITY SPIRIT

JPII has reorganized its house system this year to help foster a stronger sense of community among the students. JPII looked for inspiration to its sister school in England, St. Edmund's, which has a thriving house system and a strong emphasis on pastoral care for the students, said Luke Diamond, the assistant dean of students and a physics teacher at JPII.



Luke Diamond stands with boxes of new house belts.

"Pastoral care pays attention to how the student is fitting into the community, their relationship with the school, with classmates, with the faculty," explained Mr. Diamond, who is responsible for the house system and the Freshman Year of Studies program. "A child should feel like they affect the community, that they're not an outsider."

JPII has made several changes in the house system to help foster that sense of community, Mr. Diamond said. First the number of houses has been increased from four to six, adding the houses of Pius IX and Clement to the existing houses of Peter, John XXIII, Gregory and Leo. With two more houses, the size of each has been reduced from about 150 to 100, Mr. Diamond said. The smaller size should make it easier for students to see themselves as part of the communities more quickly, he said.

JPII SENIOR SHINES AT GIRLS NATION

Emily Peel, a senior at Pope John Paul II High School, finished her summer break by spending July 23-30 in Washington, D.C., getting a close look at the legislative process as one of 98 delegates to the 65th American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation. Peel was selected as one of two senators from Tennessee at Girls Nation, during the week-long Girls State held in June at Lipscomb University in Nashville. "I hadn't really heard of Girls State" before JPII's College Counselor Mike Brown recommended she go, Peel said.

At Girls State, the delegates, selected from high schools across Tennessee, are divided into communities, which elect office holders from the local level right up to governor. In the process, the students learn about government and develop leadership skills. Peel ran unsuccessfully for her party's nomination for governor but was elected to the House of Representatives. At the end of the week, her community nominated her as a candidate to be one of Tennessee's two delegates to Girls Nation. When she was selected, "It was a complete surprise," Peel said.

Her fellow delegate to Girls Nation was Olivia Sterling of Brentwood High School. Although they had never met before, they needed to work together to draft a bill to introduce at Girls Nation, Peel explained. Although they have different political outlooks, they were able to find common ground in drafting a bill based on the DREAM Act, which would provide qualifying undocumented youth a six-year path to citizenship after completing a college degree or two years of military service. At JPII, one of Peel's extracurricular

activities is Youth Legislature. That experience helped her as she worked on writing the bill, she said.

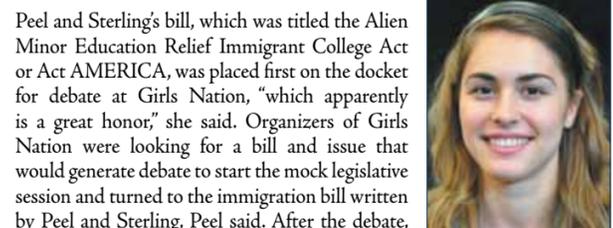
Another major change is the houses will now include students from all four grades. That's a return to the way things were done in the beginning of the house system when the school opened in 2002, but in recent years, each house was composed of a single grade. "When it was by grade, it was about competition, not community," Mr. Diamond said. Also, the old system only provided a few upperclassmen with the opportunity to fill leadership positions in their house, but there will be more opportunities for upper classmen to use their leadership abilities with the new system, he said. "We felt like the pastoral care of our young students could be improved if older students could help them adjust to the school. We felt we had this tremendous asset in the upper grades that wasn't being used."

Advisory groups will now be based on the houses rather than grades, and students will stay with the same advisor throughout their careers at JPII, Mr. Diamond said. There are seven advisory groups in each house, and students will sit with their house advisory group at gatherings of the entire student body, such as weekly Mass, he said. Also, each house will have a student-led house prayer service each Friday, Mr. Diamond said.

There are several changes in uniform policy this year based on the house system. Boys will wear ties and belts and girls socks that sport the colors and emblems of their house, Mr. Diamond said. "I wanted to strengthen the house identity," he said.

The house system helps create the culture of the school, Mr. Diamond said. "I think we captured some excitement with the house system."

Peel and Sterling's bill, which was titled the Alien Minor Education Relief Immigrant College Act or Act AMERICA, was placed first on the docket for debate at Girls Nation, "which apparently is a great honor," she said. Organizers of Girls Nation were looking for a bill and issue that would generate debate to start the mock legislative session and turned to the immigration bill written by Peel and Sterling. Peel said. After the debate, Act AMERICA passed.



Emily Peel

When the Girls Nation senators weren't debating bills, they were getting a look at Washington. They visited many of the sights of interest in the nation's capital including the Library of Congress, the Supreme Court Building and the U.S. Capitol. They also met President Barack Obama and watched as the U.S. Senate debated raising the debt ceiling, Peel said. One of the U.S. senators they heard speak was Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, she added.

One of the highlights of the trip for Peel was visiting the Walter Reed Army Hospital and meeting several veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq recovering from war wounds. Peel was impressed that the soldiers maintained a positive attitude, she said. "It was fascinating," Peel said of her first visit to Washington.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Senior Emmy Pearl leads a group of freshmen on a tour of the school on the first day of classes. Freshman Luke Whittington, photo at left, tries out the combination of his locker.

ALUMNI RETURN TO KICK OFF 10TH YEAR

Pope John Paul II High School is entering its 10th anniversary this year and the school kicked-off its yearlong celebration by hosting the first annual Alumni Event on Saturday, Aug. 13. The event was well attended by about 260 alumni, alumni parents, former teachers, current faculty and staff. "We are so pleased with the attendance. Everyone was very excited to be back on campus. The alumni and parents are already looking forward to next year's event," said Alumni Director Jo Lind Weaver.



Among those attending the Alumni Event were: (front row, L-R) Brian Sneed ('06), Lauren West ('05), Melinda Haney ('05), Adria Gibbs ('05); (back row) Matt Blackman ('05), Chris Farris ('05), a friend of JPII, Winder Buchanan ('06), Andrew Holt ('05), Jeff Girten ('05), Chuck Woosley ('05), Catherine Pendelton ('05).

The event began with a Mass celebrated by Bishop David Choby and Father William Bevington in the school's chapel, followed by a barbecue dinner catered by Center Point BBQ. "Break The Chain," a band of alumni parent, Tony Rogers, provided live music. Eddie Vaughn, alumni parent, asked everyone to take a moment to remember the classmates that have passed away, Norbert Vaughn, Timmy McGowan and Myles Rogers, as well as teacher's aid, Carol Cassidy.

Former head football coach Jeff Brothers shared football stories from the early days and commented on how wonderful it is to see the school flourishing. Among the many activities, participants were



afforded tours of the Jim Carell Athletic Complex a week before its grand opening on Aug. 19. They were thrilled to see the project and many were planning to return for the dedication. The afternoon event carried on into the early evening as alumni reunited and made plans to continue to stay in touch.

PANEL EXAMINES SCHOOL'S BEGINNINGS

Ann Carell, left, talks with JPII teacher John Barrow and alumnus Jeff Girten after a panel discussion on the beginnings of the school. The event was held as a kickoff of the school's 10th year. Mrs. Carell and her late husband Monroe Carell made the lead donation to the capital campaign that funded construction of the school. She talked about their audience with Pope John Paul II High School and how the experience led them to ask that the school be named in his honor. Dr. Barrow moderated the discussion, which included founding headmaster Hans Broekman, board members, faculty and alumni. Girten was a member of the first graduating class at JPII and reminisced about those early days as well as the meetings with Mr. Broekman and the staff before the school opened. "There was a feeling, this isn't just the school I go to, but this is my school," Mr. Girten said. "I'm building this school."