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**Pope John Paul II High School Model United Nations Team  
competes once more at Washington University Conference**

*HENDERSONVILLE, Tenn.*---Following up on their success at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Pope John Paul II High School Model UN (JPIIMUN) Conference in September, the JPII Model UN team was eager to return to St. Louis for the first time in two years to compete in the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Washington University Model UN (WUMUN) Conference from October 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The WUMUN conference included over 380 students from 20 high schools from Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Colorado, and several schools from Tennessee, including White Station High School and Memphis University School. The 28 JPII students faced especially stiff competition in St. Ignatius College Preparatory, a Chicago school of over 1,400 students with a very successful Model UN program. Participating in the Stevenson High School Model UN Conference in September, the St. Ignatius Team won all but one of the conference awards.

After days of debating real world issues like employment and trade policy for the United States and the revolution in Yemen, fighting the Prussian Crusades in a Joint Crusaders-Pagans Crisis, dealing with a new Tri-wizard Tournament in a Harry Potter simulation, deciding the fate of the Japanese after a successful invasion of Hawaii in an alternate World War II, working to keep Roanoke from becoming “The Lost Colony”, and helping promote the advance and greater glory of the Mongol Army under Genghis Khan in China, the JPII students were rewarded for their efforts with four awards. Parker Bennett was selected by the college conference staff to receive an Outstanding Delegate Award while Nevin Crow, Ethan Davanport, and Clare Steiner, each received an Honorable Mention Delegate Award.

“I had fun in the committee sessions working with my fellow delegates,” said junior Parker Bennett. “It was a true privilege to be recognized by the chair with the Outstanding Delegate Award.”

With her Honorable Mention Award, senior Clare Steiner has now won 14 awards overall, the eighth most awards earned by a JPII student since the program’s beginning. “It feels really nice to know that I have really contributed to the JPII Model UN Program and I have certainly learned a great deal through these conference experiences,” commented Clare.

Next up for the JPII team is the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Arkansas Model UN (AMUN) Conference in November. Forty-eight JPII students are preparing to compete against over 550 delegates from 33 schools. During the last eight years, the JPII team has won the Best Delegation Plaque six times, including last year with JPII’s United Kingdom delegation bringing home the top award. The JPII team is aiming to make it seven times in nine years with a strong showing this November.

Model UN is a major activity at JPII with 124 students currently involved and 808 students involved over the history of the team. In September of this year, JPII Model UN Advisor Paul Saboe announced that freshman Darren Liu became the 800<sup>th</sup> student at JPII to participate in Model UN in the school's history.

Founded in 2002, Pope John Paul II High School is a college preparatory Catholic high school in Hendersonville, Tennessee. The school serves over 560 students across the Middle Tennessee area. For more information, visit [www.jp2hs.org](http://www.jp2hs.org).

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