



VOLUME V ISSUE XXXIII

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Senior Projects “Cap” a JPII Education

Each year JPII seniors prepare a capstone project as one of the culminating conclusions to their JPII academic career. The senior project involves a formal research paper of college quality, a portfolio, a service project incorporating Catholic social teaching, and an 8 – 10 minute TEDx style presentation to a three-person panel, always quite nerve wracking for most. Students prepare for this project either through their senior capstone class with Mrs. Strasser or the AP Research course with Mrs. Lacombe. I have had the pleasure of serving as a panelist for the past five years for most of these presentations, and although we have not completed all of them, I can say without reservation the projects this year were the best I’ve seen yet. This is a testament to our two dedicated faculty members who hold students feet to the fire in completing all tasks with high quality, as well as the students themselves who have embraced the challenge to work through topics meaningful to them. I also noticed the impact our growing theater program has had on the TEDx presentation. Students who have spent time on stage are poised, confident and deliver in a professional manner. We are proud of our seniors and want parents to be too. While you do not get to see the results, be assured your child completed this grueling task admirably. We are planning to eventually grow into a public presentation in future years as the innovation center opens up a performance quality space for senior projects.

What’s Happening on Campus

You may have noticed silt fencing along the side of the road as you enter campus. This is a sign that the new parking lot is underway. This lot, located behind the athletic center, will accommodate approximately 140 vehicles and be used as the student parking lot during the day and much-needed event parking after school and on weekends. The lot will feature a combination of paved roads and impervious stone parking areas, similar to the PLC lot at SGG. This will allow for a more environmentally friendly parking lot.

Also approved and in process will be the addition of two modular classrooms. While we originally believed the current configuration of 8-modular classrooms would be sufficient to handle enrollment growth while the innovation center was under construction, it has become apparent that growth will happen faster than

predicted. We expect upwards of 420 students next year based on the current retention trends and new applications running ahead of last year's pace. The new modulars will be different from the others in that they will be science specific. Both classrooms will be outfitted with all the necessary utilities and equipment to offer high school level science courses. The furniture will be the same as will be used in the science labs in the innovation center, providing a glimpse into the future.

Speaking of the innovation center, the building has been fully designed and priced. We are now awaiting final approval from Jasper County and financing approval from the diocese. The capital campaign has reached \$6.2 million raised to date from 108 donors, however a construction loan will need to be obtained as the campaign continues. We thank all of our generous donors who have brought us so far, but we still have a ways to go. Our goal is to double this number before the building opens. Our goal is to break ground either by late summer or early fall. Donations of any size are still needed to reach our goal.

There are a couple of other projects in the planning stages waiting on approval from the diocese. One, we hope to be able to begin to offer food service at JPll next year. With over 450 students and staff on campus we can no longer rely on outside food delivery. We have designed a grab-n-go cafeteria to be constructed within the current Commons. This will include all new furniture and extended outdoor patio seating with a sunshade structure. If approved, this project would go forward during the summer months and be open for the 2024-25 school year. The second project involves construction of a second playing field beyond the new soccer field. As our programs continue to grow with lacrosse scheduled to start up next spring, and the existing practice field making way for the innovation center, another playing field is desperately needed. We have already cleared this area in anticipation of being ready by fall.

Cell Phone Policy is Under Review

As part of our ongoing commitment to the well-being and safety of our students, we are considering updates to our handbook policies for the upcoming school year. One significant change under consideration is the possibility of not allowing middle school students to have cell phones on campus.

We believe that implementing such a policy could have significant benefits for our students' mental health and safety. Research has shown that excessive use of cell phones, particularly among young people, can have adverse effects on their well-being, including increased stress, decreased academic performance, and disrupted sleep patterns.

By restricting cell phone use during school hours, we aim to create a more focused and conducive learning environment, where students can fully engage with their studies and develop meaningful relationships with their peers. Additionally, this policy change aligns with our mission to promote responsible digital citizenship and healthy screen-time habits among our students.

We understand that this change may raise questions or concerns, and we welcome your feedback as we finalize our policies for the upcoming year. Your input is invaluable as we work together to provide the best possible educational experience for our students. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in nurturing the development of our students.

Please contact Mrs. Rembold or Mr. Collar if you have any comments or suggestions on this policy change.

Learn About A.I. from a Local Expert

We are delighted to announce that David Roscoe, a Spring Island resident and expert in Artificial Intelligence ethics, has graciously accepted our invitation to return to JPPI and contribute to the JPPI Parent Seminar series. This promises to be a wonderful opportunity for parents to learn more about Artificial Intelligence and its implications for the future.

Mr. Roscoe, a former corporate board member at The Hastings Center, renowned for its impartial stance in bioethics research, will speak about his immersion into the dynamic field of AI ethics, where he contributed significantly to the ongoing discourse, shaping ethical frameworks for the ever-evolving landscape of AI.

All parents, regardless if they have a student enrolled at JPPI, are welcome to all JPPI Parent Seminars.



J P I I Wish

Please consider donating baked goods for the JP II Wish bake sale on Monday, 4/15/24. The bake sale will be run by students and proceeds will go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, helping to grant wishes for critically ill children. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Please find the Sign Up Genius below. Donations can be dropped off at the front office on Monday morning, 4/15/24. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA9AD28A0FBC43-49060338-jpii>

From the Sports Desk

Important Message from the JP II Booster Club

Your JP II Booster Club has been hard at it again this year. Things are looking good, and we are in the best financial position we've been in since I've been involved with Boosters. We have gone from a zero-base balance at the beginning of the school year 4 short years ago, to a \$50k plus balance in our account. Over the years we have contributed to our Athletic and Club programs with equipment, uniforms, awards, the annual sports banquet, senior gifts, tournament fees, and the list goes on. Recently we ordered a 6 seat EZGO to allow our Athletic Trainer mobility to be omnipresent on campus during times when we have multiple games going on. It will also provide Admissions with a way to shuttle prospective families while they tour our growing campus.

Your Booster Club has been led by a dedicated group of individuals who for the past 4 years have worked hard to enhance the experience of our student athletes and club members. As your club president I'm here to tell you we could not have accomplished any of this without the hard work of our board members. Alas, it is time for another group of excited and committed parents to come in and take the reins, with a fresh look at issues, needs and new ideas. Join us on April 24th in the Gymnasium for our "State of The Booster" meeting where we will share what we have been able to bring to our students and a look at the future. We will also be discussing positions that are open and discuss committees that need to be chaired as we continue to move us forward.

Our plan is to discuss the available opportunities to serve with a description of those various positions. Those interested in serving should send an email to Louise Sanders with their intention to run for a position. Deadline for letters of intent is May 3rd by close of business. Our plan is to vote electronically and announce

the new Board of Directors at the annual sports banquet on May 17th. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Josh Horton, JPII Booster Club President

Varsity Baseball bounced back to defeat Battery Creek 11-1. Dominant pitching from Freshman, Talon Putnam gave us the edge. The lefty only gave up 1 hit and 1 run (zero earned) over four innings, striking out 5 and only walking 1. Logan Cotter came in to finish the game, throwing 1 inning of no-run ball. Bryant Jolley led the way offensively, batting in 3 runs. Stewart Misko went 2-2 with a stand-up triple and 2 RBIs. Garrett Heathcott, Logan Cotter, Archer Dewig, Jackson Reilley, Bryant Jolley, and Brandyn Horton all contributed with 1 hit a piece. The Warriors were sure handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Jackson Reilley had the most chances in the field with 6. Our next home game is this coming Tuesday, and it will be our Senior Night against CPA, come out and support our Seniors!

Middle School Baseball pulled off an amazing win vs Hilton Head Prep 6-2. Hilton Head Prep was 9-3 on the season and one of the best teams in the area. The Golden Warriors got on the board in the top of the first inning after Russell Spencer singled, and Ryan Fox hit a sacrifice fly, each scoring a run. Spencer pitched a gem of a game for the Golden Warriors, allowing only two hits, with seven strikeouts and no earned runs in 4 innings of work. Adam D'Orazio came in and finished the last 2 innings to close out the game for the Golden Warriors. Lucas Mulieri, Hunter Kollstedt, Adam D'Orazio, Kyler Rimsnider and Russell Spencer all had one hit for John Paul II. Kollstedt, Fox, D'Orazio, and Spencer all drove in one run. They were also patient at the plate collecting eight walks in the game. Lucas Mulieri stole three bases. Carter Whiteside had two walks and threw out one runner trying to steal second base. After that out, Hilton Head Prep did not try to steal another base.

Varsity Softball lost to a strong Beaufort Eagles team by the score of 10-0. Tevi Mullens had 2 strike outs and 1 walk while pitching against the Eagles. Gabby Heathcott and Rachael Brenneman collected 1 hit each during the game. Gabby and Rachael had multiple stolen bases. Shelby Pinski made a sensational diving catch in center field, with Caylin Gecy matching that in left field and Gracie Henderson caught a line drive at 2nd base. Excellent defense girls!

JP2 Varsity Softball defeated the Hilton Head Seahawks at home. The Lady Warriors piled up 10 hits during the game. Gabby Heathcott, Ellie Heathcott and Shelby Pinski each collected 2 hits during the game. Ellie went 2 for 3 at the plate and led the team with 3 runs batted in. The Lady Warriors had 5 stolen bases during the game. Lauren Majorkiewicz had 9 plays in the field. Tevi Mullens pitched well with 2 K's and 1 walk.

JV Softball traveled to Beaufort High School for a competitive and rainy game! Our girls came out in the first inning aggressively at the plate. Our first run was earned by Aanya Patel who got on base and eventually stole home on a passed ball. Blakely Gecy hit a rocket to left field and was able to score on an inside the park home run! Beaufort came back slugging, scoring 9 runs in the top of the first. Our Warriors came back fighting to score 3 more runs amidst periods of downpour rain. Gecy and Laura Thomas each collected two hits. Alivia Ogden, Patel, Gecy and Thomas stole multiple bases for the Warriors. The game was called due to the weather and our Warriors fell by a final score of 11-5.

Boys Golf squared off with 10 other teams on their home course at Belfair and finished in 2nd place behind the outstanding effort put forth by Hilton Head Christian Academy. HHCA had 4 players break par in shooting a team score of 134, 10 under par. JPII finished in second place out of the 10 teams represented and was led by Ryan George who fired an even par 36. Rounding out JPII was Brayden Fickel 40, Freddie Weniger 41,

Adrian Simmons 42, Will Debrovner 43, and Dylan Folscroft 44 for a 161 total beating the 3rd place team by 11 shots. The rest of the field was Holy Trinity 172, Heritage Academy 174, Colleton Prep tied with Thomas Hayward at 175, Cross School with a 202, Beaufort Academy 204, and Bethesda Academy with a 212. Riverview did not field an eligible team. Next up for the Warriors is the State Tournament held in Conway SC at General Hacklers golf course on April 21st, 22nd and 23rd.

Varsity Girls Soccer lost a close game to HHCA 3-2. Ayla Reynolds and Brady Mahoney scored the two goals. Lauren Weniger and Finlay Henderson collected an assist. The defense was led by Lauren, Elizabeth Smith, Brady, and Grace Buckland. The girls look to bounce back on Monday against Charleston Collegiate.

Varsity Boys Soccer had their second home game of the season hosting the Coastal Hurricanes. They began the game maintaining possession of the ball and scored an early goal off of a corner kick. Brennan McDermott played a fast pace cross in that was met by Christian Tilton's head finding the back of the net making it 1-0 Warriors. 10 min later Blake Hubik found the back of the net with a through ball from William Rooney to make it 2-0. The Hurricanes were rewarded with a penalty kick at the end of the 1st half, taking the score to 2-1 at the half. After a couple changes to the line up to start the second half the Warriors came out strong and scored another goal. Tommy Rembold dribbled down the right side of the field and played a perfect pass into Brian Orta who finished a one time to find the back of the net. Kelon Reynolds had the final goal by winning the ball back and scoring a beautiful individual goal by shooting it low left to make it 4-1 Warriors. Jude Ryan played goalkeeper and had 5 saves in the game, leading JP2 to their first home win of the year. Man of the match was Christian Tilton who scored our first goal and played strong at defense holding off the Hurricanes.

Boys Tennis had a great first day back on the courts Monday defeating BA 6-3. Singles: Angelo Iskandar defeated Davis Bonebreak; 6-1, 6-2. Leo Iskandar defeated Vann Hefner; 6-1, 6-3. Landon Low defeated Aden Harrington; 6-0, 6-1. Nathan Nash defeated Sullivan Homer; 6-4, 7-5. K.J. Browning defeated Bailey Homer; 6-0, 7-6. Addy Norris defeated Nathan Lyle; 7-6, 7-6. Isaiah Hahn defeated Sarah Green; 8-2. Cole Trott defeated Jimmy Ferreira; 8-1. Doubles: Angelo Iskandar and Landon Low defeated Davis Bonebreak and Aden Harrington; 8-0. Leo Iskandar and Sullivan Homer defeated Vann Hefner and Nathan Nash; 8-3. Aiden Karrh and KP Santos defeated Sarah Green and Jimmy Ferreira; 7-4. Highlights of the match were: Landon Low's commanding presence on the court in both singles and doubles. Landon took control of both his matches and never let up. Angelo enjoyed being teamed up with Landon for the doubles. They made a great pair. Angelo controlled the net and Landon made plays from the baseline. Nathan Lyle had another long match Monday vs. Addy Norris. These two players were well matched. The first set was a little of a back and forth with big momentum shifts. The players got it all tied up at 6 all so they went into a set tie breaker. Addy won the breaker. The second set was even the whole way through; 1-1, 2-2. 3-3, 4-4, 5-5, and yes you guessed it 6-6. Another set tie breaker. Addy took this breaker as well. Both players were a little exhausted after their marathon match. Great tennis. Not to be outdone both Homer boys fought hard in their first sets, and both vowed a comeback for the second. Bailey Homer turned it on and held the lead for most of the second set. K.J. was able to pull the set to a set tiebreaker. And this time it was K.J. who took the win. Bailey's fight and determination was exciting to see. He has a lot of fight in him. Sullivan Homer was just one break away in the first set. Sullivan's smart shot placement and great movement on the court kept the second set super close, having it tied at 5-5. Then Nathan Nash took the last two games. Both these matches kept us on the edge of our seats. Thank you for all who made it out to watch. And a big thank you to Mrs. Iskandar for the water and snacks.

Boys and Girls Track & Field traveled to Porter Gaud for an eventful track meet. Our guy's team finished 4th overall out of 12 teams and our ladies finished 8th out of 12 teams. Sebastian Frickel placed 1st in the 3200m, and Blake Hubik followed in 2nd place for the 3200m. Our guys 4x800m relay placed 1st (Dan Snyder, Zac Henderson, Keannen Hill, and Matthew Yanachik). Christian Tilton placed 2nd in Long Jump and 3rd in the 200m. Alan Wolf placed 3rd in the 400m. Sebastian Frickel led the guy's team with the most points scored from events. Unfortunately, we did not have any top 3 finishes for the ladies team. Mila Baroni led our ladies team with the most points scored from events. State Qualifiers from this meet: Christian Tilton-200m and Long Jump, Lukas Yackley-Discus, Sebastian Frickel-800m, Blake Hubik-3200m, Alan Wolf-400m, and Trice McClure-High Jump. JPII Track and Field will be back in action on Saturday at Philip Simmons HS in Charleston.

JPII Golf Classic is at Spring Island on May 7

Get ready to tee off! Join us on May 7, 2024, for our highly anticipated Golf Classic at the picturesque Old Tabby Links at Spring Island. When we hit the links here back in 2022 the tournament was a **SELL OUT!** Don't miss out this year to play on one of the best courses in the Lowcountry. It's not just about the golf; it's also a fantastic opportunity to connect with other JPII parents and build lasting relationships.

We are thrilled to offer a unique sponsorship opportunity, where you can secure a foursome for \$2,000, along with the privilege of exclusively sponsoring either the front or back nine tee boxes. Additionally, you can showcase your business by becoming a food and beverage sponsor for the same price. This is a fantastic chance to gain exposure for your brand while enjoying a day of golfing excellence. Green sponsorships are offered at \$200 per green.

This tournament serves a meaningful purpose as it supports the Warrior Fund, our annual fund dedicated to enhancing resources and educational programs at JPII. With a limited number of spots available, don't miss your chance to be part of this exclusive event, limited to 104 participants.

Join us for an incredible day of golf, business, fun, and an excellent opportunity to connect with others in our community and school supporters on May 7, 2024, at Old Tabby Links – where memories are made, and our Warrior Fund receives the support it needs to empower our school's growth and success.

LINK: <https://www.johnpaul2school.org/support-jpii/events>

