
Greetings from Newman Road

An Electronic Alumni Newsletter for Graduates
of Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School
in Joplin, Missouri
Volume 3 Number 3

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We have had a very successful fourteenth year at TJ.

The boys basketball team won the Baxter Springs Route 66 Tournament, were the champions of the Ozark 7 Conference (the Ozark 8 Conference lost a member when Diamond withdrew to play in a conference that had football), and were runners up at the District level. Senior Sam Simpson scored 2194 career points. Five seniors, Will Rhoads, Cragin Currence, Nathan Glassman, Sam Simpson, and Kasey Jackson were named to the Academic All State team. Basketball coach Cleo Elbert was named Ozark 7 Coach of the Year.

At the MSSU Foreign Language Field Day TJ, was the overall winner even though we only teach two of the three languages involved in the competition. This year for the first time students took the National Latin, French, and Spanish examinations. TJ had six Spanish language students, three Latin students, and two French language students who scored above 95% on the respective exams. This summer we are sending students to the Missouri Fine Arts Academy (Junior Michael Madden – piano) and Missouri Scholars Academy (Sophomore Virginia Geddie). The Academic Bowl team, under the tutelage of Troy Kinast, won the State Championship for Division 1 schools for the third year in a row (and the fifth time in the last six years). Senior Nate Kinast was named to the All State team.

Sunday, 20 May 2007, we will graduate our tenth class. The Baccalaureate service will be at 11.00 a.m. Aaron Brown, minister at the St Paul's Methodist Church will be the speaker. At the Commencement exercise at 4.00 p.m. Roger Pilon, the Director of the Center for Constitutional Studies at the Cato Institute, will address the graduates. This year, the co-valedictorians will be Nate Kinast and Brendan Checkett.

Let us know what you are doing. And when you are next in town please stop by the school and see what we are doing.

Bill Carter
Head of School

Class Notes

Cameron Graham (Class of 2000) enlisted in the U.S. Army this Spring.

Bradley Knapp (Class of 2001) was a visitor to the school. He will graduate from Hendrix this year and will attend the University of Arkansas in the autumn. He will be studying for a Masters in Public Health.

The speaker at the graduation for the Class of 2001, John McKay, was one of the U.S. Attorneys who was fired. [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_McKay_\(attorney\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_McKay_(attorney))]

Annie Davies (Class of 2002) - - Annie is serving with the Peace Corps in Moldova. Her blog, Experiencing Moldova <http://www.annieinmoldova.blogspot.com/> is worthwhile reading.

Patrick Doody (Class of 2002) announced his engagement to Alex Woodruff, daughter of Lyn and Mark Woodruff of Los Angeles, California. Alex is a Rice University graduate and is attending Stanford in an MA program. Patrick graduated from Rice and is in the Ph.D. program in Electrical Engineering at the University of Texas in Austin. The wedding is planned for the Summer of 2008.

Matt Alms (Class of 2004) visited the school after he returned from two years of missionary service in the Philippines. He has enrolled in BYU Idaho at Rexburg and is majoring in biology. He reports that his sister Katie Alms (Class of 2005) was in a dressage program in Florida.

Tyler Fraum (Class of 2004) was initiated as a Junior into Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Chicago.

Brooke Jessee (Class of 2005) stopped by the school during her Spring Break. She is in her second year at Ithaca College in New York.

With Former Faculty

Former English teacher and one of the founding faculty members at TJ Leann Stausing won the Golden Apple Award for her teaching accomplishments. The award and monetary prize came from the Joplin Chamber of Commerce.

Shawn Patterson Memorial Basketball Camp

Shawn Patterson was a member of the Class of 2000. While at Thomas Jefferson, Shawn was a three-sport athlete lettering in soccer, basketball, and track. He received All-Conference, All-District, and All-State honors in track and placed at the state track meet. Shawn also received All-Conference honors in soccer and played at Ottawa University. Shawn instilled a will-to-win among his teammates through his hard work and perseverance. Shawn's smile was contagious,

and his athletic and artistic talents were admired by all. You can find out more about Shawn at his memorial website <http://shawn-patterson.memory-of.com/>

The Shawn Patterson Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established to perpetuate the memory of Shawn, and his love for TJ, by increasing the academic opportunity for a diverse group of students that exhibit Shawn's spirit and devotion. This fund has been set up to help ensure Shawn's spirit will live on through the opportunity it will provide to other deserving students. The Shawn Patterson Memorial Basketball Camp has been established in support of this scholarship fund.

This year the Camp will be take place at TJ from June 11 - 15 for boys and girls in grades 4 - 9. Scott Miller (Class of 1999) and Doniqua Colbert (Class of 2002) will manage the camp activities. Donations to the Shawn Patterson Memorial Scholarship Fund can be sent to the school.

Request for Information

We are missing email addresses for the following alums. We would appreciate your help in helping us maintain contact with everyone in the TJ family.

Class of 1997	Joe Bogotko, Hassan Hassan, Jean Kelly, Holly Palmieri
Class of 1998	Mindy Schaffer Schmidt, Anne Walkenhorst, Iris Yen
Class of 1999	Phil Butcher, Meagan Wilkinson
Class of 2000	Zainab Hassan
Class of 2001	Justin Peternell,
Class of 2002	Ashley Cox, Megan Grimes, Emily Riggs,
Class of 2003	Andrew Whiteside
Class of 2004	Jacob Conklin, Kiel Davies, Aleksei Tarasov
Class of 2005	Katie Alms, Caitlin Barnett, Nathan DePratt, Tiffany Denzik, Payden Evans, Felicia Owen,
Class of 2006	Maurice Cranmer, Emily Hill,

All of us still on Newman Road wish all of you the best during the summer. Please keep in touch and let us know what you are doing.

Cheers Carpe diem/

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