Junior Achieves Perfect Composite Score on ACT!

Junior Sara Hurley is an ACT super star! Sara earned a top composite score of 36 out of 36 on the ACT test, which according to ACT officials, represents nationally less than one-tenth of 1 percent of students who take the test. Among test takers nationally in the high school graduating class of 2012, only 781 out of more than 1.66 million students earned a composite score of 36.

"I was very excited to receive my scores back from the ACT! When I first received them, I thought there was a mistake, or that I was looking at the wrong score. I was in such shock that my friends were more excited than I was at first, because I simply could not believe it. I knew I had done well, partly due to the good preparation I received from St. Joe’s, but I did not know I had done that well!" shared a very excited Sara.

The ACT provides colleges with evidence of student readiness for the academic rigors that lie ahead. It consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science. Each test is scored on a scale of 1-36, and a student’s composite score is the average of the four test scores. In a letter to Sara recognizing this exceptional achievement, ACT Chief Executive Officer Jon Whitmore said, “While test scores are just one of the many criteria that most colleges consider when making admission decisions, your exceptional ACT composite score should prove helpful as you pursue your education and career goals.”

Sara is currently undecided about her college major, but is considering something in the fields of science, mathematics or physics. Possible universities are Fordham, Columbia, Harvard or Northwestern.

Early Release Day, Academy Parents Sponsoring Uniform Resale Drive

Parents and students, please note that Wednesday, May 15, is our last early dismissal of the year.

Also, please remember that the Academy Parents group currently is sponsoring the Annual Uniform Resale. Parents are asked to donate their daughter’s gently used blouses, skirts, sweatshirts, sweaters and spirit wear. Please drop off the donated items in the office.

Thank you for your generosity! Please contact parent volunteer Mrs. Mary Ann Nagel with questions or donations at Marrctv@aol.com.

~ James M. Cantwell, Ed.D.
Environmental Science Students Get First-hand Knowledge About Geology and Other Studies

Last week, a group of 45 juniors and seniors in Environmental Science classes traveled to the North Chagrin Metroparks to participate in the class capstone project. In addition to enjoying the diversity of the natural wonders of Northeast Ohio, students worked in teams as they hiked two miles through the park to perform studies that relate to the geology, hydrology and biology of the forest and meadows.

The data currently is being analyzed in class and will be presented through a media presentation and formal lab report. The presentation also will include segments relating to literature, theology, art and engineering. “Our team hike was long, but very informative,” shared Becky Caraballo '13.

Cecilia's Song Wins Top Honors in State Choir Competition

SJAs a capella group Cecilia's Song won top honors last week at the Ohio Music Educator Association (OMEA) Statewide Large Group Choir Contest. The group received a Superior Rating of 1, which is the highest rating possible.

Members of Cecilia's Song are (l-r pictured): Erin Stefancin ’14, Sydney Rexing ’15, Annie Kostell ’13, Samantha Velasco ’15, Clare Panek ’14, Natalie Woisnet ’14, Morgan Clark ’15, Ginny Sullivan ’13, Karianne Stanton ’14, Halli Grunder ’14, Miranda Greenhill ’16, Kaity Poschner ’14, Katie Kostell ’13 and Rose Sullivan ’16. Cecilia's Song performed “Dobru Noc,” “My True Love Has My Heart” and “Confitemini Domino.” They received outstanding written and verbal feedback from all four judges.

As noted in the story at the top of this page, don’t miss Cecilia’s Song tomorrow, Saturday, May 11, when the group performs at 4 p.m. at The Hooley on Kamm's Corners, on the Family Mainstage. In addition, they can be heard on Jazz and Cabaret Night at SJA on Thursday, May 16, at 7 p.m. (free), and again at Progressive Field singing the “Star Spangled Banner” at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21.
Calling all SJA students and families! Are you ready for summer, with all its outdoor activities, to begin? Well, celebrate the start of that season with the inaugural Saint Joseph Academy race/walk, being held on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27. The “Earn Your Spots Jaguar 5K Race/1 Mile Walk” supports the Saint Joseph Academy Scholarship Fund. Cost is $20 for pre-registration, now through Friday, May 24 at 9 a.m.; Saint Joseph Academy students are being offered a discounted price of $15, pre-registration only; race day registration, $25. For online race registration, please go to www.hermescleveland.com. Please mail and make checks payable to: Hermes Sports & Events, 1624 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114. Mail-in forms must be received by Wednesday, May 22. The race/walk starts at 9 a.m. on Memorial Day at Saint Joseph Academy, 3470 Rocky River Drive, in Cleveland’s West Park neighborhood. The route includes parts of West Park and western Lakewood. For more information, please contact Alumnae Director Ms. Mary Ann Fischer ’66 at 216.619.1653 or maf@sja1890.org.

Start a new Memorial Day tradition, and help build the scholarship fund at Saint Joseph Academy at the same time by participating in the “Earn Your Spots 5K Race/1 Mile Walk” event!

NCAA College Athletics Seminar Planned, Scholarship Information Available

On Thursday, May 16, we will host a seminar for the College-Bound Athlete. Click here for more information. Kristen Eucker Scholarship forms are now available for submission. Click here to download the application.

Invitational Jazz Festival Was Hit! More End-of-the-Year Concerts Planned

The first annual SJA Invitational Jazz Festival was held on Tuesday, May 7, as Academy musicians were joined by the Lakewood Catholic Academy Jazz Band in a combined concert that illustrated the musicality of all the students!

If you missed this concert, the SJA annual Jazz and Cabaret Night is set for next Thursday, May 16 in the auditorium. All parents, relatives and friends are invited to attend to the free event.

Featured on the program will be the Saint Joseph Academy Jazz Band, Cecilia’s Song and numerous vocal soloists. The program begins at 7 p.m. Band members and vocalists should report to the music room no later than 6:30 p.m.

SJA Hosts Area High School Presidents

On Tuesday, May 7, Saint Joseph Academy hosted a very special meeting of 10 presidents of Northeast Ohio’s top Catholic high schools. The presidents’ group meeting honored departing presidents from Magnificat, Sister Carol Anne Smith, HM; Archbishop Hoban, Brother Kenneth Haders, CSC; and Padua Franciscan, Father Theodore Haag, OFM. Others attending included our President Mary Ann Corrigan-Davis ’71, and the presidents of Saint Ignatius, Father William Murphy, SJ; Saint Edward, Mr. James Kubacki; Benedictine, Father Gerard Gonda, OSB.; Walsh Jesuit, Mr. Karl Ertle; Beaumont, Sister Gretchen Rodenfelds, OSU; and Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin, Sister Jacquelyn Gusdane, SND.

“It was a quiet celebration for our three outgoing colleagues who have devoted their lives to religious service and Catholic education. Brother Ken, Father Ted and Sister Carol Anne have been leaders of their respective schools and their commitment to the young women and men in Catholic high schools has been unwavering. We wish them all the best in their new assignments, “ shared Mrs. Corrigan-Davis. “When we gather as peers, we share so much and always learn from each other. Fortunately, the weather cooperated beautifully and we were able to share our time together on our wonderful Scholars’ Porch.”
Rugby

Varsity beat Amherst High School by a score of 38-5 on Wednesday, May 1.

The heat may have slowed the game, but it did not stop the Jaguars from scoring. Scores were made by Mary Grace Lenahan ’15, Ali DeCrane ’14, Amanda Burns ’15, Jackie Harter ’15 and Colleen Kramer ’13, who was named “Maiden of the Match” for her efforts.

JV began the game against Hudson with purpose, and never let down as shown by the 33-10 victory. Scores made by Katie “Soda” Fanta ’15, Kerry Reddy ’16 and Rachel Kean ’16.

Rachel had double duty this game by scoring tries and also making her own conversion kicks. Sometimes, the unsung heroes are the Forwards, who make important game changing plays but do not always get to score. Veronica Riedel ’15 is one of these Forwards, and the coaches awarded her “Maiden of the Match.”

Congratulations to both teams on a fine day of Rugby!

Track & Field

On Monday, April 29, the team won the majority events at a meet at Gilmour Academy. Among the event winners were the 4 x 800m relay team of Rachel McGuire ’14, Alesha Vok ’14, Emilee Armbruster ’13 and Emily Bauer ’13; the 100m hurdles, Ky Williams ’16; the 100m dash, Jenea Adams ’15; and the 4 x 200m relay team of MaryKate Caja ’13, Maria Coreno ’15, Gab Leon ’14 and Brenna McGrath ’13.

On Friday, May 3, Varsity faced its toughest competition of the year at the Berea Relays. The Jaguars finished a respectable 5th in a field of 15 teams behind powerhouses Medina, Brunswick, Amherst and North Royalton. The Jaguars didn’t pull home any victories, but 4 x 200 meter relay team of MaryKate Caja ’13, Becca Sedlak ’14, Gab Leon ’14 and Brenna McGrath ’13 did manage a second-place finish.

On Saturday, May 4, JV took on some varsity competition at the Cleveland Central Catholic Ironman Invitational. Overall, the team took second behind Trinity’s varsity squad.

Softball

The Jaguars played good defense against Barberton on Monday, April 29, but could not get the bats going and lost 4-0.

On Thursday, May 2, the Jaguars hosted Cleveland Central Catholic on senior night. Senior Elizabeth Pipak had a 2 RBI’s in the inning hitting a sharp single to center field. The Jaguars would add to the lead in the sixth inning on a 2-run home run by sophomore Jordon Roso, giving the Jaguars a 10-3 lead. The girls would go on to win the game 11-3, with senior pitcher Rachel Murphy getting the victory.

The team traveled to Medina Highland on Saturday, May 4, for a double header, losing the first game 0-0, and the second one 9-3. Sunday was the seed meeting for the Parma district and SJa was voted the No.7 seed. The Jaguars will play their first sectional game at No.5-seed Normandy on May 14.

Spring Sports Banquet

The 2013 Spring Sports Banquet will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at Brennan’s Party Center in Cleveland on Triskett Road. Spring sports are rugby, track & field, softball and crew.

Please click on spring banquet for the reservation form.

RSVPs are due on Tuesday, May 14.