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Four earn J. Kyle Braid honors from Badin



Four Badin High School sophomores have been selected J. Kyle Braid Leadership Foundation scholars, recognizing their outstanding leadership potential, strong sense of moral values and their compassion to help the world around them.

“The J. Kyle Braid program is a tremendous opportunity for teen-agers to enhance their leadership skills,” said Brian Pendergest, Badin’s dean of students and co-moderator of the JKB program. “Students in this program are projected to be high-profile leaders as they move on in their Badin career and beyond.”

Those selected from Badin include:

Heath Stricker, the son of James and Lisa Stricker and a graduate of St. Peter in Chains School.

Luke Wurzelbacher, the son of Dale and Julie Wurzelbacher and a graduate of St. Joseph School.

Abby Fritsch, the daughter of Steve and Maureen Fritsch and a graduate of Sacred Heart School.

Kim Golden, the daughter of Marty and Ann Golden and a graduate of St. John the Baptist School.

Those four will attend a one-week leadership camp at the Braid Ranch in Villa Grove, Colo., during late July and early August of 2010.

In addition, four alternates were selected to be a part of the internal JKB program at Badin. They are Jonathan Kirsch (St. Peter in Chains), Joe Marot (Sacred Heart), Molly Ehrnschwender (Queen of Peace) and Mallory Stempfley (Queen of Peace).

“There are many leaders in the sophomore class and they are difference-makers among their peers,” Pendergest said. “All eight of these students will be very much involved in J. Kyle Braid leadership activities at Badin until they graduate.”

The Braid Ranch emphasizes leadership training through recreation, problem-solving exercises and positive peer efforts – training the students then bring to bear when they return to school. Some 20 students from around the country attend the camp during each session, boys the first week and girls the second.

Ken and Colleen Braid founded the program, named for their late son, with a mission of “helping teens take the lead.”

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