



# The Badin Connection

Linking the Badin Family with our parish families

May 2023

## What's Happening at Badin...

THINK. ACHIEVE. SERVE. LEAD.

- Eight students are leading the way as the academic Elite Eight in the 2023 graduating class at Badin. Tied for No. 1 are **Emma Brecht** (Sacred Heart), who will attend the University of Alabama; **J.J. Even** (Sacred Heart), Indiana University; **Mary Giffen** (Our Lady of Sorrows), Saint Louis University; and **Jimmy Zettler** (Sacred Heart), University of Alabama. Also earning top honors are: #5, **Sydney Boomer** (Sacred Heart), Northern Kentucky University; #6, **Janie Pierce** (Sacred Heart), University of Kentucky; #7, **Anthony Abata** (Holy Family), Miami University; and #8, **Meagan Kirkendall** (St. Peter in Chains), University of Dayton. The Class of 2023, 135 students strong, will graduate on Friday, May 26, at St. John the Evangelist in West Chester, following a Baccalaureate Mass at St. Julie Billiart in Hamilton on May 24.
- Congratulations to junior **Paige Harris** (Sacred Heart), who won the grand prize in the 2023 8th District Congressional Art Competition. Paige's water color, "Urban Renewal," was the winner from among 230 entries from eight schools and will hang in the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. for the next year. U.S. Rep. Warren Davidson announced Paige as the winner during a reception at Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park in Hamilton on Saturday, April 22. Seven other Badin students also had art pieces entered into the annual Congressional Art Competition — seniors **Eva Groh** (St. Ann), **Alyssa Jackson** (Sacred Heart), **Carrie Merhout** (Ohio Virtual Academy), junior **Julia Cogan** (St. Maximilian Kolbe), and sophomores **Molly Black** (St. Peter in Chains), **Elizabeth Carruthers** (Bethany) and **Claire Mazes** (Queen of Peace).
- Rising senior **Katie Schwartz** (St. Peter in Chains) will be the Student Council president for the 2023-24 school year at Badin. Classmates joining her as Student Council officers include **Maggie Peter** (Queen of Peace), vice president; **Stephen Oehler** (Beautiful Savior), secretary; and **Sam Pendergest** (St. Peter in Chains), treasurer. Senior class officers for next year are **Nate Ostendorf** (Sacred Heart), president; **Jasmine Juarez Reyes** (St. Gabriel) vice president; and **Shea Scarborough** (Garfield Middle), secretary/treasurer. Also next year, junior class officers are **Kort Riegert** (St. Joseph), president; **Brynn Brown** (Sacred Heart), vice president; and **Claire Ressler** (Sacred Heart), secretary/treasurer. And sophomore class officers are **Maren Bultman** (St. Julie Billiart), president; **Brooklynn Frech** (St. Julie Billiart), vice president; and **Olivia Klefeker** (Corpus Christi) secretary/treasurer.
- Earth will be moving shortly on the new **340-space parking lot** to the west of Badin High School on New London Road. The lot is the result of the purchase and demolition of four houses next to the school, and will help pave the way for the planned athletic complex behind the school. Buses will be moved out of the front circle at Badin, and a new right-turn lane into the school will ease traffic flow heading east past Badin towards the Great Miami River. The lot is expected to be completed by mid-summer. Fundraising is ongoing for the proposed stadium complex. Badin is one of only three high schools in Southwest Ohio currently without a stadium. Anyone interested in donating to the stadium project is encouraged to contact **President Brian Pendergest '90** at the school — (513) 863-3993, ext. 115, or [BPendergest@BadinHS.org](mailto:BPendergest@BadinHS.org)
- Congratulations to Badin art teacher **Mrs. Michelle Martin-McDulin**, who was commissioned to paint a piece for the largest Butler County courtroom at the Government Services Center in Hamilton. She hopes to have her 5 feet-by-15 feet acrylic painting of the Hamilton skyline completed by the end of June. Mrs. Martin-McDulin and her Badin art colleague, **Mrs. Sarah Daniels**, both have artwork in the 51st Hamilton Area Art Competition at the Fitton Center for Creative Arts.
- Congratulations to Badin junior **Jordan Brockman** (Pleasant Run Middle), who was named the Division II regional boys volleyball Player of the Year. Brockman was one of four rising seniors to earn the prestigious Malone Scholarship, named for the late Terry '52 and Betty Malone, in recognition of pride, success and enthusiasm for Badin athletics. Also honored were current juniors **Luke Franchini** (St. Ann), **Ava Hess** (St. Ignatius) and **Shelby Mulcare** (St. John West Chester).
- Two Badin squads have qualified for the national competition in TEAMS, an Applied Math, Science and Engineering competition that was formerly referred to as JETS. They'll head to the nationals in Louisville. The teams — comprised of students in Engineering IV and AP Physics classes — included seniors **Matthew Cochran** (St. Peter in Chains), **Jacob Fabry** (Lakota Hopewell), **Vincent Pennisi** (Sacred Heart), **John Ruppert** (St. Peter in Chains), **Jimmy Zettler** (Sacred Heart) and junior **Rudy Joesting** (St. Peter in Chains). **Mr. Joel Smith**, who teaches Engineering and Physics, is the moderator of the group.
- Five Badin students were involved in the Area 4 **Envirothon** competition in Loveland on April 25 — juniors **Skylar Japikse** (St. John West Chester), **Abbie Krazl** (St. Ann), **Erin McMillan** (St. Gabriel); and sophomores **Ryan Richardson** (St. Bartholomew) and **Sophia Wagner** (St. John West Chester). Integrated Science teacher **Mrs. Katie Hoelle '10** oversaw the effort.
- When Badin celebrated its Founder's Day Mass on April 19, BHS chaplain **Father Ed Pratt** had the opportunity to give a blessing to **Sister Stephanie Thompson**, who was celebrating her 50th year as a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur. The Badin students gave her a warm reception.
- **Students of the Month** for April included senior **Ava Franchini** (St. Ann), junior **Zach Yordy** (Queen of Peace), sophomore **Michael Shook** (St. Maximilian Kolbe) and freshman **Olivia Klefeker** (Corpus Christi). Students are nominated and selected by a committee for making a difference in and out of the halls of Badin High School.