



FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



Mel MacKay

It's the close of my first year, a year to learn all I could about this school that has stood proudly at 100 Broadway for 80 years. Maybe it's a good time to check back on a question I asked myself a year and

a half ago—*What is John Bapst?* Here's what I'd say now.

John Bapst is a school where it's cool to be smart, an academic magnet pulling in students from nearly 50 towns, challenging them with high expectations and a college-like environment in the classroom where worksheets are few and far between and critical thinking is prized.

John Bapst is a school where it's safe to be yourself—a comfortable, small school students come to love—a place where the personal touch has not been lost, where respect is mutual, and friendships are genuine.

John Bapst is a school of creativity, with room for musicians, artists, and actors to explore and grow without being forced into becoming one-dimensional.

John Bapst is a school of winners: state champions, regional contenders, and conference leaders; a school of individual stars and spirited teamwork; and a place where the norm is full involvement in the life of the school.

We're not the biggest school in the country, and we're not the most famous. As members of the Class of 2008 head off to college, they will meet peers who will ask, "John Bapst? Where's that? What's that?" I hope they'll feel proud to say, "It's in Bangor, Maine, and it's a really good school."

Departing Faculty, Staff Honored

Several faculty and staff were honored at an all-school assembly on May 21st. Among those leaving John Bapst, some are retiring, some are moving on, and others are returning to their home countries.

- **James Nahra** has been an English teacher and department chair at John Bapst for 36 years. He and his wife, Nancy, are retiring to Florida.
- Moving to Tennessee are **Michael Thomas '65**, Athletic Director and Assistant Head of Discipline for ten years, and **Cheri Thomas**, a John Bapst social sciences teacher for nine years.
- **Ron Schwizer**, Assistant Head for Academics and a former science teacher, has been at John Bapst for seven years. Dr. Schwizer is the administrator of the Pierre Montoux School for Conductors in Hancock.
- **Norman Dubois** is a mathematics teacher who "retired" from Stearns High School seven years ago. He will retire once again to spend more time with his wife, Evi, and their family.
- Accepting a faculty position at the University of Maine is **Tandy Del Vecchio**, a mathematics teacher and testing coordinator, who has been at John Bapst for 23 years.
- **Jeremy DayGlider** has served as a part-time art teacher and as the director of the fall play and the spring musical. She is moving to Vienna, Austria, with her husband, Todd.
- Returning to his homeland in Hunan Province, China, is **Lingyang Peng**. In the past year, Mr. Peng helped to initiate the Chinese Language Program at John Bapst.
- **Hugo Fernando Alcántar** will return to Mexico after spending a year at Bapst under the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program.

In his closing remarks, Student Senate President **Ryan Trafton '08** reflected on how fortunate the school is to have teachers who care about the students: "Earlier this year, I said that without the students, this school would be nothing. While I still believe this to be true, I have come to the realization that, although we Bapstonians have grown proficient at proving that we're the best, whether it's in the classroom or on a field, we ourselves would be nowhere in this world if it weren't for the faculty and staff who give us the motivation, the confidence, and the courage to excel in our lives every day. For this I want to thank the entire faculty. And to those of you who are leaving us at the conclusion of this year, thank you for everything you have given to this school over the years. You can rest assured knowing that you have impacted the lives of hundreds of students, and you will not be forgotten."

JOHN BAPST: Maine's 2007 AP High School of the Year

Students Tour Ireland

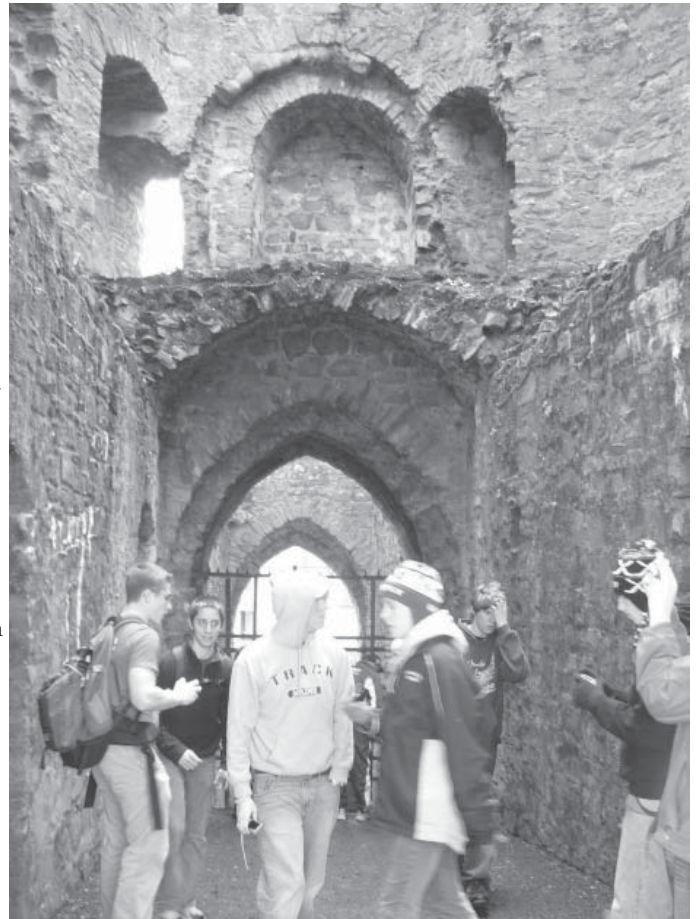
By Dr. Fred Jones, Tour Leader

In April, under gray skies, seventeen John Bapst students and four chaperones made their first walk around Dublin on what was the first day of a ten-day tour of Ireland. They were amazed at the microscopic wonders of the eighth century Book of Kells and the glories of Jonathan Swift's medieval Cathedral of St. Patrick.

The tour ran from Dublin to the ruins of the Glendalough Monastery to the magnificent Rock of Cashel, with its unsurpassed views of the south of Ireland, across the Shannon River to the Burren, an over 200-square mile expanse of exposed limestone littered with neolithic tombs and tiny flowers among the crevices.

Every night was spent in youth hostels, and one of the most interesting (apart from the haunted Foulkesrath Castle YH) was the hostel at Doorus near Lady Gregory's estate at Coole. In the common room of the hostel, warmed for hostellers by a glowing coal and peat fire, W. B. Yeats and Lady Gregory had planned the Abbey Theatre, which became the National Theatre of Ireland, a room of great literary significance with portraits of Robert Gregory and his wife and of Yeats looming above the visitors' heads.

After a day spent on Synge's Arran Island, off Galway in the west, the John Bapst group gained access to Loughcrew and Fourknocks neolithic tombs, both of which are highly decorated with carvings in the stone uprights and capstones. No guides or guards were there to inhibit the



testing of the tripod, macehead stone carvings, a new theory of neolithic astronomy soon to be published by the tour leader.

The high point of the John Bapst tour was the visit to the World Heritage Site of Newgrange and Knowth, the first aligned to the winter solstice sunrise and the second to the spring and autumn equinoxes.

The list of monasteries, high crosses, ruined cathedrals and abbeys, heritage sites, and Dublin shops is a long one. All the travel connections were made on time, and the seventeen students were back in class on Monday morning.



Erin Flynn '08 Named Class B PVC Tennis Player of the Year

John Bapst Tennis Players and Coach Recognized

Erin Flynn '08 was selected to the Girls Singles First Team and named the Class B PVC Tennis Player of the Year. She came into the season as the girls' tennis number one seed and proceeded to plow through the conference schedule. Playing in the state tournament, she defeated before falling to Christine Ordway of Waynflete, a two-time New England champion. Flynn nonetheless was able to represent Maine in the New Englands, finishing second in the girls' singles division in the six-state region.

Also named to All Conference Teams were **Bob Tom Flynn '11**, Boys Singles First Team; **Alex Gale '09**, Boys Singles Second Team; and **Max Cutri '09** and **Lucas Hubbard '10**, Boys Doubles Second Team. Honorable Mentions were awarded to **Jordan Myerowitz '10** and **Ashley Gale '09**, Singles.

John Bapst Coach **Tim Surette** was named the PVC Boys Tennis Co-Coach of the Year.



Dress Code Changes Announced

The culmination of several faculty and staff meetings, a Parents' Association Open Forum, Student Senate deliberations, and a student survey, the John Bapst Dress Code has been revised for the fall of 2008. The great majority of the code is unchanged, including the basic assumptions that students should dress neatly and modestly as befits a school situation. As has been the case, all clothes must be in good repair.

Key additions to the dress code include permission for girls to wear capris year-round and for boys to wear shorts in the warm-weather months of August, September, May, and June. All forms of sandals except shower shoes and slip-on athletic sandals are now permitted as well. At the same time the school has reaffirmed that modesty means no short skirts and dresses and appropriate necklines that frame the neck, at or near the collarbone.

The input of community members made sure that, in the interest especially of cost, changes would be incremental and that the foundation of the dress code would remain in place. The simplified dress code follows.

Acceptable:

- Skirts and dresses below the knee, at the knee, or just above the knee;
- For boys and girls, pants except blue jeans;
- For girls, capris;
- For boys, tailored or cargo shorts, knee-length or below, in August, September, May, and June only;
- Formal or casual shirts including polo shirts; oxford shirts buttoned at or near the collarbone; long-sleeve casual shirts such

as turtlenecks and shirts with crew necks. (Oxford shirts must be tucked in. Polo and other casual styles need not be tucked in.)

- Necklines at or near the collarbone that do not show the chest or breastplate area, unless worn over a tee-shirt;
- Clothing that covers the chest, waist, and midriff;
- Sweaters, fleeces, and sweatshirts worn over an acceptable shirt;
- Earrings, necklaces, bracelets, rings;
- Leather shoes, athletic shoes, canvas shoes, sandals, etc. Close-toed shoes are required in science labs.
- John Bapst athletic uniforms on competition days (except caps and hoods).

Not Acceptable:

- Short skirts and short dresses;
- Any shorts between October and April;
- Athletic wear (sweatpants, wind pants, rain pants), camouflage (including fatigues and other military wear), painter's pants, hospital pants;
- Short-sleeve tee-shirts unless worn under a sweater, sweatshirt, dress, or other acceptable shirt;
- Tank tops, sleeveless shirts, tops with spaghetti straps, undershirts;
- Low necklines (applies to all garments: shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, and dresses);
- Dresses, shirts, and other tops that reveal back or shoulders (including sleeveless shirts, unless worn over a tee-shirt, collared shirt, or other acceptable shirt);
- Clothing that reveals undergarments;
- Sweatshirt hoods worn over the head;
- Hats, caps, bandannas, sunglasses, chains or other hardware;
- Shower shoes (including slip-on athletic sandals), slippers; and
- Casual athletic wear including sweatpants, warm-ups, etc.

Faculty and Staff Plan for Summer Work and Fun

An unprecedented number of John Bapst faculty - **Tandy Del Vecchio**, **Jill LeBlanc**, **Lynne Manion**, **Brendan Murphy**, **Jason O'Reilly**, and **Susan Sheren** - were selected as AP Readers in their respective disciplines this year.

Brendan Murphy will be running four to six Advanced Placement weeklong institutes for the College Board and the Maine Department of Education in both AP Calculus AB and AP Statistics.

Elizabeth Wood will participate in the University of Maine National Conference and Summer Academy from June 22-27. The conference, sponsored by the University of Maine Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research and the Jackson Laboratory, is entitled "Integrating Science and Mathematics Education Research into Teaching: Resources and Tools for Improved Learning." Mrs. Wood has also been accepted into the Advanced Placement Institute for Teachers for AP Calculus AB. The workshop, sponsored by the Acadia Partners for Science and Learning in association with the College Board, will be held on the Schoodic Education and Research Center campus in Acadia National Park in July.

Head Cheering Coach **Jennifer Babcock** will be hosting a Summer Cheer Camp in the John Bapst Auditorium July 9, 10, and 11. The camp is open to current and incoming students. Contact Coach Babcock at jbabcock@johnbapst.org for more information.

Modern and Classical Languages teacher **Audrey Swanton** will accompany 33 students and chaperones to Paris for two weeks. She

will remain to study at L'Ecole des Langues Etrangeres and do a homestay with a French family.

Dean of Students **Colleen Grover** will study restorative school discipline in the Peace Studies Program at the University of Maine. The study will focus on a model that "responds to the needs of those hurt by others' behavior, holds offenders accountable for their actions, extends the opportunity to make things right, and recognizes that the school community itself suffers from harm done and, therefore, has a key role in restoring safety and fairness within the school."

Technology teacher **Michael Murphy** will be attending three conferences this summer: an open source conference in Massachusetts, a conference in Virginia on attracting students to the computer science field, and a conference in Orono on math and science research.

Modern and Classical Languages teacher **Bridget Robbins** will participate in the Summer Technology Institute 2008 in Belfast. She will study ways to transform teaching and learning through technology integration.

Evangeline Hussey attended a two-day conference for Heads' Assistants June 23-24 in Jackson, New Hampshire. The annual conference is sponsored by the Independent Schools Association of Northern New England (ISANNE), of which John Bapst is a longstanding member.



Class of 2008 Honor Parts Announced



Carolyn Ryder '08

Carolyn Ryder was Valedictorian of the Class of 2008. During her four years at John Bapst she earned numerous academic letters and awards and was a Presidential Scholars Award Semifinalist, National Merit Finalist, Princeton Book Award recipient, and Society of Women in Engineering Achievement Award winner. She served as vice-president of the John Bapst Chapter of the National

Honor Society and was a member of the school's Civil Rights Team, Key Club, and Math Team.

Carrie is a fine musician who was recognized with several music awards, including selection to the John Bapst Chamber Ensemble, Honors Band, and All-State Music Festivals for flute in both 2006 and 2007. Also an outstanding athlete, Carrie earned varsity letters in Cross Country and Swimming, in which she served as co-captain her senior year, as well as in Track & Field, for which she was selected to the Penobscot Valley Conference (PVC) All-Conference 2nd Team for 2006-07. She was also honored as a 2008 PVC Scholar-Athlete.

In her valedictory address to her classmates, Carrie reflected on their four years at John Bapst saying, "Bapst welcomed us in, slammed its doors shut, rattled us around until we didn't know which way was out, and then gave us the tools to make our own path. I know my path is still a work in progress. It loops a couple of times. It's overgrown in spots, and it has a few weeds. But I know that with the tools I have gained while at Bapst, I'll be okay."

She went on to say, "We must work to succeed. We cannot expect others to help us; we must take responsibility for our own lives. We cannot think that we deserve anything. The world does not owe us anything, and it is not particularly concerned with our well-being. If we are to find a place in the world, we must create it. And we must remember to have some fun. We must not find ourselves looking so far into the future that we miss the present."

In the fall, Carrie will study biomedical engineering at Dartmouth College. She is the daughter of Megan and Michael Ryder of Levant.



Maren Askins '08

Maren Askins was Salutatorian of the Class of 2008. She earned numerous academic letters and awards during her four years at John Bapst. She was an AP Scholar, a recipient of the Williams College Book Award, and a two-year member of the National Honor Society. In Maren's junior year, she completed an MDI Biological Laboratory internship, which led to

joint authorship of a research paper presented at a national seminar last winter.

An accomplished musician who performed with the Bangor Youth String Ensemble, Maren was also a member of the John Bapst Chamber Ensemble; participated in All State Classical Festivals for cello in 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008; and participated in the All Eastern Honors Orchestra in 2007.

Also an outstanding athlete, Maren earned varsity letters in Cross Country, Alpine & Nordic Skiing, and Track & Field, serving as co-captain of the Cross Country and Ski teams during her senior year. She was selected to the Penobscot Valley Conference (PVC) All-Conference 2nd teams in both Cross Country and Track & Field for 2006-07 and earned the title of Maine State Class C SkiMeister in 2007 and 2008. She was also named a 2008 PVC Scholar-Athlete.

In her salutatory address, Maren encouraged her classmates to seek out their purpose in life, using lyrics from Elton John's song *Circle of Life* to inspire them. She said, "There is a certain amount of self-satisfaction that we are after, so that our linear path is meaningful by personal standards. But we must 'find our place on the path unwinding,' because our lives are part of the circle—like a thread in a tapestry. We may be functional as a component, but together we are art. Art should not be defined by how much it is worth but by how many people see or hear it and stand in awe or cry or become inspired—'And it moves us all/Through despair and hope.'"

In the fall, Maren will attend Bowdoin College where she will major in biology. She is the daughter of Joanna Dotts-Askins and Gregory Askins of Bangor.



Girls Claim 6th Track Title in 7 Years

Baseball, Softball, Tennis, and Boys' Track Excel

Capping a tremendous year in interscholastic sports, John Bapst's spring teams finished the year on a number of high notes.

Under Coach **Bruce Pratt**, the girls' track team again won a state Class B championship. The track dynasty, with six titles in the past seven years, was advanced this year through strong individual performances, including senior **Angel Nelligan's** first-place finish in the pole vault at 9 feet and freshman **Maggie Bryan's** 28.9-second win in the 800. But more than any single event, the victory was a team effort, as no fewer than 18 girls scored points along the way to a 25-point margin over 2nd-place Hall-Dale. **Kim Spencer '10** finished second in the 1600 and 3200, and also ran the school's 1st-place finish in the 4x800 relay. Along with Spencer and Bryan, Bapst relay team winners also included **Jennie Wainer '11**, **Holly Binette '08**, **Amber Weaver '10**, **Erin Bousfield '10**, **Katelyn Gerow '10**, and **Morgan Chasse '09**.

On the boys' side, junior **Chris Fogler** broke school and conference records all season on his way to three 1st-place finishes in the boys' state meet. Speedster Fogler set state records in the 110 and 300 hurdles, then went on to win the 200 meters.

In baseball, the number one-ranked PVC team this spring was Coach **Shane Graham's** John Bapst squad. With senior leadership from shortstop/pitcher **Kyle Gallant**, pitcher/

outfielders **Aaron Healey** and **Jon Gagnon**, catcher **Nick Smith**, and first baseman **Charlie Merritt**, and with junior centerfielder **Casey Hull's** instant offense and highlight-reel defense, the team made it to the semifinals, finally falling 6-2 to an opportunistic Old Town team.

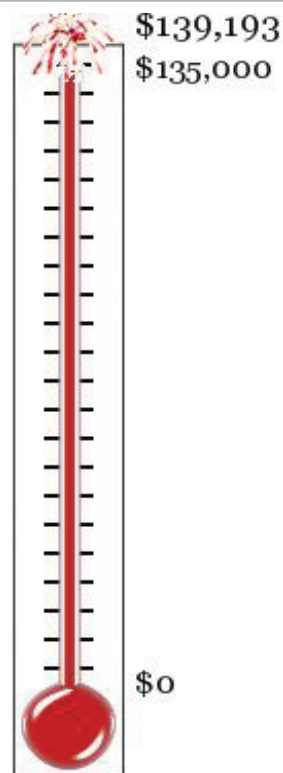
Despite losing senior captain **Sheila Toomey** to a season-ending injury, Coach **Bill Baker's** 4th-ranked girls' softball team rode the gutsy pitching of **Devan Richard '08** and clutch hitting of **Kacy Thibodeau-Harvey '09** to exciting victories over Presque Isle and Ellsworth before falling to a surprising Medomak Valley team, the eventual Class B Eastern Maine champion. In consecutive games, Richard grew stronger as the games progressed, becoming almost unhittable in the late innings. At the same time, the scrappy girls' team put the ball in play, setting the table for key hits by Thibodeau-Harvey—both coming with two strikes. Seniors **Ellen Umphrey** and **Whitney Sinclair** scored key runs in the victories.

The Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic is a charity football game played each summer, with all benefits raised going to support the Shrine Hospitals for Children. This year, **Charlie Merritt '08** will play on the Eastern Maine Team, **Melissa Glifort '08** and **Sheila Toomey '08** will participate on the Cheerleading Team, and John Bapst Head Football Coach **Dan O'Connell** will coach the offensive line.

Students Work to Help Others

Students in the People to People Program experience new opportunities for international travel, education, and service to people of all walks of life. Participants spend time with a host family and learn about the culture, work, food, and language of the host country.

This summer **Jennifer Chapman '10** and **Jason McBurnie '10** will be visiting China with the People to People Program. Jennifer explained recently that she'll participate in a 17-day trip called "Gateway to China": "We will visit Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, Suzhou, Wuzhen, and Dunhaung. One of the fantastic highlights for me will be walking along the Great Wall of China!"



Thank you
to all who
helped make this
a banner year
for the Annual
Fund at John
Bapst!



100 Broadway
Bangor, ME 04401-5299

Return Service Requested

John Bapst Celebrates Its 80th Year in 2008-09!

Jazz Band Goes Out on Tour

Each year, John Bapst Jazz Band members visit local elementary schools with Director Al McIntyre. Following is a sampling of the thank you notes and drawings they receive from the younger students.



Drawing by Jarrett, Grade 2

"Dear Mr. McIntyre and band members, I love your band. Maybe you guys should be a little more quiet on the 1st song, but I liked it. I wish I was a band member. I'd like to play the guitar. Your fan, Avery" (Grade 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 11 (revised)

Fall Sports Meeting (6:30 p.m.)

August 12 (revised)

Sports Physicals (9 a.m.-noon)

August 18-21

Music Camp (Noon - 3 p.m.)

August 25

Teacher In-Service (No School)

New Student-Parent Orientation (6 p.m.)

August 26

Teacher In-Service (No School)

August 27

First Day - New Students - FYRST Picnic

August 28

First Day - All Students

September 1

Labor Day (No School)