

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Photograph attached

### **SMCHS Students Represent Zephyrs as Delegates to Badger Boys and Girls State**

*Fox Cities:* Three St. Mary Catholic High School students will participate in Badger Boys State and Badger Girls State week long civics camps.

Junior Joshua Hopwood will participate in Badger Boys State on the campus of Ripon College from June 9-16. Juniors Katelyn Solowicz and Abriela Thiel will represent the school at the American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State on the UW-Oshkosh campus from June 17-22.

The American Legion sponsors Badger Boys State and the financial contributor this year is Bergstrom Automotive Corporation. The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors Badger Girls State and the financial contributors this year are Bergstrom Automotive Corporation and the Neenah Rotary Club.

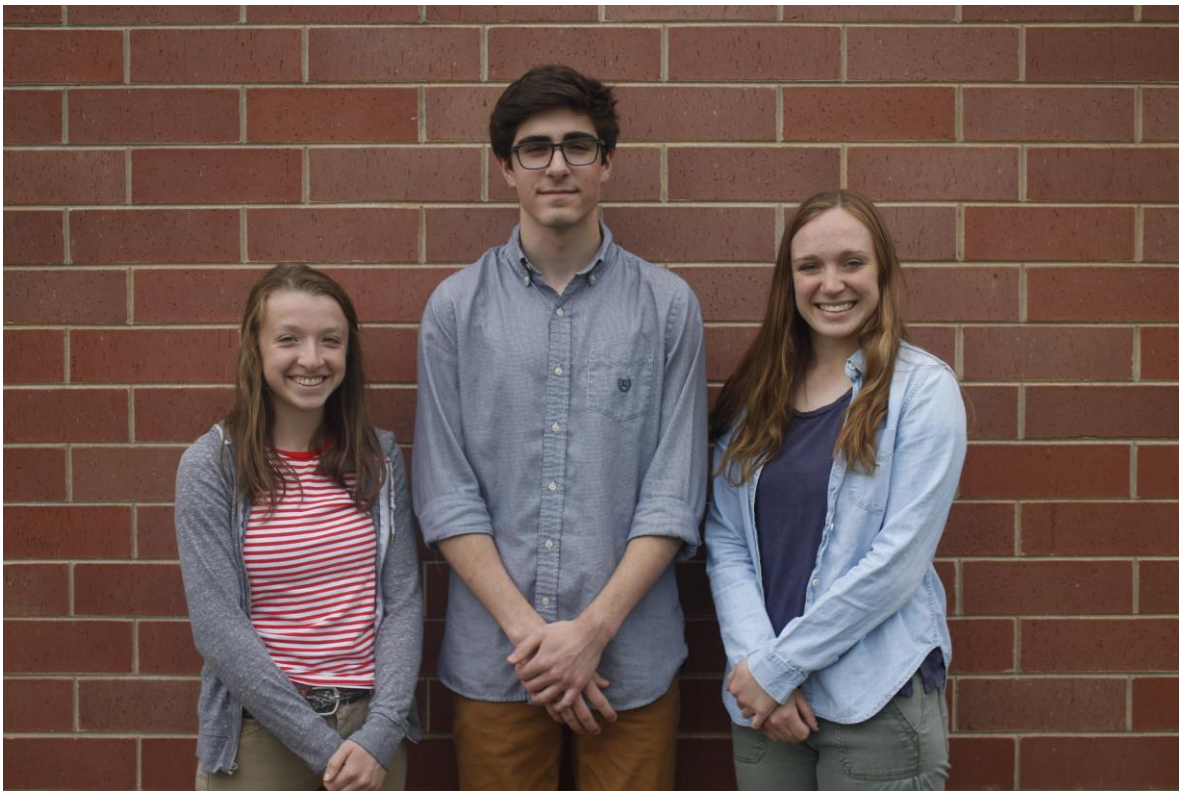
The American Legion's Badger Girls and Boys State program is a non-partisan, practical experience designed to develop leadership and pride in American citizens, educate citizens about our system of government, instill a greater understanding of American traditions and stimulate a desire to maintain our democratic government processes.

Most of each day is spent engaging in the various activities of government. The citizens formed a hypothetical 51<sup>st</sup> American state and are divided into two political parties. They develop their own party platforms and formulate their own issues. Citizens "learn

by doing” as they function on city, county and state levels by electing officials in the manner prescribed by regular election procedures and conducting business on those levels. Every participant is encouraged to engage in some level of the governmental process.

“This is always a wonderful opportunity for civic-minded students to experience how our government functions first-hand, and we chose excellent delegates who we are confident will apply and share what they learned” says St. Mary Catholic High School’s Interim Principal Patrick Batey. “We are grateful to the sponsors and contributors who helped to make this possible!”

**St. Mary Catholic High School (SMCHS)** a regional high school, is part of [St. Mary Catholic Schools \(SMCS\)](#). The system also includes St. Mary Elementary Schools (St. Margaret Mary and St. Gabriel in Neenah, and St. Mary in Menasha), as well as St. St. Mary Catholic Middle School in Neenah. SMCHS is dedicated to the individual development of each student by providing an education focused on faith, academics and service.



Pictured: Katelyn Solowicz, Joahua Hopwood and Abriela Thiel

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