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OUT WITH THE OLD ... IN WITH THE NEW



Left: Johnny McArthur, James Saadi, and Dennis McDaniel celebrating the senior's last day with a milk shower. Right: Nick Purschke, Duncan Carr, and Isaiah Hinkebein raise the Class of 2023's banner during the Junior Ring Mass.

Got Milk?

Class of '22 celebrates final day by rocking away in the bathroom

BY ROARKE UNRAU AND MARK WAPPLER
NEWS EDITOR, CORE STAFF

Lactose-free? No siree! On their last day at the U. High, the Class of 2022 woke up very early Friday morning and partied from the break of dawn. Their drink of choice to fuel their energy on the last day?

Milk. And lots of it. Despite a rainy start to their morning and other obstacles during the rest of their day, the seniors made the best of every moment together and made memories that they, along with the rest of the school, will remember forever. Allow the *Prep News* to set the scene. 4:45am: The silent black night was disturbed only

by the soft pitter patter of the rain on the campus of the U. High. 4:46am: The serenity of the scene was disturbed when a Toyota Tundra pickup truck filled with the SLUH Tailgate Club stormed through the gates and unleashed fumes of charcoal, beef, and teen spirit upon the turnaround. **continued on page 4**

Rising seniors called to lead at Junior Ring Mass

BY ALEX PREUSSER AND MICAH DOHERTY
CORE STAFF, STAFF

“With great power comes great responsibility.” This is a quote with which many are familiar from countless appearances in the Marvel movie franchise, but junior class president Kam Bailey used these words in his rousing speech at the Jr. Ring ceremony to describe the duties that the Class of 2023 is set

to undertake. Last Friday, after months of preparation for this event, the juniors finally received their class rings and unveiled their class banner, ushering in the class's new status as the leaders of the school, taking up the torch of the graduating seniors. “The reason why I decided to use that quote was because I felt like in a literal sense, it does take great power to have **continued on page 8**

Rugby defends State title after three-year hiatus

After tough semifinal vs. Liberty, SLUH beats K.C. Jr. Blues in final

BY BEN CROAT
STAFF

The Jr. Bills are state Rugby champions. After a long, physically and emotionally grueling season, the SLUH Footybills ended on the highest note possible with a 16-12 win against the Kansas City Jr. Blues. On the way to the finals, the Jr. Bills powered through MCC rival Chaminade in the quarterfinals and the Liberty Blue Jays in the semis. On the other side of the bracket, the Lindbergh Flyers played the Kansas City Jr. Blues to determine SLUH's eventual finals opponent.

SLUH's weekend began in St. Charles on Saturday afternoon as they faced off against the Liberty Blue Jays in a well anticipated semifinals match.



Ryan Kellogg is lifted by Matt Vanous and Archie Carruthers against the Jr. Blues. photo | Baxter Southern

The Jr. Bills started off red-hot with multiple goal-line stands in the first 15 minutes against a physically strong Liberty side. Finally, they broke through with a beautiful kick-out to the sidelines which saw sophomore Nathan Gunn score the first points of the game. The Jr. Bills scored again with a try by senior Matthew Kluba to lead 14-0 going

into half. After an early initial try, the Blue Jays rallied back, scoring a total of 27 points in the second half, including a near last second try to pull the game within a single point. SLUH ended up barely squeaking out the victory 28-27 to send them once again to the Missouri State Championship.

“I would describe Saturday as a tale of two halves,” said Kluba. “We did a great job playing defense in the first half of the first half and then once we defended off the yellow card and they didn't score any points we went on the offensive.” “Liberty was about as ugly a win as you get. Shut a team out **continued on page 6**

Virtual Global Ed programs culminate with Modern Language Summit

BY ANDREW HUNT
STAFF

SLUH's Global Education program offers many opportunities for international travel exchange to learn about other cultures and languages. Even though the experience of traveling abroad can't quite be matched, the pandemic given Director of Global Education Robert Chura and Spanish teacher María-Paz Erker the chance to foster many virtual exchanges, including the Modern Languages Summit, to make linguistic and cultural exchange more accessible for all students but still equally effective. When the pandemic began in early 2020 and travel exchanges weren't an option for the time being, Chura and Erk- **continued on page 4**

World Religions offers virtual and live discussions featuring people from other faiths

BY LUKE DUFFY AND
LUCAS HAYDEN
WEB EDITOR, REPORTER

World Religions, a second semester senior theology elective, has exposed students to the diverse religions of the world for over 25 years. Last year, the introduction of zoom learning allowed World Religions teacher Rob Garavaglia to organize Zoom meetings with speakers around the world and offer students a firsthand perspective on the religions they learned about in class. After two years, the zoom program has proved to be a successful way to foster learning beyond the classroom.

“I think students obviously got a firsthand experience of what it might be like to practice a particular religion,” said Garavaglia. “But I think they also benefited from the discussion about culture, politics, and even seeing how are Americans viewed from other parts of the world.”

Last year, students joined the zooms individually from home. This year, teachers had a 45 minute interview with 4-6 students from the foreign school in a general overview about themselves, traditions and faith life and then summarized the call to SLUH students in a video format beforehand to cover basics. After watching the video, students from all of the World Religions sections gathered in the commons to attend the zoom discussions together during Studium periods.

“This year we experimented

with having all the SLUH students in the same room as a group,” said Garavaglia. “Then [Director of Global Ed Rob] Chura and I would meet with the students from the virtual exchange school and interview them about the basics of who they are, what their year in school is, what they’re interested in, their favorite classes, and then I asked them a number of different questions about their religious and cultural back-

“I really enjoyed the Ireland Zoom, it opened up my eyes to other aspects of christianity that we hadn’t learned about before.”

-Donovan Meachem

grounds.”

There were five zoom discussions this year. SLUH Students heard from Russian Orthodox students in Russia; Roman Catholics in Ireland; Hindus in India; Buddhists, Daoists, and Confucianists in Taiwan; and Coptic Christians and Muslims in Egypt.

“I really enjoyed the Ireland zoom,” said senior Donovan Meachem. “It opened up my eyes to other aspects of christianity that we hadn’t learned about before.”

“I think the meeting I got the most out of was probably the one we did with Egyptian students who were Christian and Muslim,” said senior Lucas Navarro. “The reason that I got the most out of that one was because going into it, my fellow students and I knew

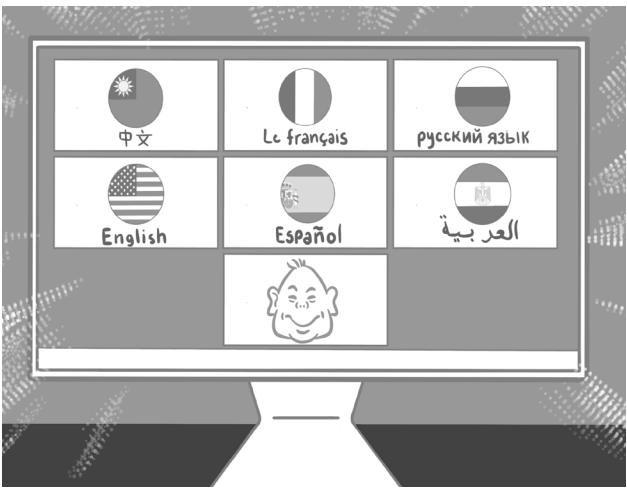
what to ask. The problem with the earlier meetings was that it was kind of hard to know what the important questions to ask were.”

These connections with schools across the globe were made possible by Chura and his work in the Global Education Department.

“We have a huge network in the global Jesuit community,” Chura said. “As our contacts develop more and more, they

put us into touch with a lot of people.”

In addition to the zoom meetings, students also had the opportunity, as in many past years, to hear from in-person speakers in class. This included a Hindu man, a Buddhist priest, a Muslim woman, and a group of Jewish students.



art | Will Blaisdell

Letter to the Editor Faith in College

To the Editors:

I’m sure every senior has heard that college is a period of excitement, freedom, and learning. In such an exciting time, I would encourage any freshman in college to not be shy in meeting new people and taking new classes. However, the best advice I can give to any incoming college student is take ownership of your faith.

For many kids growing up, it can be common to “go through the motions” of their faith because they cannot fully comprehend it. At SLUH, there’s a similar theme, with mandatory theology classes, mandatory class and all-school Masses, and the presence of priests and Campus Ministry. It’s quite easy to fall into the habit that practicing the Catholic faith is just a routine that is forced upon us. But after high school, no one will force you to practice the faith—it’s entirely up to you.

Dynamic Catholic reports that 85 percent of Catholic young adults stop practicing the faith in college. This means that there are fewer people who are able to spread the Gospel and fewer vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and holy marriage. These consequences have spiraling effects—our future generations will be hurt more than we will if this statistic continues.

While I, a sophomore in college now, cannot fix this alone, I can share some advice that I hope you take to heart. Whenever you move into college, find the Newman Center (the Catholic student center at non-religious universities) or Campus Ministry at a Catholic university. Make it your decision to go to Sunday

Mass, Confessions, and/or Eucharistic Adoration here. Get to know people at the Newman Center and try to make friends. Your journey with people at your side will be much easier. Read about the faith, tackle the teachings that you do not understand, ask priests, your parents, or friends to have spiritual conversations with you. Form a habit of daily prayer—even if it is just five minutes before bed. By doing this, the Catholic faith becomes something you understand. The reasons for everything eventually make sense. All of a sudden, you may notice that Sunday Mass is the highlight of the weekend, spiritual conversations are exciting, perhaps your vocation will be made clearer to you, or your ability to reject sin is much easier.

I understand that not everyone at SLUH is Catholic, though I think non-Catholic students can still get something out of this. I encourage you to take the wisdom you have learned at SLUH and the Ignatian spirituality to college with you. Being “Men for Others” and doing everything “For the Greater Glory of God” are universal calls. SLUH is so successful at forming young men, and their dedication to Ignatian spirituality is a reason why. Never leave your SLUH experience at home.

If this letter changes the heart of only one reader, then it is entirely worth it. The fruits that can emerge from that are infinite. I pray that you consider what I have written as you move away from SLUH, so that we can be the generation that reverses the trend.

Ben Klevorn ’20

Adams and Isom reflect on signing NFL free agency deals

NATHAN RICH
SPORTS EDITOR

Editor’s Note: Two weeks ago, after the NFL Draft, three former Jr. Bills signed free agent deals with NFL teams to continue their football career at the next level. Last week, the Prep News profiled Michael Niese ‘16 and his decision to play for the Broncos. Now, Tony Adams Jr. ‘17 and Daniel Isom ‘16 sat down with the Prep News to talk about their recent signing success and the future that lies ahead.

Daniel Isom and Tony Adams are ready to get to work, that much is clear. Even after the calls from NFL coaches and two signed professional contracts, neither player was too good for some training at their old stomping grounds. Even in the sweltering heat of the past few days, Isom and Adams made time to come back to the



Tony Adams.

field on Oakland, run some drills and, of course, take photos with passersby who recognized them.

Among the small community of SLU High, they’re minor celebrities. After the NFL draft, Isom signed a free agent deal with the reigning Super Bowl Champion Los Angeles Rams and Adams with the up-and-coming New York Jets. After a stressful signing process, the two defensive backs are both eager to get on the field and prove their worth. For Isom, the signing hits close to home even though he’s preparing to fly far away.

“I’m very thankful and blessed for the opportunity to go out to LA and make this team and play for a team that I grew up watching in St. Louis,” he said. “I’m excited for that. A lot of the last few weeks have been continuous hard work, working out and getting myself as ready as possible.”

photo | courtesy of Illini Football

Isom’s path through college to the NFL was especially difficult. After being underrecruited in high school and struggling through injuries and transfers, Isom played his senior season at Washington State University. There, a broken foot early in the season meant that he missed the chance to have a pro-day and attract NFL attention.

“I didn’t get to do any of the things that really would have put me in contention for a better spot in the draft,” he said. “I was really thankful just to have the opportunity to get picked up.”

Adams, according to coach Gary Kornfeld, who was with Adams during the draft, had a better shot of going in one of the later rounds. Things didn’t go his way either, though.

“It’s been crazy up and down. You have high anxiety when the draft starts, hoping someone will call your name,” Adams said. “Unfortunately, I didn’t hear my name called on draft day but I was very excited because I got a call from the Jets. I’m up in New York now so it’s all good.”

Location was a draw for the Jets, but Adams also liked their coaching scheme, led by former 49ers’ defensive coordinator Robert Saleh. Isom’s decision to sign with the Rams was based on coaching too, but he also considered where his play style would stand out the most.

“Talking with my agent, LA gave me the best opportunity

to go out and have a chance to play in that system. I think their system fits my style of play very well, being a versatile player and being able to play any position in the defensive backfield,” he said.

Despite coming from the same high school, the two defenders are now set to join two very different programs. The Rams, who won the Super Bowl against the Bengals earlier this year, consistently field a strong defense, led by three time Defensive Player of the Year Aaron Donald and the young All-Pro corner Jalen Ramsey. The Jets, on the other hand, went 4-13 last season and were ranked dead last in defensive points allowed. Regardless, a professional team is still a professional team and both players will see that first hand when they begin offseason practices (OTAs) in the coming weeks.

Isom will leave for Los Angeles this Friday for the Rams’ Rookie Mini Camp, where he will work with other new recruits before the team begins official OTAs. When those begin, Isom will get the chance to work with the star studded Ram’s defense. Most importantly, though, he’s hoping once again that his versatility shines through. Isom, who was signed as a safety but really has experience all over the defensive backfield, also mentioned special teams as a way forward with the Rams.

“I’m going to do my best to



Daniel Isom.

photo | courtesy of Daniel Isom

make sure I’m someone of value and someone they want to keep around. I’m going to do whatever I can to make sure I get it done and continue to get healthy as well,” said Isom.

Adams has already been through his rookie camp with the Jets and he’ll leave for official OTAs later this week. Of all three signees, Adams was the first to see action on a professional field. Working alongside other rookies was a chance to visualize the work ahead.

“All the (rookies) were cool and it’s going to be great competition,” he said. “You have to put your best foot forward and know that you’re playing the best of the best.”

The return to SLU High was a welcome one for both defenseman, who cherished their time playing in blue and white. More than anything, both Isom and Adams remember the community formed by playing football.

PN Crossword: Chain Reactions

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crossword | Paul Baudendistel

ACROSS
1. *Rusher
5. St. Teresa’s home
10. *Site for a grill or swingset
14. Simple rhyming scheme
15. Headwear for a golfer or poker player
16. Stub _____
17. *Raking leaves, e.g.
18. Paddle, as a naughty

child
19. *Exercise manual
20. NFLer 1946-1994 and 2016-present
22. Droop
23. Grab _____
24. “Shut up!”
26. About, as a date
28. Greenpeace or Doctors Without Borders, in brief
30. Pronoun for a boat

31. Bader and Trout, e.g.
34. 360 degrees ... and a hint to this puzzle’s theme
39. *Page holder
40. “What’s in _____?”
41. Craft beer initialism
42. Another name for Mt. Horeb
43. *Price reduction
44. Type of intersection ... and a hint to this puzzle’s theme
46. Shape of Superman’s curl
47. 17% of centenarians
48. Firecracker that doesn’t fire or crack
49. Type of coffee or setter
51. In the clouds
56. “An unjust peace is better than _____ war.” - Cicero
59. 1980’s album with a record five number one singles
61. Put on cloud nine
62. *Economic decline
63. Referee, slangily
65. *Steal or interception
66. _____ many words
67. Blockers for 1-Across
68. Atmospheric prefix
69. *Parka, e.g.
70. Several Holy Roman emperors
71. *Jacket flap
author Asimov
8. Its ends are Brooklyn and The Hamptons
9. Genesis boat
10. “_____ dabba doo!” - Fred Flintstone
11. Yours in Tours
12. Plant part
13. Hockey feint
21. Christmas pie
23. Unreturned serve
25. _____ Fridays
27. Scoreboard letters
29. Where the galaxy was in 39-Down
31. MLB star named for HoF Jackie
32. Mrs. in Munich
33. SNL segment
34. Lose luster
35. Some in Seville
36. Each of 7-Down developed three famous ones
37. K-O connection
38. PC brain
39. 1997 film starring Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones
42. _____ Hawkins dance
44. L.L. Bean rival
45. bad guy lyric, obviously
47. He played B.A. Baracus and Clubber Lang
49. Playground comeback
50. Headwear for a nun
52. Rub it in
53. “Don’t _____ cow, man.” - Bart Simpson
54. Wombs
55. Danger
56. Ending for fan or them
57. Hera, to Romans
58. Major bear
60. First Bond foe
63. Place to see 63-Across
64. DDE opponent

DOWN
1. Cries loudly
2. “Picture yourself in _____ on the river ...” - John Lennon
3. Coche o automóvil
4. Battlehawks cry
5. Colorado NHLers, in brief
6. Bigwigs
7. Physicist Newton or

Around the Hallways

Shark Dissection

This past week the Science wing smelled like a one star sushi bar as the freshman classes partook in an end of the year tradition: shark dissection. After spending weeks learning about human anatomy and then a shark’s anatomy, most of St. Louis U. High’s finest freshmen were ready to dive into the dissection lab. However, some freshmen were quite queasy at the prospect of entering into the guts of a shark. According to sources, no freshman have fainted at this time. What luck!

Junior Fun Day

Fun Times await juniors tomorrow as they will participate in their class fun day while the rest of the school has a day off. For the second

year in a row, the juniors will be heading to Athens as they compete in Olympic themed events and celebrations.

Parking

This week, many of the junior drivers took advantage of the front five rows of parking following the departure of their senior brothers, for whom this section was formerly reserved. This change came to the relief of the students after several weeks of the parking lot being filled to the brim with cars. The juniors should cherish these parking spots before territorial wars break out over them next school year.

—Jack Figge and Mark Wappler



Inline hockey slides into playoffs, drops first game to end season of fun

BY ROARKE UNRAU
NEWS EDITOR

Melting the ice for spring, the SLUH inline hockey team set up shop at Fenton forum ice arena, where the team ended its 14 game season 6-8, just good enough to make the playoffs.

Going into the season, the SLUH inline hockey team’s only expectations were to play some hockey with some friends. This is because some of the teams in the division are very competitive, and train their team year round.

“We didn’t really have high expectations because roller hockey is such a different game than ice hockey. If you’re a good ice hockey player, you’re gonna be a decent roller hockey player. But a lot of these teams train year round, like have developed kids over the past four years, especially a lot of these public schools have their kids play roller hockey since like sixth grade and a lot of guys on our team just started playing roller hockey. So we didn’t really have any expectations for the season, just have a good time,” said senior Sean Wiegers.

Roller hockey may have similar rules to ice hockey, but

the play styles are very different. One of the biggest differences is that in roller hockey there are only four players in the rink plus a goalie, instead of the five players on the ice in ice hockey.

“(The games) are a lot slower than ice hockey. It’s really puck possession that is the main factor. And that’s what lost us a lot of games. Because we’re all ice hockey players, A lot of kids on the team played AAA hockey, they’re used to such fast-paced games. And we just didn’t really have a great roller hockey style. We just didn’t compete well with these teams who know the game better than most,” said Wiegers.

The SLUH roller hockey team consists of ice hockey players who are looking to stay in shape and play some hockey outside of the season.

“None of our players have played roller hockey since last roller hockey season. I doubt anyone has roller skated in that time. So it’s kind of like roller hockey is just something the ice hockey players do in their offseason just to stay active and hang with some friends,” said Wiegers.

The team started the season off with two forfeits because they didn’t have enough

players. But in the games the team played, they had an even record of 6-6.

“At the beginning of the season, during spring break, there were two games scheduled, and we didn’t have enough guys to play so we had to forfeit those games against teams that we probably should have beaten so right off the bat we were bound to be ranked pretty low,” said Wiegers.

Schools that the SLUH ice hockey team beat during their season proved to be a challenge during the roller hockey season, and games were often wild, high-scoring affairs.

“Teams we would absolutely kill in ice hockey would beat us in roller hockey,” said Wiegers. “Most games were at least ten goals scored, like they were pretty high scoring.”

After winning the Challenge Cup in ice hockey, the MCC teams wanted revenge in the roller hockey season, and whenever those games rolled around, the players would look forward to these rivalries.

“MCC matchups were pretty fun. After we won the Challenge Cup in ice hockey I know all those teams like

Vianney, CBC, we’re looking forward to playing us because we won and so those matchups were pretty fun,” said Wiegers.

At the end of the regular season there is a tournament which 8 of the 10 teams enter. SLUH entered as the lowly No. 7 seed.

Being the 7th seed, SLUH was bound to face a powerhouse in the league: Rockwood Summit. A team which they beat during the regular season, but sadly the feat could not be repeated as they were eliminated 11-4.

“We just kind of played our own style and didn’t do very well. So we were eliminated right off the bat,” said Wiegers.

Looking back on the season, one game that Wiegers remembers fondly was the game against Seckman, where the team was down in the final period, but took it to overtime where Wiegers scored the winner.

Overall, the SLUH roller hockey team would’ve ended the season at an even .500 if it weren’t for the two forfeits they were forced to suffer, but having only two graduating seniors on the team, the team has a core to build around for the upcoming year.



56
Posts

489
Followers

64
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Seniors celebrate final day before *moooooving* down separate paths

(continued from page 1)

In reality, the shenanigans of the seniors' last day started a day earlier when a group of seniors stayed late after school on Thursday evening to fulfill a four-year dream of installing new shiny appliances to Dr. Brock Kesterson's office: tinfoil.

"So it was actually my mom's idea. She goes, you should just gift wrap his office. But I realized it was impossible to find gift wrap this time of year so I thought of tinfoil. I talked with AJ and Mr. Schulte, and we were like we have to do this. So I found a group of guys and it was pretty efficient, it was only like an hour and a half," said senior Noah Leeseberg, leader of the tinfoil prank. "Tinfoil kind of has extreme exothermic properties, so we were just 7 people in there including Mr. Schulte and we were just sweating. It was not too fun but at the same time we had a blast."

After arriving at school at 5 a.m., Kesterson was surprised to find seniors already at the building, a feat which never happens.

"So I got here just right around five and typically in years past that's been kind of a starting point like yeah, I'll meet you guys up here at five and no one ever gets here at five, but you guys were ready," said Kesterson. "I saw a couple of cars in the parking lot. I saw the grills lit and ready to go, I mean things were moving pretty quickly."

At the turnaround, the seniors were in need of a tent to keep the grills aflame as the rain poured down. As the rain picked up, the seniors' mood didn't change, and the excitement was still there.

"There are a couple times where we just kind of step back and look at this, like it's pouring down rain but guys are committed to be in here together and to cook and to hang out. Just that spirit that I think makes SLUH what it is is pretty awesome," said Kesterson.

"The rain definitely made things harder, just on the way up we were soaking wet. But I think it made it more fun, instead of us all sprawled out outside we were in the same small space,

it made it so we were closer together as a class," said Leeseberg.

Once the burgers, eggs, bacon, and sausages were all on the grill, the legendary SLUH Tailgate Club was in business as a self made line formed under each tent, and as soon as the food was ready to leave the grill, it was put on a plate and served.

"There's really nothing like feeding a bunch of hungry people. When they give you a thumbs up while they're chowing down on something you made, there's a sense of personal accomplishment," said senior Grillmaster John Peretz. "Of course, it was really helped by the fact that I had many screaming kids behind me all bathed in milk. That was a lot of fun."

It was a sight to behold as seniors made their way up the turnaround with gallons of milk in hand. The milk was originally intended to be used throughout the day for an alternative prank, but a group of rowdy seniors decided it would be better to douse themselves in it.

"The sense of brotherhood and camaraderie when moshing in that small bathroom was unparalleled. It was one last 'hoorah' for the Class of 2022 and a unique way of celebrating together."

- Alex Gruzca

In the 50 degree weather, laying down a tarp, seniors filled the back of senior Mac Southern's pickup truck with milk while the grilling ensued.

"Milk! Milk! Milk!" chanted various seniors in the back of the pickup truck as it seemed as if every senior walking up the turnaround brought more in hand.

"I got out there about 5:30, and the first thing going through my mind was 'I don't

know what I'm doing with this milk but whatever happens with it hopefully it turns out nice,'" said senior Craig Ortwerth.

From dousing themselves in it, to chugging it, to even playing the newly dubbed game of 'milk-pong,' seniors were somehow running out of all the milk they brought. Luckily the Commons decided to hand out milk cartons to the group, and the games continued.

"I thought that was hilarious, I'm not sure who thought of that but it was a great idea. We bathed in it and we played pong with it. It was creative to say the least," said Leeseberg.

Several groups of juniors took up the courage to sneak by the barbaric, milk-drinking seniors to enter into the tranquility of the Danis Field House, where they would take their AP US History exam.

After all the excitement of the morning, there was still a half day of school to attend. So, after cleaning up their milky mess, the seniors trudged up the stairs and into the warmth of the school and prepared for their final three classes at SLUH.

"It was a weird transition, I was still soaking wet from milk, and sweaty from playing basketball and I came inside to go to the bathroom and there was a metal concert in the freshman bathroom, I went to class with my ears still ringing. It was definitely one of the best memories from SLUH so far," said Leeseberg.

However, the morning was just getting started. Before homeroom started, the seniors flocked to the freshman hallway bathroom to discover their fellow classmates Baker Pashea (vocals), Gavin Lawhorn (drums), and Cooper Scharff (guitar) tuning their instruments. What would ensue would rock the school, and its students, to the core.

"The sense of brotherhood and camaraderie when moshing in that small bathroom was unparalleled," said senior Alex Gruzca. "It was one last 'hoorah' for the class of 2022 and a unique way of celebrating together."



Pashea, Scharff, and Lawhorn after rocking out in the freshman hallway bathroom. photo | courtesy of Mark Wappler

What many students did not know was that this torrid trio of seniors play together in their band Petricore and their bathroom bonanza was a dream come true.

"I can't describe the feeling of hearing the guitar's feedback ring out over everyone yelling and cheering; it honestly gave me chills at one point," said Scharff.

Even though it was just one of many things to happen on the seniors' last day, word spread across the Mississippi River and Schulte's nephew asked him if the rumors he had heard were true.

"My nephew is a sophomore at Columbia High School in Illinois, and he sent me a text like 'was there really a rock transfer in the bathroom today?' And he doesn't know anybody here, he has no clue what it was. It was just nuts," said Schulte.

With their ears still ringing, the seniors had just enough focus in them for three more classes. However, many of the students had free periods and used the time to study for AP exams, empty their lockers, or just to hang out with their friends around the school.

In other classes, many of the teachers chose to do something fun with their students in their final class, such as baking cookies, watching a movie, or even

playing wiffle ball outside as the skies cleared up.

"Being able to play wiffle ball outside was a nice change of pace as some of my other classes were still making us do some work," said senior Patrick Young. "It was just a simple way of enjoying each other's company."

At the end of the half day, school ended normally in the form of examen. After the chaos of the day, many students swore that the examen felt longer than usual. Thanks to the seniors, it was elongated by nearly three extra minutes.

Immediately after the examen ended, there were noises echoing throughout the hallways that sounded like a mosh pit had formed. To no one's surprise, the seniors decided to end their day moshing outside of the main office.

"I was sprinting down a pathway that the students were making to Dr. Kesterson's office with a speaker and jumped into it with everybody," said senior Dennis McDaniel. "That was the last thing we did before we clocked out of there and I think that will probably be the most memorable moment of the day that I spent with my brothers."

Once out of the doors of the building, the school was greeted with food trucks that supplied lunch to everyone, since it was

a half day, there was no lunch at school. To entertain the hungry students, Petricore put on an encore show outside the Field House doors.

"I got the Malaysian chicken from Wayno's World. I thought it was a good meal. It was a full circle moment for me because I remember getting food from the food trucks my freshman year, and that was the last time I did it, then senior year I did it again," said senior Jack Christanell.

Making the walk down the turnaround for the final time as SLUH students, there was a sense of accomplishment. To be able to endure four years of tests, homework, and jugs, seniors ended their tenure as SLUH students in the best way possible.

"I had a couple of conversations throughout the day, with other colleagues saying things like, oh, yeah, I forgot—we've had the pandemic for the last couple years. It hasn't been the same level of things that we've been able to do in the past," said Kesterson. "It's almost like I forgot they did some of this stuff, I forgot about this. And I think that's really what it's all about is something that's meaningful. And something that can continue to bring you guys together and galvanize you in your last time together here at SLUH."

Modern Languages host Zooms with partner schools across the world

(continued from page 1)

er brainstormed and decided to piece together a meeting with as many of SLUH's international partner schools as possible. This meeting set the standard for what virtual Global Education at SLUH could look like, as an incredible opportunity for real-world language experience and exciting cultural exchange.

"We realized that we can really do this on a much larger scale even though it's unfortunate that we're unable to go and visit each other," explained Chura. "For the time being, we can visit each other online. So we got this idea of, 'How can we expand this?'"

Not long after, numerous other faculty opted in to take part in virtual exchanges like these. Now, over the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school year, all five modern languages taught at SLUH have created opportunities for their students. In

fact, other departments have become involved as well, with World Religions and Economics classes Zooming with partners from Russia, China, and more.

Even now, while travel opportunities have opened up once again, the presence of virtual exchanges still offers many of the benefits of global education but increases accessibility.

"Realistically, not everybody's going to travel abroad this summer, because we don't have that many spots for people, and it's also expensive," said Erker. "Even though we help you bring the cost down as a Jesuit network, it still is an investment. So it's our responsibility to help develop opportunities for everybody to open their mind to different perspectives and to interact with others. So that's the bright side of the pandemic. Now you can connect with and meet people who are

in China, Russia, or France, and before we didn't have that."

A culmination of these virtual exchanges in Global Ed was the first-ever Modern Languages Summit, which took place over four Saturdays this past month. The Modern Languages Summit is a chance for SLUH students to talk virtually with students from Catholic schools around the globe and broaden their cultural perspectives in the process. Chura and Erker modeled this after SLUH's Jesuit Global Activism Leadership Summit, but with the goal of giving students the chance to practice the language they study as well.

Over 35 Catholic schools from over 20 different countries around the world participated, many of whom have also been partners with SLUH for travel exchanges. During the Modern Language Summit, students from all of SLUH's modern

language classes were given the opportunity to converse with international students in their respective languages for a time, and then speak English with the international students for the second half. Not only did this allow all the students a chance to practice the languages they study, but they were able to share their understandings of each other's cultures and international issues. This was a great way for SLUH's students to demonstrate and improve their global competence, and by doing so, break down American stereotypes.

"Making the effort and showing that you can develop those really important skills means a lot, not only to the native speakers, but I think it means a lot to you and how you relate to the world as an American," explained junior Freddy Laux.

In connecting with other

teenagers across the globe, there is also a sense of fun and friendship.

"Even though it's an event on Zoom, it's still such a fun thing because you not only meet people but you make friends with those people," added Laux.

Looking forward, SLUH Global Ed will continue to thrive this summer with the second ever Jesuit Global Activism Leadership Summit. This virtual convention will take place on July 30 and Aug. 1, 3, 5, and 6, and invites SLUH students and faculty to engage with schools worldwide, even in English. In addition, this year will expand upon last year's and include even more global Jesuit schools—36 in total.

"Last year, we were working mainly with schools in Europe and Latin America," said Erker. "We did not have representa-

tion from Africa or Australia, but this year, we will, so that will bring new perspectives."

The summit has a focus on a combination of the Jesuit Universal Apostolic Preferences and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Students from different schools and countries will break into groups to create a plan of action addressing these global Jesuit goals. In this way, they can not only enjoy time with other high school students from the other side of the world, but unite in their understanding of global issues and determination to change them. In fact, all of SLUH Global Ed revolves around this concept.

"The goal is to develop leadership skills in our students and also help them develop their global competence," said Erker. "It's learning about issues that are taking place not only in the US but around the world."



RING SEASON FOR RUGBY

Jr. Bills come out on top of age old rivalry against Jr. Blues, win the final five minutes to take the state rugby title.

(continued from page 1)

in the first half. Give up 27 in the second half and win 28-27. It was ugly, but who cares,” said Corrigan in a post-game email after Sunday’s match. “We got the job done again. I usually have nerves before a big game, but I was listening to music last night and was completely calm. I knew this team had FINALLY figured it out. I wasn’t sure if we’d win, but I knew that we would fight for the win. I knew the boys wanted it! As a coach, that’s all I want!”

Sunday’s match saw a showdown between the two perennial powerhouses of high school rugby in Missouri: the Kansas City Jr. Blues and the SLUH Jr. Bills. The Jr. Blues are the club of Rockhurst High School, Kansas City’s Jesuit high school, so as expected, the rivalry between the two clubs goes back almost 30 years to when the Jr. Bills’ rugby team was just a club team known as the St. Louis Druids. The two sides used to compete against each other nearly every year for a spot in the national championship. Over time, it brewed a lot of tension.

“Our side definitely held the advantage in the rivalry until the late 90’s or early 2000’s, but since then they’ve upped their game,” said Corrigan. “We faced Rockhurst in an epic game in Dallas in 2005. It was a very tight first half. Tempers flared and assistant coaches from both sides got into a fist fight. One coach was arrested. Knowing how I like a quiet and unemotional sideline, this wasn’t good for our psyche. We lost our composure and ended up losing in a fairly lopsided way.”

“From 2012-2018, we met against them six times, five of them in the finals and never lost a game by more than 7. We lost two of them by a point and one of them on kicks at the end of extra time,” said coach Joe Muller. “So, for a long time we felt very snake-bit against them, until we broke through in 2019 in perhaps the most intense rugby game I have ever witnessed.”

Right around the same time the St. Louis Druids transitioned to the SLUH Jr. Bills, our Kansas City rivals became a club team adapting the name the Jr. Blues. This change ushered in a period of dominance for the Jr. Blues that ended in 2019 when SLUH beat them 10-7 for the State Championship. Nonetheless, tensions remained high against the Jr. Blues on Sunday.

After SLUH’s 28-27 victory against Liberty on Saturday,

Liberty players told a few SLUH starters that the Jr. Blues were saying that SLUH would be “light work.” In the post-game huddle, the Jr. Bills accepted this underdog mentality in preparation for Sunday’s game.

“Our victory on Sunday was electric. We all entered that game expecting to have our work cut out for us,” said senior Matthew Vanous. “I honestly expected to lose by a large margin, but we weren’t going down without a fight.”

“We were underdogs heading into that game. The Jr. Blues didn’t want to play in St. Charles on Mothers Day; they would rather be back home. So they took us too lightly,” said Kluba. “However, we have been rolling off two great gritty games against tough opponents, so how hard could one more be? A lot of the players on our team were saying it’s just one more game and then we are done so multiple people put their bodies on the line to win that game.”

The conditions for Sunday’s championship game were just right as the Jr. Bills prepared for what would be a monumental showdown. From the beginning, the Jr. Blues’ sideline was loud and ignorant but they were quickly quieted down.

From kickoff, SLUH was ready as they controlled ball positioning throughout the first 15 minutes of the game. This was followed up by a shifty run by senior captain Max Sextro which led to the first points of the game with a try from sophomore Archie Curruthers. A missed conversion made the game 5-0. From this point on, SLUH controlled possession against the well-skilled and sized Jr. Blues who started to exhibit some major frustration as a late hit on junior Pau Thang led to a three-point penalty kick making the game 8-0 going into half.

In the halftime huddle, Corrigan praised the team’s poise and tackling through the first 35 minutes but highlighted the need for better rucking as the Jr. Blues were fond of challenging rucks that led to dangerous turnovers. The Jr. Bills kept their calm coming out of halftime with a somewhat

comfortable lead. This lead would be increased just a few minutes into the second half with another spectacular try by Sextro which, followed by a missed conversion, made the game 13-0.

The Jr. Blues were quick to respond, scooping up a bad Jr. Bill pass taking it into the try-zone. After a missed conversion, the Jr. Bills still led by eight, 13-5.

After this try, SLUH marched down the field into their 22-yard line before junior Nick Devoti was illegally hit in the face causing him to come out of the game. The result of the play was a red card meaning that the Jr. Blues would be playing down a man for the rest of the game and that the Jr. Bills would have a chance to extend their lead with a penalty kick, which Sextro hit to make the game 16-5.

The Jr. Blues responded a few minutes later by taking advantage of a couple SLUH penalties and scoring to reduce SLUH’s to four, 16-12.

The rest of the game was an absolute dog-fight as both teams played extremely hard through the last ten minutes of the game. For the second half of the season, SLUH’s coaching staff has tried to instill a mindset of winning the first and last five minutes of each half, and that was arguably the winning mindset as the Jr. Bills held on to win the State Championship 16-13 for only the second time since becoming a school club.

“The Blues pushed back, which good teams do, but we answered. We played a composed game, our leaders

made great in-game decisions and the 18 who played, left everything on the pitch,” said Corrigan. “These 18 along with the entire team who pushed each other day in and day out through this rough spring weather earned this. Their reward for that is a State Championship!”

This season for the Jr. Bills was not an easy one as the overall record reflected but, in the end, the hard work and dedication paid off majorly as SLUH lifted the state trophy. The Jr. Bills battled through a very rough mid-season stretch this year as their schedule pinned them up against many of the top-ranked teams across the Midwest.

“After last season, the coaches decided that it was time to push this program, so we scheduled a very challenging schedule,” said Corrigan. “We knew that playing this type of schedule would be difficult and would challenge our depth, but we hoped that over time, our depth would become an asset. As we were working through this process, I was really worried that we may lose credibility with the boys.”

In a postgame email following Sunday’s victory, Corrigan shouted out the hard work to exemplify this “next-man-up” mentality which he saw in junior Ryan Kellogg, seniors Matt Kluba and Caleb Forthaus, and sophomore Ian Taylor.

“One by one, you all started to get it over these last few weeks.

However, you still were struggling to put the final pieces of belief and heart together. On the bus ride home from Cincy, something happened,” said Corrigan. “We talked a bit and I told the guys about what it took for me to grow up and stop being pushed around. The bus was quiet for about 30 minutes or so, and then they snapped out of it and the bus was lively and fun again. I didn’t know it at the time, but something changed. They were ready.”

After Sunday’s championship game, Corrigan gathered the team together before the celebrations to announce that he would be stepping down after his tenure as SLUH rugby’s head coach. This marks the end of an era at SLUH Rugby as Corrigan oversaw SLUH’s first two state championships and last year’s National Championship appearance.

“Corrigan’s impact on the program is difficult to summarize, he is a second father to all the boys on the team and leads by example in everything he does, whether it is jumping in a drill or staying late to help clean up or talk to a player who is having some difficulty in the sport or life,” said Vanous. “He’s a compassionate man who has a positive

impact on everyone who interacts with him.”

“Coach Corrigan has made a tremendous impact on the program by being one of the founding players to wear a SLUH rugby jersey and get that ball rolling. He has made a great impact on recruiting kids and teaching them the game and how fun it can be,” said Kluba. “He never pressured you into anything crazy but when playing for him, you wanted to play wherever he told you to because he was that good of a guy and a coach.”

“I love rugby. It has taught me so many life lessons as a player and coach over the years that I feel compelled to share the game with others. Just think about this year,” said Corrigan. “We were coming off of a very successful season last year. We really struggled for longer than normal. It was humbling, but we all stuck with it and overcame our initial struggles. Very analogous to life.”

The retirement actually came as quite a surprise for the Jr. Bills. Luckily, it was overshadowed by the new hardware.

“Heading into Sunday, I was 0-2 as a coach against the Jr. Blues. Therefore, I had some unfinished business,” said Corrigan. “I grabbed Max Sextro right before the match and told him that I’d be stepping down from the head coach spot after this game, and I ended it with lets both go out as champions and thankfully, this team was able to pull it off.”



Coach Brian Corrigan celebrates with the trophy.

photo | Guy Sextro

Golf clobbers De Smet to defend J Cup, Cornett earns ticket to state while rest of team struggles at Districts

AUSTIN WALD
CORE STAFF

The St. Louis U. High community is all too acquainted with the greatest trophy in all of high school sports: The Jesuit Cup. Every year, SLUH's hockey and golf teams face off against fellow Jesuit institution De Smet to lay it all on the line for the honor of raising the Jesuit Cup trophy and proving which school is really better. This year, in an event synonymous with nail-biting finishes, the SLUH golf team blew out De Smet to retain the J Cup title for the second year in a row. However, this success couldn't be translated into the next week at Districts, when only senior captain Louis Cornett—who tied for first place individually with an even-par 72—qualified for State.

On May 4, the golf squad geared up for the first day of the J-Cup at Forest Park's Dogwood course. The J-Cup follows a two-day Ryder Cup format, with the first day being a team alternate shot and best ball match play. Starting off the day with alternate shot were the seasoned duo of seniors Sam Orlando and Cornett, accompanied by the inexperienced but capable duo of junior Austin Wald and freshman Aiden Erard.

Orlando and Cornett were matched up against De Smet's top pairing, Blake Skornia and Colby Sauer. The SLUH team knew they needed to play strong to beat the two Spartans, one of whom is a D1 commit. Despite the nerves going in, Cornett and Orlando were able to go one up after the first hole courtesy of a De Smet bogey.

"That (par) kind of settled us down," reflected Cornett. "Then the momentum really shifted on the fourth and fifth hole."

On those holes, the Jr. Bills went up by two with a birdie on hole four, courtesy of a drive and a putt from Orlando. In alternate shot play, each pairing takes turns hitting shots, meaning trust in your partner is essential. On five, the Spar-

tans found the water with their second shot, giving the Jr. Bills a three hole lead as they started the trek back to the clubhouse. After losing the sixth hole and staying even through the rest of the holes, De Smet found themselves needing a hole out on the 8th green to prolong the match—a hole out they didn't get.

"That was a really good tone setter for the team," Cornett said. "At the number one spot there was a really good player for De Smet so for us to

take that first point really gave us momentum for the second day. We were really confident and comfortable with how the outcome would go."



Golf, clad in pink, celebrates the J Cup domination.

photo | courtesy of Miles Schulte

stressful holes of my life," said Erard. "I didn't want to lose and be a liability to the team and potentially cost us the trophy."

The best-ball duo of seniors Owen Rittenhouse and Thomas Ziegler won in a similarly messy fashion. Going into the 9th hole, Rittenhouse and Ziegler were one up against De Smet's Tim Powers and Jake Bauer. Both Ziegler and Rittenhouse went

into the water but Ziegler was still able to make a bogey to tie the hole and win the match by getting up and down from the water bank. After three wins for the day, the best-ball pairing of senior Miles Schulte and junior Matt Hempstead put on the most dominant performance. Ending the match on the eighth hole, the pair soundly defeated De Smet's Jack Dawson and Grant Walbert by three points, helping seal SLUH's clean sweep for day one.

On day two of the Jesuit

from over. However, the second day played out very similar to the first day, with only two SLUH golfers losing their match and one tying, making the final score 11.5-2.5, the largest margin in J-Cup history.

With solid play and battle all around, coach Dan Reardon couldn't have been more pleased with the outcome.

"I was proud to be wearing the same shirt as they were, not because of what they shot but because of how they handled themselves," said Reardon.

Aberdeen Golf Club, selecting Louis Cornett, Thomas Ziegler, Sam Orlando, Matt Hempstead, and Aiden Erard.

Cornett, an eventual winner, was placed in one of the marquee groups to start. With a decent crowd and the impending pressure of a state title run, Cornett got off to a rocky start on the first hole. From out of the rough, he was able to recover and sank a birdie putt.

"I tried to get in a zone but the first hole I honestly mishit two shots but I still left myself a birdie putt within a foot. That's when I knew it was going to be a good day," he said.

After chipping in for eagle at six and cruising through the remaining holes, Cornett found himself with an outright win in sight.

"I made a bride at 13, which was playing really tough into the wind. I knew at that point I was neck and neck with them but unfortunately I got a little ahead of myself on the 17th hole," he said. "I parred 17 and then on 18 I sailed the green and bogeyed that hole to finish even with my opponents."

Cornett ended the day on top of the podium, but it was shared with two other golfers. Regardless, Cornett now gets the chance to play for the state title next week in Cape Girardeau. Below Cornett, no players had much success. The next closest finishers, Orlando and Hempstead both missed the cut.

"I was a little nervous at the start," said Orlando. "I didn't play in it last year so it was nerve wracking. I made a few too many mistakes and missed the cut by two."

"It was a really tough pill to swallow," agreed Hempstead, who also missed the cut. "We had a good squad and really could've put something together but we just didn't have it that day."

Cornett will travel to the Class VI state championship at Dalhousie Golf Club next Monday. The two day tournament will feature the top 80 players in the state.

Commits Corner

Tennis star Tettamble to continue Tennis career at the University of Tulsa

NATHAN RICH
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior Gus Tettamble has a lot to celebrate. An undefeated tennis season, an easy District win even with an injured shoulder, plus a bright future. Next year, Tettamble, a top Junior player in the region, will join the D1 program at the University of Tulsa, a school with excellent facilities and a long history.

Last year, Tulsa finished in the top 30 teams in the nation and qualified for the national tournament. The success is no doubt a credit to their coaching. Tulsa's

head coach, Vince Westbrook, has been with the school for several decades and built a legacy of success around him. Alongside him, Tulsa recently welcomed a new, younger coach who has worked with successful programs all over the country. The coaching pair stood out to Tettamble and his family.

"Their coaching dynamic is really neat. Their head coach is one of the most experienced college coaches out there. Plus, to have a fresh set of eyes along with a really experienced coach seems like a really great opportunity."

The commitment to

Tulsa sees Tettamble's tennis journey come full circle. Despite the major success he's seeing now, he didn't always think he'd get to play in college.

"Going into freshman year, people told me that it was a possibility if I'd keep working hard. To me it seemed a little far sketched but the harder I worked and the better I got the more and more real it seemed," he said.

After all the work he's done in recent years, he's excited to play at the next level. In fact, Tettamble feels his late start to competitive tennis gives him an edge.

"For me, I'm feeling very

fresh. A lot of guys have been playing tennis at a high level for like five years before they get to college. I've played other sports and I've only been playing at a high level for like two years. Some people would call that a disadvantage but I'm seeing it as a good thing."

Also important to Tettamble was staying in the Missouri Valley, the region he's dominated in Tennis tournaments over the past few months. In staying near home, he hopes to keep connecting with those who have been supporting him throughout his tennis career so far.



Tettamble volleys against Marquette.

photo | Kathy Chott



Senior Jack Christanell goes for a pass against Francis Howell.

photo | Alex Mittendorf

Goals all Around

Lacrosse dominates O’Fallon in offensive showcase as team honors seniors

BY CHARLES TURNELL AND DANIEL TICE
STAFF, REPORTER

After an exhilarating double overtime victory last week versus Eureka, all eyes shifted to the 12 seniors celebrating Senior Night. SLUH matched up against one of their easiest opponents all year in the O’Fallon Panthers. O’Fallon has had a rough year, sitting at 4-11 before heading to Sheridan Stadium, a season that culminated in a 20-0 loss vs. Chaminade. All signs pointed for SLUH to do the same if they could execute as well as they knew they could. This included the return of junior goalie Will Barnidge, who was sidelined in the game against Eureka thanks to an injury.

O’Fallon won the opening faceoff, and within the first five seconds they had the best shot on goal they would have the entire game. Barnidge, however, reassured the Jr. Bills that he had the skills needed, and saved the shot.

After a successful clear, SLUH got on the board. Senior Nick Witcher dodged and fed an open pass to Ted Leritz for an easy five-yard shot. After four minutes of lockdown defense and missed shots on both sides, SLUH got the ball to junior Danny Campbell who ran off a Leritz screen, spun, and wrapped the ball around the defender into the goal.

Despite the talent advantage of the Jr. Billikens, O’Fallon held SLUH to a mere two goals at the end of the first quarter. Had SLUH underestimated their opponent?

No. SLUH began to build on the positives of the first quarter and started shaving away the negatives. This started with a goal from ju-

nior Walter Hurley, who picked up a ground ball near the crease and dumped it in. A few minutes later, Campbell followed. He used his strength to run through the O’Fallon defender and score from just a few yards out. SLUH began outclassing the Panthers in all phases of the game. After a missed shot, O’Fallon attempted to clear the ball, but Witcher and sophomore Nate Boyer double teamed the ball, creating a turnover and completing a successful ride. Good defense led to great offense as seen in the next possession, when the ball movement was so crisp that it ended with Witcher finding a wide open Josh Bertram, who scored a step down shot from the 25-yard line.

O’Fallon secured a win at the next faceoff but the defense of the Jr. Bills shut them down. Sophomore Marco Sansone intercepted a pass and began a fast break. He found an outlet in sophomore Vince Chappuis, who ran the ball down the field and found a wide open Hurley for a goal, expanding the lead to six. SLUH was not done yet as Campbell was able to see a cutting Bertram wide open near the goal and feed him for another easy point. SLUH went into half up 7-0.

At halftime, all 12 seniors and their parents were honored. Most played all four years in the program and this was a special culmination of that time. Each senior was individually named and thanked with flowers from his mother.

Even with the longer than normal break for half, SLUH did not miss a beat starting the third quarter. Senior Joe Weiss set the tone, laying out an O’Fallon attackman and senior defenseman TJ Guinta

picked up the ground ball taking it the length of the field and scoring his first goal of the season. The next possession, senior Jack Christanell picked up the ball off the faceoff, ran around the back of the cage, and scored on the move.

Good defense and saves by Barnidge kept the shutout intact for the next few minutes, but once SLUH got the ball back, nothing changed. Hurley fed the ball to junior Kalil Turner, who scored while simultaneously getting knocked to the ground by the defender. Then Leritz performed some witchcraft with his stick, confusing the opposing defense and hit a perfect shot in the bottom right corner of the goal. SLUH scored once more in the third, this time coming from Chappuis on a split dodge. The game was all but over as the Jr. Bills commanded a 13-0 lead.

Toussaint was able to get some of his rotational guys and seniors more minutes in the fourth quarter, which always boosts team morale. These guys began to shine, starting with sophomore Will Feise. Feise scored his second goal of the season, running past the defender and scoring. Junior Danny Carse also put on a show, scoring two goals back to back. Both goals were nearly identical as he was able to dodge from the X, go to his right and shoot right when he got above GLE. The night ended with a goal from senior Tommy Gund. Gund, scored his first goal of the season in the waning seconds of the fourth to cap off a dominating performance. The game ended 18-0.

Now, all eyes are now focused on the Lacrosse state playoffs, which begin this weekend.

Baseball heads into postseason with high hopes for pitching

BY COBY SPRATTE
CORE STAFF

SLUH wrapped up the regular season with a 2-2 split over the past week, adding two wins to a record that has seen significant improvement this year. At 18-14, the Jr. Bills now prepare to host the District tournament next week. Despite struggling at the plate at times, they feel confident that their stellar pitching can push them deep into the District bracket next week.

SLUH started with a doubleheader at Troy Buchanan this past Saturday. The bats started a little slow, but SLUH was able to scratch across four runs. Sophomore Charlie Isom-McCall, senior Patrick Mooney, senior Alex Shelton and junior Henry Zenor each contributed multi-hit games en route to scoring four runs, which is all the pitching staff would need.

Senior Jack DuMont hurled a quality start, throwing 5 frames and allowing two runs on three hits while striking out seven batters. Senior Coby Spratte relieved in the sixth inning, and held the fort down with a 1-2-3 inning. Junior Parker Guthrie came in the seventh and picked up the save as he struck out the side to end the game. The Jr. Bills won 4-2.

The second game of the split did not go as well for SLUH. They mixed up the lineup and gave some guys opportunities in spots they don’t usually find themselves. Junior Garret Shearer hit a double and scored while freshman James Unwin picked up a hit and scored. Both eventually made it home courtesy of RBIs from junior

Dillion Ramella, the only two of the game for SLUH.

Junior starter Michael Baudendistel tossed 4 innings, surrendering four runs and walking none. Junior Max Adelman got some action on the mound as well afterwards, allowing one run in one inning pitched. Senior Johnny McArthur closed it out with a scoreless sixth inning, but the offense lacked run support, and the Jr. Bills fell, 5-2.

The next game was not originally supposed to be played. The Jr. Bills added a game to their schedule against Timberland this Monday, but the addition ended poorly as SLUH lost 9-2.

Shearer started the game, but allowed five runs in 3 innings, and the Jr. Bills never rebounded. Spratte entered the game and gave up another four runs, three of which were unearned. Senior Tucker Thomas closed out the game with 3 shutout innings, but by that time it was all but over.

The Jr. Billikens then traveled down to Rockwood Summit for their final regular season contest of the season.

McArthur got the nod on the rubber, and he threw 3.1 quality innings, allowing one unearned run and striking out four Falcons. With runners on first and second, sophomore Andrew DuMont came in to finish off the fourth inning. He only needed five pitches, as he picked off the runner of second base and struck out the batter.

Sophomore Henry McDaniels pitched the next 2 innings, striking out three and holding the score at 1-0.

The offense finally sparked to life, and they

knotted the score at one. Mooney came up with runners on the corners and one out, and he placed a perfect safety squeeze bunt past the pitcher for the soon-to-be game-winning RBI.

The bats stayed hot in the seventh, as Shelton blasted a fastball to the wall for two RBIs to put the Jr. Bills on top 4-1. Guthrie slammed the door in the seventh for his fifth save of the season, and SLUH concluded the regular season with an 18-14 record, notching twice as many wins as they did last season.

SLUH earned the No. 1 seed in Class 6 District 3. They will host the entirety of the District playoffs, which begin next Monday, May 16 at 4:30 p.m. against No. 8 Hazelwood Central (5-7). If they can advance past the Hawks, they will play the winner of No. 4 Pattonville (13-8) and No. 5 Francis Howell North (11-17). The other side of the bracket features No. 2 Francis Howell Central (19-12) against No. 7 Ritenour (6-8), and No. 3 De Smet against No. 6 Hazelwood West (10-12). The District semifinals will be played on Tuesday, May 17, and the championship is set for Thursday, May 19.

The Jr. Bills are confident they have the tools to not only win Districts, but to make a deep run into the playoffs.

“We know our pitching is some of the best in the state,” senior Tommy Etling said. “So if we can be consistent in our offensive approach and string some clutch hits together then it’ll be hard to beat us.”



Senior Mikey Floretta at the plate.

photo | Scott Thomas

After receiving Jr. Rings, juniors dance the night away in celebration of milestone

(continued from page 1)
great responsibility, right?” said Bailey. “Being leaders of the school, it’s not something easy to do. And with this power, we have to do something good with it. We have to serve the people around us. And the only way you can do that is with our authority.”

With the ceremony falling on the same day as the seniors’ last day of classes, these sentiments became particularly evident. At the very moment that the seniors wrapped up their time at SLUH, juniors were bestowed with their class rings, a symbol of their new roles here in the school community.

“I think it’s a great opportunity because really it’s the first time that all eyes are on the junior class,” said junior class coordinator Tracy Lyons, who was responsible for organizing the Jr. Ring ceremony and its associated events. “We are looking to you and this is this way to show that it’s not a scary, daunting thing. We are giving you this opportunity to

show us what you’ve grown to be.”

The class banner, which each junior signed preceding the ring ceremony, featured the words ad astra per aspera, or “through hardships to the stars.” Surrounding the words on the banner was a constellation of bright stars over the Saint Louis skyline, designed by junior Alex Deiters.

“The motto symbolizes the junior class as a whole,” said junior Nick George, member of the motto and banner design committee. “Every one of us has faced our own hardships throughout the past three years, and this motto helps to show how we were able to keep pushing through those struggles.”

The ring ceremony was followed by the Junior Ring Dance, the first dance held exclusively for the Class of 2023. Held at Forest Park Visitor Center, the dance allowed the juniors to celebrate their class and the milestone that they had just achieved in a fun and

exciting way.

“It was our class together for the first time,” said junior Diego Torrez. “It had the potential to be a bust. High odds, you know, but I think everybody came together, just feeling the music. It was time to party, relax, have fun. It was our day. Yeah, I think we really embraced that.”

Just like at any typical dance, the night included an amorphous mass of sweaty teenagers jumping up and down with an open circle in the center as confident or crazy individuals periodically threw themselves into the circle to show off their eccentric dance moves and jam out to classic party hits from the 2010’s.

“I think my favorite part was when someone pushed me into the middle,” said junior Daniel Okohson-Reb. “I slid in and it was awesome. Everyone loved that.”

Though some students only jumped in once or twice for a brief moment, junior

Cody Cox captivated the junior class for multiple songs at a time with his smooth, unshakable confidence and alluring dance moves.

“What I remember most clearly was being in the circle during ‘Pretty Boy Swag’ (Soulja Boy),” explained Cox. “There was a lot of masucline energy. I did a whole bunch of backbends and splits, and I ‘vogued.’ It was a moment.”

The exciting night concluded with live, impromptu performances from juniors Jason Cabra and Keller Anderson, who both have recently released their own music on streaming services. Cabra rapped his original “King,” and Anderson performed his soon-to-be-released single “Mistakes.”

“It was really cool to do it in a dance environment with most of our class,” said Anderson. “It was well over 200 people, so it was good prep for our upcoming show on May 20.”

Calendar

Thursday, May 12

B Day

Student Art Exhibition
AP Exams - AM World History, PM Physics 1
Band Rehearsal (AP)
Mix-it-Up Lunch

LUNCH
3:00 PM
4:30 PM
7:00 PM

Cowboy Nachos
Choir Rehearsal
Volleyball vs De Smet (C/JV/V)
Band Concert

Friday, May 13

No Classes

No Classes - Junior Programming Day
Student Art Exhibition
Lacrosse Postseason
AP Exams - AM Music Theory, PM Latin and Physics 2
Graduation Meeting and Practice
Senior Prom

Saturday, May 14

Lacrosse Postseason
Track and Field Districts @ Poplar Bluff High School

Sunday, May 15

Lacrosse Postseason
Dance Tech Rehearsal
Dance and Choir Concerts

Monday, May 16

A Day

Lacrosse Postseason
Varsity Districts Basketball
Golf State Tournament
Senior Grades Due

LUNCH
7:45 PM

Cajun Shrimp Pasta
Transition Program Social

Tuesday, May 17

B Day

Lacrosse Postseason
Varsity Districts Baseball
Golf State Tournament

LUNCH
4 PM

Cowboy Nachos
District Volleyball Semifinals

Wednesday, May 18

A Day

Lacrosse Postseason
Varsity Districts Baseball

LUNCH
5 PM

Papa John’s
District Volleyball Final

Thursday, May 19

B Day

Lacrosse Postseason
Varsity Districts Baseball
Tennis Singles/Doubles State Tournament

calendar | Alex Preusser



Juniors Jack SanFilippo and Jason Cabra pose with their rings.
photo | courtesy of Jack SanFilippo



Junior Nolan Sanders signs class banner.
photo | Kathy Chott

Prep News

Volume 86, Issue 28

“What was your biggest contribution to *Prep News* 86?”

Editor in Chief

Jack “bothering Nathan” Figge

Editor

Nathan “bothering Jack with last-minute perfectionism” Rich

News Editor

Roarke “repetitive interviews” Unrau

Visual Editor

Charlie “killed bulletin board” Bieg

Web Editor

Luke “posted out pics” Duffy

Core Staff

Jackson “Jenna Rae jokes” Cooper
Alex “apjc” Preusser
Coby “STUCO’s downfall” Spratte
George “useless commentary” Henken
Michael “crosswords” Baudendistel

Staff

Ben “calendar ” Croat
Micah “JULIUS” Doherty
Mark “headlines” Wappler
Andrew “#1 underclassmen draft pick” Hunt
Thomas “Taking down the bulletin board” Juergens

Austin “long flowing locks” Wald
Charles “provided 2 useful shoulders” Turnell

Staff Artist

Will “was cute” Blaisdell
Leo “reported Ellen’s death” Smith

Reporters

Bill “last name is Dumbeldore’s first name” Albus
Lucas “typical freshman” Hayden
Daniel “came in clutch with lax” Tice

Human Resources

Alex “conflict resolution” Mittendorf
Patrick “housekeeping” Brennan

Artist

Jude “slightly funny comics” Reed

Photographers

Kathy “discovered a new element” Chott

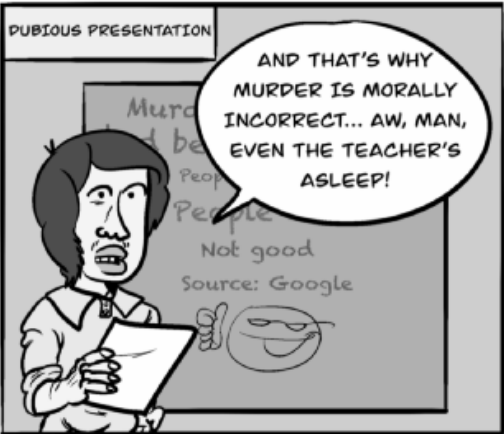
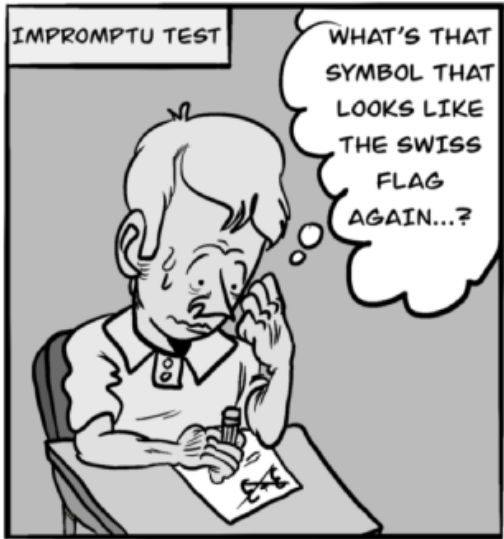
Features Editor Emeritus

Sam “joined a ‘cool’ frat” Tarter

Moderator

Steve “keys” Missey

SLUHSERS 27: TWO CRUCIAL TYPES OF LATE YEAR ASSESSMENT



SLUHSers | Jude Reed