



Admin deems risks too great to host school dances

BY NATHAN RICH AND
MICHAEL ROBINSON
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

There’s nothing quite like St. Louis University High in the springtime: the warm weather, the exams and, of course, the awkward text invites, corsage putting-on difficulties, and deliberately thought out Instagram captions inspired by class dances. This year, however, neither the seemingly invincible energy of a SLUH dance nor the cultural significance of prom could survive Covid-19 protocols. “Dances are one of the most challenging types of events that one could do in a pandemic,” said principal Ian Gibbons S.J. “You’ve got close contact, you’ve got young people just not really cognitively thinking about the protocols that are needed, you’ve got singing, you’ve got yelling, you’ve got all kinds of excitement, and you know that presents all the grave challenges and the potential spread of the virus. There are strong chal-

lenges in moderating (these dances).” Aware that prom was weighing heavily on seniors’ minds, the administration’s first response to the prom issue was a complicated school-sponsored event that involved separating the class into smaller cohorts and thorough safety protocols. Students, though, already anxious for social gatherings, saw the new dances as a let down. “At first I think all of us were frustrated, especially since we were looking at other private schools and seeing that they were allowed to do certain things,” said senior Tim Torrez. “Prom is one of the big events of senior year. Obviously not having mixers and sporting events hurt, but prom is prom, you talk about it for years. We wanted to go out with a bang.” “We had heard about the format and we were like, there’s no reason for us to do (the school’s prom), we would rather not go than have that prom. It was **continued on page 5**

Beloved receptionist Mimi Hartung to retire after this school year

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL
NEWS EDITOR

Almost every Saint Louis U. High student has walked by the desk of receptionist Mimi Hartung in the theater lobby and heard her warm good-morning as they trudge into the school each morning. Almost every parent has spoken with Hartung over the phone or has dropped off a son’s lunchbox or an envelope to her at the switchboard—belovedly nicknamed ‘Mimi’s desk.’ And almost every SLUH faculty member has seen Hartung guide a freshman to their classroom. While Hartung moves on from the SLUH community to help care for her aging parents, the hospitality and unconditional love that she has shown these past years stays behind in the memories of the students, parents, and faculty members that she has touched. Hartung came to SLUH in 2013 to replace the previous receptionist Kim Gohl, who had been at SLUH for 16 years before retiring. Har-



Hartung hard at work. photo | Leo Heinz

tung had big shoes to fill, yet for the past eight years, Hartung has transformed the role from being receptionist at the main desk, greeting visitors, signing visitors in, answering phones, and accepting packages, to being an essential part of the daily operation at SLUH. “When I was hired, Mr. Laughlin told me that the most important thing about this position was to be the face of the SLUH mission,” said Hartung in a Prep News article published in 2013. “Each day I look out at the statue of St. Ignatius, and I’m reminded that I am here to offer hospitality in the St. Ignatius mission.” **continued on page 4**

Hartung from day one has never stopped living out that Ignatian mission. Hartung has brought both a sense of dedication and focus to her work imbued with a spirit of compassion and sensitivity. “She has a great personality as far as her calmness and her ability to multitask everything that comes her way and keep things organized,” said Director of Facilities Joe Rankin, who is her supervisor. “She has juggled everything that we ended up throwing her way. Her overall wonderful ability not to be overwhelmed with all the tasks that can be given to her and her willingness to end up **continued on page 4**

Strategic Summit group looks ahead to post-pandemic

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN AND
LUKE MISSEY
EDITOR IN CHIEF, REPORTER

In a year where many of us have been simply holding on for dear life as a pandemic ravages daily life, the Strategic Summit Team looks to SLUH’s future plans with hope and vision. Fourteen faculty members spent the weekend of April 17-18 at the Mercy Center to begin to consider where SLUH is headed post-pandemic and what can be done to make SLUH a better place in the future. “I want us to be ready to have an agenda of big, bold pieces that doesn’t make us overcommitted to doing too many things, or to miss big opportunities to learn from what we’ve had,” said principal Ian Gibbons, S.J., who signed off on the creation of the Strategic Summit back in late February.

The team will be focusing on the academic years of 2023 through 2027, charting a course for the adaptations that SLUH will inevitably have to make as it transitions forward from these unprecedented times. The pandemic likely won’t disappear all at once but at some point its effects will no longer be prevalent in life at SLUH, and the Strategic Summit team aims to be prepared for that moment before it happens. “I don’t want us to be a school where we look around and say ‘The pandemic’s over. Now what?’” said Gibbons. “The pandemic, of course, blew everything to bits. And everybody sort of had to stop doing whatever we were doing for essentially five quarters,” said Social Studies Department chair Kevin Foy, who helped organize the event. “It just sort of seemed like it was a good time to step back and say, ‘what were the things that we already were planning to address? What did we learn during the pandemic? Did anything change because of **continued on page 4**

Prep News and SLUH Student Media create documentary on 1970 Football Championship

BY JACK F. FIGGE
CORE STAFF

Old meets new. Traditional media meets the digital age. Year after year, decade after decade, the editors and staff of the *Prep News* have been dedicated to delivering a physical newspaper to the student body. However, in coordination with the newly formed SLUH Student Media, they will be providing the students with a new format, a documentary. Last June, *Prep News* Editor in Chief Carter Fortman took a virtual visual journalism course from Indiana University, inspiring him to broaden the horizons of the *Prep News*. Fortman wanted to create a

documentary-style film to share an in depth story that would attract the interest of the student body. “My biggest inspiration came from the New York

Times. They are obviously a super well-respected newspaper, but they also have a YouTube channel that also comes out with really high quality and **continued on page 5**



Altier interviewing Castellano. photo | Ryan Doyle

SLUH theater back for a table read of “Master Harold”... and the Boys

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL AND
JACKSON COOPER
NEWS EDITOR, STAFF

For years at St. Louis U. High, one of the staples of sophomore English classes has been the reading of “Master Harold”... and the Boys, a play that addresses the issue of racism in apartheid-era South Africa. This year, in addition to already having read “Master Harold” in the first semester, sophomores and the rest of the SLUH community will have a chance to attend a dramatic reading of the play. “Master Harold”... and the Boys, is a play written by Athol Fugard set in 1950s South Africa, during the apartheid era of segregation forced upon the

country’s Black majority population by the ruling white minority. The play is notable in that it only has three characters—two Black men, Willie and Sam, and one white teenager, Hally—and takes place throughout one continuous scene, making it an ideal choice for a dramatic reading. The idea for the dramatic reading was hatched by the Fine Arts Department’s Kathryn Whitaker and Kevin McKernan, who were searching for a smaller-scale production to put on in the spring. With Whitaker being a longtime admirer of “Master Harold,” and with social distancing guidelines restricting the possibility of a second full-scale theatrical production for **continued on page 4**

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And so my fellow students, ask not what SLUH can do for you, but what you can do for SLUH! Juniors AJ Thompson and Ismael Karim elected Student Body President and Vice President. *Page 2*
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Rising sophomores, rising juniors vote for next StuCo representatives

BY LUKE DUFFY AND
DECLAN RICHARDS
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

The rising juniors elected Kam Bailey president and Campbell Cornett vice president during this week's StuCo elections, and the rising sophomores elected Kodi Cade president and Archie Carruthers vice president.

The students were elected following preliminary elections and speeches in the Field House; students voted by Google Form.

"I would say that speeches are a huge piece of the puzzle, maybe bigger than most candidates would think about," said StuCo moderator Bradley Mueller. "The energy behind a speech really gets a class going, and since the polls open up right after the speeches, a lot of the energy translates into a vote."

The rising sophomore election was very intense, with every single speech seeming to outdo the previous one. The rising sophomores were guaranteed a great candidate whomever they voted for.

In the end they voted Cade, who had never been in

StuCo before, and Carruthers, who was freshman class vice president.

"It felt like an honor," said Cade, who received the most votes out of anyone running for the position, and he was running for the first time.

"Getting elected to StuCo meant that I have some big shoes to fill due to all the votes I got," said Cade, who delivered a speech that was more off-the-cuff than the others.

"If they wanted to pick me, they're gonna pick me for me, not for a speech that I wrote," said Cade.

Carruthers, elected the rising sophomore vice president, has spent his time in StuCo this year focusing on Spirit Week and making sure that went off without a hitch.

For the rising juniors, the class of 2023, a heated race was heavily influenced by invigorating speeches. The winner, Kam Bailey, promised to listen to his classmates' ideas and to bring exciting new lunches, like Raising Canes and Imo's, to the cafeteria.

"I think, for one, it came down to the speeches," said Bailey. "I did have the disadvantage of not being in school

to be able to practice because I was sick. I think the biggest thing was I took time that I was sick and utilized it on my speech."

Bailey believes what set his speech apart was that his fellow candidates went for humor while he tried mainly to get his points across.

"I voted for Kam because I really appreciated his speech and how he related to us in the fact that this past year has been a struggle for most of SLUH, but especially our sophomore class," said sophomore Amon Binder. "I also liked that he vowed to make our voice as a class heard by StuCo and would be taking suggestions from us, the people, and would get our ideas into StuCo."

Junior vice president-elect Campbell Cornett, called for more student representation in StuCo and promised, similarly, to hear what his classmates had to say.

"Whenever I belong to an institution where there are figures of authority, I think that there needs to be a voice to be able to say what the people really want because people's voices aren't always heard,"

said Cornett. "Sometimes, you know, you have to bug figures of authority to get what you want. So I just want to be a voice for the people."

Cornett's campaign drew a lot of support among his peers because he promised to always listen to them and amplify their ideas in StuCo.

"I voted for Campbell because he's a man of the people," said sophomore Alex Deiters. "I thought it would be funny if he got elected."

Bailey and Cornett are succeeding sophomore Patrick Mehan, who was president of the class of 2023 for two years in a row. Bailey was also the class of 2023 vice president this year.

"When Kam won, I was super excited for him, just because he was vice president before and seeing him get president was super cool," said Mehan.

While losing the election brought some disappointment, Mehan's StuCo career is far from over. He is considering an auxiliary position for next year and plans to run again for the 2022-23 school year.

Another overarching fac-

tor in these elections was the pandemic and how next year will be drastically different from this year. Many students and faculty alike feel that school spirit will finally be able to return in the 2021-22 school year. This contributed to how candidates framed themselves, how students voted, and how the winners of the elections will be challenged next year.

"I think next year is going to be kind of like the rebirth of StuCo, not in a bad or good way, just everything is going to be different and new," said Mueller.

With Covid restrictions likely to loosen next school year, SLUH will have more room to express school spirit.

"The spirit of the school will really be redefined next year, I think, by the student council, and lots of clubs and organizations that will then be able to meet and have speakers and guests," said Mueller. "So, I think from StuCo's standpoint it's going to be a redefining of what leadership means and it's a cool opportunity for the group that got elected."

"I hope that we will have more freedom (next year), kind of like what StuCo had

freshman year," said Bailey. "Hopefully we can do more events and have fun. If we're not necessarily limited to what Covid says, maybe we'll have the freedom to host more school-wide events."

In addition to the elected positions that have already been decided, auxiliary positions are available to any students who want to participate. A comprehensive list of these positions was sent to the classes of 2022 and 2023, but a few noteworthy positions have been added this year.

The new International Student Representative will help build a bridge between StuCo and the Global Education program and be a voice for international students at SLUH.

Members of the class of 2024 will also have the opportunity to be Spirit Leaders next year, along with seniors. This decision was made to help a class that hasn't seen school spirit outside of the pandemic get more involved in this area.

The application for these auxiliary positions is due on Friday, April 30 at 3:15 p.m. The students who applied will then be chosen to join StuCo by a faculty committee.

Thompson voted Student Body president; Karim Student Body VP



Junior Ismael Karim.

photo | Anthony Adem

BY ROARKE UNRAU
CORE STAFF

The current junior class elected rising seniors AJ Thompson as Student Body President and Ismael Karim as Student Body Vice President last Friday.

Because of the current situation involving Covid-19, the elections were held in the Field House during 8th period where students could sit socially distanced and listen to the speeches.

"All the speeches have been excellent," said StuCo moderator Megan Menne. "We've had more underclassmen in particular running for class president and vice president, wanting to be involved and wanting to do things for their class, so I think that's awesome."

After the speeches, a Google Form was sent to all juniors so they could vote for candidates they wanted.

"I was shaking so bad when I was giving it. I was trying to maneuver my hand, the paper, the microphone and

all that. I had to hold the paper with two hands," said Karim. "When I finished the speech I was thinking thank goodness I just got that over with and I didn't trip over my words."

Soon to be StuCo president Thompson's speech was one to remember as he entered on roller blades and led the crowd in cheers. After the cheers, he talked about SLUH as a community and how we shouldn't take even the little things for granted.

"I think, no doubt, we are incredibly lucky to be enrolled at SLUH in the first place, and that SLUH has returned to on campus learning. I think those are the kinds of thinking we take for granted. Which I alluded to in my speech, that we need to recognize all these good things in our life. We need to appreciate them," said Thompson.

The voting for senior president and senior vice president was held by a primary election because of the large number of candidates. The top vote-getter would become senior President, and the second-

highest vote-getter would become senior vice president. Junior James Saadi was elected as president and Matthew Vanous vice president for the class of 2022.

"Honestly I missed it, I missed being president, I en-

joy it," said Saadi. "And I just thought this year I couldn't handle it because junior year is so hard. And I was right, I wouldn't have been able to handle it his year because of the workload but next year I feel like I'll be more ready to go."

"On Kairos I realized that I actually enjoy leading, and part of that is making speeches and being courageous, so I thought I'll throw my feet into the fire, and it worked out," said Vanous.

Thompson is looking forward to the challenges of being student body president next year after having a successful year as junior class president.

"Obviously we're limited to what we can do, but I think we did our best efforts to make the most of it. And I think that showed successful spirit and mission weeks and various

tangents throughout the year," said Thompson.

Both Thompson and Karim ran on policies hoping to make next year a return to normal, or as normal as it can be given the unpredictability of Covid-19.

"I think we've missed out on so much this year, that ultimately I just plan on making next year the most fun it can be," said Karim.

"I've been talking with a lot of guys, and we think spirit is gonna be a huge part of next year. We really just want to get the building buzzing again," said Thompson.

Thompson in particular was thankful for being introduced to, and led by, current student body president John Browdy.

"I learned that if you truly do love the school, you truly do care about people, it will

lead you to great things. And you can accomplish a lot if you put your heart and soul into it," said Thompson.

One of the most crucial parts of Saadi's plan to return to normal is the SLUH merch StuCo has made in the past.

"I want to release cool merch, I want to go back to the days of yore, when we had album covers as merch with a Billiken on it. I just want to do that again, because that works and everyone buys it," said Saadi.

Menne is looking forward to working alongside the group of students elected and extends big things from the year to come.

"With AJ Thompson at the helm, I think we'll be in good shape for next year. He had a very good speech, so I think he's ready to lead the people," said Menne.



Junior AJ Thompson rolling into a roaring crowd for his election speech.

photo | Anthony Adem

PN “At. No. Time” Puzzle

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crossword | Paul Baudendistel

- ACROSS
1. Better than a snorkel

6. End of a sleeve

10. 42 + 75 = Magis

14. 2 + 3 + 27 + 78 + 68 = Marine One, e.g.

16. Patron saint of Norway

(var.)

17. 49 + 89 + 29 + 88 + 52 = Missing the mark

18. 28 + 58 = French city that is especially pleasant

19. Approximate distance from the Sun to the next-closest star

20. Owns

21. Kitchen appliance the Love Shack is compared to

22. David Callon, e.g.

24. Gamers with rifles

26. 84 + 3 + 22 + 55 = Game played in the Capitol

31. Lennon's wife

32. Neighbor of Saudi Arabia

33. Liberty Mutual ad extras

35. Hang on

39. Colors made by mixing with white, such as pink

41. About 1, for a proton

Taste test with Mr. Deves: Coca-Cola with Coffee

BY SAM TARTER
FEATURES EDITOR

I love Coca-Cola. For some reason, when it comes to my choice of cola or brown fizzy beverages, I will always choose your basic Coke. It has a subtle sweetness to it with a more mature flavor than the sugar infused Pepsi. Whether it be at a McDonald's drive-thru or a backyard barbecue, Coca-Cola is almost always my first choice (behind Dr. Pepper).

Never did I expect it to pair so well with coffee.

My morning commute to school has been brightened by two billboards as of late: the first being the absurd combination of mac and cheese inside a bread bowl at Panera, which always makes me laugh. The second was an ad for Coca-Cola with Coffee, which as the title states, is simply your basic Coke mixed with freshly brewed coffee and then chilled.

Now I'm a fan of coffee, but I'm no expert, so when I thought about doing this review, I instantly knew who to contact: my dear friend and coffee connoisseur Mr. Stephen Deves.

At my local Schnucks I picked up all three flavors that were available so far: Dark Blend, Vanilla, and Caramel. After sitting securely in the Campus Ministry fridge over Easter break, the three cans were finally brought out into the light during junior / senior lunch when Mr. Deves and I did our taste test.

Starting with what we assumed would be the “base flavor,” we cracked open the Dark Blend and poured it into our individual cups. After we cheered, clinked plastic, and sipped, we were both pleasantly surprised.

“You get that initial carbonated bite of a cola, the taste of coffee, and then it resides with cola,” said Deves. “The coffee is short-lived after a couple seconds, but it’s still good.”

As Mr. Deves said perfectly in his quote, we both thought that the Dark Blend flavor perfectly matched the flavors, scents, and enjoyments of a coke stirred in with some dark coffee. It wasn't too bitter and not too sweet. For what we were expecting, it was perfect.

Next, we tried the Vanilla can, and while we both enjoyed its contents, we both agreed on its one fatal flaw: it tastes exactly like Vanilla Coke. While you could smell a hint of coffee, the flavor was nonexistent, completely overshadowed by the harmony of vanilla and Coke. While it was not bad by any means, it did not have the unique flavor and aroma of the Dark Blend.

Lastly, we tried the Caramel can. Neither of us were very excited since there is no precedent of a Caramel Coke to compare it with (and the lack of caramel-flavored sodas in general), so we both poured and sipped this auburn looking concoction with hesitation.

While we did pour and

drink the caramel flavor the most, it was not for any of the right reasons. Instead, we kept sipping more and more to compare them with previous flavors and to find out why we liked it the least out of all three flavors.

The conclusion we came down to was simple: the caramel flavor tasted fake, almost manufactured or artificial, and when in combination with coffee, it brought out all the bad flavors of both. It essentially tasted like burnt coffee.

Mr. Deves and I both agreed that if we were to sip it blindfolded, we would not

be able to distinctly label it as a caramel flavor since it was such a weird sensation. The bitterness of the coffee didn't merge well with the fake sweetness of caramel, and the aroma was also not appealing in the slightest. We both knew that we would never buy this flavor again.

For our official rankings, we came up with two brackets: the first being overall flavor, taste, and enjoyment; the second being a word we came up with on the spot: “coffee-ness.” For this category we did our best to compare how much did each flavor actually

taste, smell, and feel like coffee. While the end result of each ranking was different, they both defined a clear winner out of all three flavors.

Taste Ranking:
3rd Place: Caramel
2nd Place: Vanilla
1st Place: Dark Blend

“Coffeeeness” Ranking:
3rd Place: Vanilla
2nd Place: Caramel
1st Place: Dark Blend

Additionally, Mr. Deves and I agreed upon three flavors that we would like to see added to the collection: Mocha (aka chocolate, which we were very sad to see did not get re-

leased while the caramel did), Hazelnut (as I am a big fan of hazelnut flavored coffee), and for the upcoming fall season, Pumpkin Spice (because why the hell not).

So if you're at your local gas station or grocery center and you're looking for a good change to your standard coffee or soda, look no further than the Dark Blend can of Coca-Cola with Coffee, and quickly look past the other two flavors. And remember, don't just take my word for it, listen to the man, the myth, the coffee legend himself, Mr. Stephen Deves.



photo | Sam Tarter

Hartung's joyful and loving personality to be missed by all



art | Nathan Rich

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doing more have made her a perfect fit for the job.”

This past year, Hartung has taken a more active role in students’ lives in the morning by volunteering to help check in students in the mornings as they enter the school. Arriving at SLUH before 7:00 a.m. each morning, Hartung, according to many students, has brightened up their mornings.

There’s a lot of times that it isn’t a good morning until I hear that ‘good morning’ from her,” said senior Rob Stevens. “Just having that every single day is so cherished. I can tell you just having that consistency with every time I enter and leave the building, having her right there smiling, saying, ‘have a good one’ or ‘good morning’ has really made my SLUH experience.”

“If she can’t help you, she can at least listen and sometimes that’s all anybody wants. The boys walk in and they see that kindness and welcoming spirit. And then think ‘today might be a difficult day but she’s so nice I might as well try to make the best of my day,’” said secretary to the principal Renai Lowry.

A woman for others, Hartung has also volunteered to help other faculty members when they are overwhelmed with work.

“She is kind of like my 911 for so many things because I use her when I have mailings or I’m up against a deadline,” said Lowry. “She’s always really willing to do whatever it is I need to have done on the project. And I’d say, the other ladies in the office feel the same way so she helps with a lot of things, especially in the summer when we’re trying to get ready for the start of school.”

While Hartung is already entrenched in work, particularly behind-the-scenes work, and can be seen constantly answering phone calls or typing on her computer, she also makes it an important aspect of her job to talk to students.

“She has so many things going on all at once. If you

talk to her for more than five minutes, you will definitely hear that phone ring. She has a lot on her plate,” said Stevens. “But still, no matter what, when you interact with her, she will give you 100 percent of her attention. I know that when I go to talk to her I will get all of her focus, which for someone who has all of that happening, is pretty remarkable and commendable.”

For senior Ocean Okohson-Reb, his relationship with Hartung through his four years has been very meaningful and personable.

“A couple of weeks ago when she heard that I got into college, she was smiling and really getting excited, she almost jumped for joy,” said Okohson-Reb. “That genuine joy, happiness that we shared together that day, it really reminded me of the amount of people that care for me and have seen me grow up through this journey here. For someone that is about to begin the next chapter of life, it’s really great to have people that have been there since the beginning supporting me.”

One of the many relationships that Hartung has built throughout the years working here is with the SLUH band program. Hartung has had two sons play in Jazz Band—trombonist Joseph Hartung, ’18 and guitarist Christopher Hartung ’20. For the final concert, Hartung will be in charge of giving all the graduating senior band students boutiques, and she has also been organized giving gifts to Kathleen Matecki, who has donated much to the SLUH band program.

“We can’t take for granted her intellect, and from that intellect comes this sensitivity to all sorts of people who have walked through our front doors,” said Pottinger. “I think she’s often the face of SLUH, and I have really appreciated her support toward the band program.”

With the search for a new replacement coming on the horizon, the SLUH community will miss her friendship.

“I will miss her outgoing-

ness that she shows every day to all the students that come through each day,” said Okohson-Reb. “You won’t meet a person at SLUH that doesn’t know Ms. Hartung. She’s always there when we walk in every day and every time we leave. She is always there if need something. I feel like that’s integral to having a functioning community.”

“I will really miss her friendship. She has always been someone that I could talk to,” said Lowry.

As for Hartung, she will miss the intellectual spirit and curiosity that fill the chatter of students in the atrium next to her desk.

“One of the earliest memories I have of my time here also took place during the summer session. I had a work grant student who would sit at my desk in order for me to have a lunch break. For three straight days I returned to my desk to find a bunch of sophomores having a spirited debate about something,” said Hartung. “It made me laugh to ultimately realize that they were figuring out and arguing about a math puzzle proposed by Mr. Hannick. I thought ‘only at SLUH’ would we find that kind of animation and delight around math!”

With heavy hearts, the SLUH community says goodbye to Hartung, remembering the great service that she has done for SLUH and never forgetting her spirit of hospitality and love that she showed students, faculty, and parents each day.

“Remember the story of Mary going to be with Elizabeth? That is the touchstone for me,” said Hartung. “We are called to try to be Elizabeth, welcoming the one who is carrying the unseen Christ, but also Mary’s unseen burdens. Be the one who gives love and support. I hope that, if nothing else, you guys felt my care for you. I hope that you’ll remember how that felt to be greeted by someone who is interested and that whatever you do in the future, you’ll try to create a supportive environment for others.”

Strategic Summit envisions post pandemic SLUH

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the passage of five quarters that we would want to look at differently?’ That is sort of the thesis. And then the point of it was to figure out answers to those questions. There wasn’t necessarily much of an agenda going in about what it was supposed to be or not.”

Some specific topics that the Strategic Summit Team will study for SLUH’s future beyond 2023 include the 1:1 technology policy, graduation requirements, a possible system pairing students with their own adult mentors, and of course, scheduling.

“The big issue that I think everyone knew was scheduling for the 2023 academic year,” said Gibbons.

The team will be working on assembling committees of six to eight faculty and staff members to begin planning and creating timelines for the work that needs to be done to be ready for implementation in 2023.

Many schools have stuck solely to what Gibbons described as the “Pandemic Task Force Approach,” constantly attempting to respond to the ever-changing conditions presented by the pandemic. SLUH also has taken this approach with their own Pandemic Response

Team, but the Strategic Summit takes everything one step further and sets SLUH apart from many other schools. It does not replace other bodies such as the administrative team or the Instructional Council, but rather adds a forward-thinking, visionary aspect to a school that otherwise often prides itself on deep-rooted tradition.

The team, which consists of 14 members including an executive group of 5 members, met for the retreat at Mercy Center to discuss the issues facing SLUH and what will have to change or go back to normal as the pandemic slowly fades out of everyday life. They reviewed foundational documents such as the mission statement, Profile of the Graduate at Graduation, and the Sponsorship Review, before the weekend to prepare for the large and small group discussions.

“We had three whiteboard sessions, and then we met in small groups to discuss, and then we came back to this large group to share,” said Foy. “We just sort of came up with all of this stuff rooted in all of those documents. So, you know, what is the mission of SLUH? Well, we look back at the mission statement then we apply it.”

As the pandemic eventually, gradually winds down, the Strategic Summit Team will have the next academic year to determine their priorities and determine the vision for what SLUH will become and how it will both adapt and return to modified normalcy from 2023-2027.

“Through the next academic year (2021-22) I expect us to be entangled in a pandemic in many ways,” said Gibbons. “There’s not gonna be a hard stop to something like a pandemic.”

Overall, Gibbons is confident that the Strategic Summit team will help SLUH emerge from this period of crisis in a good position to both uphold its prestigious reputation and also make strides towards the future.

“It was really inspiring to hear the perspectives of a lot of thinkers to think a lot about the flow, and what makes the school a great place,” said Foy.

“I think it’s going to make us a cleaner, more systematic school,” said Gibbons. “I think it’s going to make us a more deliberate school in our mission and make us a school that is really capable year in and year out, of being able to assure the quality of leadership development that we aspire to.”

Fugard’s Apartheid drama proves perfect for pandemic production

(continued from page 1)

this school year, a reading of the play emerged as an obvious choice.

“I just recently discovered my feelings about this because I kept thinking about how important their relationship is, for example, between Willie and Sam and Willie and Hally,” said Whitaker. “And I kept thinking, ‘Oh, how beautiful that parental relationship is with Willie and with Sam and how it fits when you look at the whole piece.’”

With the play discussing some sensitive topics, Whitaker and McKernan wanted to make sure they would have an audience who had previously read the text and could properly digest its meaning. They reached out to English teacher Terry Quinn, who deduced that, since the entire sophomore class had read “Master Harold” earlier in the year and still had it relatively fresh in their minds, they would be the perfect audience members.

Throughout the process of rehearsals and practicing for the dramatic reading, Quinn has acted as a sort of liaison between the Fine Arts and English departments, helping to communicate details to his colleagues. In order to incentivize attendance, many sophomore English teachers are offering extra credit. In particular, Quinn is hopeful that students who are only attending the reading of “Master Harold” for extra credit will leave with a newfound understanding and appreciation of the text.

“I think that it is a play that admirably reckons with the cultural and historical forces of racism and the way that those affect personal relationships. It’s

dealing with systemic issues in a really personal context, which is something that I really admire about it,” said Quinn.

The performance itself will be put on by the Dauphin Players, and the cast will be made up of seniors Alex Bollini as Hally and Albert Harrold as Sam, and junior Donovan Meachem playing the role of Willie. The actors will not be physically acting out scenes, and will instead concentrate their efforts on mastering the script.

Bollini sees participating in the reading of “Master Harold” as an opportunity to work with the SLUH Theatre Department one more time before graduating.

“The thing I’m most excited about is just to be able to do this one last time at SLUH, and to work with Albert one last time, since I worked with him in Spoon River and I’ve known him since freshman year. Also, just to revisit what I see as a literary masterpiece from my point of view, and to be able to relive the hardship in ‘Master Harold’ is a great opportunity,” said Bollini.

The play offers a new challenge for the actors, who are used to using action, to imbue a play with emotion and meaning. With the play mostly being a dialogue, the actor must learn how to convey meaning mainly through their voice.

“The voice is always important but especially in this,” said Whitaker. “It’s almost like a radio play in terms of what you’re hearing. And so we’ve been talking to the actors about that. It’s really interesting and it’s teaching us about different things. I would not say it is easy.”

It is not only the members

of the cast who are excited to take part in the reading, but also members of the sophomore class.

“I’m just really interested in the whole thing,” said sophomore Nathan Abner. “I absolutely loved reading ‘Master Harold’ when we read it in class a few months ago, and I am really glad that I have a chance to go back and take another look at it.”

Abner’s thoughts were also echoed by a number of his sophomore classmates, many of whom hoped to be able to connect the play to society in America today.

“When we read ‘Master Harold’ in English, I was really drawn to the themes of racism that it discussed. I think it’s really an especially good work to read right now, given that race relations are such an issue in our country right now,” said sophomore Giuseppe Abbate.

The dramatic reading of “Master Harold”... and the Boys will take place next week for the sophomore class only due to the limited space available. Both McKernan and Whitaker are excited to direct a play to an audience that will be familiar with the play, and they are hopeful that it will be a meaningful experience.

“There’s something cool I think about handing this off before they leave to a younger generation. They’ve been so mature about handling it,” said McKernan. “This play I know affected me when I went to SLUH. Something I remember reading when I was a sophomore, and I told (the actors), ‘it’s just, it’s good to be part of something that I remember having a profound effect on me as a young man.’”

1970 Football Championship documentary set to release next week

(continued from page 1)
interesting content,” said Fortman. “But I also found inspiration from the ESPN 30 for 30 documentaries. They are also a news channel but they are able to produce these really cool documentaries.”

Fortman enlisted the help of one of SLUH’s newest clubs, SLUH Student Media, led by senior Anthony Adem, to help film and produce a documentary. After discussing possible topics to cover, they finally settled on the story of the 1970 SLUH state football team.

Basing the documentary off of SLUH’s 2018 all-school summer reading book *Bull in the Ring*, by Joe Castellano, Fortman reached out to Castellano to gather as much information on the season as possible and to connect with other members of the football team.

“He’s (Castellano) probably the most knowledgeable guy on the 1970 Football Championship and the team because he literally wrote the book on it so he was an amazing resource,” said Fortman.

Back in September, Fortman and Adem began forming and constructing their plans for this inaugural documentary.

“We wanted to share how the story of the 1970 Football Championship and the circumstances surrounding it sort of mirrors what’s going on today,” said Fortman. “How SLUH has grown and what lessons we can learn from that football championship, especially in these challenging Covid times.”

To tell the story effectively, Fortman wanted to rely heavily not on his narration but by having the players tell their stories through interviews. However, scheduling the interviews proved to be the one major hurdle that the group struggled to overcome.

“The big difficulty that we found was getting people to interview because all of the interviewees are older and Covid was a lot scarier back in October than it is now, so they were all a little bit worried about coming in,” said Adem. “Scheduling the interviews was the hardest part I think, because actually, putting a video together like writing a story isn’t that difficult.”

Despite the difficulties of scheduling the interviews, once they were in hand, they proved to add a level of depth to the documentary that a narrator could not add.

“The fact that we had all these people that came back to interview about this story really just shows how tight knit the winning group was and how

real the story was,” said *Prep News* Sports editor Luke Altier.

Another aspect of the documentary that added another level of depth and professionalism to the production was the inclusion of game film from the 1970 season.

“I think the coolest part is the footage from the season,” said Adem. “Joe Castellano provided us with a lot of film from the season. So we use that and overlaid it with the narration and some of the interviews, just to kind of show what was happening and how good the team was.”

This documentary, however, was not just about telling the story of the 1970 championship team, it was about a club that has been around longer than the championship team itself, broadening its horizons and collaborating with a new club to produce an engaging documentary for the student body to enjoy.

“It just shows the versatility of the *Prep News*. I’m very fond of our history and our heritage, but I’m also fond of expanding our repertoire and expanding the possibilities that we can build off and into the 21st century,” said Fortman. “To be able to team up with students and SLUH Student Media, and at the end to make an actual production that people could watch, it’s just good for every organization to just try out different things, try new things.”

“I think it’s really cool that *Prep News* is doing something different and new. They’ve never done a video feature before and it’s a really good way to show that we’re progressing into the digital age,” said Adem. “*Prep News* is willing to adapt, like obviously the paper will be here forever, but adding a video to their arsenal is something never seen before.”

Fortman hopes that future editors will continue producing a documentary every year, maybe even more, delivering the student body a fresh and interesting format and continuing to expand the capabilities of *Prep News*.

“Originally my goal was to make two documentaries, one for the first semester, one for the second semester, but our school work had gotten in the way and we weren’t able to pull that off,” said Fortman. “I think it could be a very cool thing for the *Prep News* to start to dip his feet in a little bit more.”

Today, the documentary will be published on the SLUH Student Media Youtube page, the *Prep News* website and a link will be sent to the student body.

Dances might happen, just not affiliated with SLUH

(continued from page 1)
kind of a group consensus,” agreed senior James Brunts.

Gibbons, though, tried to keep the larger picture in mind, knowing that the risks and potential fallout of a prom Covid outbreak were high.

“We knew that we wanted some final celebrations and dances for the school, but we just simply couldn’t do it as a school event. It has too many risks to the bigger project of what we’re trying to do,” said Gibbons.

Gibbons stressed that an exposure at a school dance could affect events like graduation and even Direction Days. With stakes as large as that, even students could understand the risk of dances.

“I agree with that,” said Torrez, in response to hearing Gibbon’s concerns. “Absolutely, if you get sick we don’t want you at graduation, but I feel like that can be a little excessive especially because in order for us to go to their prom in the first place we would’ve needed a negative test or a vaccine,” said Torrez. “If we have proof that we don’t have Covid, why can’t we have a semi-normal prom? In my opinion, it’s a little excessive, but I do see where they’re coming from.”

As the senior class especially voiced significant opposition to the adapted prom idea, Gibbons and the administration ultimately settled on a self-determination policy: students may hold dances outside of SLUH if they so choose, but the school will not plan an event.

“We approached StuCo and discussed possible alternatives that could be put into place. The students seriously looked at those pieces but decided they would rather have a celebration later in the summer, when all the events are over, and they can focus on just that (dance), and certainly when we’re not going to tell them what they can’t do,” said Gibbons.

Brunts, who works at a local country club, immediately recognized the chance to hold a dance there and began work planning a new

prom, one separate from SLUH. Brunts was keen to point out, though, that just because the seniors want fewer restrictions, they do not intend to have no restrictions. Overall, Brunts believes the safety measures, combined with increasing vaccinations, will make the event a safe success.

“Here’s the bottom line: our class is getting vaccinated at a very high rate. I believe that by the time prom comes many people will have their second shot. Plus, we are still concerned about safety. Masks will be

required and I will be hiring private security to enforce that rule. People are going to have to be respectful of the global situation. We are going to keep it pretty much on lockdown but we needed the regulations to be a little more lax and we needed to wait until it wasn’t SLUH’s responsibility anymore.”

Brunts also stressed that the senior class did not want to potentially hurt SLUH’s image by keeping less strict protocols at a school-sponsored event and that they were well aware of their continued representation of SLUH.

Similar plans are already in place for a Junior Ring dance, as parents have begun planning a dance for juniors this summer. The administration has communicated with parent organizers to suggest dates and protocols for the event, but has still remained out of the actual planning process.

“We’ve spoken with the guys who are interested in the program and event to let them know, whether it’s at school or elsewhere, the risks are very high for an event like that and there are things to do to mitigate elements of that,” said Gibbons. “They have to be responsible for those pieces, and it’s challenging because administrators and faculty have real authority in the school, versus parents and family friends who are just trying to put on an event for teenagers that don’t live in their house. It’s an incredible challenge and it’s not one that I would recommend (taking on).”



art | Charlie Bieg

COMMENTARY

School dances can and should be done in a safe and enjoyable format

BY JACK F. FIGGE
CORE STAFF

Over the past couple of weeks, I keep hearing a common complaint from my own classmates, from seniors, freshmen, and sophomores. It is not that Junior Ring and graduation are outside, it is not that masks still have to be worn, it is not about exams or the stress of fourth quarter school, it is that we can’t have dances this year even though I and many others believe they can be held within a safe environment.

Dances have been a staple at SLUH for decades, providing a bonding opportunity for classmates, and a chance to interact with girls at an all-boys school. It is an event that many look forward to throughout the year. At first glance, it appears that dances cannot be a safe event during a pandemic, given that it brings lots of people together in tight quarters. However, I believe that given the current situation of the nation

and through implementing safety measures, dances can be done in a safe yet still fun manner.

Over the course of the year, many new safety protocols have shown incredible results, so there is no reason why those guidelines cannot be further implemented for a dance. One protocol that should be heavily enforced during dances would be to make masks mandatory for the entire time on campus; masks have proven incredibly effective at protecting us from Covid-19, and they would still be effective during a dance.

Another policy to put in place is to have each person go through a check-in procedure upon arrival similar to what we do going into school. Furthermore, chaperones should be allowed to ban all mosh pits and enforce that anyone participating in them will be asked to leave the dance.

When there were talks about having a Senior Prom it was said that all attendees would have to have proof

of a negative Covid test, or that they are vaccinated, so therefore, we could plan to do that. We are blessed to have large outdoor spaces, and there is plenty of room to host a dance outside on the upper field or on the football field and create a safe and fun atmosphere. Furthermore, if we hold dances after the school year is over, we can limit the chance of exposing our fellow students, and by the time summer activities such as Direction Days and summer school start up, they will already be past the two-week incubation period.

There are plenty of safe ways to hold a dance, we just have to be creative.

Two months ago, I would have totally agreed that it was not safe to hold a dance in any capacity, but given that so many members within our school community and the entire nation have been vaccinated, I believe that it is safe and possible to hold a dance without putting anybody that is vulnerable at risk. Many of the most

vulnerable and susceptible to Covid-19 have already received their vaccinations creating a smaller chance that it could be spread to somebody that would be severely impacted by it.

Students are already hanging out with their friends in pre-Covid ways (i.e. no masks or social distancing), so why not give students a place where they can talk and hang out in a safe environment? Other area high schools such as St. Joe and Cor Jesu are doing proms or creating their own version of prom. If they have found a way, I believe that we can, too.

This past year, so many activities and opportunities have been taken away from students, especially the seniors, so I ask the administration: find some way to bring back this end-of-the-year staple. Give these students the chance to relax and enjoy themselves at a somewhat normal event and to simply be with their brothers making their last few memories before their time is up.

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Still unbeaten: volleyball moves to 15-0 with four wins at Parkway Central Tournament

BY JACOB SPROCK AND
GEORGE HENKEN
NEWS EDITOR, REPORTER

The end of the school year is approaching and things are slowly winding down, but the St. Louis U. High volleyball team is just heating up. The Jr. Bills took the court at the Parkway Central Tournament this past weekend, improving their record to 15-0 and continuing their set streak to a staggering 40-0. On Friday night, they swiftly advanced past Parkway North (25-8, 25-10) and Marquette (25-20, 25-13). On Saturday, however, they faced challenges from Lafayette and Kirkwood, but ended with a victory in both matches to win the gold for the weekend.

The semifinal against Lafayette was a tight match with back and forth play throughout. The Jr. Bills got off to a hot start with a lead of 5-0 in the first set, forcing an early timeout for the Lancers. The timeout worked, as Lafayette soon took a 9-8 lead. However, thanks to stellar attacks from the front row and a service run from senior Ben McCabe, SLUH took back a lead of 18-11. The team was starting to find its rhythm, getting Lafayette out of system on nearly every point. With the Lancers out of system, SLUH's offense seemed unstoppable.

However, that unstoppableity proved fleeting as Lafayette started to slowly pick away at SLUH's deficit, closing the gap to a mere three points. SLUH persisted, though, winning the set 25-20 after a net violation by Lafayette.

In the second set, SLUH took an early lead of 4-1 after two service aces by senior outside hitter Peter Quinn. Lafayette applied more pressure on the Jr. Bills in the second set than the first, and the two teams tied throughout the majority of the set. Only



Varsity volleyball team with its trophy. photo | George Henken

after a momentum-changing point with a defensive combo between McCabe and junior Ben Harmon did SLUH have a comfortable lead of four. The Jr. Bills, a few points later, clinched the win when Lafayette blockers were in the net, the same way the first set ended.

The match against Kirkwood proved to be just as competitive. Having multiple threats in their front row, the Pioneers' offense was hard to stop. An attacker on Kirkwood's offense was actually a younger brother of senior middle hitter Michael Krausz, therefore a sibling rivalry was at stake. This rivalry seemed to be motivation for Krausz, contributing to two blocks and a kill to put the Jr. Bills up 5-4 in the first set.

The two teams played evenly throughout the first half of the set, which was tied up until a four-point service run by junior setter George Henken that put SLUH up 14-10. After more consistent play from both teams, two kills from junior right side hitter Michael Yemm kept the score difference at four, and following a kill and block assist from Krausz, Kirkwood was forced to call a timeout with SLUH up 19-15. A Quinn ace and a

Yemm kill ended the set, the Jr. Bills winning 25-20.

The second set might have had a closer score, but SLUH was the dominating force throughout its majority. An early four-point service run by junior libero Tanner Dougherty forced a Kirkwood timeout at 8-3. More commanding play by the Jr. Bills resulted in a 15-9 lead, one that seemed, at the time, too large for Kirkwood to overcome. But the Pioneers put themselves back within two points, taking advantage of multiple SLUH errors. With the intent of regrouping and refocusing his team, head coach Jeff Cheak called a timeout. The timeout was a success. Yemm instantly got a kill, putting the Jr. Bills back on track to win.

SLUH was then up 23-22 with Kirkwood serving; arguably the most important point of the match was at stake. One point by SLUH would give them a match point, and one point by Kirkwood would tie it up, giving them an opportunity to extend the set time. With the Kirkwood blockers up to block a Yemm swing, a Pioneer outside hitter hit the net, a point to SLUH. The referee, however, missed the blatant net violation, resulting in a tie game at 23-23. Having

trouble focusing after the controversial call, there was doubt on the SLUH side if they could still come out with a win. The next point, with Yemm up to attack again, the Kirkwood blocker touched the net. This time the ref made the correct call, awarding the point to the Jr. Bills. SLUH was now up 24-23.

A strong and convincing hit by Yemm clinched the win for SLUH, narrowly outscoring Kirkwood 25-23.

The most notable contributor to the Jr. Bills' success was Yemm, who tallied the team high in kills in both the semifinal and final, with 13 kills against Lafayette and 10 kills against Kirkwood.

This weekend, despite its success, was full of uncertainty.

Junior outside hitter Phillip Bone and sophomore middle hitter Will Blaisdell were both missing in action. Their absences forced Cheak to reorganize his team's starting lineup. Even with Blaisdell out, there were enough middles who already had spots in previous starting lineups to take his spot. The team was confident the middles would get the job done.

Bone's spot, however, was a different story. Because Bone is heavily relied on, stepping into his shoes was a big ask. Cheak chose senior Brendan McLaughlin to fill in for all four games over the weekend. McLaughlin lived up to the expectations, contributing multiple kills and key defensive plays.

The Jr. Bills are set to play at De Smet tonight and are also participating in the Lafayette Tournament this weekend. Similar to the Parkway Central Tournament, this weekend's tournament will provide SLUH with competition to help prepare them for their quest for gold at the State Championships.

Shearer's strong pitching leads baseball to rematch win vs. CBC

BY COBY SPRATTE
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High baseball team bounced back from an ugly 7-5 loss against CBC in a rematch with the Cadets, winning narrowly 2-1.

SLUH entrusted the game ball with its number one starter, sophomore Garret Shearer, and CBC opted to roll with Missouri State commit junior Tyler Charlton. Shearer made his fifth start of the season for the Jr. Bills, while Charlton entered the game boasting a sub-two ERA and a 4-0 record. Right from the get-go, it was clear that this would shape out to be a full-on pitchers duel.

Shearer gave the Jr. Bills his best outing of the season, as he clawed his way through the CBC lineup for a six inning, 92-pitch clinic. Against a stacked CBC roster, Shearer allowed only one run, surrendered only one walk, and struck out four Cadets to give his team a chance to win the ballgame.

On the other side, Charlton matched Shearer's brilliance, needing only 69 pitches to throw a complete game, yielding just two hits and no free bases, while striking out nine in the process. This forced the SLUH offense to get creative and make the most of the runners they got on base using a small-ball mentality.

Senior Jake Noonan picked up one of SLUH's two hits, a scorching line drive into the right field gap that he stretched to a double in the bottom of the third inning. Noonan was able to advance to third base on the next play, putting himself 90 feet from home with only one out. Junior Alex Shelton, batting in the leadoff spot, plated Noonan with a deep RBI sac fly which gave the Jr. Bills the first lead of the game.

The Cadets quickly matched the Jr. Bills, as they scratched across their only run off of Shearer in the top of the fourth to tie the game.

SLUH was gifted an opportunity in the bottom of sixth as Shelton picked up two bases on an error by the Cadets' left fielder. Charlton continued to shut down the Jr. Bill bats, so

Shelton found a way to do it on his own. He caught the third baseman sleeping and swiped third base before Charlton had even stepped on the rubber. 90 feet away, Shelton made a dash for home on a wild pitch and scored, regaining the lead for the Jr. Bills.

SLUH needed to put up a zero in the seventh to come away with its first conference win of the season, but Shearer surpassed his maximum pitch count the previous inning, so the team turned to senior Tommy Pollard to shut the door.

Pollard put a quick out on the scoreboard but then surrendered a base hit. With a runner on first, drama ensued. The Cadets' leadoff batter hit a deep fly ball into the left field corner which was caught by junior Patrick Mooney but then bobbled on the transfer. Yet, the home plate umpire did not have the same viewpoint and ruled that Mooney dropped the ball altogether, leaving runners on first and third with only one out.

Pollard kept his composure on the mound against the heart of CBC's lineup, as he struck out the number two hitter on a changeup in the dirt for the second out of the inning.

CBC tried to play some small ball of their own, but their attempt at a suicide squeeze resulted in a bunt straight back to Pollard which he routinely flipped to first base to get out of the jam and earn the save for the Jr. Bills' 2-1 win.

The Jr. Billikens had a pair of games rained out against Parkway South on Saturday, April 17 which they will look to reschedule in the next couple weeks. The varsity team will go on the road tonight against conference rival De Smet (7-12) for a 4:30 p.m. showdown. They'll get a second crack at the Spartans on Friday night, this time with a 7:00 p.m. start under the lights at Sheridan Stadium. To round out the weekend, the Jr. Bills will venture across the river to face Edwardsville, the area's number one team, at 12:15 p.m., immediately followed by a contest against O'Fallon.

Golf unable to continue hot stretch, struggles against CBC

LOUIS CORNETT
CORE STAFF

The St. Louis U. High golf team has been slumping. Following two consecutive tournament wins, the Webster Cup and the Bulldog Battle, the Jr. Bills have lost their last three competitions.

Coming off four consecutive wins, SLUH looked to continue its momentum against CBC out at Winghaven Country Club where it previously won the Bulldog Battle. However, the Jr. Bills failed to return to their full glory, losing 236-221 to the Cadets.

Five players shot a three-over par 39, while CBC had three players shoot a one-under 35. An embarrassing defeat, SLUH held a team meeting after the match, led by captain Grant Sussman to straighten them out.

However, this did not remove all the kinks as only four days later, SLUH failed to capture the Lake Forest Invitational Tournament.

Missing junior Louis Cornett, the Jr. Bills still had a very talented four heading into the tournament. Tough conditions were the words to describe the day with high winds and lightning fast

greens, which led to higher scores. Still, the Jr. Bills lost by just one stroke to Lafayette and CBC yet again.

A day later, SLUH looked to make a statement on its home course, Dogwood at Forest Park, and turn things around against the Cadets. The first group for SLUH, Perotti (37) and Cornett (38) shot 37 provided a strong foundation, followed by senior Kellen Hamilton (38) and Sussman (39). However, these scores were too little as SLUH lost for the third time in a row by one stroke, 232-231.

Coming off a rough patch

in the season, the Jr. Bills are still confident. With districts looming less than two weeks away, the team is optimistic that all kinks and mistakes will be taken care of by the five players who will be playing in Districts. This includes Cornett, Ziegler, Fix, Perotti, and Sussman. The entire team is staying sharp as its next match is the J-Cup against De Smet on May 6 at Forest Park. De Smet, the defending champs, will be looking to retain the Cup from a hungry group Jr. Bills who haven't hoisted the trophy in the past three years.



Ricky Vulsteke (right) celebrates with Tommy Etling (center). photo |@SLUHSports

Track and Field takes first at Corey Siebert Invitational and second at Lafayette Invitational, prepares for beginning of postseason

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL
AND PETER JAMES
NEWS EDITOR, STAFF

The Saint Louis U. High track and field team has opened up its stride and is looking towards the climax of its season, the MCC conference meet and the postseason starting in early May. On Saturday, April 17, varsity won the 17th Annual Corey Siebert Co-ed T&F Invitational, beating many strong teams in the St. Louis area such as Kirkwood, Lindbergh, and the host, Rockwood Summit. On Wednesday, April 21, the JV team performed admirably against tough competition, placing fourth at the Webster JV Invitational. The varsity track and field team continued the success by finishing second as a team at the Lafayette Invitational last Saturday.

SLUH scored in 17 of the 19 events at the Corey Siebert Invitational and took three individual first place finishes. Starting off strong for SLUH, the team took first place in the 4x800, gapping the second place team by a solid four seconds.

SLUH sustained this strength with the other relays: SLUH won the 4x200 relay, placed second in the 4x100 relay—missing first place by less than a second— and won the 4x400 relay. Adding individual wins were junior Eric Piening in the high jump with 1.95 meters (6-04.75), junior Andrew Harris in the triple jump with 12.40 meters (40-08.25), and junior Baker

Pashea in the 400 with 52.46 seconds.

Senior Daniel Hogan also had tremendous success, breaking 10 minutes (9:58.87)

SLUH won the meet with a total of 165 points while Kirkwood trailed behind with 145.5 points.

Despite scoring fourth

att Seal finished fourth in the 400 with a time of 56.72, narrowly losing to the winner's time of 55.29. In the 1600, sophomores Steffan Mayer

in the triple jump (10.52 meters).

Persevering through wet conditions, SLUH showed off its depth at the Lafayette In-

third in the pole vault with 11-05.75. SLUH won the 4x100 with a time of 44.27, but scored third in the 4x800 and 4x400. Junior Sean Kellogg broke 10 minutes in the 3200 for the first time, finishing in fourth place at 9:56.10. Despite getting fifth in the 1600, Pashea had an incredible PR time of 4:28, which was only five seconds slower than the first place finisher.

“(Tough competition) is exciting for them, guys want to be pushed. You know I think that'll make (Pashea) run some fast times as a result as well. So I think it's a great thing for us to have some guys running high level races, and who we think are some of the better runners in the state to race against and help us push ourselves to get better,” said Porter.

SLUH had the Jim Farrell Invitational on Tuesday, and upcoming meets include the rescheduled Kirkwood C Invitational on Thursday, the De Smet JV/C Invitational on Thursday, the Dale Collier Invitational on Saturday, and the MCC Championships on Wednesday.

“We have a lot of talent and we've had a lot of success. But ... on the distance side we need to be a little bit more aggressive, we don't expect ourselves to perform as well as we should,” said Hogan. “We're in really good shape and we're really talented, but we have to go believe it and believe we can beat people if we want to have success over the next four or five weeks.”



Eric Piening high jumping at Rockwood Summit.

photo |@sluhxctrack

in the 3200 for the first time in his career and finishing in third.

“We've known that Hogan can break ten (minutes) and we've known that for a while, so it was just nice for him I think to do it for his own confidence going into postseason races and things like that,” said head coach Joe Porter. “What we look for is progression and we knew that Daniel can run that fast so it was good for him to go ahead and put that out there.”

out of ten teams at the Webster JV Invitational, the team showed off its depth through many sophomore successes. The meet consisted of a series of close races, with SLUH athletes trailing only by mere seconds.

Beginning with the 100-meter dash on a cold and windy day, sophomores Kame Bailey and Sean Chaffee finished second (with a time of 11.95) and third (with a time of 12.12) respectively. Later in the meet, sophomore Wy-

and Will Riggan crossed the finish line in tandem earning third (4:53.29) and fourth place (4:53.53) respectively. In the 3200, junior Francis Alford nearly took first with a time of 10:40.37, less than a second behind the winner. Sophomore Carter Lowe followed in fourth place with a time of 11:04.36. SLUH finished second in the 4x100, third in the 4x400, and third in the 4x800. Sophomore Trey Smith scored third in the long jump (4.86 meters and second

vitational through eight event medalists, including four individual event wins. Freshman Ryan Wingo dominated the 100 (10.93 seconds) and 200 (21.95) events. Pashea once again achieved a sub-two-minute 800, winning with a 1:57.92. Piening won the high jump with a PR of 6-06.75 which was 11 inches higher than the second place jumper. Junior Connor Greninger scored third in the 110 hurdles with a time of 16:83, and junior Sam Kean achieved

Tennis defeats Westminster to move past .500 for first time this season

BY NATHAN RICH
CORE STAFF

After a grueling, hours-long match against Westminster on Monday, the St. Louis U. High varsity tennis players were able to ride their momentum from the prior week and secure a strong win, bringing the team to a winning record on the season. At 4-3, the Jr. Bills are finally starting to see some success on the court.

The wave of strong play started last Friday at MICDS, where six players competed in the Tournament of Champions. Friday's tournament featured several local teams, such as MICDS, Westminster, and CBC, but also teams from Columbia and Kansas City, giving SLUH's players the opportunity to face many different opponents.

Despite early losses from the rest of the SLUH team, hopes were high because of the strong start of junior Henry Dowd and sophomore Luke Gund, playing in the main draw for doubles. After winning both of their matches in the morning thanks to cohesive play and an intimidating net presence, Dowd and Gund

made it to the semifinals after lunch and prepared to face a tough Priory team. The SLUH team got off to a strong start but ultimately lost the semifinals match 6-8. They struggled against Priory's serves and base-line play but still put up a strong fight, something Dowd was proud of.

“It was good. I'm happy with the performance. Playing with Luke is always fun. He's a good player and I feel like we really fed off each other's energy. We had a good run, too,” said Dowd.

After the loss, Dowd and Gund won their final match of the day against a doubles team from Marquette to take third in the main doubles draw. The rest of the SLUH team saw mixed results in the loser's bracket. Junior Jake Marison, playing singles, had an especially big win late in the day against a player from Priory. Battling against a bruised hand, Marison pulled out an 8-6 win to boost team morale.

Overall, SLUH took fifth place in the tournament and assistant coach Jerry Schneller liked what he saw.

“We had good moments and bad moments, but I think

we fought really hard in some poor weather and ended up having a good day,” said Schneller.

After the tournament, in the Jr. Bills' next official match of the season, the varsity squad played at home against Westminster. The team left with a 6-3 victory, but not after some long sets. No. 3 doubles, played by senior Thomas Binek and junior Nathan Rich, lasted well over 90 minutes, as the duo notched a 9-7 win against the Westminster team. Before that, No.1 doubles and No. 2 doubles both won in hard fought matches.

Dowd, who once again played No. 1 doubles with Gund, was excited by their 8-6 victory.

“It was nice, their 1 and 2 (seeds) were both good. It was good beating Westminster, they're definitely one of our rivals because we play them every year,” said Dowd.

After doubles, the singles matches began and the Jr. Bills looked to continue their dominance. On court one, with junior Gus Tettamble still out with a wrist injury, Dowd stepped up and did just that, winning 6-3, 6-2. No. 3 seed

Lombardi also won, but not after a confusing slump. After quickly winning the first set 6-2, he dropped the second set 0-6. Despite the odd shutout, Lombardi pulled his game together and finished the tie break 10-6. Marison, playing Westminster's No. 5 seed, was the other singles win for SLUH.

The mood at the end of the match, though, was somewhat muted as Gund lost a long singles match against Westminster's imposing No. 2 seed. After losing the first set, Gund had battled back with incredible resilience to win the second set in a seven-point tie break. Unfortunately, as both players geared up for a 10-point tiebreak to decide the match, fatigue set in and Gund barely lost his singles match.

Still, SLUH tennis left the courts at Dwight Davis with a winning record for the first time this season, proving that, despite the greater depth of other schools in the region and even Tettamble's absence, the Jr. Bills are still strong contenders. Their next match will be tonight against Chaminade, followed tomorrow by a match against MICDS.

Perry, Neumann, and Conroy newest updates in college athletics committments

BY LUKE ALTIER
SPORTS EDITOR

The spring signing window for St. Louis U. High's senior athletes closed on the week of April 19, and three seniors announced they would be continuing their athletic careers at the collegiate level. Wrestlers Logan Neumann and Cameron Perry announced their commitments, with Neumann going to Drury University and Perry heading to Central Methodist University. Lacrosse player Bobby Conroy committed to play at Bates College.

Conroy, a midfielder for SLUH, is heading to Lewiston, Maine to play for Bates, where he will play midfield.

“When I decided on Bates, I was looking for the best combination of academics and athletics. On top of great chemistry with the coach, I was intrigued with the campus and the NESCAC divi-

sion,” said Conroy. “I'm most excited about getting a great education that sets me up well for jobs in the future through the Bates' alumni.”

Perry, who wrestled at 160 pounds for SLUH, is headed to Fayette, Mo., to wrestle for CMU. His choice came later in the year because he did not think he'd be in the position to wrestle in college.

“I chose CMU because it was the best option for me money and educational wise,” said Perry. “They gave me an opportunity to wrestle on a collegiate level which I wasn't expecting or even planning to do.”

Neumann, who wrestled at 195, finished his SLUH career as a State qualifier, and is heading to Springfield to wrestle for Drury.

SLUH finished the signing process for winter sports, but the window for athletic commitment does not officially close until Aug. 1, 2021.

Around the Hallways

Awards Assembly

The annual Awards Assembly will take place this afternoon during eighth period for only upperclassmen in the Field House. While originally planned to take place in the football stadium with the whole school, the assembly was pivoted due to rain forecasts. Freshmen will receive their awards at the freshman programming day on Friday, May 14 and sophomores will receive their awards at a to-be-decided time.

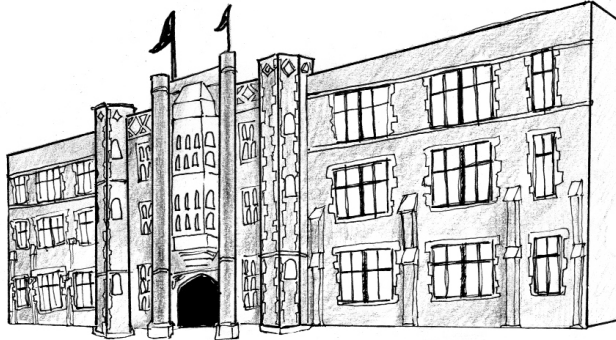
Car Club Special Event

The Car Club is holding a Cars and Coffee social

on Saturday, April 24. Car enthusiasts can bring their sweet rides to the Oakland lot during the day Saturday. If it rains, the club will hold the event on Saturday, May 1.

StuCo Auxiliary Positions

Students can apply for StuCo auxiliary positions through an application sent by StuCo moderator Bradley Mueller. The application is due on Friday, April 30 by 3:15. The available positions are secretary for juniors and seniors; pastoral for seniors; spirit for seniors; publicity/communications for juniors or seniors; media and tech-



nology for juniors or seniors; intramural for juniors or seniors; international student representative for juniors or

seniors; and spirit for sophomores.

-Compiled by Luke Duffy

Interested in writing? Artistry? Photography? Research? The *Prep News* is for you.

Any writers, artists, and/or photographers who are interested in participating in the *Prep News* are encouraged to email prepnews@sluh.org

Mass of Praise and Gratitude



Students gathered in the Danis Field House on Tuesday to celebrate the final all school Mass of the year. The Mass was celebrated in two cohorts, the juniors and seniors and the freshmen and sophomores.

Editor in Chief

Carter “playing MLB: The Show” Fortman

News Editors

Noah “breaking into Campus Ministry to play chess” Apprill-Sokol
Jacob “losing to Noah at chess” Sprock

Features Editor

Sam “cross-dressing” Tarter

Sports Editor

Luke “tanning” Altier

Web Editor

Carter “watching scary Terry” Spence

Core Staff

Jack “making pizzas” Figge
Nathan “trying to draw like Jackson DuCharme” Rich
Jack “cheating” Rybak

Roarke “developing altoid pick-up lines” Unrau
Luke “rehearsing Enchanted Hearts” Duffy
Louis “everything expcept *Prep News*” Cornett

Staff

Peter “going to a Cardinals game” James
Nick “grilling” Campbell
Jackson “running sub-4 miles” Cooper

Staff Artists

Charlie “drawing PN 86 mastheads” Bieg

Reporters

Coby “looking at stats” Spratte
Declan “what are AP Exams?” Richards
George “playing volleyball” Henken
Michael “playing lacrosse” Robinson

Moderator

Steve “Studying AP rubrics” Missey

Thursday, April 29

B Day

Awards Assembly
Follies Rehearsal
AL Snack—Bosco Stick
Lunch Special—Papa Johns
4pm Fr/So Track and Field - Kirkwood Invitational
4pm JV Track and Field - De Smet Invitational
4:15pm Tennis (JV/V) vs Chaminade
4:15pm C Team Baseball vs St. Dominic
4:15pm C Team Baseball vs St. Dominic
4:30pm Varsity Baseball vs DeSmet
5pm Volleyball (JV/V*) vs DeSmet
5pm XV1 Rugby vs. Lindbergh
6pm B-Team Baseball vs DeSmet
7:30pm JV White Lacrosse vs CBC

Friday, April 30

No Classes-Faculty Retreat

Follies Rehearsal
4:15pm Tennis (JV/V) vs MICDS
4:15pm C Baseball @ Lafayette Tournament
4:30pm B-Team Baseball vs DeSmet
7pm Varsity Baseball vs DeSmet

Saturday, May 1

Lafayette Volleyball Tournament (V)
Senior Follies Filming
9:00am V Track and Field - Dale Collier Invitational
9:00am C Baseball @ Lafayette Tournament
11:00am C-Team Baseball vs DeSmet
12:15pm Varsity Baseball vs O’Fallon/Edwardsville

Sunday, May 2

Senior Follies Filming

Monday, May 3

A Day

Orchestra Rehearsal
AL Snack— Nuggets
Lunch Special—Chick Fil A
AP Exams-US Gov’t AM, Physics C PM
4:15pm Tennis (JV/V) vs DeSmet @ DDTC
4:30pm Volleyball (C/JV/V) vs Lindbergh
4:30pm B-Team Baseball vs Parkway South
5:00pm C Team Baseball vs Rockwood Summit

Tuesday, May 4

B Day

Orchestra Rehearsal
Tennis MCC Tournament (V)
AP Exams-Calculus AM, Human Geo PM
AL Snack—Bacon Bites
Lunch Special—Chicken Strips
4:30pm Volleyball (JV/V*)vs Chaminade
4:30pm B-Team Baseball vs Vianney
4:30pm C-Team Baseball vs NW-Cedar Hill
4:30pm Varsity Baseball vs Vianney
7:00pm Orchestra

Wednesday, May 5

A Day

Tennis MCC Tournament (V)
Jazz Rehearsal
AP Exams-Eng Lit AM, Physics 1 PM
AL Snack—Chicken Rings
Lunch Special—Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla
4:00pm V Track and Field-MCC Championships

calendar | Luke Duffy

Kesterson Commends Student Sleuth

Junior Gus Tettamble was applauded on Wednesday for his work in helping to recover missing car keys and headphones.



photo | courtesy of Brock Kesterson