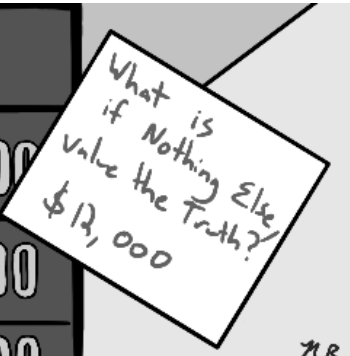




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St. Louis University High School | Wednesday, November 11, 2020



sluh.org/prep-news

Lyons '04 talks about being on front lines of COVID-19

BY ROARKE UNRAU
REPORTER

As the fight against COVID continues, many doctors are called into action. All over the world doctors are doing everything they can to help people. In St. Louis, doctors are giving out tests daily. One doctor, Dr. Patrick Lyons, Class of 2004, is now doing everything he can to help his patients.

After graduating in 2004, Lyons remembers SLUH fondly. He remembers some of the friends he's made, and even keeps in touch with a few. He also remembers the workload throughout his four years.

"I still have a lot of close friends that I made in freshman homeroom and freshman classes, carried all through four years, and even time since then. I've kept in touch with a handful of my teachers since then, and I still hold a lot of them as the best educators that I've had in terms of challenging me to think critically, challenging me to write effectively, and to always be self-examining and self-reflective," said Lyons. "I think in a lot of ways I credit my SLUH experience and education with helping form a lot of who I am today as an adult."

At SLUH, Lyons—the brother of current math teacher Tracy Lyons—learned a lot about working hard and how to manage his time, but he didn't know what this would lead to until he was in college whilst shadowing doctors and seeing what their jobs were like was when he realized that he wanted to become a doctor. Lyons is thankful for many teachers at SLUH who taught him at a high level, and prepared him for the notoriously difficult medical school, including

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Junior Chris Brooks catching a touchdown pass while double teamed. (article on page 6)

photo | Vic Lewchenko

Poll: Students, teachers, and faculty speak out about COVID safety and full return on Nov. 30

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN AND
JACOB SPROCK
EDITOR IN CHIEF, NEWS EDITOR

The Prep News sent out the second survey of the 2020-21 school year last Thursday, Nov. 5 asking students about their confidence in St. Louis U. High's safety programs as the school prepares to return to full in-person schooling on Nov. 30 and their satisfaction with hyflex

learning.

The first survey, taken Sept. 5, analyzed satisfaction with full distance learning and confidence in the current hyflex model, where half of students in either the Ignatius (last names A-L) and Xavier (last names M-Z) were on campus for four days while the other half remained online. Results showed a high level of confidence in the polled group about the safety measures be-

ing taken in the hyflex model.

It is important to note that the results of each poll may not reflect the views of the school as a whole. Despite nearly a third of the school responding, there is an inherent response bias that comes with emailing a poll because those with stronger opinions may be more inclined to respond to the email. The results of the poll are available at the bottom of the article, but they can only

be used to reflect the views of the 324 respondents, not the entire school population.

With a surge of new cases in the United States and record-setting case numbers in Missouri in the past few weeks, many students and faculty feel less safe about returning to school completely in person following the Thanksgiving break.

Despite overwhelming
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Cross Country snags second place finish as historic season comes to an end

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL,
PETER JAMES
NEWS EDITOR, REPORTER

It has been a rollercoaster ride for the Saint Louis U. High cross country program this fall, but at last, the 2020 cross country season has come to a close with a surprising second place finish at the 71st annual Missouri State Meet.

Last Saturday, the SLUH racers ran in Columbia, Mo. at the Gans Creek course, the second time that the State Meet has been hosted there.

The race conditions were perfect, and personal records were sure to be broken. Unlike the course in Sullivan last week, this course was fast. It hardly narrowed down, keeping the race from bottlenecking, and the wide turns gave the runners ample opportunity to accelerate throughout.

In the first kilometer, everyone went out fast and hard. The top guys ran 3:03 for the first kilometer, which converts to a 15:15 5K. The SLUH pack trailed by only four seconds
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Baker Pashea leading the pack.

photo | Mr. Brian Gilmore

Board of Trustees welcomes two new members, Coleman and Huete

BY NATHAN RICH
CORE STAFF

St. Louis U. High welcomed Fr. Francis Huete S.J. and Kwofe Coleman, '01 to the Board of Trustees this past summer, and although the two men could not be more different, they are now both united by their devotion to the U. High.

Even though most students couldn't name a single Board member, SLUH's Board of Trustees is essential to their education. From overseeing economic and fundraising decisions to organizing student equality initiatives, the SLUH Board affects each and every student. As a result, the SLUH Board requires a multitude of diverse perspectives.

Huete, a graduate of a Jesuit high school himself, has been a Jesuit for 50 years, and a large part of that time has been spent in schools like SLUH. He currently serves as the Socius, or the companion, to the Provincial of the Jesuit's Central and Southern Province. Although he is now based in St. Louis, it's not a place he knows very well. Up until January of last year, Huete had lived and worked at Jesuit schools all throughout the South, in cities like Dallas and New Orleans.

"I hadn't really been to St. Louis, but I had heard of SLU High because it's very old," Huete said. "I actually haven't been on campus that much but when the pandemic ends I hope to go to see it and get a greater sense of what goes on at SLUH."

Huete also brings the experience of having served for decades in school administration.

"(Huete has a) wonderful background in education. He's a tremendous resource for us as a former Jesuit administrator," said president of SLUH Alan Carruthers. "It's great to have him and his insight into the province, as a leader within the Jesuits."

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Retreat week

COVID can't stop Campus Ministry, team makes important changes to keep Thanksgiving week retreats alive.
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Day of the dead

Gone but not forgotten: Aliste's Day of the Dead memorial brings more than just a pop of color to library, offers students the chance to remember loved ones.
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Thanks to SLUH English

From *The Odyssey* to *The Road*, SLUH English has left a mark on Sam Tarter, who pauses to recognize those who have inspired him at SLUH.
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OPINION

Where's the middle ground?

COVID is scary and stressful. Now, students are carrying even more anxiety as they anticipate the total return, leaving Nathan Rich to lament the loss of middle ground.
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Football

After coming tantalizingly close to a victory, Football ends their shortened season with loss to Lindbergh; offense keeps game close.
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SPORTS

Swimming

Coming off of their 10th straight MCC Conference victory, SLUH swim and dive prepare to splash into competition at state, seeking a third straight state title.
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COVID forces major changes to annual Retreat Week

BY JACK FIGGE
CORE STAFF

Students eagerly await the beloved November Retreat Week every year, anticipating the chance to step back from the craziness of our world and spend a few days with God. The COVID-19 pandemic, however, has forced Campus Ministry to adapt its programming.

The Thanksgiving retreat week gives the entire student body the week off in order to allow many students the opportunity to embark on a SLUH retreat without worrying about missing school. During this retreat week, SLUH typically hosts six retreats for its students: Freshman Retreat, two junior retreats, a Kairos retreat, a service retreat, and the Philia retreat. However, Campus Ministry has had to change the format and assess the safety of every retreat.

The largest retreat that Campus Ministry hosts during the week is the annual Freshman Retreat, which gathers the whole freshman class together at school for a day of faith formation, bonding, and growing in unity as a class. It is seen by many as the culmination of freshman orientation, combining and reminding the students of all they learned through Direction Days, Running of the Bills, and other events.

Campus Ministry wanted to preserve having the whole freshman class participate in the retreat together, so they had to adapt or change many of the activities that students engage in. One of the biggest changes is that students will be spending more time in small groups and having small group discussions.

“The elements of the retreat itself we are trying to keep consistent,” said Deves. “Again how we deliver that

will change slightly.”

In years past, the whole class would join together to listen to talks from faculty members. However, due to social distancing guidelines, this option was not feasible.

“The biggest change is about spacing,” said Deves. “Just being able to split people into groups so that we don’t have the whole class and the many senior advisors in one space. In a normal year we would have multiple different opportunities for them to be together, but that’s just one of the things we need to work around.”

Back in August, Fr. Joseph Hill, S.J. organized the first junior retreat, successfully providing students with a powerful and safe retreat experience and showing that retreats could continue throughout the school year. Two more junior retreats will take place next week, and Hill hopes to preserve most of the major aspects of the retreat, but in a shorter time period.

“Normally the junior retreat is two nights but we rearranged the schedule so it is now two full days and one night. Usually it is a half day, a night, full day, night then half a day. So we were able to do all the same things just tightened up,” said Hill. “We tightened it up because we felt that this would be safer.”

Another retreat that had to be tightened due to safety was the Kairos retreat. Now instead of being a four-day, three-night retreat, it was shortened to three days and two nights in order to create a safer environment.

Another major hurdle that Campus Ministry had to face was where to find leaders for Kairos. The two previous Kairos retreats, scheduled for April and June, were cancelled due to the pandemic, so there are no current seniors who have been on the

retreat and therefore no seniors that are able to lead the Kairos retreat.

“None of the seniors have been on Kairos, so we didn’t have any student leaders,” said Hill. “So we came up with a plan where we are bringing in some alumni to give the talks and lead part of it and then you have the adult chaperones.”

Despite being able to host four out of six of the retreats, Campus Ministry had to make the tough decision to cancel the Service Immersion retreat and move the Philia retreat over safety concerns. One of the fundamental aspects of the Service Immersion retreat is that the participants simulate living in a low income situation. This requires them to live in close proximity to one another and frequent interactions with the most vulnerable in the St. Louis community.

“On the Service Immersion retreat, students live in a very tight apartment, and they try and simulate what it means to live in a low income environment, and that clearly wasn’t going to work in the COVID era,” said Hill. “Then they are interacting with vulnerable populations. We couldn’t see a way that we could safely do that retreat and not change what the retreat is.”

The Philia retreat, put on in conjunction with ACES, is being moved to the spring, which ACES felt would be safer and better.

“We believe strongly that retreats are powerful, spiritual and personal moments of formation for our students,” said Deves. “We believe so strongly in these that we make it a centered part of the year, we give a whole week to retreats and that doesn’t change regardless of if we are in a pandemic or not.”

Perspective: SLUH English department inspires senior to pursue passion for writing

SAM TARTER
FEATURES EDITOR

Before I even enrolled at St. Louis U. High, I knew I wanted to be a writer. Since grade school I had been telling stories, writing poetry, and reading books every spare minute between classes and every free weekend. The texts in my English classes looked like coloring books from all the annotations, underlines, highlighting, and side-space notes I applied when I read each chapter for homework.

My passion for writing—and my love of English as a whole—was one of the main reasons I applied to SLUH. I can still remember my older brothers staying up late at night to finish their reading assignments, or asking my mother to proofread their lengthy English essays every month. “They push English hard,” my brother Alex, who graduated in 2013, told me when I was younger. “Once you walk out of SLUH, they want your essays to be just as good as a college student’s. Sometimes, they want them to be even better.”

That statement was one of many positive critiques of SLUH’s English Department that ensured my decision to come here, and helped me believe that one day, SLUH could transform me into the writer I’ve always dreamed of becoming. And yet, I never could have expected my love of English and capability of writing to grow this much.

In freshman English, Mrs. Carroll plucked my quarter exam essay out of the 25 or so from my class and used it as an example for proofreading and structuring our assignment. As most meek and unsure freshmen would be in my situation, I was both proud and terrified, equally exhilarated and ashamed. I didn’t want to come off as a teacher’s pet or know-it-all, but I also didn’t want my writing to be seen as inadequate or average. I knew my essay wasn’t perfect (none of my essays ever are), and the exam was too long ago to remember if it was

overstuffed or lacking quotes and substance. That essay that I scribbled down with my terrible handwriting in the span of an hour and a half exam had to be just right, or otherwise I would be embarrassed, belittled, or both.

Looking back on my essay being shared, I think that the flaws in my writing were what led to it being shared: what I wrote was good stuff—something I was quick to learn due to my class’ reaction to it—but I wouldn’t have known I had it in me if it weren’t for Mrs. Carroll’s extra encouragement and push out of my comfort zone.

With that newfound confidence, I continued my passion for writing throughout the rest of my English classes at SLUH. Throughout the second half of sophomore year, the incredible Mr. George would read and give me feedback on my *Prep News* articles after they were published. Whether my article came back with some red marks that he recommended I fix next time, or if he told me it was perfect, getting help and encouragement from as great a poet and teacher as him made my week, and has been one of the key reasons why I kept at my articles and features and what helped inspire me to create a movie review blog. In junior year, Mr. Hussung became one of my closest friends and mentors, as he helped me streamline my poetry and better establish my creative essays.

And now, in my senior year, my journey of English and writing at SLUH has hit an incredible peak: I get the honor of taking two awesome English classes, one that teaches me to be inspired by

the fantastical aspects that we find in both literature and the real world, and one that teaches me what it means to be a true hero. Just recently I had the incredible opportunity to talk with the author of our all school read *The Other Side*, and as an aspiring writer, receiving a professional writer’s advice has impacted me thoroughly.

SLUH English has given me gifts and opportunities beyond measure, including everything from expanding my library of authors and poets, to letting me connect my life and personal experiences with the characters I’ve learned about in books from *Catch-22* to *The Road*. More than any other online class, summer camp in the city, or my favorite author’s response on Twitter, my experiences with English and writing at SLUH have paved the way for my future career, and forged me into the artist I am today. Whether it was teaching me how to love, how to survive, how to stay true, how to build strength, or how to save a life, the SLUH English Department taught me all of it, and everything I apply to my writing. I owe my thanks to the people who make it up.

(Many thanks to my former English teachers Mrs. Carroll and Mr. George, my current English teachers Mr. Hussung and Mr. O’Brien, Prep News moderator Mr. Missey, and fellow English teachers Mr. Cruz, Mr. Kavanaugh, and especially Mr. Mohr, S.J., for keeping me inspired, active, and engaged, and for reminding me that there will always be mountains to climb, but even more stories to tell).



art | Nathan Rich

Keep up with breaking SLUH news by following *Prep News* on social media!

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Aliste brings Day of the Dead tradition to library

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN AND
LUKE DUFFY
EDITOR IN CHIEF, STAFF

The Robinson Library is featuring a Day of the Dead altar during November. The display, set up by Spanish teacher Miriam Aliste and Maria-Paz Campos, commemorates loved ones who have passed away. Day of the Dead, or Día de los Muertos, was celebrated on Nov. 1 and is very popular in the United States and Mexico.

“In Mexico and in some places in Central America where they have the Aztec and Mayan influence in their cul-

ture, they tend to do this (celebrate Day of the Dead),” said Aliste. “In Mexico, it’s huge.”

Aliste is from Chile, where Día de los Muertos is celebrated on a much smaller scale. The holiday has become a lot more popular among Latin Americans.

Traditionally, families decorate altars with items that remind them of their dead loved ones. For Aliste, the display contains paraphernalia representing Latin American culture, but it is general enough that it welcomes all SLUH students to pray and remember their loved ones.

“This year particularly, I don’t have anything that

is personal, except the only thing I put that represented my dad was a dog because he loved animals,” said Aliste.

This year, Aliste’s Day of the Dead display contains colorful banners, skeleton statues, flowers, and candles.

“Over the years I’ve collected so many pieces, some actually from Mexico,” said Aliste.

In the past, Aliste has added more decorations to the display, but she wanted to downsize this year in order to keep it simple in the bustle and confusion of the pandemic. She is, however, inviting students to add memories of their deceased loved ones.

“They (the students) can put someone’s name, or bring a picture of the family member, or at least a prayer,” said Aliste.

Aliste’s display is in the library so that it can be admired by students. In the past, it has been in her classroom, but she now shares a classroom with other teachers and worries about her decorations being damaged. She chose not to put it in the chapel because Masses have been held elsewhere.

“I used to decorate my room when I used to not teach with anybody else,” Aliste said. “We would have the Open House, and this would be one of the rooms that would be

open to show.”

The display will be up through the month of November to provide spiritual

consolation in this tough year as well as add beautiful color to the library.



Day of the Dead display in the library

photo | Luke Duffy

PN “Word Search” Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16					
17					18				19					
20					21				22				23	
				24					25	26		27		
28	29	30		31				32				33		
34			35				36					37		
38						39					40		41	42
		43			44	45			46	47				
48	49			50				51				52		
53				54			55							
56						57						58	59	60
62				63	64	65		66				67		
68								69				70		
71								72				73		

crossword | Mr. Paul Baudendistel

ACROSS

1. Command to a pesky pet
5. Suffix for a follower
8. Commits a party foul with a chip
14. St. Louis landmark
15. Disco _____ of The Simpsons
16. Tikka _____
17. Take on cargo
18. A Blues opponent from The Big Apple (abbr.)
19. Neanderthal, e.g.
20. Catchphrase for Bart of The

- Simpsons
23. Religiously sensitive version of B.C.
24. Downhill races between two competitors
27. Fleur-de-_____

28. Liberty Mutual mascot
31. Perhaps the most obvious consonant in American Sign Language
32. Designation for a very wide shoe
33. An hour ahead of us
34. Subject of a 911! mockumentary
36. Actor Macchio and designer Lauren, among others
38. Speak in a harsh, grating tone
39. Go bad, like an apple
40. It is, in Ibiza
43. Dental hygienist or radiology technician
46. Find and get closer to (var.)
48. Degree for a dental hygienist or radiology technician
50. Greek version of the most common consonant in the English language
51. German Grandma
52. Mos _____, slang for “absolutely”
53. Hard water
54. Desired type of shelter during an alien invasion
56. Mercury or Mars, but not Earth
57. Condition that causes symptoms similar to COVID-19
62. Jason _____, role for Matt Damon in four of five films
66. Resolutions for games like 41-Down
67. My home, which is yours too
68. Another donut shaped like a long john
69. _____bo, 1990’s fitness program featuring martial arts

70. Funerary vessels
71. Dance move popularized by Cam Newton
72. _____ ops, like Mr. Dickmann and Mr. Griggs
73. They have Secret Lives ... and they show up secretly here 12 times (not counting 28-Across and 37-Down); can you find all 12?
- DOWN
1. Living room, in Lima
2. Half-crazy?
3. Rock band whose first album was appropriately titled High Voltage
4. Sister Bowman who is being considered for sainthood
5. Wears a birthday suit
6. Prevent progress
7. Device that improves engine power, or a movie about a snail that acquires such
8. Hotel units (abbr.)
9. _____ de cologne
10. Shorthand for a still-popular hit by rock band Journey
11. Statement of feeling after reflecting or sneezing
12. Lake _____, site of a certain Miracle
13. Most sound in mind
21. Reply acronym used more in the U.S. than France
22. _____ of strength, like pulling a train
25. Type of demon magic in WoW, or type of 1000-watt bulb in stage lighting

26. Seventh mo. of the original Roman calendar
28. Drop a fly ball, e.g.
29. “_____ culpa,” formal statement following 28-Across
30. Remove from Google calendar
35. German Grandpa
36. The next Blues captain? (abbr.)
37. Bird cooked in the manner of 16-Across
39. Signs up for another tour of duty
41. 1-1, e.g.
42. Fire starter?
44. _____ 66, famous highway through St. Louis (abbr.)
45. Break fast
46. Visits to in-network doctors, e.g.
47. Neanderthals
48. All-in, e.g.
49. Slide (over), as on a bench
51. Porky Pig, in a “language” bearing part of his name
55. These are either hilarious or dangerous
58. String of letters which elicits giggles when spelled out
59. Reset, like an electronic balance
60. Last line of The Office: “There’s a lot of beauty in ordinary things. _____ that kind of the point?”
61. Backtalk
63. Awesome, in surfer-speak
64. Actress Vardalos or actress Peeples
65. YouTube series pitting Isaac Newton vs. Bill Nye and Bob Ross vs. Pablo Picasso

Satire

Admin announces inclusion of hamster balls into safety protocols following Thanksgiving

BY JACOB SPROCK
NEWS EDITOR

Following the Nov. 1 announcement detailing the school’s future plans for in-person classes, the SLUH administration decided to implement the wearing of giant, see-through hamster balls by students to prevent the spread of the coronavirus following the return from Thanksgiving break.

“After weeks of tireless experiments on freshmen, we determined the hamster ball method to be the most effective,” said principal Ian Gibbons S.J. , barely audible over the sound of crashing plastic in the hallway.

To better accommodate the new regulations, the school has decided to restructure itself into a series of tubes, replacing chairs with platforms for the hamster balls.

“It’s kind of tough going down hallways, in all honesty,” said junior Nathan Rich, sipping from one of the giant water dis-

pensers that have been installed on the walls. “Some people go faster than others, and sometimes the pipes will clog with sophomores and someone has to come along with a giant plunger to get them out.”

While the precautions have proven effective for the most part when it comes to transportation and preventing the spread of the novel coronavirus, there have been unexpected difficulties in some areas.

“Yeah, it’s kind of hard to take a whiz when you’re stuck in a giant plastic ball,” said an anonymous sophomore. “Like, you push the ball as close to the stall as possible, but you’re still, like, four feet away. And when you try to walk closer to the stall, the ball starts spinning until suddenly you’re out in the middle of the hall again.”

At press time, the administration announced that they will be adding loop-de-loops to the paths because it “seems pretty neat.”

Shoutout to senior Max Melching for finishing the crossword first! Send us a pic of the completed crossword to be featured in the next paper.

BY ROARKE UNRAU
REPORTER

After graduating in the spring of 2020, college freshman Peter Michalski is enjoying life at Washington University. Not knowing what to expect on his way to college, he knew one thing for sure: he was not expecting this.

For Michalski, it was nice to be able to know the city and surrounding area. Because there are very few people in his class from the St. Louis area, he can show them around the city.

“The thing about Wash. U is that actually there are very few St. Louis people here, so I’ve kind of used that to my advantage on weekends and stuff. I like to take my friends and show them around the city, because that’s COVID safe, because you’re outside exploring,” said Michalski. “And also being close to home is nice. I’ve been home a few times so far, for family stuff. I think I’m coming up on two months being here this week. But even in that it’s just really nice to just see everyone.”

Michalski spends time outdoors with friends, especially now when the weather and the actual campus are pretty. But there are still challenges, with one of the biggest changes of being in his dorm room all day.

“During the school week it’s a little rough because there are days where I just don’t have any classes in person,” said Michalski. “I’ll wake up, I’ll go get breakfast, so that’s me leaving my room. Come back do my school stuff all day, start doing homework, and then the next time I leave my room is to get dinner. So, I do spend a lot of time in my dorm room, but I mean, I’ve gotten comfortable

Class of ‘20 Spotlight
Michalski reflects on COVID, safety at WashU

with it. I’ve gotten used to it more than anything. Those first couple weeks were a little rough. I’m getting used to being in one place for so long. ... It’s a really small dorm room but it’s my sleeping space for a year. I’m doing the class here, I do my homework here, I work-out in here, I read you know. It’s everything in this room.”

Every college in America has had to make changes in protocols for students. For Wash. U, the big two were housing and food plans. The whole campus has been spaced out with fewer people. But one good thing for Michalski is that Wash. U has partnered with GrubHub so he can easily get food whenever he wants.

Going into WashU, Michalski knew that it wasn’t going to be easy and he would have to do a lot of work to be in a good academic place. But for him, so far it has been manageable.

“I think it’s about what I expected, difficulty-wise. This is a selective school and I expected to have my work cut out for me and I do, but it’s good. I never feel like I’m overwhelmed or doing busy work, and everything I’m doing has a reason,” said Michalski. “I’m in a good spot right now academics-wise, I don’t know if that relates to COVID or anything, that’s kind of just general college stuff. But yeah, maybe next semester I’ll be way over my head. We’ll see.”

Even though Michalski has only been in college for a few months, there was a lot of excitement surrounding Halloween.

“Everyone was kind of very much on edge on Halloween, because people wanted to sell it. Halloween on a Saturday

night man, that’s a rare occurrence,” said Michalski. “But there are ways to have fun and be safe, like I got together with some friends and we watched a movie and we played some card games and kind of hung out. And we were safe about it, which was good. And that’s totally possible. I know it’s probably pretty likely that a lot of people weren’t safe about it, but it was absolutely possible to have a fun safe Halloween.”

As the first few weeks of college were hard, Michalski missed out on many things that would happen in a normal college year, such as floor parties and getting to know his floor-mates. But overall Michalski thinks that WashU has done a good job handling Covid and will continue to do well in the future.

“Because if you think about it, in a normal year of college, in your first weeks you’re out socializing. Your floor is having stuff, your dorm is having stuff, everyone is having stuff that’s intentionally designed

for you to meet other people. None of that happened this year,” said Michalski. “I think that’s one of the big factors is just it takes longer. But it is definitely possible though, I don’t want to scare anyone and just be like, oh, you can’t have friends.”

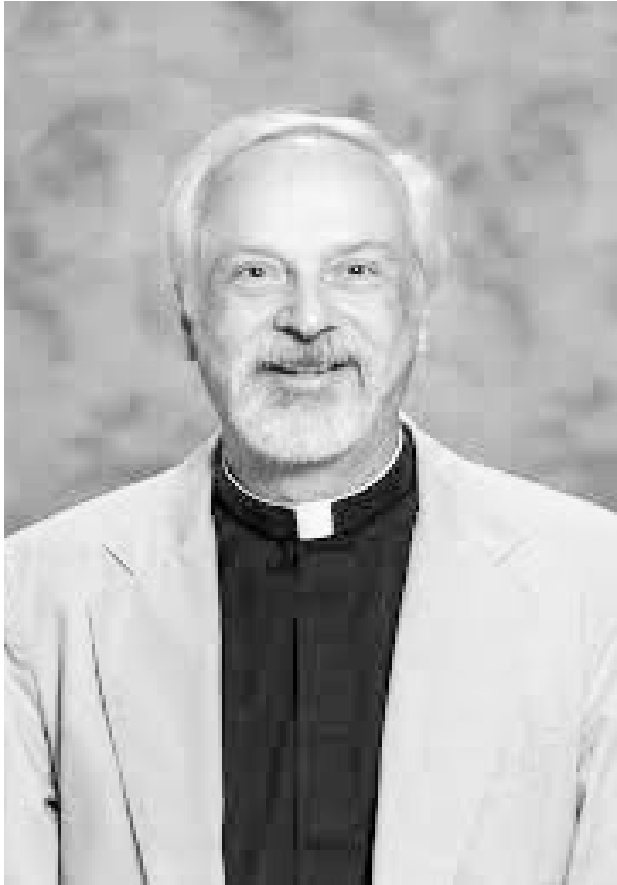
Michalski feels safe at the school, but does wish that Wash. U had more testing.

“Because Wash. U is the front lines of the research regarding COVID, I trust pretty much any of their policies that they’re going to tell us, the one thing I would hopefully get is more frequent testing. As of now, all the entire student body is doing bi-weekly testing,” said Michalski. “But I’ve read studies that say, especially for the colleges that have access to this sort of stuff, the best way is to get tested every few days. So that’s the one big thing I think we could be doing a little better. But the fact that I have the ability to get tested every two weeks is extremely helpful. I’m very lucky that I have that.”



Photo courtesy of Peter Michalski

Coleman brings younger perspective to Board



New Board members Huete (left) and Coleman (right)

(continued from page 1)

“After all my years working at Jesuit schools, I have a sense of what goes on at an administrative level,” agreed Huete.

Huete also brings a strong sense of Jesuit identity to the Board. As a dedicated Jesuit himself, he hopes to work with the Board to help maintain SLUH’s Jesuit traditions even as numbers of Jesuits decline.

To balance Huete’s experience, Coleman, a member of the class of 2001, brings a younger perspective, one much more deeply ingrained with SLU High. In fact, it was his strong relationship with the SLUH community that drove him to become a Board member in the first place.

“SLUH was definitely an important part of forming who I am as an adult and how I participate in the community I live in. When I came back to

St. Louis (after college), I was looking for meaningful ways to make sure that young men had the same opportunities that I had,” reflected Coleman. “SLUH is a great place, and I wanted to make sure that I was somehow giving back.”

Coleman currently serves as the Managing Director of the Muny. His role is a respected position in the St. Louis community, one that put him on the St. Louis Business Journal’s 40 under 40 list, and he worked hard to get there, working at the Muny since he was in high school. For Coleman, though, it’s his experience first and foremost as a member of the SLUH community that he hopes to bring to the Board.

“For myself, I obviously manage a large non-profit in the community and have a lot of experience from the marketing, fundraising, and non-profit

management so (I hope to bring) professional experience, but even more importantly (I want to bring) my experience in this community and how that identity intersected with my time at SLU high. I wanted to make sure I was bringing those experiences to the table. That’s my goal as a participant on the board.”

Despite knowing the halls of the Baker Memorial quite well, Coleman, too, was faced with the unique challenge of stepping onto the board during a pandemic.

“My time on the Board has started interesting, during this pandemic when we’ve all been apart,” reflected Coleman. “I look forward to actually meeting my fellow Board members in person.”

Coleman is also excited to be back among students again, interacting with the community

and sharing his experiences.

“I think it’s important for young men (at SLUH) to see the faces of alumni who have been there, and have been led to various levels of success and appreciation for the next stages in their life,” said Coleman. “I want to show them what that looks like and be a resource to them.”

Despite their differences, these two men only further the growth of an already accomplished list of Board members, and they are excited for the impact they can make, even through virtual meetings and limited Board activities.

“(They’re) great folks, and it’s great to have them on board,” said Carruthers. “(The Board members) are the people that really help us run the school, they are a critically important bunch.”

COVID-19 care at Barnes Jewish Hospital led by SLUH Alum Lyons

(continued from page 1)

English teacher Steve Missey, chemistry teacher Charlie Busenhardt, AP Physics teacher Paul Baudendistel, Latin teachers Marie Lee McCornaghy and Mark Tyconievich, and Assistant Principal for Academics Tom Becvar.

“(Those teachers) all really taught me at a high level and how to be organized, and prepare myself for challenging course loads and challenging material, and I think that helped set me up for the future,” said Lyons.

After Lyons had decided he would become a doctor he had to decide what he would do. He decided on pulmonary and intensive medicine. He is an intensive care doctor at Barnes Jewish Hospital, although he has only been on the faculty for 10 months.

Barnes Jewish Hospital had been expecting patients for a long time, and was ready for them to show up. Not knowing when or how they would show up was the thing that worried some staff members. Lyons had gotten involved fairly recently by helping just one patient. But afterwards he helped more and more once he had been exposed.

“Every one of my colleagues here in critical care here at Barnes ended up involved, but I found myself as the first person in our dedicated COVID-19 ICU. Based on what was going on nationally we were expecting to see patients in early March, and had identified a specific area of the hospital where we had set up a negative pressure air flow system and had rooms ready for these patients, knowing that they would eventually arrive, but not knowing when specifically,” said Lyons. “It actually happened all of a sudden, in that I was actually running on patients in the regular ICU and a patient arrived and was pretty ill and needed to be intubated urgently and I was the closest person to this dedicated area. They called and asked if I could come quickly and once I did and had that patient intubated and safe on a ventilator I ended up staying and had already been there and knew the patient. So I ended up spending the first few weeks of the pandemic here managing that ICU and all its subsequent patients that came in.”

Safety is one of the main things to stay focused on when it comes to COVID. Because of how easily it is spread, many people are at risk. Even at Barnes Jewish there have been some staff members who have gotten COVID. Lyons though, did give some tips on what we can do in order to stay safe.

“I think it’s probably four things: one is wearing masks all the time when you’re out in public, two would be to wash your hands more than you think you need to and wash them effectively

for more than 20 seconds. Three is really trying to stick to the small gatherings with social and physical distancing, minimizing indoor time with people who are outside of your particular circle. Four is to spread verified information and avoid spreading misinformation. There has been a lot of false information that gets propagated by politicians and people who claim to be in the know by armchair scientists. I think a lot of that has led to dangerous behaviors far and wide, not just in St. Louis, but in the surrounding areas and nationally as well,” said Lyons.

“At SLUH, they really pride themselves on the ability to understand complex information and think about what we’re learning and what we’re reading, and making sure we interpret that in the most responsible way possible,” continued Lyons. “So I think the big challenge is to try to be stewards of facts and stewards of good information, because the people at SLUH are men and women for others, and so I think we are supposed to be those sorts of leaders in the community.”

At Barnes Jewish Hospital, the doctors have had to take many risks in order to keep their lives and their patients’ lives safe. But with all the risks and bad things that doctors have had to go through, there is some good.

“I’ve had colleagues who have gotten COVID, but thankfully my close colleagues who I know who were sick with it, they all did OK and have recovered and are back at work,” said Lyons. “The good things that I can take away from this, certainly are some lessons learned in terms of leadership, organization, and building an effective culture of trust and safety among people may not even know each other.”

COVID-19 is certainly not over, but it is changing as people learn to adapt to new changes, and medicine is constantly fighting it. People have also learned a lot about themselves in the past few months after being in quarantine. But most importantly, people have learned a lot about COVID and how it affects their lives.

“The two things that I’ve learned about this, so far, is that there’s a lot of uncertainty about what the future will hold in general. And two, is that there seems to be a lot of heterogeneity in time and space. Meaning that, I think the COVID situation will look different for different parts of the country and world and different times. We’ve certainly seen that there can be local and regional outbreaks in one area while another area seems to be, at least somewhat improving. I think we should be prepared for more of that throughout the winter and probably the spring, until there’s an effective vaccine.”

Commentary: Reopening plan forces an impossible decision

NATHAN RICH
CORE STAFF

SLU High, from the start of my freshman year, has been my second home. I love SLUH, it’s a place of comfort for me and I feel at home here. Now, though, COVID is putting that to the test.

For me, despite valid arguments on both sides of the issue, the decision to go back is truly a puzzling one. The same day that the total return was announced, Missouri reported 2,216 new COVID cases, which is hundreds more than any day last spring, when we were forced into virtual learning. The idea that we can go back now and have no problems simply because of a few months of experience seems naive, but I digress.

I can’t say for sure whether it’s a good idea to go back after thanksgiving; people much smarter than me have tried and failed to come to a clear resolution. I’m aware that many scientists think it’s a good idea

to return, but so many others disagree, and that makes me nervous. In an already stressful time for many families, the last thing we need is more stress. Unfortunately, though, that doesn’t seem to be the case. The new total return is forcing students to make a near impossible decision.

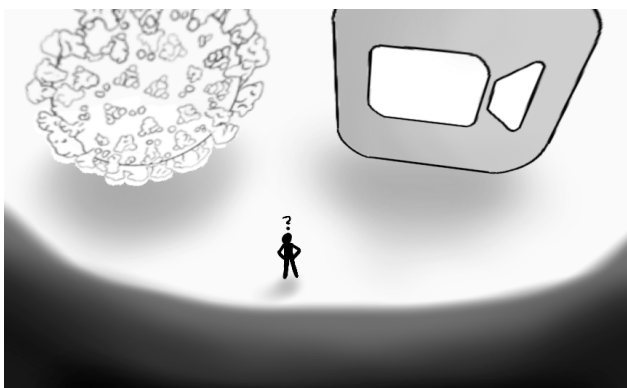
After Thanksgiving break, I can elect to either go in every day with hundreds of students and decreased social distancing measures, increasing the likelihood that I need to quarantine over Christmas, or stay home, sitting by myself in front of a screen, watching as Zoom slowly sucks the battery life from my iPad. I can either be a part of the SLUH community and risk the health of my family, or protect my health but stay isolated from the friends and teachers that my education thrives upon. It’s truly an all or nothing option, although in this case, the “all” is just as bad as the “nothing.”

What happened to the middle? What happened to the hyflex model? Why abandon

something so quickly that was working so well? As the Prep News reported two weeks ago, the hyflex model was successfully limiting Covid cases in the student body and preventing the need to quarantine. Granted, it wasn’t perfect, but it was a happy medium, something I was comfortable with. Why change that, especially as conditions in the country are rapidly worsening? Now should be the time for caution, but instead I am being forced to either blindly throw myself into an environment I am uncomfortable in or give up

the SLUH community that I love all together.

I understand the fact that a majority of families are comfortable with going back to school, but there are still many families (34 percent, according to the survey sent out to families) that aren’t. In a world filled with fear and anxiety, increasing the level of stress in those many families seems unwise and unfair. Keeping the hyflex model could help alleviate a lot of that pressure, so it should remain an option for students this winter.



art | Nathan Rich

SLUH community gives its viewpoints on COVID precautions and coming back in full

(continued from page 1)
feelings of safety about the hybrid schedule from both the prior poll and our Nov. 5 poll, opinions were more divided in regard to the full return scheduled for Nov. 30. The Nov. 5 poll reported a roughly 26 percent decrease in participants who said they felt very safe at school.

“In my opinion they should not be housing more people because unless they have some big plan that no student I have talked to has been able to figure out then there is no way to keep everyone safe,” said junior Henry Ledbetter in a follow up interview offered to all participants of the poll.

Ledbetter’s sentiment was shared among several other students, with many reporting that, even though they felt moderately safe or completely safe about the return, the school still needs to crack down on people who aren’t following the safety guidelines set in place.

“For the most part, people tend to follow the rules surrounding masks and distancing,” said senior Kevin Hickey. “However, I have noticed that some people seem to broaden the given exceptions—for example, I notice that people have gone from ‘you can unmask while eating’ to ‘you can unmask while in the Commons in general.’”

“I think we will need a stricter enforcement of these rules because as we decrease the distance guidelines, the importance of minimizing the time in direct contact as well as maximizing proper mask usage will become much greater,” said senior Jack Rosenstengel. “I believe that the one-way guidelines during the passing period will ultimately become very important, because it is very hard to social distance during the passing period even with everyone going in the same direction.”

The students were not the only ones concerned about safety at school, especially with double the attending students. English teacher David Callon reported that he felt safe on campus for the time being but had some concerns moving forward, especially after having seen some of his colleagues forced into quarantine.

“While we aren’t seeing the spread of Covid-19 on our campus, I also notice a lot of ways that we’ve been letting our guard down a bit, especially in unsupervised spaces like bathrooms or open classrooms without a teacher,” said Callon. “To bridge us to a vaccine, I would like to see us spend an entire week really re-enforcing the protocols and practices that give us the best chance of being the best version of SLUH we can be. We should do this in a spirit of joy and service as well, with regular positive reinforcement from our student and adult leaders.”

Despite an uptick in con-

cern since the last poll, the vast majority of the respondents, 63 percent, agreed that they felt either very safe or somewhat safe returning the SLUH after Thanksgiving with the new schedule.

“SLUH plans to return students to class have been well thought out,” said theology teacher Richard Wehner. “I think the time to come back after Thanksgiving is a good plan—and then going into Christmas break we can make any adjustments—which also means if necessary going back to (partly) all online classes to start 2021.”

“I think that school is very safe right now because we are wearing masks, which seem to be very effective in preventing the spread, as well as maintaining a safe distance from one another. I have been surprised at how students have been keeping a safe distance most of the time, and a strong majority of students seem to keep their masks on properly the whole time,” said Rosenstengel.

Going into the Thanksgiving season and beyond, participants remained hopeful in their responses, noting that the transition will be difficult but is definitely something SLUH is capable of doing.

“I think SLUH should go into this knowing that there will be more cases within the community, but that through proper guidelines and contact tracing, we can come back to school quickly and effectively,” said Rosenstengel. “Assuming proper guidelines are put in place, I believe that the minimal risk of contracting the virus as school will be heavily outweighed by the improved learning opportunities from being at school and increased quality time with my friends on campus.”

“A successful schedule should also ensure that there is ample room for students to grow intellectually, socially, and spiritually, but I consider safety to be a greater priority. You cannot achieve such growth while intubated, so preventing the spread of the virus, I think, should be a greater priority,” said Hickey.

Callon in particular voiced how the new schedule serves as an opportunity to improve upon what we have and make the experience more informative for Jr. Bills.

“In some ways I think we treat this like the beginning of a new school year, with daily and constant reminders about our protocols delivered in a joyful and positive way,” said Callon. “I would love to see weekly brief surveys of students and staff so that we can all help our school leaders understand what’s working and what we can improve on week-to-week.”

The official numbers for the poll are as follows:

- **Concerning current safety at school:** very unsafe - 4; somewhat unsafe - 10; somewhat safe - 117; very safe - 193

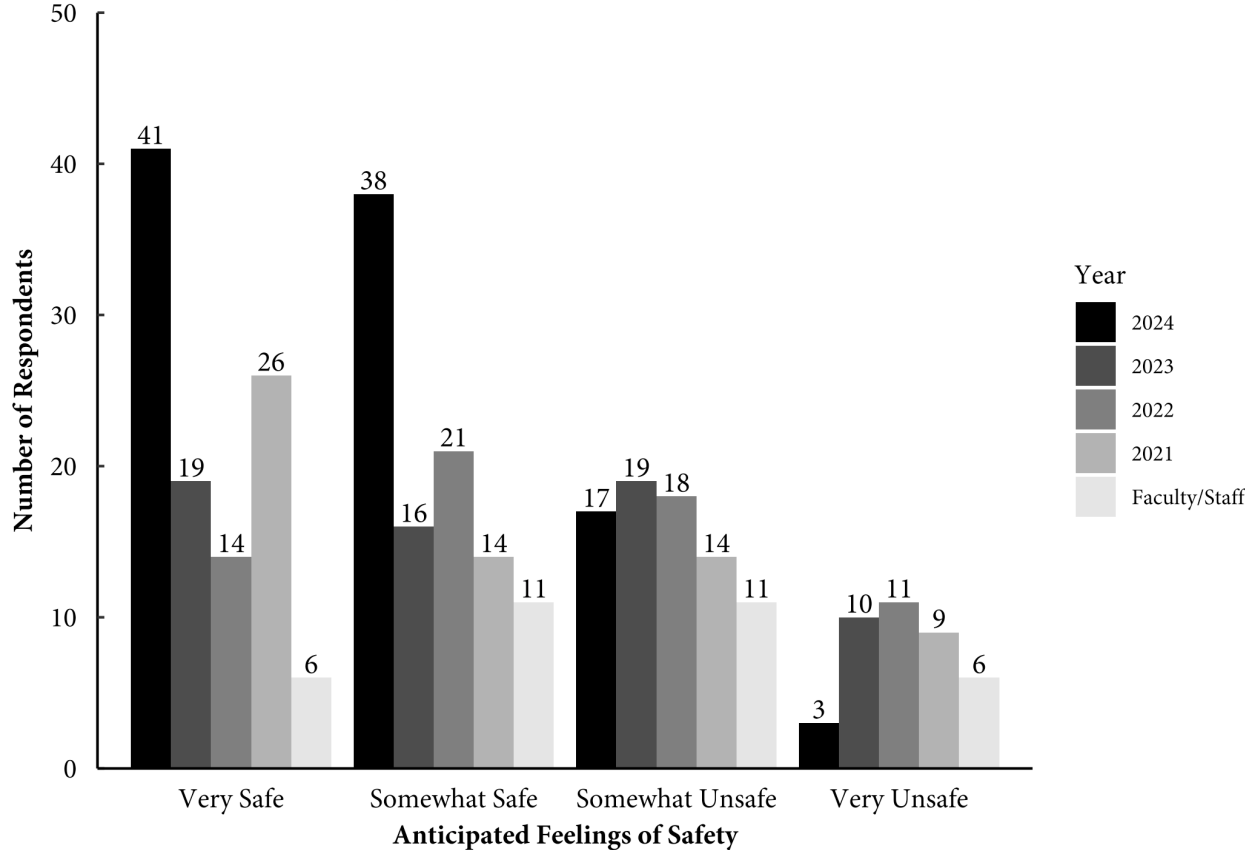
- **Concerning safety with**

SLUH’s Nov. 30 schedule: very unsafe - 39; somewhat unsafe - 79; somewhat safe - 100; very safe - 106

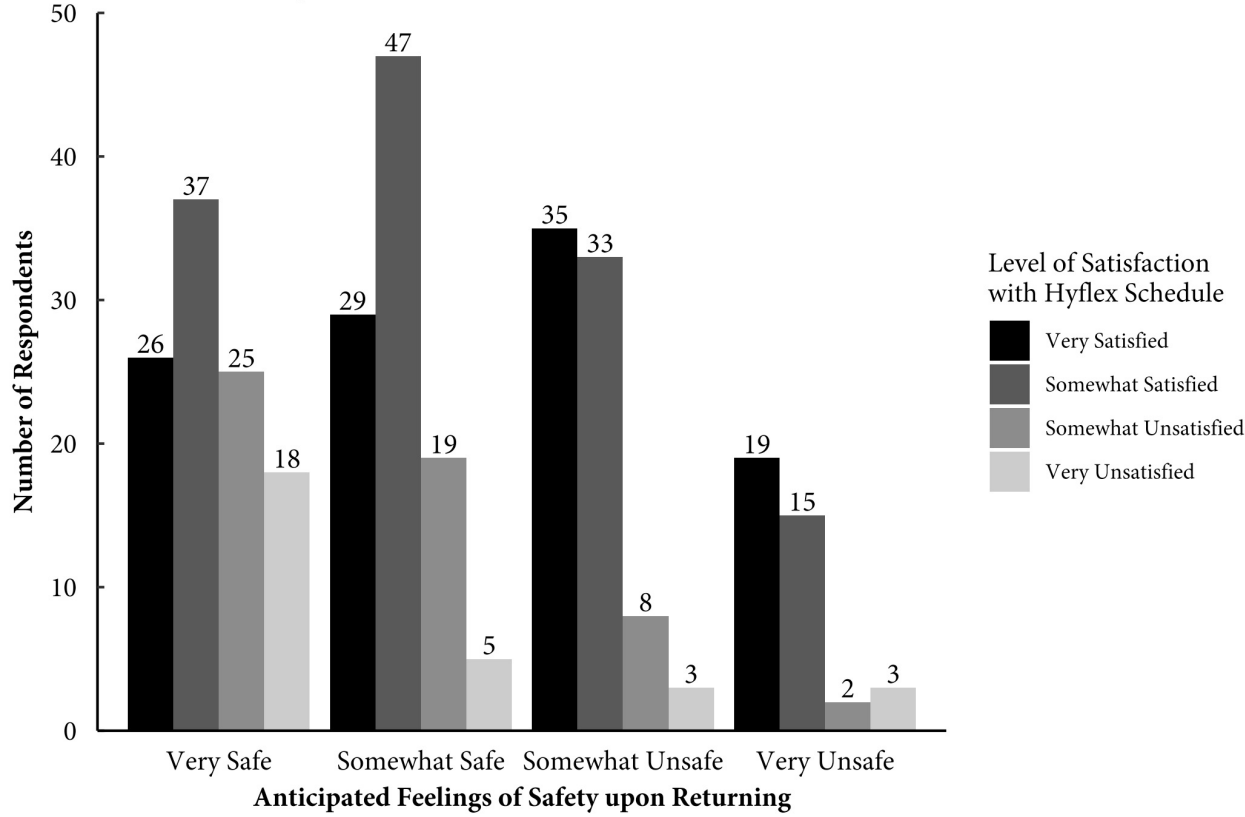
- **Concerning satisfaction with SLUH’s current Hyflex**

schedule: very unsatisfied - 29; somewhat unsatisfied - 54; somewhat satisfied - 132; very satisfied - 109

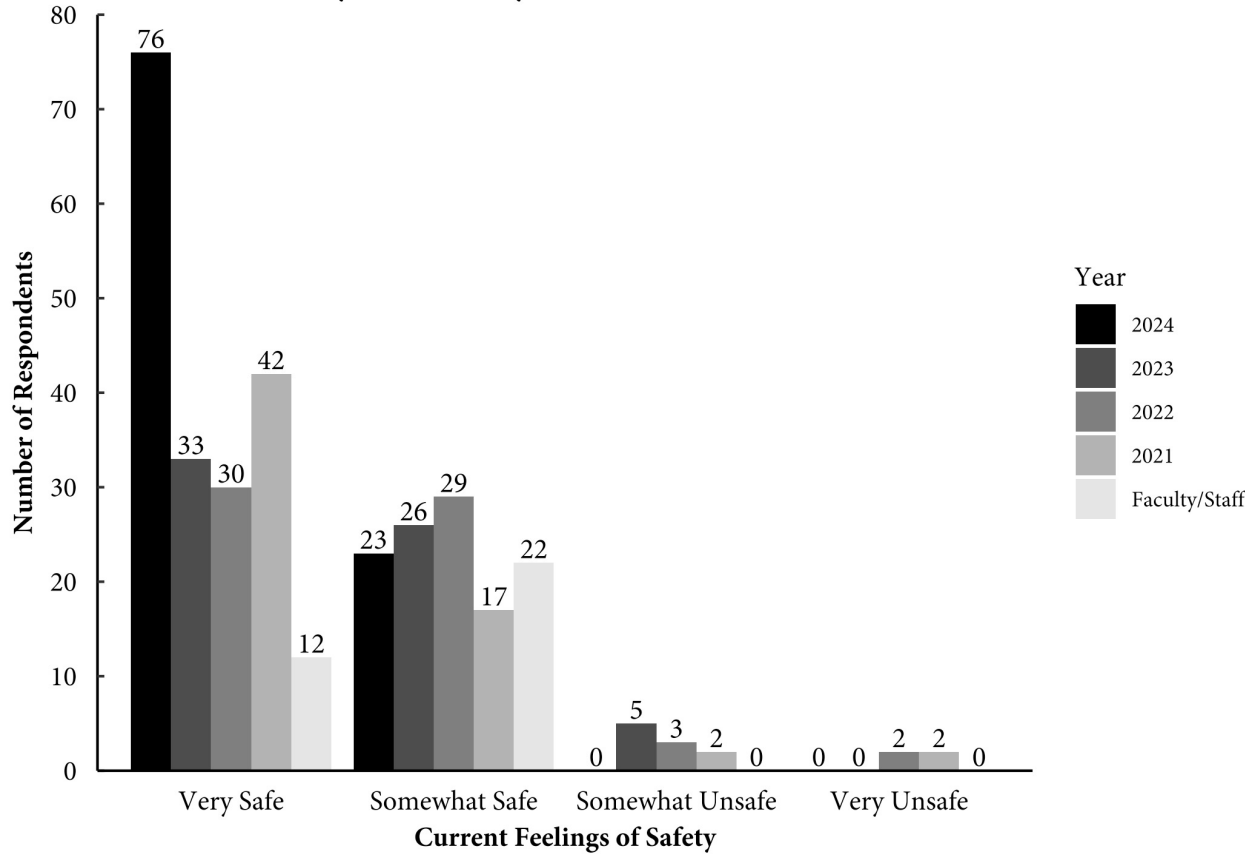
Anticipated Level of Safety Upon Returning after Thanksgiving by Grade Level



Anticipated Feelings of Safety towards Returning after Thanksgiving based on Satisfaction with Hyflex Schedule



Current Level of Safety at SLUH by Grade Level



SPORTS

SLUH loses District Semifinal to Lindbergh on final drive of game



Senior Kyle Dulick making a tackle. photo | Vic Lewchenko

BY LUKE ALTIER,JACK RYBAK
SPORTS EDITOR, CORE STAFF

The St. Louis U. High football team played a tough 4-1 Lindbergh team last Friday and lost in a close 28-21 battle that came down to a final drive scenario for the Jr. Bills. After being unable to establish the ground game, the Jr. Bills relied primarily on their passing offense. Along with the tough task of dealing with a one-sided offense, they also had to figure out a way to stop Lindbergh's star running back Logan Kopp, a top seven rusher in the state.

"Lindbergh sees one of the best running backs in the state (Kopp) every day. Their team is built around running the ball and stopping the run," said head coach Mike Jones. "We knew it would be a challenge."

Heading into the match-up with Lindbergh, SLUH's defense was focused on one player and one player only: Kopp. Heading into the District Semifinal game, the running back had posted ridiculous numbers on both sides of the ball with 924 rushing yards, 9 touchdowns, and 44 tackles in just four games.

"He is their leader in every

category," said Jones. "He accounts for 85 percent of their offense, 80 percent of their scoring, and 40 percent of their tackles in total this year."

SLUH started off the game on offense and picked up five yards with a rush up the middle by junior Derrick Baker, who made his return after nursing an ankle injury he suffered against St. Mary's at the beginning of the shortened season. The Jr. Bills quickly recovered from an incompletion on second down, as junior quarterback Luke Johnston took a deep shot to senior tight end Luke Ratterman. Ratterman managed to scamper past a few Flyers over the middle of the field for an early touchdown of 64 yards. This gave the Jr. Bills some early confidence in their passing game and put the score at 7-0 only 4:47 into the game.

Immediately after SLUH's touchdown, the Flyers responded with a 40-yard rush that SLUH's defense managed to stop from turning into a score, putting the ball on SLUH's 26-yard line. SLUH's defense tried to contain Kopp, who kept pushing Lindbergh's offense down the field. With 2:04 left in the first quarter, Kopp scored

on a three-yard run to even the score at 7-7 heading into the second quarter.

After punting in their previous drive, SLUH decided to take a deep shot on third down. Johnston launched a torpedo of a pass for 51 yards, which was hauled in by junior Christopher Brooks and put SLUH firmly in the red zone on Lindbergh's 16-yard line. After a short 3-yard rush and an incomplete pass, Johnston, safe in the pocket, launched a 13-yard pass to a wide open Brooks resulting in a Jr. Bill touchdown. With 7:09 the score was now 14-7 SLUH.

"It felt really good and gave us some confidence after going three and out the drive before," said Ratterman.

On their next drive, the Flyers kept feeding Kopp, and on second down he plowed downfield for 32 yards. The Flyers kept the ball in Kopp's hands, and he managed to rush for another 20 yards, putting Lindbergh on SLUH's 9-yard line. A Lindbergh running back slipped through the defensive line and picked up a touchdown with 4:50 left in the half, making the score 14-14.

After a Lindbergh kickoff in the third quarter, SLUH's offense went back to the air, passing 54 yards downfield and making steady progress. Unfortunately, the Jr. Bills' momentum was to put to a stop by a low pass in the end zone that resulted in an interception and a touchback for Lindbergh.

SLUH's defense kept the pressure on with the exception of a 14-yard rush, and the Jr. Bills forced Lindbergh to punt from their own 43-yard line.

SLUH's next drive began on its 41-yard line. A short 13-yard pass gave the Jr. Bills a first down, which they followed with an even shorter 8-yard

scramble pass to put them on Lindbergh's 32-yard line. A two-yard rush gave way for the play action, and Johnston completed a deep 30-yard pass to Brooks, who was being closely followed by a Lindbergh cornerback, for another SLUH touchdown to give SLUH the 21-14 lead with 3:29 left in the half.

Kopp was a challenge to deal with for the Jr. Bills in the first half, as they gave up two touchdowns to him. But, the SLUH defense stopped a lot of Kopp's opportunities for scores.

"We focused on getting a hat on number three (Kopp)," said senior Mike Patriitti. "He's obviously their best player and we knew if we could stop him from making plays we could win the game. For the first half of the game, we did exactly that."

Going into the second half, the Jr. Bills stuck with the passing offense but couldn't find receivers with quite as much ease as the team did in the first half. Any time they gained any momentum on offense, they were shut down due to passes not connecting and runs being stopped short.

The Jr. Bills' defense gave Lindbergh 52 yards over the course of nine plays and put them within 25 yards of the end zone on second down. Lindbergh handed the ball off to Kopp, who broke through a line of defenders and sprinted for the end zone making the game 21-20 SLUH. With 4:08 left in the third quarter, the Jr. Bills needed to keep the ball away from the Flyers and put some more points on the board.

The Jr. Bills couldn't make much of their new possession and were forced to punt from Lindbergh's 38-yard line. SLUH's defense started to lose their grip, with a 28-yard gain

from Lindbergh which put them on SLUH's 44-yard line on second down. Kopp managed to score another touchdown on a short five-yard rush up the middle which was followed by a two-point conversion for Lindbergh making the score 28-21 with 5:22 left in the game.

After a squib kick hit a SLUH return man, the Flyers had possession of the ball, but couldn't make anything out of it.

After getting another chance and ideally a shot to take the lead, Johnston was picked off by a Lindbergh defender less than five yards away from the end zone. Luckily, SLUH forced a fumble on Lindbergh, which gave them the chance for a final drive to win the game. Better yet, SLUH's offense found itself on Lindbergh's 9-yard line, which was the perfect setup for an end-of-the-game-drive.

First down. SLUH sat on Lindbergh's 9-yard line, the game on the line.

"We anticipated mixing it up," said Jones. "We have three tall, athletic wide receivers, and we definitely were going to get it into one of their hands."

On first down, Johnston faked the handoff to Baker and rolled to his right. He saw Ratterman running toward the right corner of the end zone, and went for it. Ratterman got his hands on the ball initially, but couldn't secure possession.

On second down, Johnston came out in a shotgun formation, took the snap, and attempted a fade route to Brooks, but a Lindbergh defender tipped it away.

On third down, Johnston stood with Baker a few feet away from him and four of his wideouts lined up. It was pretty clear that the ball was going

back in the air. But Johnston couldn't thread the needle to find Ratterman in a crowded midsection of the end zone.

"We simply couldn't put throwing a good ball and catching together," said Johnston. "We lacked in one or the other on those last four plays."

On fourth down, with SLUH's season on the line and the pressure at its peak, Baker ran a route from the backfield to the left corner of the end zone. Johnston saw the window and let it fly, but the ball slipped through Baker's open hands, and Lindbergh won the game.

"I have to say, for some reason, I am always involved in a game with an exciting ending," said Jones. "We had four opportunities and Lindbergh made four exceptional plays. Each play, we had an isolation opportunity and each time Lindbergh's defense made a play. Hats off to the Flyers."

The Jr. Bills walked away with their heads high after a tight back and forth game. Lindbergh's star player Kopp had his second worst game in rushing yards and worst game in tackles. The Jr. Bills contained the star player for the first half, but couldn't keep the pressure on in the second half and it made the contest a hard one to win.

Additionally, the team put the ball in the air almost 40 times, with Johnston putting up almost 400 passing yards in the process. The Jr. Bills put a lot of faith in their passing capabilities, which paid off with all of their touchdowns being passes.

"We did what we know best which is pass the ball pretty much all game," said Johnston.

Swim and Dive wins tenth consecutive MCC Championship, will try for third straight state title Friday

BY CARTER SPENCE
STAFF

The St. Louis U. High swim and dive team won its tenth straight MCC title with a dominant performance over its MCC rivals on Nov. 4.

"It's become so routine at this point," head coach Lindsey Ehret said. "The energy was really low so it kind of made it hard for guys to swim really well."

One of the more notable races came from junior Ned Mehmeti, who swam his best times of the season in the 500-yard freestyle and 200 individual medley—two events he will swim in at the state championship meet.

"I wasn't seeded that high in the state rankings and that needed to change," Mehmeti said. "I continued to practice hard and it paid off well."

"He was not rested, he had about one day of rest, but he swam his best times of the season," Ehret said. "He decided he wanted to win (the 500 freestyle) and just did it."

After ten straight MCC titles and back-to-back state champi-

onships, it is no surprise Ehret and her team had their eyes on a bigger prize: a three-peat. This Friday, Nov. 13, the Jr. Bills will head to the St. Peter's Rec-Plex in hopes of becoming the fifth team in SLUH history to claim the state title.

Just as Ehret expected, many swimmers on the cusp of the 24th spot—the last possible placement in order to race at the state meet—moved up as other swimmers exceeded the number of races they can participate in.

"We had a couple kids on the bubble—Aidan Brawer, Gavin Baldes, Brendan Schroeder, Brody Nester, Jason Cabra—that moved in, so we've got about six more swims than we had expected going into the state meet," Ehret said. "You can do a lot of things with those extra swimmers."

Only the top 16 swimmers from a certain event can add points to a team's score, but even with many not quite at the 16th spot, Ehret has lots of trust in what her swimmers can achieve.

"These kids can do amazing things when they race. If there's

one thing this team loves to do, it's race and win things, so I'm excited to see that animal come out."

Despite the many high points of the Jr. Bills' season, there are still some concerns about the state meet Friday. With COVID-19 restrictions much stricter in St. Louis than the rest of the state, SLUH has raced in only nine meets and started two weeks later than usual. The other parts of the state, notably Kansas City, were allowed to begin practicing in the first two weeks and to compete in more meets than teams in St. Louis.

"Kansas City and the rest of the state haven't been impacted by COVID as much as we have," Ehret said. "We normally have about 16 total meets, and we had just nine this year. That's a huge amount of missed opportunity for our guys."

An initial estimate for the state meet, based solely on where SLUH's swimmers place in their best times, has SLUH finishing fourth in the state. However, prior state meets coupled with the lack of meets complicates

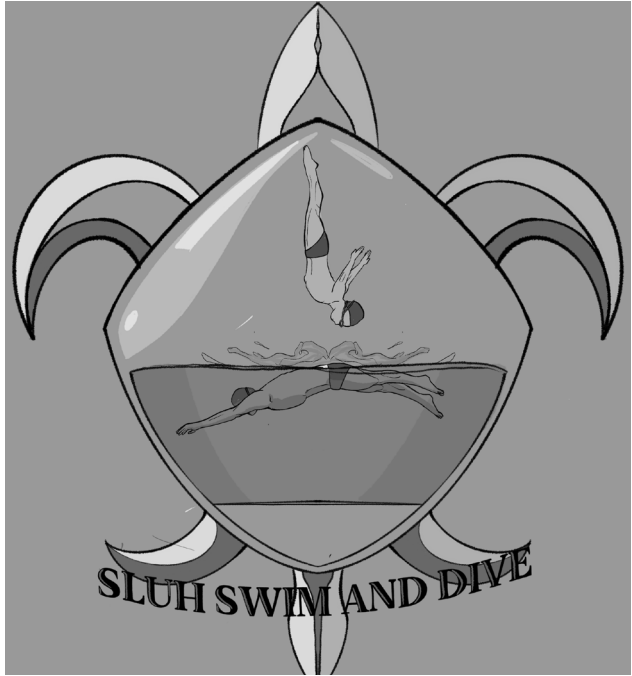
this estimate.

"Usually our guys have been underdogs, and I think it really helps motivate the guys. They seem to do well under that type of pressure," Ehret said.

Despite many obstacles, like the loss of their home pool at Forest Park Community College, 8:30 p.m. practices, and fewer races, the Jr. Bills are still in a great spot to place well in the state meet. SLUH will have swimmers eligible to score points in each event but the 200 freestyle. In those races, SLUH has at least two swimmers eligible in all but the 100 backstroke. Points can also be scored from the three relays and in diving with junior Sebastian Lawrence, whom Ehret referred to as the "best diver in the state."

"My pep speech to the guys is go down and look at that list of obstacles, but win anyways. Look at everything we've been through and realize we're still going to be really close to the top."

With COVID-19 cases reaching record highs in Missouri and in St. Louis, Ehret has been surprised at the lack of



art | Will Blaisdell

protocols heading into the state meet.

"There's going to be 261 athletes, and at this point with the cases, I'm still a bit nervous about it," she said. "People are coming in from all over the state and I just wish that everyone were tested beforehand."

The state championship meet will not be open to spectators, but will be livestreamed on MSHSAA's website for a \$10 fee. The meet will begin at 3:30 p.m.

"I put my trust into Coach Ehret to help us perform well, and hopefully get us the three-peat," Mehmeti said.

SLUH XC outperforms expectations, take second place at State Meet

(continued from page 1)

off of the leaders, but with the multitude of racers up front, the team was still only in seventh place.

“I think a lot of people at the start of the race freaked out and went too fast at the beginning,” said senior Daniel Hogan. “Coach Porter said to us on Thursday that we should look at this race as just another 5K, and I think we did a really good job taking this to heart. We ran our own race and not getting caught up in the excitement of the state meet.”

“I was not too concerned about being in seventh place at the first kilometer,” said head coach Joe Porter. “I knew that everybody went out really fast, and I am proud of the guys for keeping calm and running their own race.”

Despite the slower start, SLUH proceeded to do what they had been training for all season: move up. While many racers began to fade, the SLUH pack continued to take place through the middle mile. They were fifth at the second kilometer and fourth at the third.

“Going into the race, we knew that it would go out fast so our plan as a team was to stay calm through the first mile and then start to push it in the next two miles,” said junior Sean Kellogg. “I think as a team we had a slow start, but we moved really well through the race especially in the second mile and put ourselves in a good position.”

In the fourth kilometer, SLUH took the lead over Rock Bridge by a narrow margin of two points. Unfortunately, all of the moving up had taken



Photo | Mr. Brian Gilmore

its toll on the SLUH contingent. Over the final kilometer they could not capitalize on the momentum of the second and third kilometers, and the team had to settle for second.

“We had a narrow lead at the 4K, and I thought that we might pull out the first place finish when I saw the results,” said Porter. “They were gaining places up to this point, and I thought that it might continue through the last kilometer. But, all moves will eventually have a toll, and for us, it was in the final kilometer. They still ran an incredible race, and I am very excited for them.”

For many, the second place result came as a surprise. SLUH graduated five of the top seven last year and

only two of this year’s state racers had run at the State Meet previously. According to MO milesplit, SLUH was not predicted to get second, and according to the virtual meet, they were expected to finish between third and fifth.

“We weren’t projected to finish first or second going into the race so there was no reason to not to take risks as a team,” said Kellogg. “I think we raced very smart that day and did an amazing job of running with each other and pushing each other, especially in the second half of the race, leading to a great day for all of us.”

Impressively, SLUH managed to take second despite having no runners in the top 26 spots of the race. Instead,

they relied on teamwork, closing their one to five gap to just 15 seconds, its smallest gap of the season.

“We were definitely the topic among conversations for Missouri coaches after the race yesterday. It is rare for a team to win in the top three in state without having a runner in the top 25,” said Porter. “I don’t think that during my time coaching that this has ever happened.”

Junior Grant Brawley led the charge in the 27th spot, and was followed by senior Ryan Kramer (29th), junior Baker Pashea (42nd), senior Hayden Zenor (45th), junior Sean Kellogg (46th), junior Justin Glass (57th), and senior John Hogan (60th). SLUH captured second place

with 125 points, falling behind the state champion Rock Bridge High School who had a score of 109 points. SLUH was ahead of the third place team Liberty High School by only 11 points.

“We could not have imagined being that close to winning at the beginning of the season, and I couldn’t be more proud of my teammates,” said Pashea. “At every point of the race, there was another SLUH guy near me pushing me to go faster. The amount of progress our varsity team was able to make this year is incredible.”

This second place victory is not the first for SLUH cross country. It is part of a long history of successes at the state meet. Since 1999, SLUH

has finished runner-up six times and has finished first five times. This year’s second place finish marks the third consecutive time the SLUH has finished second, a streak that was started in 2018.

“I think it shows the depth of our program and the key values of what we are all about,” said Reed Milnor, ’18, who was part of the second place team in 2018. “We are a team program and we have a tradition that continues and never graduates. I am just so excited for the guys, the coaches, and for all the XC guys. It is great to see from afar the tradition continuing.”

Despite SLUH’s long program history of success, for Porter, this second place finish is quite special.

“Each year is unique, and this year was very different,” said Porter. “There are teams where you have superstars or teams where you have tight packs. This team really came together well with dealing with a pandemic and uncertainty. I think that this makes this second place victory particularly special.”

In the end, even though only seven students ran for SLUH, the second place finish represents the entire cross country program.

“I think that it is important to think about when looking at this second place performance is that it is not just a success for the top seven on the line or even the top ten that got to travel to state,” said Porter. “It is a victory for all 84 of our cross country runners. We are a program, not a team. This is a program victory, not a team victory.”

SLUH soccer looks at ups and downs of shortened season

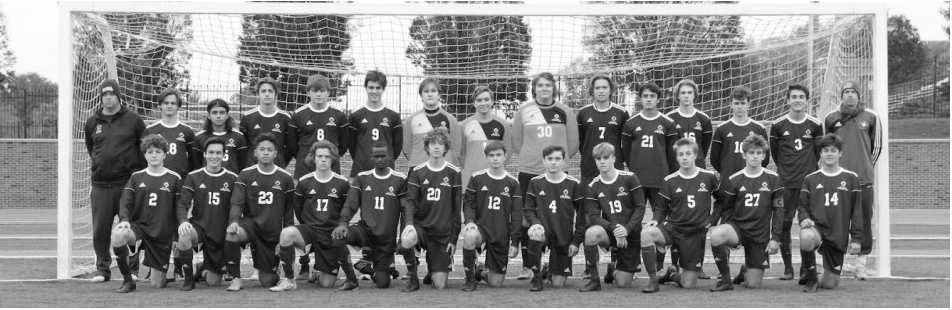


Photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott

BY LOUIS CORNETT
CORE STAFF

In a season like no other in the 1202 years of SLUH’s existence, the varsity soccer team finished its 2020 season with a record of 5-6. Starting their season over a month delayed, the Jr. Bills overcame the adversity of the pandemic to string together a handful of resilient performances. After a 4-0 start, SLUH came into October looking like a powerful state contender. But four of the team’s six losses were just a Jr. Bill goal away from being sent into OT, including their heartbreaking loss to Chaminade on Halloween which knocked them out of the State Tournament.

Even though the Jr. Bills’ season ended earlier than they would have liked, there were still plenty of bright spots during their 11 games. Freshman

standout Grant Locker provided an offensive boost to the varsity squad in his first year, scoring four goals.

“My favorite memory from this season was our game against Vianney where I scored the winning PK,” said Locker.

Against Vianney on Oct. 8, SLUH toppled their first MCC rival of the season. Tied 2-2 through regulation, the game went into two 10-minute overtime periods. Still tied through the two periods, the Jr. Bills’ third game of the season went into PK’s. Junior Stephen Saladin, senior Adam Wolfe, senior Jacob Hammond, junior Evan Yalaharthi, and Locker all converted their shots into goals, and SLUH came out on top 3-2. As they demonstrated in that performance, the Jr. Bills were a force to be reckoned with no matter whom they were playing.

“We were absolutely able to

play with everybody in every game,” said varsity head coach Bob O’Connell. “We were just missing a few of the final pieces.”

With 10 varsity players returning next year, O’Connell is hoping to add to their core group of players with new additions from the underclassmen.

“Our young players are good players,” said O’Connell. “That’s a good thing. Hopefully the rest of the group, the juniors on the JV will also contribute next year.”

Returning players are also looking forward to next year, one they hope has a sense of normalcy.

“We had a pretty young team this year, so next year I look forward to seeing many skilled players returning,” said Yalaharthi. “And I hope that we can make it even further in State.”

Racquetball starts season Friday; varsity seeds named

BY JARED THORNBERRY
REPORTER

The Saint Louis U. High varsity racquetball team will open its season against Lindbergh on Friday. After many challenge matches and weeks of ladder play, the teams were finally confirmed and emails were sent to players on Monday.

With loss of six Varsity-1 seniors last year, five juniors and one senior have been added to the team. Returning seniors Danny Jurguens (No. 1) and Oliver Allen (No. 2) were announced as the top seeds after many back and forth challenge matches for the No. 1 spot. Juniors Max Telken (No. 3), Jared Thornberry (No. 4), Danny Philips (No. 5), and Will Shorey and Ben Har-

mon (doubles team) were among the underclassmen added to the varsity team, and Nick Peterson (seed No. 6) was the only newly-added senior.

“This year in particular our varsity fell into place rather nicely,” said head coach Stephen Deves. “Our JV-1 and JV-2 spots were a little more challenging because there were some of the JV-2 guys that could compete with the JV-1 guys and we like to offer these challenge matches to allow players to face off against each other.”

Not only was the Varsity-1 team announced to all of the players this past Monday, but the Varsity-2, JV 1-1, JV 1-2, JV 2-1, and JV 2-2 teams were revealed. Seniors Sam Kleffner, Daniel

Klarsch, Tad Banker, Brendan Carr, Owen Cooney, Anthony Solari, and Andrew Loeffelman all earned a spot on the Varsity-2 team.

For most of the JV teams, the juniors occupy most of the spots with a few freshman and sophomores. Freshmen Nick Ferrari, Jack Mackey, and Andrew Peterson were among the underclassmen who earned a spot on a JV team.

“The awesome thing about our team is that we have so many people who want to play racquetball,” said Deves. “There are many qualified players and makes our decisions difficult and I think since racquetball is an individual sport, it offers guys the opportunity to allow the players to earn the spot they are looking for.”

If you are interested in writing, photography, or art for the Prep News, email prepnews@sluh.org.

Around the Hallways

ACES Film Screening

ACES and the Antiracist Coalition are hosting a screening of the film *Tyale McNary: He May Be Wrong, But He Doubts It* from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. tonight. The short film, produced by Nine Network, stars Tyale McNary as he discusses various racial issues. In addition to the film screening, there will also be a Q & A with McNary afterwards. The screening will take place in the Si Commons and via Zoom.

Immersive experience for 8th Graders

This Saturday, Nov. 14 from 8:15 to 12:15 a.m., SLUH is hosting an immersive event for 8th graders led by Admissions ambassadors. The event replaces Open House, which was simply impossible to host

during the COVID-19 pandemic, and allows prospective students to experience SLUH teaching and brotherhood. During the event, 8th graders will get to have small group discussions and teacher presentations for various classes.

International Program Plans

Last week, Global Education Director Robert Chura sent out an email to the student body announcing an update for International Immersion trip plans. Unfortunately, with the uncertainty of the pandemic, all of the international trips this spring have been canceled. Chura is still unsure about the international trips for the summer, but he is hopeful. As a way to supplement the trips, Chura has scheduled virtual encounters



with international partner schools. Check your email for any of these opportunities or the Global Education Twitter.

Medical Careers Speaker

On Tuesday, Nov. 10 the Medical Careers Club welcomed Dr. Joseph Craft to give a talk via Zoom. Craft is a cardiologist, SLUH graduate, and SLUH parent. During the talk, he discussed the vari-

ous equipment he uses, how he works with patients, and answered student questions. The Medical Careers Club will continue to welcome guest speakers throughout the year for all students to hear.

—*Noah Apprill-Sokol and Luke Duffy, News Editor, Staff*

SLUHSERS



Calendar

Wednesday, November 11

Xavier 5-7

Veterans Day	
LUNCH	Hand breaded chicken tenders
1:45-2:15PM	8th Grade Immersion Event Ambassador
Orientation	
7:00-9:00PM	Cinema for Students

Thursday, November 12

Ignatius 1-4

Mother's Club Cookie Sales	
LUNCH	Papa Johns
8:00AM-9:00PM	St. Louis U High Day Fundraising Event
2:45-5:15PM	Freshman Service
2:45-3:15PM	Magis Parents Prayer Group

Friday, November 13

Xavier 1-4

Mother's Club Cookie Sales	
LUNCH	Papa Johns
8:00AM-9:00PM	St. Louis U. High Day Fundraising Event
Release of District	Assignments for MSHSAA Winter Sports
9:00AM-2:00PM	Varsity Diving State Finals
2:45-3:15PM	Magis Parents Prayer Group
3:00-8:00PM	Varsity Swimming State Finals

Saturday, November 14

8:00AM-9:00PM	St. Louis U. High Day Fundraising Event
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Sunday, November 15

CISL Speech @ online

Monday, November 16

Ignatius 5-7

LUNCH	Chicken bites and chicken rings
1:50-2:50PM	Junior Class Mass
2:30-3:15PM	Confessions and Adoration in the SLUH Chapel
2:45-5:15PM	Freshman Service

Tuesday, November 17

Xavier 5-7

LUNCH	Chicken bites and chicken rings
1:50-2:50PM	Junior Class Mass

calendar | Jack Rybak

Happy Veterans Day!

Thanks to all of our veterans.

- Theology teacher **Chris Keevan**, Army Reserves from 1993-2001
- Assistant Principal for Academics **Tom Becvar**, Army from 1971-1972
- Maintenance worker **John Mersinger**, Army from 1986-1996
- Science tutor **Charlie Busenhart**,

Editor in Chief

Carter “mail-in ballots” Fortman

News Editor

Noah “my Canadian passport” Apprill-Sokol

Jacob “long lost twin brother” Sprock

Features Editor

Sam “The Sandman signed by Sean O’Brien” Tarter

Sports Editor

Luke “Waldo” Altier

Core Staff

Jack “Zub’s helmet” Rybak

Nathan “137 dollar bill” Rich

Jack “The BIBLE” Figge

Louis “Where is the Prep News room?” Cornett

Staff

Luke “a new camera” Duffy

Carter “my 8:30 AM Zoom link” Spence

Reporters

Peter “an XC singlet” James

Roarke “another article assignment” Unrau

Jared “Nerf gun” Thornberry

Artist

Jack “scamp’s merch” Janson

Will “crayons” Blaisdell

Charlie “toothpaste” Bieg

Alex “newspapers? Nance

Contributing Photographers

Brian “piano” Gilmore

Vic “SLUH Prep News Tweeter” Lewchenko

Kathy “periodic table” Chott

Advisor

Giuseppe “clues to the HapVinci code” Vitellaro

Moderator

Steve “You don’t want to know” Missey