

PREP NEWS

IF NOTHING ELSE
VALUE THE TRUTH

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The weekly student newspaper of
St. Louis University
High School
4970 Oakland Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63110
(314) 531-0330 ext. 2241
online at sluh.org/prep-news
prepnews@sluh.org

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Wait no more! SLUH's fall play hits the Schulte Theatre



(left to right) Andrew Marty, Donovan Meachem, and Joe Pottinger. photo | Luke Duffy

BY LUKE DUFFY, MARK WAPPLER, AND BEN CROAT
WEB EDITOR, STAFF, REPORTER

SLUH's long-awaited fall theatre production returned with last night's premiere of *Wait Until Dark*. This is the Dauphin Players' first in-person production of the year and it will take place in a Studio Show format.

Before Covid, the theater department regularly produced studio shows to alter the feel of

watching the play. Instead of using the whole theater, the audience is seated on risers on the stage. This limits the attendance capacity but allows for the audience to be closer to the action.

"They should feel like they are in the play," said theater teacher Kathryn Whitaker. "Different pieces of theater lend themselves to the need for intimacy and you should be feeling some of the fear and trepidation that the actors are feeling because it's right there in front of you."

The play itself is a thriller set in Greenwich Village, New York City during the 1960s. When photographer Sam Hendrix (junior John Madalon) leaves his blind wife Suzy (Nerinx senior Maclean Blanner) on a business trip, a situation unfolds where a doll in Suzy's possession is stuffed with heroin. Disaster follows when three criminals, led by the notorious Mr. Roat (senior Donovan Meachem) try to acquire the doll.

"It's not just one of those
continued on page 4

334 prospective families visit SLUH at Sunday's Open House

BY JACK FIGGE AND THOMAS JUERGENS
EDITOR IN CHIEF, REPORTER

Prospective students at St. Louis U. High's Open House event last Sunday were greeted not by a looming Mr. Schulte as they walked up the turnaround, but by a six and a half foot camel. The camel, along with the more traditional SLUH tour features, helped give prospective students and parents a great impression of SLUH.

Every year, SLUH joins its fellow Catholic institutions in hosting an Open House event on the first Sunday of November to provide middle schoolers the opportunity to tour a variety of different high schools around the St. Louis area. Open House has been a longstanding SLUH tradition as it provides prospective students and their parents with a chance to tour the campus and get a glimpse into the daily lives of students.

"It's kind of like Christ-

mas. It comes every year," said Director of Admissions Ann Murphy.

In years past, Open House was one of the few ways that prospective students could visit SLUH's campus. However, the recent addition of SLUH Night and the Shadow at SLUH program have made SLUH's campus more widely accessible for prospective students and their families. Despite this, the admissions team saw a high turnout rate to the Open House, with 334 families visiting the Backer memorial campus.

"What we try to do is plan an experience that is more interactive for the boys instead of just having them walk around and look at things," said Murphy.

One of the objectives that the Admissions Department wanted to communicate to the prospective families is that for SLUH students, going to school is not a chore, but is instead an activity that they enjoy doing.

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Ecstasy and Agony

Junior Zach Ortwerth's last minute touchdown propels SLUH football to District Final, while John Burroughs deals soccer a devastating loss in their most important game of the season



Zach Ortwerth's winning touchdown. photo | Baxter Southern



Senior Johnnie Ferrara mourning the loss. photo | Jack Figge

"We know not many people believe in us and that's what's been driving us this whole week and entire playoff run really. We believe in ourselves and come Friday we're going to go out and give it our all."

-Senior Chris Brooks

"We were obviously sad and disappointed that it came to an end this way. We had such a good year and then one game decided our fate, we were done. It was an unjust ending to an unreal season."

-Senior Ben Ridgway

Twenty students travel to D.C. for Teach-In

BY JACKSON COOPER AND LUCAS HAYDEN
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

Delegates from St. Louis U. High travelled to Washington, D.C. last week alongside students from the nation's 62 other Jesuit high schools and 28 Jesuit colleges for the annual Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice, the first time the event has taken place in-person in two years.

Twenty students made the trip to the nation's capital, accompanied by campus minister Simonie Anzalone, math teacher Craig Hannick, English teacher Jamie Cordia, and school counselor Mary Michalski. The group left St. Louis on Saturday, Nov. 6, and returned on Monday, Nov. 8, which meant that, due to the long weekend, students did not miss any school.

As in previous years, the teach-in served as an opportunity for students to learn more about areas of social justice and to meet with students from other parts of the country with
continued on page 4

Faculty retreat features talks and reflections on unity and diversity

BY MICHAEL BAUDENDISTEL
AND MICAH DOHERTY
STAFF REPORTER

While SLUH students enjoyed their day off of school on Monday, the faculty and staff participated in this year's first of two faculty retreats. The fall faculty retreat was planned by Assistant Principal for Mission Jim Linhares, along with numerous other members of the SLUH faculty that helped with the Mass, music, small group discussions, talks, and more.

According to Linhares, the planning for the retreat began in the spring, where his committee determined a site, speakers, and a theme. The retreat was held at the Marianist Retreat and Conference Center in Eureka, and the theme that the coordinators decided on was "Unity and Diversity."

"The topic of unity and diversity is a really relevant topic," said college counselor and Director of Equity and Inclusion Daniel Shields. "Not only in the school but in the country and in the world, so it was a really awesome opportunity to hear different perspectives and, honestly, get a chance to build a significant rapport with other colleagues that I don't usually get a chance to encounter during my daily interactions at SLUH. It was really just phenomenal."

These experiences of unity and diversity in SLUH are very relevant in our day and age especially after the pandemic these past two years. At home, it was especially hard for teachers to be able to interact with one an-

other and form new objectives for the school year. Now, as we are adjusting to routine life, it is critical that we continue to grow on these aspects.

The highlight of the retreat were the four main talks, given by Shields; theology teacher Chris Keeven; Fr. Billy Huette, SJ; and former SLUH theology teacher and current Director of Mission and Charism at Cor Jesu Danielle Harrison, a well-known, national level speaker on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

To develop the day's theme of unity, Shields took inspiration from a newspaper article from March 1965 that he had come across in his father's house about how his father was one of the first African Americans to attend the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. The article also alluded to a peaceful march led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., that went from Selma, Alabama to Montgomery that was later turned violent due to adversaries of the movement, but helped to enact the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

"I was asking myself, how could I use this story?" said Shields, "And honestly, it all kind of came together because all of



Fr. Huette preaching at Mass.

photo | Kathy Chott

these people that were protesting for civil rights, even my father and the interviewers, the other students that were interviewing him, were all standing united in diversity."

Linhares noted that the retreat is important for the faculty for several reasons.

"The faculty, working as hard as our folks do, need rest and room to do something other than crank away on their jobs. Then, in the broader school mission and identity, adults need to be formed. If you don't set aside time for that kind of activity every now and again, how are you going to stay rooted in why we do what we do?"

Since the retreat, Linhares says that he has received lots of positive feedback on all aspects of the day, ranging from the nice weather to the speeches.

"People have been very appreciative of the talks," said Linhares. "They've been very appreciative of their colleagues who shared reflections. I've gotten feedback on the great conversations that went on in small groups, the music was beautiful, and it really felt like people were praying together."

RetroBowl craze sweeps through the hallways of SLUH

BY ROARKE UNRAU
NEWS EDITOR

The last four years have seen the rise of many fads, such as Ugg boots, Flappy Golf, and the emergence of TikTok. Most recently, there has been a new game going around the hallways of St. Louis U. High that everyone is playing (outside of school hours of course). Currently the sixth most popular free game on the AppStore, everyone is playing RetroBowl, and for good reason.

RetroBowl is an arcade style football game that gives the player just two options for every play: pass or run. Players cannot play defense, only offense. The player then tries to march down the field and score a touchdown.

The game offers players a chance to choose which NFL team they want to play as, and take control of that franchise until they win the

RetroBowl, when they have a chance to switch to a new team if they wish. Although the game uses real teams, all the players and coaches in the game are fake.

"I stick with one (team), I have my main one. I didn't pick a team from the beginning, I randomized it and I've been the Detroit Lions for 18 (game) years," said sophomore Robert Lawyer.

No one could have predicted how fast RetroBowl would catch on at SLUH, as now members of each class are playing it. One of the reasons why RetroBowl is so popular is that the game has something for everyone to enjoy.

"You get to be a team manager, you get to be a coach, you get to recruit players, you get to play and win RetroBowls, and compete at the highest level. You'll never get to know the full scale of RetroBowl until you get to

experience the epic highs and lows of the game. You get to build player connections like I did with my quarterback Ross Lambo, he has 6 MVPs and 11 rings," said senior Nick Kramer. "I have the most wins for a coach, more than Bill Belichick."

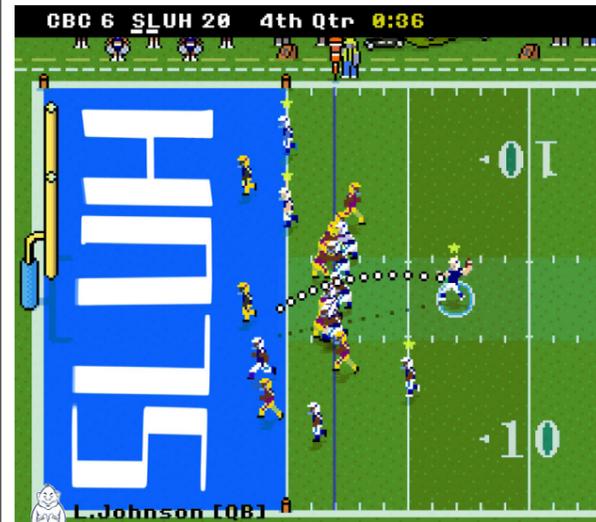
"I've been playing non-stop, I started three weeks ago and I am in year 10," said sophomore Tommy O'Keefe.

Lastly, the game offers a 99 cent upgrade for those who choose to take it. With the upgrade, players can have a 12-man roster instead of 10, name their team and players, and create jerseys for their new team. Still, some players have played for a while and never bought the upgrade, thinking it may not be worth it.

"I wanted the 12-man roster and the team editor function. I got it in one of the first weeks I played, I had a couple bucks on my Apple ID, so I said why not. But now I really do need the 12-man roster, it has come in clutch," said Lawyer.

"Most definitely, I highly recommend it, you get to have a 12-player team, you can name your team and players, it's pretty fun," said Kramer.

"I've been playing for 22 (game) years and I won 18 RetroBowls. I didn't think the 99 cents was worth it, I think the version I have still allows me to be the best coach in the league," said senior Matt Windler.



art | Colin Schuler

Amphibians and bubble soccer highlight sophomore fun day

BY DREW FIGGE AND
VINCENT WEINBAUER
REPORTERS

What's better than a day filled with snakes, burgers and running over classmates in giant bubbles? To the sophomores, this was the perfect concoction for their class fun day, which gave the sophomore class a relaxing day filled with bonding opportunities and rich memories.

The many sophomores who are part of the class council arrived early to set up the day for the rest of their class.

"A huge part of the planning credit goes to the class council and class representatives," said sophomore class moderator Frank Corley. "They worked really hard and came up with good ideas for activities to do."

The whole day was thought up by and carried out by members of the class council. For the most part, they had no guidance as to what to do or what could be done, giving them free range to create a fun day for their classmates.

"I was just like a supervisor," said Corley. "The class council and representatives did a lot of the work and had a lot of good ideas brainstorming."

The class council lead-

ers consisted of sophomores Kodi Cade, Keegan Kesterson, Archie Carruthers and Tim Browdy, who led the process in choosing each of the activities and coordinated with the faculty to find the materials needed.

"They went out and found what they needed," said Corley. "The class council found bubble soccer and the animal guy, which I thought was a great touch."

The day started off with a class-wide game of capture the flag. This was one of the main activities that many students were anticipating due to the hype it received earlier in the week.

"We thought it would be a fun way for class homerooms to battle it out," said class council member Henry McDaniels. "It turned out to be a great success and I think the class had a lot of fun."

Earlier in the week, each homeroom was given a flag to customize. When the time came, each homeroom would face another to duke it out in the beloved and classic game.

"It was a great activity to do outside" said sophomore William Sheffield. "It never got boring, It kept me entertained the whole day."

Another big hit was bubble soccer. Although it was intended to be a simple game of bubble soccer, many of the

students added their own flavor to the game. Many of the students ended up tackling each other and big bubbles ended up flying everywhere.

"It was really fun," said sophomore Daniel Sendobrey. "I really enjoyed being able to run people over and not worry about hurting anybody."

In addition to bubble soccer on the football field, in the Field House students could choose between the option of bashball or basketball. In typical SLUH fashion, the bashball games got pretty intense with two homerooms intensely going at it.

"It got intense really quick," said sophomore Matthew Johnson. "Both homerooms were giving it their all, it wasn't a casual game like I thought it would be but a full out bashball game."

For students interested in a more casual event, two activity locations were dedicated to games: board games in the Commons, and outside games on the upper field. Games in the Commons consisted of chess, Uno and poker, while outside games included Spike Ball, cornhole, and a more obscure game, four square volleyball.

One of the most unique moments for the sophomore fun day was that it didn't have a typical lunch. Corley came

up with the idea to have a couple of faculty members, including science teacher Bradley Mueller and president Alan Carruthers, prepare burgers and hot dogs to feast on.

"Something that doesn't happen here often enough that was a nice touch was that the teachers were cooking for the students," said Corley. "Usually it's just Mrs. Hylla and the cafeteria folks cooking the food, but it was nice to see the faculty cook all morning and hang out."

To wrap up the day, the students found a pleasant surprise in a presentation from

amphibious animal expert Serengeti Steve, who brought five of his reptilian animalas into the Si Commons, including a 17-foot python to showcase to the sophomore class.

"I think the top part of the day was the animal presentation," said sophomore John Posey. "Being able to hold all those cool exotic animals was awesome. You don't get to see those animals every day."

Although some students didn't enjoy being so close to the reptiles, the majority of the class found it very entertaining and a great way to end the bonding experience with their classmates.

"Some people hated the animals," said Corley. "They ran away from the alligator and the snake, but I think overall people really loved it."

Many of the sophomores responded to the day positively, and the class council felt that the students really enjoyed it.

"I was afraid that a lot of kids would look at the calendar and say, everybody else is at home and I have to be at school today," explained Corley. "But to just hang out here and have fun with friends is a really important experience for guys and I think they really enjoyed the day."



Sophomores hold snake on fun day.

photo | Kathy Chott

Farmyard to schoolyard: How two SLUH teachers grew up in rural America



The Carroll family photo | courtesy of Jennifer Carroll

BY LUKE DUFFY
WEB EDITOR

When students at St. Louis U. High think of their teachers' upbringings, they may tend to imagine reading, studying, and working, not milking cows, chopping wood, and canning vegetables. Two faculty members at SLUH today were not always connoisseurs of the academic subjects; instead, they grew up on rural family farms.

English teacher Jennifer Carroll and Math teacher Walker Yane each grew up on modest rural estates secluded from the hustle and bustle of city life, a lifestyle most SLUH students can relate to. While they share these similar backgrounds, Carroll and Yane also have a lot of differences when it comes to how they grew up.

Carroll grew up near Kra-

know, Missouri, a town so small that it's not on the map. Her family farm was very conventional and focused mostly on livestock.

"They would have anywhere between 20 to 50 head of cattle, these are all beef cattle, they're not dairy cattle, so they ship them and other people raise them to when they're ready to be slaughtered for beef," said Carroll. "When I was in grade school, my dad sold all the hogs, in the '80s pork prices were very low, so my dad was not making a lot of money and so he sold all the hogs and he has just maintained his herd of cattle ever since then."

For such a grand agricultural operation, it took the whole Carroll family to keep things moving. The farm was a family tradition, and Carroll's parents, aunts and uncles, and grand-

parents lived there together.

"The farm has been in my family for awhile, we are probably approaching the 100-year point," said Carroll. "I think my grandfather was born in 1918, and I think the story is that his family moved to that farm when he was three years old, which would have been right at 100 years now. He spent his entire life there. My father still lives there and he grew up there. So my grandparents' house is on the property kind of right next to where my parents now live."

Carroll's house on the farm was built in the 1980s, but still did not have heat. Part of living on the farm involved keeping the house warm and preserving food for the winter.

"We would spend Thanksgiving break pulling down whatever trees we had identified during the summer as dead and cut those down," said Carroll. "We did have a lot of gardens growing up; at the highest point we had three gardens. My mom, my aunt, and I grew up canning a ton of stuff. We would can green beans, tomatoes, and all kinds of stuff in the garden."

Carroll's parents were both high school teachers and ran the farm on top of that.

"I don't know how they did it or when they slept," said Carroll. "They would teach the normal eight-to-three sched-

ule and then they would come home and I know it was hard. My dad basically would come home and he would be outside working and helping his dad with the farm until dark."

Yane's story has many parallels to Carroll's. He grew up in the town of Oldenburg, Indiana, population 674. But his home was less of a farmstead and more of a log cabin in the woods.

"My parents own 87 acres in a really hilly, rocky wooded area, so it's not very good for farming in general," said Yane. "The point wasn't to really farm; my parents were back-to-the-land types. Growing up, we always had 50 chickens, six cows, 10 pigs and a big garden. That was pretty much the general vibe of the place."

Yane's parents built a log cabin for his family on the land. The cabin provided the very basic necessities for life, excluding heat and air conditioning. Growing up, Yane took on many responsibilities to keep the farm running smoothly.

"My summer job was to split eight cords of wood for the winter and we also did a ton of canning," said Yane. "We pick two days at the end of the summer and into the fall and we just do beans one day, and another day we do tomatoes and can a bunch of tomatoes, that sort of thing. So we had canned food throughout the winter."

Much like Carroll, Yane's parents were both teachers at a local school. Over the long summer break, they could devote most of their energy toward upkeep of the property. Although Yane had a unique home life, his education was more ordinary. He went to a local grade school near his house, and then for high school he ventured into Cincinnati to attend St. Xavier High School, which was over an hour away from his small town.

"That was a lot, but there was a group of us from the town kind of near me, maybe four or five of us went in, so we had a big carpool," said Yane. "So it'd be a drive into town, get picked up, fall asleep in the carpool van."

Both Carroll and Yane became aware of their unique living situations at a young age. They knew their peers had different experiences from them and were more exposed to the outside world.

"I don't know that any of my friends even grew up on a farm," said Carroll. "So even as a kid growing up, I was aware that this is kind of different. Certainly, you know, a lot of people might have owned more property, it was a little bit more rural, but I don't know that many of them grew up on a farm."

"Basically it would be like, I would go over to my friend's house and we would watch TV,"

said Yane. "That was cool, but I mean, I was out in the middle of nowhere, a lot of my friends were at least removed from a town. None of my friends lived in a city until I went to high school; once I went to high school I was acutely aware that my upbringing was significantly different."

Carroll and Yane are examples that SLUH teachers come from all walks of life. They grew up chopping wood and tending to cattle; now they teach Shakespeare and geometric proofs. Both of them still have family living on their childhood farms and visit their childhood homes frequently.

"I still spend at least a month there every summer," said Yane. "I spend a couple of weeks in the winter, you know, that sort of thing. I still spend a significant amount of time there. And, in fact, the move to St. Louis, part of the reason was to be able to take a good weekend, if maybe we have Monday or Friday off, and it's only five hours away, so I can drive there now."

"The thing that I became very aware of growing up was the tradeoffs and the choices," said Carroll. "My dad still gets up at 4:30 in the morning to take care of cows and it is so much work. Some of the opportunities and the experiences I have I would not be able to have if I didn't live out there."

PN Crossword: TikTok

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14						15			16				
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54	55	56							57				
58						59			60				
61						62				63			

crossword | Paul Baudendistel

- ACROSS
- Fasten
 - Electrical outlet safety feature (abbr.)
 - "_____ looks like a duck, ..."
 - The Gateway to the Ozarks, and a South City street between Itaska and Nottingham
 - Possess
 - *Trivial complaint
 - Subway line that ends at the World Trade Center
 - *Sport with a ball that weighs about the same as a penny
 - *Bird often heard but not seen
 - Rip-off of the Hydrox cookie
 - Second leading scorer in Brazil soccer history
 - *Common swimming kick
 - Number of trips around the Sun
 - Exclamation as the saganaki flames
 - *Gang fight

- Tech. now accurate to within 30 centimeters
- Its channels include Classic and Deportes
- Stand up
- *Soda, in the western United States
- Came to a stop
- Moderate tide
- *Rat out
- Each Supreme Leader in the 70+-year history of North Korea
- Boston Tea Party objection
- *Start of a card game
- Dodgers' Duke or Twisted Sister's Dee
- Peer of Alexa
- TikTok, e.g., and each of this puzzle's theme entries
- *Certain chocolate cake
- Chooser, formally
- *Pole extending from a mast
- Egg _____
- Strength of character (but

- not steel, exactly)
 - Moth with moon-like spots
 - Marshal's bane in Stratego
 - Pink, in Pamplona
- DOWN
- Starting fresh
 - Arabic version of "t"
 - Actress Spelling or singer Amos
 - "Stat!"
 - Chain named after a dried jalapeño
 - Award recipient
 - Action camera
 - "This may or may not be useful," in textspeak
 - There are usually 8 1/2 of these, not 9
 - Suggest strongly
 - Egg _____ young
 - Actor McKellen or author Fleming
 - Star Trek version
 - Once popular TV show

- about a high school club
- "_____ the land of the free ..."
- Rapper Yaslin Bey, who played Ford Prefect onscreen
- Word after curb or sex
- Cuckoo's Nest protagonist McMurphy or Vikings HoF John
- Hot dogs
- Entice
- Home of the Hurricanes
- Recipe amt.
- TikTok, e.g.
- One with over 100 different names in the Bible
- "Sufficient," in textspeak
- Chicken _____
- One providing supplies
- Leaves on an island
- Hallucinogenic fungus, informally
- Care for, as a garden
- Opposite of 36-Across
- Belief that includes an anagram of 34-Down
- Like the skin of an elephant or a naked mole rat
- L-Q link
- He drives Lisa and Bart to school
- Food
- Attending a Dodgers game, e.g.
- Had food
- Two-bagger (abbr.)
- Letters for debtors
- Prefix with fat or fiction

Congratulations to Tom Reitenbach 'go and Angie Reitenbach for completing last week's crossword!

SATIRE

Camel chaos causes confusion on campus

MICHAEL BAUDENDISTEL
STAFF

St. Louis U. High's Open House Sunday ended in frenzied terror after a camel burst free from its restraints. The camel forced a mad dash down the turnaround as students attempted to escape the imminent dromedarian threat.

SLUH tour guides and faculty members could do nothing but watch in horror as prospective students and their families were attacked by the mysterious camel stampeding through the turnaround during Open House.

"I barely made it out alive!" said an anonymous eighth grader, frantically scraping dirt from his legs and shaking hay out of his jacket. "The camel trampled 12 of us and kicked both of my parents off of their feet."

The strange animal spontaneously appeared outside of the Field House mere minutes before the first Open House tours left, leaving tour guides and faculty members befuddled as to the cause of the camel's appearance.

After the chaotic episode had concluded, a representative of One World Club came forward to address the situation.

"We are saddened to hear about the camel's outburst, but we thought that having the animal here would be a good idea," said the anonymous One World Club member, subtly flexing his international flag

lanyard. "We wanted an animal that was pretty boring, but also one that would catch the attention of the prospective students. Our first thought was a sloth, then someone threw out the idea of bringing in some type of rodent, but we eventually settled on the camel."

At approximately 1:05 on Sunday, the camel reportedly lashed out at a few families visiting SLUH for the day, throwing the Billiken blanket from its hump. SLUH faculty and the camel's caretaker attempted to calm it down, but the animal grew too angry to be restrained, and it eventually stampeded across campus, injuring at least 10 prospective students and four current students while wrecking havoc.

"It was not a good look for SLUH," said tour guide Alex Preusser as he held a cloth to his bloodied arm. "I just hope these students will look past this one unfortunate accident."

"In my 20 years as a police officer I have never seen a tragedy as gruesome as this," said Director of Security and ex-police sergeant Dan Schulte, wiping tears from his eyes. "It's just sad to see."

Following the incident, CBC announced that they are no longer planning on bringing sheep to their Open House, and De Smet has severed ties with the owners of the dolphin that they have used to attract students to the school for years. Vianney has yet to cancel their rhinoceros order.

SLUH students and faculty work to show prospective families what SLUH is all about



Senior Joe LaBarge leads a tour.

photo | Michael Urbanski

(continued from page 1)

"I want people to know that, while you still have to go to class, take tests, study, and do all that work that's important for you to prepare for college and beyond, you guys are here and enjoying it," said Murphy.

To accomplish this, the Admissions office relied on the entire school community. Hundreds of student volunteers gave tours and staffed club tables and displays. In addition, many teachers and faculty members spent their Sunday helping to showcase their departments and clubs

to the prospective families.

"It really is a community effort. It's everyone working together to be here and to represent the school," said Murphy.

Immediately upon exiting their cars, prospective students were confronted with the savory aroma of grilled meat.

"As soon as you got out of your car you came up, and you were greeted by the Father's Club, Mr. Stahl, and some other students from the Tailgate Club who were doing some grilling. It's just a nice welcoming part," said

Murphy.

As the families walked up the turnaround, they were enthusiastically greeted by members of SLUH's chamber orchestra, students from the Circus Club performing their various acts, and a camel, a display meant to draw attention to SLUH's Global Education program.

Families checked into the Field House, where they were paired up with a student ambassador to be given a tour of the school building and its facilities. These personal tours allowed prospective students and families to have a tour

formatted to their own interests and questions.

"(Because there were so many people there) we had to have guys who weren't necessarily planning to give tours, give tours. We also had some guys taking multiple families," said Assistant Director of Admissions Adam Cruz.

The tour highlighted many of the school's most unique and interesting facets, including lively experiments performed by SLUH science students, a chance to observe SLUH's rifle team in action, and demonstrations by SLUH's robotics team.

"The different demonstrations showed families what we do here and how SLUH is not purely focused on lectures, but we get to have hands-on experience," said sophomore Charlie Gray.

The tour concluded in the Commons, where a variety of clubs and organizations had set up displays to give families a glimpse into SLUH students' lives outside of the classroom.

"I think it is of great importance for future students to get a taste of the club life at SLUH that we so often pride ourselves on," said STUCO president AJ Thompson. "That way the young men get to see all that we have to offer, and encounter more than one person's take on the school and explore the school in a

more in depth way."

By the end of the day, 334 families had visited SLUH's campus, with the majority of the students being seventh grade students. Fifty-one fifth and sixth grade families, 162 seventh grade families, and 116 eighth grade families visited.

"It was great being able to show families around the building because I was able to show them how great of a school SLUH is and how much it means to me," said sophomore Declan Richards.

"A blessing we have is for a lot of people, whether because we're their first choice or in the city or what have you, we're their first stop. So it's very hectic from 11 till 1 or 1:30. There's a lot of people there early and it kind of trickles throughout the rest of

the day," said Cruz.

With the large numbers of prospective students flooding into the school in the early afternoon, some tour guides had to take multiple families, while other SLUH students who weren't tour guides stepped up to give tours.

In the end, prospective parents and students alike enjoyed their experience at SLUH.

"There was a mom who actually felt like she was walking around what she called Pleasantville," said Murphy. "She was commenting on that vibe of having everyone engaged, everyone is joyful, and an all around 'I'm happy to be here,' spirit and I think that's important to project when you're showcasing your school."



Sr. Robert Mize in the science room. photo | Michael Urbanski

Lights! Camera! Action! Dauphin Players present *Wait Until Dark*

(continued from page 1)

plays where you can sit back; it's a much more attentive form of entertainment," said Whitaker. "You have to listen; there is so much information relayed that you really need to follow it. Part of the actor's job is to keep us engaged in living through the telling of the story. But there's a lot of detail and it is very hard to understand if you're not paying close attention."

Lighting plays a major role in the production. True to its name, *Wait Until Dark* features multiple scenes in dim lighting and complete darkness. This builds suspense for the audience sitting just feet away from the performers.

"The main character is blind and she uses lights as a weapon at times," said theater teacher Kevin McKernan. "The show is a thriller and criminals are out to get her essentially. So she uses lights at different times throughout the show, as signals or weapons because the other characters are able to see."

This play is a sharp turn away from SLUH theater productions in recent years. Nevertheless, the Dauphin Players were eager to take on the challenge.

"I just thought it'd be fun to do a thriller," said McKernan. "I mean, that's kind of unique to see on stage. I thought that it was very Alfred Hitchcock inspired even though he never directed this show. When I was a kid, I liked Hitchcock movies and it's kind of like that sort of listening suspense thing and I thought

that would be super fun."

Part of what makes *Wait Until Dark* so special is the closeness and focused nature of the production. Not only is the audience physically close to the action due to the studio format, the cast is smaller and therefore more connected.

"It's really good to know your fellow actors as people because then you can connect with them easily off the stage and on the stage," said Meachem. "When you connect with them off the stage it just brings more life to the show."

Being a thriller, *Wait Until Dark* includes mature themes and layered characters, posing an added challenge for actors to get into character.

"It was very difficult at first because my character is supposed to be a sadistic, menacing, egotistical maniac," said Meachem. "Ms. Whitaker was like this is not your character but you're going to get into it, you're going to do that whole transformation arc. It was really hard the first month of rehearsal, but then I was like, you know what, it's not about being liked on stage, it's about just doing the job."

The fall play premiered last night. The next showings will be a matinee for theater students today at 10:00 a.m. for the theater students, Saturday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 14 at 2:00 p.m. Since there is limited seating, to attend a showing, email McKernan at kmckernan@sluh.org to reserve your ticket.

Students inspired by various Jesuit speakers, learn how to advocate for marginalized

(continued from page 1)

similar interests. This year's conference focused largely on migration and ecological justice, two areas which have grown more pertinent as the migrant crisis at the border worsens and global warming issues have been brought to the forefront of global politics.

The first keynote speaker was Fr. Bryan Massingale SJ, a professor of theology and social ethics at Fordham University, a Jesuit school in New York City. Massingale focused much of his talk on the extent of being pro-life, a message that resonated with many in the audience.

"(Fr. Massingale) was incredibly inspirational, just because of the way he sees everyone as a unique individual. He also explained how life goes from conception all the way through to natural death," said Anzalone.

Massingale was followed by fellow Jesuit Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, whose work centers around rehabilitating gang members suffering from addiction and other hardships. Boyle's talk on justice was universally well-received by the SLUH delegation, who were inspired by Boyle's life of compassion and service to the poor.

"I would say that Fr. Boyle is the most prophetic voice I've ever heard," said Anzalone. "If you aren't familiar with his work, he founded a group called Homeboy Industries, which takes gang members, and, if they are willing to get help,

he will take them in and get them help and get them jobs. I think Andrew Moffett, a sophomore who was on the trip, said it best: 'I feel like we were witnessing a saint, someone who will be canonized at some point.'"

"Fr. Boyle really made an impact on me," added Moffett in an email to the *Prep News*. "He spoke about his selfless 40 years of rehabilitating gang members, and about how he had changed thousands of men. He showed them how to love, and what it feels like to be loved. Fr. Boyle was the only person that I had ever felt a holiness come from."

After the presentations, students were broken up into small groups along with stu-

dents from other schools, an opportunity which was greatly missed during last year's virtual teach-in. While in these small groups, students from around the country were able to bond over their shared interest in social justice issues.

In addition to the keynote speeches and breakout sessions of the conference, students were also able to spend free time visiting the various attractions the city has to offer. Highlights included a candlelight vigil in front of the White House and a visit to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture—the newest and most-recently renovated Smithsonian museum, having been moved to

its current location in 2016.

Alongside sightseeing, members of the SLUH delegation were also able to take advantage of their time in Washington by visiting the U.S. Capitol and writing letters of advocacy to elected officials from Missouri.

"The most important thing we learned was that our voices both individually and collectively need to be heard," said Hannick. "We do a lot of good work, visiting Capitol Hill and advocating with our legislators. I was very impressed with (our students') diligence, and their ability to articulate their passion in letters that they wrote to their elected officials."



Students and faculty at the Teach-In.

photo | Courtesy of Craig Hannick.

SPORTS



Sophomore Mattie Peretz in the District Final last Wednesday.

photo | Miles Schulte

After taking the District Championship, SLUH Swim and Dive is ready to turn heads in several events at the state meet

BY ALEX WENTZ
REPORTER

The time has come. Today, the Jr. Bills will be immersed in a great war of the waters; a bout that decides the fate of the state. After asserting their district dominance last week they now seek to snag a state title. Today the swimmers are competing in the prelims portion of the meet, in which they fight to qualify for tomorrow's finals, which will take place at 3:00 p.m. in the St. Peters Rec-Plex. Understandably, hopes are high going into the meet.

"I'm really excited for (the meet)," said freshman Evan Zimmerman. "I don't get to swim, but I'm going to be the loudest person on deck."

This year the SLUH squad had 17 individuals qualify with at least one person swimming in each event. Qualifying for the meet requires placing top 32 in the state, but in order to earn the team points, a swim-

mer must place in at least the top 16 at today's prelims.

"The goal is to get best times," said head coach Lindsey Ehret. "We've got 13 top 16 seeds, but we have 28 total swims, so there are 15 opportunities for improvement in prelims. We have some kids seeded dead last, so any movement up is a positive thing."

Representing the U. High in the 200 freestyle is the quintessential quartet of junior Brandon Harris (19th), junior Brendan Schroeder (26th), freshman Greyson Mueller (29th), and freshman Jaden Yarbrough (32nd).

For the 200 IM the terrific trio of senior Ned Mehmeti (4th), freshman Ben Chumley (22nd), and sophomore Aidan Brawer (30th) will torpedo through the water trying to claim victory.

"I am really pumped up," said Brawer. "I'm really excited that I get the opportunity to help the team out. I just want to go a good time and help the

team the best I can."

On the sprint side of the sport, SLUH's trifecta of thunder, fast as lightning in the 50 free, are senior Jonas Hostetler (4th), junior Jason Cabra (5th), and sophomore Henry Unger (28th). Hostetler (7th) and Cabra (8th) also float side by side in the 100 free.

Senior Cooper Scharff will take on the 100 butterfly from the second seed, prepared to break another record. Also involved in the fly fray is junior Gavin Baldes (21st), sophomore Mattie Peretz (2th), and senior Brody "Bro-Derek" Nester (31st).

"I feel like I will do well," said Nester. "You can never really know until the race, but I am going to try to keep consistent solid (form) while keeping a fast stroke rate."

Hoping to display distance dominance is the feared foursome of Mehmeti, Yarbrough, Mueller, and Schroeder. All four swimmers placed within the top 20 in the 500 free and

will represent SLUH in the event.

Just barely staying afloat, Nester is SLUH's sole representative in the 100 breaststroke. Nester sits at 32nd after he qualified by the smallest margin possible.

The standout solo events for the team will be the 100 backstroke and 1-meter diving. In both events, SLUH's swimmers are seeded first. Scharff will plunge through the pool with the efficiency of a giant squid in the 100 backstroke, and senior Sebastian Lawrence will twist himself in the air with the precision of a dolphin during his dives.

"Hopes are high," said junior Solomon Shelton. "We've been putting the work in this season, though it's been a tough season with everything going on, but we made it through and we're about to show it (at state)."

More valuable than any individual event, the team will rely on relays to claim the vic-

tory, as they are worth twice the points of a normal race. In the 200 medley relay, Hostetler, Mehmeti, Scharff, and Cabra combine their skills for a 4th place seeding. In the 200 freestyle relay, the boys in blue blowing away the competition will be sophomore Kearney Foy as well as Chumley, Unger, and Baldes. The team placed 10th in that event prior to state. Finally, the SLUH swimming powerhouses are all gathered in the 400 freestyle relay, creating an unstoppable team of Hostetler, Mehmeti, Cabra, and Scharff. While seeded 2nd, the relay team has what it takes to rise above its station and claim the state title.

"I'm feeling great," said Peretz. "As a team we have just been focusing so hard on tapering and getting ready for this. I feel like coach and her vision are all in line for what's going to happen (at state)."

The SLUH swim and dive team has toiled in rough waters for 14 weeks, all leading to this

final battle. No matter what happens today and tomorrow, the immense work and effort each swimmer on the state team has put in throughout the season is something they will always have with them. SLUH's main competition will be Lee's Summit West, who have six first seed events, and Rockhurst, who are the returning champions from last year. In the presence of Titans and Hawklets, the fearless Jr. Bills stand tall, ready to conquer the state once and for all.

"There has been a really long time between (the) conference (meet) and state, so it's been a hard balance of staying in shape and staying sharp in terms of speed, and resting," said Ehret. "We've had so much illness and people out for various reasons this season, so we're going to hope for the best. We'll see what we can achieve on Saturday. I am very confident we can get a trophy, the number on it I am not quite sure yet."

Last-minute heroics propel football to victory over Marquette, now set for District Final showdown with CBC



Sophomore Ryan Wingo shakes off two Marquette defenders

photo | Baxter Southern

BY COBY SPRATTE
CORE STAFF

SLUH football is headed to CBC! The Jr. Bills proved they have some magic left in them in their 35-28 win against No. 2 seed Marquette last Friday in the District semifinals.

Marquette opted to receive the opening kickoff, but they couldn't spur their offense right off the bat. They punted from their own 20-yard line which set up SLUH inside the Mustang 50, poised to make an early statement.

SLUH marched through Mustang territory, aided by a third down offside penalty which catapulted them into the red zone. From there, senior quarterback Luke Johnston connected with senior wideout Chris Brooks for a 19-yard score with 7:16 remaining in the first quarter. This continued SLUH's postseason streak of early touchdowns.

Marquette, however, didn't lay down like Lindbergh did the previous week. They responded on the following drive with a commanding 80-yard touchdown march, punching it into the end zone via a 15-yard touchdown pass with 3:07 left in the opening quarter.

The Jr. Bills jabbed right back with a 63-yard kick return by senior Tommy Etling to set up SLUH at the Mustang 9-yard line. Brooks posted his second score of the day, taking a direct snap two yards on a third down conversion, making it 14-7 Jr. Bills with 1:07 left in the first quarter.

"I think it's just been great preparation, not only by me, but the entire offense," said Brooks on the topic of his recent success.

Marquette continued to respond to the Jr. Billikens' offensive success, manhandling the SLUH defense as they manufactured another strong scor-

ing drive and tied the game by virtue of a 1-yard QB run with 10:00 to go in the first half.

The Jr. Billikens brought out the fireworks on their next drive. On just the fourth offensive play from scrimmage in the second quarter, Johnston connected with sophomore Ryan Wingo for a 67-yard touchdown score with 9:11 to go in the opening half.

The Mustangs continued to match the Jr. Bill offensive attack, and, with help of a big passing play, knotted the score at 21 with 6:55 to go in the half. This would prove to be the final scoring play of the first half, and both sides entered the locker room in a 21-21 tie.

The first half was largely controlled by the offensive showcases both teams put forward. The second half, conversely, was largely controlled by defensive efforts of both sides.

"The offense really carried the team in the first half, and the

defense played a lot better in the second half," noted head coach Mike Jones. "Both sides of the ball really contributed."

Neither team could string together a substantial scoring drive until 4:15 remaining in the third quarter. The offense manufactured a fruitful drive, and Brooks notched his third touchdown of the game, again running it in from the wildcat formation to make it a 28-21 contest.

The next 14 minutes of game clock was largely characterized by mutual defensive stands and subsequent punts.

"We were able to tackle the football," Jones said. "We made some great plays."

It seemed as if the Jr. Bills might be able to scrape out a win without any more offensive production, but the Mustangs finally broke the second half Jr. Bill defensive excellence.

The Mustangs tied the game with 2:11 remaining, capped off by a 5-yard touchdown run, yet they should have known they left way too much time on the board for the Jr. Billikens offense.

Senior Andre Tucker swung the momentum right back to the SLUH sideline, and set up the offense for success with a 36-yard squib kick return down to the Mustang 45.

Marquette's defense didn't make it easy for the Jr. Bills, but Johnston kept the drive going and moved the chains with a third down scramble when the Jr. Billikens' backs were against the wall.

SLUH was content with driving into field goal range and giving senior kicker Connor Greninger a chance to walk off the game, but they never ruled

out the thought of posting seven rather than three.

With less than 30 seconds left in the game, Johnston lobbed the ball over the top of the defense and found junior tight end Zach Ortwerth in the back of the end zone. Ortwerth tapped two feet in bounds and put the Jr. Bills up by 7.

"After the catch I was just excited to contribute to a good team win," Ortwerth said. "I had an opportunity to make a play and I made it."

Marquette still had a chance to answer, and had a great starting field position to do so. The possible late game Marquette heroics were deterred on the first play the Mustangs ran, though, as Brooks sealed the win for SLUH with a clutch interception.

"It was great," Brooks said. "It's always great to help contribute to a win of that magnitude. ... I'm just happy that my actions helped lead to such a big win."

Johnston, again, led the offense, posting 220 yards on 16 for 26 passing with three touchdowns and two interceptions. He also surpassed 2,000 passing yards this season, the most in a single season at SLUH since Trevor McDonough threw for 3,440 on the 2011 Final Four team.

Johnston's success was made possible by the balanced receiving corps around him. Brooks contributed 4 catches for 58 yards, Wingo grabbed 2 for 88, Tucker snagged 2 for 6, and the Ortwerth brothers had four catches apiece, Zach going for 57 yards and Craig going for 11 yards.

The Jr. Bill air attack was

complemented by 109 yards on the ground, with Tucker leading the way with 47 yards, followed by Brooks with 19, senior Derrick Baker and Johnston with 17, and Wingo adding 9.

"I think that as an offense we have been executing well," Ortwerth added. "We've been able to run the ball consistently, allowing us to open up the passing game."

The defense also came up huge, as senior Philip Bone, junior Louis Kertz, Ortwerth, senior Cayden Owens, senior Pierston Sanders, and senior DonTavion Sullivan each recorded a sack.

Owens led the team with 14 tackles, Kertz contributed another 12, and Etling came up with his fourth interception of the season, the most since Tony Adams snagged six in 2015.

This gritty, hard-nosed win has earned the Jr. Billikens a date with the top seeded CBC Cadets in the District Championship, the furthest they have advanced since 2011.

They will face a familiar foe in CBC, a team they haven't beaten since 2005.

The Jr. Billikens faced CBC earlier this season and lost 59-27 in a game the Jr. Bills were leading 21-17. They will look to make some adjustments, trust their fundamentals, and bounce back this week, in order to advance to the State Semifinals as the heavy underdog.

"We know not many people believe in us and that's what's been driving us this whole week and entire playoff run really," Brooks said. "We believe in ourselves and come Friday we're going to go out and give it our all."

Impressive wins over Howell Central and Ozark send Esports into state playoffs



art | Will Blaisdell

BY JACK KUHLMAN
REPORTER

The SLUH Varsity Blue Rocket League team mounted an impressive comeback against Francis Howell Central Silver and swept Ozark High School to earn their spot in the upcoming state playoffs.

The team, composed of senior Cam Gegg and sophomores Zeke Esswein and Hunter Mueller, earned the top seed and a first-round bye in Tuesday's play-in bracket following a forfeit by their week 8 opponent to end the regular season. Because of a massive tie between 11 teams with a record of 5-3, a small tournament was organized to decide who would appear in the seventh and eighth seeds in the playoffs. The two top teams in the bracket would

earn their spot in the bottom two seeds.

Francis Howell Central came out flying in the series, invigorated by a blowout performance in their first round matchup. They took the first game 4-2, pulling ahead halfway through and never looking back. Game two began with two goals to the side of FHC, an obstacle SLUH was unable to overcome, winning 2-1 when all was said and done. Gegg was the only SLUH player to find success on offense, scoring all three of the team's goals.

In game three, it was Gegg once again to lead SLUH's offense. He capitalized on a weak hit from FHC to give SLUH an early lead. However, the game was tied back up at one on a botched challenge from Gegg. He later redeemed himself with

a crucial save on a hard hit shot in the final minute, sending the game into overtime. FHC quickly found a breakaway moment, but was halted as the ball went just too far for them to find a good enough angle to make the shot and end SLUH's season. Esswein soon found an opening and bounced the ball up to Gegg who put away the game-winning goal.

"We had kind of that fight or flight mentality," Gegg said. "If we lose this, we're going home. We're not in this awesome facility, talking to these guys anymore, or playing the game we love, so we knew we had to kick it in right then."

SLUH carried that momentum into game four, where they won 2-0. The match featured early goals from Esswein and Mueller and very tight defense to shut out FHC. By game five it was clear that SLUH had found their stride, as they dominated in every aspect of the game to win 10-2, completing the reverse sweep and sending them into the match that would ultimately determine their playoff status.

"Game five we just had all the momentum," Mueller commented in a post-game interview. "You can't stop it after that ... we were flying on them and they could not get the ball out of

their half for a second"

The match against Ozark High School would prove to be much easier for the team, with Esswein leading the charge with three goals in game one to grab a 6-2 win. The scoring torch was passed back to Gegg in game two, where he scored three goals to solidify a 4-2 win. Mueller found two assists in that game, one of them on an aerial pass to Gegg for one of the team's flashiest goals of the season. It would be domination once more in game three, as SLUH earned their spot in the playoffs on a 5-1 win.

"Once we found that pressure, and once we found how to get in there, we just locked it in and we've kept it since," Esswein remarked.

While the team did lose the final matchup to Blue Springs South after a game four loss in overtime, it was only for placement and SLUH will be playing in the No. 8 seed as a result. This means they will be matched up against the top team in the league, Rock Bridge Gold, tomorrow morning at the Science Center. The playoffs will be held in the Omnimax theater starting at 9:00 am, and tickets can be found online on the Science Center website if you want to come down and root for the team.

Hockey dominates in first game of the season!



photo | Gina Bak

11/6-Francis Howell

SLUH: 2 2 1 5

Francis Howell: 1 0 0 1

Goals: Ben Winkleman (3), Logan Petlansky (1), Max Sextro (1)

XC races to fourth at state with three all-state runners; trophy streak now sits at four years



Varsity runners celebrate with hardware after the state meet.

photo | Brian Gilmore

BY SEAN KELLOGG AND
JOE LABARGE
REPORTERS

The SLUH Jr. Billikens went up against the toughest teams in the state last Friday at the Gans Creek State course in Columbia, and the fastest times that the course has ever seen to bring home a fourth place trophy, adding to their four-year podium streak. Finishing just five points behind third place Liberty North, the Bills finished the season with a strong closing race to cap off a great year. By putting three racers in the top 25, each earning All-State designations, SLUH tied its record for most All-

State runners at a State meet, proving the immense competition Missouri running has produced this year.

On the morning of race day, the team arrived at the Gans Creek Course to prepare for the race, warming up around the course and keeping up with the races before their own. Despite a couple of muddy turns from the SEC Championships that had been held at the course a week before, the course was in good condition and ready to help the team produce some fast times.

"Watching the Class 4 race before us we knew that the times were going to be very fast," said head coach Joe Por-

ter. "The winner had run 15:15 and after him there were a total of 15 runners who were able to break the 16 minute mark."

As the varsity squad warmed up, a plethora of SLUH runners and classmates who had made the trip out to Columbia showed up at the course and helped to give some encouragement to their classmates as they prepared to go to the starting line, even singing the famed "Oh when the Bills" chant just prior to the starting gun.

As the race kicked off, the leaders flew from the very beginning. Even with the aggressive pace up front, the SLUH contingent didn't get discom-

bobulated and they steadily moved up. Through the first kilometer there were 14 athletes running a sub-15 minute pace. SLUH found themselves with 153 points and in third place after the first kilometer.

From then on, SLUH and three other teams had distinguished themselves as the four podium teams on the day—it was just a matter of in what order they would finish. For the next three kilometers, almost every SLUH runner was able to move up and by the time they reached the fourth kilometer they had lowered their score all the way down to 109, fourth place in the team scores. After fading a little bit in the last kilometer, SLUH ended with 116 points and a fourth place team finish.

Although SLUH did not win the race, the Jr. Bills achieved an average top five time of 16:00, which is faster than many previous state-winning teams. Leading the top five SLUH runners was Grant Brawley with an unexpected breakout race, placing 11th overall and setting a huge 33-second PR, running a time of 15:41, which was the third fastest time ever recorded in SLUH's program history. Senior Sean Kellogg followed with a very impressive 16th place finish and a time of 15:47, the fifth fastest SLUH time ever. Senior Baker Pashea was

the final All-State runner, placing 23rd with a time of 15:53, beating his old personal record by 18 seconds. Seniors Justin Glass (48th; 16:18) and Joe LaBarge (50th, 16:19) finished together, rounding out the scoring for the Jr. Bills. Tim Greiner ran a superb race, becoming the fastest six man in SLUH state history, running 16:19 (a 19-second PR) and placing 54th. Charlie Murray rounded out the day for the Jr. Bills with a time of 17:13 and placing 131st. This very impressive day led to SLUH scoring 116 points, an improvement from the previous two years at the state meet.

"We talked all week about focusing on the things we can control which is our own race and we did an excellent job of that by staying confident through the whole race and not letting other teams dictate how we run," said Porter. "In most years, three All State athletes and a 38-second one to five gap would put you right up top in state title contention, but it just so happened that three other teams had outstanding days, but that doesn't take away at all from what we were able to accomplish."

Even though they didn't come away with a state title there was still very much to celebrate. A 38-second one to five gap is the lowest of the whole season this year. Three

All-State athletes tied the record number SLUH has ever had in any one state meet and on top of that they all ran in the top 12 times ever recorded for SLUH. LaBarge and Greiner became the fastest fifth and sixth runners in the state, and the fastest ever fifth and sixth runners for SLUH at the state meet. Finally, a scoring average of 16:00 is the fastest ever recorded by a SLUH team in a five-kilometer race.

"It was a great race to watch and I was very excited to be able to go," said former SLUH varsity cross country racer Ryan Kramer. "It was rough to see such a talented team finish in fourth place because of the elite competition, but I think that the guys know they had a great day and are proud of themselves. Most years we would win with times and a score like that and I think that is what we need to remember at the end of the day."

After a strong state performance to wrap up the XC season for the Jr. Bills, a few of the top runners are looking to improve on their times this Sunday at the Nike Cross Regionals in Terre Haute, Ind. Although associated with the independent running club Flopack and not SLUH, the racers will be looking to finish off seasons with strong performances against some of the top competition in the region.

Soccer's season ends prematurely with crushing loss to Burroughs in District Final; team is upset by loss but pleased with accomplishments

BY NATHAN RICH
EDITOR

In 1386, the great English poet Geoffrey Chaucer first coined the phrase, "all good things must come to an end." These words have echoed timelessly throughout history, snuffing out bright sparks and ending historic runs. For SLUH soccer, the reverberations of this fatal phrase hit at the worst possible moment.

Last Saturday, in their District Final against John Burroughs, the Jr. Bills suffered their second loss of the season in their most critical game. From the start of the season, head coach Bob O'Connell knew he wanted the district title, more than any national rank or tournament win, more than any one individual player's success. Simply put, the loss was crushing. This year's team knew it had something special, and they had hoped to prove it with a state championship. Burroughs appeared to be a surmountable obstacle between SLUH and that state final.

"I felt the tone we wanted to hit (for the Burroughs game) was to just play, no need to be nervous. If we perform, we'll win. That was the tone and I think in terms of preparation, I felt really good going into the game," said O'Connell. "We absolutely respected (Burroughs), we knew them and we knew that they could beat us. Still, I was so confident we would go play well."

Early into the game on Sat-

urday, though, it became clear the game would not be easy. The match was an instant slugfest. Both teams came out of the gate playing tough, physical soccer. Burroughs' defense kept SLUH's forwards in check for the entire first half, with aggressive positioning and relentless ball chasing. Often, Jr. Bill forwards hit the turf after contact with John Burroughs' stout defense. As a result, the Jr. Bills had few real opportunities in front of the goal, even after a free kick from senior Stephen Saladin and back to back corners midway through the first half.

"John Burroughs came and expected to win," reflected O'Connell. "They played with the energy that was necessary. They had emotion and they came out fast and physical. They played as a team trying to prove something."

Nowhere was Burroughs' aggressiveness more clear than 10 minutes before the half when sophomore Grant Locker just barely entered the opponent's box only to be rattled to the ground by a defender. Locker and the team instantly called for a penalty kick inside the box (which would have been a guaranteed goal, given Saladin's record on the season), but the refs held firm, saying the foul occurred outside the box. As the resulting free kick sailed over the goal, SLUH players were left frustrated with the call, which could have been an instant source of momentum.

As SLUH's offense strug-

gled, the defense also had some uncharacteristic issues against Burroughs. For perhaps the first time all season, it was the opposing team that got the first chance on SLUH instead of the other way around. A Burroughs forward got a breakaway chance 10 minutes into the game, but it went wide.

Ultimately, after a first half that featured equal ball possession, the defense could not hold its ground in the second half. After a little over 10 minutes of play in the second half, Burroughs notched a goal against sophomore keeper Chris Lewis. The forward shot the ball across the net, past the reach of Lewis. Senior center back Ben Ridgway recognized the defensive errors, but also felt the game shouldn't have been decided by them.

"I don't know, we had some defensive positioning mistakes that led to their goal. But we had chances to score on a couple of unfair calls," said Ridgway. "We should have gotten a PK and there was one that may or may not have been in the goal."

Ridgway was referencing a close call later in the half that sent SLUH's bench and student section into a frenzy. Saladin, who was defended heavily the entire game, had rocketed a shot into the crossbar with 13 minutes left in the game. The ball deflected off the bar and bounced right on the goal line. From both the student section and the bench, the shot appeared to be a goal. The



Senior Johnnie Ferrara against Burroughs.

photo | Jack Figue

refs again stood their ground though, and said the goalie had stopped the ball before it fully crossed the line. Players were understandably frustrated.

"Truthfully I do think it went in, but I think it could have been called either way. The buildup (to Saladin's shot) was really good and I thought our momentum at the end of the game would lead to a goal no matter what. It just didn't go our way," said senior Jared Thornberry.

As the seconds ticked down, desperation grew for the Jr. Bills, who, except for the Chaminade game, lacked experience playing from behind. O'Connell subbed in extra forwards, but no one could capitalize.

"We just couldn't get the goal," O'Connell said simply.

When the buzzer sounded, an air of disbelief hit the field. "This was four years of hard work put into this moment and then we just lost," said senior JJ Neuwirth. "It was sad. Everybody stayed around for a while just to capture the moment."

"We were obviously sad and disappointed that it came to an end this way," agreed Ridgway. "We had such a good year and then one game decided our fate, we were done. It was an unjust ending to an unreal season."

After the game, O'Connell did his best to comfort the team, even though he too was upset. From the stands, it was difficult for students to watch the miraculous season come

crashing to an end the way it did.

"It's just really hard when you watch them, they were so upset. They gave us everything this season and there wasn't a whole lot to say. We just said we were proud of them," O'Connell said. "They did so much good stuff."

Even in the face of defeat, the Jr. Bills are doing their best to remember that. An unprecedented record, two tournament wins, some stunning last second goals, even a national ranking—this year's team gave a lot of hope to the SLUH community, something which both fans and players appreciate.

"I'm really proud of us," said Neuwirth. "We really had an outstanding season."

Around the Hallways

Wash U. Brains

Wash. U Medical School sent some of its finest minds (both dead and alive) to St. Louis U. High this week, in an effort to provide freshman biology students an example of real-world applications of the concepts they are studying. As a part of the visit, which was organized by Medical Careers Club moderator Tim O'Keefe, med school students gave a presentation on their research endeavors, and allowed freshmen to hold an actual human brain.

Youth and Government

Today marks the second

day of the annual Missouri Youth and Government convention in Jefferson City. Yesterday, a group of 33 Jr. Bills clad in formal attire boarded a bus to the state capital, where they embarked upon the two-day mock-government experience, the first time it has been in-person since 2019.

Junior Class Mass

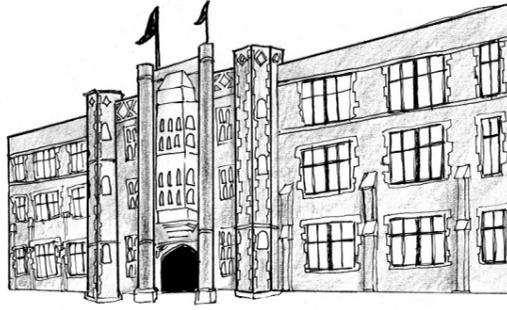
Members of the Class of 2023 had their second quarter class mass this past Tuesday during Studium in the Chapel. Mass was celebrated by Ian Gibbons, SJ, and Mass roles were filled by the Junior Pastoral Team.

SLUH Day

In an effort to raise funds the Advancement Office is hosting a social media campaign to highlight various aspects of SLUH. Through posting pictures and videos

of student activities on social media, the Advancement team hopes to draw more attention to the SLUH life.

—Compiled by Jackson Cooper, Core Staff



Calendar

Friday, November 12

A Day

- 10:00AM Fall Theater Production-Matinee Field Trip
- 4:30PM Swimming and Diving Championships
- 7:00PM Football District Final

Saturday, November 13

- 9:00AM Swimming and Diving Championships
- 3:00PM Swimming and Diving Championships
- 7:30PM Fall Theater Production
- 8:20PM Varsity Ice Hockey vs Marquette

Sunday, November 14

- NXR Regional Cross Country
- 2:00PM Fall Theater Production

Monday, November 15

B Day

- Faculty Meeting
- Late Start Schedule
- 4:00PM JV2-1 Racquetball vs Kirkwood - C
- 4:00PM JV2-3 Racquetball vs Kirkwood - A
- 8:30PM Varsity Ice Hockey vs CBC

Tuesday, November 16

A Day

- SLUH Day Event (tentative)
- 6:30PM Junior Family College Kickoff

Wednesday, November 17

B Day

- 6:00PM Cross Country Team Banquet (Si Commons)

Thursday, November 18

A Day

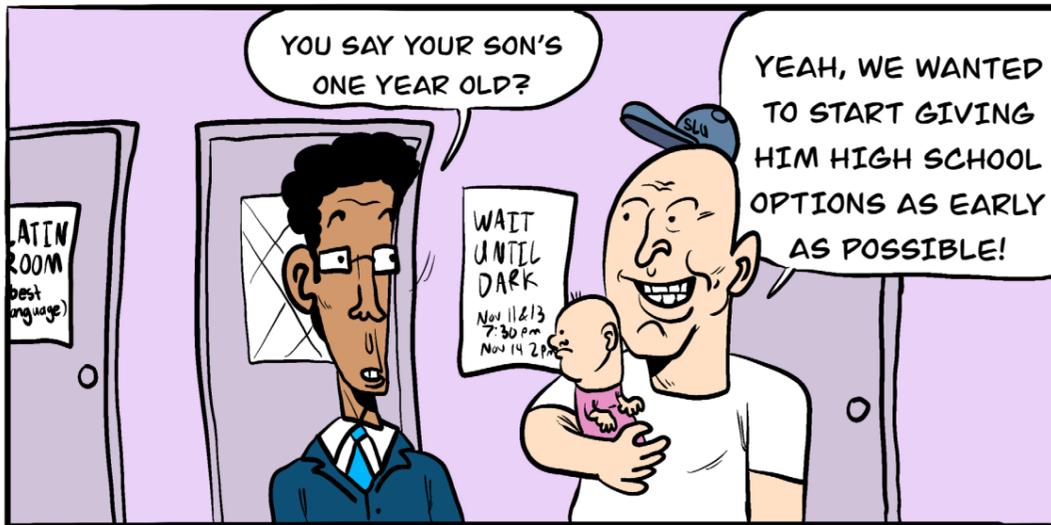
- 10:15AM Cathedral Christmas Concert
- 3:30PM Varsity 2 Racquetball vs Parkway West
- 3:30PM JV2-2 Racquetball vs Parkway West
- 4:00PM Varsity 1 Racquetball vs CBC
- 4:00PM JV2-1 Racquetball vs CBC

calendar | Roarke Unrau

SLUHsERS II:



OUR (OPEN) HOUSE



SLUHsers | Jude Reed

Congratulations to junior homeroom 216C and senior homeroom M114 who will compete on Wednesday, Nov. 17 during AP in the bashball final!



Prep News

Volume 86, Issue 11

Credits

“What did you do over the four-day weekend?”

- Editor in Chief**
Jack “stressed about Lou’s article” Figge
- Editor**
Nathan “prayed for Lou’s article” Rich
- News Editor**
Roarke “looked forward to Lou’s article” Unrau
- Visual Editor**
Charlie “cancelled art for Lou’s article” Bieg
- Web Editor**
Luke “lost sleep over Lou’s article” Duffy
- Core Staff**
Jackson “Didn’t care about Lou’s article” Cooper

- Louis “didn’t finish my article” Cornett
- George “prepared for Grande project meeting” Henken
- Alex “crashed my car into a feeble old woman” Preusser
- Jack “Quarantined” Rybak
- Coby “beat Marquette” Spratte
- Staff**
Michael “tried my dad’s crosswords” Baudendistel
Mark “Watched Apocalypse Now” Wappler
- Reporters**
Ben “rode Mr. Chura’s camel” Croat
Micah “Netflixed and Apple TV’d” Doherty
Drew “complained about Jack” Figge
Lucas “Fortnite tournaments” Hayden
Thomas “brushing up on my racquetball skills” Juergens

- Sean “obtained world peace” Kellogg
- Jack “falsely advertised things” Kuhlman
- Joe “led a tour” LaBarge
- Vincent “complained about Joey” Weinbauer
- Alex “became a fish” Wentz
- Artists**
Will “planned to stay for a PN night” Blaisdell
Jude “learned Vietnamese” Reed
Colin “falconry” Schuler
- Photographers**
Mrs. Kathy “celebrated Dmitri Mendeleev” Chott
Michael “did a triathlon” Urbanski
Miles “swam in the Mississippi” Schulte
- Moderator**
Steve “What four-day break?” Missey