Volume LXXXVI, Issue XIX

St. Louis University High School | Friday, February 11, 2022

sluh.org/prep-news

At a Glance

NEWS

The cores of the SLUH brotherhood: faith, fellowship, and, of course, fitness, are being used to help unite students who are becoming closer to God and also devoted to getting gains. Page 2

Katy Trail

Students commit themselves to the perilous journey of the Katy Trail Bike Ride, a 320-mile long bike trip across the state of Missouri for P.E. credit. Page 3

NEWS

One World Club

The One World Club unites to use a letter-writing campaign to discuss their options over diversity and send to Fr. Ian Gibbons S.J. to, hopefully, create change in the SLUH community. Page 2

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Star wide receiver Chris Brooks makes an unexpected switch in schools from Yale's Bulldogs and commits to Wisconsin's Badgers. Here's why: Page 7

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Wrestling

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REMEMBERING BLACK VOICES

Black History Month celebrated with all school presentation featuring history, alums



Senior homeroom M118 listen to Chris Bowers.

photo | Michael Urbanski

BY LUKE DUFFY AND WILL RIGGAN Web Editor, reporter

 $B^{\text{lack men and women have}}_{\text{played a major role in St.}}$ Louis U. High's rich history since the school was founded

tory Month, ACES hosted an in Black History at SLUH. The assembly on Thursday, Feb. first video featured three Aftheir homerooms to discuss different yet prominent roles and learn about Black History in SLUH's history. at SLUH.

in 1818. In order to share their two videos that captured sig-

stories and celebrate Black His- nificant people and moments 10 where students gathered in rican Americans who played

The first person discussed

Admin continues to wait for OK from city to go mask-optional

BY JACK FIGGE AND Lucas Hayden EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, REPORTER

¬hroughout the past two years, there have been many controversies surrounding the handling of the pandemic. As the pandemic has continued to evolve, one topic has taken center stage: masks. As other schools in the St. Louis area—such as Vianney, Chaminade, and Lafayette, among others adjust their policy to maskoptional, the debate is once 2022, principal Ian Gibbons again heating up, with students and faculty contem- ment in his weekly parent

safety plan for the 2021-22 academic year. The plan outlined four conditions, each with varying safety measures, that the school could pivot between based on numeric measurements such as regional positivity rates and the R-naught factor. SLUH announced that it would be beginning the school year in Condition III, which meant that students would be required to wear masks at all times in the building unless they were eating or drinking.

On Sunday, Oct. 17, S.J. made an announce-

As of publication, the city of St. Louis has a regional positivity rate of 11% and an R-naught factor of 0.51.

plating when SLUH should connect email stating that adjust to a mask-optional

At the beginning of the The assembly consisted of was Peter Hawkins, who was academic year, the adminis**continued on page 5** | tration outlined the school's

SLUH would be switching to Condition II, as the Covid metrics outlined in the safety plan had been met. Most continued on page 4

Sno-Ball set to return

Upperclassman dance to be held at Majorette in Maplewood, first indoor dance since Feb. 2020

BY BEN CROAT AND AUSTIN WALD STAFF, REPORTER

U. High community is now preparing for the annual Sno-Ball dance.

There has been some confusion and uncertainty the last few weeks, but rest assured because coming Feb. 26, the Sno-Ball will be hosted for juniors and seniors at the Majorette in Maplewood from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

"It's a new venue with an outdoor space where they'll have a little bonfire. The inside is really nice and I think it's only about five years old,"

said STUCO moderator Megan Menne.

Located less than ten minutes away from campus, Collowing of a week of in- the Majorette is a modern tense snow, the St. Louis wedding venue located in Maplewood. The venue has an upper balcony that overlooks the dance floor below.

"The capacity of the venue is set at 500, so it's pretty surrounding the dance in large," said Menne. "There's a ground floor where the DJ will be set but then there's also a balcony above with

While the pandemic did affect the planning of the event, the schedule for the dance has been set from the beginning of the school year with a few minor changes.

continued on page 4

School hosts booster clinic for students

BY MARK WAPPLER AND THEO AGNIEL Staff, reporter

SLUH hosted a clinic yesterday afternoon for students and faculty members to receive the vaccine against Covid-19. The event was originally scheduled Thursday, Feb. 3, but the snow postponed the event. The booster clinic was held in the Danis Lobby from 1:00 to 3:00

received the vaccine. After an influx of positive Covid-19 cases during the months of December and January in the region and in the SLUH community, the administration was determined to offer another vaccine clinic like the two offered during the first quarter of the school year, this time to administer the third dose booster Pfizer vaccines to those who had al-

Admin hopes it will increase number of boosted students

ready received the original two vaccination doses in the school community.

"I honestly did not mind

having to wait another week because of the snow day," said senior Brady Loehr. "However, it stinks that I had to get it during my lunch time when moms were selling cookies."

The booster clinic was originally scheduled after the SLUH Administration announced that, in order to be

continued on page 4



Senior Joseph Blase receives his booster.

photo | Luke Dufy

Covid Numbers

Student Cases: 0 Faculty Cases: 0

Student Quarantines: 0 Faculty Quarantines: 0

*Numbers as of February 10, 2022

STARS squares in on new novel for racial justice discussion

BY ALEX PREUSSER AND Andrew Hunt CORE STAFF, REPORTER

that AP Physics test coming up or that 20 dollar parking ticket you have that you say

you definitely didn't deserve. For some, though, there are bigger worries in life. The Students and Teachers Asso- ${f F}$ or many of us, the biggest ciation for Racial Studies, or problems in our lives are STARS, has recently focused on Dear Martin by Nic Stone, a novel that explores the bigger issues of racial discrimi-

nation and police brutality.

STARS is a discussionbased club that is focused on the education and awareness of racial injustice. Its members include both faculty and students. Since the beginning of the club in response to the

continued on page 5

Summertime Katy Trail bike trip set to expand; organizers plan to tackle entire trail for the first time

BY MICAH DOHERTY AND JACK EVANS STAFF, REPORTER

¹he annual Katy Trail bike I trips led by math teacher Frank Corley are a unique and rewarding experience for St. Louis U. High students looking to complete a P.E. credit while embarking on a spectacular route through Missouri with old and new friends alike.

Unlike prior years, only one trip will be offered this summer. However, for the very first time, the group, consisting of 16 to 20 students, will be traveling all 320 miles of the Katy Trail. Students will be able to traverse the state of Missouri, riding from Clinton to St. Charles over the course of five days beginning on June 2. The group will camp out nearly every night to further relish in the beauty of the nature around

Preparations beginning in the spring will consist of both trail logistics and recruiting help from parents. Corley will make sure the trail is dry and find campsites for the group. Usually, two parents help facilitate the ride: one rides with the group and another drives a truck with the luggage from campsite to campsite.

The great length of this journey presents a physically demanding yet exciting challenge. Riders will cover over 50 miles per day with an average speed of 12 miles per hour. The group will ride for an hour or 90 minutes at a time, taking breaks at the many scenic spots along the way.

"Rarely have these guys done a physical activity for 60 to 90 minutes without stopping," said Corley, who also



Students on a previous Katy Trail trip.

photo | Courtesy of Frank Corley

emphasized the excellent lifelong opportunity cycling gives. "Yes, it is a P.E. credit, but it's a physical activity you can spend your whole life doing."

Apart from the physical education aspect of the trip, students will gain valuable insights into the lives of many of our western neighbors. The group will pass by many scenic landmarks and small towns with gorgeous scenery and rich history such as Sedalia, Pilot Grove, Boonville, Columbia, and Jefferson City.

"There's a human geography aspect to (the trip)—you get to see a part of Missouri that you have never experienced before," said Corley. "How many of these guys have eaten dinner in a small town cafe, gotten to ride down a they've really built a great trail past farms and silos ...

us our food every day?"

On top of these many benefits to riding the trail, the trip is a great time for bonding and brotherhood to make new friendships with fellow classmates in fun, adventurous activities.

"One memory that I still remember very clearly was at our campsite on the second night," said former participant junior Wyatt Seal. "There also was a fire pit nearby, so all of the guys split up to find firewood and we had a big bonfire for the night. We sat around for hours, just making jokes, telling stories, and just being boys."

Corley also values the connections he sees being made on

"By the end of each trip, community—they've camped and seen the people that bring together, they've eaten togeth-

er, they've struggled together, they've helped each other out," said Corley.

The Katy Trail Trip is a fond memory and unique experience for many of those who have ridden it.

"The trail was a great time with a great group of people," said Seal. "I got to test my physical fitness, interact with nature and go off the grid for a couple days, and spend time with new people from all grades and strengthen my relationships with the people I already knew."

"There's almost a spiritual aspect to the trail—you're out in nature ... it's just you, your bike, and your friends," said Corley. "There's an aspect of social studies, an aspect of theology, and an aspect of P.E.—it's quite a unique experience for

Fitness, Fellowship, and Faith set to give students excercise outlet

BY THOMAS JUERGENS AND BILL ALBUS Staff, reporter

Theology teacher Jona-I than Ott has started an auxiliary faith-based exercise program around the SLUH building. What has been an international program for the past ten years is now becoming a school-wide opportunity to not only strengthen your biceps, but your faith and fellowship as well.

Ott has been involved in the program and has attended periodic Fitness, Fellowship, and Faith (F3) workouts with meetings, they will also parhis various workout partners. He was recently introduced to the program by his childhood friends. The F3 program has three main parts and thus three main components during the program.

A workout is conducted to start off the program and followed by a faith sharing circle; there are sporadic fellowship events placed throughout the year for the formal F3 pro-

Now coming to SLUH, F3 will provide an outlet for anyone wanting to find a place to exercise and find a good group of guys to hang out with.

had a hard time latching onto something," stated Ott.

One fun thing about the F3 program at SLUH is that all lifting exercises are completed using a cinder block. This cheap workout accessory is perfect for beginning lifters due to its versatility and accessibility. "It's accessible, anybody can get a cinderblock for a dollar and 75 cents, and I give every participant one for free," adds Ott.

The pandemic has made exercise and being a healthy individual a challenge with all of the closings of gyms and

the demotivating feelings that come with the territory in a pandemic.

"I know there's a lot of lasting impact from the lack of physical activity and exercise," said Ott.

After the exercise is completed, the students will gather in a faith circle.

"Each workout ends with a reflection that the leader gives that's something positive, some way that they can reflect on something that's bigger than themselves," described Ott.

In between their normal ticipate in fellowship events.

"I haven't really built out any fellowship specific events for the SLUH group yet. With the wider F3 group, each month, there'll be a fellowship event," said Ott. "These fellowship events could range from bowling to simply hanging out somewhere."

Anytime people hang out, either with friends or classmates, the easiest way to spark a conversation is to have an icebreaker. In terms of the fellowship events, the icebreaker is an actual event the students will do together.

"With a lot of men, they "I know a lot of guys have struggle with sitting down and talking with somebody face to face, but if you're doing something together, that tends to organically sprout some chatter and some bonding that happens," said Ott.

The F3 program, which has quickly grown within SLUH, Ott hopes it will continue to grow and prosper in the future. The hope being that every one of F3's goals will be

"Our goal is to plant, grow, and serve community workout groups, and the purpose of those is to develop male community leadership," stated Ott.

One World Club organizes diversity-focused letterwriting campaign for advocacy to school officials

AND DREW HAWLEY CORE STAFF, REPORTER

SLUH students voiced their opinions in a responsible and powerful format on Tues-Karim, and David Hunt. To-

BY MICHAEL BAUDENDISTEL In to advocate for their ideas. We wanted our students to said, "It's a student's voice and The final result of the con- practice that, so that's why this is your community. You ference was the opportunity they are writing letters to the guys need to learn how to adto write a letter addressing administration," One World vocate for yourselves and for initiatives around the school Club moderator Maria-Paz the voiceless too." they would like enacted.

day during the One World which are the moderators, added, "It's important that to principal Fr. Ian Gibbons, Club's letter writing event. think that it is very impor-This was an initiative started tant for students to know by SLUH students and club how to engage in civil disleaders Freddy Laux, Ishaq course respectfully, and how to communicate your opingether, the three of them went ions and points of view in a to the Ignatian Family Teach- respectful way to authorities.

"Sra. Alvarado and I,

improve your school." When brainstorming ideas for what to write about, the club decided on diversity. "Many students talked about the need for the administration to continue strides it has made in diversity and commit to its diversity prom-

Campos said.

ises," said Laux. According to Campos, the club members completed a form deciding on the general topic of diversity, in addition to three sub-topics.

faculty in this way because

it demonstrates a civil way

to have your voice heard and

After weeks of writing their letters critiquing the administration's enactment of diversity policies around the school, the writers read them to fellow members and students of SLUH hoping to get signatures for their letters.

"Writing these letters is a special opportunity," Campos

After the letters had been Club leader Freddy Laux written, they were delivered students reach out to the SJ, who will read then coming days.

"The letters were delivered to Fr. Gibbons," said Laux, "But we hope that they will start a larger conversation (throughout) the whole administration team."

Overall, this project was started for one reason: to create change. The students came together, saw what areas needed change, and decided to do something about

"I'm very happy that this was an idea that came from the students," said Campos. "Teachers are not supposed to be leading clubs—this should be something that comes from students, and I'm very happy that that's the case with the One World Club; where the students get to say the initiatives they feel passionate about and that they want to carry out."



Interested in writing, taking photos, or making art for the *Prep News*?

Email prepnews@sluh.org to get involved!



Freddy Laux presenting to the club. photo | Maria-Paz Campos

AMDG

Volume 86, Issue 19

From The Archives:

Crossword: NoonLazy

12 14 15 16 19 18 20 22 23 21 24 25 26 27 32 29 30 31 33 34 35 36 40 42 37 41 44 45 43 47 48 46 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 56 57 68 69 66

crossword | Paul Baudendistel

ACROSS

74

- 1. Having two parts, such as citizenships
- 5. *"One if by land, ____
- 10. Shrek, e.g. 14. *With 17-Across, start of
- most fairy tales
- 15. Mr. _____, extremely nearsighted cartoon character 16. *With 19-Across, winter garment
- 17. *see 14-Across
- 18. Ain't Too _____ to Beg
- 19. *see 16-Across
- 20. Radio host Howard is not this, untrue to his name

23. Maker of aromatherapy shower kits

72

75

- 24. Beautiful , song John Lennon wrote for his son
- 26. Chips counterpart
- 28. *Southpaw

46-Across

- 32. Payment to kidnappers
- 37. Teen trouble caused by clogged hair follicles
- 38. Zebra giraffe
- 42. Re-sound
- 43. Ben Folds Five or Blink 182, in number
- 44. Abbr. in case citations

- 46. Go bad, or just go, to a Brit 62. *What one can't see for the 47. Time period marked by
- layers of rock 48. *Secondary entrance to a
- 49. *Fluffy yellow breakfast
- staple
- 50. What skim milk has
- 51. ____-bitty
- 52. Christopher who played Saruman and Dooku
- 54. What God told Moses His
- name was 56. *Crime committed by an
- employee 45. *"... now and ever shall be, 59. He works at the Kwik-E-

- - 66. *With 70-Across, what can not stand, according to Abe Lincoln and Jesus
 - 67. *A few more tests to grade, **DOWN** repressed emotions, or a rela-
 - tionship without closure 70. *see 66-Across
- 71. *With 73-Across, ice cream or leg dish including a halved fruit 72. Lesotho, San Marino, and
- Vatican City are the only three sovereign ones 73. *see 71-Across
- south of St. Louis

- 75. *Tennis format with two
- players of each gender 76. Ending for many ideolo-

73

76

- 1. Dippin' _____, the ice cream of the future since 1988
- 2. Hand or foot, but not arm
- 3. Manufacturer of products
- used by Wile E. Coyote 4. King Lear does this, true to
- his name 5. Mischievous little devil
- 74. ____ Genevieve, county 6. How some St. Louisans refer her name to Interstate 64

- 7. Character who does not appear in the original, Mary Shelley's Frankenstein
- 8. Lost counterpart
- 9. Northeastern Cape named for an abundance of fish
- 10. Athletes from Rice and Temple
- 11. General Motors's Metro,
- Prizm, and Spectrum
- 12. Wife of a raja
- 13. Therefore (and a reflection of 10-Across)
- 21. A league on hiatus due to COVID-19
- 23. Federal agency overseeing sustainability and water quality, among other things
- 25. *Ace, to a golfer
- 27. *Where jarring news hits
- 28. Proposed Nazi supertank that would have weighed 1000
- 29. Light beige colors
- 30. *Pulverize, as with a mortar and pestle
- 31. A redundant bright color
- 33. Solution to bent spokes or broken glasses
- 34. *Slide over while remaining seated 35. British expression of disap-
- 36. Some cheeses, but not
- cheese itself ____ and the Age of Won-
- derbeasts, 2020 Netflix show 40. Range for grades
- 41. Disorder to eat non-foods, or an order of 10 characters per inch of typing
- 53. Receded, as a tide
- 55. Donkeys, or donkey-brains
- 56. Quick punches
- 57. Iconic item for Abe Lincoln, but not Jesus
- 58. Agatha Christie's And
- Then There Were 59. U.S. organization devoted
- to studying "the fundamental unit of life"
- 60. A caplet, or Lord Capulet 61. Two-toed sloth
- 63. City in East Timor infa-
- mous for a 1999 Church massacre
- 64. 9-digit ID's
- 65. Blues, Browns, or Reds
- 68. Draw two cards if you forget to say this
- 69. Undoubtedly the first of

Top 10 Valentine's Gift Ideas

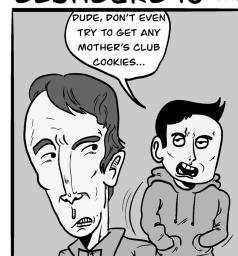
- 1. Hockey Hoodies
- 6. Senior Parking pass
- 2. Super Bowl tickets
- 7. Jenna Rae diss track
- 3. Prep News subscription
- 8. Sauce on the Side gift card
- 4. Not spoiling the Wordle

5. WeightWatchers gift card

9. A crisp dollar bill

10. Sunscreen

SLUHSERS 18: THE WAY THE COOKIE CRUMBLES





SLUHsers | Jude Reed

SATIRE

PN Investigates: The mystery of the Jr. Bill's secret new Valentine

ALEX PREUSSER Core Staff

love is on the minds of many students here at St. Louis U. High. Students across all four classes have been rushing to find heart-shaped chocolate boxes and bouquets of red roses for their girlfriends is our solemn duty to invesand unsuspecting crushes. tigate the potentially illicit However, there is one individual in our school community that no one really expected to find that special someone: the Jr. Bill himself.

The Jr. Bill was spotted in the Walgreens on Hampton in the V-Day aisle, hands full of romantic candies.

"I was honestly shocked. I just saw him standing there, Thompson. "I'm kinda hurt." and I ran when he looked my way," said an anonymous stu-

dent who was afraid to reveal his name. "You never know what kind of repercussions With Valentine's Day may come from revealing fast approaching, the secrets of our beloved mascot."

But here at the Prep News, we take pride in seeking out the truth. Besides, we already have a love-hate relationship with STUCO. It affair of the Jr. Bill.

And so we forge on. First, it is always important to question those close to the suspect.

"I consider myself to be pretty good friends with him, and he didn't say anything about it," lamented student body president A.J.

When the first step fails, it is imperative that you

leave no stone unturned. We conducted a deep dive into social media platforms and dating websites to discover any hints as to the object of the Jr. Bill's affection. Unfortunately we only came across more shirtless pictures of A.J. Thompson.

There are quite a few options for this secret lover: Nerinx Hall's Marker, Cor Jesu Academy's Charger, St. Joseph's Angel, and many, many more. How to pinpoint the exact Ms. Bill?

Upon interrogations of each and every mascot, a shocking turn of events revealed itself. The Jr. Bill's sordid affair was even more heinous than expected. The Jr. Bill and the De Smet Spartan are in a long-time bro-

STUCO excited to host return of Sno-Ball, promises fun night



art | Charlie Bieg

(continued from page 1) Since many dances used for formal dances also act as wedding venues, the planning and booking process has to come months in ad-

SLUH is requiring a check-in and masks before the dance to ensure everyone can have a safe and enjoyable experience.

"With the Sno-Ball still occurring during a worldwide pandemic there will be some (protocols)," said Menne. "Students have to wear masks upon arrival, mainly because you're dealing with check-in and faculty just so that they feel

"It's gonna be awesome. It's gonna be so much fun. There's going to be lots of dancing, lots of mingling, but don't worry there will be space left for Jesus. Unfortunately no slam dancing."

-A.J. Thompson

comfortable. But after that, masks are recommended but

not necessarily required."

The Sno-Ball can be expected to look very similar to the Fall Ball which took place this past October. The successful aspects found in the Fall Ball will be mirrored in the Sno-Ball: access to an outdoor space, students having to prove their vaccination or a negative test, and a hype DJ.

"It's gonna be awesome. It's gonna be so much fun. There's going to be lots of dancing, lots of mingling, but don't worry there will be space left for Jesus. Unfortunately no slam dancing," said STUCO President A.J.

Students grateful for opportunity to get booster shots at ŜLUH clinic

(continued from page 1) considered fully vaccinated, students would need to receive a third booster vaccine by March 21. They made this decision as they anticipated that the CDC would do the same; however, this change never happened. So, on Jan. 30, SLUH switched back to the original policy. Even though booster vaccines are not mandatory to be considered fully vaccinated, the administration wanted to encourage boost-

"Although not mandatory to be considered fully vaccinated, I see it beneficial for me to receive it as well as for others around me because it administered by pharmacy to stop the spread of Covid lessens the risk of receiving Covid and exposing it to others and public health officials recommend it," said senior Ardian Hoxhaj.

Currently, in the SLUH community, 100 percent of the teaching faculty has been fully vaccinated, while about 93 percent of the student body has been fully vaccinated. The booster clinic comes as the snow begins to melt and as spring and the end to the indoor-oriented season of winter

As cases decrease and as neighboring schools in the St. Louis past their second dose of the area begin to drop their mask vaccine or have spoken to their mandates, SLUH hopes that the administration of booster vaccines will help solve the vexing issue of Covid in our booster," said Gilbert. community and city.

that the seasonal change is as they has been shown to reright around the corner with duce the severity of Covid-19 the opportunities for more symptoms and possibly reduce people to be outdoors and the risk of becoming infected spend time outdoors. I think with Covid-19. Most convechanger," said Scott Gilbert, is it shortens the length of the Director of Student Health on

The vaccine clinic was faculty and students from the University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy in St. Louis. Students were advised to consult with their family's primary care physician before receiving the booster vaccine and were invited to register online added to it.

"If you are eligible to get

appears closer on the horizon. the vaccine, meaning that you have waited so many months primary care physician, then I think that student is a perfect candidate to receive the

SLUH has endorsed "You've got to keep in mind booster vaccines for students that's going to be a big game nient for students, however, quarantine period after one is exposed to Covid-19.

"I got my booster vaccine as new strands could begin to emerge," said senior Nick Mackey. "I don't want to put others at risk who are in danger of serious health problems and just want to protect others around me."

As student and faculty casfor the vaccine. They were es continue to decrease along also instructed to bring their with cases in the region, SLUH Covid-19 vaccination card to will continue to take necessary the appointment so that the precautions to help protect the booster information could be school community from the effects of Covid-19.

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Administrators to meet next week to discuss future of masking, want to continue being "good citizens"

(continued from page 1) notably, this meant that the mask-recommended policy. school would be shifting to a masks-recommended policy. By doing this, SLUH became in the city to remove its mask

did like how I could see everyone else's faces. It was a lot more social. I bet other people felt very freed," said freshman Alex Keuss of the

The mask-recommended period was short lived, however, and in the next Sunday

"The city keeps renewing the (mask) mandate for the city," said Gibbons. "But in one of the first high schools December, they expressed that it may be only through Memorial Day, and then it "I kept my mask on, but I goes away. There have been a couple of other points where they've said at least through March, and then they'll look at possibly pulling back. I just don't know where they stand though."

However, within the city's mask declaration, there is a clause that potentially could night ParentConnect email, mean that SLUH does not

"There's a number of options we have. We want to be good citizens. We want to do the right thing for our

community. And also be respectful

and responsible."

-Fr. Ian Gibbons, SJ

to Condition III and masks would once again be required to be worn in the building. In an interview with the Prep News published on Oct. 28, 2021, Gibbons had stated masks and work with them City of St. Louis." on helping other schools overcome the pandemic.

"We have a mask mandate here (in the city) that's different from the one in the county, because it's from the city's legislative branch, not a mandate simply given by an executive officer," said Gibbons. "We are not in a position where we can simply say we're going to mask optional, despite what De Smet or Vianney are doing."

After three months, the intended partnership with the city has been shut down and the city council con-

Gibbons announced that the fall under the jurisdiction of school would be returning the mask policy. The Health Commissioner's Order number 7 states that: "(Citizens) must wear a face covering that covers the wearer's nose and mouth while in indoor and enclosed public buildthat the city had asked the ings and spaces, and public school to return to wearing transportation vessels in the

A group of independent parents has pointed out this clause and has begun exploring whether or not SLUH, a private institution, is bound by the Health Commissioner's order.

Gibbons, however, has had extensive conversations with Dr. Frederick Echols, health commissioner for the city of St. Louis about this very topic. Gibbons says that the city continues to have jurisdiction over the school and SLUH will continue to follow the city's guidance.

"We have asked this retinues to renew the city's peatedly, and the answer mask mandate every 21 we've gotten from the City days, leaving SLUH seem- Mayor's office and Departingly trapped, even as other ment of Health is, schools

area high schools move to a are considered public entities. Just like a restaurant or a store or anything. We fall under the guidelines. I wish it was different," said Gib-

> In the meantime, students have been developing their own opinions on the matter. A wide range of opinions exist, but many want to see masks disappear again, this time for good.

> "I believe we should go mask optional because by this point we have had a long enough time where if people want to get vaccinated they have been, so the people that felt unsafe with Covid have been able to get the protection that they want," said junior Colin Cavanagh.

However, some are just grateful to be able to come to school and wearing a mask is not a big deal to them.

"As long as we can be in person, I'm fine wearing a mask," said freshman Drew Hawley.

As of publication, the city of St. Louis has a regional positivity rate of 11 percent and an R-naught factor of

Within the school, there are currently zero positive cases, and zero students or faculty members who are quarantined. In addition, the school has met its high vaccination goal, with over 90 percent of students and faculty being vaccinated. Currently, if the positivity rate falls by two percent, the necessary metrics to switch to Condition II would be

"We are having a number of conversations about next steps. We're discussing it with public health officials, with medical officials, with so many different consultants," said Gibbons. "There's a number of options we have. We want to be good citizens. We want to do the right thing for our community. And also be respectful and responsi-



art | Leo Smith

AMDG

Black History Month program highlights history, alums



Senior Damius Collins reads his poem.

photo | Jack Figge

(continued from page 1) the first child born enslaved at the Jesuit farm in Florissant. where he lived until his death in 1907. Although he lived through the Civil War and the Thirteenth Amendment, Hawkins remained at the farm and was eventually paid for his work. Still, his numerous requests for freedom from the Jesuits were continually denied.

"I feel like it's an important story because that part of SLUH doesn't get that much coverage," said sophomore Triston Ivory. "I know in my sophomore class, we talked about John Carter, the first black student admitted. And stories like that are great, but then some stories, it's like there's kind of no happy ending. Those stories don't really get talked about. So it's important to hear those."

The second figure was Henry Hampton '57. At SLUH, Hampton struggled with polio and spent most of his high school career in a wheelchair.

Later, he attended the historical Selma to Montgomery march in 1965, where he was moved to become active in the Civil Rights Movement. A documentary filmmaker, Hampton created Eyes on the Prize (1987), a landmark documentary on the Civil Rights Movement.

The third and final person discussed in the first video was Eric Clark '93, the first black administrator at SLUH. Clark served as Assistant Principal for Diversity from 1992 to 1995 and then as Dean of Students until 2008. He helped implement the Diversity Action Plan, which committed SLUH to serving the black population in St. Louis. After his tenure at SLUH, Clark moved on to Loyola Academy, where he continues his mission of helping young men reach their full potential regardless

"(Clark) truly put the needs of others first, and to this day is dedicated to helping the growth

area," said senior and narrator Joe McGroarty. "I believe that's truly remarkable."

The second video consisted of four black alumni discussing the success in their lives that originated from their SLUH roots. These men discussed the ideals of diversity that SLUH strives to foster, and they commented on the progression of SLUH as a community due to the presence of black men. The video emphasized the true value of brotherhood, sharing stories regarding the deep connection and bond between the students of different races.

"My focus is shifted to giving back," said John Shipp '98 in the video. "It was very inspirational to see a person like (Clark) who dedicated himself to giving back. I say now I want to send the elevator back down. I've already gone to the top; I want to send it back down."

The four alumni agreed on one thing: that SLUH had made tremendous progress toward diversity since they graduated.

"Walking down into the gym which is now the cafeteria and seeing the tribute to black alumni who have been at the school was heartwarming," said Chris Bowers '92 in the video. "I did tear up, I thought it was amazing, the first thing I said was, 'we're not forgotten."

The recognition of the imof their economic background. portance of black men as the rich roots of our school and their success within the real world is a deeply instilled part of adolescents in the St. Louis of SLUH's history, as well as our

alumni shared sentiments of all of the young men at SLUH.

"I think it's important because it kind of just gives white students an insight on how black students feel, and more or less just the importance of our history."

-Elijah Oden

"Fair is a place where they judge pigs," said Bowers. "There is no fair, you are going to continue to see things that are not going to look optimal for you.

mission towards equality. These But what does that mean to out history. you? Do you have the confienough to realize that regardless of that situation, I'm going to achieve."

Part of the reason for a Black History Month assembly is to remind SLUH of the contributions Black people have made at the school throughout history.

"I think it's important because it kind of just gives white students an insight on how black students feel, and more or less just the importance of our history," said junior Elijah Oden. "I think it's also important how it's celebrated at SLUH, because if you celebrate nothing."

While last year's presentation focused on a conversation between a white student and a black student during the summer after George Floyd's death, this year's presentation shifted to black men at SLUH through-

"This year, aside from hearwisdom for the bright futures of dence and are you unflappable ing from the current student perspective, we thought that it would be really beneficial to hear from alums to kind of get a take on their experience and how proud that they are that they've attended SLUH and just the continued efforts to make SLUH a more welcoming place for all students that attend," said ACES Co-Moderator Dan

> Above all, the assembly prompted students to be aware of Black history at SLUH and continue to stand up for their black classmates in the fight for a more equitable future.

"It's important to support it the wrong way, then it means all different people of SLUH, including people of color at SLUH," said Ivory. "I feel like black people are a part of that and we should be celebrated because a lot of us who are students here who are going to make history and a lot of us already have."

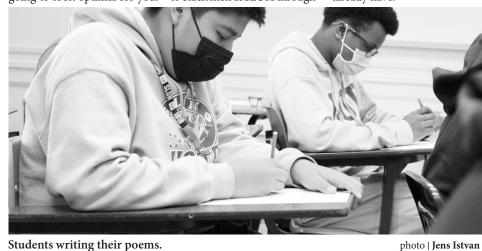


photo | Jens Istvan

STARS chooses *Dear Martin* novel for spring discussion



Anthony Fahim speaking to students.

photo | Alex Preusser

(continued from page 1) Aug. 9, 2014, the group has discussed books, films such as When They See Us, and even the ABC sitcom Blackish. The club is now starting Stone's Dear Martin.

"I did a lot of research online to find books that were on racial studies, that talk about racial issues that we can discuss," explained junior Anthony Fahim. "I found Dear Martin, and I thought it was a great option."

Dear Martin tells the story death of Michael Brown on of a Black teenager named Justyce McAllister who attends a prep school not unlike our own and is on track for an Ivy League college. One night, when trying to get his drunk ex-girlfriend home safely, he is apprehended and arrested because he looks "suspicious." In order to cope with his situation, Justyce begins to write letters to Martin Luther King Jr. describing himself and his tively experience injustice in circumstances.

"A lot of the things that empowered to do something

occurred to the main character have been things we've seen in the news, and we just thought it was appropriate," said senior Ismael Karim. "We thought it could relate to a lot of students here. I mean, it's about a boy who's about to transition into another environment that he's not used to."

The book will be broken down into short sections on a weekly basis for individual reading. Then, the club meetbetween students and faculty about important points from the book and how they relate to our society.

"A key part of (STARS) is faculty involvement," said Karim. "It really bridges the gap between students and faculty, which I think is a critical part of talking about race."

Bridging this gap is a major step in building a more inclusive environment in our school. Even if it is just increasing one's own individual awareness or personal education, any small step is important.

"When I go to these clubs, it's more of an empathy kind of thing," said junior Alex Brinkman. "I kind of think that the people running the club should be those who actheir day-to-day lives and feel

about it. Then I'm there to learn from them."

There are a variety of options for diversity clubs at SLUH, not just STARS. Others include ACES, Ongoing Conversations, SLUH4GE, and more.

"I think a lot of students should join one of these diverse clubs," said Fahim. "Whether it's an ACES meeting, STARS, Anti-Racist Coalition, One World Club, or Ongoing Conversations discussion and conversation There's just a lot of opportunities."

> "There's quite a bit of overlap between the number of different diversity groups," said STARS moderator Robert Garavaglia. "But overall the whole goal is to make it a grassroots effort that students lead and teachers participate with, and the students lead the discussion."

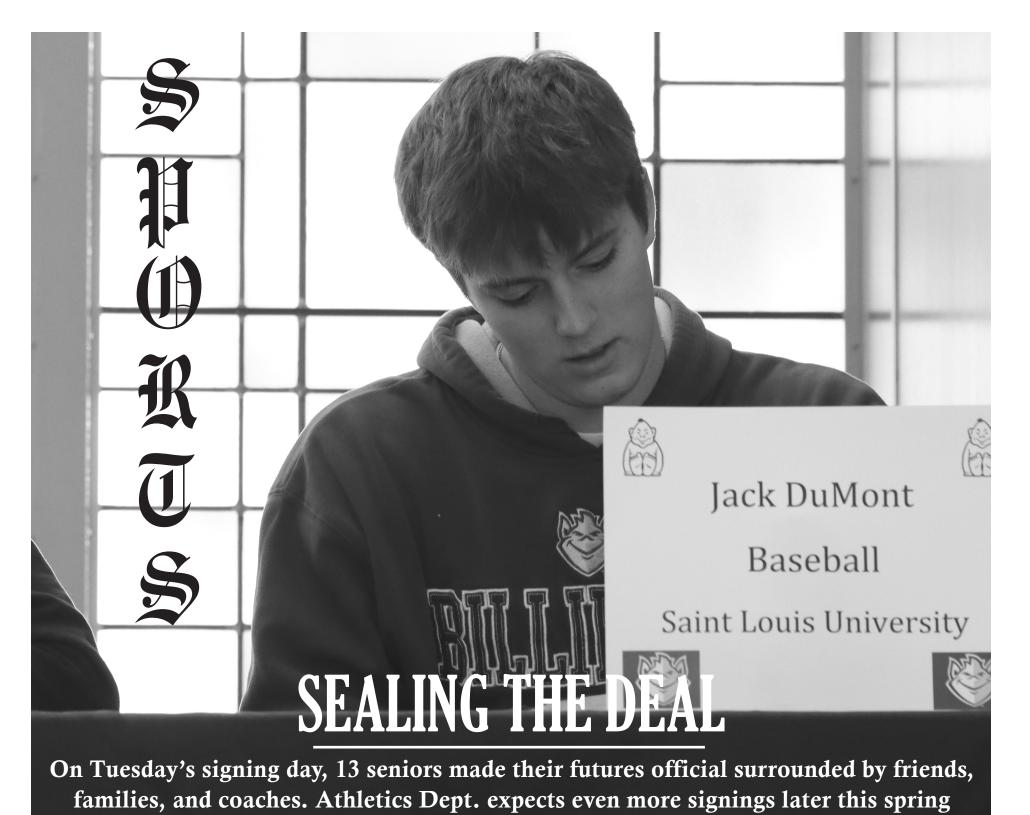
> The club will continue to progress through Dear Martin and meet in activity periods in M204 on Feb. 16 and 22, March 4 and 29, and April 19.



TWINS OF THE WEEK Mrs. Russo and Mr. Deves

_	Mr. Deves	Mrs. Russo
Favorite Food	Nachos	eggs
Favorite musical artist	Taylor Swift	Tina Turner
Favorite subject	Chemistry	Algebra
Favorites sport	baseball	soccer
Favorites hairstyle	man bun	power bun
Favorite actor/actress	Nicholas Cage	Jennifer Lawrence
Least favorite movie	The Dark Knight	None. I'm glass half full.





Senior Jack DuMont signs his certificate alongside classmates.

photo | Kathy Chott

BY NATHAN RICH SPORTS EDITOR

t this past Tuesday's sign-Aing day, Athletics Director Chris Muskopf was a bit lower to the ground than he's used to. With so much table space needed for the 13 Jr. Bills and their letters of intent, Muskopf's podium was shoved aside, and his opening ceremony was given from the floor of the Commons.

In fact, with four total folding tables, fitting all 13 athletes up on stage was no small feat. As these SLUH athletes marched up to their spot at the table on Tuesday, dotted athletes.

"It's exciting," said Muskopf. "This type of event is one of my favorites over the course of the year because we recognize those who have worked really hard. To have 13 today—and we're looking at mid-20's of signees over the course of the whole year—is awesome and it's a testament to the boys, their coaches and to their families. There's a lot to celebrate."

Thirteen is an impressive number already for the Jr. Bills, but as Muskopf mentioned, the Athletic Department expects it to grow. Tuesday's event was only the first of two signing day events, which feature brief player introductions, simultaneous signings, and, of course, plenty of time for pictures. The second is set to happen later this spring, and

already features at least three seniors. Muskopf expects that the additional time will lead to at least three or four times that number.

Students who remember last year's commit class of only nine will seem surprised by this year's number. Muskopf says it's not unfamiliar territory for SLUH, though. Back in the earlier years of his time as Athletic Director, he helped oversee signing classes in the mid-twenties. He attributes the regression over the past few years to Covid and the ways it especially limited student

"I think Covid had a real in Carthage reds, SBU purples, impact on (the signing pro- different programs, it is great and Dartmouth greens, one cess)," he said. "It's great to see couldn't help but feel pride the opportunity increase and for the institution that bore our boys able to take advantage forward because that inspires so many impressive student of that to get our numbers back our younger students and it is

> As Covid restrictions prevented many coaches from accepted (to SLUH)," Muskopf traveling, last year's seniors had to work harder to get their name out there. This year though, the Class of 2022 had at their disposal new Covid-era technology to aid the process.

New cameras that can track movement and focus on particular parts of the field were placed on the football field and basketball court to make live streaming games an easier possibility. This year, they made getting film much easier for SLUH students.

"With Covid and coaches not able to travel, that video becomes important for coaches to keep them in the loop," said Muskopf. "In some cases, that's also a marketing tool for our student athletes who aren't being recruited, they can post

those videos and draw attention from that."

Coming out of the worst parts of the pandemic made a larger group of signees possible, but it's not the only thing that sets this year's class apart. The variety of sports at this month's signing day was almost unprecedented as well. While football did make a strong showing at the event, it was not a majority. Six athletes committed to play football in college, two to play volleyball, and the rest were spread out among track and field, swimming, basketball, baseball, and

"For a school that offers 20 to see so many of our programs also something we can note for students who were just recently

Cross country is a prime example. It's been three seasons since a Jr. Bill committed to run in college and this year senior Baker Pashea was excited to be putting SLUH running back on the map. Pashea represents a talented senior squad this year, which may have even more commits by the end of

"It feels good, especially because this year I 've got friends that might be following me (in committing) later. I couldn't imagine doing it in any other sport," said Pashea.

Volleyball, despite tearing up local competition for a few straight years, is in a similar spot. 2019 was the last time a volleyball player from SLUH

continued their career in college. This year, though, Tanner Dougherty and Michael Yemm brought SLUH volleyball back into the signing discussion.

Even though SLUH football has had some notable signings in recent years, this was a big year for them as well.

'We had six guys sign, which was really awesome, and two guys who could potentially sign," said football coach Adam Cruz. "It's cool that if you look down the line we have every (division), which is pretty

From Division 1 athletes like seniors Isaac Thompson for every guy is completely and Chris Brooks, who have both received considerable attention since they began at end of the day it's really excitdecided to commit based on can get DonTavion (Sullivan) his senior year success, SLUH and Kylend (Watson-Brown) football is sending players throughout the region to compete at the collegiate level. For Cruz, it's not surprising to see

the program's signing success with the Class of 2022.

"They were a great class from the beginning. They stuck together always and they really worked," he reflected. "They worked really hard to get to where they were and we had great leaders as well."

Cruz played a special role in helping many of the commits sign, from putting senior quarterback Luke Johnston in touch with Wash U. to helping Brooks through his transfer process. It's a job he really en-

"The recruiting process different. It's cool that I get to see that side of things. At the ing but for me it's not over bebecause those guys deserve it too," he said.

Even after this year, football coaches will have more recruiting work to do with sophomore star Ryan Wingo waiting in the wings. Wingo, the number six recruit in the country for his class, is expect-

ed to attract a lot of attention.

"The Ryan thing is going to get wild," Cruz promised. "Next year, there are going to be some people in these hallways that are going to be pretty surprising."

In the meantime, the SLUH community is celebrating the class of 2022 and the incredible accomplishments they've made so far this year. The athletes are equally excited about finalizing their college search process, but for Pashea and the other signees, it's about much more than that.

"It felt really good (to senior Cayden Owens, who cause I want to see where we sign)," he said. "Every year since freshman year there's been a senior class that signs and every year I'm like: maybe that will be me some day. To be the one standing up on stage, there was a lot of pride there."



Bottom (L to R): Michael Yemm (Carthage College, Volleyball), Tanner Dougherty (St. Francis College, Volleyball), Conner Greninger (Southern Baptist University, Football), Luke Johnston (Washington University, Football), Jack DuMont (SLU, Baseball), Chris Brooks (Wisconsin, Football)

Top: Nick Witcher (Centre College, Lacrosse), Baker Pashea (Dartmouth, Cross Country/Track), Isaac Thompson (Mizzou, Football), Cayden Owens (Millikin University, Football), Derrick Baker (William Jewell College, Football)

Not Pictured: Nick Kramer (SLU, Basketball), Cooper Scharff (Wisconsin, Swimming)

SLUH Wrestling struggles against St. Mary's

SPORTS EDITOR

The SLUH w restling team was hoping for just a bit less snow last week. Enough to call off school, but not enough to cancel the Senior Night scheduled for last Friday. Sadly, one of those conditions was met and one wasn't, so the event ended up being canceled, which was unfortunate for the small but dedicated group of seniors who have led this year's squad through the highs and lows of a wrestling

With no match last week, the focus was shifted to the smaller dual meet against St. Mary's on Monday. Only three varsity level wrestlers went for SLUH that night, making it a short end to the regular season. Senior captain Jack Onder (152) was up first for SLUH, and he managed to earn a strong win. After a back and forth start, Onder quickly capitalized on a mistake from his St. Mary's opponent and spent the remainder of his match on top of the bout in an attacking position. When he set in, the physicality of the

finally earned the pin a few match was clear. minutes in, it felt inevitable given Onder's dominance.

Senior Alex Nance (170) went next, but faced more adversity than he was expecting. With no wrestler from Nance's weight class, St. Mary's put forth a technically skilled wrestler from the 160 class. With a slight height advantage, his opponent managed to get Nance on the ground with a forceful ankle pick early and spent the remainder of the fairly short match on top of him. Without a way to escape, the match ended in a pin and Nance walked away disappointed. Fortunately, It was clear to Nance what skills and abilities he needed to sharpen to improve before

Junior Pau Thang (182) closed out the night for the varsity wrestlers. His match was by far the closest contest. His opponent, who had a clear height advantage, fought closely with Thang in the opening round, as both wrestlers refused to go down. Later in the match, as fatigue

Thang and his opponent went back and forth between attack and defense as the minutes went on and both wrestlers racked up points. In the final seconds, Thang survived a brutal throw to the ground to execute a clean double leg move with a few seconds left in the match. With his opponent on the floor, Thang ended in a dominant position. It wasn't enough, though, as the refs ultimately handed the match to his St. Mary's opponent, who won on points.

Onder thinks the snow had a negative effect on the way the match went..

"Some of our guys were thinking it was going to be the end of the season and it the right way."

showed during the St. Mary's meet," said Onder. "The guys weren't exactly ready for it."

Still, he's feeling loose heading into the District matches, which will be tonight. Since wrestling works differently than most winter sports, there is no team competition heading into the playoffs. That means that it will be up to each individual wrestler to determine his standing. With senior talent like Onder and his fellow captains Caden Owens and Alex Nance, the Jr. Bills have the chance to make a deep run this year.

"I'm feeling good," said Onder. "I'm just getting ready to go out there and do what I do best. Hopefully things fall

Interested in covering your sport for the Prep News this spring?

Contact 2022561@sluh.org for more information!

Brooks talks flip from Yale to Wisconsin

BY NATHAN RICH SPORTS EDITOR

C enior wide receiver Chris OBrooks made an announcement last week on social media that surprised many SLUH sports fans. After having publicly announced his commitment last summer to play football at Yale University and participating in a photo shoot in Bulldog blue and white, Brooks decided to adopt a new color: Wisconsin Red. "Proud to announce I'm officially a Badger," the Tweet

To make a decision that big so close to his signing day was no easy choice for Brooks. In the end though, his love for football was the driving factor.

"I chose Wisconsin because I feel it was a better situation for what I want to do with my life," he said. "I'm excited to play football in the Big Ten and I've always dreamt of playing in that type of competitive atmosphere. To actually have that opportunity is amazing."

The football implications of his decision are significant. Yale, while a D1 school, doesn't face the same elite competition in the Ivy League as Wisconsin does in the Big Ten. Wisconsin, a Big Ten school, regularly faces national powerhouses like Ohio State, Iowa, and Michigan State. The stage is much bigger.

In recent history, Wisconsin football has even produced NFL stars like the Watt brothers and Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson.

Above all else, though, football coach Adam Cruz, who worked closely with Brooks during the recruitment process, stressed that Wisconsin isn't just about the football opportunity.

"He's going to an excellent college football school but he's also going to an excellent academic institution," said Cruz. "Wisconsin's the number 31 academic school in the country and the number 5 powerfive school. I think it's really cool that he found a great football fit but he also found deserves that."

Still, those upsides alone weren't enough to tip the Brooks in the end was relationships. The Yale wide receivers coach that had recruited Brooks and formed such a strong relationship with him no longer works for the Uni-

versity, having moved on to another school. Meanwhile, coaches from Wisconsin were working hard to make an impression on Brooks. In the end, their efforts worked and Brooks made the switch, although not after a lot of sleepless nights.

"I think Chris is the perfect picture of a SLUH student in that he worked for everything he got," Cruz reflected. "I was really proud of him because he made the decision that was best for him. He felt a lot of stress. Chris lost sleep over it just because he didn't want to disappoint anyone but in the end he made the choice that's best for him."

Despite the immediate outpouring of support from the SLUH community, many students couldn't help but feel the decision came out of the blue. Those close to the football program weren't as surprised, though.

"I was not surprised," senior Phillip Bone, who was a captain on the football team this year. "Both football programs are very successful, but he's changing to one of the best football programs in the country. I think it was the right decision and I'm glad that he made it. I couldn't be more happy for him."

Now Brooks certainly feels a load off his shoulders, not only from his family, who were anxious to see him finalize his future, but also from the college search in general.

"I'm happy (now that I've signed)," he said. "It's a huge relief and that's the best thing I can say. Now, I can focus on school these last four months and get ready to go up to Madison."

Brooks' summer will likely look a lot different from other SLUH students, except of course his five fellow football commits. He leaves for Madison this June, and will spend the summer months hard at work with the program.

When asked about his chances to start on the national stage, Brooks was characteristically humble.

"I can't really say, because of camp and everything, but I'm going to do everything in a quality academic school. He my power to make sure that I am a starter. It starts now, getting in college football shape so when the time comes scale. What mattered most to I can put myself in the best position possible to play," he said. " I just want to show off my abilities and add value to

Commit's Corner: Double Feature

Centre College lacrosse program a perfect fit for Witcher

BY COBY SPRATTE CORE STAFF

Senior Nick Witcher will be continuing his lacrosse career at Centre College in Danville, Ky. Witcher announced his commitment on Oct. 17 after exploring his options and visiting the school, and he is excited about joining the Colonels' program.

"The coaches are incredibly approachable and likable. They understand the game really well, and I think my style of

play will be a great fit with how being projected to win their they run their offense," said conference. Witcher will look Witcher. "They do an awesome job of recruiting and bringing in talented players, so I'm really excited to get on campus and get to work with the coaching

The Colonels boast a lot of success for a relatively new program, having been established in 2011. They made an NCAA Tournament run this past season, and they come into the 2021 season ranked 16th in the

to build on this recent success.

"I'm looking to win four conference championships and help them reach the NCAA Tournament all four years," he

Outside of their stellar Division III program, Witcher is excited for a chance to hit the books and enter a top tier academic program for his desired

"I chose Centre because of US Lacrosse polls, while also the incredibly rigorous academics," Witcher said. "What really stood out for me was the pre-law track that they have, and the really high law school placement rate."

Although Witcher always dreamt of playing collegiate basketball, his high school experience proved that he had a much better opportunity with collegiate lacrosse. His dream of playing a collegiate sport will become a reality in the spring

Dougherty hopes to add to young St. Francis program

BY GEORGE HENKEN CORE STAFF

Senior Tanner Dougherty will continue his volleyball career next year at St. Francis College in Brooklyn, New York. Playing volleyball in college has been Dougherty's dream for a long was one of the most significant. time due to his love of the sport and the immense impact that the City," he said. "It is really beautigame has had on his life.

"It has really been my main

accountable and has taught me many things and I would like to keep that going as long as I can."

Of the many aspects of St. Francis that appealed to Dough-

"I wanted to be in New York

The program's coaches and

source of motivation. Since I have players also have Dougherty exstarted playing, it just keeps me cited about his future at St. Francis

> "The head coach is in his mid to late twenties, and I really liked that because I feel like he would be able to connect to the players and what is going on in the world, es- everyone else better." pecially for our age. On my visit, (the coaches and players) were all forensic psychology. very, very welcoming."

With St. Francis's young pro-

gram of only three years, Dougherty, a libero, has the opportunity to help set a tone for a growing

Their program is very very new, and it just keeps going up. I hope to bring energy to the team would be more understanding of $\,\,$ to make myself better and make

Dougherty plans on studying

PN PICKS THE SUPER BOWL

Nathan:



After a rough first half courtesy of Aaron Donald, Joe Burrow finally finds the spark and carries the Cincinnati offense to a strong third quarter.

Louis:



After years of enduring the pain of St. Louis, Stan Kroenke wins a Super Bowl as fate pays its dues. Matthew Stafford completes his rise from the ashes in Detroit to LA Champion.

Coby:



The Rams will get out to a hot start with a Kendall Blanton (+1400) touchdown, but Burrow will connect with his trio of Chase, Higgins, and Boyd for upwards of 250 combined yards, outpacing Matthew Stafford.

Jackson:



The Rams dominate in the trenches and sack Joe Burrow eight times, but star cornerback Jalen Ramsey proves no match for the Bengals' explosive Ja'Marr Chase, who racks up two touchdowns.



Brooks wears new colors on signing day.

photo | Kathy Chott

Letter to the Editors

Masks: patience, empathy still needed

To the editors:

s a person who whole-Aheartedly believes in SLUH's guiding principle that we should strive to be men for others even when, especially when, it requires that we sacrifice something of ourselves, I feel moved to respond to those who are promoting the Urgency for Normal petition to cease cooperative mask-wearing in our school.

I do understand that for someone in his teens two years protect himself and others is an almost unbearable burden because two years constitutes over 10% of his life. To one so young, wearing a mask may seem a potentially unending CDC website map still colors less vigorous than that of others.

ago, similar feelings led Americans to stop using protections against the virus that they had been battling since 1918. However, the last waves of that virus were the most deadly. As Gregg Gonsalves, an associate professor of epidemiology at the Yale School of Public Health, stated in a recent article in The Nation, "People who were scrupulous about following public health advice in 2020 are now too tired, frustrated, and fed-up to care."

Some who feel this urgency of wearing a piece of cloth to to assert their freedom think our country has reached endemic status, but thousands of deaths per day indicate omicron and its variants-to-come are not done with us. The most recent three times, my immunity is far

state of deprivation. A century our region in the red, high- Many among us worry about transmission category. Kevin carrying the virus home to Kline, a professor of pediatrics at Tulane University and LSU New Orleans, believes that if we were to do as the Urgency for Normal group is proposing, "which is to basically do away with mitigation measures where the schools are concerned, and basically throw in the towel ... that it's bound to lead to more cases of Covid ... more hospitalizations among children, and probably more deaths."

> And it's not only children who are at risk. I, for example, am vulnerable because I take immunity suppression meds because of a transplant, so, despite having been vaccinated

people in our families who have diabetes, heart disease, cancer, or are pregnant, all conditions that elevate the risk of serious complications from infection.

In his 1859 essay On Liberty, John Stuart Mill argues that "the only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. His own good, either physical or moral, is not a sufficient warrant." Until our communal health changes significantly, what is called for is patience, not urgency, empathy, not indulgence.

> William George **English Department**

Calendar

Friday, February 11

A Day

Senior Mom Cookie Sale Wrestling District Tournament LUNCH Cajun Shrimp Pasta

Grilled Vegetable Pasta Vegetarian

4:00рм JV1-2 Racquetball vs Chaminade @ Vetta Racquet

6:00рм Varsity Basketball @ Chaminade

7:00PM Varsity 1 Racquetball vs Parkway West @ Vetta

Racquet Sports West

7:00PM JV2-1 Racquetball vs Parkway West @ Vetta Racquet Sports West

Saturday, February 12

Wrestling District Tournament

Sunday, February 13

No Events

Monday, February 14

B Day

Faculty Meeting Late Start Schedule

LUNCH Ultimate Beef Nachos

Cheesy Lasagna Pinwheel Vegetarian

4:30рм В Basketball @ CBC

Tuesday, February 15

A Day

Lunch Loaded Tots

Vegetarian Vegetable Lo Mein

3:30pm Varsity 1 Racquetball vs Kirkwood @ Vetta Sports

Concord

JV2-3 Racquetball vs SLUH JV2-1 @ Vetta Sports 3:30рм Concord

6:00рм В Basketball @ Thomas Jefferson (V)

Wednesday, February 16

B Day

Sophomore Class Mass LUNCH Carnitas Fajitas Cheese Ravioli Vegetarian

3:30PM JV1-1 Racquetball vs DeSmet @ Vetta Sports

3:30PM JV1-2 Racquetball vs Lindbergh @ Vetta Sports

Concord

3:30PM JV2-2 Racquetball vs Lindbergh @ Vetta Sports

6:00рм Varsity Basketball @ CBC

Thursday, February 17

A Day

Wrestling State Tournament

LUNCH Papa John's

Baked Manicotti Vegetarian

3:30рм JV1-3 Racquetball vs Kirkwood-A @ Vetta Sports

Concord

calendar | Roarke Unrau

Comments? Corrections? Article suggestions? Please reach out to us at prepnews@sluh.org

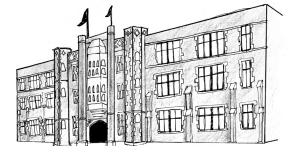
Around the Hallways

Class of 2026 Welcome Event

Members of the Class of 2026 were formally welcomed into the SLUH community Wednesday night at the annual Welcoming Celebration held by the admissions team. Some 250 future Jr. Bills made their way to the Backer Memorial, where they watched a presentation about the iLab's model airplane and took part in their first "U. High, U. High" chants. The night ended with two rousing renditions of "Oh When the Bills Go Marching In" on the field house bleachers, capping off a night filled with excitement and celebration.

Senior Class Mass

The senior class filed into the chapel on Tuesday to take Mothers Club Cookies Sales part in one final class Mass. The Mass was presided over by principal Fr. Ian Gibbons, SJ and the senior Pastoral Team contributed in assisting roles. Through the use of visuals, Gibbons preached on the importance of seniors going beyond the surface level and recognizing the complexity of people and various issues they encounter. At the conclusion of Mass, Gibbons prayed over the senior class, asking God to give strength to the seniors to finish the year strong and continue being



model leaders within the school community.

After an unfortunate postponement thanks to last week's snow days, the Mothers' Club's cookie sales are back. Both today and yesterday, cookies of both the store bought and homemade varieties are available for purchase at lunch for the low price of just 50 cents for two cookies. Though we at the Prep News must have an unbiased take on this matter, this writer will absolutely be taking advantage of this delicious op-Jack Figge and Jackson Cooper



Senior Matthew Kluba leads the Class of 2026 in vivacious chants.

photo | Miles Schulte

Prep News Volume 86, Issue 19

Credits:

"Who is your Valentine?"

Editor in Chief

Jack "Not the Prep News" Figge

Nathan "I only third wheel" Rich

News Editor Roarke "Chloe Kim" Unrau

Visual Editor

Charlie "track suit Leo" Bieg

Web Editor

Luke "can I have more than one?" Duffy

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