

# Prep News

2021-2022:  
The Year of the Billiken

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St. Louis University High School | Thursday, May 19, 2022

sluh.org/prep-news

## Gibbons to depart after next school year

### Committee to begin search for next principal as school prepares for transition of power



Gibbons speaking at 2018 SLUH Night. photo | Kathy Chott

JACK FIGGE  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

At a faculty meeting held after school yesterday, St. Louis U. High president Alan Carruthers announced that SLUH principal Ian Gibbons S.J. would be departing the school after the 2022-2023 school year. At the end of the next school year, Gibbons will have concluded his sixth year at SLUH. Jesuits are typically

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## School announces Jones’s departure

### Head football coach Mike Jones will not return for ’22 season after five-year tenure

BY JACK FIGGE AND  
NATHAN RICH  
EDITOR IN CHIEF,  
SPORTS EDITOR

Football families received an email last Friday from Principal Ian Gibbons, S.J. that St. Louis U. High would be parting ways with head football coach Mike Jones, who has led the football team for the past five years, beginning in 2017. As head football coach, Jones compiled an 18-28 re-

cord over five years. The team went 7-4 last season and made a push deep into the state play-

offs, culminating in a district loss to CBC last November.

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photo | Kathy Chott

Jones coaching at a SLUH Football game.

# 22 in ’22

## Water Polo beats Parkway West for 22nd State title



The team celebrating after their victory. photo | Joseph Fennwald

BY ALEX WENTZ  
REPORTER

Despite losing their pool and adopting a cramped and inconsistent practice

schedule mid-season, the St. Louis U. High water polo team enacted revenge on the Parkway West Longhorns last Saturday to emerge as Missouri State Champions for

the 22nd time in program history. The boys in blue went into their first state finals match in three years. Their hunger for victory was akin to a starving great white, but

the foe was no pushover, with the P. West Longhorns being the only Missouri team SLUH had lost to this year. “I felt really good going into the game,” said Penilla.

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## Feature: students look forward to possibilities of next school year

BY LUKE DUFFY AND  
ANDREW HUNT  
WEB EDITOR, STAFF

The past two years have been full of change, and next school year will be no different: a new schedule is being implemented, more all-school assemblies are being planned, and Covid pro-

community and recreate the brotherhood that has been lost over the past two years? Or will the inconsistency of life prevent the “New Normal” that SLUH has been waiting for? For the past two years, the school has been fluctuating between different schedules as administrators

“I feel like we need to really make that brotherhood 100 percent true. Introverts need to be included, extroverts, kids of every race, LGBTQ, I want everyone to be included. I don’t want you to feel in any way excluded.”

-Anthony Fahim

ocols are likely to be relaxed. Will next year be a fresh start to finally rebuild the pre-pandemic St. Louis U. High

attempt to find one that provides students with the best learning experience possible.

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4970 Oakland Ave. - St. Louis, MO 63110  
(314) 531-0330 ext. 2241  
online at [sluh.org/prepnews](http://sluh.org/prepnews)  
[prepnews@sluh.org](mailto:prepnews@sluh.org)

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# Seniors boogie and sway along to groovy tunes at prom



Left to right: seniors A.J. Thompson, Max Sextro, Ben Ridgway, Nick Esson, Caleb Forthaus, and Henry Dowd. photo | Courtesy of Henry Dowd

BY ROARKE UNRAU AND MARK WAPPLER  
NEWS EDITOR, CORE STAFF

The class of 2022 found themselves clipping on bow ties, fastening on cummerbunds, and stretching into their suspenders last Friday as they prepared for their Senior Prom. A night filled with flashing lights from cameras, necessary mosh pits, and awkward moments of stepping on a girl’s dress, it was a rightful return to a tradition that has been absent for the past two years and the envy of the past two graduating classes. One thing is certain: every girl is crazy about a sharply dressed Jr. Bill.

Senior Prom could be labeled an American staple in so-

ciety with its popularity in SLUH culture. After two years of having no SLUH senior prom, it’s back. And this time at the Chase Park Plaza on Kingshighway. “It seems like it’s a little more of a Grand Ballroom feel when you walk in. There’s more space in the room, for sure. Not even just the dance floor but we had standing tables set up in the back where people could hang out. There was plenty of room where we could set up a photo booth. And even in the lobby outside of the ballroom there was plenty of room to gather and walk around. So it was there’s more space. It’s a newer venue and the food was excellent,” said senior class moderator Dan Becvar.

The Class of 2022 was the first class to experience prom at the Chase, as SLUH proms

used to be held at the Cedars at St. Raymond’s. Although a nice venue, after holding prom there for decades the school felt it was time for an upgrade. “And we actually were planning on moving prom to the Chase back in 2020 before Covid hit. So we were trying to get to the Chase for three years basically, so this was the first time we were able to do it,” said Becvar. “We wanted a more updated venue that was a little bit closer to SLUH. We knew the food would be good. And we thought it’d be an exciting new place to bring seniors and their guests.” This year the prom doors opened at 6:45 p.m. for entry and opened again for students to leave at 11:00 p.m. Prom consisted of dinner and dancing, with breaks for a 360 camera shot.

The night kicked off before the doors opened to the ballroom, when many seniors decided to take pictures with their dates at the nearby Emerson Grand Basin in Forest Park. A staple and popular location to take prom pictures, many seniors bumped into their classmates before the dance began and took group pictures. “It was nice seeing driving into the venue with all the cars parked next to me with people I knew, all looking dapper. Walking in it was nice, especially into the ballroom. It looked very unique,” said senior Ted Williams.

After navigating their way through paparazzi parents and traffic on Lindell and Kingshighway, the couples made their way to Chase Park Plaza before the doors closed at 7:15. Many seniors chose to park at the parking garage down the street from the venue, but a select group decided to pay extra for valet parking in style.

The couples were greeted by the familiar faces of many SLUH faculty members before they took their seats next to their classmates and their dates to be served a three course meal. This scrumptious dinner proved to be a perfect time to talk about college or summer plans or to just catch up with their classmates before they hit the dance floor.

“I thought it was really fun, we got to pick our own tables so I was sitting with my close friends. A couple of them brought girls I had met before, and one of them is going to the school I am go-

ing to so it was fun to catch up. I enjoyed dinner, some of the girls didn’t but maybe they were picky,” said senior Colin Bryan.

Seniors Dennis McDaniel and Jacob Lemley took the initiative to usher the rest of their class into the next phase of the night when they showed off their excessive dance moves on the dance floor while their classmates finished up their meals. Soon enough, a sizeable group of Jr. Bills began doing what they do best: moshing.

“There’s a certain feeling of closeness that happens when you feel like someone’s going to fall on top of you that makes moshing an aspect of brotherhood,” said senior Luke Pierson. “My date was looking at me like I was crazy when I told her I was going to join the mosh with my friends. We were just jumping around, looking goofy and not caring about a thing.”

Although prom experienced many firsts, there was a sense of familiarity there, and that sense came from the DJ’s. TKO had DJ’d most other SLUH dances this year, and once again made an appearance at SLUH prom.

“Overall I thought it was good, a lot of songs from the mid 2000’s, and around 11 p.m. I could actually get some requests in. So basically given the aux of prom I of course had to play some of Kanye’s finest, ‘All Falls Down,’ which was the last song I danced to and was a good way to cap off my formal high school dance career,” said Williams.

Song after song, the seniors joined with their broth-

ers to dance like they never got the chance. While their dates watched to their enjoyment from an outer circle, the seniors began to lift up several of their classmates to allow them to crowd surf. Matthew Leight was one such senior.

“It was your typical, traditional SLUH dance. A lot of mosh pitting, but really fun. Matthew Leight was in the middle, he was killing it. We had Peter Merriman Irish Dance too. Everyone was there together having fun. It was a great time,” said Bryan.

“Senior Prom was a lot of fun for me. Besides some of the mixers and Freshman Dance, it was my first one in a while, and it was a blast to get on the dance floor and have fun with the guys. The highlight of the night for me was definitely getting crowd surfed. Matt Vanous basically pointed at me, then the air, smiled, and up I went,” said Leight.

To many of the guests’ surprise, the 11 o’clock dismissal time came sooner than expected when they began to see their friends exit the ballroom. After spending 4 hours eating, dancing, and drinking, their night was finished in an instant. And senior prom, an American staple, was over.

“I think it went really well, just the environment we were all in, and in the context of all our SLUH careers, after our AP exams and classes. Everything we’ve done at SLUH has led to this one final moshing, and what is SLUH if not moshing at a dance,” said senior Luke Brown.

## Widespread changes proposed for grading scale

BY BEN CROAT AND ANDREW HUNT  
STAFF

As a part of the ongoing Strategic Summit, the members of the Grading Policy and Communication committee shared their recommendations for grades and grading at SLUH at a faculty meeting last Tuesday, May 10. The recommendations are intended to bring more consistency to grades and grading at SLUH. The committee recommended further work in some areas for the 2022-23 academic year, followed by policy implementations for the 2023-24 school year.

This committee—chaired by English teacher Steve Missey and including science teacher Mary Russo (co-chair), chorus teacher Addie Akin, math teacher Nick Ehlman, Spanish teacher Maria-Paz Erker, college counselor Kate Kindbom, and theology teacher Mike Lally—came out of the Strategic Summit, which identified grades and grading as an area for work.

Over the course of the year, the committee gathered information from a number of sources, ranging from research-based texts on grades and grading, to conversations with representatives from college counseling, the Learning Center, the administration, to surveys given to both faculty and students to gauge current practices and attitudes.

Based on their research on grading issues, the committee drafted a Philosophy of Grades and Grading at SLUH statement, and a list of recommended policy

and practice items. These have been presented to the faculty and to the administration. The first outlines how teachers should approach the purpose of grades at SLUH from a philosophical context.

“Grades communicate a lot, and the goal is to communicate learning and understanding,” explained Missey. “We want to be clear about what it is we’re measuring when we give feedback and why we’re doing that.”

The philosophy statement also defines what “rigor” means at SLUH.

“You’ve probably heard before that SLUH has a ‘rigorous’ education or is a ‘rigorous’ college prep school,” said Missey. “You want to go here because it’s rigorous, but everyone has very different ideas about what rigor means. Our job was to come up with a working definition, so that we can see what we’re all talking about and make sure that we agree on it or be aware of it when we don’t.”

Most of the policy changes are recommended to take effect in the 2023-24 academic year, and to be implemented to minimize disruption to a student’s SLUH career. One of these recommendations is terminating the A+ grade, and to clarify how grades are weighted to minimize the impact on a student’s overall GPA.

“The recommendation is to consider removing the A+ in the future in order to encourage student learning and best teaching practices, but that move can only be in conjunction with weighted

grades and careful conversation and consideration with college counseling about the best way to move forward so that our students can continue to be rewarded when they apply to colleges,” said Missey.

However, many of these proposed policies, such as standardizing policy on retakes and redos, are still a work in progress. The committee will begin its second iteration in the 2022-23 academic year and survey what teachers are currently trying in their classes to determine the best policy route.

“Our recommendation for next year is to put the philosophy in place, agree on the definition of rigor, and start working with the grade descriptions,” said Missey. “Then teachers in the Grading Policy and Communication committee 2.0 also keep working on moving towards a more coherent set of policies so that the student experience is more coherent no matter which department or class level you’re at. That’s the goal.”

To begin their examination into the grades and grading at SLUH, the committee read Grading with Equity by author Joe Feldman which goes in depth into the problems with many systems of grading and how biases can be found in those processes.

“The number one issue was that we lacked a shared universal grading scale,” said theology teacher and committee member Mike Lally. “All teachers can set their own grading scale, which can be very confusing especially

for younger students. We were concerned about what Feldman in Grading for Equity calls the ‘commodity of grading,’ which is that grades become more of a transaction between teacher and student rather than a meaningful opportunity to learn and to build relationships via learning.”

The next step was to conduct a series of surveys and research to provide insight into the SLUH community’s thoughts and feelings on the grading system and culture here at SLUH. With this feedback, the committee then worked on formulating the new data into recommendations that would hopefully become policies in the future.

“There were a number of concerns that we were potentially disadvantaging students in difficult situations, like students of low socioeconomic status, students in non-traditional families, and students who do not have as much support as others,” said Lally. “We were worried that due to the rigor of SLU High, they might not be getting a fair shake when it comes to grades.”

According to a survey sent to the student body in early April, 56 percent of SLUH students shared that they personally care more about their grades than their learning. In addition, 85 percent of students said that they believe SLUH students in general care more about their grades than learning.

“People’s perception is very important,” explained Missey. “They need to think they’re in a place where people don’t only care about grades.”

## Garavaglia set for summer sabbatical

BY BILL ALBUS AND MATTHEW MUSIAL  
REPORTERS

Theology teacher Rob Garavaglia has always wanted to complete the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, but has never found the time. Next semester, however, Garavaglia will have the time, as he will be away on sabbatical.

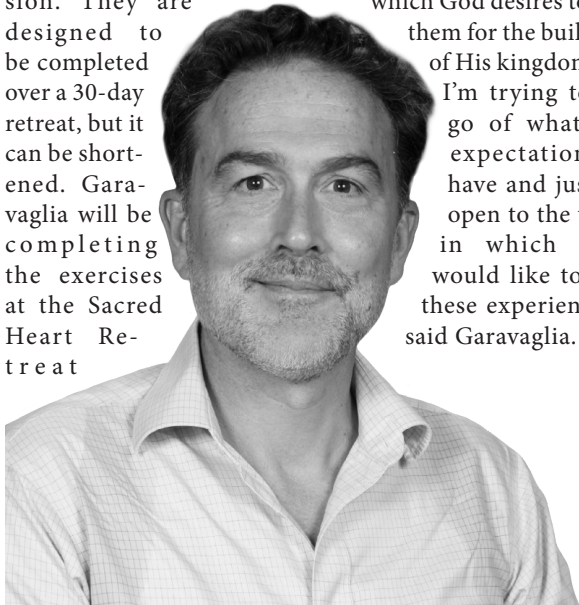
Garavaglia is already preparing for his sabbatical, which he will begin on July 24 and which is set to last through the first semester. The Exercises are a collection of prayers and meditations developed by St. Ignatius in order to help people draw close to God as he did after his conversion. They are designed to be completed over a 30-day retreat, but it can be shortened. Garavaglia will be completing the exercises at the Sacred Heart Retreat

House in Colorado.

“I’ll be doing some reading and looking at St. Ignatius in their program which is geared for faculty and staff,” Garavaglia explained. “This will set the tone for the rest of my sabbatical, where I’ll be interviewing people and seeing what their spiritual needs are and how the Exercises can help them.”

Garavaglia has been preparing for this event for the last couple years, including earning a certificate in spiritual direction from the Aquinas Institute of Theology.

“I’m hopeful that I will find opportunities for people to just encounter God’s love and to see the way in which God desires to use them for the building of His kingdom. So I’m trying to let go of whatever expectations I have and just be open to the ways in which God would like to use these experiences,” said Garavaglia.



Garavaglia photo | SLUH Yearbook



# Commentary

## What does it mean to value the truth?

JACK FIGGE  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

“If nothing else, value the truth.” Every week, the *Prep News* masthead includes this small phrase. It seems so insignificant, so unessential, yet those six simple words serve as the foundation for all that we have done and continue to do at the *Prep News*. It’s a phrase that I have strived to live by for the past three years of high school.

Truth. It is a complex, multilayered word that is difficult to comprehend. Truth, in its simplest form is something real, something that is actual whether it be an event, an idea or facts. Today, the truth is disputed more than ever before. Our society has become more and more polarized with the growth of relativism preaching that there is no such thing as objective truths or truths are real no matter what we believe, there are only subjective truths. Most notably, the notion of pushing one’s own truth, often taking the form of a hidden opinion, reveals itself in today’s

journalism. Any piece of journalism will be biased in some form. Yet, in recent years, many major news corporations have chosen to affiliate themselves with one side of the political aisle, allowing these political opinions to radiate from every piece they publish. Opinionated news articles and reports have become more prevalent throughout the pandemic where instead of honoring facts and the whole truth, journalists and corporations pursued and pushed narratives that fit their partial truths.

A prime example occurred within our school community this past October. I remember walking into school on Tuesday, Oct. 19. It was the second day the school was operating in its mask recommended policy, and was one of the first schools to announce this shift. That Tuesday, when I walked into J127 and greeted my freshman, they quickly asked me if I had seen the KMOV story covering SLUH’s shift in mask policy. I had not seen it but after a quick Google search, I watched the two minute clip. The original

clip portrayed a one-sided story claiming that most students and parents were outraged over the new policy. The story failed to include any mention of the thorough safety plan that the administration had constructed or any interviews with parents and students that were for the policy shift. Recognizing their mistake and after receiving criticism from the school community, KMOV aired another story the following day, this time including interviews with students and parents that were for the policy shift.

Stories like these cause more harm than good, fracturing even further already divided communities. One of the many lessons that have learned during my time on the *Prep News* is that it is the role of the reporter and the story to inform the community, not divide it. To provide simply the facts, to give a voice to those that witnessed these events, to report not the reporter’s perceived truth, but the objective truth, to value that truth. I know I have sometimes failed to write and report by those standards,

allowing my own beliefs and desires to precede providing a completely objective and true account of an event.

One example: last year, I was assigned to report on the transition from the traditional senior project to the Grande Project. Many of my then senior friends (class of 2021) were complaining to me about having to do the Grande Project. Deciding to take it upon myself to try and reverse this decision through stirring an uproar, I thought including an outraged parent quote would be the best route. I spoke with a parent who said a lot of good things about the Grande Project, but she included one negative comment after I asked a very direct question. That one negative comment was the only quote I included from a parent. The following week, I began to see the effects of that article and the adverse effects it was having on the school community and I began to recognize the error of my ways.

This past February, as Covid cases were dropping, I set out to try and figure out when

the school would be able to switch back to Condition II. It was a time of unrest around the school, as many parents and students were voicing their opinions about why the school should or shouldn’t change the policy. Over the course of that week, I spoke with parents who were dissecting the legal documents of the city and encouraging administrators that since the school was a private institution, it did not need to abide by city guidelines. In one of my interviews, I spoke with a low level city employee who said that the school indeed did not have to abide by city guidelines. I was ecstatic, and ran into our editors meeting eager to share what I had uncovered. But with great wisdom, Mr. Missey reminded me that before we could run a story, I must do thorough research, including trying to interview a top city official. So I set out to uncover the truth, but quickly I was caught in government bureaucracy and I could not reach a high enough official to explain the city’s policy. It was an ambitious goal, and in the

end I was never able to contact the city official but I learned an important lesson during that assignment: to always pursue the truth through finding valid, trustworthy sources.

Three years of reporting, of striving to value the truth, of repeated failure and growth, are coming to an end. Tonight, when I do the final, *Prep News* honk, as Mr. Missey drives through the line of cars, I will see that as the end of my *Prep News* and high school career. *Prep News* has been the highlight of high school for me. From the late nights of doing tedious layouts, to the seemingly simple conversations shared in the *Prep News* office on a Friday after school, every moment has been special. *Prep News* is more than a weekly high school newspaper, it is a family. A family of high school guys founded on trying to help a larger community grow through reporting and sharing stories. But above all, it is a family striving to simply provide facts to a community through following one simple phrase: “if nothing else, value the truth.”

## PN PUZZLE

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crossword | Paul Baudendistel

### ACROSS

- First stage in boosting a signal
- Strung shoes again
- Jazz hands, e.g.
- Jazz fans, e.g.
- Result of “You are getting sleepy ...”
- What falling on a grenade shields others from
- Initials of a poet who attended Wash. U’s prep school
- Meier who created the *Civilization* games
- Mount Doom visitor
- The Dwarf who wears glasses
- T-shirt sizes (abbr.)
- Lung infections
- In the on-deck circle
- He feuded with The Rock, a fellow actor
- Nightmare street
- Coat named after an Irish province
- L.A. times?
- Box for sorting hens
- \_\_\_\_\_-Magnon
- Breaks in the fourth wall
- Ending for cape or she
- Baseball’s GOAT
- Covered by frost, or written by Frost

- Summer version of hibernates
- Didn’t just guess
- Stubborn animal or person
- Put in stitches
- Cadets’ home
- Passing stat
- Best-rated
- “Now see here, pal ...”
- Dueler’s declaration
- Volume 86 publication
- Child in *A Visit from St. Nicholas*
- Part of a heartbeat

### DOWN

- Penn. city
- Palpatine’s granddaughter
- The Worldwide Leader in Sports
- From \_\_\_\_ Z
- Critical task
- Jailbirds
- Actress Rene and teacher Mary
- Moral standard
- Shortening
- “Bingo!”
- Pirates’ leader
- Dir. from St. Louis to 1-Down
- Internet initialism
- speak
- Grades Scantrons
- 3h 21m, for *The Return of the*

- King*
- German grandmother
- Cause of mildew
- Some ER workers
- Act smart-alecky
- Applied force
- Pabst product advertised by a dog named Alex
- Pirates’ home
- Ending for man or She
- Best-rated (abbr.)
- Junior course
- Coach Beard’s superior
- More than -er
- Mountain \_\_\_\_
- Rarer than rare
- Math-inspired artist M.C.
- Kills bills
- Scantron choices
- Computer key (abbr.)
- Swiss mountains
- Best rating
- Worst rating
- Certain computer images
- Cheerios grain
- 105.7
- Coach before Berube
- One with a neck that can rotate 270°
- One of several for a Swiss Army knife

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## Juniors participate in second annual SLUHlympics event during fun day

BY ALEX PREUSSER AND JACK EVANS  
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

The second annual SLUHlympics commenced just a week after the Class of 2023's Junior Ring ceremony, acting as a celebration of the class's camaraderie and brotherhood as they move into their senior year. Juniors took the day to release some of the tensions of completed AP exams and approaching finals by participating in some fun activities and games planned by their classmates.

Led by Junior Class Coordinator Tracy Lyons, STUCO President-Elect Pat Mehan and Vice President-Elect Chandler Flowers organized and planned the procedures of the event and all of its different activities throughout the day.

"As far as planning it, that all came from down from Miss Lyons," said Flowers. "And then a lot of people didn't really notice, but we were doing things behind the scenes, just making sure everything ran smoothly."

The concept of Junior Fun Day first arose during the pandemic as a way to unite the class and continue to build the community of SLUH even after such a long period of separation.

"I think they were a great thing to put into the schedule during Covid times when everyone is missing the connection of being together, but I also think during normal school times they are very important," explained Lyons. "Sure, you are coming here to go to school and to work really hard, but you're also here because of the other special part of SLUH—the community. We should celebrate that and the relationships that you guys have formed so far by having fun together."

"Our school can be so big and difficult that sometimes we get so focused on ourselves that we lose our identity as a class, and this helped us come together as a class," said junior Hudson Funke.

SLUHlympics began with a Pentathlon consisting of five stages: Steal the Bacon,

a Rock-Paper-Scissors game, a Kahoot!, a relay race, and Hasbro's Catch Phrase game. Each homeroom was split in half to make two teams of about ten to compete against one another in each round, and many of these teams even chose a theme to boost spirit and their competitive nature. These themes ranged from the simple ensemble of navy shorts and a white shirt to the more elaborately planned uniforms of "Team Lyons," who stenciled these words in black paint on matching white t-shirts.

"It was really nice to be able to just have fun with my friends, play games with them, and get closer with them," said junior Daniel Irvine. "And doing our amazing Safari theme definitely helped to bring it all together."

The Pentathlon was followed by a lunch of Chick-Fil-A sandwiches, accompanied by a game of Saint Louis-based trivia and the class game of guessing the names of Disney movie songs. The juniors were then let out onto the upper field and football field for some unregulated recreational time in which they played kickball,

Spikeball, and Crossnet. More importantly, though, juniors enjoyed the spoils of a free ice cream truck and a 40-foot Slip 'n' Slide.

"The Slip 'n' Slide was definitely my favorite part," said junior Lucas Rammacher. "It was super fun going again and again with my friends, getting soaked and sucking on some Bomb Pops from the ice cream truck."

After an abundance of excitement on the slopes of the Slip 'n' Slide's plastic tarp, the competition came to a head in the Tug of War, which placed the top four teams against each other in order to determine the overall champion of SLUHlympics. Ultimately, despite the fierce battle that took place on the football field, the second half of M222 came out on top.

"I loved the Tug of War because of course we won," said junior Ian Manion. "We were underdogs coming into this. We were seen as not very athletic, but we came out on top. It was a great moment, and now my medal is hanging up in my car so I see it every time I drive."



Top: Juniors play spikeball. Bottom: Lucas Rammacher slides down the hill.  
photos | Maria-Paz Erker

## Esports Valorant team makes successful state run, to compete for third place

AUSTIN WALD  
CORE STAFF

The SLUH Valorant team prevailed through an unfortunate setting and tough matchups this past week to make a run at state and secure a chance at third place. The state tournament was hosted in Kansas City in a unique underground venue instead of the comfort of the Science Center where the team had competed all season.

From the very start, the tournament was turbulent. After making the trek, the team had to wait an extra two hours as CBC and Marquette had bus complications on the way to Kansas City. On top

of the delay, the cave-like setting created internet problems that disappointed the field as a whole.

After the wait, SLUH faced off against Marquette and sustained an unfortunate 13-4 loss. That would be the only loss that they would suffer that day with a quick bounce back to handily defeat both Hickman and Lee's Summit North.

"It wasn't very well put together. We were in an underground cave and we had problems with the internet," said senior Jake Marison. "But other than that, I feel like the team competed really well and we worked with our environment and overall I think we had a pretty good showing."

After the three matches, the tournament was going late into the night and SLUH had an 11:00 p.m. deadline to be back on the SLUH campus, which prevented them from competing in their match for third place. Francis Howell South High School claimed victory over Marquette to claim the 2022 Valorant state championship. SLUH will compete against Blue Springs South High School in a match that SLUH very much expects to win.

"We aren't worried at all," said Marison. "I think we're gonna make quick work of it and walk out pretty unscathed."

## Students contemplate first school year with fewer Covid complications and new schedule

(continued from page 1)

Next school year will see the school switch from the block schedule that only has A days and B days to a cascading schedule where every day is different. For some students, this radically different schedule feels intimidating.

"I personally like a set order of things," said Student Body Vice President-Elect Chandler Flowers. "With the new schedule, it just sets everything off of whack. I think it'll create more confusion for the incoming classes, and then the seniors that are supposed to help them are trying to figure it out as well. It's just no set schedule. Every day is different."

"The constantly shifting classes just absolutely destroys routine," said freshman Mason Morris. "As someone who works off of a routine, that's just going to be a nightmare."

"I think it's a step down because it makes it harder to schedule your time out because of the rolling classes," said junior John Bytnar. "It doesn't have an every other day switch, so I think that might make it harder to meet with teachers, schedule your homework for the night, and plan around the classes. It might also take longer to figure out where your classes are and what day they're on."

While the block schedule does have its downsides, including the major loss in class time throughout the year, having just two daily schedules to shift between was preferred by some students. Others, however, are excited to explore this new schedule. In some ways, it provides more structure since classes and activity periods are at the same time every day.

"I am excited for the new schedule. It will be a lot to keep track of at the beginning of the year, but once I get the hang of it, it will work out well. I am nervous about how we almost have every class every day. This year, with homework, we kind of have two days to do it. But next year, for most classes we will have to get it done the night of," said freshman Alex Bendana.

Regardless of these mixed opinions, it is inevitable that any schedule implemented will not please everyone. The purpose of the schedule is to provide a cohesive format for learning. Given the unique opportunity to take input

from students and faculty this year, the administration decided on the cascading block schedule as the best choice for SLUH.

"The thing with the new schedule is they're trying to appease the people who like the block schedule with the people who like the seven day schedule, like the math teachers, the Spanish teachers, guys who were here before the block schedule, but this new schedule is kind of just a weird middle ground that I think kind of fails to accomplish what it's trying to set out to do," said Morris.

**"I'm so excited for next year, man. We're seniors, it's our year, I think it'll be our year to leave our footprint because we're now the new 'back to normal' SLUH senior class. It'll be exciting to see what we're able to do next year."**

-Chandler Flowers

The schedule, however, is not the only thing that is changing next school year. After months of low Covid rates at SLUH and in the region, expectations are that this fall will mark the first return to school without major Covid protocols in place since 2019. Students and faculty alike are anticipating that Covid will not hinder life at SLUH next school year in the way that it has for the past two.

"I'm excited that, while still being cautious, we can do a lot more, like pack football stands, go to hockey games, and do pep rallies and stuff," said Student Body President-Elect Patrick Mehan. "We can do all that and we don't have to spread out and sit alphabetically. We don't have to worry about Covid as much and it's not as much of a danger to all of us. Now we really have no limits as to what we can do for spirit activities."

"We have gotten a taste of it this past spring as we have been able to do things for the first time in three years," said math teacher Stephen Deves. "We have been able

to do prom, Junior Ring the old way, Direction Days the old way, and it just feels joyful. There has been so much mental capacity the last two years with having to change things or having to be precautionary. It is exciting to be able to do things the way we want to do them and to be able to gather together in ways that we previously haven't been able to."

Next school year, the senior class will be the only class that has experienced SLUH before Covid. With campus life finally going 'new normal,' it will be the job of the seniors to continue restoring some of the SLUH culture and brotherhood that was lost to the pandemic.

"I'm so excited for next year," said Flowers. "We're seniors, it's our year, I think it'll be our year to leave our footprint because we're now the new 'back to normal' SLUH senior class, so it'll be exciting to see what we're able to do next year."

"I want STUCO to be so much more involved," said junior Anthony Fahim, who is a STUCO member next year. "I feel like we need to really make that brotherhood 100 percent true. Introverts need to be included, extroverts, kids of every race, LG-BTQ, I want everyone to be included. I don't want you to feel in any way excluded."

Another challenge of next school year will be initiating the freshmen. While starting completely in person without rigid Covid protocols will allow freshmen to bond more easily, the new schedule could make it more difficult for senior advisors to spend time with their freshmen without homeroom time.

"I think that adjustment is going to be huge, and I think it's important how we approach that because homeroom is the time when you talk to your guys. That's when you get to know people. I think if homeroom doesn't happen, it's gonna be a big pivot. I think it's really important that we still make it mandatory to talk to our guys and give him the basics to get used to SLUH," said Mehan.

It is indisputable that life at SLUH will continue to change. With determination, students and faculty can use the opportunity of next school year to breathe new life into the SLUH community.



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Community

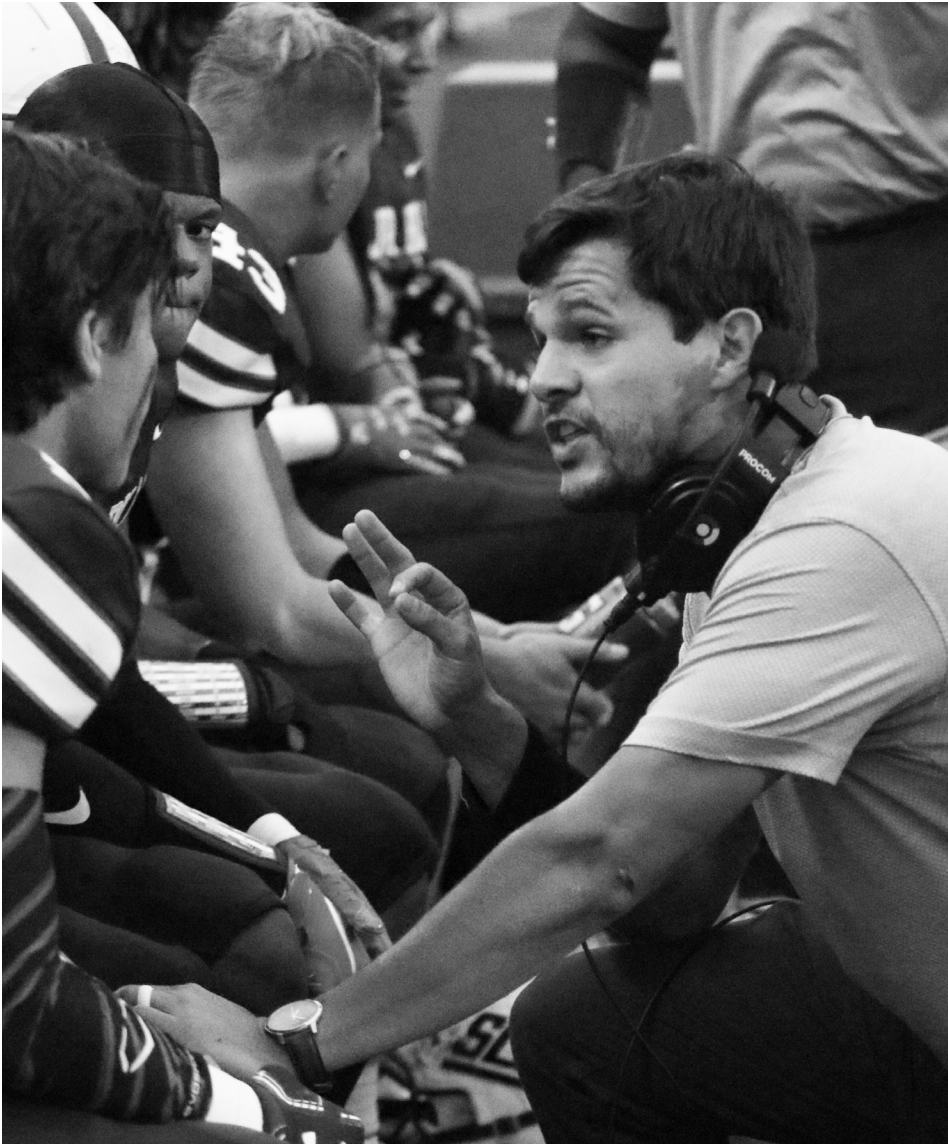
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# Cruz seeks to emphasize players in interim head coach role



Cruz coaching during a football game this past season.

photo | Kathy Chott

(continued from page 1)  
Assistant coach and English teacher Adam Cruz has been named interim head coach.

“The SLUH community thanks Coach Jones for his five years of service to SLUH and SLUH football,” said Athletic Director Chris Muskopf in an official statement. “Our community is focused on supporting Coach Cruz as he leads our transition and the effort to provide positive experiences for our students through participation in football.”

Throughout the past two months, Jones had been coming to campus regularly to coach the team during spring workout sessions after school and preparing to lead the team through summer practices and into next season.

“The most heart-breaking thing was the timing of (Jones’s departure),” said 2022 senior captain and tight end Zach Ortwerth. “We’ve gone through our whole season, our whole spring, with him, thinking he was gonna be with us. I enjoyed playing for him.”

Players recalled Jones’s dedication to the development of the players and his knowledge of the game.

“I am going to miss Coach Jones,” said 2022 captain and offensive guard Matthew Barnes. “Obviously he’s a legend here in Saint Louis. He did a lot for the Rams. But he was just a good guy all around. He always got us hyped up for the games, and he always got really good eighth graders to come to SLUH, because they wanted to play for him.”

Football players remain hopeful that the 2022-2023 season can build off of last year’s success under Jones.

Players trust that Cruz and the other remaining coaches will be able to lead the team into this new era of SLUH football.

“I’m excited to see what Coach Cruz can put together for his coaching staff, and see what we can put together for the season,” said sophomore wide receiver Ryan Wingo. “Coach Cruz is good with people, and just good with everybody. To have that as a head coach will take us a long way.”

Cruz has been coaching SLUH football for the past ten years, and has gained experience as a varsity assistant for Jones. For Cruz, his main focus for the upcoming season is the players as he hopes to build relationships with each of them and ensure that they build relationships with one another.

“My heart and soul is for the kids,” said Cruz. “I said to the kids at our team meeting on Tuesday that my priority is them first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth, and that will always be the case. I will strive to coach in a way where I realize that this is their team, their season.”

While ensuring that the players have a good season is a top priority, Cruz also wants to establish a sense of familiarity for the upcoming season. Recognizing that a sudden change like Jones’s departure can be tough on a team, Cruz simply seeks to keep a playbook and play style that the team will be familiar with.

“With some coaches coming back, we want to make sure that there’s some familiarity in the offensive, defensive, and special teams plays,” said Cruz. “And we want to make sure that guys realize

that change is part of life and change is hard and change is scary sometimes. But the important thing to remember is at the end of the day football is football.”

Players remain hopeful that this incident will not be a setback for their season. The team continues to have its goals set high as they prepare to make a state championship push again this year, however under new leadership.

“We just have to buy into the culture with Coach Cruz, how he’s gonna lead us. I think we’ll just have to come together as a group,” said 2022 captain and linebacker Louis Kertz. “This is not a setback at all. I think it’s only going to make us stronger, it’s going to bond us together, and hopefully we will be able to work for a state championship.”

# Principal search committee underway after Gibbons departure announced

(continued from page 1)  
assigned to a position for five to six years, so Gibbons’ departure fits within the normal timeframe of reassignments made by the provincial.

“I’ve worked at five American Jesuit high schools and one in Europe. Transition is a natural part of being a Jesuit who’s a Jesuit educator in secondary education,” said Gibbons. “Coming and going is a part of the cycle. You miss the people, you miss the work that you’re doing and all those wonderful things that you completed.”

Over the course of six years, Gibbons has led the school community through many trials, most notably a global pandemic. Gibbons has done so with great diligence and skill, while always keeping in mind the Jesuit mission.

“I would be remiss to not express my deep appreciation to be able to work alongside him in furthering our Jesuit mission at SLUH. Fr. Gibbons has done a tremendous job leading SLUH in such areas as academics, programming implementation, strategic planning, hiring, and crisis management—all through some of the most challenging times in our school’s history,” said Carruthers in a press statement being released to parents this morning.

The school will now begin the process of searching for Gibbons’s successor. Currently, the process is in its infancy, with two members of the SLUH community taking

the lead on the search committee: Board of Trustees member and parent Tom Santel and chemistry teacher Mary Russo.

“Our role is to sort of coordinate the process for the search in terms of coming up with a job description, and collecting applications, vetting applications, and then choosing who to interview,” said Santel. “But we just do the search. The actual decisions will be made by Alan Carruthers.”

The search is intended to be a thorough process, with the committee hoping to gather a range of diverse opinions from students, parents, and faculty members while also keeping the school community informed of their process. Over the course of the upcoming months, the committee will meet to discern what steps need to be taken to find the perfect leader for the school.

“We’re looking for Jesus Christ on a good day,” said Russo. “That is an impossible thing. But if we shoot for the moon then you will end up among the stars. Our hope is to have a clear open process that garners trust as we look to try to find a match.”

The search committee hopes to have found a couple of good candidates to succeed Gibbons by late winter. It is not the role of the search committee to choose the next principal, that decision is left to the president and the Board of Trustees. The committee’s role is to search for a group of good candidates for the position.

“We will look to make sure that we have an open, clear, descriptive search, and then we will handle resumes that come in and look for ones that seem to match up with our search criteria, which we’ll be developing, interview the best candidates, and then we’ll push all of this information forward to Mr. Carruthers,” said Russo.

The search committee hopes to cast a wide net for candidates.

“In very broad terms, the ideal person will be someone who’s committed to the mission of SLUH,” said Santel. “They are someone who’s committed to Ignatian spirituality and will help the school advance as it has in the past.”

While the committee begins to start the process of searching for a new leader, Gibbons still has one year as leader of the school, a year that he hopes to continue to lead the school out of the pandemic and into a new era.

“Next year is really a perfect time for a principal transition,” said Gibbons. “We will have come out of the pandemic, we will have a new schedule. We have put together all kinds of great innovations within the school with technology and Global Ed and pastoral programs. It really will be an exciting time for that first new normal spin around the block so to speak, of all these new great, wonderful things. One couldn’t ask for a better way to walk off into the sunset.”



Gibbons riding in to the Pep Rally this past September.

photo | Kathy Chott

# Around the Hallways

## Seniors’ Absence

If there is one place that the juniors have really embraced their newfound superiority in the absence of the graduating class, it is in the Commons during lunch. The way they can fly through the line and pay for their food in less than three minutes has been a blessing. The quiet has also been a big change for the juniors as they have become the only inhabitants of the Commons at lunch. It is something you won’t notice until you’re experiencing it for yourself. Lunch has become a tranquil place; you may even be able to catch a quick 30-minute nap between classes. You can even hear your friends talking to you from across the table! Wow!

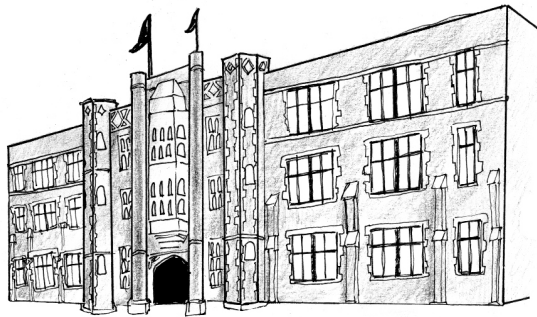
## Final Week of Classes

Students are filled with stress in the final week of classes as they rush to finish final projects and essays. Various classes are working hard to finish off the year strong. Hundreds of students have been overwhelmed with stress, followed by relief at the conclusion of their final classes. Along with the stress and relief comes the nostalgia of completing and reflecting on their classes. Students have been happy to complete their classes, but feel the bittersweetness of finishing their more favored classes.

## Spring

Though it is nearing the end of May, it seems as though the long-awaited spring weather has finally arrived! Now everyone seems to be going outside to enjoy that sweet, sweet vitamin D as temperatures cruise on up to the 80’s. Some people, however, are experiencing a mild case of untimely pollen allergies, but nothing will stop the sudden influx of chlorine being poured into outdoor swimming pools. All of this spring weather is truly great, but it begs the question: when will we be able to feel the summer heat?

— Patrick Brennan, Thomas Juergens, and Micah Doherty





# The Year



Photos (clockwise from top left):

Seniors Pearston Sanders and Charlie Stewart at the beginning of year pep rally.

Senior Gus Tettamble and sophomore Archie Caruthers lead STUCO cheers.

STUCO members pose at BTSM.

The hockey team celebrates with the challenge cup.

Senior Phillip Bone serves against Belleville East.

Sophomore Ryan Wingo scores against Chaminade

Senior Jaden McClain celebrates his buzzer beater against Webster.

Junior Ryan Kellogg gets a lift in the Rugby final.

Junior Zach Ortwerth catches the game winning touchdown against Marquette (Photo: Baxter Southern).

Sophomore Micah Leeseberg makes a new reptilian friend.

Fr. Ian Gibbons SJ plays "Still Dre" for the fall pep rally.

The Jazz 2 saxophone section plays at their Christmas concert.

The cast of The Addam's Family performs the opening number.

**Initiated at last! Sophomores finally experience Running of the Bills at football opener (86.02)**

A new era at the U High, the class of 2024 participates in the Running of the Bills SLUH tradition at Varsity football's home opener against MICDS. A year of waiting meant that SLUH held the first ever sophomore Running of the Bills.

**After last minute Covid cancellation, Freshman Running of the Bills moves to soccer game (86.02)**

A last second cancellation of a football game against Roosevelt due to a Covid outbreak left SLUH

scrambling to find suitable replacements for freshman running of the bills. Luckily a SLUH soccer game against Glendale that night proved perfect.

**Students punished for participation in devious licks TikTok trend (86.05)**

SLUH unable to escape the grasp of the negative TikTok trend where students steal objects ranging from hand sanitizer to bathroom stall doors from their school.

**Strategic summit's five charters to impact 2022-23 school year from top to bottom (86.07)**

**Masked no more! SLUH moves to mask recommended after low positivity rate and high vaccination (86.08)**

**One-sided KMOV story sparks tension within student body (86.08)**

**Has it already been two years? SLUH hosts return of fall ball (86.08)**

**Admin and city enter partnership, move back to Condition III (86.09)**

A week after moving to Condition II, SLUH goes back to Condition III. This decision was met with mixed reviews within the student body, after a KMOV story about SLUH was made.

**Admin hosts forum for students to ask about mask policy switches (86.10)**

**Another first! All Saints Day Mass is first all-school worship in 18 months (86.10)**

**Movement not moment: Jr. Bills move through Midtown protesting against gun violence (86.13)**

**A grande start to the year: seniors begin their advocacy projects (86.15)**

**A Return to Condition II, Current metrics allow school to return to Condition II, administration adjusts to mask recommended policy (86.20)**

Almost two years after the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic, SLUH finally officially re-enters Condition II of the safety plan. This was met with much praise from the student body, eager to see their classmates' faces once again.

**Schedule Change highlights Strategic Summit meeting (86.20)**

**Construction Resumes! After brief hiatus construction continues on the new Dill Center for Academic Success (86.23)**

**Cashbah raises \$1.4 million, first hybrid auction combines in person and online donations to fund financial aid (86.24)**

**Admin. in conversation about dance policy. (86.25)**

# of

**An example of Jesuit ideals Hylla honored and remembered for 30+ years of service in FSC (86.27)**

After 32 years of service at SLUH Kathy Hylla was honored at the 2022 awards ceremony with the renaming of the servery to 'Kathy's Kitchen', a scholarship named after her, and a SLUH flag signed by students.







Sep. 16: Senior Johnnie Ferrara finds the back of the net in the final seconds to give SLUH soccer first place in the CBC Tournament. Unprecedented win streak continues.

Nov. 5: In a thrilling last second touchdown from junior TE Zach Ortwerth, football tops Marquette to advance to the district final.

Feb. 26: After winning state, SLUH Racquetball wins their 15th national title. Seniors Clark Martin and Jared Thornberry win individual singles titles.

March 4: In a rowdy Centene Center, SLUH hockey tops De Smet 3-1 to take the Challenge Cup. Junior goalie Max Bely leads the way with a stellar performance in the net.



May 14: The Jr. Bills take on Parkway West in the pool for the Water Polo State Championship. SLUH wins 13-8 and Coach Dan Schulte celebrates with a cannonball. (Left)

AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY

the

Nov. 5: XC takes 3rd place at state meet, as three runners achieve all-state nods and set some of the fastest times in SLUH XC history.

November 13: Senior Cooper Scharff and the SLUH swim team score 3rd at State. Team smashes three state records as Scharff's 100 fly ranked in the top 100 of the nation

March 5: SLUH Basketball holds Jackson to only 39 points as they win the District Title for the first time in 5 years.

April 28: After 136 perfect sets, SLUH Volleyball finally loses a set against Jesuit Rival De Smet. The team rebounds strong, though, and wins the match 3-1, continuing their undefeated season.

May 8: Rugby bests their long time rivals, the Jr. Blues, winning the Missouri Rugby title. Head coach Brian Corrigan announces retirement as team celebrates.



Billiken





Junior Brandon Harris takes a shot.

photo | Joseph Fennewald

## Water Polo overcomes disheartening loss of home pool in the best way possible, as stout defense and smart shots propel SLUH past Parkway West in State final

(continued from page 1)

“But I knew it was a long game and of course felt confident in what we were capable of. We hadn’t run any plays against them all year, so I felt like we could get at least a couple good looks via timeout, our 6-on-5 had been looking good, and I knew our defense would be fine. Of course there was anxiety because of it being a good game, but also a lot of belief in what the team was capable of.”

The game kicked off as usual, with senior Cooper Scharff immediately getting the ball on the swim off, propelling the team to offense. After three back and forth possessions with indestructible defense from both teams, Scharff turned one of the Longhorns in front of the goal, faked, then fired a layout into the back of the net to gain an early lead of 1-0 just 1:00 into the game.

Two minutes later, senior goalie Nick Figge made his first save of the game, then immediately made a full pool pass to junior Brandon Harris, who rocketed an uncontested shot into the goal. To end off the first quarter, after a plethora of steals from senior captain Connor Buehring to shut down the Longhorns’ offense, he passed to Scharff on the wing for another goal.

Soon after, Figge proved

to be a brick wall, saving a 5-meter penalty shot, stealing an early offensive ball, then diving for another save to end the first with a shutout. The quarter ended at 3-0, but the Jr. Bills could not rest yet.

“I thought we kept a good, even keel throughout the game. It would have been easy to get all pumped up when we raced out to a 3-0 lead,” said Penilla.

During the second quarter SLUH’s defense fell apart, allowing P. West to go on a three-goal run to tie the game. Immediately following the Longhorns’ third goal, senior captain Sam French’s killer instinct activated, with him getting a sniper-esque goal from the 7-meter line, putting the Jr. Bills ahead once again.

West returned the favor to even the game up, but French put a skip shot in off of a well-orchestrated 6-on-5 play.

“I personally feel that my role in the game was keeping the momentum because both of my goals put us up by one when we had been tied,” said French.

To cement their lead, on another 6-on-5 with just 8 seconds left in the half, junior captain Joe Zarilli sent a perfectly placed pass to senior Brody Nester, who gave it a delicate two-finger tip to redirect the ball into the goal,

putting the squad up 6-4 at half.

“(One of the best moments) was when Brody scored on the 6-on-5 play because we had been practicing that play for a long time leading up to the final,” said Scharff. “He really stepped up and made the play of the game.”

“It got us up by two after we had kinda stalled out our momentum and got us ready to go into the second half with confidence and speed,” French added.

And confidence and speed they had, with Zarilli scoring a half pool lob shot just 30 seconds into the third quarter. Figge got another chance to showcase his goalkeeping prowess, making another 5-meter save said to be “unbelievable” by the game’s announcers.

“(One of my favorite moments) was when Nick saved that 2nd penalty shot,” said Scharff. “Having saved the first penalty shot (which is almost unheard of), the second one is what sealed the deal and caused despair in the other team’s offense. Saving one penalty shot is impressive, saving two in a single game is unheard of.”

With Jr. Bills’ momentum ever increasing, sophomore Aidan Brawer took a cheeky lob shot from the lane line 10

meters away from goal, and managed to perfectly plop it into the far corner, bringing the SLUH squad up 8-5.

After some defensive back and forth, the Longhorns put one in, but Scharff responded by plowing the ball near side low off of a cross goal pass from Harris with just 23 seconds left to end the third quarter 9-6.

“I think we had so much success because we played a very tight defense. People were constantly dropping off the (less important players) to help defend the middle,” said French. “That really shut down a lot of the back door and driving plays that West likes to run.”

Just 40 seconds into the final quarter Zarilli was able to draw a 5-meter off a counterattack, which he promptly fired into the back of the net to put SLUH up by four, their largest lead of the day.

Just two minutes later Harris drew a second 5-meter, allowing Zarilli score yet again. After this goal the Longhorns resorted to putting their strongest player in goal, hoping to set up a 7-on-6 play to come back, but the Jr. Bills’ active defense left no gaps to exploit, and the lack of a goalie resulted in Harris getting a cross goal opportunity, then Zarilli skipping one in

full pool to put the nail in the coffin and secure a 13-6 lead with just 1:40 left in the game.

With the lead insurmountable, the SLUH squad allowed their bench to join the fray and run out the shot clock. West didn’t halt their offense, putting two more in, but it wasn’t enough, with the U. High coming home with the victory at a 13-8 final score.

“I think our success in that game was because of our defense that we played,” said Scharff. “We had a lot of good plays offensively, but we won that game by locking them down and making them force plays that went to our benefit. We all played our specific role and we all did it to perfection.”

After continuous turmoil this season, the Jr. Bills can at last rest with the rings they had been working so hard for. With the student section packed in the MICDS natatorium, cheers rang out that could be heard all the way back on Oakland Ave.

Not only did the terrific talent contribute to the victory, but so too did the unbreakable brotherhood of the team. One key motivator for the squad was senior Dennis “the Joker” McDaniel, who ran the SLUH water polo Instagram, and was the subject of the season’s motto “Free

Dennis.” The “Free Dennis” mantra was eventually transformed into the team’s playoff shirt, and propelled the squad to gain a large lead in the finals so that Dennis could be released on the opposition. This spirit of playing for each other was truly the driving force behind the team’s success.

“Every time I think about the game, even now, I get pumped up,” said Penilla. “I really think of this year as a conclusion of the last three. There have been challenges as a program to sustain expectations and traditions through COVID and weird schedules and multiple practice locations. Plus, the Class of ‘22 endured a lot as a group in terms of development to COVID. It’s quite gratifying to have completed the year with such success.”

“I couldn’t be more proud of how this team has played this year. We’ve been wanting this trophy since 2019 and getting third last year only added fuel to the fire, so I couldn’t be happier,” said Scharff. “We’ve put ourselves back on the podium and followed in the footsteps of those who came before us in SLUH water polo and now, I’m excited to say, we’ve become a part of that tradition and have cemented ourselves as champions as well.”



# Volleyball stays perfect after 28 game season, State title up next

BY GEORGE HENKEN  
CORE STAFF

Play for May. That is one of head coach Jeff Cheak’s favorite sayings for this time of the volleyball season. In simple terms, it means that the team should be playing its best volleyball in the playoffs rather than regular season.

However, that does not mean that the regular season is all for nought. For the months of March and April, the St. Louis U. High volleyball team has played 28 matches, and they have not lost one. Whether it was a near-empty gym at St. Mary’s, a split-court tournament at Parkway Central, or a packed Danis Field House, the volleyball team left the regular season unscathed. However, as Cheak’s quote implies, the team finished up the regular season with a win over De Smet and is ready for the state tournament on Saturday.

Last Thursday, the Jr. Bills hosted De Smet for their final regular season match. The Spartans, having taken the only set from SLUH this year so far, were a great opponent to prepare the Jr. Bills for their playoff run.

“Mindset going into play-offs is as important as being physically ready. The opportunity to play De Smet late in the season is a perfect opportunity to learn how to play in big matches and getting into the right mental space,” said Cheak.

De Smet did offer some pressure and opportunities for SLUH to prepare for tight games in the playoffs, but overall, the game was domi-

nated by the Jr. Bills with a 25-15, 25-20, 25-18 victory.

Notable from SLUH’s side of the net was the contributions from the middle of the court with juniors Will Blaisdell and Victor Lazzaretti. Blaisdell contributed seven kills and Lazzaretti produced five. The presence of the middles put the Spartan block and defense in positions of panic and discomfort.

This uneasiness of De Smet allowed for the rest of the Jr. Bills to exploit it and find success. Senior Phillip Bone led the team with 16 kills and senior Michael Yemm recorded five of his own.

However, the main contributing factor to the victory was SLUH’s serving. Pressure from behind the service line put De Smet out of system on many occasions, once more leading to discomfort on the opponent’s court. One of the most notable servers on SLUH was senior Ben Harmon. With the sole job of subbing in to serve, Harmon did just that. He seemed to guarantee an out-of-system pass on the side of De Smet on nearly every one of his serves.

“I just go in there and try to do my job, which is to give my team a chance to rally and score. When I keep the ball in the court, we find success,” said Harmon.

At the conclusion of the De Smet match, the Jr. Bill’s regular season was officially over. SLUH had one practice since then to prepare them for districts, which took place on Tuesday and Wednesday.

SLUH competed in the district semifinals against Fort

Zumwalt North on Tuesday. A win in this match would clinch a State quarterfinal appearance on Saturday. The district final on Wednesday only affected the seeding of the state tournament.

The 25-9, 25-9, 25-15 win in the district semifinal against North was easily handled by the Jr. Bills. However, Cheak was not pleased with how the first several points of the match were played by SLUH. With several sloppy errors and uncharacteristic miscues, Cheak called a timeout at a score of 6-6 to send a message to his team about their mindset in the game thus far.

“The 6-6 timeout was just a wake up call. We could have coasted through that match and won but we would not have been improving for big matches. We have to be ready at point one as these big matches come up,” said Cheak.

After the timeout, the Jr. Bills moved swiftly to the 3-0 victory.

The next day, SLUH played against Francis Howell Central in the final. A win would place the Jr. Bills as the number one seed in the state tournament; a loss would place them as the eighth seed. In a quick and easy 25-14, 25-16, 25-13 win, the Jr. Bills finished the week as district champions and did indeed capture the number one seed in the tournament.

SLUH will face off against Lafayette at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday in the Danis Field House. A win would place them in the state semifinal on Tuesday at Maryville University.

# Baseball makes District Final as pitching and offense work together

BY COBY SPRATTE  
CORE STAFF

The Jr. Bills cruised through the first two rounds of Districts, defeating Hazelwood Central and Francis Howell North en route to the championship game tonight.

As the top ranked team in Class 6 District 3, SLUH pulled the eighth-seeded Hazelwood Central Hawks in the quarterfinals. Senior Jack DuMont toed the rubber for the Jr. Bills, and he turned in his fourth consecutive quality start. He tossed three innings, allowed no hits and struck out eight batters. DuMont has a 1.12 ERA over his last four appearances. Senior Johnny McArthur closed the deal with two innings and three strikeouts.

There was plenty of run support behind the southpaw, as the Jr. Bills reached the ten-run mercy rule in five innings. The team had nine players contribute an RBI, the most in one game this season. Senior Tommy Etling led the team with a 3-for-3 night, and sophomore Charlie Isom-McCall contributed a triple, yet the play of the game came on the final pitch. Senior Liam Newbold entered the game as a pinch hitter, and he smacked the first pitch he saw to the left field wall. The left fielder completely misjudged where the ball was, and Newbold turned it into an inside the park home run to reach the mercy rule. He

is the only player to have a home run each of the past two seasons.

On to the semifinals, the Jr. Bills leaned on their ace sophomore Andrew DuMont to get the job done. He hurled five innings and allowed only three hits while striking out nine, putting the Jr. Bills in a phenomenal spot to win the game.

“I threw the ball hard and let our guys make plays behind me,” DuMont said.

It did not look like it would be a breeze from the get-go, as Howell North got the first two runners of the game on base, but senior Mikey Floretta chased down a deep fly ball in the gap and doubled off the runner on second base to end the threat.

The offense was clicking as they hung six runs on the scoreboard. Senior Alex Shelton tallied an RBI in his third consecutive game, and Isom-McCall extended his hit streak to six games. Yet again, Guthrie led the way with a 2-for-3 night and another RBI. He also came in and slammed the door on the Knights, tossing the final 1.2 innings of the game, stranding two runners in the sixth and striking out four batters, adding to his unparalleled success down the stretch run of the season.

“I wish I could say it’s been a new approach or mindset, but really it’s just been Slim Chickens I eat before each game,” said Guthrie.

On the other side of the

bracket, No. 3 De Smet was upset by No. 6 Hazelwood West 4-1, and No. 2 Francis Howell Central cruised past No. 7 Ritenour 12-2. Howell Central squeaked past Hazelwood West 4-3 in the semifinals to set up a 6 p.m. championship against the Jr. Bills tonight at SLUH.

Junior Garret Shearer will get the nod on the mound for SLUH, and he will go up against his fellow Gamers teammate, the Spartans’ Brayden Rubel. He is a lefty sitting mid 80s with a 3.34 ERA, 8.44 K/7, and 6.27 BB/7. Shearer will look to rebound from his past two starts where he has yielded five runs in both games.

“He’s going to have to trust all of his pitches tomorrow, and not just rely on the fastball,” pitching coach Erik Ruehl said. “Garret’s been a big time pitcher for us all year, so he just has to go out and throw strikes and trust his defense.”

If the Jr. Bills win tonight, they will face the winner of Fort Zumwalt West and Francis Howell in the State Quarterfinals on May 28. The team thinks they have all the tools to find themselves in this Elite 8 matchup and beyond, but they are focused on taking it one game at a time.

“We just have to play our game and take it one pitch at a time,” Shelton said. “We need to get the bats going early and rally behind Garret and the crowd.”

## Commmit’s Corner: Final Volume

### Bone to play for Stevens Institute Volleyball

BY ROARKE UNRAU AND  
MARK WAPPLER  
NEWS EDITOR,  
CORE STAFF

Senior Phillip Bone has recently committed to play volleyball at Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey next year. After a dominant season leading the Jr. Bills’ nationally ranked volleyball team, Bone will head to Hoboken to compete for Stevens’ D3 program. Bone believes that Stevens will be a perfect destination to play the sport he loves while majoring in biomedical engineering.

Bone was attracted to Stevens not only because of their volleyball program but also because of their location. Living right next to New York City would give Bone a lot of opportunities in and after college.

“The coach reached out to me, I obviously haven’t heard of them before. I got introduced to the school

and I found out it was a really good school and it’s also located right next to NYC, which would be really cool to go to school next to a really big city, and I’m going into a great volleyball program and a great school,” said Bone.

That said, their volleyball program is certainly a plus. Under the coaching of Dan Beuhring, the Ducks had an impressive 30-4 record last year. They capped last season off with a strong postseason performance as well making it to the D3 semifinals.

“They’re in a really good spot, they’re up and coming. They have a youthful core so hopefully I can be a great addition to that and make an impact next season,” said Bone.

When asked why Bone wanted to continue playing volleyball in college, he had a simple answer: “Because it’s fun.”

### Swiecicki heads to Rockhurst Lacrosse team

BY COBY SPRATTE  
CORE STAFF

Senior Cullen Swiecicki will be taking his lacrosse talents to the next level at Rockhurst next year, where he will be going into the Pre-Med track, majoring in Biology.

Lacrosse has always been a passion of Swiecicki’s, but it was a last minute decision to play in college.

“I didn’t think I was good enough to play college lacrosse, so I never thought about it,” he said. “But once a couple schools reached out to me about playing, I realized that I didn’t want my lacrosse career to end.”

Swiecicki feels like Rockhurst is the perfect fit for him to continue his athletic career.

“I picked Rockhurst because I was looking for a smaller school with a community where there are lots of people to meet, but not too many people where it feels overwhelming,” he said.

The Hawks have been successful the past few years, as their only losses last season came against Top 20 teams. Swiecicki looks forward to strengthening the already stellar team.

“I hope to add discipline and physicality to their already good defense,” Swiecicki said.

Swiecicki looks to take what he’s learned at SLUH with him to Rockhurst.

“I think the biggest thing I will take away from SLUH is the importance of organization,” he said. “I was very unorganized most of high school, but late junior year I started getting it together, and school became easier because I could plan better for sports and school.”

Swiecicki will first look to be a pillar in the Jr. Bills’ path to State, as they are riding a five-game winning streak into a quarterfinal matchup with John Burroughs tomorrow night at 5 p.m.

## Individual News

**Sophomore Nicholas Bull placed 101st at last week’s National Rifle Junior Olympic Championship in Hillsdale, Michigan. Bull had a composite score of 1160.8.**

**Senior Louis Cornett tied for 17th in the state individual golf championship last week. After playing solid golf on day one, Cornett finished +3 after a tough 2 stroke penalty on the final hole. He finished the tournament at +7.**

**Senior Gus Tettamble begins his quest for the state tennis title today against Lindbergh’s Brian Kim in Springfield, MO. Two wins today will send him to the state semifinals finals tomorrow.**



# Lacrosse overcomes slow start to dominate Lindbergh 18-6, Burroughs still looms large

BY CHARLES TURNELL AND DANIEL TICE  
STAFF, REPORTER

Ten years. That's how long it's been since SLUH lacrosse has been able to call themselves state champions. But a lot has changed since then. New coaches, new players, and a new culture have ensued, but the goal remains the same: win a state championship. With the playoffs starting, the Jr. Bills just need to win four straight games to earn their rings. Lindbergh was their first obstacle in their way.

The Lindbergh Flyers have had an up-and-down season, with highs of squeaking out a win versus CBC and lows of nearly losing to Webster. They ended with a record of 11-6 and received the No. 12 seed in the MLSA playoff bracket. Quinn Sweeney, the Flyers' leading goal scorer, is in the top 10 in goals scored in the state with 49, so despite the low seed, they had what it took to upset SLUH.

SLUH has had a tendency to start slow against lesser opponents and this trend continued immediately. Junior faceoff starter Michael Robinson couldn't secure a ground ball after an initial win on the clamp and the Flyers took advantage of the opening possession. Right as they attempted to get their offense going an errant pass gave the ball back to SLUH, a sign of things to come for Lindbergh. SLUH's leading goal scorer, junior Danny Campbell, tried to get hot early but a great save from the Flyers started their clear. Lindbergh's goalie dished to a cutting midfielder and he got through SLUH's defense because a late hot slide left him open and he scored. The Flyers took an early lead.

Five minutes went by with saves from Lindbergh as well

as junior goalie Will Barnidge and no offense could get going. But good defense makes great offense. Senior James Saadi stripped the ball with a wrap check from a dodging Flyer. He picked the ball up and ran it down to the other side of the field. He fed senior captain Ted Leritz who proceeded to dump it down to junior Walter Hurley who evened the tally at one apiece with a sneaky goal.

A few minutes of clock passed and Barnidge stayed strong in net. A save with one minute left in the quarter started a clear which led to a fast break for the Jr. Bills. The ball found senior Nick Witcher, who took the ball behind the goal and saw a slashing Kalil Turner who stepped down from the 25-yard line and scored. SLUH was not done yet for the quarter and a faceoff win gave the ball right back to the Jr. Bills. As time was expiring, Hurley passed to senior Jack Christannell, who jumped in the air and quick-sticked the ball into the back of the net before even landing on the ground.

SLUH had all the momentum heading into the second quarter despite being only up two. It did not take long to expand that lead. On the first possession of the quarter, Hurley rebounded a missed shot from sophomore Josh Bertram for his second goal of the day.

However, Lindbergh did not fold over quite yet. Like their first goal, a fast break opportunity mixed with a late slide from SLUH's end let the Flyers creep closer to staying competitive. Nonetheless, Leritz made sure it wasn't the case. He quickly responded with a goal of his own, backing up his defender and striking it into the back right corner of the net. Witcher followed Leritz's lead with a goal of his own dodging and running right by

his defender.

Things began to snowball for the Flyers. After a check from first team all-MCC defender Joe Weiss dislodged the ball from a Lindbergh player's stick, he ran it down and found junior Danny Carse, who dodged from the X and sunk one in. The lead stretched to five.

SLUH dominance continued on both sides of the ball. Team defense forced a trap and the Flyers gave the ball up back to the Jr. Bills. Senior defensemen TJ Giunta got the ball and saw empty turf in front of him. He ran it unguarded for 60 yards and scored on a step down. Witcher capped off the half with his second goal of the day easily running past his defender in the process. SLUH led Lindbergh 10-2 at half.

SLUH could taste the rematch against Burroughs, but knew that if they started hitting the breaks and coasting, Lindbergh could make a run. And unfortunately for the Jr. Billikens, that is how the half started. Within the first 30 seconds, SLUH could tell the Flyers had made some halftime adjustments. Quick ball movement confused the defense and they capitalized with their third goal of the day, cutting the lead to seven. The goal did not affect head coach Andrew Toussaint's squad as the next possession, a motion offense, ended with Bertram assisting a cutting Hurley to shift the momentum back in the favor of the Jr. Bills. SLUH's great defense on the next play culminated with a Barnidge save, who cleared it to sophomore LSM Marco Sansone. Sansone ran undefended all the way down the field and scored his third goal of the season.

Carse kept the tone alive in the closing minutes of the third. First, he used his speed to take

advantage of a fast break situation and scored on a lefty finish. Then, a dodge from the X attracted multiple defenders to him, assisting a wide open Kalil Turner for his second goal of the day. Carse ended with a hat trick.

The start of the fourth quarter was the same as the last three: SLUH superiority. SLUH started with the ball without a need for a faceoff because of a Lindbergh penalty, and they were quick to make the most of it. The ball swung around the perimeter until Bertram found senior Michael Tramelli on the crease who turned around and scored, extending the lead to 12. Campbell had a relatively quiet day for his standards in terms of goals, but the first team all-conference midfielder got one on the scoreboard with a side-arm strike into the bottom right corner.

With the game all but over, SLUH was able to get their young guys and end of the bench to get some playoff experience. The backup defensemen played hard but in the waning minutes, Lindbergh scored three straight goals and made the score closer than was for the majority of the day. Even with this, some of the young guys took full advantage of the situation. The lone freshman who spent the majority of the season on JV, Brendan Kelly, cut across and caught the ball from junior Connor Higano and scored with textbook ball placement. SLUH won 18-6 and are off to play at John Burroughs today at 5:00 in the quarterfinals.

"We did a lot of good things and got the job done against Lindbergh. I am excited for an opportunity for a rematch against Burroughs who beat us earlier this year. The sky's the limit for this team," said Carse.

## Underclassmen

### JV Lacrosse

Record: 9-3

Leading Scorer:

Jackson Dauska (19)

"My favorite part of the season would have to be beating MICDS. During warmups they were talking down to us and saying how badly they were gonna kill us. Going out there and getting the first goal of the game really brought the energy and really made the entire team realize that we had a shot at taking down one of the top programs St. Louis."

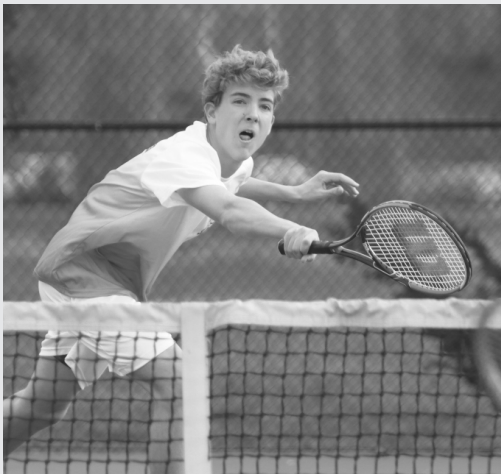
- sophomore Jackson Dauska

### JV Tennis

Record: 7-4

MCC Record: 3-1

6th Place, Edwardsville Spring Invite



Junior Thomas Bock volleys at the net.

# Clicking at all events, Track and Field wins District meet, first step on path to State

BY SEAN KELLOGG AND JOE LABARGE  
REPORTERS

The postseason is underway with the track team having a strong showing at the district meet this past Saturday in Poplar Bluff, qualifying individuals in 16 of 19 events. SLUH completed this dominant day winning the Class 5 District 1 meet with ease and taking down some other top programs in the state like Jackson and Poplar Bluff with an almost 40-point difference between SLUH and the second place team.

The day kicked off with the sprinting prelims in the 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, and 110-meter hurdles. Sophomore Ryan Wingo won his heat in both the 100 and 200, with sophomore Joe Harris winning his 100 and sophomore Jacobi Oliphant advancing to the finals in the 200 as well. In the 110 hurdles, senior Conner Greninger and Oliph-

ant also made it to the finals.

In the finals of the sprinting events, Wingo won both the 100 and 200 with Harris placing fourth in the 100 and Oliphant placing fourth in the 200, both advancing to the sectional meet next weekend. In the 110 hurdles, Greninger placed second and advanced to sectionals while Oliphant was disqualified on a questionable false start call by the meet officials. Despite this, however, it was still an impressive showing from the SLUH sprinters, who hope to continue their success entering this Saturday.

The SLUH relays also had a strong day across the board, qualifying each relay to compete in the sectionals meet this Saturday at Kirkwood. With first place finishes in both 4x200 and 4x800 relays, the SLUH athletes had an excellent chance to show off the chemistry of the team.

Along with the winning relays, the 4x400 and 4x100 relays also qualified to the

sectional meet despite each relay having at least one athlete scratch to be replaced by an alternate due to injuries or sickness.

On the distance side of the meet, SLUH qualified runners in the 800, 1600, and 3200 events with seniors Grant Brawley and Sean Kellogg finishing first and second in the 3200. Juniors Tim Greiner and Nolan Meara ran in the 1600, where both set impressive PR's with Greiner running 4:32 and placing second overall. In the 800, senior Joe LaBarge put in a late surge to propel him into fourth place and qualify for the sectional meet.

In the mid-distance events, SLUH also had a great showing, qualifying people in both the 400-meter dash and 300 hurdles. In the 400, junior Steffan Mayer, despite being in the second heat, still managed to get top four and earn a spot at sectionals next week. In the 300 hurdles, both Greninger and senior Keshon Parker

placed top 4 as well earning a spot for next week.

In the field events, senior Eric Piening kicked off the day with a third place finish in the high jump. Senior Andy Harris also finished in third place in the long jump, and then followed that up with a second place finish in the triple jump, just behind Piening, who won the event. In the javelin, both seniors Andrew Renaud and Corey Luaders threw far enough to secure third and fourth place, respectively.

With districts behind them, the SLUH Track and Field team looks forwards to sectionals this Saturday at Kirkwood High School where they will compete with qualifying members from both their own district as well as the qualifying individuals from Class 5 District 2, where they will aim to place in the top four and move onto the state meet held on May 27-28 at Jefferson City High School.

## JV Baseball

Record: 6-11

MCC Record: 2-5

"The team's biggest strength is their persistence, we had a rough start to the season but the team never stopped working hard in practice and all that hard paid off during the second half of the season. I feel confident that the program will be competitive for a long time."

- Assistant Coach Brook Fox



Briefs

JV Golf

Record: 9-0

2nd Place, Fox JV  
Tournament

2nd Place, Kirkwood  
Invitational

“I played in the Clayton best ball and it was just an amazing day. We all got out of school for the day and ventured out to play 18 holes. Although we didn’t win the tournament there was a sense of connection I felt with my teammates that I hadn’t really felt before.”

-senior Tad Gray

C Lacrosse

Record: 4-4

“My favorite memory from this season has to be beating DeSmet in our Father Marco Cup game. It was my favorite because of how we beat our rivals in the yearly tradition with a behind the back goal in overtime. Winning a game against DeSmet like that was truly an unforgettable experience.”

-freshman Nick Ridgway

C Volleyball

Record: 11-1

MCC Record: 6-0

1st Place, SLUH Round  
Robin Tournament



Gavin Moyich (7) goes for a block.

Strong teamwork leads JV Volleyball to a record nearly as strong as Varsity



Sophomore Tommy Chalmers (13) prepares for a spike.

photo | Kathy Chott

BY ANDREW HUNT  
STAFF

What’s better than the SLUH 2022 varsity volleyball team? Well, not much—but the JV team comes pretty close. In varsity’s shadow, JV squashed their competitors in a successful season and now prepares to take the varsity team by storm next year.

Led by coaches Travis Meyer and Claire Hennessey, the Jr. Bills closed out their season this year with a record of 16-1. It began all the way back in February, with tryouts for all three teams. The coaching staff formed a JV team of 12, including three freshmen. Although

freshmen normally don’t make the JV team, Michael Patrick, Luke Schall, and Henry Benson did make the cut, thanks to plenty of experience with club volleyball and SLUH’s coaches.

“It felt really rewarding to JV as a freshman because of how hard I’ve trained at my position,” said freshman libero Benson. “It was a great affirmation that the coaches noticed my skills and decided I would be a good fit for JV.

The season began on a rough start. Despite winning their first game against Lutheran St. Charles, the team subsequently suffered a loss against Belleville East.

However, as the season progressed and the players entrenched themselves in fine-tuning their skills at practice, they also began to work better as a team. The group got to know each other well, and the results became apparent on the court.

“We had pretty good chemistry,” explained sophomore Jacob Frame. “We all bonded really well and worked well together. We can pull each other out of a hard situation, and just get right back up and pull away from the tight games.”

After this early loss, the team had a perfect record and plowed through every other area team. This includ-

ed the Vianney Griffins, an iconic rival of SLUH in the St. Louis volleyball scene. Despite their doubts, JV followed in Varsity’s footsteps and defeated Vianney—not once, but twice. At Vianney’s own court, they won two sets in a row.

“SLUH versus Vianney is always a big game for us,” said Frame. “I think that’s when we really show how hard we work and when we’re really put to the biggest challenge. And that brings out the best in us as a team, both mentally and physically.”

Despite their postseason MCC championship being canceled, the team looks back on an excellent season and prepares to fill big shoes next year on varsity.

“Honestly, I think we exceeded our goal this season,” said Frame. “We made a ton of practice and a ton of improvement for practices and games. We’ve definitely improved all together, especially with our mentality. We really started to appreciate each other and everyone on the court and try and play our hardest, even if we’re not starters or we get benched. We try our hardest and cheer teammates on.”

New coaching staff leads freshman baseball team through season ups and downs

BY DREW FIGGE AND  
TIMOTHY KAPPEL  
REPORTERS

The SLUH C baseball team ended its season with an upsetting 10-7 loss to Parkway South.

Although their final record was only 8-10-2, the team was able to develop and grow as a whole. One of their most impressive moments came against St. Dominic, when they managed to come back from a ten run deficit in the first inning. Despite an incredible comeback, they still lost in the seventh inning.

“After seeing a double-digit number put up after only one inning, the team had the courage to stick in there and come back to make things interesting,” said head coach Kolin King.

A large part of the team’s game was focused on the small things. Their two biggest strengths were their bunting and base running.

“With bunting and doing the small things, a bulk of our success was generated from these things throughout this season,” said King. “These are the small things that we try to instill in a young group for a bright future.”

With the season coming to an end, the coaches and players reflected on their past season and the several improvements shown by the team.



Freshman Patrick SanFilippo at bat.

photo | Kathy Chott

“As a whole we were able to see the general expectations of being a member of the SLUH baseball program,” said starting center fielder Alex Rose.

As class president, Rose was also able to take what he learned from his leadership roles in school and apply them on the diamond. He played a key role in things such as leading team stretches, for example.

“My role as class president definitely has made me a better baseball player.” Said Rose. “I loved playing with my classmates and we were able to grow so much as a team.”

In his first season as a coach, King appreciated the opportunity to be back at SLUH.

“It is always great to give back to (SLUH), I wouldn’t

be coaching if it were at any other school. I’m here because I like baseball and love SLUH,” he said.

Plus, having been through the program as a player himself, King has been able to take his own experiences and share them with the freshman. From the first day of practice, he instilled and expected a high level of effort from his players.

“I know I expected a lot from them and I hope they will take this hard work and perseverance mindset into whatever else they decide to do whether it is baseball or something else,” said King.

The coaching staff was rounded off by two new assistant coaches as well: Charles Jones and Greg King. They were able to bring outside perspectives into the development of these young ath-

letes. Despite a very up-and-down season, King focused on continuing to improve his players rather than zoning in on previous mistakes.

“Something I had to keep telling myself was progression over perfection. We had a mix of different talents and it was great to see where guys started and where they ended,” said King

With the wrapping up of their first season, the freshman are all aiming to come back next year with specific goals about their future in SLUH baseball.

“Being our first year in the program, we were able to learn a lot not only about the SLUH baseball program but also about ourselves and how we developed as athletes,” said Rose.



# TOP FEATURES OF THE YEAR

Peter Lucier '08 discusses time in Afghanistan and looks to the future (86.02)



photo | Courtesy of Peter Lucier

In late August, the United States announced that it was withdrawing all troops from Afghanistan after 20 years. St. Louis U. High alum and 20118-2019 ASC Peter Lucier served in Afghanistan. He sat down with Editor in Chief Jack Figge, discussing his service in Afghanistan and his work in assisting Afghan refugees.

20 years after 9/11, teachers recall SLUH's atmosphere on that day (86.03)

September 11, 2001 started just like any other day at SLUH. Twenty years later, faculty reflect on how the day went for them, how they found out the news, and how the aftermath of the day echoed throughout the community and the world.

Students and faculty contemplate the stigma that mental health carries at SLUH

Growing in importance in recent years, schools all over the country are having mental health take center point in many student discussions about helping student life. Now SLUH Students and faculty take a step back to contemplate how mental health should be addressed in a school environment.

Peace, Joy, Love and Hope: the SLUH community reflects on 2021 (86.14)

As 2021 drew to a close, St. Louis U. High students and faculty applied the four virtues of Advent (peace, joy, love, hope) to reflect on the turbulent year of 2021. A year where SLUH did all it could to maintain its school spirit while being disturbed by a global pandemic.

Before there was Bashball: SLUH alumni reflect on Wall Ball, the biggest sport of SLUH's past (86.20)

Wall ball, which used to be the biggest recreational sport at SLUH, was a game that everyone played when they had a few minutes of free time. But eventually the popular pastime had to go when one student almost lost his finger playing.

Covid Anniversary Issue (86.23)



On the two year anniversary of SLUH's lockdown due to Covid. The SLUH community recalls how their life was impacted the past two years in four separate areas of their lives: education, sports, mental health, and their social life.

"It's just all too real": Marina and Rob Chura talk about the Ukraine Crisis (86.21)



art | Charlie Bieg

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 23, Russian teacher Rob Chura and his wife Marina, who is a native of Russia, discuss the aftermath, effects, and reactions across the world of the situation in Eastern Europe.

IPCC releases climate report with grim outlook, SLUH sustainability leaders contemplate where school should head (86.24)

Following a statement released by the intergovernmental panel on climate change (IPCC) that holds a grim outlook on the future of our planet, SLUH discusses which direction the school should head amidst the news.

What does it mean to be a Junior Billiken?

For many St. Louis U. High students, Running of the Bills is the first time they feel like a Jr. Bill. But being a Jr. Bill consists of so much more than blue paint and brotherhood.

# TOP SLUHSERS OF THE YEAR

**SLUHSERS 11:** OUR (OPEN) HOUSE

I JUST LEAD A TOUR FOR A WOMAN AND HER 5TH GRADE SON! THEY'RE REALLY STARTING THEIR KID ON SLUH EARLY!

YOU THINK THAT'S YOUNG? WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE WHO NICK'S GIVING THE TOUR...

HOW YOUNG IS THE KID?

YOU SAY YOUR SON'S ONE YEAR OLD?

YEAH, WE WANTED TO START GIVING HIM HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE!

**SLUHSERS 24:** TYPICAL CANDIDATES FOR CLASS ELECTIONS

**THE SERIOUS GUY**

AND I HAVE A LOT OF OPINIONS ON THE MATH AND SCIENCE CURRICULUM. TOO WE SHOULD BLAH BLAH BLAH.

**THE COMEDIAN**

OOH, TOUGH CROWD. MAYBE SOME PUNS'LL SOFTEN YOU GUYS UP!

**THE FUTURE MAYOR**

I WANT TO THANK MY PARENTS, SLUH, AND ALL OF OUR FUNDERS! GOD BLESS AMERICA!

**THE CURRENT, BURN OUT PRESIDENT**

PLEASE DON'T VOTE FOR ME. PLEASE?

**SLUHSERS 16: A SHORT LECTURE**

HELLO! I'M IGNATIUS GIBBONS III, THE COUNTRY'S LEADING SLUHOLOGIST.

I'M HERE TO TEACH YOU ABOUT COMMON "SLUHSPEAK."

HOW DO YOU THINK YOU DID ON THAT QUIZ?

TRANSLATED TO: I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO FAILED THAT, AM I?

YO, WHAT'S FOR LUNCH TODAY?

I DON'T THINK I CAN EAT A SPICY CHICKEN SANDWICH FOUR LUNCHES A ROW.

DUDE, SCHULTE'S COMING!

TRANSLATED TO: THE HOUR OF OUR RECKONING IS UPON US.

**SLUHSERS 20:** RAFFLE REWARD... SCHULTE-KESTERSON LUNCH

WHO ARE YOU? I DON'T SEE A LANYARD OR A STICKER.

SO... SEE ANY GOOD MOVIES, LATELY?

SORRY, I GAVE UP SMALL TALK FOR LENT.

## Final edition of the year

**SLUHSERS 28:** THE END (OF THE BEGINNING [OF THE END])

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS OUR LAST DAY OF CLASSES...

OH, I CAN BELIEVE IT!

SLEEPING IN, FISHING, VIDEO GAMES, IT'S ALL OURS!

SIGH... BUT I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY.

DON'T CELEBRATE JUST YET! IT'S EXAM TIME!!

ALL COMICS BY JUDE REED

Interested in writing, photography, or creating art for the Prep News next school year? Email [prepnews@sluh.org](mailto:prepnews@sluh.org) to get involved!