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# 300 Admitted into Class of 2026

## Faculty deliver yard signs to 64 different zip codes to welcome new Jr. Bills



Members of the class of 2026. Above: Brock Kesterson II. Top right: Clayton Curtis. Bottom right: Andrew Nohl.  
photos | courtesy of Mr. Ben DuMont

BY MICHAEL BAUDENDISTEL  
AND BEN CROAT  
CORE STAFF, STAFF

As is the long-standing tradition for St. Louis Catholic high schools, the SLUH Admissions Committee sent out high school acceptance letters to over 300 area middle

school students last Friday. The prospective students’ long journey to becoming Jr. Bills, filled with Shadow@SLUH visits, family interviews, placement tests, and more, finally culminated with them receiving two official acceptance letters—one physical copy in



the mail and one that could be accessed online—and the coveted yard signs which spanned 64 zip codes in the greater St. Louis area. The size of the Class of 2026 is expected to be consistent with the sizes of other classes at SLUH with current

estimates—right around 250 students. “We’ve admitted at least 300 students,” said Director of Admissions Ann Murphy. “How many will come and actually enroll will be completely different, and we will have no  
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## To Mask or Not to Mask

### Young Conservatives petition aims to reverse SLUH’s mask requirements

BY JACKSON COOPER  
CORE STAFF

With the exception of the school’s brief shift to a mask-optional policy in October, St. Louis U. High has required all students and faculty to wear masks indoors for the duration of the

back to mask-optional. Though the administration has been transparent with the Covid policies throughout this current academic year, publishing a safety plan before the beginning of school in August outlining an openness to shift to a mask-optional policy, discontent over

“After two years, I think it’s fair to ask: What is the endgame here? What will it take for the masks to come off, or how many more years should we expect to keep them on?”

-Chris Keeven

pandemic. One group hoping to change this mandate is SLUH’s Young Conservatives Club, which has begun a formal petition to the school aimed at prompting a switch

the school’s mask policy has grown as the year has progressed. Talk of a petition began in January, when seniors were away from school  
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## Administration makes changes to class selection process

BY ALEX PREUSSER AND  
MICAHA DOHERTY  
CORE STAFF, STAFF

The choice between Irish Lit and Shakespeare is a difficult one, and now it’s time to make that decision as students begin to pick their courses for next year. As class scheduling options for current sophomores and juniors start to open up, a slightly dif-

ferent approach will be taken to ensure that the process goes smoothly and easily. New Assistant Principal for Academics Kevin Foy is moving the signups to an online form to increase efficiency and accuracy. In years past, the full sophomore and junior classes would convene separately at class meetings to begin plan-

ning for the following year’s courses, receiving a rundown on the choices and the process. Then, the students would complete a fill-in-the-blank-style sheet with their class choices, and gather signatures from teachers marking their approval. “What we’re trying to do now is separate a little bit  
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## Guess these Words

### How Wordle became the most popular game among students and teachers

BY LUKE DUFFY AND  
WILL RIGGAN  
WEB EDITOR, REPORTER

Fortnite. Among Us. Retro Bowl. Many video games have dominated the attention of St. Louis U. High students

in recent years. But none have required as much intellectual skill and critical thinking as Wordle, which has flooded into the halls of SLUH over the last few months. Wordle is relatively sim-

ple. You get six tries to guess a five-letter word; if you guess a letter in the correct position, it turns green, if you guess a letter in the wrong position, it turns yellow, and if you guess  
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## LET IT SNOW!

### After initial hesitation, admin gives school classic snow day

BY JACK FIGGE  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The halls of St. Louis U. High were abuzz with discussion on Monday and Tuesday over whether the administration would call a snow day on Wednesday due to the forecast of inclement weather. The debate was settled on Tuesday afternoon when Assistant Principal for Student Life Brock Kesterson announced that campus would be closed Wednesday and Thursday, and students would not be required to attend online classes.

The announcement came after two days of confusion with the administration sending mixed signals to the student body about what they could expect in the case of hazardous weather conditions. Early Monday morning, principal Ian Gibbons emailed SLUH faculty asking them to start preparing class plans in the event that campus would be closed. Later in the day, in an email to the whole school, Assistant Principal for Academics Kevin Foy added to Gibbons’ initial email announcing that in the  
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# Scholar Bowl team survives hard-fought first tournament of the year

BY THOMAS JUERGENS AND  
ANDREW HUNT  
REPORTERS

St. Louis U. High students are known for their intelligence, and last Saturday, a group of Jr. Bills were able to showcase their brains when the SLUH Scholar Bowl team squared up against tough opponents in the Parkway Patriot Tournament.

Scholar Bowl is a competition of knowledge that tests players in a variety of subjects, similar to trivia. Schools face off against each other by working together to answer a question and earn points if they answer correctly. SLUH has a Varsity and a JV team, each with four players.

Saturday's tournament was their first of the new year—however, their 2021-22 season hasn't been at all idle. The Scholar Bowl team participated in about half a dozen tournaments last semester. Within these tournaments, the team had two

major accomplishments. "We finished the fall season with the private school league tournament in December, and the JV team actually took first place in that, which was very exciting for them. Then, one of our Varsity players, Stephen Dernlan, finished second overall for answering the largest number of questions in the Private School League," said Teresa Corley, club moderator.

Scholar Bowl matches in this new season have been a mix of virtual and in-person; Saturday's tournament took place over Google Meets. The silver lining, though, was that the Jr. Bills all got to be together, as the team gathered in 215C at 8:30 a.m. to join their opponents from dozens of area schools on a virtual conference call.

Scholar Bowl tournaments work in a series of round robin matches, finishing with a finals bracket of the top eight teams. Each

match consists of 20 "toss-up" questions from the fields of science, history, mythology, literature, and other miscellaneous categories. "The questions varied wildly in difficulty," said sophomore varsity player Nolan Travers. "Some of them were easy, and then some of them are like, 'name this obscure author of this obscure book.'"

At the beginning of the competition, the JV team got off to a rough start because they were down a team member.

"It was challenging having only three members in the first couple games, because all the other teams had more people, so they had a higher chance to get to the answer," said sophomore Herbie Villaflora. "That was kind of a struggle."

After three rough losses, their missing man, freshman Madhavan Anbukumar, made his appearance.



art | Leo Smith

The team proceeded to win their next five matches, ending with a record of 5-3.

What made this even more impressive was the competition SLUH faced. The JV group was matched up against many varsity-level teams, and Varsity's competition was equally ferocious.

"We played against one team that had the answers to every question right away," said Travers. "It was

kind of terrifying."

In the end, the varsity team placed ninth out of 36 teams, and the JV team ranked near the middle of a field of around 16.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the SLUH Scholar Bowl team is still in a growing stage. Since the team hasn't been around since the 2019-20 season, most of the current members haven't had the chance to participate in a tournament until this year.

"We feel like we have a team that's sort of up-and-coming and doing pretty well," explained Corley.

The excitement is far from over for the Scholar Bowl team, which will head to Washington University on Feb. 19 to compete in a huge multi-school tournament. The SLUH Scholar Bowl team also looks forward to hosting the district finals in late March.

## Conley '11, welcomed back as assistant AD

BY DREW FIGGE AND  
VINCENT WEINBAUER  
REPORTERS

St. Louis U. High recently named former SLUH wrestler and current wrestling assistant coach Espen Conley the new Assistant Athletics Director.

Conley graduated from SLUH in 2011; he wrestled all four years and finished as high as fourth in state during his high school career. After he graduated, Conley attended Missouri Baptist University, where he continued his wrestling career.

Conley, who has been serving as an assistant wrestling coach for several years, was offered the Assistant AD position after the previous Assistant AD, Sam Glass, left in December.

Athletic Director Chris Muskopf knew that Conley would make a great fit.

"Conley has had an impact on our community as a wrestling coach," said Muskopf. "His energy, experience, and enthusiasm have earned him respect from our wrestlers and coaches and he will be able to continue it to our athletic programs."

Conley feels that he will be able to have a bigger impact as Assistant Director of Athletics.

"One focus of this new opportunity is that I want all the different programs to take a step up and that they all feel more included and connected on an equal level," said Conley.

Conley would like to institute more communication and unity between the different athletic teams, and he would like to keep the programs engaged in the entire SLUH community.

"When you're feeling more supported, you perform better," said Conley. "So it would just give more power to this school and all of our programs if we

were able to support them all more so that they can be their best."

As a wrestling coach Conley has been able to connect with and help them accomplish their wrestling goals. Conley hopes that as Assistant Athletic Director, he can work on forming relationships with student athletes across a variety of different sports.

"He's a great guy and coach," said sophomore Trey Dino. "I'm excited to see what the future holds, I know he is going to put SLUH athletics to the next level."

Now that Conley has a more prominent role in SLUH athletics, he is committed to ensuring that they receive the proper formation and assistance that is necessary to succeed.

"Conley will be able to build relationships with our coaches and student athletes," said Muskopf. "It is through those relationships that our department will be able to meet the needs of the program, students, and coaches."

Conley is ready for the job and can't wait to begin. Whether it be in the office or on the mat, Conley plans to look out for the students and do all he can for them to have a future athletic career beyond high school. With his own experience in crossing his high school and college athletic careers, Conley understands the best way for high school athletes to develop themselves and plans to implement those in his daily work.

"I am most excited about making a better SLUH Athletics Department, and I wish this not really for me, but for the thousands of kids that will come through our program in the future," said Conley. "My main objective for this job is that I want SLUH athletes to get the recognition they deserve."

## Chess team goes undefeated in regular season

### As they prep for tough playoffs, the team aims to draw on their dominant history

BY BILL ALBUS AND  
LUCAS HAYDEN  
REPORTERS

Chess—the game of patience, strategy, and skill. A timeless classic. And for a group of Jr. Bills, their livelihood, as the SLUH chess team closed out their regular season and prepare for their playoff quest.

In dominating the East Conference, the SLUH chess team has won every match by good margin. A big reason for this success is an extremely well-rounded team. Every one of the five boards on the SLUH Chess A team has great depth.

The masters of tactics and the prodigies of a timeless game, the SLUH chess team has recently sealed their position in the playoffs, which has proved to be no easy feat.

"We have won every match so far by a good margin, 15 to 20 points,"

said junior Luke Conran.

Completely undefeated, the team is a force to be reckoned with this year, plowing through anyone that has been placed in front of them. Within this undefeated season, there have been many highlights so far.

"We did have a queen sack from our Board Two last match. He ended up winning the game, it was a phenomenal point for him," said Conran, referring to a move giving up the queen in exchange for an advantage.

The playoffs this year will consist of four teams playing each other to decide the victor.

The chess team is looking to nail down some wins and become a great chess team that attracts attention and rivals the skill levels of the 2019 and the 1973 teams, along with many other outstanding teams throughout the years.

"There was a dynasty here, right before I started attending SLUH," said chess coach and Latin teacher Rich Esswein, who graduated from SLUH in 1979.

**"We have won every match so far by a good margin, 15 to 20 points."**

-Luke Conran

However, their quest for a championship will not be easy. Being the No. 1 chess region in the country, St. Louis features a number of strong teams. Although it may be tough, with a line up of five boards consisting of Luke Conran, Brody Nester, Robert Mize, Christopher "C.J." Elam, and Henry Narkiewicz, the SLUH chess team believes it can handle anything the chess capital of the world throws

at them.

"We've relit the torch," stated Brody Nester, board two for the chess playoff A team.

Many prospective chess players have felt discouraged during the pandemic because it is very difficult to meet via Zoom and other various means of alternate communication. This year, with a completely in person school experience, the chess club and team has experienced better attendance and more enthusiastic participation from chess club members and players.

Unfortunately the playoffs are not likely to be viewable by the public unless matches themselves are hosted virtually, in which it is plausible that the match could be streamed.

"I just want to say thank you to our team," said Conran. "We're doing really well. We're practicing really hard."

## Booster Clinic:

SLUH will be hosting a booster clinic on Thursday Feb. 10 from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Sign up beforehand in the Sunday Jan. 30 ParentConnect email. Only Pfizer booster's will be administered. Make sure to bring your vaccination card.



PN Crossword: “Down on the Corner”

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21						22				
23			24				25		26					
			27			28		29				30	31	32
33	34	35			36		37		38		39			
40				41		42		43		44				
45					46		47		48		49			
50				51		52		53		54				
			55				56		57			58	59	60
61	62	63				64		65				66		
67					68						69			
70					71						72			
73					74						75			

38. Vegetable in *Toy Story*
39. Grand \_\_\_\_\_ National Park
40. Lubricated
41. Wimpy Kid record
42. *Down on the Corner* band (abbr.)
43. Whistle-blower?
44. Car decoration
45. He fought (Bruce) Lee in *The Way of the Dragon*
46. Mrs. in México
47. Edge of a garment
48. Make nine out of ten, say
49. Care for, as a garden
50. Will Arnett in *Arrested Development*
51. Common dog sound
52. Word after action or stick
53. Common dog name
54. Insult, in modern lingo
55. 39-foot long steel rail
56. Albert Pujols has three of these
57. Sailor of seven voyages
58. Playoff spot
59. Toward the back
60. The thirteenth version of this BBC character was the first woman
61. Nervous Nellie (which could have been another theme entry)
62. Stench
63. Confirmation, e.g.
64. Lip \_\_\_\_\_
65. Award for *Hamilton* before its 11 Tonys
66. Goof
67. Sarah McLachlan’s highest-peaking song in the U.S.
68. 747, e.g.
69. Flattop
70. Military program on campus
71. Pitcher Santana or songwriter Drake
72. 45th state
73. *Star* \_\_\_\_\_
74. Lakota lodging
75. *Comin’* \_\_\_\_\_ *the*

- CLUES
1. What the winner in the end has
2. Farewell in France
3. Utter, as delight
4. Stat for a QB
5. Relationship after slitting and shaking hands
6. Host of *The Tonight Show* after Carson
7. MLB’s Shohei (var.)
8. Where MLB’s Shohei is from
9. Tax collector in Missouri (abbr.)
10. Feminine footwear originally worn by men
11. Ibiza o Mallorca
12. Guys’ counterparts
13. “Be quiet!”
14. Ritalin’s target
15. *Cobra Kai*, e.g.
16. Jacob’s twin
17. 180° turns
18. Broadcasting live
19. Most corners
20. “Golly!”
21. Something with a diamond blade
22. Disaster after heavy rainfall
23. “Yay!”
24. Confirmation name
- for a CB’er?
25. JFK or FDR
26. \_\_\_\_\_ *Gun*
27. Wilson who voiced McQueen
28. Host of *The Tonight Show*
29. Also
30. Pointless pursuit, such as working too much
31. An inverse trig function
32. Tattled
33. Rival of Godzilla
34. 12 in binary
35. Employer watchdogs (abbr.)
36. Albert Pujols has 2150 of these
37. “\_\_\_\_\_ bin ein Berliner.”

Crossword | Paul Baudendistel

Hungry for cookies? Don’t fear! Mothers Club will host another lunchtime bake sale on Thursday, Feb. 10

SATIRE

Snow day shenanigans persists as classes shift to Zoom

ALEX PREUSSER  
CORE STAFF

After the brief two-day snow break, it was time to get back down to business, but on Zoom. While some students embraced the idea of a little extra sleep and not having to make the morning commute, the day brought some flashbacks of Zoom classes in the height of the pandemic. Shenanigans were at an all-time high, as many students chose to extend their inclement-weather-based break, even as their classes commenced. “Not a single one of my students showed up for class,” lamented theology teacher Mike Lally. “Like, what were they thinking? We were going to have another

conversational test. Who would want to miss out on that?” The same thing happened in the physics classes of science teacher Kent Kershenski. “I wasn’t too mad, though,” said Kershenski. “I was able to watch five straight hours of highlight reels from the past few years of the Buffalo Bills.” The students that did log into Zoom and stay for class still were not totally engaged in the material. “I was trying to teach about conic sections,” said algebra teacher Dan Becvar. “But I could only watch as Ryan Kellogg did snow angels in his backyard, with his camera on for the whole class to see.” These experiences were shared by almost

every teacher in every department. However, some were a little more exciting than others. “One of my students was making hot chocolate as he recited Lewis Carroll’s ‘The Jabberwocky,’” said theatre teacher Kathryn Whitaker. “When he arrived at the ‘One, two! One, two!’ line, he dropped the boiling liquid on his feet and began to scream in agony. My entire Zoom class stayed to watch the paramedics carry him away on a stretcher.” Even through the trials and tribulations of Zooming on a snowy day, St. Louis U. High hopes to return to normal once Monday arrives. We will all keep the hot chocolate victim in our thoughts and prayers.

SLUHsERS 17: IT’S A BIT CHILLY OUT



SLUHsers | Jude Reed



## Members of the Class of 2026 celebrate acceptance in SLUH

(continued from page 1)  
idea until later. I would guess that it will be roughly 250 but we'll have no idea until later."

Further, the Class of 2026 is not just similar to previous classes in its size, but also the students' performance in grade school and middle school. The class covers 64 zip codes in and around the St. Louis area from schools big and small.

"The Class of 2026 is consistent with other recently admitted classes as far as being a solid, healthy class of incoming freshmen," said Admissions Coordinator Jennifer Thomas. "They're academically solid, come from different communities, different elementary school experiences, and different socio-economic circumstances."

"The size of the school definitely stood out to me just because it's such a larger population than my grade school

and the campus is much larger," said incoming freshman Uriah Binder of St. Frances Cabrini Academy. "My graduating class only had around 20 students so it's a pretty big change."

While it seems like the pandemic has altered virtually every aspect of school life over the past two years, the admissions team and admissions process remains very similar—save for some new improvements—to what it looked like prior to the spring of 2020. Some of these improvements were slight changes to the shadow program and family interview system.

"We were able to go back to shadowing (during this school year), which we only started a few years ago and I think that really helped," said Murphy. "It just works out well that (the prospective students) are able to experience the school and interact with both (the current students) and the campus. We

also had a very strong Open House which was very interactive and showed off each of our departments. We did do a new event in the fall which showed students areas that they might be interested in throughout the building."

The only change needed

was to the family interview format, an important part of the admissions process, as a result of Covid.

"We offered family interviews virtually as well as on campus to accommodate family preferences," said Thomas.

After the prospective stu-

dents completed all of their tours, shadow visits, interviews, and more, the admissions team got to work on deciding who would be accepted and who would be respectfully declined.

"Acceptance is based on, but not limited to: strong academic performance in the classroom,

high achievement on standardized tests, exemplary conduct and effort, leadership potential demonstrated through (a student's) interests and activities outside of the classroom, and commitment to a faith-based education," said Thomas.

Moving forward, the class of 2026 has an eventful few months ahead of them starting with their Class of 2026 Welcome Event next Wednesday. The Welcome Event acts as the first time the class will actually be completely together in-person and this year it's sole purpose is to initiate that class bond.

"The welcome event will be a little different this year but we're going to be able to have everyone here," said Murphy. "It's just going to be a welcome event, and we'll focus on the course work later on since this event is purely focused on congratulating them."



Assistant Principal for Mission Jim Linhares with his nephew Liam Linhares '26.  
photo | SLUH Twitter

## Students enjoy two snow days, attend Zoom classes on Friday

(continued from page 1)

event of a snow day, classes would be held in a synchronous format via Zoom.

"The confusion was mostly just because we wanted to kind of leave the door open and see what our options look like," said Kesterson.

The announcement that classes would be held via Zoom was met with sharp criticism from many within the student body and faculty. Many called on the administration to give students an old-school snow day and give them a break from the stress of the school year.

"I understand them wanting to be caught up but at the same time it seems like they are taking advantage of something that was made for Covid and using it to get rid of something that means a lot to students," said junior George Mikhail. "No matter how old you are, snow days are a time to go out and enjoy the snow and kind of take a break and relax."

After hearing from the student body and faculty, administrators met again on Tuesday to further discuss plans for a snow day. In the end, the consensus was to give students a typical snow day, with no classes, if campus had to be closed because of snow.

"We had a meeting Tuesday and we all kind of came together to put together the pieces that we've been thinking about, and using some of the feedback we've been hearing from students and some from faculty, we decided to give the students an old-fashioned snow day," said Kesterson. "Personally, I loved the idea of students being able to enjoy a spontaneous day off due to snow. I think it is important to still have those fun snow days, even in high school."

At the end of the school day on Tuesday, Kesterson announced that the campus would be closed Wednesday and Thursday due to weather

and students would not have to attend class virtually. A roar immediately erupted throughout the hallways as students and teachers alike celebrated these unexpected days off.

**"Kids are kids, so let them have the magic of a snow day."**

-Jennifer Ice

"Snow days are so magical, staying up all night anticipating a snow day is so much fun and then having a day to play and relax is great," said Latin teacher Jennifer Ice. "Kids are kids so let them have the magic of a snow day."

"I think a snow day should just be a regular snow day as in the past," said junior Anthony Fahim. "I think the whole student body agrees

that we were grateful to have the two days off to enjoy the snow."

Kesterson announced yesterday afternoon that campus would still be closed for today. However, students are taking a trip to last year and joining Zoom rooms, as classes are synchronous.

Even though they had to return virtually, students and teachers were still grateful for the two days off.

"As a teacher with limited time in second semester with how much I meet with seniors, I am grateful for synchronous learning," said Social Studies teacher Tom Kickham. "But like the students I enjoy those traditional snow days where you just put work aside for the day and enjoy a day off."

In the event of another snow day in the future, classes will be held synchronously via Zoom.



art | Alex Dieters

## Tom Flanagan returns from retirement to teach Pre-Calc class

BY CHARLES TURNELL AND  
AUSTIN WALD  
REPORTERS

Math teacher Tom Flanagan has come out of retirement and returned to Backer Memorial once again. The long time math teacher retired last spring after 30 years at SLUH, but he made his return to teach an opening in a Precalculus II class due to the math department being understaffed.

"This was an extra section that didn't fit any of the math teachers' schedules and when I was offered the chance to teach it, I jumped at it," said Flanagan. "I taught this class for the last several years so it was a perfect fit for me."

The opportunity arose because of a decision to expand the senior calculus course.

"We knew last year that we had an extra section of senior precalculus that needed coverage," said Math Department chair Julie Moeser. "Our

options were to have a teacher teach the extra calculus course, or to have Mr. Flanagan back."

A big reason for Flanagan's priority candidacy for the role was his extensive prior experience in the Math Department.

"I have worked hard over the last half dozen years or so to develop my curriculum for this class and I believe we are off to a great start," said Flanagan. "I taught this class for the last several years so it was perfect for me."

Of course, Flanagan's qualifications extend far beyond his prior experience. Flanagan's outgoing and delightful personality is what has made him such a beloved teacher.

"Mr. Flanagan is very easy to talk to and to work with," said Moeser. "He's a master conversationalist."

The Math Department is glad to have Flanagan's special personality back in the classroom. The anticipated return serves a practical necessity, but also a happy desire

for many in the SLUH community.

"Even though he's only been gone a semester, it's great to have him back in the office. He has taught senior Precalculus for the past five plus years, so he's in familiar territory," said Moeser. "But more importantly, we are all looking forward to sharing lots of laughs with Mr. Flanagan."

Flanagan shares the enjoyment of being back on campus with faculty and students, and being part of SLUH life once again.

"I am excited to be back on campus with my math colleagues and a wonderful group of seniors. In some ways, being back in the classroom every other day makes me appreciate my retirement more the rest of the time," said Flanagan. "Every weekend is at least a three-day weekend and after next week I will teach twice a week for the rest of the year!"

## Around the Hallways

### Black History Month Assembly

This past week marked the beginning of Black History Month. To celebrate, this coming Thursday, the entire SLUH community will partake in the annual Black History Month Assembly. This event will be based in homerooms and will feature a narrative of SLUH's Black history, as well as a panel discussion by Black alumni.

### World Religions Zoom

On Monday, Jan. 31, all

sections of the senior World Religions theology elective gathered in the Si Commons during Studium for a Zoom to speak with students in Russia about the differences and similarities that the Catholic and Russian Orthodox religions have. In order to prepare for this event, students were asked to watch an introductory EdPuzzle that featured the students and teachers who Zoomed in. The event, which lasted all of studium, featured questions from both student

bodies to answer.

### Signing Day

Tuesday, Feb. 8 will mark the NCAA's annual signing day, where high school seniors from across the country sign their letters of intent and formally commit to play sports at a collegiate level. The announcements will happen during studium for students, and a celebration will be held at 4:30pm after school.

— Roarke Unrau and  
Alex Preusser

**Intrested in writing,  
photography or creating art  
for the *Prep News*? Email  
prepnews@sluh.org to become**



# Class selection goes to online process for student ease

(continued from page 1)  
more by class, and ask each department to do more specific education about what next year’s electives look like,” explained Foy. “We’re really trying to get students to make really good, informed decisions that are lined up with a more strategic plan built with counselors and their long-term goals.”

To get the ball rolling, counselors have begun one-on-one sessions to discuss class choices and a plan with students to guarantee that each student gets guidance from his counselor. In these meetings, the counselors and students discuss various facets of their current interests and possible future careers. That way, their course selections will be tailored to their specific needs.

Furthermore, as juniors move through the process of choosing their classes, their current teachers have been working to provide them with a picture of their options for next year. In some cases, the teachers have given brief explanations of the various choices, and then in others, the senior teachers have visited to describe their classes.

“(The presentations) just give the students an opportunity to see everything that’s available to them, and to really be able to pick the courses that they feel are the best fit for them for senior year,” said Counseling Department chair Mary Michalski.

So far, students have been receiving these new changes positively in how efficient yet simple the process is.

“I really like what they’ve been doing with introducing classes to us,” said junior Brock Johnson. “I like them going into more depth rather than just surface level, because then it really allows students to ask, ‘hey, is this for me, or is it not?’ So I think that’s something they’ve done a lot better this year is really educating us on the classes.”

This new process should help scheduling to run more smoothly this coming year, and the individualized nature of it will allow students to form a schedule that works best for them.

“There’s obviously some confusion whenever you change things from one year to the next, but I really do believe that this is going to make for a clearer and better selection process that makes it more likely that students wind up in the correct classes,” said Foy.

Junior registration for next year’s classes is due on Feb. 22, current sophomores on March 9, and the current freshmen on April 28.

# Irate? How about adieu? Find out why you should be playing the biggest word game at SLUH

(continued from page 1)  
a letter that isn’t in the word, it turns grey. And the best part: you get one word per day.

“It’s intellectually stimulating. It brings out my competitive nature,” said math teacher Craig Hannick. “I do play once a day, which is a godsend for me because I would play it all day long, it’s just really fun.”

Wordle was created by a software engineer in Brooklyn to play with his family members. When he decided to release it to the world last October, it quickly became a hit across the country. It has become tradition for people to share their Wordle grids on text chains and social media every day.

“Every morning, my brother, my mom, and I send our Wordle pictures to each other,” said math teacher Tracy Lyons.

“I’m actually in a ‘competition’—you have to see my air quotes here—with my daughter so that every morning we each send each other the fraction and then we share our results and we talk about strategy and those kind of things,” said Hannick.

Wordle has also opened up many discussions about strategies to guess the word in the fewest number of tries. Some start with a favorite word while others try words with commonly-used letters. Everyone seems to have a unique strategy for solving the daily puzzle.

“I have kept track of every word from the beginning looking for letter frequencies and stuff,” said Hannick. “I update that every time and look at the statistics and just see what certain letters and words are there. I default to using the same first word every time. The problem with my strategy is that I then default to using the most common letters as often in the next couple of times. Sometimes it

can lead me a little bit astray, especially if there’s a W or or a P or something like that. Lately, those have been ones that I probably could have gotten in three, but it took me four because I went the statistical

appeals to word lovers, it appeals to statistics and logistics whizes as well.

“There is a math component to it,” said Lyons. “Obviously the words aren’t math, but there’s very much this

“It makes you think. Sometimes it’s challenging, sometimes it’s really easy, and it’s also good to brag to friends”

-junior Caiden Zeitler

route as opposed to the common sense route.”

The game has particularly created a buzz in the Math Department because, while it

logic component to it. A lot of people are explaining that it’s a lot like (the game) Mastermind.”

Different games like

Mastermind, a color guessing game, employ a guessing technique similar to Wordle. People are drawn to them for the ability to strategize but also for it to be a relatively simple game.

“It makes you think. Sometimes it’s challenging, sometimes it’s really easy, and it’s also good to brag to friends,” said junior Caiden Zeitler.

Lyons has used Wordle as a way to bring her students together. She plays every morning in homeroom on the smart board.

“It’s fun to watch them chat about it and kind of correct each other,” said Lyons.



art | Will Blaisdell

“When I’m doing Wordle on my own, I will sometimes make a bad guess because I will use a letter I know doesn’t belong or I won’t move it when I know it needs to get moved, but I’m trying to do it pretty quickly. In homeroom, a kid will shout out a word and the other kids will be like, well, we don’t have an R, or we know it can’t end in T and then they’ll come up with a better word because there is no time limit.”

“It’s intellectually stimulating. It brings out my competitive nature. I do play once a day, which is a godsend for me because I would play it all day long, it’s just really fun.”

- Craig Hannick

Wordle is truly a game that brings people together. Whether it’s Hannick texting his scores to his daughter in Washington, D.C. or Lyons’ homeroom debating over the daily word, the game has found a unique way to make people connect and bond.

“It’s a really fun game. I like how you develop strategies to get it. My parents and I do it every day and we try to see who can get it in the least amount of rows,” said sophomore John Posey.

Most importantly, Wordle is a ritual. People can return to it every morning and escape their busy lives, even for just a moment. From adieu to zebra, the small satisfaction of guessing a random word on only the second or third try is just what someone needs to get through the day.

# Young Conservatives hopeful that petition will allow administration to reconsider mask policy

(continued from page 1)  
on their Grande Projects. At a Young Conservatives meeting during that time period, a group of underclassman members started the initiative to begin the petition, and club members and the club’s moderator, theology teacher Chris Keeven, have spent much of the past few weeks researching their stance on masks and formulating their petition.

As a part of this stance, members of the club maintain that the increasing probability of Covid becoming endemic means that the long-term continuation of any mask requirements would be unrealistic. In addition, the petition also states that the prevalence of the Omicron variant—which has been shown to have a lower mortality rate and higher degree of contagiousness than previous strains—means that all previous assumptions and precautions taken in SLUH’s safety plan are now outdated.

“It is very important to me that everyone’s voice is heard, and I feel that currently our voices aren’t being listened to,” said senior Nathan Wojtkowski, who is a member of the Young Conservatives. “We’ve paid our dues, most of us have gotten vaccinated, we’ve worn masks for close to two years now, and Covid has begun to subside. There is reasonable data that suggests that we should be able to make a responsible decision regarding masks.”

“After two years, I think it’s fair to ask: What is the endgame here? What will it take for the masks to come off, or how many more years should we expect to keep them on? Who’s making that decision, and what metric are they using?” said Keeven. “If we have to wait until there is zero Covid, then I don’t think that’s realistic. There is a moral case to be made that masks are harmful to student mental

health.”

“We’ve paid our dues, most of us have gotten vaccinated, we’ve worn masks for close to two years now. There is reasonable data that suggests that we should be able to make a responsible decision regarding masks.”

-Nathan Wojtkowski

Much of the Young Conservatives’ evidence comes from a non-profit organization called Urgency of Normal, which, as the name suggests, advocates for the

abolishing of Covid-related restrictions and the resumption of pre-pandemic societal norms. The group is made up of a wide variety of doctors and health officials from around the United States and Canada, who cite the high efficacy of vaccines and Covid’s minimal risk to children as primary reasons for the removal of restrictions.

Urgency of Normal also stresses the correlation between increased Covid restrictions and negative impacts on both student health and learning as a reason to avoid mask mandates.

Aside from the evidence being used from Urgency of Normal, the Young Conservatives are also hopeful that a shift in public opinion towards ending mask mandates will aid them in their quest, citing recent pieces published in *The Atlantic*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *New York Times* as proof of shifting

opinions.

In addition to the goal of reversing the school’s mask policy, Keeven also expressed hope that members of his club could utilize the opportunity to take part in advocacy, even at a relatively small scale.

“I thought this would be a good opportunity to practice civic engagement,” said Keeven. “It’s important to work within the system here, and not to just run to the news when we don’t like what the school decides.”

Already, the petition has seen a fairly high degree of success, garnering roughly 175 signatures—nearly one fifth of the entire student body—on Monday alone. Though no specific target number has been set, the Young Conservatives are hopeful that enough students will sign over the petition’s two-week run time to force the administration to take note of their efforts.





Kramer drives to the net against CBC.

photo | Kathy Chott

## Conference Showdowns

CBC proves too tough for SLUH Basketball while Vianney struggles to keep up with the Jr. Bills; more MCC games ahead

BY COBY SPRATTE AND  
NICK WITCHER  
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

The basketball team wrapped up its slate of January games this past week with two MCC games in two days. The Jr. Billikens (14-4) split the pair, losing 71-55 to CBC but then rebounding with a 63-54 win over the Vianney Griffins.

The Jr. Bills hosted the Cadets last Thursday and brought a lot of energy right out of the gate. SLUH held an 11-7 lead at the conclusion of a defensively intense first quarter.

The intensity was brought by the team's spark plug off the bench, senior Jack Christanell, who contributed a couple steals and a couple boards.

"When I come off the bench, I want to make a positive impact on the game and play as hard as I can when given the opportunity to," Christanell said. "That means making hustle plays, diving after loose balls and crashing the boards."

But CBC began to settle into their offense in the sec-

ond quarter, and holstered a 23-20 lead heading to half-time.

In a high scoring third quarter, the Jr. Billikens went toe to toe with CBC for most of the quarter offensively, but a stretch of nine points in three positions for Cadet senior Larry Hughes swung the momentum toward the side of purple and gold, en route to a seven-point lead heading to the fourth.

SLUH just couldn't keep up with the Cadets' offense in the final quarter and ultimately fell 71-55.

CBC was led by senior point guard Rob Martin, who had 16 points, and small forward Hughes, who contributed a team-leading 19 points.

One name for the Cadets that was largely left out of the equation was 7-foot-2 sophomore John Bol. He had been averaging 11 points per game, 8.5 rebounds, and 4 blocks, but 6-foot-8 senior Kevin Hogan controlled the paint and neutralized the threat of Bol, holding him to 4 points on an 0 for 4 shooting from the field and a measly 4 re-

bounds.

"I tried to always have good position on him and use my wingspan as an advantage to contest his shots," Hogan said.

The Jr. Billikens were led on the offensive side of the ball by senior Nick Kramer, who put up his season average of 20 points. Juniors Zach Ortwerth and AJ Walker Jr. each added an additional 12 points to the equation.

The following night, the Jr. Bills had a chance for immediate redemption with another home game, this time against the Griffins from Vianney.

The Jr. Bills got out to a fast start, leading Vianney 33-18 at the halfway mark of the contest.

SLUH came out of the break a little flat on their feet, though, and were never able to completely pull away. They had many opportunities to extend their lead, but faltered from the free throw line, shooting 11 of 21.

Vianney was never able to claw all the way back, and SLUH closed it out in the final minutes, en route to a

63-54 win.

The Griffins were led by senior NAIA commit Adam Sausele, who dropped 19 points, and freshman Luke Walsh, who added another 17.

On the Jr. Bills' side, Kramer led the charge with 18 points and Ortwerth tallied another 15. Senior Jaden McClain added 9, and sophomore Charlie Isom-McCall and junior AJ Walker Jr. each contributed 8 points.

The win over Vianney was the fifth consecutive game that Ortwerth scored double digits.

"Getting out in transition has got me a couple points. I have also shot the ball from 3 a little better the past few games," Ortwerth reflected. "Against Vianney it was especially important to establish a presence in the paint."

SLUH will travel to Town and Country tonight for a 6:00 p.m. rematch against the CBC Cadets who will be looking to rebound from their latest game, a 45-43 nail-biting loss at Westminster.

### Upcoming Basketball Schedule

Friday, Feb. 4: CBC  
6:00 pm @ CBC

Friday, Feb. 11: Chaminade  
6:00 pm @ Chaminade

Friday Feb. 18: De Smet  
6:00 pm @ SLUH



### SLUH Tweet of the Week

Congratulations to senior Chris Brooks, who announced his commitment to the University of Wisconsin over the weekend. Stay tuned for more details about his switch!

Proud to announce that I'm officially a Badger! I want to thank these two for always being right by my side through everything. I love you guys!!! ❤️❤️❤️  
[@ChrisBrooks83](#) [@bebe\\_brandnew](#)



photo | courtesy of @chris\_brooksjr2



## “Two types of Tigers killed tonight”

### Wrestling rolls through Festus meet, earning impressive pins from SLUH’s top wrestlers

BY NATHAN RICH AND  
ALEX NANCE  
SPORTS EDITOR, REPORTER

The Jr. Bills were out tiger hunting in their most recent quad meet. This past Tuesday, Festus hosted St. James, Orchard Farms, and the Bills for a quad meet and no one was prepared for the SLUH onslaught. Two of the three teams that SLUH faced that night had tiger mascots, which quickly became a rallying cry for the Jr. Bills as they took to the mats.

To start the night off, junior Connor Whalen (132) was the only SLUH wrestler to take on Orchard Farms. Whalen started the match heavy, dominating with strong set-ups and takedowns. Although Whalen couldn't get any back points in the first round, he compensated with multiple takedowns to end the period.

Rolling with the punches, Whalen chose to play neutral in the second period, knowing he could attain more takedown points to tech fall his opponent. When he saw his chance, though, he took it. He struck fiercely, moving from a “High C” to a double leg. Whalen then went for the claw and slammed his opponent's back to the mat to claim the pin.

After Whalen's bout, the next team was the Festus Tigers. Whalen, still riding high from his earlier pin, once again led off for the Jr. Bills. He started the duel strongly with another double leg. His Festus opponent was a little different from Orchard Farms though, as Whalen had to maintain his intensity while on offense. Whalen kept his opponent down for the full 6 minutes and won by decision.

Senior Alex Nance (170) looked to carry Whalen's momentum into SLUH's next

match. He took to the mat and pulled off a strong club on the Festus opponent. Nance then circled and threw his opponent to the mat to get the takedown. In a matter of seconds, the Festus opponent was cradled and pinned, garnering Nance the win.

After that, junior Pau Thang (182) saw similar results. His first round consisted of a powerful double leg and a couple of near falls, giving Thang the lead. The second and third periods saw Thang fighting harder for his points as his opponent not going to give in to a pin. Thang went to the tech fall route, constantly taking his opponent down and letting them get back up just to barrage him with another shot. After 6 minutes, Thang had won with a 11-point lead.

“I was happy to come back to the mat after a long break. The match today really put me back on my feet and got me hyped for districts,” Thang said.

The upperclassman success was clear, but hard to maintain further down the Jr. Bills roster. Freshmen Tom Schoenekase and sophomore Trey Dino lost their matches against Festus, fighting tooth and nail against the Tigers.

To end the night, the Jr. Bills faced yet another tiger: the St. James Red Tigers. Senior Jack Onder (152) was the first to take on St. James and he came out of the gates with a single leg move. After it failed, Onder took his time with his next shot, methodically arranging his takedown. His opponent was powerful enough to attempt an escape, but Onder had kept him down. He slammed his opponent with an arm chop and flattened the guy. As his opponent tried to get up, Onder threw in a half nelson and drove him onto his back. Onder's pin was swift, a

credit to his in-match mentality.

“I went out there and did my stuff, I just needed to be aggressive and knew when to work. I can't think about the other guy I'm going to fight, I just wrestle my style and win,” he said.

Nance wrestled again after Onder. He started his match off like the previous one, with a hard club to a takedown. By the end of the first period, Nance had his opponent in a cradle and waited for time to expire. In the second period, Nance set up another cradle and locked his opponent in for a potential pin. He waited for half of the period but the referee never budged, so Nance had to look for an alternative way to achieve the pin. In the third period, Nance was up by 10 and found a way to lock a claw against St. James. This gave him the upper hand and the pin opportunity he had been looking for.

Whalen (in his third match of the night), Dino, and sophomore Braden Peele also wrestled against St. James, but all lost their matches by decision. Still, SLUH's dominance at the meet was enough for sophomore Mario Del Pietro to declare that there were “two types of Tigers killed.”

After the many successful outcomes from Tuesday, the Jr. Bills are feeling comfortable about their wrestling styles. This meet served as perfect experience and practice for Districts.

Unfortunately, this week's intensive snow canceled last night's Senior Night against Valle Catholic, Lutheran St. Charles, Gateway Science Academy, and Roosevelt so the Jr. Bills will have to wait before they can take to the mats again.

## Racquetball refuses to drop a single game against Lafayette, Lindbergh

BY CHARLIE VONDERHEID  
REPORTER

After a fun and exciting doubles tournament, racquetball wasted no time getting back to work with a busy schedule last week. On Jan. 28, they played Lafayette for the first time this year and three days later, they had a rematch against Lindbergh. SLUH did not lose a single match in the two contests, going 12-0 in match play last week.

In the Lafayette match, No. 1 Will Shorey won in convincing fashion over Charlie Buren, 15-4, 15-11. Shorey had defeated Buren in a tournament earlier this year and continued his dominance over Buren in this match. In the Lindbergh match, Shorey defeated Edwin Miller 15-0, 15-0 due to forfeit. Miller, one of the top players in the league this year, had suffered an injury early in the season, giving Shorey the match easily.

No. 2 Max Telken defeated Lafayette's Vincent Deutschmann, 15-4 and 15-7 and Lindbergh's Blake Hebert 15-3, 15-10. Telken is looking to improve his game in these matches and prepare himself for the state tournament in hopes that he can finally defeat his rival Gabe Collins from CBC.

Further down, No. 3 Jared Thornberry defeated Lafayette's Simon Ruck 15-4, 15-3. In his match against Lindbergh, Thornberry handled Jack Frederickson with ease, allowing just 7 points in the first game and 5 in the second.

“I thought I was doing well on the offensive side, but I struggled returning some good serves,” said Thornberry, despite the win. “In general my defense could have been better.”

No. 4 seed Danny Phillips had a slightly closer game against his Lafayette oppo-



artwork | Nathan Rich

nent, letting up seven points in the first game and eight points in the second game to Jonathon Ruck. Phillips was quick to point out the ways he could have improved.

“I still won the game even though I let up more points than I should have,” said Phillips. “I let the game drag on for a long time.”

Against Lindbergh, however, Phillips rebounded and completely dominated. He let Jared Leist score only three points in the first game and did not allow him to score a single point in the second.

“I just hit the ball super low and I didn't give him anything on his forehand side,” Phillips reflected on his strategy.

No. 5 Nick Heinlein showed no mercy against Lafayette, winning 15-0, 15-1. His dominant play was enough to freeze his opponent.

“I let up one point in the second game,” said Heinlein. “But I was kind of disappointed and I really wanted the shutout.”

Against Lindbergh, Heinlein faced more adversity, although it was all self-inflicted.

“I actually forgot my shoes,” said Heinlein. “I let up a lot more points than I

wanted to.”

Despite forgetting his court shoes, Heinlein defeated Jack Kaiser decisively 15-1, 15-7.

No. 6 Clark Martin continued SLUH's trend of dominance by defeating Jahua Lee from Lafayette 15-2, 15-7. Three days later he defeated Thomas Vander Tuig 15-5, 15-1. Martin and Heinlein have yet to lose a match this year and hope to stay perfect heading into state.

The doubles team of Luke Danegger and Max Adelman had a less exciting week than the rest of the team. Jacob Goodman and Grant Schuth from Lafayette did not show up to the match and hence SLUH won by forfeit. Danegger and Adelman were looking forward to playing in their match against Lindbergh but were disappointed when their opponents did not show up for that game either. The doubles team earned two wins through two forfeits and look forward to stepping back on the court this week.

After the doubles tournament, varsity racquetball put on an impressive performance this week by not losing a single game. They hope to ride this momentum into the next match against Parkway West on Feb. 11.

## Commit's Corner: Double Feature

### Pashea heads to up and coming Dartmouth team

BY JOE LABARGE  
REPORTER

Senior Baker Pashea announced his intention to commit to Dartmouth University to run cross country and track on Oct. 31.

Throughout his high school career, Pashea has managed to attract collegiate attention from his various achievements, including an elite 800-meter time of 1:54.4 he posted in his junior year. This nationally-ranked time has led Pashea to a second place finish at the State meet and a fourth place finish at the regional Festival of Miles meet in 2021.

Along with his elite times on the track, Pashea just wrapped up an impressive final cross country season with a 5K PR of 15:53.8 which earned him All-State recognition and

23rd place individual finish at State.

Dartmouth, boasting Division 1 track and field as well as cross country teams, just capped off a successful cross country season itself, finishing eighth at the NCAA Northeast Regional meet in Boston. Plus, with only one senior in their top five athletes, Dartmouth has a promising future on the cross country course. On the track, Dartmouth is no less successful with five Ivy League championships and a third place finish in its opening meet last week.

At Dartmouth, Pashea is looking forward to joining a group of talented recruits from across the country committed to the university. He is excited to continue his athletic career at the collegiate level where he will have the opportunity to



photo | Kathy Clout

run against top competition.

“Not only is it a great academic opportunity, but their program seems to really be growing under new coaching staff,” Pashea said. “I'm extremely excited and grateful for the way it all worked out.”

### Yemm to join reigning champions at Carthage

BY NATHAN RICH  
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior Michael Yemm will be continuing his volleyball career next year at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. He announced the commitment last August after exploring his options. Carthage, a small liberal arts school, has a lot of upsides for Yemm, including its impressive location on the water and team culture.

“It has a great location right on (Lake Michigan), as well as being close to Milwaukee and Chicago for any weekend adventures,” said Yemm. “(They have) small class sizes and the team has a bunch of really competitive, really fun guys that I wanted to play with.”

The decision to commit

fulfilled a long held goal for Yemm to continue his volleyball career. After all, the culture of the sport has meant a lot to him during his life.

“I think when I am playing (volleyball), I am the most true version of myself. It lets me compete, have fun, and have brothers,” he reflected.

Yemm, an outside hitter, will be joining an already impressive program at Carthage. A powerhouse in the sport, the Carthage Firebirds went undefeated in their 23 games last season.

“They were the 2021 Division 3 men's national championship team, so I hope to help continue in this excellent program and hopefully win another if not more than one national championship,” he said.



photo | courtesy of Michael Yemm

Yemm plans to major in accounting while earning a minor in either data sciences or marketing.



# Students enjoy snowy conditions on days off

BY ROARKE UNRAU  
NEWS EDITOR

There are three things in life that are certain: death, taxes, and students loving snow days. Students from everywhere have their differences, but they bond together over their mutual love for these days off. On Wednesday and Thursday of this week, students had their wish come true and got to experience their first real snow days in a long time.

Over the past two years, snow days were rumored to have become a thing of the past; with the rise of Zoom and virtual days, many students thought they may never see another snow day again.

“I think that snow days need to come back. I was so happy when they decided to change from virtual to just a good old fashioned day off. I know it’s not ideal for our faculty and administration, but deep down inside I think everybody loves and needs a snow day every now and

then,” said senior Gus Tet-  
tamble.

On Tuesday, Assistant Principal for Student Life Brock Kesterson came on the intercom for afternoon announcements with a special piece of information regarding the rest of the week. Throughout the whole week there were murmurs about snow days and virtual days, but Kesterson gave the whole school a shock with what he said.

“I had just finished taking Mrs. Kissel’s AP AB Calculus test and let me tell you, it was a hard one,” said senior P.J. Haefer. “We had just finished up with it. And I was like, you know, it’d be nice to just be home, not have to wake up super early and hop on my computer and go through the day. But then they came on with the announcements, and I mean, my class was shocked. We’re looking at each other dead silent, and everyone was like, did we just hear that right? And we heard classes on either side

of us just erupting and it was pretty crazy.”

Leaving school on Tuesday, students hid a smile underneath their masks as they walked out of the building. The next morning came and students got to sleep in and peek out the window to see the white blanket of snow hugging the ground.

“It was a nice day to sleep in, I woke up at around 9:30 so it was good. I got probably an hour and a half more sleep, maybe two,” said senior Hanks Edwards. “The first thing I did was, I remember the night before that it was going to snow, so I didn’t open my window, but I pulled the shades up so I could see the snow. I was sleeping in my Groundhog Day SLUH shirt, the tank top that they sold on Monday. And I was like I need to wake up so I ran out my back door and I jumped in the snow. It was pretty cold but it woke me up pretty fast.”

“Pure joy just came across my eyes. Literally all I saw was just white fluffy snow across

the street. And I felt just like a little boy,” said senior Will Fitzgerald.

After waking up to a winter wonderland, students lay-  
ered up and hunkered down, preparing to brave the cold temperatures of the winter morning.

“So first off, I woke up and my mom made me some biscuits and gravy, then I put a fire in the fireplace. I mean, my family kind of hunkered down for a little bit. And then after about an hour or two I got up, got ready and went outside with my dog and my siblings. Something I really haven’t been able to do in a while. I came back in and my mom made me some hot co-  
coa. Then I went sledding at Forest Hills,” said Haefer. “It was awesome. It took me back to the good old days of fourth and fifth grade.”

Edwards summarized the whole thing up flawlessly with his final thought:

“There’s nothing better than a perfect snow day.”



## Calendar

### Friday, February 4

B Day

#### Synchronous Classes

7:50AM	SLUH Community First Friday Mass
3:30PM	JV2-3 Racquetball vs Parkway West @ Vetta Sports Concord
4:00PM	Varsity 2 Racquetball vs Parkway West @ Vetta Racquet Sports West
4:15PM	B Basketball @ CBC
4:15PM	C Blue Basketball vs CBC
6:00PM	C White Basketball vs CBC
6:00PM	Varsity Basketball @ CBC

### Saturday, February 5

No Events

### Sunday, February 6

No Events

### Monday, February 7

A Day

#### Pretenure Ignatian Seminar

LUNCH	Lasagna Italiano
4:00PM	Varsity 2 Racquetball vs Lafayette @ Vetta Racquet Sports West
5:00PM	C Blue Basketball @ Borgia
6:15PM	B Basketball @ St. Francis Borgia

### Tuesday, February 8

B Day

#### Pretenure Ignatian Seminar

Signing Day	
LUNCH	Chicken & Green Chili Flauta
12:55PM	Hitchhiker’s Guide Make up Quiz
3:30PM	JV2-2 Racquetball vs Kirkwood - B @ Vetta Sports Concord
3:30PM	JV2-3 Racquetball vs DeSmet @ Vetta Sports Concord

### Wednesday, February 9

A Day

#### Class of 2026 Admitted Students Welcome Celebration

LUNCH Beef Pot Roast

### Thursday, February 10

B Day

Senior Mom Cookie Sale  
Black History Month Assembly  
Booster Clinic  
Assembly Schedule-Black History Month Presentation  
LUNCH Roman Style Pork Loin

calendar | Roarke Unrau



Above: Freshman Caleb Treadwell after shoveling stairs.  
Top Left: Junior Connor Coolbargh builds igloo.  
Top Right: Jr. Bills shovel snow for service.  
Bottom Left: Junior Max Grellner goes car sledding.  
Bottom Right: Senior P.J. Haefer sledding in Forest Hills.

#### Editor in Chief

Jack “cursed inDesign” Figge

#### Editor

Nathan “mourned Ellen” Rich

#### News Editor

Roarke “started a rival Prep News” Unrau

#### Visual Editor

Charlie “did not sleep” Bieg

#### Web Editor

Luke “counterprotested Jack” Duffy

#### Core Staff

Jackson “3 am facetimes” Cooper  
Louis “didn’t write any articles” Cornett  
Jack “riflery” Rybak  
Alex “also 3 am facetimes” Preusser  
Coby “hit dingers” Spratte  
George “watched Elastigirl compilations” Henken  
Michael “crossword lessons from dad” Bau-  
dendistel

#### Staff

Ben “watched Devin Booker highlight reels” Croat  
Micah “had a sick middle name” Doherty  
Thomas “acted like a total Tybalt” Juergens  
Mark “watched Braveheart” Wappler

#### Staff Artists

Will “volleyball practice” Blaisdell  
Leo “hung out with track suit Leo” Smith

#### Reporters

Theo “watched Olympic curling ” Agniel  
Bill “finished my article on time” Albus  
Patrick “100% of my schoolwork” Busch  
Jack “ran for public office” Evans  
Drew “transferred” Figge  
Andrew “frolicked” Hunt  
Joe “sub-4 mile” LaBarge  
Alex “wrestled” Nance  
Will “snow angels” Riggan  
Charlie “made maple syrup” Vonderheid  
Austin “round of golf” Wald  
Vincent “learned Swahili” Weinbauer

Nick “drained some threes” Witcher

#### Artists

Alex “congratulated my sister on Nerinx admission” Deiters  
Jude “embarked on adventures” Reed

#### Photographers

Mrs. Kathy “looked at my periodic table” Chott

#### Moderator

Steve “enjoyed the Hamlet-esque weather” Missey