

T. Becvar to retire, search for AP underway

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL
NEWS EDITOR

The halls of St. Louis U. High will certainly look a lot different next year—new renovations, a new incoming class, new teachers, and, as announced two weeks ago, a new Assistant Principal of Academics. Assistant Principal of Academics Tom Becvar announced at the Cashbah evening dinner that he will not be returning to SLUH next year after working here for 48 years. While the news has saddened many, it will also mark a new era for the SLUH administration, which is conducting an internal search for his replacement.

Principal Ian Gibbons, S.J., who found out about Becvar’s retirement early in this semester, decided that the search for a new Assistant Principal of Academics will be an internal search, meaning that instead of looking to bring someone from outside, SLUH the administration hopes to fill the position with one of the SLUH faculty members.

“We haven’t had someone step into a role like this in a long time internally, so I deliberately made it an internal search for the AP role and I think that’s definitely the right call to help our people here have opportunities to expand and grow as professionals,” said Gibbons. “I came from a school that hired externally, and I do not want that to happen here at SLUH, especially with the immense talent that we have here.”

While an external search would allow for a new voice and vision to enter the school, advantages to this approach will be that the new assistant principal will be familiar with the inner workings of the school and will already have a relationship with the

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Lacrosse defeats De Smet in Marco Cup sweep



Fr. Marco surrounded by the SLUH squad at last weekend’s game.

photo | Kathy Chott

BY NICK CAMPBELL AND
BERNIE KILCULLEN
STAFF, REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High lacrosse team raised up and brought the Fr. Marco Cup back from De Smet this past Saturday after three action-filled games. The coveted Fr. Marco Cup is a series of three games (freshman, junior varsity, and varsity) played by SLUH and De Smet all on the

same day. The cup is named after Fr. Michael “Marco” Marchlewski, a legendary faculty member and supporter of lacrosse at both schools. The games are some of the most important of the year for both teams, with each looking for the chance to beat out their biggest rivals.

During the previous Fr. Marco Cup in 2019, the Jr. Bills faced a difficult 15-point loss to the Spartans, losing the trophy

they had won a year prior. However, this year the Jr. Bills refused to accept the same fate.

The freshman team, called JV Blue, fought its way through a difficult first game, where questionable calls seemed to be just as hampering as a strong De Smet team.

“The kids overcame adversity and some horrible reffing during the whole game,” said JV Blue head coach and math teacher Willie Evans. “They

showed heart when we were down, and that’s what got us the win.”

By the final buzzer, the Jr. Bills ended drawing first blood in the series with a 7-6 win.

The JV team played next at 12:00 p.m., handily bringing home the next win for the Jr. Bills with a near lockout game. Right off the faceoff, the Jr. Bills started initiating offense.

“We were a little shaky at

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Provincial pays annual visit to SLUH

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN AND
JACK F. FIGGE
EDITOR IN CHIEF,
CORE STAFF

The Provincial of the Central-Southern Province, Fr. Tom Greene, S.J. visited St. Louis U. High last Thursday to meet with the administrators and talk to the Jesuits who live in the residence on campus.

Every year, the Provincial pays a visit to all of the Jesuit communities within his province to check in on the Jesuits stationed there, and ensure that the Jesuit mission is being carried out in the schools and organizations.

Greene was designated as provincial of the Central-Southern Province about a year ago.

“His first official school visit was actually our Mass of the Holy Spirit way back in August, which seems like years ago,” said principal Fr.

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Covid Numbers*

STUDENT CASES:
1

STUDENT
QUARANTINES:
15

FACULTY CASES:
0

FACULTY
QUARANTINES:
0

*Numbers as of this Friday, April 23

Sisyphus to release first print edition in over a year

BY CARTER FORTMAN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Spring ’21 edition of Sisyphus will be on sale this Wednesday, April 28. It marks the first time the magazine—which features a multitude of student and faculty-made poems, short stories, plays, photography, and artwork—will have a physical copy since the Winter ’20 edition.

Perseverance has marked Sisyphus’s past year. When they were gearing up for their

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art | Brendan McLaughlin

Admin decides to keep block schedule for 2021-2022 school year

BY LUKE DUFFY
CORE STAFF

The administration announced its decision earlier this week to keep the block schedule for the 2021-2022 academic year instead of reverting back to the pre-pandemic seven-period schedule. The announcement has evoked mixed responses from students and faculty, who have expressed a wide range of opinions regarding the schedules.

According to Principal Ian Gibbons, S.J., the decision was made to keep the block schedule for mainly Covid safety reasons. A Pandemic Response Team that

the administration put together last March will remain active through next school year to monitor the remaining Covid risks at SLUH.

“It’s one of those things that at some point we’re going to look back and realize that this is no longer a thing,” said Gibbons. “It just kind of quietly goes away and that’s the story of pandemics, there’s not a hard end to something like that.”

While the block schedule has had its imperfections, it has proved to be the most effective way to go about education at SLUH during the pandemic.

“The primary thing we

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NEWS

World Quest

Where even is Uzbekistan? The 5 seniors that represented SLUH in the WorldQuest competition knew that and a lot more! *Page 2*

OPINION

Ongoing Conversations

In the finale of his series, Jacob Sprock asks for SLUH to continue working to create an environment of acceptance. *Page 2*

NEWS

Language program

Pack your bags, we’re headed to Turkey! One dedicated senior is preparing to spend next year immersed in another culture. *Page 4*

SPORTS

Golf

At this point, even lightning can’t stop SLUH golf! Varsity squad dazzles in Webster Cup, beating dozens of schools. *Page 5*

SPORTS

Volleyball

The wins just keep rolling in for SLUH Volleyball. Undefeated SLUH team bumps, sets, and spikes past DeSmet and Vianney. *Page 5*

SPORTS

Baseball

Baseball swings for the fences, brings home two wins in dualing upset of Lafayette. *Page 6*

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COMMENTARY

The conversation doesn't end here: keep fighting for LGBTQ+ acceptance

BY JACOB SPROCK
NEWS EDITOR

Editor's Note: This article is the last of a series of articles addressing the difficulties of life at SLUH for members of the LGBTQ+ community in an attempt to raise awareness of their daily struggles and start a conversation on ways that we as individuals and as a school can change our habits to be more inclusive of LGBTQ+ individuals. The writer interviewed over a dozen alumni and is pulling from those interviews for each of the articles.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

It's hard to put into words the mixed bag of feelings I carry with me now as I write what will be the concluding article in the

Ongoing Conversations Series. What a journey it's been. To recap, following a brief introduction to the series in December, we covered harmful language, representation in curriculum, mental health, and solutions to these problems, focusing the scope on their effects on the LGBTQ+ community at SLUH. We've heard testimony of homophobic speech, lacking visibility, and struggles for belonging—recounts of frustration, isolation, and despair. The conversations I've had and the process of writing these articles have changed me as a person, and I am grateful for the experience. I hope those who followed along have a similar takeaway.

So as I wrap up the series, there are a couple more things I'd like to talk about, both of which have to do with the above quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

To start off, I'd like to clarify the reasoning behind writing this series in the first place. Based on the tone of these articles and the level of criticism they offer, it's understandable if one assumed that I and the people I interviewed harbor resentment or contempt for SLUH. But I love SLUH—more so than I've loved most things in my life so far. I can't imagine my life without Saint Louis U. High and am grateful for the friends I've made, the teachers I've had the opportunity to know, and experiences, both difficult and fun-filled, I've had here. It's easily one of my favorite places to spend my time, especially when I'm going through something difficult, and many of the people I interviewed share that same fondness for SLUH. Despite having difficult, stressful, and for some, traumatic experiences

while at SLUH, every single person expressed an admiration for SLUH.

Therein lies the key. It's because I and so many others love SLUH that we felt it necessary to write this series. It's our collective vision for how much greater this wonderful school can still become that urges us to point out where it falters, akin to how a close friend voices concern over detrimental behavior or concerning decisions—out of love.

With that, I'd like to address my second topic: the future of the Ongoing Conversations Series. I'll be graduating from SLUH in May and will be moving on to college, but that doesn't have to mean the end.

As I stated earlier in this series, it's oftentimes much easier to complain about issues than to do something about them. In that same vein, it's also easier to

read about the issues afflicting a community than to get to work fixing the problem. With the conclusion of this series, I implore all who have accompanied me on the journey to continue to work for change.

The goal of this series, which I think I've made clear with my conclusion to each article, has always been to start a conversation. I did not expect it to usher in sweeping change and do not expect to see that even in the next couple of years. It's a slow process and one that needs the cooperation of generations of SLUH students to accomplish, but there has already been progress. After years of pushing for it, Ongoing Conversations became an official club of SLUH this year, offering a voice and comfortable space for people identifying as LGBTQ+. On top of that, this week marks the first

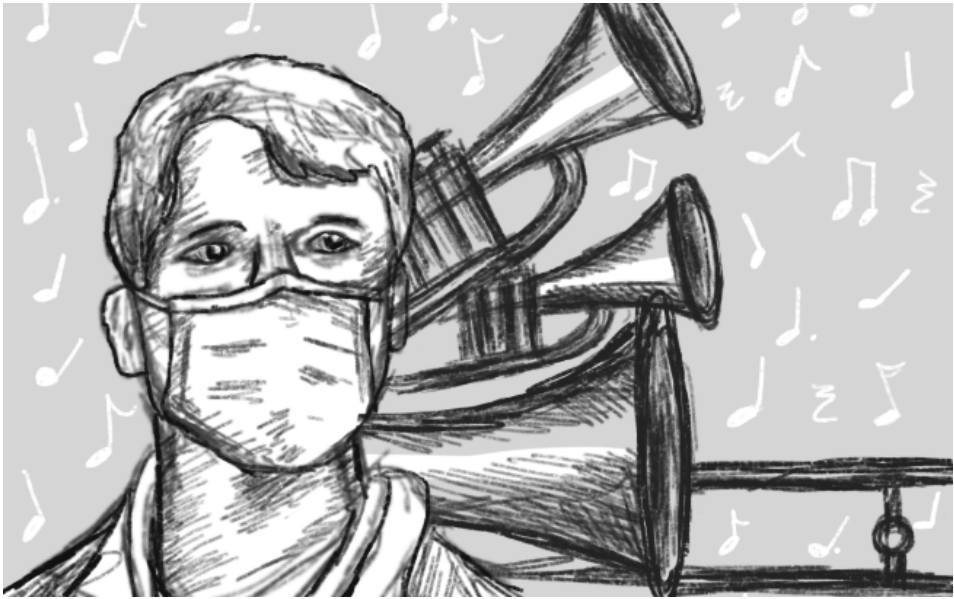
ever Awareness Week for the LGBTQ+ community at SLUH. Change is on the horizon, and though the sunrise is slow, it is inching toward a brighter future for LGBTQ+ individuals.

If there's anything I hope readers of this series can take away, it's this: despite the difficulties that can come with identifying as LGBTQ+ at SLUH, there is hope for change so long as the conversation doesn't die.

Thank you to all the people who contributed to these articles—every student who was brave enough to tell their story, every teacher who was compassionate enough to reflect on these issues, every friend who inspired me, every supportive peer, and most importantly, every single person who has taken the time to read this series. It's now up to you, reader, to keep this conversation ongoing.

COMMENTARY

Drumming up interest: four years of jazz



art | Nathan Rich

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With it being just two weeks from my last day as an active Jr. Bill, reflection on the past four years has become rampant. However, one peculiar thing keeps popping up in my mind: music. Music was an undiscovered passion of mine and it would take the skillful guidance of the SLUH Band program (under the direction of

Mr. Pottinger) to help me realize that passion.

I never felt fulfilled when I played in the middle school band. I only kept doing it because there weren't any better options.

After hearing the SLUH Jazz Band play during the Open House and wanting to avoid the mandatory Fine Arts Survey Course for non-band students, I enrolled in the Concert Band here at SLUH. At the time of my band placement audition, I

had decided I wanted to play the drum set.

That's where Mr. Pottinger comes in. He emailed me the contact information of Kevin Gianino, a private drum instructor, to get me started. A quick Google search revealed to me that he was well known for teaching jazz.

I was not familiar with jazz, having really only listened to it a couple of times. I thought that it was simply elevator music.

However, during my first lesson, I decided I would give this little thing called jazz a whirl, mainly to compete for a coveted spot in SLUH's Jazz Band.

My lessons over the summer gave me a solid foundation to play with Jazz 3, the lowest Jazz Band on the totem pole. What I learned most from my initial lessons with Mr. Gianino and my time in Jazz 3 is that jazz wasn't just elevator music. Instead, it was exciting and fun and interesting to listen to. It wasn't as in your face like rock and metal but a delectable delicacy, an acquired taste, especially for those who knew the work and artistic vision that went into every song. Some songs were exciting, some were sorrowful, but the beauty of jazz is that every emotion can be so eloquently captured, even without vocals. In my sophomore year, I spent my time practicing and studying with Doc, aka Dr. Koestner. To Doc, I wasn't just a beginner, and he held me to that standard, pushing my limits of comping and other improvisation on the set. He did wonders in teaching me how to read drum charts, interpreting them, and fitting

musically into the ensemble. Yet, the most important thing that I think I learned that year was the role that listening to jazz can play in becoming a better jazz musician. I created a playlist entitled "Respectable Jazz" with some of the best modern and standard jazz tunes. I would play it all the time, and this playlist is what really jump started my love for jazz. Junior year, I could tell I had become decent, but not anywhere near where I wanted to be. But junior year was special. It was not just my first year in Jazz 1, our top Jazz Band, but also the year we would be performing at the Missouri Music Educators Association Conference, a huge honor for the program. I hadn't gotten us into the conference, that was the previous year's drummer. With just two years of Jazz experience under my belt at the time, I felt wholly unprepared for the complexities that went along with performing in front of a bunch of knowledgeable music educators. I couldn't mess up or miss a beat or they would all know. I had to buckle down and practice as if my life depended on it in order to not make a fool out of myself. Mr. Pottinger trusted

me to prepare and I performed up to his standard.

Senior year, the pandemic hit in full force. Many people quit clubs, overcome by the additional stress of the pandemic. But instead of hanging up the drumsticks, I buckled down and challenged myself even more. I joined a group named the Slums (St. Louis Underground Music Scene) and found a passion for busking (street performing). It all peaked with me being named to Districts, my goal since Freshman year when my love of jazz began to form.

I want to thank Mr. Pottinger for setting all the beforestated events into action and creating a challenging yet fun environment to play music in. Without the SLUH Jazz program I would have never grown to be so passionate about music.

It's safe to say that I have grown a lot since I first dipped my feet into the waters of jazz. Learning the art form of jazz has changed me, given me a new way to express myself, bond with others, and show who I am. Jazz for me has become much more than music, it's become a passion, and a way of life.

World Quest team finishes tenth in national competition

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL
AND JACKSON COOPER
NEWS EDITOR, STAFF

Saint Louis U. High's Academic WorldQuest team was hard at work in room M114 this past weekend, taking part in a national competition for the first time in SLUH's history.

Academic WorldQuest is an annual competition in which different high schools compete against others in a series of trivia-style multiple choice questions. The multiple choice questions are divided into ten categories focused on current events around the world, with 100 total questions. The topics for this year consisted of global protests, the Arab Spring, Uzbekistan, the post-pandemic economy,

foreign service, International Labor Organizations, current events, great decisions, fraying alliances, and peace in a world of conflict.

This year's team came together at the beginning of the second semester, when social studies teacher Sarah Becvar, who moderates Academic WorldQuest, extended an invite to students in her AP Comparative Government class to try out. At the end of the tryouts, a five person team emerged: seniors Ben Walsh, Andrei Chura, Luke Wagner, Maurice Safar, and Kevin Hickey.

The members of the WorldQuest team quickly began studying around the various subjects, evenly splitting up the work. On Feb. 25, after

weeks of studying, all of their toil paid off as the team edged Wentzville High School's delegation by one point to win the local competition. This earned SLUH a spot at the national competition, which was to be held via Zoom on April 17.

In the aftermath of qualifying for the national competition, the members of the WorldQuest team began to ramp up their activity with regards to studying.

"Once we won the local competition, we started to feel like 'Yeah, we could win the nationals,' so we started really trying harder," said Walsh.

As the final competition approached, the WorldQuest team not only experienced a change in the intensity of their studying, but also in

their moderator as well. With Becvar giving birth to her third child, she decided to step back from the club while on maternity leave, and instead handed over the reins to Rob Hill, who is serving as a substitute teacher in Becvar's classes for the remainder of the year.

Despite the shift in moderators, the Academic WorldQuest team was still able to enjoy a successful run at the national competition. Out of 177 teams from across the United States, SLUH's delegation finished tied with California's Palm Desert High School for tenth place.

"It was rather a different experience from last time," said senior Andrei Chura. "It was a lot more tense and quiet in the room when we were an-

swering the questions. It was much more exciting last time. I remember standing up at the board like pointing out what answer I thought was correct and there was all kinds of movement around the classroom. However, this time, it was a lot more calm and quiet."

While the team performed admirably, according to Chura, he felt that the team did not perform as well as it did in the preliminary round.

"There were a couple of rounds that we did really well on last time, like a 10/10 or 8/10, but this time, we got more 6/10s," said Chura. "For example, we had a perfect score on the Uzbekistan category last time, but this time, we scored 6/10. It just shows that we should have studied

more even in the categories that we had done well last time."

The schedule has now ended for the Academic WorldQuest team, and it will wait until next winter before competing again.

"It really does make you learn about different parts of the world, the moving parts going on throughout the regions of the world. For instance, Uzbekistan on its own is honestly not the most important country out there, but it really does tell you about how the resources, geographical location, like what country you're situated next to kind of affects the economy and standard of living in the country," said Chura.

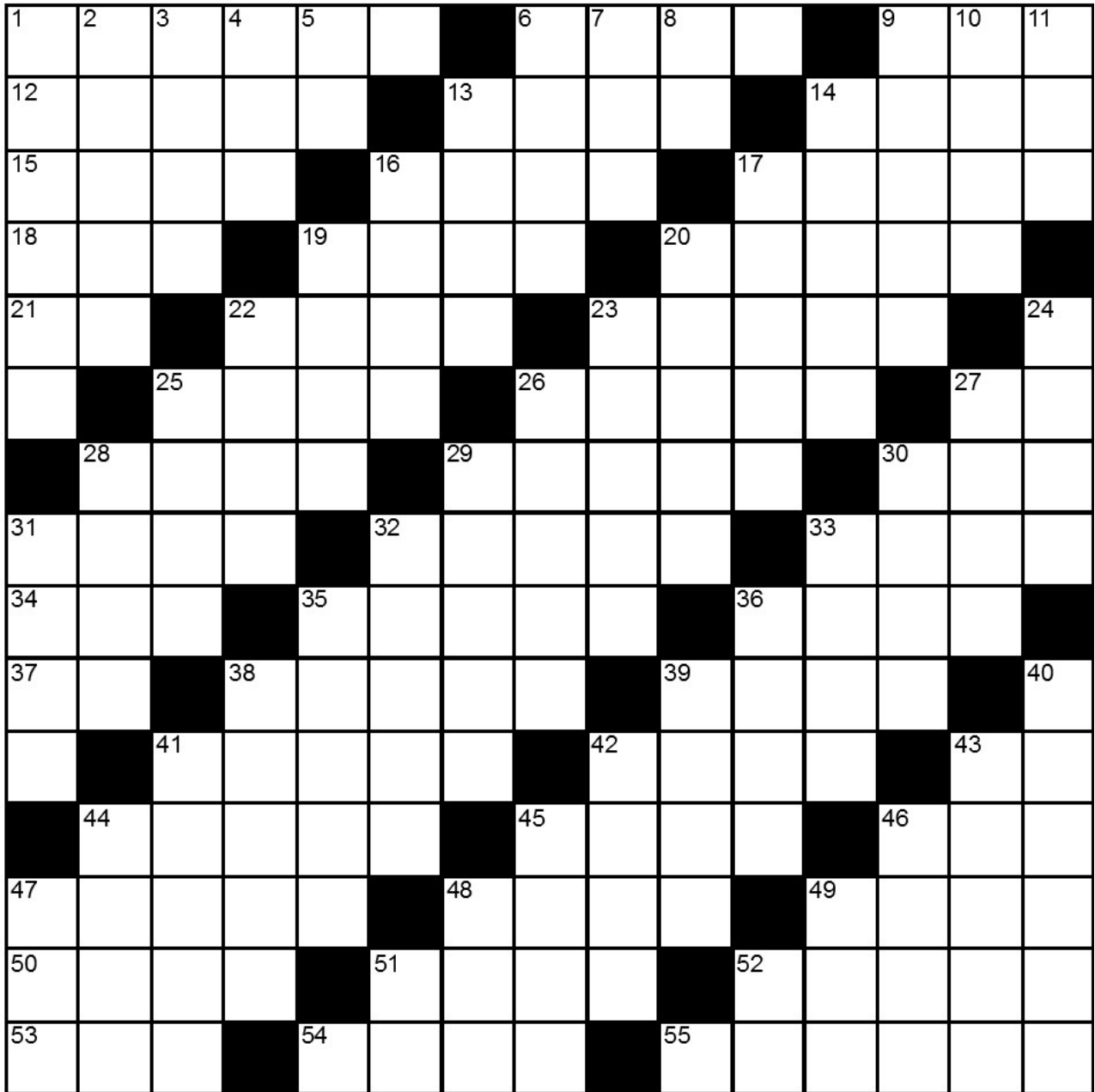


photo | Mr. Paul Baudendistel

- ACROSS**
1. Home sick
6. Microwave
9. Transport for up to 15 people
11. *Lucky Jedi Skywalker?
12. *Bright director Lee?
13. *Blemished singer Garfunkel?
14. *Brisk detective Ventura?
15. *Coffee-loving actress Gardner?
16. Setting for hair
17. Defense for Hank in 18-Across
18. *Finding* _____
19. *Electromagnetic musician Charles?
22. Out of juice
23. Love, in León
25. Medal metal
26. Rosebud, e.g.
27. 11-Across's father, as a boy
28. *Judgy producer Shankar?
- AROUND**
5. Tennis boundary
8. Barrel of powder
10. Picnic parader
20. Barbie's beau
21. Disrespectful man
37. Too
40. Tesla, Prius, et al.
50. Kyoto currency
51. Buzzing noise
52. Emeril exclamation
- DOWN**
1. It has the most countries
2. Tasteless
3. Vacuum specialty
4. Scrape (out)
6. *Blue casting director Kaufman?
7. Spanish article
9. *Different painter Scheffer?
10. Type of wrestling
12. Unit possibly based on waist size or stride length
13. Wash and _____, not needing 49-Across
15. *The Grapes of Wrath* family
16. *Pushy rocker Stewart?
18. *Meaty quarterback Manning?
19. Cyclops, Wolverine, et al.
20. *Pivotal coach Saban? (in New York)
22. Extinct flightless bird
23. Origin of the first letter
24. Son of Cain, or father of Methuselah
25. *Rancid actress Adams?
26. *Slobbery host Sajak?
27. _____: *Battle Angel*
28. Thigh muscle
29. *Buttery author Tolstoy?
30. Bear the _____ (main point of impact)
31. The ugly duckling
32. Fully aware of
33. Setting for an oven
35. *Wealthy trainer Ketchum?
36. Containers for water or toothpaste
38. _____ metal, genre of Bon Jovi and Def Leppard
39. _____ in *Toyland*
40. *Revealing hoopster Carter?
41. *Tiny quarterback Brady?
42. *Useful coach Reid?
43. Emotionless, like Hiccup's dad
44. *Noodly actor Cheadle?
45. Master, as of Flies or Rings
46. Major and Minor bears
47. Hey, in Jalisco
48. *Ultimate host Sullivan?
49. Ending for cord or part

Satire: Admin announces SLUH Summer Bed and Breakfast to make up funds

BY JACOB SPROCK AND NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL
NEWS EDITORS

This past Wednesday, April 21 the administration announced that SLUH will be turned into a bed and break-

fast over the summer in an attempt to make up the funds lost due to the pandemic. The funding will go to getting new coffee pots for all the teachers. “We thought it was a splendid idea,” said an anonymous SLUH administrator,

making eggs and bacon on the spare hot plates in the chem lab. “We’ve had to add a shag carpet to the hallways to really get that ‘bed and breakfast’ feel and to make it seem a little less haunted at night.” Not much is known

yet, but rumor has it that the renovations on the rooftop are for the jacuzzi that’ll be part of the science-wing suites. More is to be announced at the end of May, a press conference to be held at the International House of Pancakes.



art | Nathan Rich

Taco Bell’s Quesalupa is worthy of its \$3 price

BY SAM TARTER
FEATURES EDITOR

If you know me and my relationship with food, you will know three things: 1) I love cheese, 2) I love crunchy fried things, and 3) I love Taco Bell. It’s a running gag between my siblings and I how many fast food apps I have on my phone, most notably Taco Bell. I won’t get into the many reasons why I have them (coupons, deals, etc), but now I can validate at least one of those

apps for one key reason: they told me about the Quesalupa. This Taco Bell menu item is not completely new—it was first introduced back in 2016—but boy does it feel like a classic: a typical chalupa (a taco but with a crunchy, puffy shell) filled with your expected combo of ground beef, lettuce, tomatoes, shredded cheese, and sour cream, but its elevated with a cheese stuffed shell that is both crunchy, gooey, and flavorful, making every bite just that much better than

anything else on the menu. Is it absurd? Yes. Is it unnecessary? Probably. Is it better than any other cheese stuffed, Quesadilla-hybrid food on the fast food market? Absolutely. Sitting in the parking lot of my local Taco Bell, I unwrapped this golden crusted delicacy and got started. The first bite didn’t surprise me much, since I barely got into the cheese in the center of the shell, but once I got into my second and third bite, I was in heaven. The cheese was

the perfect consistency, gooey enough to string and pull out with each bite, but not too solid to clump together and get stuck in your throat. The greasy crunch of the shell in combination with the natural crunch of the lettuce and tomato was a nice contrast to the very soft layer of the ground beef and lower part of the shell. Ultimately, everything together worked perfectly—the

flavor, the cheeses, the consistency, and the good mix of crunch and soft bites. While everything on the inside was your standard expectation from Taco Bell, the new addition of extra cheese baked into this crunchy, fried Chalupa shell made every bite even better, and was definitely well worth its \$3 price. Altogether filling, fattening, delicious and indulgent, I would give Taco Bell’s newly

resurrected Quesalupa a 10/10. Not only is it so completely ridiculous that you have to try it, but the flavor of this filling meal is much better than anything Taco Bell has delivered before. Skip the sauce packets on this one, as it’s already filled to the brim with all the flavors and condiments you could use, and be sure to ask for extra napkins, for your hands, mouth, and bib (if that’s your thing).



photo | Sam Tarter

Come Bake Bread!

Next Tuesday (April 27th) the Farm to Table team is hosting a Bread making class!

It will take place in the Currigan Room from 2-4 P.M.

If this is something that you would like to join, please RSVP to their email by 5:00 P.M. Friday

Sisyphus editors work hard to produce full-color print edition for spring

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second edition last year the pandemic hit, leaving them with no other choice but to cancel it.

Sisyphus is typically released two times every year in the winter and spring. However, the moderators, English teacher Frank Kovarik and Retired English teacher Richard Moran decided that it would be easier to release four mini-issues throughout the year and one big print issue at the end of the year that compiled everything along with new submissions.

“(It was) harder for us as a staff to get together and it’s a little bit harder to reach students who might be interested in writing,” said Kovarik. “So I think that that’s why we’ve tried to do the mini-issues that we did to kind of keep the magazine on the radar of the school and keep people interested in writing and reading.”

“This year, we felt we didn’t have the ability to do the conferencing that we need to do in the first semester, and that we would instead publish some online issues and lean pretty hard on our layout editor,” said Moran.

The 60-page magazine will also be the first full-color Sisyphus in its entire history. Typically only the centerfold and cover are in color.

Kovarik said, “I think it’s a very physically attractive, visually stimulating issue. It’s a compilation of all of the pieces we published digitally this year. In addition to a number of new pieces as well.”

“It’s really something that we could afford to do because we didn’t put out a print issue in the first semester . . . we splurged on this issue, and it made it a lot easier to deliver art in its full splendor,” said Moran. “That trend really started with the online issues which the layout editors did a great job with using color and the color really comes through. It’s really kind of brilliant to look at, I think.”

Even with the year being as crazy as it is, the magazine features great prose and poetry.

“There’s a fantastic story by Corey Lyles entitled ‘Aka Manto’, which I would describe as a chilling piece of horror,” said Kovarik.

“The other big prose piece that we have is a story by Bill George, a story based upon his growing up in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania,” said Moran, “It’s a longer story that is about young boys and girls and some social pressure that they feel; it’s a nice story.”

A poem by senior Albert Harrold entitled “Saggin’” described his life experiences.

“I think it’s very relevant for this particular moment in our nation’s history as it has been kind of going through a racial reckoning,” said Kovarik.

“‘Saggin’ by Albert Harrold is a cry of pain about the experience of growing up

and being African American in our country,” said Moran. “What I admire about it is that it starts from the personal—not from the political—and conveys that experience pretty deeply I think.”

In fact, the circumstances around the pandemic even inspired some art like senior Luke Missey’s “Scenes From an Early Spring: An Allegorical Anthology.”

“Luke wrote his poetic series during walks that he took,” said Kovarik. “When he was in school virtually he had more time on his hands and he went for a lot of walks, and those walks inspired the poem that he wrote, so I think there’s an example of how the pandemic actually helped to create some of the art.”

“They seem to be based upon Luke traveling all over the Valley, Kirkland countryside and observing things that he sees . . . kind of observing them with his experience of reading Dante in the first semester,” said Moran. “It is threaded with allusions to Dante but also based upon things he can see in the Meramac Valley.”

Beautiful and colorful art adds to the splendour of the magazine.

“I think it’s a particularly rich edition for art,” said Moran. “The color I think is particularly striking. There is a bright and intriguing digital art piece of an astronaut kind of floating in space with a helmet on and the other is of a parrot’s head. And that makes them seem completely different from coloring and posing together and it feels like a unified cover for the magazine.”

More notable art includes the masthead photo by Patrick Zarrick, a pen and ink drawing of a skull by sophomore Alex Deiters, and a colorful oil pastel of starburst by senior Brendan McLaughlin.

This will be the last Sisyphus for the senior Editors.

“I’m happy I got to be a part of the club all these years,” said senior art and literary editor Philip Hiblovic. “I think it is one of the best parts about SLUH.”

“I’m proud of the work that the seniors have done over there for years,” said Kovarik. “I hope it’s something that they can hold on to and be proud of as they go into college.”

Everyone involved in the production hopes that this will be an example of unity despite the difficulties of this year.

“This year hasn’t been easy but I am proud of the work we were able to do,” said Duffy.

“I find this very encouraging and uplifting that we were able to come together as a staff to create a beautiful artifact of the creativity of the people in our school,” said Kovarik. “It’s an act of hope and resistance to the despair of the Covid era.”

SLUH searches for new AP for Academics

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faculty, students, and wider community.

“We have a lot of outside voices here, and those are great. I’m one of them. I’m not a graduate. I’ve been serving at schools outside of our province for a long time,” said Gibbons. “But, we’re a community internally that can be pretty bold and can think in ways that are not just very conservative institutionally. I think giving people that have spent a lot of time in this institution a chance to move up at this school is important, particularly to their professional growth.”

The news comes as Gibbons has been envisioning the structure of his administrative team. Gibbons sees

this change as an opportunity to make the administration more systematic.

“I’ve been looking at redesigning the administrative structure, and about three years ago, I put together some plans for what proposals for that would look like. The different roles have evolved over time based on the individuals, what they enjoy doing, what they’re really good at doing, but it’s not systematic. It’s not representing the real bigger needs of the school so I am looking at reconfiguring those elements,” said Gibbons. “We’d certainly been looking at reframing that role and that maybe becomes a question of what are we looking for in the successor to Mr. Becvar.”

Students, faculty react to decision to keep block schedule

(continued from page 1)
were looking at is what is safe to keep us open, and will we be able to positively affect instruction,” said Gibbons. “It’s not perfect but it’s the one that’s going to be able to get us to the final point to the pandemic.”

The block schedule has been the best choice for the pandemic for multiple reasons. For one, fewer classes a day means less movement around the building. If a student receives a positive Covid case, they will have had less contact throughout the day if they attended four classes as opposed to seven. The administration’s primary goal has been to keep the number of quarantines to a minimum.

While the pandemic seems to be rapidly fading as many in the SLUH community and beyond get vaccinated, these precautions will be necessary until herd immunity is reached. Additionally, a significant portion of the student body is still younger than 16, and so can’t be vaccinated yet.

For all these reasons, the administration decided maintaining the block sched-

ule was the best choice for next school year. The bigger decision point, according to Gibbons, will be for the 2022-2023 school year.

“Things like graduation requirements, grading and assessment, and our school schedule, those are significant priorities, and are going to be really jumped upon next year in preparation for post-pandemic,” said Gibbons.

To assess these areas of SLUH Academics that could potentially be adjusted after the pandemic, the administration assembled the Strategic Summit Team. The team will focus on scheduling and academic development while the Pandemic Response Team continues to address the priorities of the pandemic.

“We want to not be a school where the pandemic ends and we look around and say, now what, what are we going to do?” said Gibbons. “We also don’t want to be a school that just tries to do everything.”

While the decision to keep the block schedule was mainly for Covid reasons, many members of the SLUH

The school will be looking at two candidates and interviews for the position began yesterday. The candidates will be interviewed by the administrative team and the department chairs, and they will be assessed on their organization, communication, interpersonal, and leadership skills.

“I think they need to be very detail-oriented, I think they need to be organized. They need to be visionary. They need to be open-minded and able to address conflicts and tensions, and even paradoxes, with professional diligence and an assumption of the good in dealing with this,” said Gibbons. “Obviously they need to be very smart, engaged, and have a

deep love of SLUH students and the mission of the school.

With all the work as Assistant Principal for Academics that Becvar has done for the school throughout his 48 years, the future assistant principal will have large shoes to fill. However, Gibbons has faith in the interview process and is hopeful that the new assistant principal will surely be up to the challenge and expectation placed on him or her.

“Mr. Becvar has been here for a long time, and he surely has made a mark on this school with all that he has accomplished throughout his time here,” said Gibbons. “I have a great respect for the candidates involved in the process.”

faculty have differing opinions on the schedule.

“I find that it makes for, overall, a healthier environment especially for students,” said AP Spanish teacher Magdalena Alvarado. “You know, we have a lot of craziness in our life and, I guess, any chance we get to slow down is good.”

Alvarado added that she was only able to cover three of the six AP themes this year. However, this was in part due to the hybrid schedule in the first semester, which will not be returning next year.

“I think we’ll get a far better sense next year of what we like and don’t like about the block schedule than we do this year,” said social studies teacher Tim O’Neil. “This year was strictly for pandemic reasons; next year, we’re forecasting that we will look at a more normal school year with block scheduling.”

Many teachers agree that a pandemic year does not offer a fair assessment of how the block schedule works at SLUH.

“I feel that I can operate effectively out of any schedule,” said math teacher Don-

ald Steingrubby. “The hard part is that there seem to be more gaps of time where you don’t get to check in with your students. Math is something that’s nice when you can reinforce it daily, and it kind of becomes a challenge to do that in a block.”

Students, as well, have varying opinions about the block schedule.

“The block schedule is good because you have less work out of school and more time to do it,” said sophomore David Hunt.

“I have really appreciated the block schedule this year because it has allowed me to do a lot of extracurricular activities and still manage my homework,” said junior Nathan Rich.

While some students have seen significant benefits to the block schedule, others have found it to be less beneficial to their academic lives.

“It makes people less productive,” said sophomore Eric Pudlo, citing the tendency of students to procrastinate with more time to do their assignments.

“The block is too clunky and too confusing,” said sophomore Mark Faulkner.

Two students selected for NSLI-Y program



photo | courtesy of SLUH Facebook

Leo Wagner (left) and Luke Wagner (Right)

BY ROARKE UNRAU
CORE STAFF

Two students were accepted into the NSLI-Y Intensive Language Program where they will be able to study a foreign language abroad for a year. The program is organized by the US State Department and has been given students the opportunity to further their proficiency in a foreign lan-

guage since 2006. Senior Luke Wagner will be going to Turkey to study language and culture, while senior Leo Wagner was accepted to the year-long immersion experience in Morocco but has decided to go to Naval Academy instead.

After being attracted to the program via an email sent from Director of Global Education Rob Chura, the two Wagners—who are not relat-

ed—applied for the chance to study a language abroad.

The two students had participated in a similar language intensive program over the summer last year, where they would have been able to spend only two months abroad, but Covid-19 intervened and the program was forced online.

“I applied my junior year, I got in that year, and I was supposed to go to Morocco for about two months to study Arabic, but obviously that was cancelled once Covid and everything started,” said Leo Wagner. “So it was a virtual program, And I still learned a lot, but I don’t think it offered the same cultural opportunities as what I would have had if I would have been able to go abroad.”

Luke Wagner will be spending next year in Turkey.

Although Luke applied early decision to American University in Washington D.C., he will be deferring the year for the program.

“The main goal of the program is to learn the Turkish language and then also to connect with Turkish people,” said Luke. “I’ll have 10 hours of language instruction a week and then I’ll also be going to a local high school in whatever city I’m placed in, taking high school classes. And then once I get out of my high school classes, I’ll head over to the language institute and take two hours of class then be done at 5 p.m.”

Students who applied for the summer abroad program that the two Wagners participated in will find out later today if they have been accepted in the program.



Lacrosse brings Marco Cup back to SLUH, defeats tough De Smet team

(continued from page 1)
first,” said sophomore captain Curtis Bruen. “But with a little support from some of the best goaltending in the league (Will Barnidge) and lockdown defense, we were able to pick it up and play our game racking up points.”

Throughout the game, penalties became an issue for both teams, but SLUH’s offensive presence and effort from the midfield kept the Spartans scoreless for the majority of the game.

“The middies did the best they have all year at getting back and playing good, patient, but aggressive, defense,” said sophomore captain Joe Pottinger.

The Spartans answered with two late goals in the fourth quarter, but fate was sealed, leaving the Bills with a 8-2 win.

“I’m most proud of our team’s willingness to stay focused,” said sophomore Tim Browdy. “We spent a considerable time in the box but no one paid any attention to the distractions and we played our game and we got it done. It just felt really awesome taking down De Smet.”

And varsity’s final game at 2:00 p.m. continued to impress. The Jr. Bills, especially on defense, were faced with the problems of finding matchups for De Smet’s dangerous shooters. Defensemen like senior Luke Ratterman stepped up, holding De Smet’s top goal-scorer Gavin Bomstead to a zero-goal game.

“I just kept my eyes on his hips and watched film on what he does. I know he loves to go right and when he dodges he always ends up going back to his right,” said Ratterman. “Knowing that made my job a bit easier.”

The first half was full of



The team celebrating after sealing the win at home.

photo | Mrs. Kathleen Chott

turnovers in the midfield, with forced turnovers and trailchecks from both teams. Fastbreaks were common but failed to turn up any goals thanks to senior Bernie Kilcullen’s reliable clutch saves in goal. Though with a high volume of shots, one slipped through off of a fast break, putting De Smet in the lead. SLUH responded with a cross-country goal from defensemen Joe Weiss, along with another, but DeSmet had the momentum and dominated possession, heading to half-time with a commanding 6-2 lead.

“We (SLUH) really need to start out with that fire at the beginning of each game,” said junior Ted Leritz about the first half. “As a unit, we work really well together and I think we have a really good chemistry, we just need to get into that sooner.”

SLUH refused to accept a seemingly done game, and came into the second half with a vengeance. Keeping penalties down, the defense

adapted to De Smet’s offense and once again started causing turnovers.

“We had all our anxiety and we’re all hyped up and everything but we had to settle down. But once we did that, I think we had it all under control,” recalled Weiss.

With the ball on their side of the field, the offense now found shots landing all lacrosse the board, with strong wing play and matchups. Throughout the third quarter, the Jr. Bills took the momentum and charged to a tie game at 7-7 going into the fourth.

The scoring remained back and forth for the entirety of the fourth quarter. Ground ball domination as well as hustle plays on the defense and strong shot placement kept the Jr. Bills in the hunt. The long poles struck once again, this time with freshman LSM Marco Sansone taking a ripper on a fast break.

“I didn’t really even try to aim it, I just tried to shoot really hard,” commented Sansone. “It was a crucial goal,

and it felt good to give my team the lead again.”

De Smet once again responded, but in the final minute of play, captain midfielder Bobby Conroy netted the dagger, putting the ball in the back of the net to make the game 9-8.

“It felt surreal because I never would have thought myself to be in that position. So, it was just pure joy, really. But it couldn’t have happened without my teammates,” said Conroy.

Jr. Bills flooded the field following the game, as Fr. Marco gave a small speech to both teams and awarded SLUH the coveted trophy.

“The Cup was home and after a game like that, it just felt amazing,” said Ratterman.

The day closed with a Mass held by Fr. Marco on the football field for SLUH players and parents.

The Jr. Bills have continued practicing hard this week, keeping energy high for their game against MICDS this Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Baseball drops 3 of 5 against tough competition, upsets ranked Lafayette

BY COBY SPRATTE
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High varsity baseball team dropped three of its last five games in the midst of its toughest stretch of the 2021 season, bringing the Jr. Bills to a 5-8 record. Facing some of the best competition in the state with games against Lafayette, Westminster, Marquette, St. Dominic, and CBC, SLUH came up just short, losing by just one run to Westminster and Marquette and losing by two against CBC, but picked up impressive wins versus Lafayette and St. Dominic.

The Jr. Bills rode the momentum sustained from its pair of landslide victories against St. Mary’s on April 5 into arguably the toughest game on its schedule against Lafayette on April 15, the third-ranked team in the state.

SLUH came out looking like a State Championship caliber team straight from the get-go. Sophomore Garret Shearer got the nod for his third start of the season and tossed two

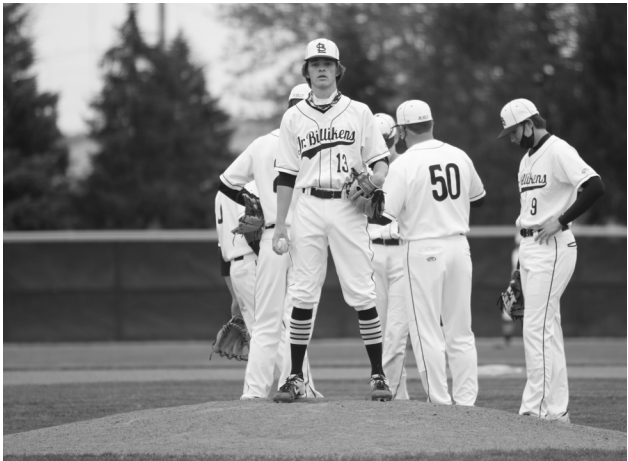
shutout innings, surrendering only one hit and no walks while striking out two. Shearer was aided by early run support as the offense pushed the Jr. Bills to a 3-0 lead by the end of the second inning.

Freshman Andrew Dumont followed suit, blanking the Lancers in the final five innings of the game, allowing only two hits and no walks while striking out five.

Sophomore Parker Guthrie added the exclamation point for the Jr. Bills in the top of the seventh inning, driving a two-strike, two-out, two-RBI double to the wall. The team was fueled by junior Alex Shelton’s four hit performance and junior Zach Petlanky’s two-hit day, as the Jr. Bills outhit Lafayette 10-3 en route to a dominant 5-0 upset win.

The Jr. Bills continued to carry the same passion and momentum into their next game, against fifth-ranked Westminster. Junior Tucker Thomas was given the nod on the mound, but failed to

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Senior Tommy Pollard preparing to pitch against Westminster.

photo |Mrs. Kathleen Cott

Rugby dominates Howell Force 87-5

BY JACK RYBAK
CORE STAFF

The St. Louis U. High rugby team blew out the Howell Force last Thursday, 87-5. Howell’s team didn’t stand a chance against the better conditioned and faster Jr. Bills.

The Jr. Bills started the game with a quick try for an easy lead of 7-0. After the return kick SLUH maintained the high ground with another successful score for a 12-0 lead.

Howell kicked to the Jr. Bills who then punted back at Howell’s 35-yard line. SLUH recovered the ball on the 50-yard line and ran out of bounds at Howell’s 25. A line-out resulted in Howell having possession, but SLUH’s defense held them back and eventually recovered the ball on Howell’s 12-yard line. A flick to senior Henry Bourneouf on the left hash resulted in a try and a successful

kick giving SLUH a 19-0 lead. Howell kicked to SLUH, which the Jr. Bills drove all the way to the 30-yard line. A pass to the left hash again resulted in another try for SLUH to make the score 26-0.

The Jr. Bills kept the momentum up with another massive drive to the 48-yard line. They broke loose with another drive to Howell’s 10-yard line. After a backwards pass the Jr. Bills put another seven on the board for a score of 33-0.

At the end of the first half, the Jr. Bills were still up 33-0. SLUH played a fast and aggressive game during the first half not giving Howell the opportunity to break free and score. The defense maintained their ground and didn’t give up many yards, while the offense picked up massive yardage at every opportunity.

To start the second half, continued on page 6

Volleyball still undefeated; prepares for first tournament of the 2021 season at Parkway Central

BY JACOB SPROCK AND
GEORGE HENKEN
NEWS EDITOR, REPORTER

We all know the taste of defeat—the cloudy state of mind, the slight pit in the stomach, the sudden weight of your body. It can be one of the hardest things to push through. Fortunately for the Saint Louis U. High varsity volleyball team, it’s an experience that they have not yet had to face (knock on wood).

Over the past week, SLUH’s favorite setters, divers, and ball-high-fivers played four teams: Chaminade, De Smet, Francis Howell Central, and Vianney. While the

games against Chaminade and Francis Howell Central were brutally played for the most part, the games against De Smet and Vianney proved to be two of the toughest yet.

The first of the two, which took place on Friday, April 16, consisted of the most ties and hostile statements towards refs yet of the ten SLUH varsity games this season. Though De Smet would prove to be a strong opponent, SLUH walked away from the match having won all three of the sets played despite missing two of their middle hitters. For the Jr. Bills, this match served as a taste of the level of competitiveness they’ll have

to face from the top teams this season.

At the start of the first set, SLUH took an early four-point lead thanks in large part to the service of senior outside hitter Peter Quinn—a lead that they kept for two more points before making a series of errors that brought the score back to a tie at 7-7. A competitive streak of ties ensued until De Smet pulled ahead for the first time in the game, overtaking the Jr Bills by one point at 13-12.

The lead proved to be fleeting, though, as a dump from Henken would put SLUH up again. SLUH went on to maintain their lead un-

til De Smet’s first timeout at 20-18, a timeout that SLUH took full advantage of, huddling significantly longer than the allotted one-minute time period.

Both teams came out of the timeout with a new fever, and a back-and-forth of points prompted another De Smet timeout, SLUH now one point shy of victory with a solid three-point lead over De Smet. Again, De Smet came out of their timeout energized and hungry, but their newfound energy proved to be fruitless, SLUH finishing the game on that point and effectively putting away their

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“This ain’t no hobby, fellas”; besting 21 teams in the past week, golf team snags second consecutive tourney victory

BY LOUIS CORNETT
CORE STAFF

In the words of professional golfer Kevin Kisner, “Team golf ain’t no hobby.” For the boys of St. Louis U. High golf, these words of wisdom are a reality. Following last Monday’s tournament win at Winghaven Country Club, the golf team continued their run of dominance this past week, beating 21 teams. Last Thursday, the Jr. Bills took care of business against Jesuit rival De Smet before preparing for the Webster Cup on Monday and Westminster on Wednesday. With green grass in their veins and trophies on their mind, the Jr. Bills won the Webster Cup by 8 strokes and beat Westminster by 22 on Wednesday.

Against De Smet, the Jr. Bills won by a score of 222-232. Junior Louis Cornett led the way with a 35, followed closely by junior Thomas Ziegler and senior Alex Tarlas, who both shot 36. The match was played on Redbud at Forest Park, a preview of where districts will be played on May 10.

“I was very pleased with the way we played against De Smet,” said head coach Dan Reardon. “I consider them a good team, not as deep as we are and we added a new reliable score in Alex Tarlas, making us even deeper.”

After the match against the Spartans, the Jr. Bills had Friday and the weekend off to prepare for the Webster Cup at Crescent Farms on Monday. Consisting of 20 teams and 100 players, the Jr. Bills were facing a difficult task, trying to win their second

tournament in a row. Among the tough competition was Chamiande, CBC, De Smet, and Marquette. Reardon selected the same team that sized at Winghaven—juniors Cornett, Sam Orlando, and Ziegler as well as seniors Pe-

The day of the tournament was picture perfect, with temperatures in the 70s. However, a chilly morning caused mild discomfort for the players teeing off early. Braving the high 40, Cornett was the first to tee off at 8:00.

the year with a four-over 76, which was good enough to tie for 9th place.

Sussman sent shock waves through the sparse galleries with his explosive play.

One deep through his first 12 holes, the captain was rip-

I took advantage and I scrambled well. I was a little disappointed with my score on the last six holes, but overall, I was happy with the overall score.”

Ziegler tied for 14th with a five-over 77 and Orlando struggled on the back

“100 percent, this was a statement win,” said Sussman. “However, there is still some left in the tank. We have been playing well but we need to keep putting our heads down and working because there are improvements to be made. We should not be comfortable here because the competition will be tougher as we will compete at Districts and at State.”

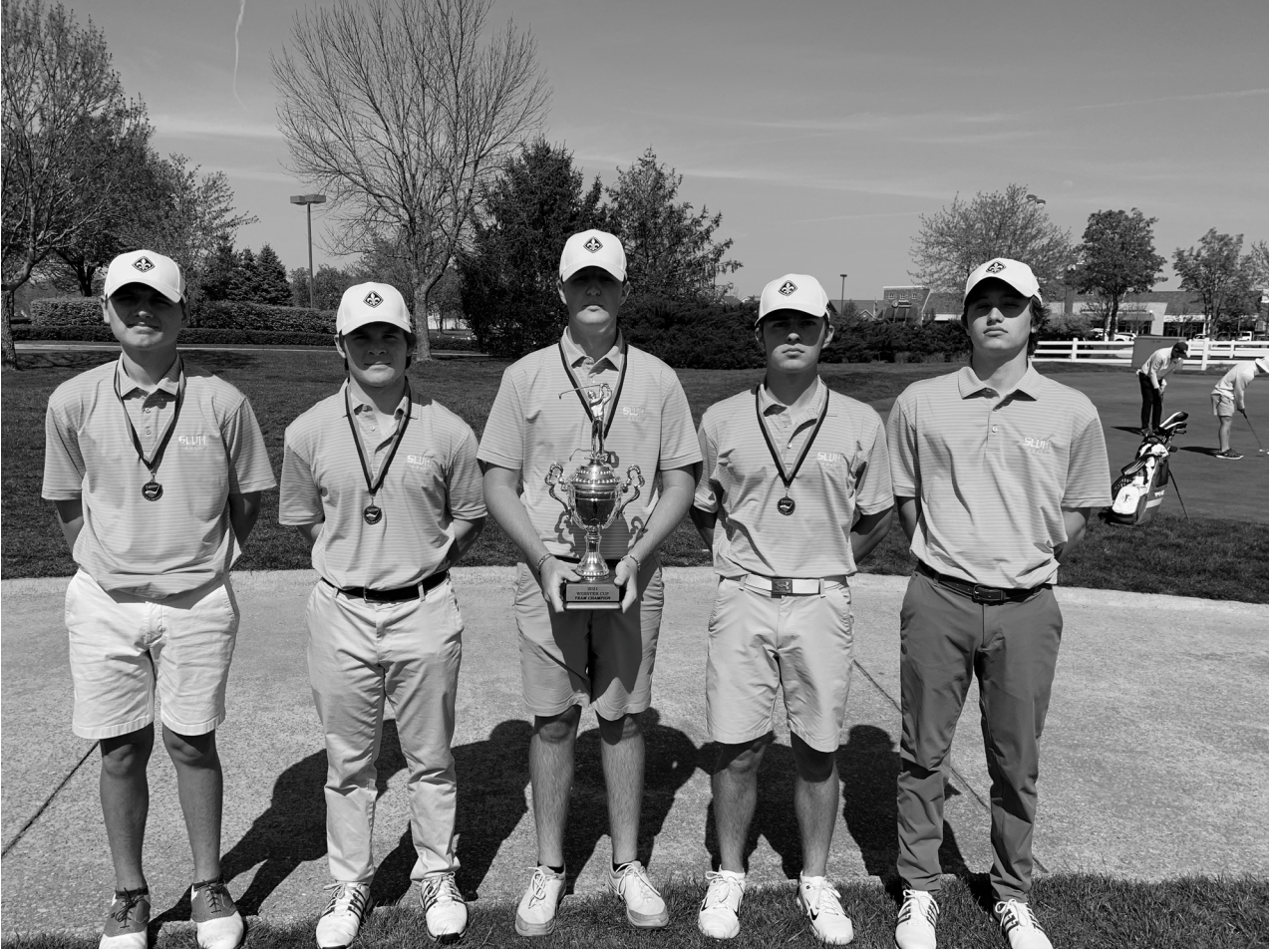
After a thrilling performance, the Jr. Bills looked to turn their momentum into another solid performance the following day against Westminster. However, the match was postponed due to snow and played this past Wednesday.

“I think that the test at Creve Couer is that the greens are fast,” said Reardon. “That has been a problem for us on the Varsity and I like how we are being put under the gun there.”

In windy and rainy conditions, the Jr. Bills struggled on a tough Creve Coeur course and their quick greens. However, their struggles were still much better than the futile attempts of Westminster and SLUH prevailed with a score of 246-268, a substantial margin.

The Jr. Bills look ahead to the Lake Forest Invitational on Monday, where they will send four players to try and capture their third consecutive trophy.

“Over the last two weeks, 41 schools have tried to beat us and none of them have,” said Reardon. “The closest any team has come is six strokes. Regardless of what we do the rest of the year, it has been a very impressive stretch.”



The team hoisting its second trophy in two weeks.

photo | courtesy of Louis Cornett

rotti and Sussman—and they came through with a score of 303.

“I worried that the golf course was not a good fit for us with all the water,” said Reardon. “The golf course does not play in straight lines, it turns a lot. The combination of successfully navigating the course and being the best in the field is progress for our team.”

He eagled the second hole he played but stumbled on the greens with three-putts on holes 4 and 8. He finished his front 9 at even, but sputtered on the back, bogeying 13 through 15. Cornett finished with a three-over 75 and tied for 6th overall.

Perotti followed Cornett off at 8:45 and provided his best tournament round of

ping d-stick, taking advantage of the narrow fairways with precise tee shots. Slipping a little on the back nine, Sussman finished with a one-over 73, a masterful performance which earned him a tie for third place.

“I wasn’t hitting the ball particularly well,” said Sussman. “But when I gave myself opportunities for birdie,

nine before rebounding with a solid front and finished with an 81 which tied him for 30th.

With four players once again in the 70s, the Jr. Bills waved to their opponents in the rearview mirror of the victory bus. A combined score of 301 gave the Jr. Bills their best tournament score of the year and an 8-stroke win over second place CBC.

Baseball loses in close game against Westminster; bullpen shines in late innings

(continued from page 5)

make it out of the second inning as he was plagued by walks. Junior John Loretta stepped up and limited the damage, keeping the deficit at two for the team. The Jr. Bills turned it around in the bottom half of the inning and tied it up on a two-RBI single up the middle courtesy of junior Patrick Mooney.

In the fourth inning, the Jr. Bills grabbed their first lead of the night, as Mooney picked up his third RBI with a sac fly to center. Yet, in the fifth inning, Loretta ran into some trouble on the bump. The team turned to junior Henry Hohn to try to shut the door, but it was to no avail, as the Wildcats scratched two runs across and grabbed a 4-3 lead.

Seniors Tommy Pollard and John Wimmer followed Hohn on the mound; Pollard put up two shutout innings and Wimmer pitched a scoreless seventh to give the Jr. Bills a chance. Junior Alex Shelton gave the team a viable opportunity to win with a one-out double off the wall in the bottom of the seventh, but, de-

spite this opportunity, the Jr. Bills couldn’t plate the tying run and lost the hard-fought contest 4-3.

The Jr. Bills quickly bounced back from the loss the night before to beat St. Dominic in dominant fashion. Junior Dennis ‘Scooby’ Jakubik threw the first four innings for the Jr. Bills, surrendering no hits, but allowing one run to score by virtue of his six walks. Guthrie pitched a dominant fifth inning, and senior Charlie Albus made his season debut closing out the game, allowing one run and striking out two over his two innings of work. The offense was clicking as seniors Andrew Loeffleman and Tyler Ridgway contributed multi-RBI days en route to a 9-2 Jr. Bills victory.

After this walk-in-the-park victory, the Jr. Bills faced a tough test against fourth-ranked Marquette for their second game of the day. SLUH landed the first punch with a three-run third inning as Shelton, Dumont, and Ridgway each tallied an RBI. Freshman Charlie Isom-McCall put one more run on the board for

SLUH in the fourth inning with the first RBI of his young career.

Shearer had the ball for his fourth start of the season and cruised through his first four innings of work, striking out five Mustangs. Yet he surrendered two runs in the bottom of the fifth and could not record an out before he was pulled for Guthrie. Guthrie allowed three hits and one run and recorded just one out before he was pulled for senior Jake Noonan. Noonan, making his first appearance since Opening Day, got the Jr. Bills back to the dugout, but their lead had been whittled down to one run.

The Mustangs did not scratch anything across in the sixth, but they did score one run to tie the game in the bottom of the seventh. Tempers had been flaring throughout the contest, and, as the game progressed into extra innings, both head coaches were ejected. The Jr. Bills were fired up, but they failed to scratch across a run in the top half of the eighth. Noonan diligently battled in the bottom half of

the inning, but walked in the Mustangs’ winning run in a 5-4 losing effort for SLUH.

The Jr. Bills entered their third MCC game of the season for their next contest with a game against CBC. Thomas got the nod, but failed to make it out of the second inning, surrendering two runs, one unearned. Dumont entered the game, but the defense committed three runs behind him and, in his 2.1 innings of work, allowed four runs, three of which were unearned. Loretta worked the next 1.1 innings and gave up one run which, again, was unearned.

Down 7-0, the Jr. Bills finally scratched two runs across in the sixth. Junior Coby Spratte kept the deficit at five with a shutout sixth inning, and the Jr. Bills continued to fight back in the seventh, but, ultimately, came up short and lost the game 7-5.

The Jr. Bills had a chance to rebound against the Cadets last night, and will look to best 5-6 Parkway South in a doubleheader tomorrow afternoon at Sheridan Stadium at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Rugby steamrolls Howell, look to continue hot streak

(continued from page 5)

Howell kicked to SLUH. The Jr. Bills quickly obtained possession, but an awry pass gave Howell the line-out on SLUH’s 15-yard line. The Jr. Bill defense quickly recovered and regained possession, but a tough back and forth between SLUH and Howell resulted in SLUH breaking away and carrying the ball all the way to the 46-yard line.

SLUH continued to push forward and eventually broke through Howell to pick up another seven points, making the score 40-0.

On the kick to SLUH, the Jr. Bills picked up the ball deep in their own territory, but carried the ball to the 38-yard line before being stopped by Howell. The Jr. Bills continued to pass the ball and carried it all the way to the 9-yard line. However, they were stopped when a Howell player had an injury.

After kneeling in respect for their enemy player, the Jr. Bills didn’t let the foot off the gas after a tough defense from Howell. SLUH brought the ball in for another five points making the score 45-0.

Howell began to push back, gaining serious yardage and pushing the Jr. Bills into their own 35 yard-line, but SLUH responded with a massive push that brought them all the way to Howell’s 45-yard line. Yet another sweep from the Jr. Bills gave them another seven points making the score 52-0.

Another score from SLUH gave them a plus five points for a total score of 57-0, however, SLUH’s defense let off the pressure and let Howell get a try for a score of 57-5.

SLUH’s offense soon steamrolled Howell, picking up several yards, until sophomore Caleb Schellenberg fell due to an ankle injury. However, SLUH picked up where they left off and kept the intensity high to pick up another five tries for a final score of 87-5 SLUH.

“The guys did a great job in many facets of the game and played hard the entire time,” said head coach Brian Corrigan. “Despite the lopsided score, both teams had a lot of fun and were supportive of each other. The Howell boys and coaches were very respectable and very classy.”

De Smet, Vianney tough matches for undefeated volleyball

(continued from page 5)
closest set at the time at 25-21.

This first set contained a total of ten ties, an oddity for a team that normally takes and maintains commanding control of the court in every set. The following set would not be so close, and the once-ecstatic De Smet bench would be notably quiet for the remainder of the game.

De Smet took a 2-0 lead early in the second set, but in a parallel to SLUH in the first set, they quickly lost it on a series of errors. The game stayed tight in the single digits until a three-point run from SLUH put them ahead 10-7.

The next six points were fairly back-and-forth, SLUH creeping ahead until a De Smet timeout at 14-9. In the point that followed, the game saw the first of many shouts at the ref, a shout of “No way!” coming from the SLUH bench when junior libero Craig Ortwerth was called for a double-hit. While SLUH outbursts were kept to a minimum, the shouts of disapproval from De Smet would only increase, reaching a climax in the third set.

SLUH continued to dominate in the following points, sophomore middle Will Blaisdell given the chance to shine

without the starting middles. SLUH won the set 25-18, their lead never dropping below five after their 15-10 pull-ahead.

In the final set of the game, SLUH established its dominance early, pushing until they were four points ahead of the Spartans. This is where the outrage with the refs started for De Smet.

“How is that a double-hit when we do it but not when they do it?” the opposing team’s head coach shouted over at the ref. Strike one. Timeout for De Smet at 10-4. The Spartans win the next point after multiple impressive blocks but begin to fall behind again. Another bad call from the head ref prompts another shouting match from the De Smet coach. Strike two. SLUH continues to dominate, now over ten points ahead of De Smet, and a missed call on a blatant lift from junior setter George Henken—a lift that scored another point for SLUH—pushes the De Smet coach over the edge.

“If you’re gonna make any calls at all, how about you make them for both sides, huh?” Cheers of support come from the De Smet bench, and a yellow card from the ref follows.

Head coach Jeff Cheak had some comments on the calls.

“Yeah, there were a bunch of questionable calls on both sides, and I think the ones he argued he was probably right on,” said Cheak. “Biggest thing that I challenged our guys was, ‘let’s stop worrying about the calls and let’s focus back on what we can control,’ and I thought our guys overcame bad calls. That’s what I challenged these guys to do smart mentally, and I loved it. Even though we got bad calls we just moved on. But yeah, it was definitely a factor for a little bit.”

SLUH went on to win the set 25-16, showcasing their best defensive and offensive abilities throughout. Notable in the game was the number of middle attacks De Smet set. With some of the best middles in the district, De Smet took advantage of SLUH’s missing middles, senior Michael Krausz out with a hurt left hand and sophomore Victor Lazzaretti out of town. The lower block in the SLUH’s middle position opened up the opportunity for De Smet to score a lot of points, especially in the first set. But SLUH had a chance to showcase its adaptability as a result,

upping its tight defense to that they could keep control of the second and third set. It was a good day for SLUH as they prepared for their next big match: Vianney.

The Jr. Bills saw equal competition with Vianney on Tuesday, April 20. The play between the two teams was back and forth the whole time, with many plays throughout that could have gone either way. However, SLUH persisted and outplayed their opponent, ending in a 3-0 win.

Although a rough start from the service line resulted in many free points to Vianney, the team started to find its rhythm with defense and offense early on in the first set. After many long rallies, SLUH pulled ahead 15-11 following a momentum-changing dig by junior libero Tanner Dougherty. Even after that momentum shift, Vianney had an answer with their hard hits and their big blocks. Vianney got within two points, but a kill by Quinn and a pair of hitting errors by Vianney led to a Vianney timeout at 20-15. Many long rallies later, the Jr. Bills won 25-20 with a block by Henken.

Set 2 was SLUH’s closest set of the season so far. The team started out hot with a

3-0 lead thanks to a kill each by Quinn and junior right side hitter Michael Yemm. After more consistent play by SLUH, Vianney called a timeout at 12-6. Vianney’s timeout worked, as the Griffins pulled to within two points, and SLUH was forced to call a timeout at 17-15. Once again, teams traded points back and forth until the end of the set. The set came to an end only after a kill by Yemm, ending the set 25-23.

The third was just as close as the previous two. The teams were tied 7-7, with hard hits coming from both sides. SLUH pulled away 10-7 after a serving run from Dougherty. Ortwerth followed with a lengthy service run of his own, leading Vianney to call a timeout at 15-12. Although Vianney continued their pressure on the Jr. Bills, defense led by the liberos was ready for anything that came their way. SLUH forged their way on to a comfortable 19-12 lead.

Junior Ben Harmon was the only bench player to come into the match, and he put up many challenging serves that got the Griffins out of system. Cheak has emphasized throughout the season that players on the bench need to

be ready to come in and play when they are needed, and Harmon did just that.

Vianney slowly started to pick away at SLUH’s substantial lead, closing the gap to two points. This put a scare in the Jr. Bills, prompting Cheak to call a timeout with SLUH up 21-19.

However, Dougherty finished off with a three-point service run, allowing Vianney no more points. Junior outside hitter Phillip Bone dug up a tough swing from Vianney, perfectly setting up Henken, who dumped the ball over on the second hit to win the set 25-19.

SLUH played great defense, allowing for an in-system offense on nearly every opportunity available. All three pin hitters were heavily relied on by Henken, and they outperformed expectations. Bone led the team with 14 kills, Quinn with 11, and Yemm with eight.

The Jr. Bills are set to compete in a two-day tournament hosted by Parkway Central tonight and tomorrow. They could possibly play Kirkwood and Lafayette, two talented teams that SLUH will need to beat later in May if they hope to capture their third consecutive State Championship.

Ultimate Frisbee faces hardest weekend of the season, falls to Ladue and De Smet

BY GRANT GRABOWSKI
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High varsity ultimate frisbee team faced the Ladue Rams on Friday, April 16 and rival De Smet on Sunday, April 18, dropping both matchups.

On Friday, the Jr. Bills took on Ladue’s varsity squad in what turned out to be the closest game of the season so far. The game began with the Jr. Bills making an early drive of two points but were met with equal response by the Ladue team. The biggest problem the Jr. Bills faced against Ladue were the Rams’ intense deep cuts to the end zone. These proved vital to the Ladue’s success as by halftime the Rams managed to utilize the deep runs to make the game 8-3, putting the Jr. Bills down by five going into the second half.

“Their fundamentals were much stronger than us,” said junior Tom Nguyen. “But, after the first half, we were able to notice our mistakes and learned to correct them.”

At the start of the second half, with the help of a “blue wagon” chant, the Jr. Bills were able to bring back the momentum and a comeback spirit to the game. SLUH opened the second half with a drive of two points and doubled that total a few minutes later, setting the stage for a big comeback.

“Something just clicked for all of us and we all just went ham on the field,” said Nguyen.

The Jr. Bills outscored Ladue 9-7 in the second half, but



Senior Bobby Rizzo against De Smet. photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott

it wasn’t enough for a comeback victory as Ladue held on to win 15-12.

The Jr. Bills’ other weekend matchup was against the De Smet Spartans. De Smet is notorious for its history in ultimate frisbee, as it holds multiple state titles and is often SLUH’s most competitive opponent every year. The Jr. Bills started the game with a strong offensive drive. Junior Tom Nguyen scored the first point of the game, which forced an early timeout call by De Smet. The team was extremely fired up after taking the early lead, but had to stay sharp as the game was far from over.

As the game progressed the Jr. Bills found success in a slowed tempo with shorter reset passes to side handlers and 5-yard to 10-yard passes to cutters. The handlers of both teams had possession for most of the game, and took huge control over end zone plays. They found great success in sending their throws long with a charged backhand or a driving hammer into the end zone.

“We have some great handlers who have a wide variety of throws,” said junior handler Nick Esson. “Teams don’t always expect hammer throws but our handlers were able to pull them off.”

By the start of the second half the Spartans had built up a 8-2 lead. The Jr. Bills tried to set the stage for a comeback but the Spartans kept the majority of possession of the second half only allowing three more goals in the second half. The final score came to 15-5, De Smet.

SLUH JV saw its debut last Monday, losing 10-9 to Ladue’s B team.

Now that both SLUH ultimate frisbee teams’ seasons are underway, they have four weeks of games left before playoffs. Varsity (1-2) is now on a bye week, and JV (0-1) is set to play Marquette this afternoon. Both teams are looking to amp up their defensive marks and strengthen cuts in the upcoming two weeks of practice for their upcoming games against De Smet and Cor Jesu on May 2.

Revamped tennis roster takes down CBC and Lindbergh, improves to .500

BY NATHAN RICH
CORE STAFF

After a start rife with ups and downs, the St. Louis U. High tennis team stabilized its roster and secured two big wins last week, bringing them back to a solid 3-3 record.

The first win came at Cadet Park on April 15. Traveling to CBC, the varsity team had high hopes. Plus, it was the exciting return of junior Henry Dowd to the courts for SLUH. In his No. 2 singles matches, Dowd dominated his opponent, winning 6-1, 6-0. The win, which propelled the Jr. Bills to a 6-3 victory, was significant for Dowd.

“It was good to be back with the boys. It was weird with springtime coming and not playing tennis. Not being out there hurt but it was good to just be back out there,” said Dowd.

The other varsity players saw similar results. Junior Gus Tettamble, playing No. 1 singles, won 6-0, 6-0 while No. 3 Luke Gund and No. 4 Josh Lombardi both won handily. Juniors Niko Nadreau and Jake Marison, despite playing strong from the baseline, ultimately lost their long and grueling singles matches to players with strong return games. The only other loss came at No. 3 doubles, played by Marison

and junior Nathan Rich. The doubles team, despite being down 1-5 early in the set, came back and played strong towards the end, losing 5-8. Still, the theme of the match was victory and the Jr. Bills brought their record up to 2-3.

After the win, SLUH’s next match was against Lindbergh on April 19. This match was also an exciting, dominant win, something the Jr. Bills haven’t dealt frequently this season. The match got off to a hot start as Nadreau and Lombardi at No. 2 doubles won their match 8-3. Dowd and Tettamble, on court one, faced a much tougher match, though. After being down 1-5, they ultimately pulled out an 8-6 victory over Lindbergh’s top team, which had a strong serve game and fought off net pressure well.

“We were down early but coach came up to us and just told us to play our game and be aggressive at the net. After that we started to play better. I feel like Gus and I, our chemistry just got a lot better and it was good to be back out there with him,” said Dowd.

Marison and Gund lost in No. 3 doubles 3-8, but they quickly shook that off and turned to singles, where both players won in very different fashions. While Gund handled his opponent 6-0,

6-1, Marison, in the longest match of the night, was able to come back after losing the first set to win 3-6, 6-4, 13-11.

Tettamble’s match against Lindbergh’s No. 1 seed, who placed 7th at State two years ago, was also significant. Battling through a wrist injury, he won 6-2, 6-4.

The only other opposition of the night was Dowd’s opponent at No. 2 singles. After losing his first set 4-6, Dowd rallied back and dominated the second set 6-0, then won the tiebreak 10-5.

The win against Lindbergh brought the team back to 3-3 and was a great way to start off a week that was supposed to be filled with matches. However, inclement weather on both Tuesday and Wednesday cancelled SLUH’s matches against Priory and De Smet. Still, assistant coach Jerry Schneller liked what he saw.

“Having Henry join the mix really stabilized our lineup and put us in a better position. At Lindbergh I saw everyone competing hard, and that was great to see,” said Schneller.

SLUH will play today in the Tournament of Champions hosted by MICDS. Their next match will be against Westminster on April 26.

Provincial meets with administration to discuss plans going forward

(continued from page 1)
Ian Gibbons, S.J. “So he knows our campus pretty well, and so this was a more limited visit.”

Before coming to the school, Greene received a preliminary report from the Provincial’s Assistant for Secondary Education providing a brief analysis and summary of the school.

“The summary is a three page document with the SWOT analysis for our school: its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats,” explained Gibbons. “And that’s one of the discussion points, and just how SLUH is doing during the meetings with the provincial.”

Throughout the day, the provincial sat down individually with President Alan Car-

ruthers, Gibbons, the Board Chair, and the Assistant Principal for Mission and Identity. During these meetings, they discussed how SLUH has been doing this past year, difficulties that may have arisen, and any problems that need to be addressed within the near future.

“I think when he decided who he wanted to see, he actually didn’t have time to do a full visit as he probably would’ve,” said Linhares. “The next time he comes, he’ll see more people. But he wanted to get a conversation with me I think from that mission and identity basis.”

Some topics for discussion were SLUH’s success with the Imagine 18 and Go Forth efforts and the response to Co-

vid-19.

“I was giving him my view of the strategic overview of where the school was coming out of all of this planning and where it seemed to be aimed for the future, and that led us to actually a good lengthy discussion of me summarizing what I thought were some of the strengths and advantages at this point in our history,” said Linhares. “We just talked through a bunch of opportunities and challenges and strengths and obstacles, that kind of thing.”

Being that we are in a global pandemic, the Provincial was impressed to hear about SLUH’s low Covid transmission rates.

“He was really, really pretty pleased. I think he knows

that nothing is perfect in this situation and that part of what you had to do to be successful with pandemic is get over how things weren’t going to be ideal,” said Linahres. “Having said that, I think he knows we did a super job.”

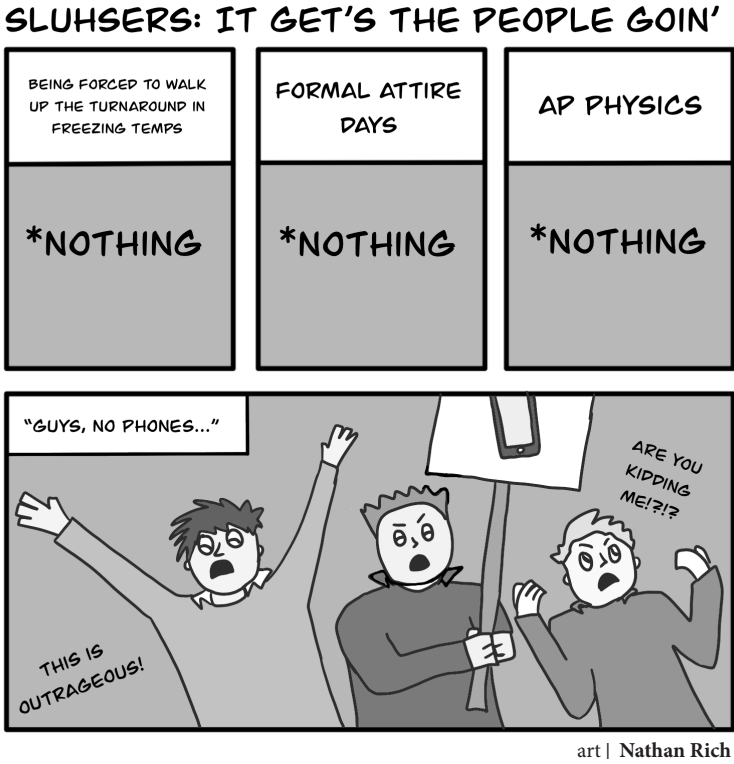
They also looked forward to the future of SLUH. Whether it be discussions about changing demographics in the St. Louis area or SLUH’s curriculum evaluations, much was discussed.

“I can tell you, it really was enjoyable,” said Linhares. “He’s a very good listener. And we had a lot in common. I really felt like at the end of the conversation. I learned a lot and he learned a lot and we did enjoy the exchange.”

One World Club Meeting: Food Justice in Our Community

The One World Club and the Farm to Table Team are hosting a joint meeting to discuss some of the most pressing issues relating to equity in food access.

When: April 28th from 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Where: Commons



art | Nathan Rich

Prep News

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George “watching volleyball film” Henken
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Moderator

Steve “twirling the cord” Missey

Calendar

Friday, April 23

B Day

Parkway Volleyball Tournament (V)
Rising Senior & StuCo President/VP General election with speeches
B Day
AL Snack—Bosco Stick
LUNCH Special—Chicken Day
9:00am Tennis Tournament of Champions (V)
1:50pm Tailgate
2:45pm MAGIS Parents Prayer Group
5:00pm JV/V Lacrosse vs MICDS

Saturday, April 24

Parkway Volleyball Tournament (V)
Marquette Volleyball Tournament (JV)
9:00am V Track and Field - Lafayette Invitational
11:00am C-Team Baseball vs Eureka
1:00pm Varsity Baseball vs Parkway South
2:00pm XV1 Rugby vs Jefferson City

Monday, April 26

A Day

Follies Rehearsal
AL Snack—Pizza Stick
LUNCH Special—Wrap Day
9:00am JV Golf - Kirkwood Invitational
9:00am Varsity Lake Forest Invitational
3:15pm Freshman Service day (tentative)
3:30pm JV Golf vs Westminster
4:15pm Tennis (V) vs Westminster
4:15pm JV Tennis @ Priory

Tuesday, April 27

B Day

Follies Rehearsal
Mass of Praise and Gratitude
B Day?
AL Snack—Chicken Nuggets
LUNCH Special—Pasta day
3:30pm C-Team Golf vs CBC
3:30pm JV Golf vs CBC
3:30pm Varsity Golf vs CBC
4:00pm C-Team? Track and Field - Jim Farrell Invitational
7:00pm NHS Induction Ceremony

Wednesday, April 28

A Day

Follies Rehearsal
A Day
AL Snack—Chicken Rings
LUNCH Special—Chicken Tenders
3:30pm JV Golf vs Priory
3:30pm Varsity Golf vs Priory

Thursday, April 29

B Day

Follies Rehearsal
Awards Assembly
AL Snack—Bosco Stick
LUNCH Special—Papa Johns
3:15pm Freshman Service Day (tentative)
4:00pm Fr/So Track and Field - Kirkwood Invitational
4:00pm JV Track and Field - De Smet Invitational
4:15pm Tennis (JV/V) vs Chaminade
4:15pm C-Team Baseball vs St. Dominic
4:30pm Varsity Baseball vs De Smet
5:00pm Volleyball (JV/V*) vs De Smet
6:00pm B-Team Baseball vs De Smet

Friday, April 30

No Classes-Faculty Retreat

Follies Rehearsal
No Classes - Faculty Retreat
4:15pm Tennis (JV/V) vs MICDS
4:30pm B-Team Baseball vs De Smet

calendar | Roarke Unrau

