

PREP NEWS

If Nothing Else, Value The Truth

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At a Glance

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Do you know the capital of Uzbekistan? Or perhaps the Greek god of victory? SLUH's student scholars do, and they opened up their Scholar Bowl season on Tuesday. *Page 2*

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Another first! All Saints Day Mass is first all-school worship in 18 months



The whole school gathered for Mass.

photo | Miles Schulte

BY JACKSON COOPER AND LUCAS HAYDEN
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

Six hundred fourteen. That's how many days—over 18 months—passed between St. Louis U. High's Ash Wednes-

day mass on Feb. 26, 2020, and this past Monday's All Saints Day Mass, which was the first indoor all-school gathering of any sort since the beginning of the pandemic.

While school Masses for holy days of obligation have

been conducted during the pandemic, social distancing regulations restricted the possibility of a gathering of the entire student body indoors. Though All Saints Day Mass was the first indoor gathering, the school's Condition

3 guidelines have actually allowed for such gatherings since the beginning of the school year. The Mass of the Holy Spirit in August was moved from the football stadium to two simultaneous in- **continued on page 11**

The Office director Ken Kwapis '77 visits to discuss life of a director

BY ALEX PREUSSER
CORE STAFF

"Sometimes I'll start a sentence and I don't even know where it's going. I just hope I find it along the

way," said Steve Carrell's Michael Scott in *The Office*.

Like Michael Scott, many students are on that search to find their goal along the way. The Office director Ken Kwapis **continued on page 11**



Students listening to Ken Kwapis.

photo | Ryan Doyle

Strategic Summit update: Graduation Requirements committee

BY JACK FIGGE AND AUSTIN WALD
EDITOR IN CHIEF, REPORTER

Editor's Note: Four weeks ago, the Prep News published an article about the school's Strategic Summit initiative. The Strategic Summit is focused on five areas of the school and seeks to understand how that area can improve. Over the coming weeks, the Prep News will publish a more comprehensive overview of each of those five charters. The following article concerns the Graduation Requirements charter of the Strategic Summit.

Throughout a student's four years at St. Louis U. High, they have one goal in sight: to walk across the stage in May of their senior year and get their diploma. Although students don't think about it very often, there are certain requirements that must be met in order for that walk to happen. These requirements range from a student having to take four years of theology to a senior having to complete a senior service project. As one of the five Strategic Summit committees, the Graduation Requirements committee is **continued on page 10**

Mental health and the stigma it holds at SLUH

BY JACK FIGGE AND LUKE DUFFY
EDITOR IN CHIEF, WEB EDITOR

There are just certain things that St. Louis U. High students tend to avoid in conversation: a low test grade, a break-up, family issues. The list goes on, but school administrators believe that there is an even more essential conversation that should be made regular within friend groups:

mental health.

It is a well known fact that mental health is important. In recent years, a greater emphasis has been placed on raising awareness about mental health, a topic that was often considered unspeakable in previous decades.

"Part of being human is that we struggle and go through difficult things," said school counselor Walter Kempf. "There are people struggling and they need

somebody to guide them and somebody to talk to."

Mental health issues take on many different forms within the world today. Whether it be stress and anxiety or depression and eating disorders, all mental health issues are serious issues that need attention.

"Anxiety, stress, distractions and depression, technology and intrusions throughout our lives, all the complexities of decision making that

can lead to stress becoming something that can become

more permanent in the form **continued on page 6**



art | Alex Deiters

Admin. hosts forum for students to ask about mask policy switches

BY ROARKE UNRAU AND ALEX KEUSS
NEWS EDITOR, REPORTER

After the bell rang to end first period last Thursday, many students made their way to the Commons for Studium, as is the case on most B-days. But this time, instead of going to have a snack and talk with friends, it was to listen in on the presentation given by the administration about why SLUH had gone back to Condition 3 in the Covid policy, once again requiring masks in the building.

At the start of the day, the

“For us to be able to hear directly from students their questions, their thoughts, their understandings, was helpful.”
-Fr. Ian Gibbons

dent body and faculty received an email from Assistant Principal for Student Life Brock Kesterson announcing the listening session, which started with an explanation of the reasoning behind the return to the masked policy, and ended with an open floor where anyone could ask a question.

“One of the things that we talked about at the administration meeting on Monday of that week was to get information out. The faculty were the first group, we saw them on Monday after school, and then had a follow up session with them on Wednesday, and then it's only logical to follow up with the student body and so that's what happened on

continued on page 10

Parent-teacher conferences return, held on Zoom

BY BEN CROAT
REPORTER

Last Friday saw the third edition of Zoom parent-teacher conferences, which have been in effect since the beginning of last school year. The conferences served as a way to connect parents and teachers and ensure that parents are aware how their sons are performing in the classroom.

"A lot of St. Louis U. High families simply want to meet their son's teachers, and that's a really good and valid thing. Some of those families want specific updates on what's happening in the class," said Assistant Principal for Academics Dr. Kevin Foy. "On the other hand, there's another stack where the parent and the teacher need to work together to intervene so that the student makes better progress. This is generally easiest and best for everybody to get on the same page in a live environment. Phone calls are good, emails are good, but a live environment is a little bit better."

The decision to continue parent-teacher conferences over zoom instead of in-person was fueled by the strenuous visitor check-in system that has been in place since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. This system has been essential to the safety of the school during the pandemic but has greatly limited all-school activities and parent gatherings indoors.

"The check-in procedure for visitors is relatively cumbersome and we didn't want the parents to go through all of that," said Foy. "Last year teachers got pretty good at sharing screens and doing the things that would have happened on Zoom, which is kind of nice. So we didn't feel like we were losing that."

The adaptation of parent-teacher conferences has worked well as teachers now have much more control and can therefore give a much more personalized presentation to each parent.

"One aspect I liked was that we had scheduled times so I knew what parents I was meeting with," said Physics teacher Teresa Corley. "If I know ahead of time, I can really think through and prepare. When parents just show up I had to go through that initial,

who are you, who is your son? And I was not nearly as well-prepared as I wanted to be when parents did not sign up."

While in-person conferences are definitely favored, parent-teacher conferences over Zoom do have their upsides, as teachers are able to connect with a wider variety of parents and personalize every individual conference.

"Parents could meet during the day from work and schedule that so that they didn't have to come into school, which for a lot of people is very beneficial," said Corley. "We have people that live sometimes significant distances so that when travel times are eliminated, more parents can show up."

Having conferences online over Zoom does come with a variety of additional challenges as online conversations are much more difficult to navigate and online discourse opens up the possibility of technological error.

"Zoom is just a little bit hard for conversation, I think is the only drawback of it," said theology teacher Mike Lally. "That it's hard to have an authentic flowing conversation because sometimes you want to chime in and you accidentally speak over someone and then you get in that weird place where you're both trying to talk."

Some interesting questions have arisen over the inclusion of students in the parent-teacher conferences as a way of increasing the effectiveness of the conferences on the students' performance in and out of the classroom.

"I would be interested in the conversation about whether students should be in the meeting or should students be required to be in the meeting," said Lally. "I think that's probably the more important conversation to have than Zoom or in person, because now I think Zoom will be a part of all of our lives for the foreseeable future."

In the future, they could involve some sort of hybrid model utilizing the best of both worlds if the circumstances are right for that option. This model would accommodate the needs of both those who cannot make it to an in-person parent-teacher conference and those who would favor having an in-person experience.

Medical Careers Club organizes annual Blood Drive, 60 students and faculty participate



Jack Andrew giving blood. photo | Courtesy of SLUH Facebook

BY MICHAEL BAUDENDISTEL
AND DREW HAWLEY
STAFF, REPORTER

Biology teacher Tim O'Keefe and SLUH's Medical Careers Club organized the annual Blood Drive last week, collecting blood donations from 60 members of the SLUH community. This was the first Blood Drive in over a year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The first hurdle that the Medical Careers Club needed to jump in preparation for the event was the question of whether or not drawing blood from students and faculty members was safe under the conditions of the pandemic.

"Blood drives have been shown over time to be safe because they sterilize everything and there's no chance of spread of Covid during that process," said O'Keefe.

Once it was determined that the Blood Drive was safe to return, O'Keefe and the Medical Careers Club set

up a time for Mercy Hospital representatives to come into school during the day.

"Mercy is the hospital that organizes it, and what they do is they use that blood for their patients in the hospital that struggle with cancer and that sort of thing,"



O'Keefe sits with students at the snack table.

photo | Courtesy of SLUH Facebook

said O'Keefe. "That's how the hospital uses the blood that we collect."

In addition to the Mercy nurses that ran the blood drive, members of the Medical Careers Club helped keep patients healthy and physically ready to give blood.

"It ran really smoothly," said O'Keefe. "I get those guys to volunteer to help out during the day; during different periods that they're off and during Studium, that sort of thing. They take care of the patients, walk them over to get snacks, just kind of make sure everybody's doing okay. I had a good number of volunteers to help with that, and it was great."

"There were a lot of people you could tell were nervous to give blood but they still did it. So it's just nice to see them have the courage to still give blood," said senior Brendan Stein who is also part of the Medical Careers Club. "We should be thank-

ful for Mr. O'Keefe, for all his dedication and hard work he puts into a blood drive."

The Blood Drive is one of the many annual events at SLUH that provide students with the chance to help their community, and specifically those in their community that are in need.

"I think it's an opportunity to be men for others," said O'Keefe. "It's up to the students and faculty to give back to the community."

In total, the Blood Drive collected 40 units of blood, totaling about 20 liters of blood collected.

"The need for blood donation has been really high, especially with Covid, because people are a little bit more tentative about it," said O'Keefe. "There's always been a need for blood donation, and the need has been even greater in the past couple of years. It's just another way to help and give back to the community."

Scholar Bowl is back to give trivia-savvy Jr. Bills an opportunity to showcase their skills

BY MICAH DOHERTY AND
THOMAS JUERGENS
REPORTERS

The Scholar Bowl is coming back to St. Louis U. High after a year of no matches due to the Covid-19 pandemic with an impressive start. SLUH's group is ready to come back with a punch and hopefully continue to win matches against other private schools in St. Louis.

The Scholar Bowl club competed in its first meet on Tuesday afternoon. The varsity team, consisting of seniors Eli Dernlan, Sam Orlando, and Jack Werremeyer and sophomore Ethan Herweck, showed off St. Louis U. High's impressive academics by beating Cor Jesu 330-80.

The JV team, with freshmen Mason Morris and Madhavan Anbukumar and sophomores Luke Stoff and Nolan Travers, won its first match with Rosati-Kain 350-20, another clean sweep.

However, the JV team's next match against Lutheran South was far more exciting, as SLUH won by just ten points.

"The JV team won 220-

210, which was really exciting for the team because that is as close of a match as you could possibly have," said Scholar Bowl moderator Teresa Corley.

Scholar Bowl is a Jeopardy-like competition where students try to use prior knowledge and reasoning to figure out the answers to complex questions and earn points for their school's team. They compete against other private schools in the area in four vs. four matches and earn points for their team through trivia-like questions.

Questions in a Scholar Bowl meet cover a vast range of material: math, science, history, geography, literature, music, art, and mythology related questions. However, these questions aren't formatted like regular Q&As, but instead like a paragraph where the longer the paragraph goes on, the more hints and clues contestants get.

"The question might be, for example, 'This author wrote this quote' and they would give some obscure thing that the author wrote, then it would continue giving details of the author's work, and at end of the

question, it would say 'For ten points, name the author whose most famous work is *Moby Dick*' and the teams would buzz in to answer the question," said Corley.

Points in a Scholar Bowl are earned when the team buzzes in first and answers the question correctly. Each correct answer with a toss-up question is worth ten points, and then there are two shorter bonus questions, worth ten points each, that relate to the original question's answer. This means that in a single round, a team can earn up to 30 points.

Bonus questions can go to the other team if answered incorrectly, adding another layer of pressure to these matches. These bonus points are critical to winning the match. Bonus questions or questions where no team knows the correct answer to the toss-up increases tensions in the contest.

The Scholar Bowl competitions, with their many seemingly random questions, encourage students to prepare by studying a wide range of topics. Not only does this call for motivation, but also comprehension skills and memorization abili-

ties over a multitude of topics. However, these areas of knowledge do not need to be memorized with every little detail.

"You don't need to know that much about a specific topic, but you'll have this sort of surface level knowledge about it," said Corley. "The goal is to not have a deep depth of knowledge, but rather a wide net of knowledge of each topic."

SLUH's Scholar Bowl club has been practicing for their meets during Activity Period, and has been going to meets with other schools every Tuesday since October 26th and is preparing the private school tournament on Saturday, November 30th in Sullivan, Missouri.

The Scholar Bowl provides students with a great opportunity to learn about topics that they would not otherwise acquire knowledge about to help provide a unique experience to SLUH on an academic level.

"I think the Scholar Bowl really drives home the 'learning all the time' goal, by getting knowledge from lots of different sources and accumulating a little base of knowledge," said Morris.

SLUH's annual Open House returns this Sunday!

Stay tuned for a full article on this topic next week.

PN Puzzle: "Exact Estimate"

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12
13				14				15				16		
17				18				19				20		
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			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	

crossword | Paul Baudendistel

ACROSS

- 1. LotR baddie
- 4. Initialism first used in 1776
- 7. -5
- 10. Iguana, e.g.
- 13. Acoustic unit more

- common in tenths
- 14. Neither's partner
- 15. Tear
- 16. "Well, _____-di-fricken-dah!" - Matt Foley
- 17. 1990 law that requires accessibility

- 18. Gal pal, in textspeak
- 19. Peaking together
- 21. Cry from an unsportsmanlike golf partner
- 23. Daniel, Pat, and the like
- 24. *Present as not present
- 28. Gullets

- 29. Rare use for a mobile device, ironically
- 32. Station that broadcasts Olympic Games
- 37. Response to "Why not use a mobile device for its original purpose?"

- 38. School replacement for E starting in the 1930's
- 39. Say _____ the Dress
- 40. British East India Company, Stark Industries, and the like
- 43. Faster processor or more RAM, e.g.
- 45. *Inconclusive conclusion
- 52. Quantity
- 53. What iguanas do more than any other animal
- 54. One particular chip
- 56. Frontier fathers
- 57. Brand of glasses or Saturn SUV
- 58. Phys. or chem.
- 59. With "news," an oxymoron, like the other theme answers
- 60. Stn. that broadcasts news to controlled countries
- 61. Last word of many stories
- 62. Over there
- 63. Homer's neighbor
- 64. Sea creature
- 65. Sea creature

- 22. Response to a tired meme
- 25. Type of beer once shipped by the British East India Company
- 26. Sports association with a summer championship, ironically
- 27. Actor Kilmer who played "Iceman" and Batman
- 29. Layer, as of wood or paper
- 30. Tool for breaking up soil
- 31. Parish on South King-highway
- 33. Writer Charlotte, Emily, or Anne
- 34. Pontiac, e.g.
- 35. Fernando Tatis, Jr.'s team
- 36. Console for Super Mario Bros. and Duck Hunt
- 38. *Miss trusted
- 40. 6.02E23
- 41. Albums of 4-5 songs
- 42. Ronny & the Daytonas song about a Pontiac model
- 44. Branding specialists?
- 45. One who would look up "gullible" in the dictionary
- 46. Company that invented the drive-through filling station
- 47. Only substance allowed on MLB baseballs
- 48. Boy king
- 49. "If _____ catch you ..."
- 50. Former Cardinal LF Marcell
- 51. Emotionally dependent
- 55. Unlike 7-Across
- 56. It means before before a word

DOWN

- 1. #44
- 2. Chip party foul
- 3. Fastener
- 4. *Nonprejudicial judgment
- 5. *Relaxed racket
- 6. Pound sound
- 7. _____-state area, where Phineas and Ferb live
- 8. Strike it rich
- 9. * Adverse advice
- 10. Contingency
- 11. Supporter of the arts?
- 12. The ones here
- 20. _____ polloi (the masses)

Week 8 Fantasy Football Recap

BY CHARLIE VONDERHEID REPORTER

Week 8 was quite possibly the weirdest week for fantasy football, with star players like D'Andre Swift, Jalen Hurts, Dalvin Cook, and Nick Chubb severely underperforming. Let's check out the unlikely heroes of Week 8.

The Stars

RB- Michael Carter, 32.2

At the beginning of the season Carter was viewed as a potential breakout fantasy star in the poor Jets offense. While he got off to a very slow start to the season, he has finally reached his full potential. Carter has silently gotten tons of volume the past few weeks. He had a good balance of the passing and running game with double digits points in his last three games. However, against the Bengals, Carter went crazy. With nine receptions, one touchdown, and about 160 yards from scrimmage, he was a focal point of the Mike White-run Jets offense. With Carter being one of the few talents on the Jets offense and his increase in production, I would feel confident in him being an RB2 in the weeks to come.

WR- Michael Pittman Jr., 30.6

Pittman is very similar to Carter due to the fact that he had lots of upside going into the season in a thin Colts wide receiver room. After his

strong performance in Week 8, I think it's safe to say Pittman is the WR1 in this Colts offense. Carson Wentz also looks to be improving every week and can get the ball in Pittman's hands. I like Pittman as a high-end WR2 for the rest of the year due to his strong chemistry with an improving Carson Wentz at quarterback.

WR- AJ Brown, 31.5

After numerous injuries to start the season, Brown is finally healthy and looking like the receiver that fantasy managers drafted him to be at the start of the season. Julio Jones always seemed to be sidelined and Tannehill has formed a stronger, more consistent connection with Brown over their years in Tennessee. Now, with the injury of Derrick Henry, the Titans will have to rely more on the passing game, which is exciting for Brown's production and volume moving forward.

The Underperformers
RB- Leonard Fournette, 7.3

Fantasy managers were very excited about Fournette's production the past couple of weeks as he rose to RB11 on the year. Fournette came back down to earth against a strong Saints defense. Game script also played a role as the Bucs were working from behind most of the game and had to use the passing game to generate scoring opportunities. Expect Fournette to play well

against weaker opponents, just lower your expectations against stronger opponents.

TE- Kyle Pitts, 3.3

Owners of Kyle Pitts were drooling over the news that Calvin Ridley would be out against the Panthers on Sunday ... and then severely disappointed when he only put up three fantasy points. The entire Falcons offense (except for Cordarelle Patterson) could not function on Sunday. The Panthers do have a talented secondary and most likely gameplanned to eliminate Pitts from the Falcons offense. While the tight end position is a weird one, Pitts is still a low-end TE1 for the rest of year, and with Ridley now stepping away from football, he becomes even more of a focal point for the Falcons passing game.

WR- Justin Jefferson, 4.1

The Vikings offense had no answer for the Cowboys defense on Sunday Night Football. Justin Jefferson was locked up by star cornerback Trevon Diggs all night. I wouldn't be too worried about this one poor week from Jefferson. He is still the WR1 in this offense and can put up big numbers for you.

The playoffs are growing closer and closer and each week becomes more and more important. Good luck in your Week 9 matchups!

SATIRE

SLUH resolves vampire issue haunting the pool hall during Halloween

MICHAEL BAUDENDISTEL STAFF

Yesterday, the Administration of St. Louis U. High and Assistant Principal for Student Life Brock Kesterson confirmed that they had resolved the mysterious vampire issue haunting the halls of SLUH prior to Halloween. For a full week, the rec room was closed off to students due to the paranormal activity that some had witnessed after school last Monday.

"All of a sudden, the lights flickered off and the pool hall went silent," said an anonymous freshman, with a rosary and Bible in hand. "I heard a deep laugh, and then a man, with what I can only describe as a Transylvanian accent, bellowed 'I vant your blood, give me your blood!'"

Rumors quickly spread throughout campus, prompting the servery staff to partner with campus minister Stephen Deves to sell cloves of garlic for \$2 outside Campus Ministry during Activity Period.

"The garlic sale was really successful," said Deves as he thumbed through a large wad of cash. "I think it brought a great deal of comfort to the students."

Additionally, students were given vials of holy water at morning check-in to use in case they had to ward off a vampire, and a new question regarding contact with supernatural beings was added to the daily VisitU survey.

One unlucky student was actually able to catch sight of the vampire when a small stream of light filtered

through the darkness of the rec room and burned itself into its pale skin.

"All I saw was (the vampire's) bright, silver-white hair, and a dark cloak that he used to hide his figure," said the anonymous witness.

The eerie Transylvanian voice was heard on at least ten other occasions, all of which took place during junior-senior lunch in the Commons. In the end, those investigating the strange events concluded that the blood-sucking vampire that had been haunting the SLUH campus last week was none other than biology teacher Tim O'Keefe, who has since confessed to the hauntings and decided to use different methods of promoting the Blood Drive next year.

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Letters to the Editor

Editor's Note: Prior to the publication of these two letters, senior Peter James and Theology Department Chair Jonathan Ott had discussions about the Marcus Borg's "Meeting Jesus Again" article. Both authors know that the two letters will be running side by side; neither read the other's letter before publication.

Senior voices concerns over Christian Life Choices reading regarding divinity of Christ

To the Editors:

The senior class's mandatory first semester theology class titled "Christian Life Choices" had a reading that I felt was problematic. We had to read an excerpt from "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time" by a New Testament scholar and Episcopalian named Marcus Borg. This excerpt is one of many homework readings that we are quizzed over. But even before I dive into the problems of the reading, it's important to note the overall reason for this excerpt. This excerpt was supposed to help us explain the Catholic Church's position of who Jesus is, and his relevance in our life for a project where we hope to explain exactly that. So we read this under the premise of taking the reading to be true. That's especially dangerous when my classmates passively read, since it can lead to subconsciously absorbing falsehoods about the faith.

Starting off with the first 8 pages of the reading, Borg speaks about his image of Jesus evolving from childhood and the different states of his faith. This part of the excerpt was decent, but the rest of the excerpt (the 9 other pages) was confusing and misleading; for this reason I encourage my fellow classmates to be cautious with every theological reading even if there are no disclaimers.

Borg speaks about his own relationship with Jesus, going through the seminary where he learned "the popular image of Jesus as the divine savior who knew himself to be the Son of God and who offered up his life for the sins of the world—was not historically true. That, I learned, was not what the historical Jesus was like". About a page later he reaffirms his position saying, "That Jesus—the Christ of faith—is spoken of as divine, indeed coequal with God" and that "Jesus as a human being—the historical Jesus—was quite different from all that. For one thing, he would not have known any of those

things about himself". Immediately after he says, "I learned that there was sharp discontinuity (rather than continuity) between the historical Jesus and the Christ of Christian tradition". As I was reading this, Borg made it seem like the Gospels weren't recording history or that the historical (real) Jesus was just a human being with no divinity, and that the Christian view of Jesus being divine was added into the Bible after the fact. I felt like I was missing the point of the reading, because the whole excerpt felt contrary to Catholic teaching to me. Presupposing that there are two different types of Jesus that aren't the same—the historical Jesus and Christ of faith—discredits the Gospels. The historical Jesus should align with our divine Jesus because they are one and the same, and this is why I chal-

But these suggestions don't repair the damage that's been done—people have been misled.

lenge my fellow classmates to not go through the motions and passively learn because doing so chips away at important truths when dealing with readings like this one. Near the end of the excerpt, Borg follows his logic and directly discredits the Gospels as he writes, "John's gospel is true, even though its account of Jesus' life story and sayings is not, by and large, historically factual". If Borg's whole position isn't heretical, then at the very least it's confusing, misleading, and borders on heresy. The Catechism states in paragraph 126, "The Church holds firmly that the four Gospels, "whose historicity she unhesitatingly affirms, faithfully hand on what Jesus, the Son of God, while he lived among men, really did and taught for their eternal salvation, until the day when he was taken up." John's Gospel overemphasizes

great, theological points, but nonetheless John's Gospel is still historically reliable. Borg also writes, "After Easter, his followers experienced him as a spiritual reality, no longer a person of flesh and blood", but the Catechism refutes this point as paragraph 645 states, "By means of touch and the sharing of a meal, the risen Jesus establishes direct contact with his disciples. He invites them in this way to recognize that he is not a ghost and above all to verify that the risen body in which he appears to them is the same body that had been tortured and crucified, for it still bears the traces of his Passion". These last quotes from Borg nullify the first 8 pages that were decent because if the whole point of this excerpt was reflecting on our own faith using Borg's methodology then it leads us to the final step of his faith journey where Borg denies the historicity of John's Gospel and denies the physical resurrection of Jesus. If—taking irrational steps like these to reject Jesus' divinity—this isn't problematic then I don't know what is.

This reading of Borg raises numerous questions: "Why are we reading interpretations that go against the Catholic Church, and taking these interpretations to be true?", "Does the reading clarify and promote the Catholic faith, or does it confuse and mislead others?", and "How do documents like this get added into the curriculum?". I strongly recommend that all students raise questions about what they are learning, and to proceed into religious readings at our school with the utmost caution. I ask that this problematic Borg reading gets taken out of our curriculum for future classes. But these suggestions don't repair the damage that's been done—people have been misled. In my opinion, the SLUH theology department can do a lot better, and I hope they do, in teaching us our Catholic faith fully and accurately.

Peter James '22

Christian Life Choices reading is meant to help students reflect on their own encounters with Christ

To the Editors:

"Who do you say that I am?"

Of all the questions Jesus poses in the Gospels, this one might just be the most essential. When a high school senior takes this question seriously enough to publish his response to it in the school newspaper, I see cause for celebration.

In the adjacent letter, Peter James outlines his objections to content presented in the Christology unit of the Christian Life Choices (CLC) theology course. In doing so, he reveals a commitment to the Faith and a passion for truth that I hope his classmates emulate. I also hope they emulate his willingness to discuss his concerns with his teachers and his openness to authentic dialog. The following paragraphs are intended to defend the Theology Department's curriculum and methods in response to Peter's critiques. I hope to compose them in such a way as to encourage, rather than suppress, the penetrating questions he asks.

If I understand Peter's objections correctly, they begin with the inclusion of the first chapter of Marcus Borg's Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time in the CLC course packet. In this chapter, Borg chronicles the development of his own understanding of Jesus and introduces the distinction between the Pre-Easter Jesus and the Post-Easter Jesus. The Pre-Easter Jesus refers to the historical words and deeds of Jesus during the three decades between his birth and death. About him, Borg says, we know very little. The Post-Easter Jesus, on the other hand, is the risen Jesus as experienced by the Church in the first few decades after his death. According to Borg, the majority of the New Testament and of our understanding of Jesus is based on the latter.

Peter's position is that Borg is out of step with the teaching of the Catholic Church. In some respects, he is correct. Borg was born into a Lutheran family and later converted to the Episcopal Church, so one can assume he disagrees with the magisterium on at least some theological issues. One

of those issues, which Peter points out, involves the central event of salvation history—the resurrection. In other publications, including a debate with N.T. Wright, Borg defends the reality of Christ's resurrection, but suggests the resurrection might not have been physical. This suggestion certainly contradicts the teaching of the Catholic Church, which has always affirmed the resurrection of the body. It is important to note, however, that this contradiction does not appear in the chapter assigned in the CLC course.

But it is fair to ask, "Why include the work of an author who, in other publications, contradicts the Church?" The Theology Department's answer to this question is twofold: 1) the assigned chapter effectively introduces sophisticated theological concepts students must understand if they are to develop a more mature faith; and 2) Borg chronicles his own struggle to let go of previously cherished concepts in pursuit of a deeper, more intimate relationship with Jesus, which is exactly what we want students to do. Peter suggests we utilize the work of a Catholic author instead of Borg to meet these two targets. The Theology Department is certainly open to that, since Borg's chapter is simply a tool to drive understanding. If the readers have specific suggestions, I'd love to explore them.

Beyond the Borg chapter, Peter also calls into question the department's teaching regarding the historical nature of Gospel events. The short version of that teaching is as follows: in writing the Gospels, the evangelists' goal was not necessarily to convey a moment-by-moment, historically accurate account of events, but to communicate the good news that God is with us and saves us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. To that end, they employed a number of strategies. In some instances, such as the healing of Bartimaeus, they seem to have written in such a way as to reference actual witnessed events. But in other cases, many Catholic scripture scholars, including

Catholic bishops, suggest the meaning was likely intended on a more symbolic level. Check out the bishops' introduction to the Gospel According to John in the New American Bible to see an example. The Church does not hesitate to assert the historicity of the Gospels, but doing so does not necessitate a literal interpretation of all Gospel events. In fact, in "The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church," the Pontifical Biblical Commission—at the time headed by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger—cautions against an insistence on literalism. "In what concerns the Gospels," it says, "fundamentalism does not take into account the development of the Gospel tradition, but naively confuses the final stage of this tradition (what the evangelists have written) with the initial (the words and deeds of the historical Jesus). At the same time fundamentalism neglects an important fact: The way in which the first Christian communities themselves understood the impact produced by Jesus of Nazareth and his message. But it is precisely there that we find a witness to the apostolic origin of the Christian faith and its direct expression."

As a Theology Department, our ultimate duty is to give students the Church's teaching in its fullness and complexity—we owe them that. Scripture scholarship is a huge, complex field, and it is important to note that not all Catholic scripture scholars agree on the finer points of how to interpret a particular passage. In response to being exposed to this scholarship, Peter's love for Jesus prompted him to ask questions, which we wholeheartedly affirm. Responding to those questions has spurred growth in my own faith and in that of my colleagues. So thank you, Peter, for helping us all grow in intimacy with Christ. Thank you for moving us forward in our never-ending effort to respond to Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?"

Sincerely,
Jon Ott,
Theology Department Chair

Prep News 86 Policy and Platform

As the student-run newspaper of St. Louis University High School, the *Prep News* is a weekly publication that strives to inform the SLUH community about events and people, with its focus on those pertaining to the school, primarily through the written word.

The *Prep News* is neither the voice of the administration nor the students. Rather, the newspaper serves to gather and distribute information for the entire school. The *Prep*

News editors and staff members make every effort to be objective in their news coverage and editing.

The members of the editorial staff are co-workers and share equally the duties of writing, copy-editing, layout, and staff management. All of the editors share responsibility and leadership of the paper. The editors are supported by a core staff of regular reporters as well as artists and photographers.

It is the role of the edi-

tors to seek out and facilitate the reporting of all significant news at SLUH. While any faculty member or student is welcome to submit suggestions to the editors for potential articles, the *Prep News* is never obligated to publish any article idea.

Our primary emphasis as editors of the *Prep News* is upon clear and accurate writing and careful editing. We also attempt to include visual expression—photography, drawing, technical aids,

etc.—in every issue and on our web site. Despite our desire to make the paper visually appealing, we commit ourselves not to allow form to supersede substance.

The editorial staff will use social media to communicate with the paper's readership and to update students about SLUH events and highlight the paper's content. The editors will not allow their goal of speed and accessibility online to weaken their commitment to accuracy and depth.

The *Prep News* strongly encourages underclassman involvement, and our office on the second floor of the Jesuit Wing, room J220, is always open for involvement, criticism, praise, or suggestions. Contributed student opinions are also welcome under the *Prep News* Editorial Policy. Without student reaction and feedback, the *Prep News* could not function.

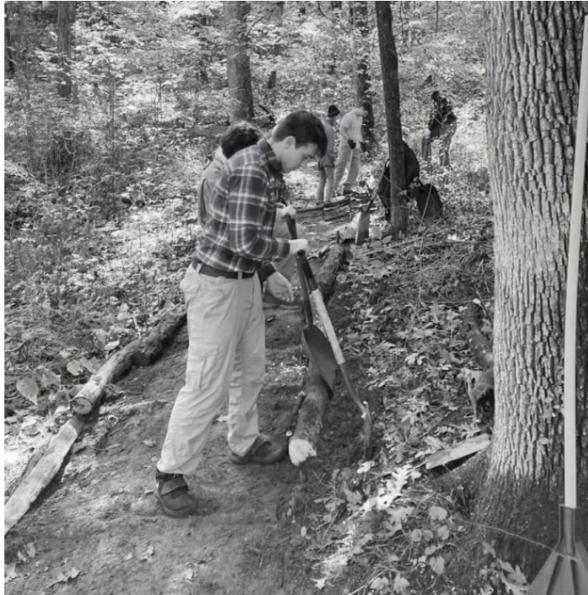
If the *Prep News* is inaccurate, we will correct any significant error in the following

issue and on our web site as soon as possible.

Furthermore, the editors assume sole responsibility for the text of news and sports articles, features, and editorials. We ask faculty or students who take issue with the manner in which the news was reported or find an error to bring it to the attention of the editors, not the individual reporters.

This is the platform of the editors of Volume 86 of the *Prep News*.

Father-son duos help pave the path for new SLUH retreat center



Sophomore Archie Carruthers working on the path.
photo | Courtesy of SLUH Facebook

BY MARK WAPPLER
STAFF

A group of about 40 father-son duos pulled down their masks, put on their yard work pants, and found some old shoes to do some landscaping work this past weekend at St. Louis U. High's very own Madonna Della Strada Retreat Center.

The group took advantage of the long weekend and the beautiful weather to spend a day outside doing physical, yet rewarding labor on the grounds of the new retreat center. From morning prayer to a late 1:00 lunch, this unique hands-on service opportunity gave fathers and sons a chance to bond with each other and with other father-son duos.

The Madonna Della Strada Retreat Center is one of SLUH's newest and most beautiful additions in recent years. Located about 70 miles northwest of the Oakland campus and named after the patroness of the Jesuits, Our Lady of the Way, the alluring 89-acre campus was acquired in 2018 when half of the land was generously donated to SLUH by the Sansone Family and the other half was purchased by SLUH itself. Once used as a farm, SLUH has spent the last several years renovating the grounds to be used as a retreat center for SLUH and possibly other schools in the future.

"It's a tremendous resource for us, for our formation here at SLUH, and a great expansion to our retreat and service programs," said SLUH president Alan Carruthers.

The work day, planned and directed by SLUH's Fa-

thers Club, was the third father-son service excursion to the retreat center since the start of the pandemic. These opportunities provide a safe and productive way for fathers to meet each other while working with their sons as a team to do some landscaping work on the retreat center campus.

"I'm definitely not a stranger to this kind of service since I used to do it all the time as a Boy Scout," said junior Jude Reed. "However, it's the first time since the start of the pandemic that I was able to do this kind of thing again and it felt good to be back."

The father-son duos made their way up Interstate 64 and onto State Highway 61 early Saturday morning to reach the retreat center, which is located off of State Highway F near Silex, Mo. When they arrived at around 8:00 a.m., they were greeted with coffee and donuts, a staple for the work-filled morning that lay ahead of them. Following a brief prayer service to mark the start of their morning, the members of the group organized themselves, picked up their shovels, and began to work.

Carruthers and his son Archie were among the father-son duos for the day.

"We split people into four or five different teams and I helped give instructions and keep people on task during the beginning of the day," said Carruthers. "I then helped with mulching the trail and a couple other projects."

The group primarily worked together on grounds maintenance, trail building, and trail improvements. At

the retreat center, there are two accessible trail sections, one that goes through the forest on the property and one that goes through the open pasture. Most of the time the group spent working was on the forest trail. There, they applied mulch down on the beaten path and set up wood paneling alongside the trail with some grueling, back-bending work. Together, the party overcame adversity and got much of their tasks completed on the trail through their teamwork.

"It was some hard labor," said senior Matthew Vanous. "It was a great way to bond through voluntary manual labor and coordination. It was pretty fun when we got to use chainsaws to cut down some trees."

Some other projects that the group worked on included finishing a fire pit area outside of the retreat center that a previous group started months ago, along with upgrading a bridge on the pasture trail. After that, the group cut down some of the ornamental grasses on the property.

"Needless to say, I was kind of all over the place," said Carruthers.

The group worked with nonstop persistence from their morning coffee and donuts until 12:30 p.m., when the group retired the shovels and tools to enjoy lunch together before the day concluded. After lunch, the party cleaned up their work materials and headed back home to continue the rest of their



Students working at the retreat center.
photo | Courtesy of SLUH Facebook

weekend.

"I felt really satisfied with the work we did and what we accomplished," said Reed. "I personally helped lay the stone for the fire pit and it felt great when people began complimenting how good it looked."

All in all, the day turned out to be a tremendous success, both in connecting and bonding the group together through manual work and by accomplishing several unfinished tasks. These tasks were necessary to complete to help contribute to the beauty of the Madonna Della Strada Retreat Center.

"It's cool seeing how the guys who never used power tools before learn throughout the day how to use them until they are comfortable with them," said Vanous. "It's just so amusing to see them acclimate like that and makes the whole day a lot more enjoyable and special."

As of right now, SLUH Father's Club has no other planned excursion to the property. Plans for future upgrades to the retreat facility include building a Marian grotto on the property and upgrading the barn into a usable recreational complex.

"It truly is a tremendous resource for our school community," said Carruthers. "We are now one of three schools in the Jesuit Schools Network of North America to have its own retreat center and it provides us with a unique place to grow together as a school community."

Eleventh season of Gadfly set to deliver entertaining sketches



Munie directs freshman Nate Broyles in a scene.
photo | Rory O'Hagan

BY DREW FIGGE AND
VINCENT WEINBAUER
REPORTERS

At long last, Gadfly has returned for its 11th season, and they plan on releasing a new video to entertain the student body before Thanksgiving.

Gadfly was created at SLUH to fill the gap between Sisyphus, SLUH's literary magazine and the Prep News, SLUH's weekly newspaper.

"We originally covered things like poetry, essays, and movie and album reviews," said English teacher David Callon. "Over the years we have developed into a TV show based mainly on sketch comedy with some things around the building."

Gadfly is now on its 11th season since it started in 2006; it developed into a TV show around 2009 and 2010.

"We took a break for a couple of years," said Callon. "But during Covid we came back because of some really amazing student leaders that are creative and just want to spread joy."

Not only does the club bring a few minutes of joy to the student body, it is a great experience for the members who create the sketches.

"I've had a passion for filmmaking ever since I was young and Gadfly allows me to dive deeper into that passion," said Gadfly President senior Daniel Munie. "But also because I love working with the people who are involved with Gadfly."

Gadfly is student-run and consists of around 20 students, around five of whom do the core work.

"The seniors are kind of our main guys right now," said Munie. "But we also have a lot of freshmen who are becoming involved."

Once a week the Gadfly club meets and students pitch sketches and work on videos. The students flesh out certain ideas and run with them to begin the creative process.

"It's kind of like improv" said Callon, "We have a general framework, there's no script necessary, it will just come together at the end after people take a lot of shots and build into it."

For the first episode that Gadfly has created this year, they are planning to put in at least four different sketches. Each sketch is a short comedy scene from SLUH students that is intended to bring a few minutes of joy into the video.

"In this upcoming one, we have a sketch about Spikeball," said Munie. "And I think that the ending is pretty funny and maybe a little raunchy."

Even the newest members of the club get a chance to film the sketches and have a great experience while participating in them.

"I love helping the freshmen and they are really passionate about filmmaking," said Munie. "It's fun to see them hold the camera and get excited about things like that."

This year Gadfly has had a slower start to the year due to not having a place to edit on campus and also the main editor last year graduating.

Students can expect to have the first episode of Gadfly delivered to their inbox by the end of today.

CAN'T HELP IT



Keller Anderson's "Can't Help It" album cover.

photo | Courtesy of Keller Anderson

Students "Can't Help It" but stream junior Keller Anderson's new song

CHARLES TURNELL
REPORTER

Junior Keller Anderson has been taking his talents to the recording room over the past couple of months to work on his new single, "Can't Help It," which is now streaming on Spotify, Apple Music, and iTunes, and marks the first official platform wide release for Keller.

Inspiration for a song

can sometimes come from unconventional places for an artist. For Keller, the inspiration for "Can't Help It" came from an unlikely place: The BTSM.

"I wrote 'Can't Help It' right after the BTSM actually," said Anderson. "The words just came to me, stemming from memories that BTSM sparked. Memories that I had about people and the experiences that I had,

along with a little bit of teen romance."

Although the words sparked for Keller in a matter of hours, he had already been working on the instrumentals for the song.

"I came up with the chords before the words," said Anderson. "I'm not sure how to explain how I came up with them, they just kind of came to me. The piano chords just went with the

mood I was in and then I essentially attached the lyrics to the chords to flesh out the emotions I was feeling. I had many inspirations from my life and more."

Keller's influences are the many musicians he has been listening to since he was a child.

"I've always loved music since I was a little kid, I've been playing any instrument

continued on page 11

Students and faculty contemplate how SLUH addresses mental health

(continued from page 1)
of mental illness,” said principal Ian Gibbons S.J. “These struggles can lead to some very dangerous dysfunctions that can intrude upon our lives.”

Mental health has not left SLUH and its students unscathed. Students face mental health struggles on a daily basis, most often in the form of stress and anxiety, but in some cases depression and more severe forms of mental health issues.

“Part of being human is that we struggle and go through difficult things. There are people struggling and they need somebody to guide them and somebody to talk to.”

-Walter Kempf

“There is a lot of homework which leaves me feeling like I am going to school for way too long and then not being able to do things that I want to do when I am at home,” said senior Joey Weinbauer. “I feel that I am just always doing school no matter what. This just often leads to a lot of stress and anxiety which I sometimes feel is unnecessary.”

“My mental health freshman and sophomore year was definitely better because it felt like the workload was more manageable and there was less anxiety because everybody had to be understanding due to Covid,” said junior Brendan Schroeder. “But this year it feels like we are just jumping right back into things and it is kind of exhausting. It has led to me having more anxiety about tests and anxiety about grades in general.”

Stress—in a healthy amount—is a good thing, it allows one to stay on task, to stay motivated and to do work in a timely fashion. However, it is when students embrace the stress and develop an extensive amount of stress, that it can become unhealthy.

“There is what’s called healthy stress, which is like the desirable difficulty that one encounters anytime one is learning anything new,” said Director of the Learning Center Tim Curdt. “Without that kind of stress, that kind of healthy stress, you’re never going to learn and achieve.”

However, within SLUH, many students feel that they are taking on an excessive amount of stress. An amount of stress that is unhealthy, which could lead to greater mental health issues down the road.

“Then there is the other type of stress, toxic stress where they’re not able to adapt and function at the same levels,” said Curdt. “It’s getting in the way of normal healthy productivity, I think it

obviously impacts students at school here when they’re facing a situation that is maximized.”

While students have always struggled with their mental health, whether through stress, anxiety or some other issue, many see that the recent Covid-19 pandemic only heightened the mental health crisis amongst all people, but especially teenagers. The pandemic caused two major concerns in regards to mental health: social isolation and a lack of stability.

Human beings are social animals, made for human

year to this year was literally so hard,” said sophomore Jack Janson. “I feel like it’s just really exhausting and it takes a toll on mental health, physical health, everything. It’s a constant cycle of work and getting through that is really difficult, but everyone is going through it together.”

While some see the various changes in schedules as a detriment to their mental health, faculty believe that the new schedule helps students deal with mental health issues. The new schedule has designated times for students to seek assistance from faculty

This thrust the notion about the importance of discussing mental health into the forefront of American conversation, resulting in a renewed interest in the area of mental health and showing just how important it is to talk about it in a relaxed manner.

“One of the most recognizable athletes in the world is Simone Biles,” said Kesterson. “She removed herself from one of the biggest competitions in the world because she wasn’t feeling right. For her to be able to step away from that and to address that was a hard thing to do, and we’re talking

specifically I remember, there’s a study done on depression in boys and girls and the one piece of this study focused on who got helped more and girls were getting helped more.”

While today’s society encourages everyone to think about their mental health, SLUH students still feel the pressure that society has put on men for centuries to avoid thinking about their emotions.

“SLUH is all boys and I feel like the expectation is that ‘boys don’t cry,’” said Janson. “The toxic masculinity, emotions are not really a part of that. We are taught not to feel.”

Juniors Freddy Laux and Jackson Slusser started a new club, the SLUH Center for Mindfulness, to teach breathing and reflection methods that calm and relax the mind.

“We have empirical evidence now and not just anecdotal evidence that mindfulness can reduce stress,” said Laux. “We actually know the chemicals in the brain that are involved with stress like cortisol and norepinephrine, and a lot of studies now can show that, after someone participates in a mindfulness practice, the levels of those stress neurotransmitters and hormones go down significantly.”

The Center for Mindfulness will hold regular meetings in which club leaders walk students through guided breathing exercises. They hope to introduce these techniques to the school as a method of easing the stress and tension of school life.

The Counseling Department also offers many routes that students can take in addressing these concerns.

“It’s hard to deal with those feelings and a lot of times students don’t know what to do with those feelings,” said Mary Michalski, school counselor. “So they either keep those feelings bottled up or, hopefully they would share it with friends or a trusted adult.”

The best solution for somebody struggling with mental health: to talk about it. Ideally, the person would feel comfortable enough to talk with a parent, teacher or school counselor, but if not the counselors at least hope that the student will find a trusted friend to confide in.

“Whatever struggles you are going through, you have your parents, you’ve got your friends and family members who you can really trust and support,” said Curdt. “But then you have your support network at school and beyond, where there are lots of people who love you and want to help you.”

If a friend confides in you, though, that they or somebody else that they know are planning on harming themselves, or others, it is necessary for you to inform a school counselor, teacher, other responsible adult, or contact the suicide hotline so that the person can receive proper help.

“Anytime a student gets information from a friend, whether a student says something in person or via social media that they are planning on harming themselves or others, they should take it to an adult,” said Michalski. “This is not something that any adolescent feels like he should have to take on their own. Adults are much better equipped to handle these kinds of things.”

If you or a friend are having suicidal thoughts, contact the Provident Behavioral Health Crisis Hotline at 314-647-4357 or the St. Louis Youth Connection Helpline at 314-819-8802. You can also text HOME to 741741 to reach the Crisis Text Line.



art | Will Blaisdell

interaction. Yet when the pandemic struck and people were forced to be physically separated from each other, it created a strain on the mental health of many individuals.

“I think as teenagers it was especially hard because the social connections that you guys just love were dissipated,” said Kempf. “You guys were asked to not be in connection with each other. So I guess the way I would describe it was when you guys were able to come back into the building, you could just see the joy that students had to be back, showing the desire for social connections.”

A lesser realized, but equally prevalent issue, influenced by the pandemic was a lack of stability in many students’ lives. When the pandemic struck, it forced institutions and people to be flexible at a moment’s notice. It caused many activities that were once thought to be unchangeable to change. This instability is most evident in the three renditions of the academic schedule that SLUH has adopted since March of 2020.

“The change from last

and time to relax and socialize.

“The schedule actually may be a help in the social, emotional and mental health world that we’re talking about, because there’s more freedom in this schedule,” said Dean of Students Brock Kesterson. “Think about Studium and Activity Period. Some may say ‘oh, man, these kids have a lot of free time,’ but maybe the kids need this free time now

“SLUH is all boys and I feel like the expectation is that ‘boys don’t cry.’ The toxic masculinity, emotions are not really a part of that. We are taught not to feel.”

-Jack Janson

more than ever before.”

Recently, this conversation about mental health has been stepping to the forefront in national discussions. This past summer, renowned gymnast Simone Biles sat out of the Tokyo Summer Olympics, citing concerns about her own mental health. Last week, Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Calvin Ridley opted out of a game for the same reasons.

about a female athlete.”

It has become evident in society that gender plays a tremendous role in how mental health is discussed. Since SLUH is an all-male institution, mental health carries a greater stigma for students. Discussing mental health involves vulnerability and today’s society encourages men not to be vulnerable, so SLUH students have frequently felt

discouraged from bringing up their mental health issues.

“I addressed this in my health class, we talked about mental health issues pretty extensively,” said Kesterson. “One of the issues I bring up is the importance of not labeling people, and the importance of not creating stigmas for people, especially in an all boys school. Again the research backs this up because

SLUH has made progress toward improving and destigmatizing mental health on campus through the Learning Center and the Counseling Department, yet many students still feel uncomfortable talking about their own mental health struggles. Because the issue is rarely discussed, students can be led to believe that they are alone in how they feel.

“I think nowadays, it’s kind of like a sign of weakness,” said junior Will Blaisdell. “But I think if you show that it’s not a bad thing to go through stuff, it’s terrible to be struggling. I think there might be a realization that you’re not so different from everyone else. It’s a good thing to seek counseling and to try and get better and be better.”

“I think once students realize they’re not the only ones going through it, like the time of the year when the first tests happen, there’s other people that share those things, and that really helps,” said counselor Nina See.

One approach to coping with mental health that is new to SLUH is mindfulness.

SPORTS



photos | courtesy of Baxter Southern and VicLewchenko

Clockwise from top: senior Chris Brooks tiptoes the sideline, junior Dillon Ramella (12) and Senior Pierston Sanders (50) on defense, and Brooks celebrating a touchdown.

Football dominates Lindbergh en route to first playoff victory since 2016; next up, Marquette

BY COBY SPRATTE AND JACK RYBAK
CORE STAFF

St. Louis U High advanced to the Class 6 District 1 semifinals with a dominant 28-0 win over the No. 3 seed Lindbergh Flyers, the first playoff win for the Jr. Billikens during head coach Mike Jones' five-year tenure.

The majority of the Flyers' regular season success was due to their slow paced, run-heavy offense. Their ideal game plan was to manufacture their points through a consistent running attack, passing the

ball less than ten times a game and controlling the tempo by milking the clock on every play they ran.

Yet, the SLUH defense stepped up and limited the Flyer offense to a measly 2.75 yards per carry on 32 carries. This forced Lindbergh to divert from their game plan, as their quarterback was forced to throw 19 times, a season high.

The Jr. Bills received the opening kickoff, and immediately made a statement, driving into Lindbergh territory, but the Flyer defense stepped up and forced a fourth down

decision for the Jr. Bills on the 20-yard line.

SLUH opted to keep the field goal unit on the sideline, and senior quarterback Luke Johnston completed a dime to sophomore Ryan Wingo for a touchdown with 7:45 remaining in the first quarter.

The Jr. Billiken defense came out and made an immediate statement, as they stymied the Flyer run game and forced punt after punt.

SLUH got the ball back for their second drive of the game, and didn't even bother entering the red zone, as Johnston once again silenced

the Lindbergh fan base with a 49-yard touchdown pass to senior Chris Brooks to make it 14-0 with 4:07 left in the first quarter.

The defense remained stout and held Lindbergh to six yards from scrimmage in the first quarter, and 44 in the first half.

Brooks punched the Jr. Bills' ticket to the end zone on their third drive of the game, taking a direct snap three yards for a touchdown run, widening SLUH's lead to 21-0 with 9:35 to go in the first half.

The defense continued to apply pressure to Lindbergh's

quarterback, racking up a season high 13 sacks on the night, continually forcing the Flyers out of their rhythm on the offensive side of the ball.

SLUH recorded the most sacks in a single game since defensive stats started being kept in 1978, according to SLUH sports statistical expert Frank Pawloski.

Brooks put the final nail in the coffin with a 50-yard touchdown run late in the third quarter.

Yet, the defensive prowess the Jr. Billikens displayed was best showcased on the final play of the contest.

At this point of the game, a SLUH win was inevitable, but Lindbergh was driving down the field, playing for pride. As time was expiring, Lindbergh's running back broke free on a short pass and darted down the sideline, determined to score.

Senior safety Tommy Etling raced down the field and tripped up the Flyers' back on the 1-yard line, preserving the shutout, and officially burying Lindbergh six feet under.

"We prepared well during practice, so when game time (continued on page 8)

Soccer dazzles in opening district matches, prepared for John Burroughs in finals matchup

BY NATHAN RICH
SPORTS EDITOR

When SLUH soccer first took the field two months ago against Marquette, one thing was solidly on their minds: the District final. Now, after commanding wins in their first two District matches, they're finally there with some pretty significant momentum behind them. Last night's 5-0 win against Francis Howell North showed the persistence of the Jr. Bills while Saturday's 13-0 win showed their scoring prowess. Now, the clock is ticking down to their moment of truth.

The first half of last night's contest against the Howell North Knights was decidedly in the favor of the Jr. Bills. It was 34 minutes be-

fore the Vikings even gained possession in SLUH's half. Even then, senior Ben Ridgeway quickly stole the ball and sent it back to the midfield, who had their way early with the Howell defense. SLUH easily shot passes through the final third of the field all game.

The initial problem, though, was scoring. SLUH got few opportunities in front of the net early in the first half and even when they did, a plethora of tall Knights kept the ball from the back of the net.

Senior forward Johnnie Ferrara and junior defenseman Jackson Griffiths-Hill created several opportunities up the right side of the field early, but every centering pass ended up out of bounds. Junior Sam Tieber also got a

few chances in open space in the middle of the field, even one that barely trickled past the goal post. Francis Howell put up a respectable fight on defense, showing SLUH's forwards an unfamiliar look.

"I was a little bit disappointed with how that game started," said coach Bob O'Connell. "I didn't expect them to sit (in the box) as much as they did. I would have trained differently. That being said, we've got great players. They adapted and it just took a little bit longer to get the first goal."

That first goal came from Ferrara, who was finally able to capitalize on the effort. At 16:54 in the first half, he fielded a pass right at the spot Tieber had previously missed from and rocketed a beautiful shot that flew past the

Howell keeper. The bench erupted as the scoreboard read 1-0.

Four minutes later, SLUH struck again. This time, senior captain Tyler Van Bree knocked a head ball into the back of the net, bringing the score to 2-0. At this point, with some offensive success as well as a near total ball possession, it began to feel that the game had been sealed, which was just what the team had been hoping for.

"(Francis Howell) needs to be another statement win," said Van Bree before the game. "We should have it put away by half time. That's my personal goal and I think that's the team's goal as well."

Van Bree's hopes came true later in the first half when senior Stephen Saladin scored the third goal of the game off a quick assist from Kevin Cooney. Moments later, that stat line reversed and saw Cooney knock in a shot off an assist from Saladin as both sprinted upfield through the box.

The two goals put SLUH up by 4 after 40 minutes of play. Saladin had more than just the goal and assist to celebrate, though. This past week, he was invited to play

in the 2021 High School All American in Knoxville later this year. Saladin will be representing the West in a match that features some of the top players in the country.

Even as the temperature quickly dropped last night, the Jr. Bills stayed hot in the second half. Eleven minutes in, junior Lucas Hammond scored from outside the box, adding SLUH's fifth goal of the night. The Jr. Bills, now playing with a majority of their starters on the bench, held on to the shutout and won 5-0.

Last night's win came off a brutal defeat of Hazelwood Central in their first District game last Saturday. From the start, it was clear that the game would not be close. SLUH's forwards came out swinging, especially Van Bree. He opened the scoring with a head ball into the back of the net early in the first half. In the following minutes, Van Bree went on to score the first three goals of the game, completing his hat trick.

Before the end of the first half, the Jr. Bills had added 10 more goals, enough to put the game away after just 40 minutes by mercy rule. Junior Kevin Cooney also notched

three goals for SLUH against Hazelwood, making it their second hat trick of the game.

Several players, including senior Jacob Lenley, junior Tommy Reh, and junior Davis Ragan, scored their first goals of the season. Altogether, the Jr. Bills' combined score of 13 goals ties their most of all time.

Van Bree was happy with the start, but he was well aware that the next games would be tougher.

"We need to know that games going forward are not going to be like that. But, yes, I do think it was good. We got everyone in and we got everyone used to the District feeling," he said. "It was a solid way to start."

One game that will certainly not be like that will be the District final this Saturday against John Burroughs. O'Connell, though, is confident in his team, regardless of opponent.

"The whole year the goal is to win Districts and I'm excited that these kids put themselves in a situation to get that," he said. "I don't think (opponent) matters. We will play anybody that's in our path these next four games and just go out and play."



Junior Kevin Cooney scores against Francis Howell North.

photo | Michael Urbanski

Congratulations to senior forward Stephen Saladin who was selected to the 2021 All American Game in Knoxville, Tenn. on Dec. 11

Cross Country lands second at District; team qualifies for State

BY SEAN KELLOGG
AND JOE LABARGE
REPORTER

This last week has been an eventful one for the SLUH XC team as the JV and C teams capped off an amazing season at Findley, while the varsity squad took second place at Districts, continuing their State qualification streak.

The majority of the team ended the season last Wednesday at the Findley Invitational. Both the JV and freshman teams were able to obtain a perfect score in their respective races, making for a great end to the season.

The freshmen kicked off the day with a very impressive pack at the front of the race. Gus Talleur finished second overall with an impressive time of 18:31. Following Gus was George Donahue (3rd; 18:54) and Logan Phillips (4th; 18:55). Mason Lauber (5th; 18:56) and Gavin Smith (6th; 18:56) rounded out the top five for the freshman. In total the freshman medaled 14 runners and capped off a great season.

The JV team followed the freshmen with another impressive race, complete with the second SLUH perfect

score of the day. Junior Will Riggan was the race champion, running an amazing race and finishing with a time of 17:14. Following Riggan was sophomore Mason Scargall (2nd; 17:21) and junior Nolan Meara (3rd; 17:42) who ran very well to place in the top three. Rounding out the scoring for the Jr. Bills was junior Tyler Barks (4th; 17:46) and senior Flynn O'Connell (5th; 17:50). The team had the top 12 runners in the JV race and medaled 17 total runners. Medaling just one senior in the top five, the racers proved themselves a part of a promising future for the Jr. Bills.

"It was a great way to end the season, and even though the times were a bit slower than expected due to course conditions, it was really impressive to see our whole group go straight to the front," said Porter. "It was a great way for the seniors to finish out their cross country careers and gave us a lot of confidence looking to the future in later seasons."

While the majority of the team's season ended on Wednesday, the varsity squad had a day at Districts, qualifying for their 29th State ap-

pearance in a row, the longest streak of any team in Class 5. A very tight race with Kirkwood led to an exciting day.

The Jr. Bills travelled to Hillsboro on Saturday to compete in the Class 5 District 1 meet and took home the second place team title, falling just three points short of Kirkwood. Despite the cold weather and muddy conditions the team was still able to run very well, continuing their streak of state qualifications. Senior Sean Kellogg (3rd; 16:19) led the way for the Jr. Bills, running a very impressive race, coming in front of Kirkwood's top two. Closely following were seniors Baker Pashea (6th; 16:31) and Grant Brawley (7th; 16:36) both earning first team all district honors along with Kellogg. In addition, Justin Glass (12th; 16:53) earned a second-team all district honor. Rounding out the scoring for the Jr. Bills was junior Tim Greiner (26th; 17:09), scoring for the varsity team for the first time in his cross country career. Charlie Murray (32nd; 17:25) and Joe LaBarge (33rd; 17:27) rounded out the varsity contingent on the day, both narrowly missing

medal positions (top 30).

The Jr. Bills did a great job of placing their top three in the lead pack of the race and competing throughout the entire race. Even though they fell short of Kirkwood, the Jr. Bills were still able to bring home an impressive five medals and score 54 points.

"I really liked how our top three went straight to the front because it showed

that we weren't scared to put ourselves up there with some of the top runners in the state and even though our back half faded in the latter half of the race, we are still very optimistic going into state next week" said Porter. "Our only goal that day was to qualify and we did just that, continuing the streak of going to state for longer than Coach Lally has been alive."

The team will leave to-



Senior Joe LaBarge leading the pack at Cross Country Districts. photo | courtesy of Joe LaBarge

Football gears up for football semifinal against #2 ranked team in the district

(continued from page 7)

came around, we weren't nervous since we knew what had to be done," Etling said. "The defense spoke for itself."

On top of the steady offensive production and the remarkable defensive effort, the special teams unit dazzled as well.

The punt unit downed two of Wingo's punts on the Flyers' 1-yard line, and senior place-kicker Thomas Ziegler nailed all four of his extra point attempts despite the cold and rainy conditions.

SLUH stole the Flyers' mantra, as they racked up 246 yards on the ground at a clip of 8.48 yards per carry. They presented a balanced attack with 23 yards from Johnston, 28 from Wingo, 69 from senior Andre Tucker, 76 from Brooks, and 50 yards from senior Derrick Baker, which increased his season total to 955 yards.

Johnston contributed another stellar game through the air, completing 12 of 25 passes for 193 yards and two touchdowns, bringing his season touchdown total to 21.

The receiving end of Johnston's passes was headlined by

Brooks' four catches for 95 yards. Senior Craig Ortwerth, junior Zach Ortwerth, Tucker, and Wingo complemented the passing attack with two catches apiece.

"So many different guys have made plays this year," Jones said. "When you have playmakers and you put the ball in playmakers' hands, then you're gonna have great opportunities."

Senior Cayden Owens once again headlined the defense, contributing a game-high three sacks which increased his season total to 12.5, a SLUH single season record.

Jones attributed Owens' success this season to his "great leverage ... center of gravity ... and his ability to change direction well. ... Cayden made plays."

Junior Louis Kertz led the team in tackles with 13, followed by senior Philip Bone, Etling, and Owens all adding ten of their own.

Sophomore Jacobi Oliphant recovered his first fumble of the year, and Archie Caruthers picked up his second and third sacks of the season.

These efforts were instrumental in the defense recording its first shutout of the season, and just the fifth playoff shutout in the history of SLUH football and the first since 2014.

"Everyone played to their best abilities and we tackled the ball extremely well," Jones added.

The Jr. Bills will now shift their focus to the No. 2 seed Marquette Mustangs, the 7th ranked large school in the area according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"Execute, execute, execute," Etling said. "If we execute there should be no reason for us to lose on Friday."

The 9-1 Mustangs are coming off a commanding 45-0 win over No. 7 seed Northwest Cedar Hill.

While the Junior Bills are preparing harder than ever, they're not worried.

"Every playoff game you have to do the same things: practice well, respect your opponent and make plays," Jones said. "When we're able to do our fundamentals well, we have a great chance of winning."



Student section at the Lindbergh football game.

photo | Baxter Southern

Swim and Dive dominates MCC meet, eyes set on State

BY ALEX WENTZ
REPORTER

At long last, the St. Louis U. High swim team has vanquished their conference, asserting their aquatic superiority once and for all. Every single water warrior earned points for the Jr. Bills last night, leading to a towering victory of 472 over CBC's second place 233, a 239 point gap as large as the grand canyon.

To lead off the meet, senior Sebastian Lawrence shattered the Class 2 State record, con-

The fantastic foursome of seniors Cooper Scharff, Ned Mehmeti, and Jonas Hostetler, as well as sophomore Henry Unger, ravaged the enemy with their speed, snagging first place with ease. In the 200 freestyle, freshman Greyson Mueller came home with the bronze, finishing with a 1:51.86. Junior Brandon Harris (4th), freshman Jaden Yarbrough (5th), and sophomore Kearney Foy (6th) followed suit. Another dominant event for the boys in blue was the 200 IM, having Mehmeti in second, freshman

Brendan Schroeder shaved off a monumental 7.25 seconds to place him in second with a time of 5:01.66. Mueller got third with a 5:10.82, and senior Alex Wentz snuck into sixth with a ten second time drop to clock a 5:47.33.

The breastrokers showed their true skill, placing 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. Senior Brody Nester particularly had a significant swim, gliding in at a 1:04.08, placing him just on the edge of state qualification. Freshman Evan Zimmerman continued his rapid improve-



SLUH Swim and Dive celebrating after MCC Championship.

photo | Tricia Nester

trolling himself in air with the precision of a hummingbird, yet simultaneously the grace of a swan. Lawrence took first with a score of 551.70, and senior Tom Nguyen claimed fourth, boasting a personal best of 278.85.

"Hearing everyone cheer super loud after each dive just put a smile on my face," said Nguyen.

The MCC meet was a prelims and finals meet, meaning that only the top 12 swimmers from Tuesday got to swim again on Wednesday. Every single SLUH swimmer returned to compete on day 2, with four events even having all entrants placed in the final heat.

Ben Chumley in third, junior Gavin Baldes in fourth, and sophomore Aidan Brawer in fifth, each of them revealing their full mastery of every facet of the sport.

In sprinting, Hostetler and Unger astonished the crowd, piercing through the water with the unmatched aquatic speed of a sailfish. Hostetler claimed gold with a time of 21.82, and Unger got bronze at 23.01.

In the realm of distance swimming, the Jr. Bills did not let up, having all four of their competitors in the 500 free in the fastest heat. Mehmeti won first, with a 4:55.74, but perhaps more significantly junior

ment, posting a blazing fast 1:04.45 to claim third.

"At the beginning of the season I almost didn't make varsity," said Zimmerman. "Now I'm dropping seconds every race, and am even in consideration for state, so it just feels awesome each time."

The team had beautiful performances all around, revealing the endurance of blue whales, speed of swordfish, and drive of a great white. As the St. Louis U. High swimmers claim the title of conference champions, they look ahead to State, the final battle ever looming on the horizon.

All Time Swim Records shattered by seniors!

Senior Cooper Scharff set the new school and MCC meet record during the 100-meter butterfly with a time of 49.25 seconds. Scharff also set a new MCC record in the 100-meter backstroke.



Senior Sebastian Lawrence broke the SLUH All-Time 11 Dive scoring record with a score of 551 at Thursday's District Meet.



Administration meets to discuss the fate of masks with student body



Students listening to Fr. Gibbons' presentation.

photo | Jack Figge

(continued from page 1)
Thursday," Kesterson said.

With the school going from mask mandatory to mask optional and then back to mask mandatory all in the span of two weeks, there were a lot of rumors and misinformation around the hallways, so the administration thought it would be best to address the reasons for going back to mask mandatory publicly, giving the accurate reasons to anyone who didn't know.

"There's a lot of misinformation out there, there's a lot of assumptions out there. And for us to be able to hear directly from students their questions, their thoughts, their understandings, was helpful," said principal Fr. Ian Gibbons, SJ.

Because the administration wanted to have the listening session to address the rumours and confusion as soon as possible, they had to squeeze it into a busy time.

"So we were asked by the Student Council if we would have an update with masks and then an opportunity for students to ask questions. And so we said of course. Unfortunately, we had very few B-day Studios available last week and this week, so we had to go with what we had," said Gibbons. "It's not like there was a huge setup required, but certainly getting announcements out there because if we didn't do that we wouldn't have another opportunity to do that for four or five days. So it's a bit of a rush to get it out but what are you going to do? The other option is just wait but it's good to get information out there and give people the opportunity for a robust discussion."

For the students who went, the session was a way to clear up the confusion they had regarding the sudden switch back to Condition 3.

"The reason I went was to clear up the confusion. Why did we have that one week where we didn't have masks then the next week we went back? A lot of people had good questions. Personally I didn't ask any, but I liked them. I was surprised that a lot of people showed up. I thought people would speak and then we would have rebuttals, but some of the questions stumped everyone," said senior Mikey Floretta.

Although the forum gave out a lot of information and

cleared up most of the confusion, some still lingers. Students wonder how, even though the vaccination records data stayed the same, it is now no longer safe to not wear masks in the building.

"They weren't really clear on when the experiment would be done, they left it kind of vague, and they kind of left it early at the end. If they do it in a few weeks it'd be good. I don't think it's SLUH's fault that everyone is confused with the whole thing but the city's (fault)," said senior Brendan Stein.

"We were all introduced to a condition where, for a lot of people, that was a big step for them, it was a very good moment for SLUH. In the past two years it's been crazy with all these conditions that they've put in place, it was hard to have that good moment and then be told, wait a second, we're gonna go back to Condition 3 right after what seemed like nothing had changed," said Van Bree.

While students were grate-

"It was hard to have that good moment and then be told, wait a second, we're gonna go back to Condition 3 right after what seemed like nothing had changed."

-Tyler Van Bree

ful that the administration held an open session for everyone interested, the session left some questions unanswered.

"I personally felt like they were almost rereading some of the email that they sent out to us, which most of us read because we wanted to understand why this was happening," said Van Bree. "At times, it felt like we were just listening to his email directly off."

"There was a lot of tension," agreed senior James Saadi. "Everyone was angry about something and this was the opportunity of the school to mend that. Everyone who doesn't want masks was really confused about why we need to bring them back. Especially what we saw that week with no one contracting Covid. We went there eager to see what the questions were, but a lot of the questions didn't make any sense and Fr. Gibbons's answers were kind of vague, he didn't give us a timeline either. I felt like he

was giving politician answers. I had the same amount of information before the forum that I had after."

With this being the first open forum SLUH has held all year, no one really knew what to expect. But one of the things that surprised everyone was the turnout. The Commons was as crowded as it has ever been.

"It's easy to say things like my door is always open, which is true. But how many people are really knocking on the door and talking about this and how many people do you really reach in those kinds of scenarios. So I think that we can look at, in my estimation, the success of an event like this, and you saw the numbers of people are in here, it wasn't mandatory. So people were in here because they wanted to be in here and this place was packed. So if people want to hear that information, we should be able to give them the information they're looking for," said Kesterson.

Gibbons also appreciated

the opportunity to step back and reconvene with the school community over these big issues.

"Sometimes we can forget that this is a global crisis. It's something that's happening all over the world and it's deeply complex. There's no playbook for how to manage a school through a pandemic like this. So sometimes my team is so busy in the trenches, doing policy and activating those policies, executing the plans that sometimes we forget that not everyone has the information that we do and the timeliness of it as well," said Gibbons.

Strategic Summit Graduation Requirements charter seeks to update requirements

(continued from page 1)

exploring updates to SLUH's current graduation requirements.

"There's certain rules about what sort of language requirements we want students to have, then there are experiential graduation requirements in addition to the curriculum requirements," said director of College Counseling Kevin Crimmins. "This charter is aimed at asking what students should be required to take to graduate? And what experiences should students have before they leave SLUH."

In the 1960's, under the leadership of Fr. Gerald Sheehan S.J., the school fully reassessed the graduation requirements students would have to meet. In the past 40 years, the school has gradually made small changes to the requirements, adding new elements and eliminating others, but has not done a full reassessment in the past 60 years.

"It's been a long time since St. Louis U. High has given that in depth look and evaluation," said Assistant Principal for Academics Kevin Foy. "We want to give people an opportunity to give their ideas about what we should require."

When the Strategic Summit launched last year, the school's administrators knew that looking at the graduation requirements was a necessity. Tasked with this goal of reassessing the schools graduation requirements, Foy and Director of Global Education Rob Chura formed a committee that included school counselor Mary Michalski, Director of Campus Ministry Fr. Matthew Stewart S.J., Director of College Counseling Kevin Crimmins, and Director of Equity and Inclusion Frank Kovarik.

"Our committee is tasked with assessing where and how well our curriculum covers skills that have been identified as important for the 21st century," said Kovarik. "The second part of that is we're looking to review our graduation requirements, what sort of coursework you need, but also what sort of experiential things you have to do in order to graduate from SLUH."

"Our job is to hear and to consider all of the proposals, to weigh them against each other and then make a recommendation to the administration"

-Kevin Crimmins

The group started meeting once every month last May, and have started meeting weekly this fall. These weekly meetings include an open forum time, where any teacher can come and propose a change to the graduation requirements and listen to the progress being made by the group.

"We have a really smart, motivated, and invested faculty who think deeply about what the school is and what St. Louis U. High ought to be," said Foy. "We want to make sure that they have an opportunity to express all the great stuff that they know and that they have observed."

As a part of these weekly meetings, the committee is hearing various proposals from different faculty groups about what should be changed regarding graduation requirements. So far,

there have been nine proposals presented.

"Our job is to hear and to consider all of the proposals, to weigh them against each other and then make a recommendation to the administration for what proposals the school should adopt," said Crimmins.

These proposals cover a wide range of suggested requirements.

"One proposal that I made was for some type of pieces to be put into the student program that would help students understand the history and the meaning of racism, and to help them understand how to behave and treat women with respect and how to basically not be sexist," said Kovarik.

The board will stop hearing proposals after November and work throughout December to compile recommendations for the graduation system. By Dec. 21, the team hopes to have a series of proposals ready to present to the administration for consideration to be school policy.

As of now, the committee has made no final decisions in regards to changes to SLUH's graduation requirements; those changes will not be formalized until the second semester. For now, the committee is hard at work gathering data and listening to the different opinions of the school community.

"Many different ideas exist out there," said Crimmins. "Where we're at now is having the proposers come in, make their proposals to hear them to understand them, so that we can get a full scope of what proposals are out there and what different teachers are thinking. We have not made any formal decisions yet and that won't come until later down the road."



art | Charlie Bieg

Interested in writing, photography or doing art for the *Prep News*?

Email prepnews@sluh.org to get involved!

Students learn what it takes to be a director from Ken Kwapis

(continued from page 1)

pis '77 visited St. Louis U. High via Zoom last Monday to assist them in this search and to offer some insight on filmmaking and directing.

“I’m a big fan of *The Office*. Ken just gave a lot of insight into small things that you want to pick up on in directing.”

-Daniel Munie

Sometimes success in Hollywood can seem like an impossible goal, but for some Jr. Bills, this path may potentially be a reality for them. Kwapis helped to pave the way for these hopes and

make the steps seem less steep.

“I thought it was really cool how he was able to make it in the industry even though he’s from a small town,” said sophomore Jackson Dauska. “It really just made things seem a lot more possible for me to reach.”

This event was planned and coordinated by digital media specialist Ryan Doyle, with help from fine arts teacher Kevin McKernan.

“Sometimes this stuff can get caught up in the abstract or in the analysis department,” said McKernan. “(Kwapis) was talking about very practical things he does to get the shots he wants, to tell a story.”

“I’m a big fan of *The Office*,” said senior Daniel Munie. “Ken just gave a lot

of insight into small things that you want to pick up on in directing.”

When planning, Doyle primarily had the students in mind, particularly in order to make clear the practicality of their interests. Coupled with the effort and drive that were needed to achieve his goals, Kwapis believes that SLUH prepared him well for his profession and the preceding efforts.

“He loved that the arts were taken seriously here,” recounted McKernan. “Nothing was ever taken at face value. And SLUH prepared him to look at things in a number of different ways, and to question anything and everything that he came across.”

Just as it did in Kwapis’s time, SLUH is still helping to foster these same talents

and interests. The addition of clubs like Gadfly and SLUH Student Media have both played a role in this.

“I think that Gadfly has those same opportunities and also Student Media does a lot of filming and edits,” said Munie. “Really getting involved with the filmmaking process at SLUH helped him, and he passed that along to us. It’s important to get involved in what you’re passionate about, and you’re better off.”

Kwapis also offered some wise advice on how to mentally prepare for the journey toward directing, particularly for their supporters.

“Be candid about the unpredictability of what they’re going into,” recounted Doyle. “Encourage them and be their cheerleader, all while

being honest.”

“I knew exactly what to do. But in a much more real sense, I had no idea what to do,” said Michael Scott, but hopefully, with the help of

Kwapis and this event, the students have a better sense of what they’re supposed to do to get to Hollywood, or in some cases, Scranton, Pa.



The group with Kwapis.

photo | Ryan Doyle

Students appreciate opportunity for whole school to gather for All Saints Day Mass



photo | Miles Schulte

Senior Lucas Navarro (left) distributes Holy Communion to Sebastian Lawrence.

(continued from page 1)

door gatherings because of weather concerns.

“We tried to do the Mass of the Holy Spirit outside, but we ran into postponement because of weather,” said Principal Ian Gibbons, SJ. “Our backup plan for that, because we didn’t have a whole lot of time, was just to split (the students) into two groups. For this Mass, we had plenty of time, and we decided that, because of weather forecasts and our terrible track record of trying to do Mass outside, that we should try it inside.”

“The whole time that I’ve been a student here, there’s been restrictions on all school events. seeing the entire school in one place for the first time was really special to see.”

-Leo Fitzmaurice

After first period, students returned to their homerooms, which were called in groups to make their way to the Field House. Once there, freshmen and seniors took their spots on the basketball court, while

sophomores and juniors sat in the bleachers on either side.

Mass was celebrated by Gibbons, and members of

the pastoral teams filled roles such as altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, and readers.

Given that the Mass was

“To me, (the Mass) meant trying something new. I had never read petitions in front of such a large audience before, but I tried it and found that I enjoyed it.”

-Jack Kelly

meant to celebrate the Catholic holiday of All Saints Day, where all canonized saints of the Church are remembered, it was fitting that the opening procession featured a litany of the saints. Gibbons took particular note of the fact that the litany seemed to have grabbed the attention of the students compared to opening songs of previous masses.

“I was part of the procession coming in and out, and I really saw that the (students) were really singing, which is just tremendous to have high school boys engaged. The music was very well done as well, and it was quite touching how we started with the litany of the saints, giving the name and the ‘Pray for us.’ It’s a beautiful, simple melody,” said Gibbons.

Pastoral Team members were integral in ensuring that the Mass ran smoothly, as they helped throughout the Mass. Freshmen were given the opportunity to read petitions and the first reading, their first exposure to participating in an all-school Mass.

“To me, (the Mass) meant trying something new. I had never read petitions in front of

such a large audience before, but I tried it and found that I enjoyed it,” said freshman Jack Kelly.

Many students not directly involved in the Mass, upperclassmen and underclassmen alike, welcomed the return of all-school Masses, which freshmen and sophomores

“I was part of the procession coming in and out, and I really saw that the (students) were really singing, which is just tremendous to have high school boys engaged.”

-Fr. Ian Gibbons

had yet to experience.

“I think it was all around a really great experience,” said junior Thomas Bock, “Mass is really a cool thing to see come together, and it was something that I had always enjoyed during my freshman year. I truthfully found myself missing all-school Mass last year, so it’s great to have it back.”

“Really the whole time that I’ve been a student here, there’s been restrictions on all school events. There’s been times where my class and maybe one more class have all been together, but seeing the entire school in one place for the first time was really special to see,” said sophomore Leo Fitzmaurice.

With All Saints Day mass having gone off without a hitch, the administration is confident about future Masses.

“This year, we still have Immaculate Conception, Ash Wednesday, and Mass of Praise and Gratitude as well,” said Gibbons, “All things considered, with everything continuing to go well, we should use a similar model. Maybe we would move it to the Commons, there could be some good options there.”

Anderson cites his past as inspiration for new song

(continued from page 5)

I could find since I was five. My parents would always have music playing around the house and I have just always loved it. I started writing more towards 6th grade, and as I grew older began writing and arranging more and more music. My main inspirations are Billy Joel, Ed Sheeran, Bruno Mars, Eminem, and Sam Cooke.”

After the release, “Can’t Help It” is doing very well, and Anderson is pleased with the amount of streams and attention the song has gained.

“For the first couple of days after the release, I am happy at how the song is being received. I have had a lot of support from family and friends, which is always great. My hope for the song, similar to any artist releasing music, is to get as many streams and listeners as possible, but for my first song I am really just hoping I can use it to book more shows and be able to create a brand for my art,” said Anderson.

Looking ahead, Anderson has high hopes.

“For my future as a musician, I want to push myself to achieve as much as I can as a performer, songwriter, and aspiring producer. I am looking at majoring in music business in college, and hope to be involved in the industry after that. I have a show coming up this weekend at the Melting Pot Market in Granite City on Saturday, and I am looking to book more shows as a solo act and some joint shows with other artists. As for new projects, I was recently in the studio with Archie Carruthers working on a collaboration that we wrote, and I also have other singles that I am looking to get released in the near future,” said Anderson.



Server Clifton Ruh leading the procession out of Mass.

photo | Miles Schulte

Jesuit Speakers

Earlier this week, Jesuits came to speak to the senior and freshman classes. The Jesuits visited theology classrooms and discussed their vocation stories with the freshmen and seniors. These discussions included a talk from the Jesuit about how they were called to their mission and some extra time for the class to ask miscellaneous questions about their life.

Department Meetings

This past Wednesday, SLUH had another late start,

which allowed students to sleep in. Meanwhile, teachers were hopefully wide awake as they broke into their departments for separate meetings. This late start was just another in a series of additions to the year's schedule in order to provide more meeting time with faculty and, potentially, more opportunities for Jr. Bills to catch some zzz's.

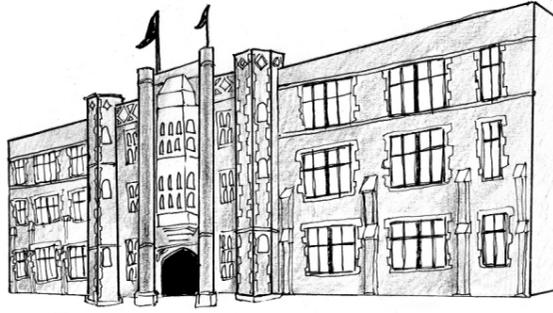
November 1 College Deadlines

With November comes the inevitability of college decisions. Seniors had to face an early deadline of No-

vember 1 to make a decision and turn in their college applications. This undoubtedly caused stress among seniors, especially those who did not yet know where they wanted to apply. Despite the headaches

caused by this deadline, Jr. Bills are sure to be successful.

—Compiled by Alex Preusser, Thomas Juergens, and Micah Doherty



Calendar

Friday, November 5

No Classes

- NO CLASSES—SOPHOMORE PROGRAMMING DAY/PD DAY FOR FACULTY
- Soccer District Tournament
- Junior Retreat
- Fall Production Tech Week
- 7:50AM SLUH Community First Friday Mass
- 10:30AM JV2-2 Racquetball vs SLUH JV2-1
- 11:15AM Cross Country State Championship (V)
- 3:30PM JV2-1 Racquetball vs SLUH JV2-2
- 3:30PM JV2-3 Racquetball vs Kirkwood - C
- 7:00PM V Football - District Semifinal (vs Marquette)
- 7:45PM Varsity Ice Hockey vs Francis Howell

Saturday, November 6

- Soccer District Tournament
- Fall Production Tech Week
- Ignatian Family Teach-In
- Open House Set-Up
- 1:00PM V Soccer District Final

Sunday, November 7

- Fall Production Tech Week
- Ignatian Family Teach-In
- NIE Overnight Retreat
- Open House
- 11:30AM Open House

Monday, November 8

No Classes

- NO CLASSES—FACULTY DAY
- Fall Production Tech Week
- Ignatian Family Teach-In

Tuesday, November 9

B Day

- Fall Production Tech Week
- Soccer Sectional Contest
- AP Regis University
- LUNCH Special—Chicken & Green Chili Flauta
- Vegetarian—Jumbo Stuffed Shells

Wednesday, November 10

A Day

- Fall Production Tech Week
- Stadium Kansas State University
- LUNCH Special—Beef Pot Roast
- Vegetarian—Cous Cous

Thursday, November 11

B Day

- Swimming and Diving Championships
- SLUH Day Event (tentative)
- 3:30PM JV1-1 Racquetball vs SLUH JV1-2
- 3:30PM JV1-2 Racquetball vs SLUH JV2-1
- 3:30PM JV1-3 Racquetball vs Kirkwood - C
- 4:00PM Varsity 2 Racquetball vs CBC
- 4:00PM JV2-2 Racquetball vs CBC
- 7:30PM Dauphin Players Production
- LUNCH Special—Roman Style Pork Loin
- Vegetarian—Brown Rice & Vegetables

calendar | Ben Croat

SLUHsERS 10:

A FRIGHTENING PROSPECT



SLUHsers | Jude Reed

Friday Night at 7p.m. SLUH football plays Marquette in round 2 of districts. Western theme, be there!

Prep News

Volume 86, Issue 10

Editor in Chief

Jack "orange crush" Figge

Editor

Nathan "a stress-free environment" Rich

News Editor

Roarke "Prep News bonding night" Unrau

Visual Editor

Charlie "having the paper in color" Bieg

Web Editor

Luke "meeting Jenna Rae" Duffy

Core Staff

Jackson "Prep News tattoos" Cooper
Louis "Thursday night golf with the boys" Cornett
Jack "being an editor" Rybak

Alex "my wildest dreams" Preusser
Coby "becoming an Olympic pole vaulter" Spratte
George "being open to growth" Henken

Staff

Michael "making crosswords" Baudendistel
Mark "becoming Mike Tyson" Wappler

Reporters

Ben "Suns winning an NBA title" Croat
Micah "a good SLUH experience" Doherty
Drew "crossing the Mississippi River" Hawley
Thomas "racquetball festivities" Juergens
Vincent "weekly 12-pagers" Weinbauer
Jack "having accurate headlines" Kuhlman
Joe "being in credits" LaBarge
Lucas "going to Spain" Hayden
Alex "River Des Peres swims" Keuss
Charles "having two healthy shoulders" Turnell
Sean "running sub-15" Kellogg

Credits

"What dream of yours did Jack crush??"

Alex "writing articles at 9pm" Wentz
Drew "being the oldest child" Figge
Austin "sainthood" Wald
Charlie "being a columnist forever" Vonderheid

Artists

Jude "raunchy SLUHsers" Reed
Alex "'Crosby Road' on Highway 40" Deiters
Will "becoming a k-pop star" Blaisdell
Colin "Christmas in July" Schuler

Photographers

Miles "learning how to ride a bike" Schulte
Michael "using all my photos in the Prep News" Urbanski
Mrs. Kathy "periodic table party" Chott

Moderator

Steve "not having him in my class" Missey