

## Dauphin Players go digital: wraps up filming for *Spoon River Anthology*



SLUH crew films senior Albert Harrold.

photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott

BY NATHAN RICH AND MICHAEL ROBINSON  
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

For years, SLUH students have shared their passion for acting with large audiences stuffed into the Schulte Theater. Last week, though, in the age of Covid-19, the cast of *Spoon River Anthology* read their lines into a lifeless camera. But the passion still remained.

“We started talking about this in the summer because we knew that there was really

no likelihood for the kind of production that we would normally produce,” said co-director Kathryn Whitaker. “We really wanted to make sure whatever we did was as safe as we could possibly make it for the students and for ourselves.”

It truly presented a challenge. With no room onstage for a socially-distanced ensemble and no known plays that involved mask-wearing, the theatre department resorted to a collection of monologue prose written

by Edgar Lee Masters called *Spoon River Anthology*. The monologues, spoken by dead souls and set at the turn of the 20th century, was a big change for the theatre department, especially coming off last year’s classic ensemble piece: *Chicago*. Rehearsals were much different this year too. In place of in-person rehearsals, students prepared for their roles entirely on Zoom, which had surprising benefits.

“It (was) collaborative,” said co-director Kevin McK-  
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## New year and new distancing rules change routines of student-athletes

BY LUKE ALTIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

With SLUH’s recent full in-person return, testing protocols have been changed to adjust to the new three-foot distancing standard. The new policy, revealed in Principal Ian Gibbons’s most recent Parent Connect email on Jan. 17, stated that “any student who gets tested—through athletics or for another reason—will attend classes in a virtual environment for the 48 hours prior to the test (if possible) and until the test result has been revealed.” Of all the students at SLUH, this new policy is affecting student-athletes the most, as they are mandated to be tested every two weeks.

“It is not the rules that have changed, it is our classroom spacing that has changed. There are pretty much two options,” said Athletic Director Chris Muskopf. “You can either allow those in the testing process to attend classes knowing that if anyone tests positive, it will create the need for a 14-day close contact exposure quarantine for anyone seated within 6 feet of the indi-

vidual who is positive for more than 15 minutes. Instead, we chose to require those testing to learn in a virtual environment 48 hours prior to a test and while awaiting the test result in order to prevent the potential quarantines.”

“Imagine having to call the parents of 30 students to tell them that even though their son had nothing to do with (the positive result), they will be out for 14 days because one kid in their class tested positive,” said Gibbons.

With the new year starting, SLUH changed its distancing rules from six feet to three feet, something that had been in the works for a long time.

“We have looked at the three feet recommendation for schools a number of times in the past seven months,” said Gibbons. “In June and early July, we spent a lot of time researching this, and we ultimately decided to stick with six feet until we had experience with reopening campus. We decided to try three feet in late November before the big spike occurred earlier that month.”

The change from  
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### PERSPECTIVE

## Where do we go from here? Chaos or Community

BY SAM TARTER  
FEATURES EDITOR

It’s the name of my favorite Solange song, the title of a book in Mr. Powers’ art room, and it was the inspiration for my 2D-Design mock movie poster. Out of all the philosophies and questions that Martin Luther King Jr. asked throughout his lifetime, one still stands out to me, and now more than ever, needs to be broadcast across the entire nation: “Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?”

It is often said that a new year is a time for new changes and new possibilities, and yet, my short life of 18 years has been marked each and every year with some form of nationwide tragedy, and has often felt like a never-ending cycle of suffering and hatred for the Black community. In the fall of 2014, it was Michael Brown Jr. and the Ferguson riots. In 2015, it was a 50-year-old Walter Scott in South Carolina. In 2016, it was Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A video was later resurfaced of a 2017 shooting of father Mikel McIntyre in Sacramento County, Calif. Once again in Sacramento County, in 2018, 22-year-old Stephon Clark was killed in his grandmother’s backyard when police mistook his cellphone for a gun. In 2019, Atatiana Jefferson was killed inside her home in front of her eight-year-old nephew. And in 2020, a year already full of death, loss, and destruction, the methods of death and motives by the police were the most lethal and terrible of my memory: Rayshard Brooks was killed for falling asleep in his car in a fast food drive-thru lane; George Floyd was choked to death for suspected use of a counterfeit \$20 bill by an officer kneeling on his neck  
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## New year brings new SLUH experience for freshmen

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN AND JOHN POSEY  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, REPORTER

The SLUH campus returned to full capacity on Jan. 11, the first since March 2020. While it was a welcome return for many SLUH students, for the freshmen, it was the first time in their SLUH career they had seen the other half of their class.

“I really enjoy being around other men that show qualities of kindness, fun, and intelligence,” said freshman Dylan Freeman.

Freshman Ignatius Cohort President Tim Browdy prefers the schedule change over the last semester.

“I like it a lot more; it’s much more preferable,” said Browdy. “I like it way more than before.”

However, not all students think that this coming back full time was a good idea. Freshman Christian Nosacka still has concerns about having students back full-time as opposed to the hybrid schedule.

“Moving into full time, what worked with half the school, might not, now that it’s full,” said Nosacka.

Many freshmen are also pleased that the brotherhood they were promised may soon come to fruition.

“Last semester, these freshmen  
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## Seniors hear from experts during Grande Week, add finishing touches to projects

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL AND ROARKE UNRAU  
NEWS EDITOR, STAFF

Seniors participated in Grande Week, a week full of speakers and programming to help seniors as they finalize their Grande Projects for next Friday.

The Grande Project is an adapted form of Senior Project. This year, because many agencies were closed for health and safety reasons, the seniors stayed at SLUH and made a Grande Project in the form of a video, essay, podcast or other form of communication to help raise awareness

for a topic, or provide help for a problem they are passionate about.

“We decided that designing a safe, meaningful project alternative would be better than doing nothing at all,” said Campus Minister Brian Gilmore. “Thus, we worked very hard on it, dedicating much of our professional and personal time to it.”

Each day of Grande Week featured something different for seniors to help them develop the three aspects of the project: topic, audience, and medium.

Tuesday started off the week and was a day focused on

learning more about the topic that the seniors had chosen earlier in the year.

“Everyone who chose, say the death penalty, had an outside speaker, and this one was especially cool,” said Anzalone, “This speaker connected with someone who is on death row, in a phone call. So the students actually got to talk to, and ask questions to someone on death row.”

“I thought it was interesting to hear the story and the thoughts of Lyle (the person on death row),” said senior Tyler Ridgway. “I think the interview helped me to recog-  
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## Mock Trial prepares to conquer virtual courtroom

BY PETER JAMES AND  
DECLAN RICHARDS  
STAFF, REPORTER

Covid has presented the Mock Trial Club, like much of SLUH, with changes, both beneficial and challenging. The in-person competitions have moved to Zoom in order to adapt to Covid.

The SLUH Mock Trial Club is a club that students use to embrace their passion with law and acting. On the law side, each team has three to four student lawyers who question the witnesses to get their side of the story emphasized while also discrediting the opposing team's case. Over on the acting side, each team consists of three witnesses who each play a character to develop the case and handle opposing questions. After practice and scrimmages, teams face competition in real courtrooms with a judge and two jury members.

"(Moving online) makes mock trial a little less enjoyable. Part of the experience is being able to trial, being in the courtroom—that's a whole part of the experience, and that part is being removed," said Varsity attorney junior Jack Rybak. "It's still an awesome



art | Alex Deiters

club. I still love it, but that experience is gone and that really sucks. I feel bad for any freshmen that tried it out but didn't like it because of that one experience, and don't actually get to fully experience mock trial."

Many challenges from Covid have plagued the club: fewer scrimmages, less team bonding, and less experience from learning in a courtroom from real lawyers. In-person (with the option of Zoom) meetings have replaced the weekly practices, which has often made it harder for the club to practice as a team, struggling between working with pairs in breakout rooms and in-person classrooms.

"I think (mock trial) is now harder though in certain aspects; the challenges

involving relationships, forming comradery with teams," said Mock Trial Club moderator Anne Marie Lodholz. "It's almost harder to teach something when there's that separation, especially when some are online and some are in person."

Despite the obstacles brought on by the necessary changes, there are benefits. The club has seen many new faces due to limited sports and activities this year. In years past, the Mock Trial Club had around 14 students each year; the group's total is now around 30 students.

"We have greater access. It's physically easier to just hop on the computer than it is to drive up to the courthouse," said Lodholz.

## Young SLUH team sends 5 students to Speech finals

BY JACKSON COOPER  
REPORTER

The Saint Louis U. High Speech Team competed in its third and final regular season meet this past Sunday, capping off a strange season. The team was not as successful as they had been in years past, but still was able to grow and become better together.

Nearly every co-curricular at SLUH has been affected in one way or another by Covid-19, and the Speech Team is no different. In a typical year, students from around the St. Louis area compete in various categories such as Poetry, Extemporaneous, and Oratory.

Though this year's meets did happen, the meets were moved to Zoom, where students were moved to breakout rooms to compete in their respective categories. After some initial mishaps, the new format carried on with virtually no problems.

"Just like with everything virtual it has become (normal)," said Speech Team moderator Kathryn Whitaker. "At the beginning, it was like 'Oh, what to do, and how's this going to work,' but now everything has smoothed out a lot."

Although there were talks of returning to in-person speech as the season went on, the general consensus between teams was that it was not worth the risk with the virtual setting proving to be functional.

"It's not quite like being live," said Whitaker. "But I think it is the best alternative. They talked a number of times about if we wanted to try to go back live, but I think that, given where we are, that would be futile and wouldn't make sense."

The season was also strange because of a dropoff in the level of success the team has enjoyed in recent years.

As the reigning champions of the Christian Interscholastic

Speech League, SLUH had high hopes heading into the season of defending their title. However, the team was hit hard by graduation, losing all but one returning member, senior Carter Fortman. The vacant spots on the team were filled primarily by underclassmen, giving SLUH a more inexperienced group.

This year's team was not only inexperienced, but also small compared to teams of previous years. SLUH was unable to field a full team consistently, and their place in the standings was affected as a result. SLUH currently sits in fourth place heading into the Finals competition, but the team still has a shot of overtaking St. Joseph's and moving into third place.

"It's not all about winning, of course," said Whitaker, "But for a new team, I would gladly take third place. If all the people who made Finals are able to show up, we would certainly have a good chance of moving in front of St. Joe's and into third."

Despite the season being a difficult one, SLUH was still able to send five students to the Finals competition. Senior Ben

Walsh qualified as an individual in Humorous / Serious Interpretation category and with sophomore Nick George in Duet Acting. Carter Fortman qualified for Finals in Extemporaneous and with senior Albert Harold in Duet Improv. Lastly, junior Donovan Meacham qualified in the Poetry category.

SLUH was unable to produce a Finals qualifier in Prose, Radio Broadcast, Storytelling, and Original Oratory, which is not ideal but certainly is understandable given the state of the team.

"It's great if you can have a finalist in every category, which is the downside for us," said Whitaker. "But it's a new team, it's a building year, so the fact that we are even competing is a good thing, and everybody's learning a lot."

Though only a few members of the team qualified for Finals, the rest of the team plans to watch the Feb. 7 competition on Zoom, something Whitaker believes will hopefully prepare them for future competitions.

"All of the students will go and watch the Finals competition, because they really can learn so much from watching other people," said Whitaker.



art | Will Blaisdell

## Interested in writing? Artistry? Photography? Research? The Prep News is for you.

Any writers, artists, and/or photographers who are interested in participating in the *Prep News* are encouraged to email [prepnews@sluh.org](mailto:prepnews@sluh.org)

## After a sabbatical spent mixing his two passions, Frank Corley returns to SLUH

BY JACK FIGGE  
CORE STAFF

At first glance, it may not look like art and mathematics are connected. It might be easy to miss the geometrical complexities and math involved in a beautiful piece of art. But Geometry teacher Frank Corley spent his sabbatical last summer and fall exploring how art and math are intertwined.

Taking a sabbatical is a very common practice for most professors at the college level, with universities giving their faculty a year off after seven years of hard work. Sabbaticals are more unusual at the high school level, but St. Louis U. High offers its teachers a chance to take a sabbatical to explore more deeply their interests and passions.

"SLUH has a really good sabbatical program that they offer to teachers," said Corley. "You have your choice: you can take a semester completely off,

or you take a year and only teach half of a course load for the year. (Teachers) are then able to pursue projects that they want to pursue, sometimes they're directly related to what the teacher wants to teach in the future. Sometimes they're about a teacher's own personal interests."

Corley decided to opt for the semester sabbatical program, providing him an escape from the hallways of SLUH for this past fall semester. When the time spent in Distance Learning from last spring is added in, Corley had been away from SLUH for almost ten months before returning for the second semester.

Corley has been teaching geometry for the past 15 years at SLUH. Geometry is not his only passion, though; he is also deeply interested in art and sought to combine his two passions during his sabbatical.

"There is beauty in mathematics, and I think visual art embodies a lot of mathematical

concepts," said Corley. "I like to make art and I like to do mathematics; they both make my brain happy, so it's like when you have two good friends who you really love, but they don't know each other very well, so you want to introduce them."

Corley spent the summer and the fall semester exploring these two realms more deeply, undertaking a series of projects and exploring art museums in the Midwest.

"I visited art museums. I created some artwork. I did some writing about art and math. I did some things which are pretty much purely art, and I did some things that were pretty much purely math. I read a fair amount about art and math. So reading, writing, visiting museums, making art, mostly made up my sabbatical," said Corley.

Corley's favorite part of the sabbatical was visiting various museums across the Midwest, including ones in Memphis, Kansas City, and Cincinnati.

"One day my wife and I got up at four o'clock in the morning and drove to Louisville to see the Louisville Art Museum. Then we drove to Indianapolis, grabbed some lunch, saw the Indianapolis Museum and came home. So we did this great big circuit in one day which was a really fun experience," said Corley.

Not only did Corley travel across the Midwest during his time off, he also dedicated much of his time to creating various projects ranging from writing a book to creating sculptures. Many of his projects will be featured in the J-wing gallery until mid-April for students to view.

Returning to the hallways of SLUH, Corley is hopeful that he will be able to incorporate his projects and what he discovered into his sophomore geometry classes.

"I've been teaching for a while and have struggled to find physical things to share with my class," said Corley.

"But now I've got physical things to show and incorporate into my classes about what we

are talking about rather than just telling them about it."

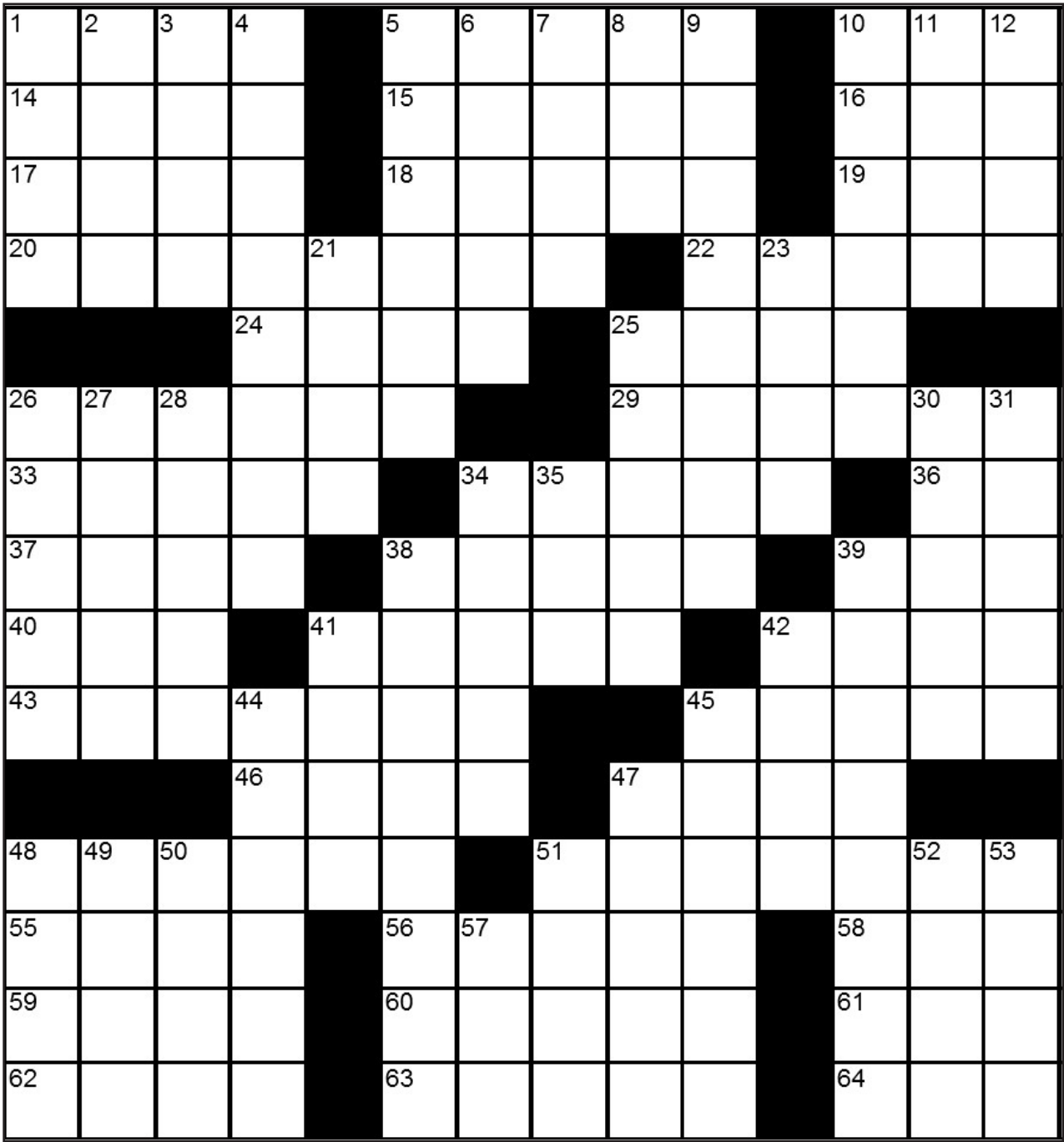


photo | courtesy of Jack Figge

Some of Corley's artwork from his sabbatical.



PN “Signifigant Digits” Puzzle



crossword | Paul Baudendistel

ACROSS

- 1. Org. for Michael Phelps and Simone Biles
- 5. Emo emotion
- 10. Option for either of 14-Across
- 14. Quarterback Torretta or hockey defenseman Cavallini
- 15. “Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand \_\_\_\_\_.”

- 16. \_\_\_\_\_ Enchanted
- 17. Home for House Hunters and Fixer Upper
- 18. Historic district between St. Louis Avenue and MLK Drive
- 19. New Mexico ski resort
- 20. x 2768652 + 5, like Joe Jackson
- 22. x 22335 + 5, Kringle carrier

- 24. Golfer McIlroy or actor Calhoun
- 25. Songstress who reached #1 24 years apart
- 26. x 31051 + 19, Golum led Frodo into her lair
- 29. x 130411 + 18, clear enough to be read
- 33. Liam Neeson trilogy
- 34. Crazy singer Green
- 36. Shot over the goalie,

- as in water polo
- 37. \_\_\_\_\_ to win it
- 38. Vertical landform
- 39. Matteo, Marco, \_\_\_\_\_, and Giovanni
- 40. Relative of un- and an-
- 41. x 1416 + 22, amorphous drops
- 42. 200 milligrams, as of diamond
- 43. x 125114 + 17, fits of laughter

- 45. x 8417 + 44, turkey onomatopoeia
- 46. More than 59-Across
- 47. Othello antagonist or Aladdin secondary antagonist
- 48. x 8162 + 4, compel
- 51. x 1516588 + 5, epitome of fragility
- 55. Obedient, as a dog
- 56. For \_\_\_\_\_, slang for seriously
- 58. Cooking staple (abbr.)
- 59. Ubiquitous social media response
- 60. One of only two characters to appear in each of Star Wars Episodes I-IX
- 61. SI and GQ
- 62. x 83 + 27, inventor Whitney and businessman Lilly
- 63. Food company known for chicken
- 64. Outfielder Slaughter or grandson of Adam

- 11. Jai \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. x 756 + 3, tiresome work
- 13. Accessory for a pageant winner
- 21. Goosey bird or goofy person
- 23. ÷ 25 + 0.017, interlocking brick
- 25. Bass and treble, among others
- 26. Stabber of 26-Across
- 27. Capital of Vietnam
- 28. Barely scraping (by)
- 30. Writing on a book jacket, say
- 31. Short-distance call
- 32. Online refund
- 34. “Have you been in \_\_\_\_\_ contact with anyone who has?”
- 35. Rush Limbaugh’s network
- 38. \_\_\_\_\_ home, DIY life hacks
- 39. Popular Puccini opera
- 41. x 221 + 17, online diary

DOWN

- 1. Expressions of disgust
- 2. x 2457 + 1, expression of exasperation
- 3. “Hold \_\_\_\_\_ your hat!”
- 4. Light bedspread
- 5. Word that often ends in -ly
- 6. Cacophonous
- 7. x 819 + 6, becomes solid
- 8. Cardinals, on a scoreboard
- 9. What a certain elf sits on, though he moves a lot
- 10. A particularly Great tsar

- 42. Gears
- 44. Soars
- 45. Chokes
- 47. ÷ 752 + 0.0166, ice house
- 48. x 78 + 46, stare offensively
- 49. x 145 + 3, change from liquid to gas
- 50. He died at the beginning of Infinity War
- 51. Consumes
- 52. \_\_\_\_\_ Almighty
- 53. ÷ 64 + 0.078875, a certain apple or target, e.g.
- 54. x 101 + 53, result of not winning it
- 57. Ending for mock or crock, as sung by Phil in Hercules

Senior who dislikes Grande Project decides to do project on himself

BY JACOB SPROCK  
NEWS EDITOR

Senior who dislikes Grande Project decides to do project on himself

After weeks of deliberation, senior Noah Apprill-Sokol told sources on Monday, Jan. 18 that he will be writing his Grande Project about himself under the umbrella of mental health, citing the slight discomfort that it has given him by forcing him to do work in the second semester of his senior year.

“I think that my strug-

gles tend to go overlooked at SLUH,” said Appppril-Sokol, staring deeply into his own eyes while standing in front of the bathroom mirror and wearing an “I Heart Noah” t-shirt. “We keep talking about all these groups around St. Louis that are marginalized and have to go through tough circumstances, but what about me?”

Apprilll-Solak has already finished most of his work and is leagues ahead of many of his colleagues, despite the setbacks he says the project has set.

“I’ve interviewed myself six

times, and I feel that I’ve become more and more nuanced each time,” said Aproz-Sokhil. “It was hard having an entire week with no homework and hours of work time on top of people constantly trying to help me, but I got through it.”

With the deadline in sight, Opra-Sockil has begun work drafting his project, a slideshow presentation of pictures of him to be sent to national officials, and at press time, he reported that he will be presenting his project in the Si Commons for this week’s lunch period.



photo | courtesy of @ACES\_SLUH

Congrats to Ocean Okohson-Reb for winning the MLK Award!

OKOHSON-REB WAS PRESENTED WITH THE AWARD AT THE ARCHDIOCESAN MASS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE AND JUSTICE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 17 AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF SAINT LOUIS.



ST. LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY HIGH

SLUH says farewell to Chinese Assistant Mr. Feng!



## Informative Grande Week pushes seniors closer to project finale



Seniors at a Grande Project presentation

photo | Mrs. Simonie Anzalone

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nize the humanity of inmates. He sounded just like a normal guy. It really made me feel for him.”

On Wednesday students learned about how to effectively communicate their message to their intended audience.

“The first session they started with an Advocacy 101 speaker, either Brenna Davis from Ignatian Solidarity Network, who came in and talked about advocacy to everyone who is advocating to someone either their age or younger—or Marie Kenyon from the Peace and Justice Commission came in and talked to everyone who is advocating to someone their age or older,” said Anzalone.

“I think it was interesting

to hear from someone that has worked with elected officials,” said senior Alex Unseth, who was a part of the breakout session with Kenyon. “She knew how to connect with elected officials and really helped me make my message more effective.”

Thursday for seniors was a day to work on the format they have chosen for their presentation. Faculty and staff gave tips on effective presentations in different forms, from writing letters to elected officials to creating a podcast or persuasive video, and students had time to ask questions or get advice while they worked on their projects.

For seniors that are making an art piece, they spent

their time yesterday working in the art department, talking with art teachers Sarah Rebolholz and Joan Bugnitz.

“It was very helpful to meet with a professional and talk with them about my project,” said senior Nathan Malawey. “The other sessions were really one-sided in the sense that there was somebody talking to us, but here we were able to collaborate with a professional and really solidify the design. I really appreciate the teachers for giving us their time.”

Today, seniors will check in with their faculty advisors to discuss their rough drafts and receive helpful feedback before they turn in their final project next Friday.

## Alumni and teachers make pandemic Kairos retreat possible, rewarding

BY LUKE DUFFY AND  
LOUIS MILLER  
STAFF, REPORTER

For the second time during this atypical school year, the Kairos Retreat adapted to the realities of the Covid-19 pandemic. While the retreat still allowed juniors and seniors to remove themselves from the daily chaos of their routines for a few days, the effects of the pandemic remained present throughout.

In the past, Kairos retreats have been held several times a year. Those held during the spring and summer aim at preparing juniors to lead the Kairos retreats during their senior years. However, the retreats during the spring of 2020 had to be canceled. As a result, the retreat’s organizers had to get creative in how Kairos would adapt without senior leadership.

“One of the biggest challenges was the small groups,” said Principal Ian Gibbons, S.J. “How do we distance the small groups; how do we lead the small groups?”

They pondered three main options: having seniors participate in a mini-Kairos and then lead the small groups; having alumni come in to lead the

small groups; or having adults lead the small groups. In the end, the most practical solution was for adults to lead.

“Whatever we did needed to be high quality and had to be impactful,” said Gibbons. “But we couldn’t become obsessed with tradition, because everything’s changed.”

The adults who led the groups ranged from seasoned Kairos chaperones to newbies. Theology teacher Andrew Shaepkottter and Spanish teacher Maria-Paz Campos were both on their first Kairos retreat at SLUH.

In addition to the adult group leaders, some alumni returned to give speeches.

“Many now college freshmen from the class of 2020 stepped up and gave some really awesome talks,” said senior retreatant Nick Campbell.

Many of the usual health precautions had to be followed in order to best prevent the spread of Covid-19 during the retreat. Masks were worn at all times, and organizers tried to keep most activities spread out. At mealtimes, participants had to eat in shifts and stay secluded from each other.

“I would have liked to hug some guys after what they shared, both in small groups

and in front of everyone,” said senior Grant Sussman.

While physical contact was all but prohibited, students were still able to connect, reflect, and grow closer to God in their time at Kairos.

“A lot of my spiritual growth came from the encouragement and wisdom that I shared with my small group,” said Sussman. “It was incredible to see how receptive and open guys were to what I had to say.”

“I felt that the retreat allowed me a time to step back from the action in my day-to-day and reflect and find peace with myself and my relationship with the Big Man Upstairs,” said Campbell. “Another big part for me was strengthening that brotherhood between everyone there, which I feel had been weakened by our time away.”

Overall, Kairos participants got a lot out of the retreat even under the limitations of Covid-19. SLUH plans to hold more Kairos retreats in late spring for current juniors.

“The feedback was very, very strong,” Gibbons said. “I think the interest in the follow-up retreat is very clear and the pool for potential leaders for the April and June Kairos is going to be excellent.”

## Perspective MLK Day inspires reflection

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for almost nine full minutes; and Breonna Taylor was killed while sleeping in her apartment by officers with a narcotics warrant, and was shot a total of eight times.

All were unarmed; all were far too young to die; all were innocent; all were killed unjustly; and all were Black.

In the second semester of my sophomore year, Mr. Powers’ 2D-Design class asked us to create our own completely unique idea for a movie that didn’t exist, and then make a poster for that movie. Being a massive documentary fan and an avid advocate for East St. Louis and the African American community as a whole, I decided to construct an idea for a feature length documentary with a massive budget, IMAX cameras, and a goal to go out into the Black community, tell their stories, and speak their names. If this movie was real, it would’ve ended with the message to remember and honor the lives of those who were unjustly killed by police and to advocate for the parts of our nation that are overlooked, “lost in the fog” or “overshadowed by skyscrapers” as my poster depicted.

Many of those names and more lined the top section of the mock documentary poster. If I included every name from 2014 to my sophomore year of 2019, my poster would have needed to be three times higher, or five times wider. Far too many names lined my poster, and it was a fraction of the many Black lives that have been lost during my lifetime. Fathers, brothers, sisters, mothers, grandparents, friends, lovers, teachers, and students, people as young as 12 and as old as 65.

While the day has grown in significance for me over the years, I know it will never be as monumental and meaningful as it is for my dear friends who share their stories with me. I may not receive an award, celebrate with family, or attend a prayer service or speech in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., but I have grown to create a three-part, yearly

tradition of sorts for myself. First, I start the day by reading a letter, speech, or article/essay by Dr. King himself or in relation to his message and movement (this year I read the foreword of *Where Do We Go* by his wife Coretta Scott King).

The second thing I do each year is watch a movie, documentary, or interview about Dr. King, his legacy, and his allies (last year I watched Ava DuVernay’s award winning documentary *13th* about racial inequality and mass incarceration of Black people in America; this year I watched the potentially Oscar winning 2020 film *One Night in Miami* which features King’s opposing black activist Malcom X as a lead character).

And the third thing I do is take some time to look at and reflect upon that movie poster I made, inspired by Mr. Powers and MLK. I analyze it, take it in, and try to notice something new: a name that didn’t stand out to me before, a background detail I didn’t even mean to include, or a



Sam's movie poster

photo | Mr. Sean Powers

## Freshman cohorts together for first time in to start second semester

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men fun days were kind of like teasers for what it was going to be like when we’re all back, and recently it was awesome seeing the other cohort and some other friends I had in there,” said Browdy. “I’m just a lot closer than I thought I could be with some of the other cohort.”

For freshmen who have older siblings or family members, the differences between the traditional experience and the Covid reality can be disheartening. However, students like Browdy realize how much of a blessing that being on campus brings.

“It’s for sure upsetting seeing the perspective of (my brothers’) freshman year in comparison to mine,” said Browdy. “When I went into the school year and realized we weren’t having the

Running of the Bills and not having a Back to School mixer, I knew how much fun we were missing out on. But I also was just appreciative to be here.”

Despite this disappointment, most freshmen appreciate the work that SLUH has done to make their freshman year memorable.

“I knew that it wasn’t going to be the same because of Covid,” said Freshman Xavier Cohort President Andrew Moffett. “But I was very impressed from the get-go of how much SLUH has done to try to make it a normal year. I mean, obviously, it hasn’t been—we’ve gone hybrid, we’ve gone virtual—but I’ve been really impressed and appreciated this year in a different way than I thought I would.”

The uniting of the two co-

horts has allowed the freshman class to meet new people.

“I think I wake up every morning, and I’m like, okay, I’m gonna try to meet new people,” said Moffett. “If I don’t wake up with that, I tend to stay in my own shell with what I know.”

Many are hopeful that the ease back to full capacity will make it easier for the two cohorts to develop relationships.

“In general, when you come to SLUH, you’re going to meet people. But I do think it’s been limited because of all these restrictions,” said Browdy. “I do think it will be easier for the rest of the year and especially the start of next year when we get new classes when people start to become more comfortable, and I think that’s when relationships will start for sure developing.”

**Sisyphus submissions are due on  
Sunday, Jan. 31. Email all submissions to  
rmoran@sluh.org or fkovarik@sluh.org**



# Cast of *Spoon River* reflects on acting for a camera instead of live audience

(continued from page 1)  
ernan. “It allowed us to just meet with one kid at a time which is a big advantage. The rehearsal process was much safer.”

Senior cast member Ben Walsh appreciated the chance to hear from the directors individually.

“The one on one time was super helpful,” said Walsh. “Before this, I haven’t really been able to get one on one acting coaching, it was always in a group session or just small notes. It also made the overall rehearsal process just more relaxed.”

During the one on one rehearsal time, actors worked on perfecting the craft of acting for a camera, not an audience, something that was foreign to most of them.

“The acting that we had to prep was really different. I had to really tone back and instead of using my body more I really had to put it in my face, in my voice, and in

thing senior Robby Brooks did not have much experience with, but the *Spoon River* show allowed him to explore the craft.

“Working with a camera was cool, I definitely would want to do something similar again. I liked working on the spot based on the videographer’s artistic interpretation of what the scene was about,” said Brooks. “It showed me a little more of what goes into the process of good storytelling.”

Overall, the tech process was much more intensive than in years prior. Students got to work with professional camera equipment, boom mics, and other audio tools.

“It was way more immersive than any audio role I’ve ever had. I felt like I was really in the heat of the actor’s scenes and I was really up close to it. I’m always in the back, sitting behind the soundboard for all my other roles but this time I was really up close and in the pro-



photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott

SLUH crew prepares to shoot a scene

my tone,” said Walsh.

“Acting live you can use bigger emotions, you need that energy to carry. Film is about those subtle emotions. It’s in the minor details. They work differently,” agreed senior Alex Bollini.

Bollini went even further, highlighting his preference for film.

“I’ve seen that there’s more of a continued fluency of the story with the film. You can do a take of just half a scene and cut it and do a different angle. In a play, the story just keeps moving and going and you need to build off that energy,” said Bollini. “I’m pretty biased, film was what I wanted to do when I grew up.”

Even with the noticeable lack of audience, though, the show, captured by a professional videographer, was polished and clean.

“It was like a movie,” said sophomore cast member Joe Pottinger. “It’s a simple set but it looks really fancy on camera.”

In fact, some of the greatest challenges were tackled by students who worked on the crew. Filming with a professional camera was some-

duction,” said Brooks.

For the actors, though, the recording process seemed dull at times, with lots of downtime as each individual actor performed their monologue. It was different and certainly not ideal, but it did offer many benefits for the cast, who missed out on the camaraderie normally earned from weeks of intensive rehearsals.

“In the down time (during recordings) I got to talk and get to know my cast mates a lot better,” said Walsh. “We haven’t really been able to do that at all because we haven’t had normal rehearsal in person.”

“I definitely still felt that (community),” said Brooks. “Maybe even more so than in typical productions because I was actually out there on stage with the rest of the crew and with the actual actors. The chemistry was more present in this one After an intensive week of filming, the clips will be compiled and edited over the next few weeks. The theatre department plans to release the show Feb. 14, with an original soundtrack provided by SLUH’s chorus.

# Arapi joins Foreign Language Department to teach 1818 French courses

BY ROARKE UNRAU  
STAFF

During the second semester, SLUH has gone through many changes, from introducing a new schedule to having almost all students on campus. One of these changes is the arrival of French teacher Ilijana Arapi.

Before coming to SLUH, Arapi received a master’s degree at Saint Louis University. She then worked in Switzerland teaching French, before coming back to the United States to teach French at Webster University.

“So all the things I did were in movement,” said Arapi. “I lived here and went back to Switzerland for other studies, but I kept with French and taught French to kids and teenagers. So when I have a different opportunity to teach French, I go.”

Arapi was excited to come to SLUH to teach French and to continue working with students and teenagers.

“I was looking around for a full time job to teach French, and I had this opportunity from my supervisor at Saint Louis University who told me that, at SLUH they need a French teacher for the 1818 program, so I was very happy and I said yes.”

For Arapi, it has been difficult to arrive at SLUH in the middle of the year. She wanted to tell her students her plan for the second semester, but had little time to show the students all the things she wanted to.

“Especially the first week, everything was going very, very fast for me. They gave me the syllabus and I needed to see everything, and I had so many questions at the same

time,” said Arapi. “I had so many questions for organization, and I think as a teacher you had all these questions in your mind, because it was only a few weeks ago I started here. But after two weeks I started to feel comfortable with everything.”

For junior A.J. Thompson, it was also difficult to start off the second semester with a different French teacher. He didn’t know what to expect from a new teacher, after hearing the news that former French teacher Kevan Morshed was leaving SLUH after the winter break.

“I was a little scared. My first and only experience with a foreign language teacher had been with Mr. Morshed. I was apprehensive about what the future might hold,” said Thompson. “It seemed as though every-

thing was going to change and I had to keep reminding myself that learning through another teacher’s perspective and experiences is quite beneficial to learning a language.”

Arapi was full of praise for her new French students, but one thing that she was convinced would help them reach a higher level would be to travel and to not be afraid to use the language when they have to.

“You discover more of the language. You discover the culture, you discover the traditions, you discover the specialties in different regions. I suggest to my students, if they have the possibility to travel to a country where they speak French, I recommend it. And try to make connections to the native people there who speak the language very well,” said Arapi.

# Marina Chura’s immigration experience highlights unity

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL AND  
JACOB SPROCK  
NEWS EDITORS

*Editor’s Note: This is part of a Prep News series called Immigrants of SLUH. So far, News Editors Noah Apprill-Sokol and Jacob Sprock have interviewed over ten members of the SLUH community about their immigration experiences. This is the third installment of this series.*

The story of Russian teacher Marina Chura’s immigration and adaptation to American life, like many, has been marked by slow, gradual change and a conflict between love of her home country and love for her new home. She currently lives in St. Louis and is part of the Saint Louis U. High community as an administrative assistant, Russian teacher, and SLUH mom, but her soft accent, which has persisted for over 24 years, tells of an early life in a large Russian city, a marriage, and a subsequent migration to America, where she would encounter new ideas and a new culture.

Chura was born in the city of Leningrad, now called St. Petersburg, where she lived in an apartment with her family. She never expected to come to the United States, especially growing up in the Soviet Union, which she was taught to believe was the greatest nation on Earth.

“We were taught that the US leaders were just all about nuclear build up and possibly starting a war and that the people of the US were oppressed,” said Chura. “So we grew up to think of the people of the United States as nice and friendly, the leaders not so much.”

Her first trip to America was to a small town in Iowa called Cedar Falls, where she spent some time as a foreign exchange student. She would not come into contact with America again until she met her husband, Russian teacher Robert Chura, while he was on his own abroad trip to study Russian. After years of dating, they got married and decided that America, which was enjoying a booming econ-

omy at the time, would be the best place to raise a family.

Still, Chura was surprised by some of the cultural differences between her hometown and the sprawling metropolitan area of St. Louis. Chura remembers particularly the shock of the heat and the need for transportation during those first couple of months in St. Louis.

“The biggest shock was the St. Louis summer weather,” said Chura. “I moved here in the beginning of August, and it was the usual St. Louis summer weather—hot and humid. It was also unusual that you had to have a car in order to move around. You wouldn’t see as many people outside here just walking around the city streets to get to places.”

Despite its initial differences, Chura has gradually noticed the many similarities between Russia and the United States.

“I think overall values are really very similar. People care about their families, their kids, their parents. They care about their job. They worry about the same things,” said Chura. “I think that there are some cultural differences—that Russians are more likely to look at things in life as, ‘let’s just see what happens’—and I think Americans are more about action and taking charge.”

Despite having lived over half of her life in America, Chura believes that the fundamental ideals and values instilled in her by life in Russia remain in her to this day.

“In a way, growing up with that ideology, I think that it instilled certain values,” said Chura. “Still, many of the values were really similar to what the regular values that the kids grew up with here, such as putting the interests of other people ahead of your own, being cooperative, being helpful.”

However, as time goes by, Chura feels that her connection to her Russian roots is slowly eroding, noting her home country’s changed view on America and its people and even how the very language she grew up speaking is changing.

“I definitely in many ways feel more American than I feel Russian. I probably do get a little bit more distant from my Russian side, so it’s kind of challenging even though I do go back frequently,” said Chura. “I don’t feel fully as you know 100 percent Russian when I go back there.”

When growing up in Russia, she heard people talk about Russian natives who immigrated to new countries and desperately wanted to keep their Russian heritage alive, but they, to their chagrin, were unknowingly holding on to an outdated version of a newly-evolved Russian culture. Chura doesn’t want to be one of those people.

“I’m thinking that now I’m becoming that person that has somewhat of an outdated idea of the culture and the language,” said Chura. “I hope I’m not, but I always have that in the back of my mind.”

Despite having lived in America for so long, Chura believes that, to her friends, she will always be seen as their Russian friend.

“I don’t think I’ll ever feel fully Russian or fully American,”

said Chura. “When my friends talk about me, I know they refer to me as ‘my Russian friend,’ even though I’ve lived here for more than half of my life.”

For Chura, despite her uncertainties about the evolving Russian culture, one way that she can experience her Russian heritage is by teaching what she knows to her children.

“We have a lot of books—both children’s books and just Russian classical literature—that we have at home. We have always tried to speak Russian to the kids at home from the time they were born,” said Chura. “I don’t cook that much of the Russian cuisine, but I do have some things that I make, and the kids have gotten used, over the years, to have things like, for example, the Russian blintzes (Russian pancakes) for breakfast on Sundays.”

On the surface, Chura’s story reflects the values of bravery, strength, and resilience. Yet, even deeper, it demonstrates a vision of a united world—one where cultural differences are still present and accepted but where similarities as human beings are cherished.



photo | Marina Chura

Chura and her brother at their grandparent’s summer house



# SPORTS

## Strong defense leads basketball with wins against Vianney, Normandy

BY CARTER SPENCE  
WEB EDITOR

The St. Louis U. High basketball team defeated Vianney on Jan. 15 and Normandy on Jan. 18 before a last-minute loss to Webster Groves on Jan. 20, bringing the Jr. Bills’ record to an even 4-4. SLUH continued its stellar defensive run, holding all three opponents to under a point per possession, but failed to make much of it on the offensive end against Normandy and Webster Groves, leading to a pair of close finishes that the Jr. Bills split 1-1.

Just seven days after an 11-point loss to Vianney, SLUH defeated Vianney on the road, 53-42, to earn its first MCC win of the season and improve to 3-3. Junior Jaden McClain pitched in 16 points, the second most of his career, and junior Nick Kramer added 15 points. SLUH’s defense held Vianney, who entered the game averaging 59.7 points per game, to its second-lowest point total of the season.

Vianney started the game with a quick 14-4 run, capitalizing on SLUH’s 2-for-7 start from the floor and a pair of early turnovers. After Kramer converted an offensive rebound into two easy points, the Jr. Bills defense stole passes from Griffins guard Ethan Lattimore on consecutive possessions and used a 7-0 run to trim Vianney’s lead to just three points. But Vianney connected on a three-pointer at the buzzer to push the lead to 17-11 at the end of the first quarter.

McClain caught fire in the second quarter, leading SLUH to a 9-0 run with seven points that cut Vianney’s lead to one. Kramer drained his first three-pointer of the game to give SLUH its first lead, 27-26, with 36.8 seconds left in the half, and McClain drew a charge on the next possession to take the Jr. Bills’ one-point lead into the half.

Junior Luke Johnston, who nailed the game-winning three-pointer in SLUH’s win against University City, delivered a massive three-pointer to beat the buzzer at the end of the third quarter. The shot gave the Jr. Bills a seven-point lead, their largest lead of the game to that point.

SLUH held its lead for all of the fourth quarter despite a late push by Vianney. The Griffins cut the lead to just four points with 1:46 left in the game, but SLUH capitalized at the free-throw line, spoiling Vianney’s comeback bid.

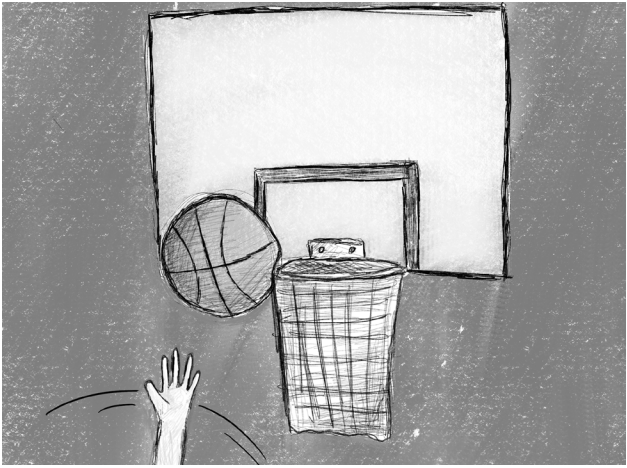
On Monday, Jan. 18, SLUH squeaked past Normandy with a strong first half performance and a dominant defensive performance. Kramer had 25 points, his season high and second most in his career, and SLUH owned the glass with 14 offensive rebounds to Normandy’s two. SLUH held Normandy to a remarkable 0.733 points per possession, the best against an opponent by a wide margin for the Jr. Bills so far this season.

Senior guard and Normandy’s leading scorer Jamaray Davenport torched the Jr.

Bill defense in the first half with 11 points, connecting on three three-pointers and a layup. Kramer also delivered a massive first half performance, scoring 16 points in the half that helped SLUH take a 30-18 lead into the half.

Normandy began the second half on a 6-0 run, stifling SLUH’s offense and forcing sev-

erally responded with a quick bucket of its own, but it was again Ortwerth who rose to the occasion for SLUH, tacking on his fourth field goal of the game to put the Jr. Bills back up by one. SLUH’s defense stopped a final chance for Normandy to retake the lead and nailed five free throws to ensure a SLUH victory.



art | Charlie Bieg

eral turnovers and poor shots. McClain calmed the storm with a pair of buckets off Normandy turnovers, but Normandy roared back with another 6-2 run to close the quarter trailing by just six points.

After the two teams exchanged buckets early in the fourth quarter, Normandy again was on the better side of a lopsided run. Thanks to a 9-0 run, Normandy took their first lead of the game late in the fourth quarter. With Normandy leading 43-42 with under two minutes to play, sophomore forward Zachary Ortwerth added a huge bucket to retake the lead. Nor-

“It was important to go down offensively and create easier shots late in the game,” Ortwerth said. “We needed to score on as many offensive possessions as possible.”

SLUH forced 14 Normandy turnovers in the victory, led by sophomore Aaron Walker Jr.’s three steals. But it was SLUH’s performance on the glass that proved to be the difference maker, outrebounding Normandy by nine and converting on several second-chance opportunities from the team’s 14 offensive rebounds.

On Wednesday, SLUH faced out-of-conference rival

Webster Groves, who ended SLUH’s season last year in the district semifinal with a 41-29 victory. After an early Webster Groves lead, the two teams battled with little separating either team throughout the game, but Webster Groves used a late layup and defensive stand to take the victory.

Webster Groves began the game on an 8-0 run with field goals from four different players, but SLUH responded with an 11-0 run to end the first quarter. Kramer scored SLUH’s first bucket of the game on a stellar alley-oop assisted by McClain; he went on to score six more points in the quarter.

SLUH and Webster Groves battled back-and-forth early in the second quarter, but it was Webster Groves who took a 23-21 lead into the half thanks to a late 8-2 run in which SLUH shot just 1-for-5 from the floor.

Webster Groves maintained a one possession lead into the fourth quarter, leading just 33-30, but sophomore CJ Lang drained a triple just seconds into the quarter to push the Webster Groves up to six. McClain responded with a jumper from the elbow, and after a key defensive stop, junior Jack Christanell connected from beyond the arc to trim the lead to one. It was McClain again who played dominant down the stretch, draining a step-back three after another Webster Groves basket and later converting on a free-throw to give the Jr. Bills the lead.

With SLUH up a point,

Webster sharpshooter junior Matt Enright was fouled on a contested three-pointer with just under one minute to play. Enright, who entered the game shooting 72 percent at the line, made all three, forcing Jr. Bills head coach Erwin Claggett to use a timeout. Claggett’s set-up after the timeout isolated Kramer on the low block, and he turned and hit the fadeaway to tie the game at 46 apiece with 29 seconds left.

After electing to drain much of the remaining clock, Webster Groves head coach Justin Mathes called a timeout with 15 seconds left. Senior Luke Maupin received the inbound pass at the top of perimeter, and a textbook screen from Enright freed up R.J. Henderson for a wide-open route to the rim. Maupin sliced the pass through the lane, and Henderson converted on the layup that broke the tie with 7.6 seconds to play. Claggett did not use a timeout, but Walker Jr. found Kramer along the baseline for a contested two that would have sent the game to overtime, but the shot was long, giving Webster Groves a dramatic victory at the Danis Field House.

SLUH will battle Eureka at home on Jan. 23 with a chance to bounce back from the last-minute loss. Eureka is an impressive 10-2 on the season, posing a tough challenge for the Jr. Bills as they look to return back to above .500 on the season. The game will begin at 12:00 p.m. and will be broadcast on the SLUH Sports Network.

## Wrestling goes against Howell, Marquette, Vianney and others in dual tournament



art | Alex Deiters

BY LEO WAGNER  
REPORTER

With regular season competitions currently increasing yet ceasing at the end of January, the St. Louis U. High wrestling team is putting all of its focus on using the remaining matches and practices to prepare for the District Wrestling Tournament while attempting to ward off late-season injuries and Covid-driven quarantines.

“We’re really going to be hitting it hard for three weeks with how many matches the wrestlers will have. It’ll wear on guys, but it’ll also give us a lot of things to work on in the weeks leading to districts,” said second-year coach and former SLUH wrestler Will Whitney.

“All of our mistakes will be fresh in our minds, so we can go make adjustments and focus on the little things. I’m hoping we’ll be headed into districts looking really sharp and ready to win some matches.”

After an important first full week of January, which provided the wrestlers with two quad meets and plenty of tough matches, the team had only practices scheduled for its second week back. However, the team had a tournament at Francis Howell that Saturday, giving the wrestlers an opportunity to showcase progress from the previous week.

Following a week of heavy drilling and intense live wrestling, the team left practice on Friday excited to wrestle dis-

trict opponents in a dual-tournament format the following day. Featuring Francis Howell, Marquette, Fort Zumwalt East, Eureka, and Vianney, it was a great chance for the wrestlers to cram several matches into a short period of time.

First, the Jr. Bills wrestled Marquette. Off to a slow start, the only SLUH wrestlers to record wins were Bobby Conroy and Gio Loftis, who both pinned their opponents in the first period.

Motivated by their poor performance in the first dual, the wrestlers showed much more energy and intensity during the second dual of the day against Fort Zumwalt East. Will Coovert, Leo Wagner, Conroy, Loftis, Logan Nuemann, and Cayden Owens all either won by falls or major decisions.

SLUH then faced the tournament host, Francis Howell. Again, only two SLUH wrestlers, Nuemann and Owens, exited the dual with wins.

Next, SLUH wrestled Eureka, where Wagner, Cam Perry, and Nuemann all won while SLUH also received a handful of byes from empty Eureka weight classes.

The Jr. Bills concluded the

tournament by wrestling Vianney. In this final dual, Wagner, Onder, and Conroy secured victories for SLUH.

At the Francis Howell tournament, the wrestlers displayed their ability to listen to and act on the coaches’ advice and criticism following poor matches, a quality which will serve them well in the remainder of the season as adapting to different opponents is key to winning postseason matches. Additionally, Conroy recorded his 100th win at the tournament, showcasing his four years of hard work and dedication to SLUH wrestling.

“Reaching 100 wins is a huge accomplishment. It’s not only hard to stay healthy and on the mat that whole time, but you have to do nearly everything right for four seasons to get to that point. It just shows all of his practice and offseason work,” said Whitney. “On the mat, Bobby shows a lot of creativity. Wherever a lot of people would stop or end their move, Bobby is going onto his next move. He is always wrestling two steps ahead of where most people are.”

While the varsity wrestling team was at Francis Howell, the

junior varsity wrestlers were at Fox High School. Whitney was the sole coach at this tournament and offered comments on the matches wrestled by freshmen Tate Townsend and Mario DelPietro.

“It was awesome to see both freshmen get good wins where they did things right and got into good positions. Tate’s season got cut short by a broken arm, but to see him beat a kid by 14 points and pin him and work on moves we’ve drilled in practice was great,” said Whitney. “Mario was a ferocious wrestler. He is a guy who’s really gonna grow in this sport and be a great competitor.”

Following both tournaments on Saturday, the wrestlers returned Monday for one practice until a dual meet versus Lindbergh in the Danis Field House on Tuesday.

Although SLUH was missing some wrestlers due to Covid quarantines and other injuries, every wrestler who was eligible for a match on Tuesday was able to find an opponent from Lindbergh.

Highlights from the night included pins from Onder, Conroy, and Nuemann. Although the 48-18 loss was not

the outcome the coaches were looking for, they still believed the team could use the dual to improve.

“The score didn’t go our way, and we lost a lot of close matches. The other coaches and I saw a lot of little places to make adjustments, so it will give us something to work on between now and districts,” said Whitney.

The next day, the Jr. Bills traveled to St. Charles to wrestle Orchard Farms in a dual meet. Due to a holes in the lineups of both SLUH and Orchard Farms, there were only four SLUH wrestlers in attendance. Regardless, the individual results were favorable.

Onder pinned his opponent while Coovert and Wagner won by decision (a win by seven or fewer points). Loftis lost by fall, but gave a tough opponent a difficult fight.

With no competitions until next Tuesday, which features a quad meet at Westminster Academy, the team is looking forward to working on their mistakes from this past week’s tournaments and duals and ultimately preparing themselves further for the District Tournament.



# Hockey unable to capitalize on power plays; state playoffs ahead

BY LOUIS CORNETT  
CORE STAFF

Coming off their sixth straight Jesuit Cup victory, the St. Louis U. High hockey team hoped to carry its momentum into the game this past Monday night against Kirkwood High School. The Jr. Bills, who lost to Kirkwood 4-2 on Jan. 2, tied Kirkwood 0-0 in a game characterized by strong defensive performances and a lack of offensive opportunities

The game included five power plays, three for the Jr. Bills and two for the Pioneers.

Despite having two power plays in the first period, the Jr. Bills were unable to jump out to an early lead.

“We were missing our three centers,” said head coach Steve Walters. “And it just threw a wrench into our offense. There is no excuse, we should be able to overcome that, but the takeaway is that our team needs to do the hard ugly work if we are going to win.”

With a new power play unit on the ice, the lack of familiarity and chemistry between the lines showed.

“We were able to set our power play,” said senior Joey Perotti. “But we were not moving the puck around, not getting shots on net nor getting bodies in front of the (Kirkwood) goalie.”

The Jr. Bills carried their



SLUH versus Kirkwood.

photo | courtesy of @SLUHHockey

first period struggles on the man advantage with them into the second, unable to convert on a second period power play. However, the Jr. Bill defense accounted for the lack of offense, holding Kirkwood scoreless on their power plays in the second period as well.

“(Kirkwood’s) second power play, we started to chase the pucks on the point and got a little sloppy,” said Perotti. “It almost got us into some trouble a couple times.”

But thanks to a strong penalty kill, the Jr. Bills held the Pioneers scoreless, and salvaged a tie to move to 5-5-4 on the season.

“There were some good

opportunities for both sides but our goalie, Jake Buttice, played great,” said junior John Loretta. “We just couldn’t get a lot of offense going.”

After the game, the team felt as if they had left a win on the ice.

“The message is, let’s come and get it,” said Walters. “We are at the end of the season and I hope to see some energy going into the last few games of the season.”

SLUH looks ahead to its remaining two games of the regular season, against Marquette Friday night and Vianney on Saturday. Following the weekend, the Jr. Bills will prepare for the postseason, trying to capture the Chal-

lenge Cup for the third time in four years.

“We are hoping for two big wins to secure the third seed and play whoever is the second seed on our journey to State,” said junior Max Sextro. “We are looking forward to the playoffs and think we have a really great chance to make it to the State game and bring home another title. I’m pretty hopeful, and I think we look very good this year.”

“This senior class remembers when we won our state final in ’18,” said Walters. “Our short term goal is to get to the semis. From there, we match up against our opponents. But our task in hand is Marquette tomorrow night.”

# Change from six to three foot distancing on classroom impacts testing protocols for athletes

(continued from page 1)

six feet to three feet complicated the routine of student athletes at SLUH since they were already used to testing on a biweekly basis because of regulations the Saint Louis City Health Department set earlier in the year.

For athletes or students who are testing in general, there is a regulation that comes with the new policy that requires them to self-isolate 48 hours prior to their test (assuming it’s positive, there is a 48-hour period in which the virus can be spread if one is asymptomatic) and continue their quarantine until the results of the test reveal that they are negative.

“All schools in the City have been given leeway by the City Department of Health to make decisions that best support their community and their facilities provided that those decisions prioritize the safety of the community members and strive to meet the recommendations, directives, and protocols issued by the Health Department,” said Muskopf. “Our option was better than allowing those in the testing process to attend classes knowing that if anyone tests positive, it will create the need for a 14-day close contact exposure quarantine for anyone seated within six feet of the individual who is positive for more than 15

minutes.”

While the regulations on student-athlete testing frequency are not going anywhere, the implementations this semester have had a range of effects on SLUH’s student athletes. For some, it has been tough to deal with the going back and forth between online and in-person attendance.

“I am going back to school, but if it weren’t my last semester at SLUH, I would have been online,” said senior hockey captain Matt Warnecke. “With the current testing situation it is smarter to just stay at home and some kids have realized that and gone with that option.”

“When I first heard about the rule, it didn’t make too much sense to me,” said senior racquetball player Owen Cooney. “I didn’t understand why teams from the county who don’t have to get tested are allowed to compete against us because they were just as likely to catch Covid.”

For others, it’s more of an annoyance that has taken some getting used to.

“It’s a little frustrating how only the kids playing sports are getting tested and have to stay home from school when the kids who don’t play sports have the same exposure to others and can still continue to go to school just because they don’t have to get tested,”

said Warnecke.

“It is an annoyance, but I understand that it is what is necessary for us to continue playing while being at school as much as possible,” said senior racquetball player Sam Kleffner.

For some athletes, the new testing rule has had an impact on academic performance.

“When they recently shared the new news that upon being tested we had to stay home until we presented proof of a negative test, that meant I would be online for nearly three weeks of school before the end of the season,” said Cooney. “That would put me at an academic disadvantage.”

“I feel as though the testing has just been a burden that has impacted my schoolwork because of having to go virtual every other week,” said senior wrestling captain Bobby Conroy. “It makes it hard to be able to continuously keep up effort and drive.”

“For me personally, it is much harder to stay engaged and perform well academically online,” said junior basketball player Luke Johnston.

But, overall, there is a common understanding that when it comes to testing, the more safe SLUH is as a school, the better.

“On one hand, the testing policy is dampening our ability to have a consistent and

effective practice and match schedule,” said Conroy. “I’m not a big fan of it but because of safety and health, I can live with it.”

“It does make sense to me that it limits the spread so that, in the case of a positive test, that one person would quarantine rather him and the 30 guys he was in contact with,” said Cooney.

As of right now, the SLUH Covid protocol update stated that the mandated quarantine prior to and after testing will not be in place for the rest of the year. The new quarantine policy around testing is going to be carried out until Jan. 31, and by the start of February will either be discontinued or continuously implemented in SLUH’s spring sports teams.

“We are looking at several possible adjustments for February right now, but we are still a week or two from making a decision,” said Gibbons. “Right now our testing is working very well. We need to make sure we are protecting everyone in our community, so there is a need for judicious discernment.”

“If we are able to determine an alternative plan that both minimizes the risk of spread within the community and reduces the class time missed by those in the testing process, we would hope to institute that plan in February,” said Muskopf.

# Racquetball prepares for mid-season doubles tournament

BY JARED THORNBERRY  
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High racquetball team is preparing for the mid-season doubles tournament for all of the racquetball teams this upcoming weekend, Jan. 22-23. This past week there have been no matches and the next season matches do not start up again until Jan. 25. The short break before the tournament has allowed for the head coaches John Kleinshmidt, Robert Hoffman and Stephen Deves to decide the doubles teams for this tournament.

After a long time thinking about possible pairings for the tournament, the coaches named seniors Danny Jurgens and Oliver Allen the top-seeded doubles team. This pairing is no surprise after they were named the Nos. 1 and 2 seeds on the varsity squad.

The next doubles team consists of juniors Max Telken and Danny Phillips. This team will be strong due to a combination of Max be-

ing a right-handed player and Phillips being a left-handed player. Next, sophomore Nick Heinlein and senior Nick Peterson will play together. Heinlein is being brought up to the varsity spot due to an absence of a varsity player but will fit the role nicely and is fully prepared for the challenge. Finally, the varsity doubles team of Will Shorey and Ben Harmon have the advantage because they have been playing doubles all year long together so they have built up the chemistry to do well in this tournament.

“I feel very strong that we have the depth and we have the talent on this team,” said Deves.

Although in past years the doubles tournament has been a single elimination bracket, the format has changed this year due to Covid-19. Instead of a bracket, it will be one giant match. SLUH will take on Kirkwood in the doubles tournament. This means that all of the ranked varsity teams on SLUH will play the ranked varsity teams on Kirkwood and the same for the JV



photo | courtesy of sluh.org

# Underclassman Briefs

## B Basketball (4-2)

### 1/4 - Borgia

SLUH	17	18	35
Borgia	43	20	63
Stats:			
Trey Philips (7 pts, 6 rebs)			

### 1/8 - Vianney

SLUH	23	16	39
Vianney	17	21	38
Stats:			
Charlie Isom-McCall (17 pts), Garrett Shearer (7 pts, 7 rebs)			

### 1/15 - St. John Vianney

SLUH	23	15	38
Vianney	8	10	18
Stats:			
Trey Philips (10 pts, 7 rebs), Ken Kaid (7 pts, 8 rebs)			

### 1/18 - Normandy


SLUH	35	28	63
Normandy	15	17	32
Stats:			
Charlie Isom-McCall (16 pts, 6 assts), Cayman Butler (11 pts, 5 rebs)			

### 1/20 - Webster Groves

SLUH	17	18	35
Webster Groves	11	24	34
Stats:			
Charlie Isom-McCall (15 pts, 5 assts)			

compiled by Luke Altier

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Around the Hallways

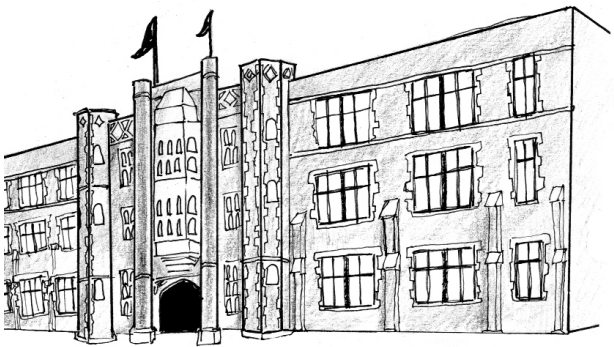
**District Band Audition**  
St. Louis U. High band students could be heard practicing in the band hallway these past two weeks. The students were preparing for the annual Metro District 8 Concert and Jazz Band auditions. The auditions are usually held in person on SLUH’s campus, but due to COVID-19, students had to prepare a recording for the judges. The recordings were due yesterday evening, and students can expect to hear the results on Thursday, Jan. 28.

**Jr. Billiken Immersion Day**  
SLUH will welcome prospective students to campus for the Jr. Billiken Immersion Day on Saturday, Jan. 23. The day features fun activities and a glimpse of what a typical day at the U. High looks like. Prospective students will attend 15 minute mini-classes

in math, science, English, and social studies, and they will have conversations with student ambassadors.

**Club Photos**  
It’s that time of the year again! Photography Club moderator Kathy Chott calls on all SLUH groups to send in their club photos for the yearbook. On Monday, Jan. 18, Chott sent out an email to the whole school highlighting various methods by which to take a club picture. If you would like to take your club’s photo with a school camera, have the club moderator contact Mrs. Chott at [kchott@sluh.org](mailto:kchott@sluh.org) to schedule a time.

**1818 Registration**  
With the dawn of a new semester comes the rising of new opportunities. 1818 registration is now open for second-semester classes that offer

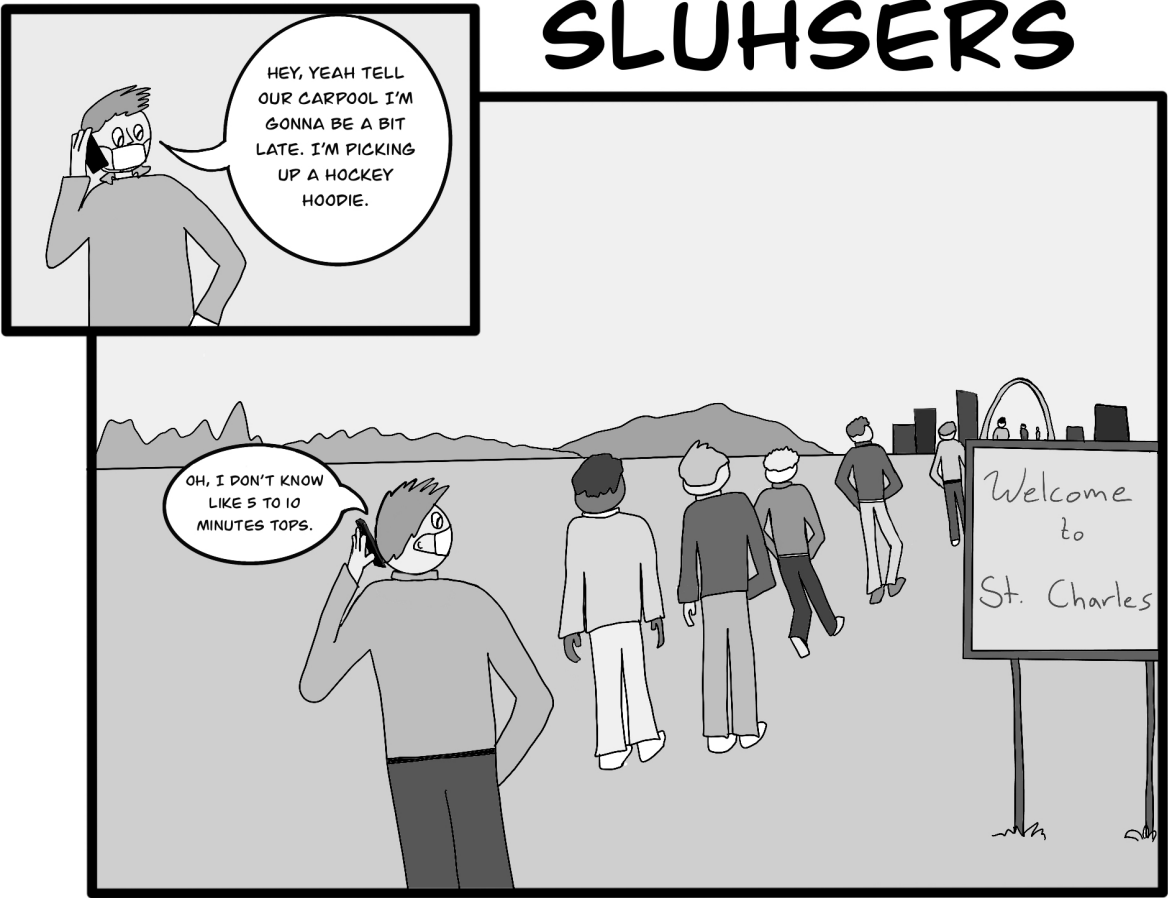


college credit. For information on how to register and which classes have credit available, see Assitant Principal for Academics Tom Becvar’s Friday, Jan. 15 email. For those who are unsure whether to register, consult your guardians and teachers and scout out the schools that accept the credit.

**Presidential Scholarship Filming**  
The second round of filming

for SLUH’s presidential scholarship will take place today. Students who have been offered the opportunity to take part in the video advertisement need to sign up for the time slots still available. Filming will take place in the iLab from 1:50-3:20 p.m.

— *Noah Apprill-Sokol and Jacob Sprock*



SLUHsers | Nathan Rich

Calendar

Friday, January 22

B Day

JV1, JV2 and JV3 Racquetball Doubles Tournament  
Varsity Racquetall Doubles Tournament  
AL      Snack—Bosco Sticks  
LUNCH    Special—Chicken Nuggets  
2:45pm MAGIS Parents Prayer Group  
6:30pm B Basketball vs Eureka  
8:25pm Varsity Ice Hockey vs Marquette

Saturday, January 23

9:00am @Chaminade C-Team White Basketball  
11:00am @Chaminade C-Team Blue Basketball  
12:00pm Varsity Basketball vs Eureka  
8:00pm Varsity Ice Hockey vs Vianney

Sunday, January 24

8:00pm JV White Hockey vs CBC Gold  
9:15pm JV Blue Hockey vs CBC Purple

Monday, January 25

A Day

AL      Snack—Mac & Cheese Bites  
LUNCH    Special—Chinese  
             Vegetarian—Grilled Cheese  
3:15pm Freshman Service  
3:30pm JV2-1 Racquetball vs Kirkwood (B)  
4:00pm JV1-2 Racquetball vs Lafayette  
4:00pm Varsity I Racquetball vs Lafayette

Tuesday, January 26

B Day

AL      Snack—Mini Tacos  
LUNCH    Special—Spicy Chicken  
             Vegetarian—Salmon  
6:00pm Reunion Planning Mtg

Wednesday, January 27

A Day

AL      Snack—Pizza Stick  
LUNCH    Special—Country Fried Steak  
             Vegetarian—Grilled Cheese

Thursday, January 28

B Day

B Team Basketball vs Cardinal Ritter  
AL      Snack—Bosco Sticks  
LUNCH    Special—Papa John’s  
             Vegetarian—Grilled Cheese  
3:15pm Freshman Service  
3:30pm JV2-2 Racquetball vs Chaminade  
4:30pm C Team (Blue) vs Cardinal Ritter  
5:00pm C Team (White) vs Hancock Place

Friday, January 29

A Day

Men For Life Retreat  
AL      Snack—Sweet Pretzel  
LUNCH    Special—Steak & Cheese  
             Vegetarian—Grilled Cheese  
2:45pm MAGIS Parents Prayer Group  
4:00pm V Wrestling - MCC Championships  
4:00pm Varsity II Racquetball vs Kirkwood  
4:15pm @ MICDS C Team White Basketball  
4:45pm @ Whitfield C Team Blue Basketball  
5:30pm B Team Basketball vs MICDS

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