

Maintenance crew shifts duties for Barrow's arrival

BY WILL SMITH
REPORTER

The departure of maintenance worker Troy Trice and the addition of the Si Commons has left the maintenance staff scrambling for a replacement to help with the additional work.

Trice left to work at Covenant Life Christian Center in August, leaving a void in the maintenance staff until last Wednesday, when Joseph Barrow started working at SLUH.

"Everyone here has been unbelievably nice. I get to work with kids and they are very helpful," said Barrow of his transition to SLUH.

Barrow took over the post of maintenance worker Ronnie Logan in the Danis Lobby and theatre area. This move pushed Logan to a full-time post on the second floor, where he is responsible for the sophomore and junior hallways, the J-wing, and the science wing.

Erma Watson was moved from Logan's current position to Trice's old position in the freshman and senior hallways on the

first floor.

"My work load is about the same as it was upstairs, but more if including the Commons," said Watson. "I was pretty prepared for the move downstairs because I knew what Troy did and it was similar to what I did upstairs."

Everyone has had to chip in to help with the opening of the Si Commons, especially before Barrow was hired when the maintenance staff was shorthanded. Logan increased his work load from monitoring seven restrooms to 14.

Watson and the other staff have also had to increase their workloads to cope with the maintenance required by the Commons. The maintenance staff has to make sure that the Si Commons is ready for the lunch rush and Mother's and Father's Club meetings.

"It was slow at first but we are doing pretty well now. We are used to working shorthanded," said custodian Jeff Fields.

"I love getting up in the morning to come here and love leaving at night," said Watson.

Porter's training benefits freshman XC

BY JACK SINAY
REPORTER

The freshman cross country team is about midway through its season after running in three meets.

The Jr. Bills have done exceptionally well in all three contests, winning the Forest Park Cross Country Festival, finishing second at the Paul Enke Invitational, and having their top runner, Joe Butler, finish sixth overall at the Hancock Invitational.

At the Paul Enke Invitational, the team ran its top two freshman runners, Joe Butler and Billy Balossi, with the third-team varsity.

Head coach Joe Porter described the course's difficulty: "Sioux Passage Park was a very tough course," he said, "mostly because of what we like to call the Manmaker, which is the huge hill that the runners have to suffer through twice during a race there."

The Hancock Invitational featured only junior varsity and varsity races. As a result, the

freshmen ran in the JV races during the meet. These races were shorter than others, covering three kilometers instead of the usual five to help the freshmen adapt to the races.

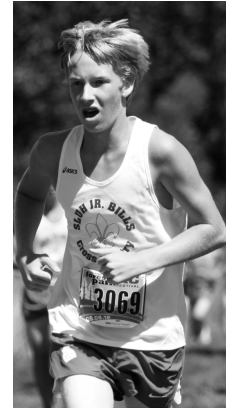
Freshman Joe Butler exceeded expectations set for this race, finishing sixth overall for the JV team.

"Currently, his 18.18 from this meet is three seconds off from getting a varsity letter, which is why we hope to help speed him up in the coming weeks," said Porter.

Porter's training methods are one of the reasons for his team's consistent success. He likes to pair runners with similar times and weights—despite their class or team—in order to better prepare them for their races. He explained that some team members may run seven to eight miles a day, while others run four to five per day. Porter and his coaching staff try to individualize each runner's training.

"How they do in the Forest Park Cross Country Festival is

photo | Ausint Strifler



Freshman cross country runners push to continue success.

often a good sign of their talent. They've had to race through some very difficult courses this year and have done well, but we don't like to compare the teams within SLUH's program," Porter said when asked

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Gunn writes video game

photo | courtesy of James Gunn



Gunn's Lollipop Chainsaw features a gory battle between a cheerleader and zombies.

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in which I haven't played," said Gunn. "I think it's important, at least for me, to do a lot of different things with my life, to experiment in a lot of different ways. I play video games, I love video games, and I thought it would be fun to help create one."

Gunn, who has written novels and written and directed movies, found working with video games to be an interesting new medium, that allows more creative flexibility, with a variety of paths players can follow. According to Gunn, his screenplays would normally be about 100 pages long, whereas the script for Lollipop Chainsaw stretched to thousands of pages.

"There's a freedom that comes in a video game, that every single line isn't important. You can have one thing happening and have to write ten differ-

ent lines for the same situation. So there's a lot more throwaway lines and fun stuff," said Gunn.

Gunn also noted that in video games, stories have to take a backseat to the mechanics of the game.

"When you're writing a story for the movie, the first and most important thing is the story—that's what people are there to see, to experience that story," said Gunn. "When you're writing a video game, people are in the video game first and foremost for the gameplay, that's the most important thing. So you never want a story that's going to detract from the gameplay itself, you want a story that adds to the gameplay. The story is almost like the musical score to a film."

Coming off of the success of Lollipop Chainsaw, Gunn has been hired to write and direct the adaptation of Marvel Comics' sci-

ence fiction and superhero comic book, *Guardians of the Galaxy* which is scheduled to be released in 2014. This will be another in a long line of superhero movies Gunn has worked on, including *Super and Specials*.

Gunn describes his passion for superheroes as going back to his childhood.

"I am a lifelong comic book fan. I grew up reading Marvel comic books and wanted to write comic books for a long time," said Gunn. "My two loves are movies and comic books."

Sophomore Nathan Cummings preordered Lollipop Chainsaw and praised the humor in the game.

"It was really funny. Stylistically, it was really great," said Cummings.

Smith joins kitchen as first chef with culinary degree

BY KEVIN THOMAS
REPORTER

St. Louis U. High's food service staff this year features a member that they have been wanting for a while now: a chef! Janie Smith is the new chef in town, and she is 'fresh off the grill.'

Smith graduated from L'École Culinaire in the spring of 2012 with a degree in the Culinary Arts. This isn't Smith's first time at SLUH, though. Smith was hired at the start of last school year to work in the kitchen, but she left in December of 2011. SLUH wanted her back, though, and they gave her a call over the summer to hire her as the full-time chef.

"We've never had anyone that has had a culinary degree, and that's exactly what we wanted," said SLUH's director of Food Service, Kathy Hylla. "We wanted someone at school who had a culinary degree and could give us more choices and a different quality of food."

Smith says the food will be better in quality and taste than food sold in past years, and sophomore Ike Simmon agrees wholeheartedly.

"The food has been really good so far, especially the pasta. I really enjoyed eating it," said Simmon.

The taste and overall quality of the food sold during lunches

and activity periods aren't the only things that are changing as a result of the new chef; Hylla and Smith confirmed that the menu will definitely change over the course of the year.

"I will change (the menu), and make them healthier choices for the students and also the staff," said Smith.

Smith and Hylla are want to broaden the selection available to students.

"We hope to offer more homemade selections and more combo baskets with the sandwiches and paninis," Hylla said in an email to the *Prep News*.

This new menu of healthier and better quality choices does not mean that there will be a higher price on food, according to Smith.

"They taught us how to make the quality of food better and also healthier," Smith said of her time at L'École Culinaire. "They taught us how to go a cheaper route, to save money, but still have a better quality."

Smith is very happy to be able to work at SLUH, and even happier that she can do what she loves for a living.

"When you like doing something, you get excited about it. I'm excited about cooking," Smith said. "It's my joy, and it's what I like doing."

Pax Christi St. Louis visits SLUH

Around 20 St. Louis Pax Christi members convened at SLUH Wednesday night in J124, where they shared snacks and a viewing of the 2005 historical drama film *Joyeux Noel*, a movie about a ceasefire that took place during World War I in 1914 on Christmas Eve. The movie depicts a movement toward solidarity even during war, a major focus of Pax Christi.

Among SLUH attendees were theology teacher Rob Garavaglia (who moderates Pax Christi) English teacher David Callon, math teacher Nick Ehlman, juniors Patrick Mooney and Wisdom Akpan, and sophomore Sam Fentress.

C Football off to hot start with high-powered offense

photo | Leo Heinz



A SLUH receiver attempts to break through the Chaminade defense.

BY KEITH THOMAS
REPORTER

The C-team Footballs are certainly having a good season, having scored more than 26 points in three out of their four games. The Jr. Bills are very optimistic about the upcoming matchups against opponents in-conference and out.

The Jr. Bills are 3-1 on the year, defeating Timberland 27-6, shutting out MCC rival Chaminade 48-0, and vanquishing Vianney in an overwhelming 34-6 win. Their only loss was a painful one to their storied rivals the CBC Cadets.

Head coach Tom Wilson thinks the team has done extremely well, especially considering that this year is the first time many on the team have played football.

"Games are not all about winning, but helping the players develop skills for the future," Wilson said. "As a team I'm very pleased on their performance right now and I hope that carries through to the rest of our season."

Earlier in the year, freshman Brendan Underwood was the running back for the team. He now plays sparingly as he splits time between the freshman and varsity teams.

Some members of the team, including freshmen Daniel Jackson and Sam Tettamble, say that with Underwood gone, the team must move on with their high skill level of play.

"Our team chemistry is high, and we are working towards two goals, and that is to win games and to develop playing skills," Tettamble noted.

Freshman XC succeeds under Porter's guidance

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if this year's freshman team is better than those from past years.

Injuries have not greatly plagued the team of 26, but a stress fracture for Billy Balossi has him sidelined for a few weeks, along with a few other runners with minor injuries.

"We just have a few guys with some aches and pains, but hope to get our bodies ready and able to run faster in the next few meets," Porter said.

This weekend's Parkway West Invitational will be followed by next week's conference meet. Then the Bills will then go to Washing-

ton, Mo. for Borgia High School's meet and finally to Findley High School's end-of-the-season meet a few weeks later.

Porter explained that the Parkway Wesmeet will be one of the harder ones throughout the year because of the field's size. The meet invites teams from across Missouri, including DeSmet, SLUH's most challenging opponent on the year. It will also be the first time since the Forest Park meet in which the entire freshman team will race at the freshman level.

Additionally, Jackson said that the team takes every opponent seriously, as if it were their last game on the field, recognizing that there is always room for improvement. "The offensive line is doing a great job protecting me behind center," Jackson said. "They are a crucial part to our wins, and they really helped last week against Chaminade."

Kicker Chris Stahl and wide receivers Cameron Gunn and Daniel Isom have been big performers throughout the year. "Chris, Cameron and Daniel have all been big players throughout the season," Wilson said. "It shouldn't be about just three players, it's all about team chemistry and skill development."

The team chemistry has been high, especially with players like Tettamble, who has been the team's spark, always providing a funny side comment or his signature Ray Lewis Dance.

"Yeah, the Ray Lewis Dance is a big thing for me," Tettamble said. "One day we had a bad practice and out of nowhere I just started doing the dance. My line coach thought it was the funniest thing he had ever seen."

Jackson and Tettamble are very optimistic about the rest of the season, and they say that the support at their games is unbelievable. Jackson said the future is bright for the team.

The team's next game is at DeSmet, another conference foe, at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27.

JV soccer tops varsity competition

BY THOMAS RIGANTI
STAFF

After beating Perryville 2-0 in the finals of the Hillsboro Varsity Tournament, the St. Louis U. High JV soccer team is halfway through the season with a 6-0-1 record, and hopes to finish the season undefeated, a feat that last year's JV team—defeated only once—failed to do.

The Jr. Bills started off their season with easy wins over Gibault (6-0) and Hillsboro's varsity team (3-0).

Their next matchup was against CBC, where they held control in the first half.

"We created some terrific scoring opportunities," said head coach Tom McCarthy.

The second half featured more evenly-matched play, but neither team could get on the board, ending the game 0-0.

"We were dominating the game," said junior Luke Robinson. "We just didn't execute and finish on our goals. I think we'll beat them next game though."

"It was our first game of the year against a team that was equal in skill level to us," said Robinson. "It would always be nice to beat CBC, but I think tying them was kind of our reality check—that all the teams we've played weren't going to be as easy as the previous and that we had to make our few number of shots count in the game."

The Jr. Bills started the Hillsboro tournament by beating Valley Park 8-0, Fredicktown 8-1, (letting in their only goal against



photo | Mr. Matt Sciuto

Junior Jordan Griffin navigates the ball down the field against CBC.

of the season so far), and qualifying for the finals by defeating Hillsboro 4-0.

McCarthy said the first half of the Hillsboro semifinal game was the best performance he had seen yet.

The highlight of the season came when the Soccerbills reached the finals against Perryville. In the thirteenth minute, junior Tony Abbacchi scored off a throw-in by junior Adam Young for the 1-0.

A few minutes later, junior Mark Robinson put another throw-in to the box, where a Perryville player tried to clear the ball but put it in his own net. Credit for the goal went to the closest SLUH player, junior Luke Robinson, giving the Bills a 2-0 win.

The Jr. Bills applied pressure to the Perryville defense for most of the game.

Despite the close finish, McCarthy said, "There was nobody

thinking we were going to do anything but come home with the trophy."

"It's definitely an achievement to go out and beat four varsity teams," said Luke Robinson.

This was the fifth year the Hillsboro tournament was held and SLUH is the first team to repeat a finals appearance and victory.

With the second half of the season still ahead, junior captains Jordan Griffin and Tim Murphy have confidence in the team's abilities.

"All the games that we've won, we've won by multiple goals," said Griffin. "Everyone's really contributing. Multiple players off the bench have scored and it's been an all-around effort."

"Everybody's a leader in their own way and I think that's what make us a really good team," said Murphy.

C soccer continues success, now 8-0

BY CONNOR FITZGERALD
REPORTER

The C Soccer team has started the year off with a bang, going 8-0 so far this season.

"Our defense has been really strong throughout the season not giving up a goal, and our offense has been able to consistently put one or more goals in the net every game," said freshman center midfielder Jack Dempster. "It's working out well."

Dempster added that the toughest opponent so far this season has been CBC. "The game was tied until 7 minutes left when (freshman) Sam Perry scored," Dempster said. "It was also scary when even later in the game, CBC hit the crossbar, almost setting the game to a tie."

The team hopes to take the upcoming CBC tournament by storm.

"Even though we are seen as the favorite, we aren't going into the tourney with a mentality of us just automatically winning," Dempster said. "We are just going to play our soccer; hopefully that makes us win the tournament."

The team faces two opponents before the CBC tournament, which runs Oct. 9-13. Both games are at SLUH, one against CBC today and the other against DeSmet on Oct. 4.

"The team is working together very well. We work hard

and we get better every time we step on the field," head coach Tom Zinselmeyer said. "I must say the team effort as a whole is tremendous. At each different point of any practice or game so far this season, a different person has shown leadership qualities and has lead the team."

"There are a lot of things that have contributed to our success as a team," said forward Charlie Dienstbach, who is out with a broken nose. "Our passing, our scoring ability in desperate times, and our teamwork and knowledge of each other have all helped us when playing tough opponents."

"Watching the game off field is a whole different game," Dienstbach added. "I have been able to notice how hard my teammates work and also I no-

ticed some of their tendencies, which I believe will help me a ton when I get back on the field after my doctor gives me the OK."

Injury has also deprived the Jr. Bills of starting goalie Luke Thibodeau. As time wound down against Vianney, Thibodeau was kicked in the hand, causing a fracture.

"Losing our starting goalie to a hand injury has caused us to miss Luke but also admire (freshman) Dan Hirlinger's stepping up to the challenge," said Dempster.

Both Dempster and Dienstbach agreed that the team has stepped up after losing Thibodeau to his injury. Both of them also said that backup goalie, Hirlinger, has done an excellent job filling in.



photo | Mr. Matt Sciuto

A SLUH player breaks away into the open field against CBC.