

Cross country takes State, first championship for Porter

BY BRIAN SUHRE
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High cross country team gave a master class in team running on its way to a Class 4 State championship. With only two individual All-State runners, every place counted for SLUH as the Jr. Bills beat Blue Springs by a mere three points, 98 to 101, though Blue Springs had a faster overall time.

The team trailed Blue Springs by 24 points after the first mile, but made up a lot of ground over the second. After the second mile split, SLUH was up by five points and then hung on for the victory over the tough last half of the race.

Head coach Joe Porter was extremely pleased with the team's performance and his first state title since taking over as head coach in 2010 from Assistant Principal for Mission Jim Linhares.

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Dauphin Players present *Twelve Angry Men*

photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott



Senior Joe Essig, left, listens to senior Joe Merrill. The cast is all-male and entirely SLUH students.

BY WILL SMITH
STAFF

The St. Louis U. High Dauphin Players are back for their second production of the year, the courtroom drama *Twelve Angry Men*, which has connections to junior-year theology. Juniors will be required to see the play as a part of the year's curriculum.

Juniors saw a special viewing of the play during special performances yesterday and today during second period and Activity



The top seven pose for a picture. From left to right: Matt Nicholson, Shayn Jackson, Joe Archer, Tom Laughlin, Jack Sullivan, Matt Hennessey, and Tom Rubio.

photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott

Ups and downs after heart attack for Cummings, S.J.

BY JOE KREIENKAMP
CORE STAFF

Period

"Junior theology classes see the film version of the play"—the 1957 film starring Henry Fonda—"in the Faith course for its connection to the theme of 'seeking the truth through a commitment to clear, logical thinking,'" said theology teacher Jim Linhares.

"The thought was that seeing the play live would enrich the experience of that curriculum piece and give a large group of students a chance to see a theater production, something many of them rarely get to do," said Linhares.

The play takes place during the time when the jury is deliberating over the trial verdict and trying to convince the one undecided juror to vote for guilty. The holdout juror, played by senior Joe Essig, tries throughout the play to convince the other jurors of the defendant's innocence. He uses simulations and overlooked facts from the case.

The play's 13-member cast consists exclusively of SLUH students. Students from every grade are in the play, which means that there are a lot of veterans but also many first time performers.

"We have a lot of first timers which is good because it's interesting to see these guys go out and perform for the first time in such an intense play and to see veterans step up," said fine arts teacher

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For the past two weeks, Tom Cummings, S.J., has been confined in the intensive care unit at Mercy Hospital after suffering a heart attack on Oct. 29.

During this past summer, Cummings had a pacemaker inserted in an effort to help his heart beat at a more constant rhythm. However, during Sunday's event, his underlying heart disease caused the attack.

Cummings was spending the weekend at his brother's house. After Cummings finished celebrating Mass, he sat down to watch television with his nephew.

"His nephew said they were talking and his nephew turned to look at the TV for a minute and he turned back and there was kind of a glazed look on Tom's face," said Carl Heumann, S.J.

During those moments, Cummings suffered a heart attack. Cummings' nephew immediately called emergency services to take Cummings to the hospital.

"They performed a procedure at Mercy (Hospital) where they cool down the body to about 90, 91 degrees," said Heumann, who has been consulting doctors in the ICU about his fellow Jesuit's health.

The objective of the procedure is to maintain adequate oxygen to the brain. Cummings

remained in a medically-induced coma for 48 hours, until the medical staff started warming up his body.

When a heart attack occurs, the flow of oxygen is temporarily disabled. During this period, the lack of oxygen can cause traumatic injuries to the brain. Doctors monitored the brain during the climb back up to normal body temperature to see if the brain was affected during the attack.

"He came out of the coma and his brain seemed fine so that was all very positive," said Heumann.

Over the next couple of days, Cummings was monitored as doctors worked to reach a prognosis.

During his hospitalization, Cummings has had numerous ups and downs. Last Thursday, the ventilator was removed and Cummings breathed alone without any problems. On Friday morning, however, the ventilator had to be put back in. Cummings also had fluid in his lungs, but by Sunday, the problem was resolved.

"Right now we are on a positive note, but all last week we've gone positive, negative, positive, negative," said Heumann on Monday.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, Cummings was placed under sedation while doctors continued work to

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SLUH opens doors to prospective students

BY JACOB HIMLES
REPORTER

St. Louis U. High put on its Sunday best Nov. 4 as hundreds of prospective students streamed in past a welcoming St. Ignatius for Open House. Open House showcased many of SLUH's new facilities and gave 405 students a chance to catch a glimpse of the SLUH experience.

"I think it tries to give them a better idea of what this school is like, and that is the driving principle of all these admissions events. Certainly Pack the House, SLUH Night, Open House, they're all different, but the goal is the same," said Assistant Director of Admissions Ben Farley. "And that is to try to give them, in whatever time, whatever situation they're in, an idea of what this place is about, what our values are, and if kids can see themselves here."

"We have several different ways of presenting the school," said principal John Moran. "At High School Nights, just to give a little context, when we go out to the different archdiocesan schools, you get 20 minutes to talk about the feel, and during those, it's a couple of students and myself, or another administrator and Mrs. Schmelter, talking about what is like to be a SLUH student. The tough part there, of course, is you don't get to see the place."

Although attendance was down from the 425 prospective students of last year's Open House, this is mainly the result of a high concentration of admission events this fall. When taking into account the roughly 200 students found at SLUH Night on Oct. 25, this brings the student count to about 605, topping 2010's 522 Open House attendees.

This year also gave SLUH a chance to show off the Si Commons to the public for the first time. The Commons housed the dozens of student-manned club tables.

"Open House is an opportunity to really show off all of the facilities as well. When you're choosing a high school, you want to know 'I'm going to be happy inside those buildings, and I want to see those buildings,'" said Moran. "Going back four or five years, we would be pointing to where the

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Fight for your right, senior privilege

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New York area Jesuit schools feel the effects of the recent Northeast hurricane. Page 5

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Teachers attend iPad conference

Three teachers headed to the iPad Summit Conference in Boston to discuss the idea of new technology at SLUH. Page 4

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Claggett talks teaching, transition

New head basketball coach Erwin Claggett sits down for a conversation with Prep News sports editor Brian Dugan. Page 9

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ACSA discusses social media

ACSA met to talk about the advantages and downfalls of technology in the SLUH community. Page 2

Cross country conquers state with team victory

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"Our guys ran very within themselves the first mile, but ran very smart, knowing what they had to do the second half of the race," Porter said. "They knew without telling that they had to move up in the second mile, and they did that. It just so happened that they found each other around the mile mark, and I think they really motivated themselves to finish strong. From there, Blue Springs closed really well, and our guys closed really well."

Senior Matt Nicholson again led the way as he had for the entire season, navigating the always-crowded and hilly State course in 16:13 for an eighth place finish. Nicholson found himself in 17th place with a mile to go, but summoned all of his energy to pass eight runners in the brutally hilly third mile.

The race went according to plan for Nicholson, who expected a fast start.

He said, "A lot of people go out too fast and then come back, so I knew I could pass people on the third mile if I ran smart."

Nicholson knew he was having a good race as he went up Firehouse Hill on the third mile. "I kept feeling better and better as I went up that hill. I told myself and the team the day before that it was all downhill from there, which it isn't, but that helped me

catch guys on that hill," he said.

Junior Tom Rubio, like many others on the team, ran his best race of the year at the state meet. Rubio had been steadily improving as the season went along and finished with in an All-State performance of 16:32 and 23rd place.

Despite Blue Springs having the first, fourth, and tenth place finishers, SLUH managed to win the race by putting all seven of their runners in front of Blue Springs's fifth finisher. Seniors Joe Archer and Tom Laughlin and sophomores Shayn Jackson and Matt Hennessey, who ran together in a pack for most of the race, were integral in ensuring that strong team finish.

The four finished between 34th place and 41st place, but three of the four runners who slipped into the pack were only competing for individual honors and thus did not take away from SLUH's team score. All four SLUH runners finished between 16:49 and 16:56.

Archer, who was the first finisher from SLUH's pack of four, was not prepared to lose on the last mile. He said, "I wasn't going to let anyone pass me on the last mile in the last race of my last year of SLUH XC."

"There were times that I thought I might fall back, but the pack really motivated me to keep

going," said Jackson.

The pack, along with the thought of the team's cereal of choice, also helped sophomore Jackson deal with the nerves that naturally come with a first race at State.

"I panicked in the first mile because I thought I went out too fast, but I saw the other guys, and thought, 'Fruity Pebbles' and we started passing people," said Jackson.

The team was not without injuries in the race. Jackson had to deal with what was later revealed to be a hip injury, and Hennessey ran through a broken bone in his foot picked up after Districts and a hip injury that he incurred on the state course.

Hennessey didn't think the injury affected him too much, and thought that the adrenaline of the State meet allowed him to push through.

"If I hadn't been injured, I probably could have placed a little higher," said Hennessey, "but overall, I'm still satisfied with my performance and it worked out for the team in the end."

Sophomore Jack Sullivan finished off SLUH's main pack, finishing seventh on the team and 96th overall. However, in a testament to the team's depth, Sullivan finished in front of every other team's fifth man.

All the coaches and team members stressed a calm but confident approach in the build up to the race.

Assistant Coach Tom Flanagan said, "We didn't make this any different than any other meet in the season, but all of the coaches had a sense of confidence that the guys were ready to run really well. We knew we were peaking as a team at the right time."

"The key going into the race was staying as relaxed as possible," said Laughlin. "Knowing from past experience, you can get really stressed out before the race in the week building up to it, so we just stayed calm, joked around a lot, and saved our energy for the race."

Rubio summarized the feelings of many team members on their state victory by simply stating, "It's the best feeling in the world."

A few healthy members of the State team continued their season at the Nike Cross Regionals in Terra Haute, Ind. last Saturday, including Nicholson, Rubio, and Sullivan from the State top seven and freshman Joe Butler, junior Jerry Amsler, and sophomore Jacob Marty. No SLUH runners qualified for nationals.

photo | courtesy of Mrs. Kathi Mimplitz



The 2012 State champion cross country team.

Cummings suffers heart attack Oct. 29

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improve his health. During the day on Wednesday, the amount of sedatives given to Cummings was decreased. On Wednesday night, Cummings showed some responsiveness. Houlihan visited Cummings on Wednesday night. Cummings squeezed his fellow Jesuit's hand as they prayed. With the ventilator in place, Cummings could not speak, but he shook his head.

Besides everything else that is happening, Cummings has

been battling pneumonia that he incurred while in the hospital; however, the doctors are making headway.

After talking on Thursday about removing the ventilator, doctors decided to take out the device last night. At 9:00 last night, Cummings was doing fine: he was awake, communicating, and breathing well on his own.

"It was a good day," said Houlihan.

Should Cummings recover

from the heart attack, SLUH may not be the best place for him. He may have to go somewhere that is not as strenuous on the recovering body.

Heumann and Houlihan ask for prayers on behalf of Cummings.

To follow Cummings' battle, please visit his CaringBridge webpage at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/tomcummingsj/journal>.

Swimming takes MCC's, falters at State

BY JUSTIN JELLINEK
REPORTER

The swim team repeated as MCC champions on Friday, Nov. 2. Among the highlights of the meet were the 200-yard freestyle relay's first place finish and the 400 freestyle relay's second place finish, which scored the final points needed for the Jr. Bills to win the meet.

The 200 freestyle relay featured senior Ryan Caselton, junior Jack Brauer, sophomore Colin Derdeyn, and senior Chris Favier, who won the event by over a body length for a huge victory for SLUH.

Brauer said, "I'm really happy with the way our relay performed at MCC, especially Caselton's leg of the relay. I think the team did good as a whole, and winning relays is especially helpful because it involves more than one person."

Most notable, however, was freshman Justin Andrews, who once again showed that he is one of the fastest swimmers in the MCC. Andrews raced in the 200 and the 500 freestyle as his individual events, earning gold in both races. Andrews dominated in the meet, resulting in many of the points that contributed to SLUH's win.

Spirits were very high as the team pushed coach Rachel Graczak into the pool to celebrate.

Andrews said of the meet, "I was happy with my swimming. I was happy with how my hair looked after the race as well. I was happy at how shiny my gold medals were. But most of all, I was happy to win the meet."

Exactly a week from MCC, a few of the swimmers took part in the State meet. In individual events, Justin Andrews raced in the 200 and 500 freestyle races. Favier raced in the 50 and 100 freestyle races. Derdeyn flew in the 100 butterfly race, and senior Nick Koors swam in the 100 freestyle.

Three relays swam at state: the 200 medley relay comprised of seniors Richie Mayer, Culin Tripp, Derdeyn, and Brauer; the 200 freestyle relay comprised of Brauer, Favier, Koors, and Derdeyn; and the 400 freestyle relay comprised of Caselton, Favier, Andrews, and Koors.

The 200 medley and the 400 freestyle did not make it back, but the 200 freestyle relay finished strong with a 10th place finish overall.

Andrews finished 12th overall in the 500 freestyle, while Favier finished 11th in the 50 freestyle. Although the team did not find the success that they found last year, the results show a lot of promise for the future in the likes of Brauer, Derdeyn, and Andrews.

SLUH Football All MCC

Offense:

Alec Abeln	OL
Senior	1st team
Matthew Hinkebein	WR
Senior	1st team
Raymond Wingo	Ath.
Junior	1st team
Andy Riek	OL
Senior	2nd team
T.J. Daniels	OL
Junior	2nd team
Michael Hall	RB
Junior	2nd team

Defense:

Alex Mackin	LB
Senior	1st team
Raymond Wingo	DB
Junior	1st team
Nick Granberry	DE
Senior	2nd team
Matthew Hinkebein	S
Senior	2nd team

Honorable mention:

Tyler McNeil	WR
Senior	
Dan Boyce	OL
Senior	
Nathan Anderson	LB
Junior	
Dan Evans	DE
Junior	
Max Kavy	OL
Sophomore	