

PREP NEWS

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With TLC, art gallery returns to original purpose

BY SAM HEAGNEY
FEATURES EDITOR

When students venture into the second floor of the J-wing, they often peel off to the right or left, ignoring the art gallery right in front of them. The art department hopes to turn that neglect into curiosity through the transition of J223 into a full-time art gallery.

The art department is still developing what the gallery will look like for the coming year. It will kick off with student artwork purchased by the school over the past 18 years.

"(These student pieces) have been pushed around," said Bugnitz. "We decided we wanted a home for them to be shown off."

"I like students to know their art has a place," said Rebbholz.

The department has looked into opening the gallery for alumni to submit works or possibly holding a show of art produced exclusively by faculty members.

"It's a way to bring it all together in a professional setting where it's more easily accessible," said Rebbholz.

While describing her hopes for the gallery and its relationship to the rest of the school, Bugnitz referenced the inscription on the St. Louis Art Museum's south facade, "Art still has truth; take refuge there," expressing the hope that the room can be a place for students and faculty to find refuge amidst the hectic St. Louis U. High day and relax in the peaceful presence of art.

"I imagine the space would be an inspiration to students both in and out of art classes," said Powers.

The transition from studio to gallery was also a crucial decision for the teachers because it provides them with a space to critique art. Critiquing has been difficult for teachers to oversee in years

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Alumni form archives committee

BY SAM CHECHIK
CORE STAFF

"What can we do to help the school achieve its mission?"

Terry Donohue, '63, posed this question to President David Laughlin after proposing the idea of creating an archive of St. Louis U. High materials.

Donohue formed a group of alumni from his class after their 50th reunion to create a gift to give back to the school that celebrates SLUH's 200 year anniversary. Donahue recruited four other members from the class of '63—Norm Thomas, Lee Schilligo, Ron Horst, and Bob St. Vrain—to work on the archive. Another member of their class, Frank Pawloski, has helped compiling most of the sports statistics and information.

"We are really looking to celebrate our tradition and excellence for our bicentennial, so the genesis of the archivists committee was with several dedicated alumni who are very passionate about the high school," said Director of Communications Ben DuMont. "We've got a lot of good stories to tell, is what it all comes down to. How can we tell the story of St. Louis U. High in a way that really captures the tradition and excellence of the high school? That's really the mission."

Informally nicknamed the "Archivists Committee," the group has begun to gather materials.

Right now, the archivists are gathering their archive materials from different parts of the school, like closets in the Ignatian Conference Room or in the basement.

"This is all spread out all over the school," said Hurst.

"But it's also elsewhere," said St. Vrain. "There's a lot of St. Louis history, which includes the history, if not just formally of the school, but also a lot of the alumni who have done significant things."

There are three possible outcomes from the archivists, and they all have to do with putting something together

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After Friday nights win over Vianey, Kornfeld accepted the game ball from longtime AD, Dick Wehner.

PHOTO | LEO HEINZ

200 wins later, Kornfeld recalls his first

BY TIM NILE AND KEITH THOMAS
SPORTS EDITORS

On a sweltering September afternoon in 1988, Gary Kornfeld stood on the sidelines of Bishop DuBourg's football field in his first football game as St. Louis U. High's head coach. His team beat the St. Mary's Dragons (St. Mary's did not have a football field at the time) 24-0. Kornfeld recently captured his 200th and 201st wins at SLUH, making him the winningest football coach in the school's history. His legacy has carried on to the present day.

"I still have that football up, my

first football," said Kornfeld. "I don't remember a lot about it. I remember I was very happy that I got my first win."

The 1988 football team was one built on excellence. Players like Mike Hohl, Doug Sansone, Greg Colombo, Tom Johnston, and quarterback Tom Purcell were at the core of Kornfeld's first SLUH team.

The team was more offense-based—compared to previous coach Paul Martel's rigid defensive teams—and that approach led the team from a 2-8 record in 1987 to an 8-2 record in Kornfeld's first year in '88; the team

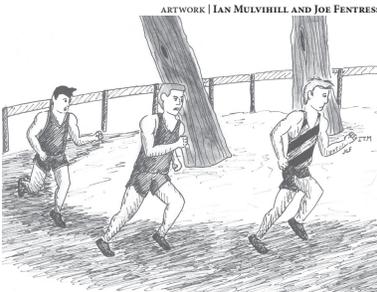
eventually lost to McCluer North in the district tournament. In his first season as head coach, Kornfeld turned a losing team into a winning one, leading the team to its best record in three years.

What Kornfeld brought to the table was a new approach to SLUH football, an approach that would eventually bring in the most wins in SLUH history.

"Coach Kornfeld was just very energetic, had a lot of energy, a lot of enthusiasm," said current teacher Dan See, who was an assistant coach

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XC Festival reaches decade; features 4,000 athletes



ARTWORK | IAN MULVHILL AND JOE FENTRESS

BY ETHAN MCINTYRE AND JOSEPH REZNIKOV
FEATURES EDITOR AND STAFF

The 10th Annual Forest Park Cross Country Festival will return to Forest Park this weekend. Although the

Festival will be held in a new venue due to a permit dispute over Central Fields, the flow of the region's largest meet will not change.

Lining up on the 100-meter long starting line

with hundreds of other runners, participants in the annual festival wonder if they will ever compete on such a massive stage again as they look around and see the thousands of fans screaming and cheering them on. For some runners, the Festival works as a preview of the State Championship in November, but for others it is simply a celebration of hard work and a chance to enjoy the big-time atmosphere without the knee-buckling pressure.

The Festival, which has been put on for the last 10 years, is the largest event hosted by St. Louis U. High. It consistently draws more than 4,000 participants and thousands of fans to Forest

Park, making it one of the largest meets in the Midwest Region—the only high school meets that come even close to its size are the Missouri State Cross Country Championships and the Nike Cross Nationals competitions. To put it in perspective, the 2014 Nike Cross Regionals Competition hosted 1,700 runners and the Missouri State Championship typically sees 1,300 participants.

When SLUH played CBC in the state semifinal football game in 2014, there were 4,000 people in attendance. There are 4,000 athletes scheduled to compete at the Festival, and planners expect 6,000 fans—totaling

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Kornfeld runs combine for plentiful harvest bundle of wins

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for Kornfeld's first season at the helm of the SLUH football program. "He was a lot of fun to work with, it just seemed like he was always in a good mood. He was really good with me, just patiently teaching me some of the ideas that he was trying to implement in the program. He really was trying to change the way we did things, especially offen-

to look to find a coach," said former athletic director Dick Wehner. "We didn't even open it up; we knew we had someone special on staff, and that was Gary."

The game of football has changed in many aspects over the years.

"Back when I first started in this business, and nine of those years were with coach

back coach who played at Northwestern. He also credited track star Eric Hunt, who went on to Brown University and returned to help coach receivers and safeties, and Jake Corrigan, who coaches the linebackers. Offensive and defensive line assistant Kyle Schnettgoecke, who played with Kornfeld's son at the University of Illinois, came to

someone else would go pick it up. We've always taken care of one another."

While Kornfeld's children—two sons and a daughter—played college sports for nine years straight, his staff would pick up those games for him. Now, those roles are reversed. Kornfeld's focus on familial importance is why so many hold him in high regard.

"Both of my boys, Michael and Thomas, attended St. Louis U High and both played football for Coach Kornfeld," said Egan. "So in many ways it's not about my experience but my family's experience. It's about everyone that has come through the program. Whether you're a player, or a coach, or a parent, you're part of that family down there and I think coach Kornfeld would be the first one to tell you it's all about all the different people who have played or somewhat participated in the achievements of the program. It's a real family atmosphere."

Kornfeld had several other coaching opportunities over his 27-year tenure at SLUH, but has never left the friendly confines of Oakland Avenue.

"I had my opportunities to go back to my alma mater Southeast Missouri State, and I had a couple of other opportunities," said Kornfeld. "I didn't want that lifestyle. I'm a St. Louis guy and my wife is a St. Louis gal. I didn't want to move my family every three or four years. I didn't want that. I enjoy the environment that I'm in here. I'm surrounded by great kids ... I'm in a wonderful place."

Despite the amount of time that has passed, Kornfeld still remembers players from his first team at SLUH. He still keeps in touch with them today, as he does with many of his former players.

"Tom Purcell was my first quarterback," said Kornfeld. "Tommy Purcell was a heck of a leader for us and did a great job. Tommy was a heck of a quarterback. He's in New York and does real well, he's into finances. He's very successful. He comes back once a year for a game and I have his

son on the sidelines."

"Tommy Johnston, who put together the weight room, was one of my captains on that team," added Kornfeld. "He was at our 200th victory and 201st victory. I still see Tommy, he lives in Kirkwood."

But as Kornfeld reflects on his success over the years, his humility shows.

"I've never been a numbers guy," said Kornfeld. "My goal was never to get 200, my goal was each week I wanted to get better with the club I had and that's the way I still continue to do it, because if you look ahead you're going to be disappointed. Just take the task at hand and deal with it and then move on to the next club."

Kornfeld's success can be attributed to many things, but two in particular are his planning and his attention to detail.

"All the success Gary has had has been through a lot of hard work and planning," said Egan. "I'm always impressed with the amount of preparation that he and his coaching staff put into each and every game and the discipline he instills in the players. He practices things like snapping the ball over the punter's head. In looking back at his success it's about a lot of planning and focus on details and I see that every game."

"When you do the right

things day after day and year after year and you stick to that you know you're not guaranteed success but your chances of success go up," said See. "That's a hard thing to do to stick to your plan and stick with your values and keep those things as part of your program's culture. He's survived a lot of changes in football, in the program, in the coaching staff, and the student body for years and years."

It is no doubt that Kornfeld has succeeded and will continue to succeed on the sidelines, but his legacy is more than just a man with a headset and a navy blue football cap.

"For me it was a very positive experience, you know I was a young teacher, a new guy here," said See. "I always respected the way he treated players, the way he treated officials. He cared about people in the midst of all the chaos in trying to win and all that was something that always came through."

"He cares for everyone in the program, from the freshman who can't even button his chinstrap to the senior who goes on to play division one football," said Wehner. "I think coach Kornfeld has had a hand in giving a positive vibe to these boys who've gone on to be very successful in life. That's always been his hallmark. I don't think he's missed a beat."



Kornfeld in his office after taking over for Paul Martel in 1988.

PHOTO | DAUPHIN YEARBOOK

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sively." Kornfeld's career didn't start in the head coaching position—he started under Martel, who won 200 games in his tenure as football head coach at SLUH. Kornfeld came from Perryville, Missouri, where he coached the high school team. In the following weeks after leaving Perryville, Kornfeld was at Duffy Daugherty's Coach of the Year clinic in downtown St. Louis when his college coach talked to Martel, who told Kornfeld of an opening at SLUH in the physical education department.

"That's when I met Paul (Martel)," said Kornfeld. "He told me get your application in and do this and do that. I was with Paul for nine years. Great nine years. I think the biggest thing that I learned from Paul is that you need change. You can't keep doing the same thing over and over. He would always make sure that he was at the forefront of what was new in the football business. And in my tenure—my 27 years—there has been so much new."

When Martel stepped down, the choice for the next football coach was simple.

"We didn't even have

Martel, football was a little bit more simplified," said Kornfeld. "Most of the schools there were either two or three offenses they were running, most of the schools there were two defenses they were running. It has become more diversified, more sophisticated."

But as Martel taught him, Kornfeld has always changed how he has coached. Depending on the layout of his team, Kornfeld builds on the strengths of the players.

"He was always the guy who was trying to learn the latest newest things," said See, referencing Kornfeld's coaching style. "I've seen his offenses and his defenses progress and change over the years."

Kornfeld attributes part of his monumental success to his coaching staff. "The one thing about me is that I've surrounded myself with great people. I've got a great staff," said Kornfeld. "I've always had great offensive minds on my coaching staff ... as well as great defensive minds."

Kornfeld gave credit to many former players who have come back to help coach at SLUH. He mentioned Stephen Simmons, a running back and defensive

SLUH to help line coach John Diffley.

"When he has an opening he looks at alumni who have played football for him, first and foremost, because that's really, really worked for him and I think it's added years onto his career," said Wehner. "I think these young guys have rejuvenated Mr. Kornfeld. I think without the young guys he would have retired five years ago."

Team trainer Tony Egan has been with Kornfeld for 26 years.

"Starting out, coach and I always had a good understanding of each other and really our relationship has grown into one of the great friendships of my life," said Egan. "It has always been an honor and a privilege to be part of coach Kornfeld's staff."

Not only does Kornfeld pride himself on his coaching staff, but also in his family and the families of his assistant coaches.

"I always did things with my kids," said Kornfeld. "I always tell my staff, do not ever forget your family. And if there is a time when we have to scout a game on Saturday and someone has a son or daughter playing a soccer game then

XC Festival adapts to Aviation Field

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more than double the amount of people at the football game.

"There are so many teams from all over the region, and so many exciting competitors at the meet," said senior Joe Butler, who will be running the Festival for his fourth and final time this year.

The Festival started out relatively small, but through 10 years of excellent race management, it has grown into a massive event.

The Festival was born when a large local meet at McCluer North High school was cancelled in 2004 and about 35 teams needed a new place to compete. Coaches Jim Linhares and Joe Porter used prior connections with Big River Running Company, a local running shoe store and race

timing company, to set up the first race on Forest Park's Central Fields in 2006. Since then, the race has gained popularity and the course on Central Fields has even hosted the National Cross Country Championships.

The element most unique to the Festival, however, is its atmosphere, which can be enjoyed by runners and fans at every level of competition. Whether it is the highest division of varsity, or a middle school race, every race has an announcer keeping track of the leader, and, since there are usually about 10,000 people at the Festival to watch the races, each race has an endless line of fans cheering for their schools.

"It's exciting when you go to the starting line and there

are thousands of people lined up along the course cheering and screaming," said Butler.

The fans aren't the only source of excitement, though.

"We try to make it more about atmosphere," said Porter. "No other meet that I know of has a sound system with music blaring, or an announcer announcing the leaders' names."

Another fun activity that the Festival features is that each and every winner, no matter what division, is interviewed when they cross the finish line—something especially exciting for the younger runners.

The event also draws large running sponsors to Forest Park to market their products. It is not rare to see a Saucony truck giving out

free gear to fans and athletes, only adding to the excitement of the day. SLUH has worked with Saucony for the last two years, and this is the largest event that the company sponsors.

The atmosphere is constantly evolving; the board and the official sponsors are constantly dreaming up new ways to make the meet exciting.

"We've even had photo booths in the past. Whatever we can get our sponsors to come up with and be creative with," said Porter. "We actually looked into contracting a company to have a drone follow the lead pack and take video. We're willing to spend more money so that people will have a good experience."

Another enhancement of atmosphere in the Festi-

val is the presence of an official "athlete's village," which is often absent in smaller meets where teams spread out around the course to set up their tents. At the festival, teams all set up in one place. This is the same setup used in the State Championship meet.

"It's similar to the State atmosphere, but it's less pressure, and you can enjoy the atmosphere more," said Butler.

The event has quickly become one of the premiere meets in the region, drawing teams from nine different states, including Illinois and Wisconsin, and 126 different high schools.

After nine years at Central Fields, the Festival's location has been moved to Aviation Field for this year's meet.

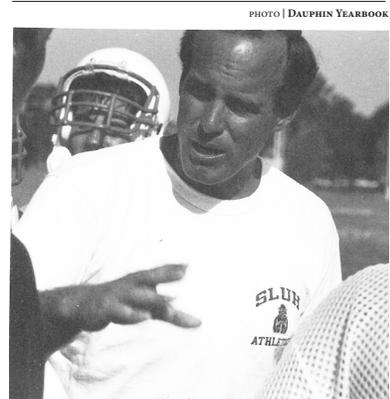
The location of the Festival was forced to change be-

cause LouFest is taking place on the same weekend. LouFest has traditionally been held on the weekend after Labor Day, while the Festival has been held on the second week of September. This year, however, those two dates happen to be at the same time.

The decision to move the location of the meet was the result of city contracts, park permits, meetings with the mayor's office, and LouFest lobbyists. SLUH President David Laughlin represented SLUH in many of the meetings with the mayor's office and LouFest lobbyists.

C3 Presents, the company that manages some of the country's biggest music festivals including Loufest, Lollapalooza, and Austin City Limits, won the permit and will be

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Kornfeld at practice in his first season as head coach, 1988.

PHOTO | DAUPHIN YEARBOOK

