



Football close to return with new plan

BY LUKE ALTIER AND JACK RYBACK
SPORTS EDITOR, CORE STAFF

At the start of fall, senior tight end Luke Ratterman didn't know if he was going to suit up for his senior year. As the possibility of a season approaches, he and his teammates are excited about the idea of finally scrimmaging, and quite possibly lining up against a team with a different colored uniform in the very near future.

"It honestly feels very surreal," said Ratterman. "We have been preparing for this for about 5 months and we are ready to take the field. We are excited to start games and hope the season goes as planned with further restrictions, healthy players."

While the season isn't finalized and the team doesn't have a schedule yet, the players and coaches are highly hopeful that by next week, the Jr. Bills will be competing and **continued on page 7**

Food Drive impresses; collects thousands of items amid difficulties



Students sort items collected during the Food Drive.



photo | Mr. Stephen Deves

BY JACK FIGGE
CORE STAFF

Hauling large boxes of food, and lugging bulging bags of canned goods, students swarmed Campus Ministry last week and filled it with donations for the annual Food Drive.

Last week, the Campus Ministry team of St. Louis U. High ran the Food Drive, to support local food pantries and the freshman service

project. Many of the donated items, and all of the monetary donations, are used to purchase perishable food items which freshmen use to prepare and cook a meal for the residents of Garfield Place, a local housing option for the chronically homeless.

"It is nice that we have the whole school rally to support this one program that every SLUH student will experience during their freshman year," said campus minister Julie

Anderson. "For older students it's great because when they are donating they are able to remember the faces and people they encountered on their own service project."

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, and the resulting changes to the school, the Campus Ministry team had to find solutions to problems that arose, such as a lack of time to advertise the drive.

"One of the hardest **continued on page 4**

"This is probably the most challenging time since the (Great) Depression"

SLUH administration grapples with economic turmoil

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN AND NATHAN RICH
EDITOR IN CHIEF, CORE STAFF

From the start, St. Louis U High has been a product of its environment. Each day, students and families of differing backgrounds, as well as social and economic situations from around the city and county all help to contribute to the complex community that is SLUH. Even during a global pandemic and nationwide economic turmoil, this fact still holds true.

Over the past few months, the COVID-19 pandemic has ravaged not just public health but also the United States economy. Stocks have plummeted, businesses have closed, and tens of millions have lost their jobs. Even an established institution like SLUH is not immune from this turmoil. High unemployment, financial stress, and overall anxiety during these times have all contributed to an environment where donations and giving that are critical for the school are hard to come by. Plus, the cancellation of events like the scholarship golf tournament or the in-person Cashbah have all contributed to a decrease in donation revenue.

"I would dare to say this is probably the most challenging time since the (Great) Depression for us as a school in a financial situation," said President Alan Carruthers. "You have a reality where at one point, the market was down around 30 percent and that impacts ... people across the board. It's affected business and our donors, it's affected people's psyche and their anxiety, and it's affected the ability for people to make a gift to the school."

Market uncertainty has also affected the endowment, which is a major source of revenue when donations fall short. Meanwhile, the fixed costs of maintaining SLUH,

like teacher salaries and costs for maintaining the building, have steadily increased. While much of the focus has been on preventing the spread of the virus and ensuring a safe return to campus, many on the third floor have been working diligently to combat this disparity between cost and revenue.

"People have to understand (that SLUH is) like most businesses," said Carruthers. "I think people have this feeling, and have for a long time, that SLUH just has a ton of money, but they have to think about the scale of what we're doing here."

"The challenge we have is, even though students are at home three days a week ... we still have a lot of costs that still happen," Vice President of Administration Joe Komos said. "Just between the things we have had to do to make the school safe ... I would argue that in every area where we have savings, we have more incremental costs. Right now from the standpoint of the school's budget, it has kind of had a neutral impact."

Additionally, SLUH families individually are feeling the hit of the pandemic, causing the financial needs of families to rise. With roughly 40 percent of SLUH families receiving financial aid in a normal year, the school's finance team already faces the challenge of raising millions to keep SLUH running. Nationwide economic turmoil only compounds the challenge.

"We have a lot of uncertainty when it comes to the endowment, we have a lot of uncertainty with fundraising, but what we know is that a lot of our families have needed help and we have increased the amount of financial aid," said Komos. "I think at the end of the day we are going to maintain our mission and do a good job at educating **continued on page 4**

Puppy pads and air filters? Fine Arts forced to adapt to COVID-19 world

BY NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL AND ETHAN LEE
NEWS EDITOR, REPORTER

Last spring, no one would have thought that this year would begin with bell covers over instruments or musicians wearing masks with holes in them. Nor would they have expected to hear singers rehearsing outside or see students mold sculptures at their own homes. Yet, the SLUH Fine Arts Department have put their creative minds to use and have come up with unique ways to continue to educate students in the Fine Arts while also mitigating the risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19.

Of the Fine Arts Department, the band program was one of the most challenged by the pandemic and had to make

significant changes to the usual band routine. For a majority of his planning, SLUH band director Jeff Pottinger used a report commissioned by a wide range of national and interna-

tional performing arts education organizations. The report, spearheaded by University of Colorado professor Dr. Shelly Miller, studied the spread of aerosol particles while playing

instruments and has been vital in the planning of safety protocol in many academic institutions, including SLUH.

Strictly adhering to the guidelines in the report, Pottinger has instructed his students to wrap and tape bell covers over their bells (the place where the sound comes out of). These bell covers are rated HEPA merv 13 (multi-layered) and should prevent COVID aerosol particles from passing through it.

"At first I thought that they would muffle my sound and affect my playing, but that wasn't the case at all," said senior trombonist Michael Krausz.

Students have also been asked to cut holes in their mask and to wear them while they are playing in order to **continued on page 4**



photo | Carter Fortman

Senior Albert Harrold plays during Jazz Band.

The weekly student newspaper of St. Louis University High School
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Can't teach an old dog new tricks? SLUH spends summer preparing for pandemic hyflex teaching

BY NATHAN RICH
CORE STAFF

How do you, in the midst of a global shutdown, attempt to change the art of teaching, which has existed for thousands of years, to break down barriers of distance, technology limitations, and public health risks? It's a tough question. Last spring, though, following the closing of St. Louis U. High due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a group of SLUH faculty set out to answer it.

March 2020 brought many surprises to the SLUH community. After weeks of anxiously watching the virus spread through the country, SLUH officially announced during spring break that in-person classes would not resume. Almost immediately after the announcement, professional development (PD) began. Initially, teachers participated in a brief seminar designed to aid the pivot to asynchronous learning, but faculty members recognized that more would be needed.

"We chose the asynchronous aspect and I think that worked well for what it was, but we realized as it was going on that we could do much better than that," said Craig Hannick, who served on the committee tasked with creat-

ing the development.

The committee boasted a group of faculty members as diverse and diligent as the PD itself. Led by teachers Tim Curdt, Kevin Foy, Craig Hannick, and Steve Missey, the committee also included Sarah Becvar, Rob Chura, Beth Kissel, Sean Powers, and Mary Russo. The team worked extensively over the summer months to create a comprehensive plan that could prepare teachers for the upcoming semester, which, for most of the summer, was still shrouded in uncertainty.

Entitled Pandemic PD, the development required 20 hours of course work that teachers could complete on a Canvas module. The course covered topics such as curriculum development, best instructional practices for block schedules, social and emotional learning, and assessment, as well as tutorials and tips for how to use Canvas and other tech tools effectively.

Many students would likely find the PD course familiar, as it includes all the aspects of Canvas (modules, submission tabs, and external links) that students use on a daily basis. For teachers though, this represented a tremendous amount of professional development.

"The summer provided a real opportunity to do some

really extensive professional development ... which is a huge ask of faculty for a summer, not only to ask but to say that everyone needs to do it. That was big, but the decision was: 'If we're going to do this, we're going to do it really well,' said Gibbons.

Past summer PD topics have included teen trauma, curriculum work, and technology use, but they had previously been optional. The unique reality of this school year required a course that would prepare teachers for a very different SLUH experience this semester, and its complexity reflects that.

"I dare say in my 16 years as a high school educator I've never been a part of putting together something this sophisticated and this structured for a school," said Gibbons. "We created our own university, basically, which, in the course of a month, is jaw dropping that we were able to do it ... in ways that are paying tremendous dividends for the school."

One important aspect of the professional development course was its focus on using Canvas to its greatest capacity, something that has been lacking at SLUH since the software's inception.

"We're finally now, after three or four years, finally using Canvas for what it was in-

tended to be as a way to develop curriculum and use it ... to communicate with students," said Hannick. "Moving ourselves up in the technological world was important."

As a teacher himself—he taught senior Econ courses last year and has a section of freshman Human Geography this semester—Gibbons learned a lot about Canvas over the summer for his own classes and he saw the same thing going on around him.

"We've got faculty members that were almost averse to technology that are now using very sophisticated technologies in their classroom. For me, it's mind-boggling and inspiring to see that," said Gibbons.

Hannick agreed, noting that this year's pivot to virtual, synchronous learning brought out the best in SLUH's faculty.

"This has really shown how resilient our faculty is as a group and how creative they can be in adapting things that they've done for years into this new environment," said Hannick.

As for what students can expect from their teachers over the next few months:

"You haven't seen anything yet," said Gibbons. "Maybe we've created some monsters as far as the use of technology, but that could be a great thing."

Virtual Back to School night offers parents a taste of SLUH from home

BY LUKE DUFFY AND
JACKSON COOPER
STAFF REPORTER

Like nearly everything else, Back to School Night moved online this year due to COVID-19. It took place last Thursday night and was hosted entirely through Canvas.

In previous years, Back to School Night has been an event where parents spend an evening in their sons' shoes, attending classes and listening to presentations from each of their son's teachers.

Plans for a virtual Back to School Night began during the summer, when it became evident that an in-person event on campus would not be possible. After some discussion, the event was moved to a standard Canvas module, where teachers would post a 5- to 10-minute video for each of their classes. The planning committee wanted Back to School Night to be as simple and streamlined as possible in order to eliminate unnecessary stress or confusion both for parents and teachers.

"I wanted to do something that was easy for the teachers because they're already overwhelmed, but still give the parents a chance to see and hear from them," said Assistant Principal for Academics Tom Becvar, one of the members on the planning committee.

On Thursday night, students logged onto their Canvas account and found a course called "Back to School." The course began with an introductory video led by principal Ian Gibbons, S.J., followed by teacher videos for every class. These were organized alphabetically to make it easier for students and parents to navigate.

"We checked the next morning and found that there were about 350 parents who actually went in," said Becvar. "We thought that was a fairly

good number to start with; probably not much different from what we get when we actually have it here on campus."

Hosting the event asynchronously via Canvas streamlined it by eliminating the passing periods that took time from teachers sharing their content. Additionally, teachers had more freedom when it came to how they wanted to present the course.

"This really allows each teacher to be as creative as they want to be, and to give the parents a good experience in seeing that," said Gibbons.

The teachers went a variety of different routes with their videos, many taking the opportunity to let their creative side shine.

Band teacher Jeff Pottinger made a video for all band classes, and his cheerful energy was evident in the presentation. He told jokes, played jazz in the background, added little captions, and flashed images of the band.

Spanish teacher Javier Moreno discussed in his Spanish I video the course material, as well as the Colombian exchange program which he organizes. Much like his classes, he started the video by speaking Spanish and displayed a colorful PowerPoint throughout. He also included a video with students talking about their experience as exchange students.

Another benefit to a pre-recorded Back to School Night was that it is preserved in the Canvas module. In this way, parents who were unable to attend on Thursday night or wanted to rewatch the presentations could easily access them.

"Parents will be able to visit the classes of each of the teachers in their own time and they can use those to engage in a conversation with the teachers as well," Gibbons said.

New Teacher: Jack Zimmerman excited to be back at SLUH as ASC



photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott

BY JACKSON COOPER AND
DECLAN RICHARDS
REPORTERS

St. Louis U. High welcomes back Jack Zimmerman,

'16, as an English teacher in the Alum Service Corps (ASC) for the 2020-'21 school year.

Zimmerman recently

graduated from the University of Kansas with a major in English, and is using this year in ASC to gain some work experience and think over the next steps in his career.

This year, Zimmerman will be teaching two sections of freshman English, and is currently leading his students through The Odyssey.

Zimmerman, who has considered doing ASC for a while, is grateful for the chance to reconnect with kids, and, perhaps more importantly, learn more about teaching. He is also thankful for the immediate job experience and housing that the program offers, rare commodities for college graduates.

"It's the perfect post-college gig," said Zimmerman.

While Zimmerman isn't exactly sure what he will do

in the future, teaching is a profession which has drawn his eye, and is a career path he is considering.

When asked what he was most excited for in his year of teaching at SLUH, Zimmerman said he was looking forward to interacting with his freshman students.

"Freshmen, in their own, clumsy way, are just funny to be around," said Zimmerman.

Zimmerman is really looking forward to working with students for the rest of the year, is excited to be back at SLUH, and considers himself lucky that the ASC placed him back at his alma mater—though he worries, jokingly, that he is depriving his students of the opportunity to have one of the many long-time fixtures of the English Department as a teacher.



art | Nathan Rich

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

PN "Spirited" Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17				18						19				
20									21					
22				23				24						
			25				26				27	28	29	30
31	32	33				34					35			
36					37						38			
39					40					41				
42					43				44					
			45	46				47				48	49	50
51	52	53					54				55			
56						57								
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

- geometry
- 3. Open the door for someone
- 4. Common name said by Rick Grimes
- 5. Californian desert that is the driest in North America
- 6. What Apple might call a new line of state-of-the-art rodents?
- 7. Popular digital means of visual entertainment
- 8. Presidential Legislatures
- 9. Purple daisy-like flower
- *10. Proudful school celebration or the theme to this puzzle
- 11. Wise and powerful characters in many MMO's
- 12. Home of the worst apples you'll ever find
- 13. Possible nickname for Teresa
- 18. Fionna and Shrek
- 21. Winter percipitations
- 24. The best scenario
- *25. Waist-bound travel pouches that are being sold this week by StuCo
- 26. Hothead from Inside Out
- 28. Black and white whale
- 29. Dolla dolla bills in Ethiopia
- 30. A very attractive man
- 31. Architect toddler's tool on the beach
- 32. Hair style associated with the 1970's
- 33. Lacking wealth
- 34. Sticky food
- 37. A medieval Spaniard's weapon of choice
- 41. Singer of "The Lazy Song" and "When I Was Your Man"
- 44. "My name is The Building Block of Life"
- 46. Signs of approval in Instagram
- 47. What the Easter Bunny, toddlers, and a good liar are called
- 48. "It's just ____", common response to upset behavior on Superbowl Sunday
- 49. "That's not good"
- 50. Courtroom typist, for short
- 51. Jewish minister without an i
- 52. Trim, like an orange peel
- 53. A month of the Jewish calendar
- 54. Japanese soup that contains dashi stock
- 55. Famous hunchbacked assistant
- 57. Possible nickname for the Vector Robot

By Jacob Sprock

ACROSS

- 1. Mineral that would make a terrible pickaxe
- 5. A person of many gestures
- 9. Useful person
- 14. Type of man The Onion often features in articles
- 15. Successor to Hydrox
- 16. A gardener's weapon of choice
- *17. Favored songs of Gen X and Baby Boomers or what Jr.

- Perry's "Roar"
- *20. Event before a game, or the event school on Monday and Tuesday of this week
- 21. In a state of tranquility
- 22. SLUH broadcasting network with little airtime so far this year, abbr.
- 23. Alternatives to tents when camping, abbr.
- 24. Famous religious markings
- 25. Money given to an ATM
- 26. Much ___ About Nothing, a Shakespeare play

- 31. Mexican slang for potatoes
- 34. Bill Murray film The Man Who ___ Too Little
- 35. Jotted down, to Hamlet
- 36. Button on a camera for auto focusing
- 37. Groupings of the Harry Potter or Star Wars series
- 38. Popular shade of beige
- 39. Mineral that would make a good pickaxe, according to a popular video game
- 40. First Biblical death
- 41. What Gandalf, Albus

- that feeds on nectar and berries
- 43. One of the U.S.'s founding documents, for short
- 44. Something Steve Urkel might do
- 45. A newbie
- 47. "Send me a message" in text slang
- 48. Quintessential playing card, abbr.
- 51. What something broken needs
- *54. Where one might find tal-

- *57. What some teachers will be playing on Friday
- 58. Former Saint Louis Bishop
- 59. Donkey, to Heidi Klum
- 60. West Asian country where Frankincense trees grow
- 61. "God ___ us everyone!"
- 62. How Rick Grimes pronounces 4-Down
- 63. Nevadan city home to the world's tallest climbing wall

DOWN

- 1. Pastries with filling that are popular in America in the 'pop' variety
- 2. Measurements of space in

- Bills will hear throughout the halls this week
- 19. Animal featured in Katy

- 27. Possible nickname for a despised character from The Office

- Dumbledore, and Dan Schulte have in common
- 42. A bird from southeast Asia

- ented Jr. Bills on Wednesday of this week
- 56. Alas

Sources confirm: Satan redesigning fifth circle to be endless Zoom calls with poor internet quality

BY JACOB SPROCK
NEWS EDITOR

On Friday, Sept. 18, sources confirmed that, after much deliberation, Satan finally decided to redesign the fifth circle of Hell to incorporate endless Zoom calls with poor internet quality. "Oh yeah, I'm totally doing that," said Satan, the first fallen angel and betrayer of God Almighty. "I had been toying with the idea of making people watch their favor-

ite sports teams lose over and over again, but this is not only more cost effective but also ticks people off way more on a daily basis. What better to put in the circle for those plagued with rage in life than a tiny little screen that they don't fully understand and won't cooperate?" The additions to the realm of eternal suffering have allowed SLUH English teacher Terry Quinn to make the "Dante and the Modern

World" class more interactive. "For the first time that I've taught this class, the students actually get to experience an aspect of Hell," said Quinn, tampering with the school WiFi to make the Zoom call as painful as possible. The method of torture has proven to be effective, and ratings for the fifth circle have never been higher. "The trick is to lure them into a false sense of security," said Satan, after explaining

something crucial to the sinners on mute and subsequently turning off his video. "When things are going bad, you give them a full minute of clear audio and then right when they think everything's gonna be fine, BOOM—the computer starts installing system updates. Works every time." At press time, Satan revealed that he was considering planting an unmuted demon with a constantly barking dog in all calls.

Puzzle WINNER

Congrats to senior Brendan McLaughlin on being the first to solve the crossword for PN 85.2!!

Remember to send us a picture of your correct PN Puzzle (in pen) to receive a shout out in the paper (if you are the first one)!!

Admin assures they will meet growing need following COVID economic turmoil

(continued from page 1)

our students and we're going to, most specifically, maintain our culture of admission based on (academic) ability and not financial ability."

"SLU High does a tremendous job of making sure we're accessible to every qualified boy and that we have excellence in all areas. Those are challenging things," said Carruthers.

For their part, the United States Congress has made several strides to aid business during these times, many of which SLUH has readily taken advantage of. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, for example, was passed earlier this year with bipartisan support to help small businesses. Assistant Principal for Mission Jim Linhares worked over the summer to ensure SLUH didn't miss out on the opportunity for the government grants.

"My office was sort of the point between the state, on the one side, and SLUH's needs on the other. It's a worthwhile process when you finally get access to these funds," said Linhares.

The money, which SLUH received late in the summer after weeks of consulting government agencies and the St. Louis Public School System, was immediately put to use throughout the building. The new HVAC system, plexiglass shields for the Commons, and the faculty summer professional development program

were all paid for using the CARES Act money.

"We didn't want to hit the go button (on renovations) until we knew for sure we had the CARES money because we were looking at a lot of costs to open the school," said Komos.

Another form of federal aid the school received was through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), passed by Congress to keep employees from being laid off during the initial quarantine period. SLUH received a grant for an eight-week period. Because payroll represents around 80 percent of total costs, the loan allowed a buffer for the school following the quickness of the shutdown and the sharp drop in revenue from donations without having to furlough or lay off any employees.

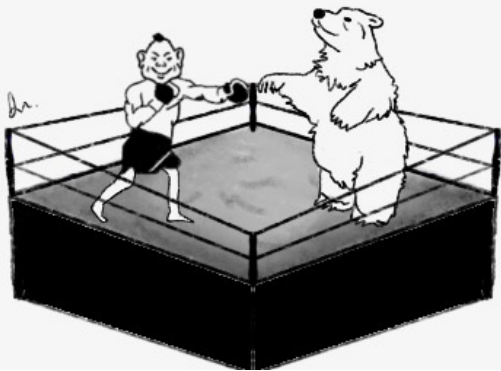
"As we moved into the chaos of March and April, it allowed us to keep everyone on payroll," said Komos.

Despite facing significant financial adversity this year, SLUH families can rest as-

sured knowing that the 200-year legacy of St. Louis U. High remains unscathed, thanks to both government funding and the diligence of SLUH's administration and Board of Trustees.

"We will manage the budget well and provide the financial aid that is needed and we will work hard financially to balance the ups and downs created by the current environment and try to address any uncertainties that come up," said Komos. "We're gonna meet the need. We are not gonna lose any of our families."

"Under our current circumstances, we're going to be ok," said Carruthers. "The ability of us to respond and react has been (because of) our willingness and hard work during a summer period to get done what needed to get done so that we could ensure the long term prosperity of our school and the people we serve. I'm very proud of what we've done."



"SLUH fights bear market."

art | Jack Janson

Food donations surpass previous year despite COVID difficulties

(continued from page 1)

things this year was that there are so many distractions right now, and we have only been on campus for three weeks, so we sort of jumped right in and started campaigning," said campus minister Stephen Deves. "So obviously we didn't have as much time to prepare, promote and email parents and advertise which was a really big obstacle."

Not only did the team have a shorter amount of time to advertise, but they also had to make adaptations to the format to accommodate some of the school's format changes, including the elimination of homeroom. To overcome this obstacle, the team decided to have students drop off their donations directly to campus ministry instead of in their classroom. However, one of the elements that Deves knew he wanted to preserve was the competitive aspect of the food drive between classes.

"I think the competition is a lot of fun and it creates a ton of energy and spirit," said Deves. "I think one of the coolest things about the Food Drive is just the energy that is stirred in our community during this week."

In order to make the competition more enticing, Campus Ministry along with Assistant Principal for Student Life Brock Kesteron offered the winning class a week of dress down days and donuts one morning. The competition proved to be a successful tac-

tic, with many students feeling compelled to donate to help their class win.

"I personally think the competition was a great add to the Food Drive because teachers encouraged students to donate at least one dollar to help their class," said junior Jared Thornberry.

At the end of the week, the junior class prevailed—despite falling behind in the first two days of the competition—with a total score of 3,642 points. The freshman class followed closely behind with 3,076 points. The sophomores—last year's champs as freshmen—came in third with a total of 2,947 points. And in fourth place came the senior class with a total of 1,787 points. Finally, the teachers fell into last place, coming in with

801 points.

Though the competition was a lot of fun for the students and faculty, the main purpose of the Food Drive wasn't to see which class was the best or most generous, but to support those less fortunate within the St. Louis community, and it proved successful. In total, 1,653 food items were donated over the course of the week, which was more than last year, and \$4,697 raised. All in all, the Food Drive was a huge success despite the difficulties brought on by Covid-19.

"This year was different, and we knew that we weren't going to be able to achieve what we had last year," said Deves. "But I was very positively blown away by the generosity that did happen this week."

Food Drive Stats

Totals:

- Total Food Items: 1,653
- Total Money: \$4,697
- Total Points: 12,251

Final Rankings (By points):

1. Juniors (3642)
2. Freshman (3076)
3. Sophomores (2947)
4. Seniors (1787)
5. Fac/Staff (801)

Outdoor Choir?! Distanced drawing?! Fine Arts Dept. responds to COVID

(continued from page 1)

prevent aerosol particles from being spread out the sides of their mouths. When students are not playing, they put on a second mask to cover up the hole.

"It was a little weird at first. You kind of look a little ridiculous when you are wearing a mask with a hole in it," said Krausz. "But, I understand why we are doing it, and I think it is important to do anything we can to minimize the risk of spreading."

Pottinger has also helped alleviate the amount of people at once in the band room by separating the class between freshmen and sophomores and Juniors and Seniors. Junior and Senior will rehearse during the first half of class, and then switch out with the Freshman and Sophomore group. Pottinger also hopes to take advantage of outdoor space and rehearse in the football stadium.

Overall, Pottinger and the students believe that the guidelines in place have significantly reduced the risk of spread and feel safe from the virus.

"I think that all the precautions that we have taken are important and have really made me feel safe," said Krausz. "I am really happy with how Mr. Pottinger is both serious about giving us a chance to play together while also being safe."

"I think we are doing enough absolutely," said Pottinger. "I am also reassured because I have friends in the St. Charles area that have been doing similar things with their band for over a month now, so now we know it has been fairly safe for them as well and everything I've done so far has been safer than some of the other things you would typically see."

Unfortunately, the virus made teaching during the pandemic not easy. The Band has not been able to rehearse as a full group, and Pottinger has struggled to work with the younger band members on their lip placement on wind instruments. The large annual Jazz and Symphonic Concerts scheduled for the Winter and Spring have also been canceled.

Despite the difficult circumstances, Pottinger still sees a silver lining in this crisis: the chance to alter his curriculum a little and try something different.

"My hope is to do a little bit more work on some aspects of music that we tend not to touch upon as much including music theory and music history, and I think in some ways that might help students become more enthralled in the music," said Pottinger.

For Pottinger, he is just grateful for being able to teach band to students in person.

"Especially when you are

trying to be convincing or get people excited about something it's just really difficult to do that online," said Pottinger. "So, it's really fun when you get to school to be able to have some human interactions."

In addition to the band program, the SLUH choir program has also had to be altered. Using the same report as Pottinger to derive her protocols, SLUH choir director Addie Akin has required masks to be worn at all times even when singing. Students also have been broken up into groups of three or four and are told to stand six feet a part and in a straight line.

"We stand in a straight line, that's another thing that came from that study, which is kind of odd, but I think it is the safest thing we can do," said Akin.

While Akin and the students believe that there is always a risk when gathering,

they believe that the risk is small and that the safety protocols in place are doing their job to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

"Of course there is that potential, but there is a risk with anywhere you go. You just have to be careful with whatever activities you're doing," said Akin. "I want to make sure for myself and my students that I give them a good choral education as best as I can this year, but at the end of the day, safety is the number one thing."

Although the virus has caused the choir experience this year to be different from previous years, Akin and the students are still excited to sing and embrace the blessings that they have during this year.

"It's kind of a bummer that normal choir is not happening, but I am super excited about the creative ways that we are trying to get around that,"

said Akin. "So there aren't any physical concerts this year but I am trying to get together some videos of student performances."

"I think that it's really cool that we are going to record ourselves and send it to our friends and family members," said senior choir member Tim Brennen. "Throughout this time, many things are being cut, but I am really glad that we are making the best of the situation."

Art classes have also had a few twists to them in contrast to years past. Students were given their own materials at the beginning of the year on the day of class meetings allowing students to work on projects at home in addition to school.

"During the summer, Mr. Powers, Ms. Bugnitz, and I met to discuss how to teach the class safely," said Rebholz. "We

realized that we should probably invest in buying more art supplies for our students in order to limit the amount of shared materials that are being used."

Like both the band and choir programs, the art department has revised their curriculum a little bit to help accommodate the tighter schedule.

"This year I really wanted to narrow down the size and scope of the projects that my students are doing. Large projects would have been very difficult logistically with the hybrid schedule," said Rebholz. "Yet, I still wanted to retain the major ideas that I am teaching in the course."

Overall, the art department and students feels like the protocols and plans put in place really make the environment safe.

"I feel pretty confident in the safety protocols in Ceramics class," said senior Aidan Byrne. "In my class, specifically we only have me and three other guys, so we're able to pretty effectively spread out while Mrs. Bugnitz can walk around to each of us and still see what we're working on."

"One can never be completely sure that there is not a risk of spreading or contracting the virus," said Rebholz. "But, I trust in the plans that Mr. Powers, Ms. Bugnitz, and I have come up with, and I believe that they have really reduced the risk."



Akin teaches her students outside.

photo | courtesy of Mrs. Addie Akin

AMDG

Mueller soars to new heights, receives pilot's license

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

Ever since he was a child, Ebology teacher Bradley Mueller wanted to fly a plane. Now, as an adult, Mueller has achieved his dream of being up in the air after recently receiving his private piloting license, allowing him to fly small, private planes.

Mueller first fell in love with planes when he was a child after spending countless hours watching them land and take off for entertainment.

"You could park on the old Lindbergh, and actually there was a parking lot where you could park and watch planes take off and land, said Mueller, recalling his childhood memories. "My grandma used to take us up there just as a little activity, and we'd sit on the hood of a

car and watch planes take off."

During Mueller's senior year of high school, he considered two options: either enlist in the Air Force or go to college and major in medicine. He ended up choosing college, but his dream of flying never died.

There are two ways a person can get a pilot's license: train and test for it in college, or attend private flight school. Mueller took the private flight school approach and did all of his training at Spirit Airport in Chesterfield through the training program Elite Aviation. Mueller and his instructor would fly weekly.

Because Mueller could only train in good weather, the unpredictability of the weather was a constant obstacle.

"Especially in the winter time, you plan for a day, and if the weather's bad, you just

don't fly that day and have to wait until the next week to fly," said Mueller.

Mueller's journey to receiving his license included three different steps. First, he had to study for his ground test, which covers all the necessary information for aviation. Then Mueller had to take an oral exam, where an instructor tested him on the terminology associated with flying a plane. Lastly, Mueller had to pass the flight test.

"It is much like our drivers license test," said Mueller. "You're not parallel parking, but you're worried about if the engine goes out and you're in an emergency, how do you fix it? How to land, how to take off, how to do a couple different maneuvers."

With his private license, Mueller can only fly a Cessna

172, a common type of training aircraft. If he wanted to fly another type of plane, he'd have to spend many more hours training with that specific type of plane.

Unlike a driver's license, Mueller's piloting license never needs to be renewed. In order to keep his license, Mueller simply needs to pass a small ground quiz and an in-air flight review every other year.

Mueller's next step is to get an instrument rating, which would allow him to fly in all types of weather.

Now that he has his license, Mueller would like to create an aviation course for 1818 SLU college credit for SLUH students. While students would not be able to take the course until they were 16, Mueller hopes that by the time they graduate, students will have



photo | courtesy of Bradley Mueller

Mueller with his plane after receiving his license.

their private license.

"Students can do their ground school here, and then could fly in the summer, and get those two and by the time they have graduated, they also would have a private license," said Mueller.

Mueller continues to have his eyes set on the sky. In the future, he hopes to tie his love

of medicine and flying together in a new occupation.

"I think at some point in my life, I think it would be really cool to work potentially for a corporate company that does transplant flights, so they essentially fly doctors to pick up organs from transplants and then fly them back."

Junior and sophomore retreats reinvigorate students' faith in the midst of a pandemic

BY JACK FIGGE AND PETER JAMES
CORE STAFF, REPORTER

Although attending St. Louis U. High retreats are a highlight of many students' time at SLUH, the COVID-19 pandemic has threatened to take away this important tradition.

Students' faith lives in general have been significantly impacted by the pandemic. For the first three months, churches were closed, preventing students from receiving the sacraments and attending weekly Mass. Many huge summer conferences, such as the annual Steubenville conference hosted by Franciscan University, were cancelled due to safety concerns, which led to many students and teenagers not having access to the faith-formation that they would usually receive. Community also plays a critical role in helping students find God in their lives, so the forced quarantine proved detrimental to students' faith lives.

"The social isolation is not a healthy situation for anybody to be in. I think that can cause some internal negativity which causes students to draw away from God," said campus minister Fr. Joseph Hill, S.J. "Community plays an important role in developing one's faith life."

Retreats have always played a key role in a student's time at SLUH. Each student will go on at least four retreats in his time at SLUH and possibly more, so the campus ministry team wanted to ensure that this tradition was being kept alive even in the midst of a pandemic.

"Retreats were one of my favorite things I did as a student and continue to be one of my favorite things I do as a faculty member," said campus minister Stephen Deves. "Retreats give you time and space away to reflect intentionally on life in a way that you don't usually in the business of your ordinary day."

When the coronavirus pandemic hit, SLUH quickly realized that retreats were going to be more important now than ever before to help not only students' faith lives but also their social lives.

"Retreats are an essential part of a SLUH education," said Hill. "It is not just something that we can take out now. We have to have (it) or else we will change who we are as a school because we are absolutely committed to the spiritual formation of our students."

In order to continue on the tradition of the retreat program, the campus ministry team had to find creative solutions, abiding by city and

The campus ministers quickly realized that an online retreat would not help students in the same way as an in-person retreat does.

"Last year we were able to kind of recreate the sophomore retreat as an all day virtual experience, but our goal is to not lean on that format," said campus minister Julie Anderson. "We really want to foster the in-person community as much as we can. If needed we might add some virtual elements, but we are going to try to make the in-person experience happen as best we can."

In order to make in-person retreats possible, the campus ministry team made a few significant changes to

such as wearing masks and the frequent sanitization of surfaces. Food will be individually packaged compared to previous years where meals were served buffet style. Anyone not comfortable with staying overnight will have the option to go home for the overnight segment. If a student opts to stay overnight, they will have their own room and bathroom. One of the major format changes to the retreat program is that there will not be as many large group gatherings on retreats, which means there will not be as many large group talks. Another major change is that for the freshman retreat, each cohort will attend the retreat on a separate day.

Many of these formatting changes have already been put into place on a junior retreat which took place the week before school started.

"Junior retreat was great," said Hill. "It exceeded our expectations. We had to reorganize the retreat, but the fruit from the retreat, even though it was only a day and a half, was really excellent. I know a lot of kids received a lot of graces, and there was no transmission of COVID during the retreat."

"The way junior retreat took us out of life, how it brought us to an isolated area and separated us from our phones helped me really center my mind on God and separate myself from the craziness of the world which was great," said junior Niko Nadreau.

After seeing the success of the junior retreat, the campus ministry team hopes that they can continue to deliver dynamic retreats to help students enrich their faith lives and grow in their relationship with one another and with God.

"I love retreats because one really gets the space to reflect on where he is, who he is, about all the people in his life that love him, about who he loves, and what he wants to do in his life, what God means to him and so so much more,"

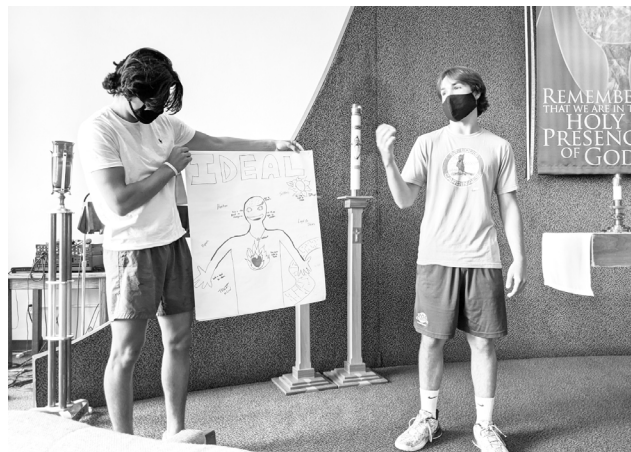


photo | Mr. David Callom

Two juniors present at the junior retreat.

school health guidelines as well as continuing to deliver impactful and dynamic retreats.

Last April, the Campus ministry team attempted to design an all-day virtual retreat for the sophomore class. However, many students didn't feel like the virtual retreat provided them with the same spiritual encounter as an in-person retreat.

"I found that the sophomore retreat unfortunately suffered greatly from the constraints put on it due to COVID-19," said junior Joey Inserra. "It was completely virtual which I feel severely diminished the quality of the retreat and didn't allow for as many opportunities for an encounter with the Lord."

guarantee that these retreats would feature the same experiences and moments a retreat would have had before COVID-19.

"What we are trying to do in all of our replanning and reconstructing the retreat to ensure that it still has the same spirit and outcome, prayer experience and community experience to be able to recreate it in a different way that has those protocols," said Anderson.

One of the most notable changes made to the retreats was the increased emphasis on outdoor retreats, as they limit the spread of the virus. Also, the retreats have been shortened to minimize downtime and will follow the same COVID guidelines used at school

Innovation that Excites! Schaefer makes professional-looking signs in iLab

BY MICHAEL ROBINSON AND JOHN POSEY
REPORTERS

Students and faculty might have noticed new signs near their classroom doors and around the hallways as they wandered around the building for these past few weeks. Designed and created by iLab Director Jeff Schaefer using the materials and equipment in the iLab, the signs are a new and much needed update to the outdated classroom labels that were there before.

During the summer, the administration brainstormed new ways on how to update the sign system. Though the group discussed hiring an outsider to redesign and produce the signs, they realized that Schaefer's engineering background coupled with his experience as iLab Director would offer a much more offerable solution as producer of the signs.

The production of the signs is a very complex and extensive process. Schaefer first uses the laser engraver to mark the shapes and locations of the letters and symbols into the sign. After that is complete, he has to do a 10-minute washing process before continuing with

the project. He then drills the holes for the braille dots, and secures them in place along with the letter pieces. From start to finish, one room sign takes about 40 minutes, while one large wayfinding sign (the ones above the hallways) take about two and a half hours to make.

According to Schaefer, the most difficult part of the process is getting the proper placement for the braille dots. There are a lot of regulations about the spacing of the dots for each letter and between the lines, so it took a while to figure out what it needed to look like. After that, Schaefer had to adjust the settings on the engraver until they produced the braille markings accurately and up to regulation.

Production of the signs started in July, but this is an ongoing project, and while most classrooms are up to date, some offices still have the old signs.

Schaefer will continue working on the signs through the school year. "With proper attention to detail, you can make professional quality items in the innovation lab," he said.



One of the new room number signs.

photo | Carter Fortman



Soccer tryouts finally start; games seem close



art | Alexander Deiters

BY CARTER J. FORTMAN AND
LOUIS CORNETT
EDITOR IN CHIEF, STAFF

For the first time in 2020, jerseys were being worn on the St. Louis U. High soccer field on Monday and Tuesday night. No, it was not SLUH vs De Smet or another MCC Rival, but Jr. Bill. vs. Jr.

Bill as tryouts were held for the SLUH soccer program. Originally scheduled for the week of Aug. 12, tryouts had been postponed indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the loosening of restrictions by the city this past week, they're now on.

Before this week, the SLUH soccer program was engaging only in low contact, fitness-related activities. For a five-week period, over 40 varsity hopeful players continued to show up, not knowing if they were going to play or not.

"It's been very difficult

and confusing for everyone," said junior Andrew Thompson. "It's been tough to adjust and we didn't know if we were going to have a season.

However, the lifted restrictions allowed them to go 10 v 10 for the first time this season.

Late Sunday night, an email from varsity head coach Bob O'Connell was sent to prospective players announcing that tryouts would take place the following two days. The worries of Thompson and countless other players of not having a season were put to rest.

When players arrived on Monday, reversible blue and white jerseys that had a unique number on the front were handed out. Teams were then formed of the senior, junior, and invited underclassmen for the 10 v 10 format. These teams competed against each other, giving coaches the opportunity to watch the players in a game-like environment.

The varsity coaches present remained silent, observing and making notes, and O'Connell, although quarantined at home due to COVID exposure, was present at the tryouts via Zoom, examining players from the press box.

The occurrence of tryouts early this week proved to be a satisfying reward to the players who could only stand by and hope for loosened restrictions by St. Louis City.

"After weeks of hard work, it's great to be out here just playing," said junior Jared Thornberry.

Tryouts for varsity players consisted of 20-minute scrimmages, full field from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.. The first game-like scenario players have had in months will prepare them for their upcoming season.

"I think we will be allowed to compete at the earliest Oct. 3 or Oct. 6," said O'Connell. "We are moving quickly and hopefully we have a match this weekend or earlier next week."

As SLUH soccer has already lost well over a month of their traditional fall season, O'Connell believes that varsity will try to compete Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday for the rest of the month, allowing soccer programs in St. Louis to still have a season with ten to 12 regular games.

During the course of the season, health procedures will remain a prominent force even in a game envi-

ronment. As of now, St. Louis City will not allow spectators into the stadium to watch games, and masks will continue to be worn when players are not actively competing.

Although the soccer season has faced many setbacks and is being started much later than usual, all members of the SLUH soccer program remain positive and upbeat about even having a season.

"I am just thrilled that the kids can get an opportunity to compete," said O'Connell. "We've been together since early July, and we are going to have a lot of fun playing into October and hopefully late in November as well."

When the season starts underway, SLUH will be able to play against teams located in St. Louis County and City. However, the status of games that require travel, such as the Kansas City tournament, are still largely unknown. As well as games that are out of St. Louis County, postseason play is also largely a mystery.

SLUH is in the same district as Chaminade and Kirkwood this year, but whether there will be a State Tournament is questionable.

XC Bills top five teams at the Cowboy Classic to start season

NOAH APPRILL-SOKOL
NEWS EDITOR

Two weeks ago, the City of St. Louis allowed low risk high school sports to compete against other teams in the St. Louis area. So SLUH's cross country team was able to race last Saturday at Parkway West's Cowboy Classic against five other teams in the area and is scheduled to compete twice this week, once on Thursday and again on Saturday.

Going into the race on Saturday, head coach Joe Porter's goals were simple.

"For most of these guys, the last time they raced in a SLUH jersey was in late October. It has been a little less than a year since then," said Porter. "I just wanted them to go into this race with confidence and with a competitive mindset and to just embrace the opportunity to race other people."

On the varsity level, the XC bills took first place by a comfortable margin, beating second place Parkway South by over 30 points. With all of the top seven finishing in the top seventeen, the varsity squad really demonstrated

their strength and fitness that they had been working on throughout the off season.

In the top pack, senior Daniel Hogan and juniors Grant Brawley and Baker Pashea led the charge, joined by Marquette's Connor Del Carmen and Parkway Central's Andrew Ahrens, the top runners for their schools. That group went through mile one with a quick average time of 5:10.

"I was really relaxed at that point," said Hogan. "I thought that I was in a pretty good position."

Halfway through mile two, however, Del Carmen and Ahrens made a surge and gapped the SLUH trio. Unfazed, Brawley, Pashea, and Hogan continued to work to the end to seal third, fourth, and fifth place respectively.

"Del Carmen made a beautiful move going up that hill," said Porter. "But, I thought they handled it well. They didn't freak out or panic in any way."

"The main thing in this race was to try to stay really relaxed," said Hogan. "When he made that move, I just

tried to relax and work with the people that I was with."

Senior Hayden Zenor (13th) and junior Justin Glass (15th) crossed the line shortly after, finishing well ahead of the five men from any other team and securing the first place title for the team.

For Porter, the race was a success, but it was only a starting point. Porter hopes that the team will continue to put the effort in and get stronger and faster.

"We had a good race, but I know we can do better," said Porter. "I would say that the gap between our 1 to 5 man needs to be shorter. It was a little over a minute, and I want it closer to 45 seconds."

While SLUH did not win any of the other races, there were still some amazing performances from SLUH racers. In the JV No. 1 race, sophomore Steffan Meyers broke his personal record by 49 seconds and placed third while racing against other schools' second seven racers. Freshman Charlie Murray also had a stellar race, breaking 20 minutes for 5K for the first time and placing



Senior Aidan Byrne leading the pack at the Cowboy Classic.

photo | Coach Jack Sullivan

6th. In the JV Nos. 2 and 3 races, senior Maurice Safar and freshman Nolan Nester had over 2 minute PR's, and freshman Keller Maher took three minutes off his previous time.

"It is always very exciting to see guys PR and see the effort that they are putting in pay off," said Porter. "We saw a lot of people make risks out there on Saturday, and I would say that many of

them paid off."

This week, the program plans to split the XC bills between two different meets, one at Chaminade and the other at Parkway West. At Chaminade, SLUH will compete against CBC, De Smet, and Chaminade, and at the Parkway West Invitational, SLUH will race on the same course as last Saturday against 11 teams around the St. Louis area.

"No matter which race we are racing in, I think that the races are going to be more difficult and challenging," said Hogan. "We are going to more competition and for some of us, we are going to be in tougher, more competitive races. But, I am really excited to see what we can do."

Swim and Dive start season with success, prepare for tough matchup this weekend.

BY CARTER SPENCE
REPORTER

After a few-week setback, the St. Louis U High swim and dive team finally returned to competition in the pool—and in a big way. SLUH kicked off the season with a decisive 132-53 victory vs. CBC on Sept. 15, and followed that up with another win vs. De Smet, 138-37, on Sept. 18.

“The dual meets aren’t too intense, but it’s a great opportunity to finally race and swim after several weeks of practice,” said head coach Lindsey Ehret.

The swim team had a whopping eight state qualifying times vs. CBC, and added three more qualifying times vs. De Smet.

“It’s a great starting point for me this season,” said junior Jonas Hostetler, who earned a state qualifying time in the 100-yard butter-

fly and helped the 200 freestyle, 200 medley, and 400 freestyle relay qualify as well. “I look forward to watching myself better those times and watching our team continue to succeed.”

Senior Eli Butters picked up where he left off last season, earning state qualifying times in the 50-yard, 100-yard, and 200-yard freestyle. He was also part of the 200-yard freestyle, 200-yard medley, and 400-yard freestyle relays that earned state qualifying times.

“It’s really a blessing that after these past few years I’ve had to worry less and less about my times after putting it in all the work to get faster,” Butters said. “My sophomore year I really struggled to just scrape by and get two state cuts at the end of the season, so I never imagined that I would come this far to attain those times much ear-

lier.”

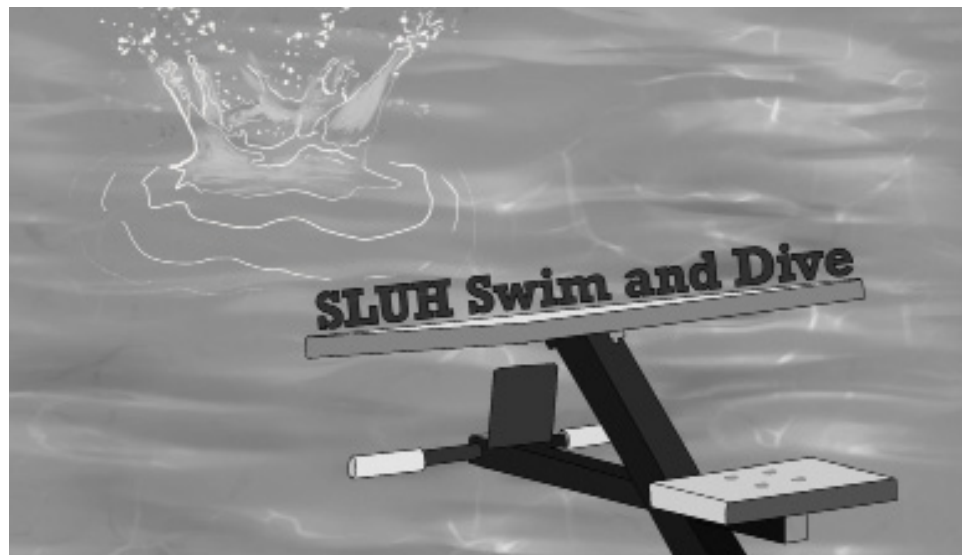
Junior Cooper Scharff earned two state qualifying times as well, placing first in the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard individual medley. He was also a member of the 200-yard medley relay that qualified.

The JV team also had the opportunity to race for the first time this year on Sept. 26.

“They did pretty well,” Ehret said. “The key word for us is experience – giving the kids the experience of racing and then working from there to chip away at times is really important for us.”

On the diving end, junior Sebastian Lawrence qualified for state with his first place dives.

The swim and dive team will now prepare for a competitive quad-meet on Oct. 3, featuring CBC, MICDS, and Kirkwood.



art | Nathan Rich

“Kirkwood will be some of our best, legit competition this year,” Ehret said.

After Oct. 3, the team will continue competing in dual meets. As of now, Ehret has not heard much about the future regarding a potential state meet and the chance to

win state three years in a row.

“We have been putting in a lot of hours these past few weeks, even practicing late on Friday’s when I know a lot of us would rather be out having fun,” Butters said. “We’ve sacrificed tons of time, and I think that is

going to really pay off this weekend.”

“With the lack of meets, it is going to get more important to get guys qualified for state, and that’s what we’re looking forward to this weekend,” Ehret said.

Football close to returning; earliest possible game Oct. 9



Sophomore wide receiver Kam Bailey catching an out-route in practice.

photo Jack Ryback

(continued from page 1)
back on the field again.

“It’s not certain who we are playing, but hopefully, we do have a season,” said senior offensive lineman Zack Stevenson.

While the team can control some aspects of the speed at which play will resume, like the health and safety of their own players, there are some factors that are more dependent upon the SLUH community as a whole.

“I think the biggest impacting factor is that school is

back in session,” said Athletic Director Chris Muskopf. “Whether it’s in a hybrid format like we (SLUH) are or even back to full schedule, the lack of spread we’ve seen so far is why we are taking steps forward.”

The restrictions, while dwindling, are still present. The team is allowed to have 60 player practices, and is even preparing to have an intrasquad scrimmage this Friday. However, the confirmation of a schedule for the year hasn’t been given the green light just

yet. Even though their season isn’t confirmed, the feeling is that football is close to coming back. If no outbreaks or COVID-19-related issues, which could vary from a spread in the classroom or on the field, the Jr. Billikens could quite possibly be suiting up next Friday, Oct. 9.

“We’re in pads, so that brings a certain level of hitting,” said senior wide receiver Jack McClelland. “If you’re not in full pads, you can’t really hit in the way you would in a game, but you can get as close as you can to how it would be in a real

game.”

“We are very close,” said head coach Mike Jones. “The kids are sensing that and we have seen the excitement level rise.”

The squad is extremely hopeful that next Friday will mark the beginning of a long delayed and desired season, but the process of confirming a season isn’t officially over yet. The schools in the city of Saint Louis and the Saint Louis Health Department haven’t come to terms on certain questions about how football will be efficiently safe in the pandemic.

“There’s still some back and forth to be done to understand what our capacities and needs are going to be,” said Muskopf. “Some of the biggest questions are that if we get a case, who are we notifying, and who is involved in that notification process. Thus far, we’re notifying teachers, people who were in classes, and coaches.”

As far as weekly progress goes, the team has an intrasquad scrimmage scheduled for this Friday, which is one of the final steps prior to being allowed to compete.

“We are excited to see how our guys play,” said Jones. “It has been a long time since we have played a full football game.”

The team is more than ready to play. The players are excited to be back, even though the schedule isn’t confirmed. However, the safety of the school as a whole, according to the City Health Department, is more important than the timing of the season.

In years past the Jr. Bills have had a more running style playbook, but with a wide receiver core that looks very promising in Isaac Thompson and Chris Brooks Junior, the Jr. Billiken offense might be taking some more deep shots this year. “This year, we have a lot of really good receivers and a good quarterback,” said Stevenson. “We have to really work on our

pass pro game which we haven’t done for a bit, but it’s just another challenge to overcome.”

The quarantine has brought interesting challenges for players to stay in shape. They can’t go to the gym together because of the risk that it would bring, and the restrictions in general have kept the players apart. However, players have figured out how to make it work from home with the help of their coaches and their teammates.

“Personally I’ve been working out, lifting weights and meeting outside of practice throwing the ball,” said Johnston.

“Coach (Adam) Cruz sends us daily workouts, Coach (Alec) Wallingsford sends us workouts as well so there’s no excuse to not get some work in,” said Stevenson.

“The coaches did a phenomenal job at putting out home workouts for us,” said first-year senior defensive back Jonathan Grimes. “Ultimately though, it was the players who

had to stay committed and hold each other accountable for getting those workouts in. Now that we’re almost there, it’s great to see that hard work hopefully pay off.”

With the COVID concern, the starting lineup could change on a week-to-week basis. The team does face a struggle because of their lack of depth at the offensive line position, so it is key that the line remains in good health.

“These past couple years we’ve dealt with a lot of injuries,” said Stevenson. “We have a lot of seniors on the offensive of line so we don’t have many other options and this is our last year rolling together.”

The excitement of football is definitely in the air, and the Jr. Billiken football team is waiting for any chance to take the field and compete. But, the schedule that the team desperately wants is not a reality yet.

“There’s optimism, but there’s no guarantee,” said Muskopf.



Linemen Conner Greninger (73) and Blake Collins (78) practice blocking teammates.

photo | Jack Ryback

Around the Hallways

Spirit Week

Spirit Week is this week, and StuCo has diligently planned COVID-safe activities to make it feel a little like what it was in past years.

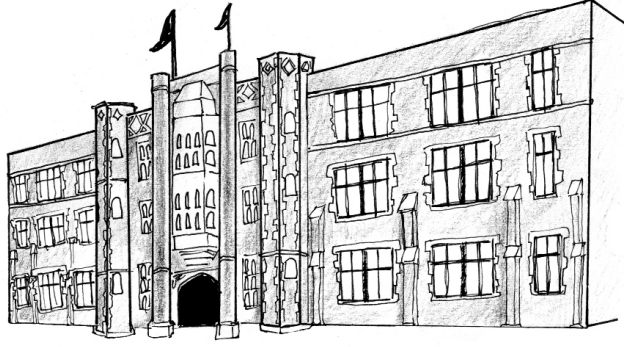
The theme for this year's Spirit Week is retro. All week long, there will be virtual scavenger hunts, retro music during passing periods, and cohort dress-theme competitions. Monday and Tuesday were jersey-themed, and this Thursday and Friday the theme is retro wear. On Monday and Tuesday, there was a tailgate after school, with yard games and food, and tonight there will be an open-mic night in the Commons from 6-8 p.m. On Thursday and Friday, there will be student and teacher video game competitions. Friday night will close off the week with a Drive-In movie on the SLUH lot showing the '80s classic Ferris Bueller's Day Off.

The store closed for

Spirit Week on Monday. StuCo was shirts and sweat-shirts based on the 1969 Beatles album Abbey Road and fanny packs that say U. High Spirit Week 2020.

SLSO Speaker

Clarinetist Ryan Toher from the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO) came to Saint Louis U. High to present and play for SLUH's symphonic band last Friday. Toher began the gathering by playing to pieces by Béla Kovács. He then discussed his experience as a professional musician and the stressful audition process to get into a professional group like SLSO. Toher ended his presentation by talking about reeds and how to maintain and break-in a new reed. Overall, the presentation gave band students the opportunity to hear professional live music and a glimpse into the life of a professional musician.



Federal Magistrate Speaker

Saint Louis U. High was able to bring Federal Magistrate Judge Stephen R. Welby of Missouri's Eastern District to speak via Zoom to social studies teacher Sarah Becvar's AP US Government and Politics classes last week. Judge Welby spoke about his experience working with federal courts, but also about his experience as a federal attorney for Missouri and a federal public defender for Southern Illinois. The students also learned a little about the structure of

the US judicial system in a presentation given by Public Education and Community Outreach Administrator Rachel Marshall, as well as, participated in a sentencing activity where they, based on the fictional scenario, would deal out punishments. The experience was an interesting and rare learning experience for the students and a cool way to celebrate Constitution Day last week.

— Compiled by Luke Duffy and Noah Apprill-Sokol

Calendar

Wednesday, September 30

Faber Day

Spirit Week
6:00 Open Mic Night

Thursday, October 1

Ignatius 1-4 (A-L)

Spirit Week
Jr. Bill Classic
2:45-5:15PM Freshman Service
4:15-7:15 PM XC/Chaminade, DeSmet, CBC Quad Meet
6:30-8:30PM Junior College Research Night

Friday, October 2

Xavier 1-4 (M-Z)

Spirit Week
Football Week 6 - Home
7:00-7:40AM SLUH Community First Friday Mass

Saturday, October 3

Jr. Bill Classic
8:00-10:00AM JV XC/Parkway West Dale Shepherd Inv.
8:30-10:30AM Varsity XC/Parkway West Dale Shepherd Invite
9:00-10:00AM Freshman XC/Parkway West Dale Shepherd Invite
9:00-11:00AM Swimming & Diving/Kirkwood Quad

Monday, October 5

Ignatius 5-7 (A-L)

1:15-3:15 PM Jr. Ring Orders
1:50-2:50PM Freshman Class Mass/Senior Advisor Meeting
2:45-5:15PM Freshman Service
6:30-8:30PM Senior Parent FAFSA night

Tuesday, October 6

No Classes

Swimming & Diving/Fort Zumwalt West/Liberty
ACT for Class of 2021

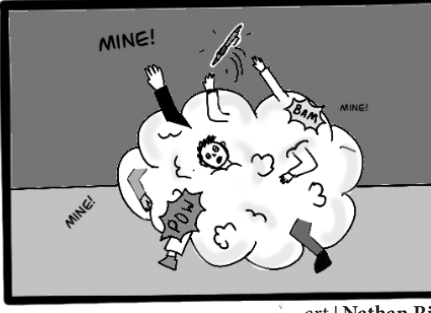
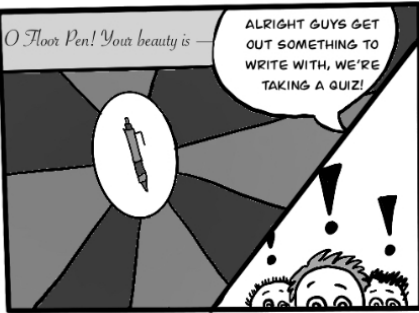
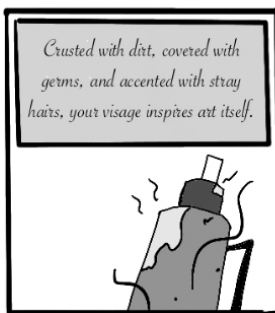
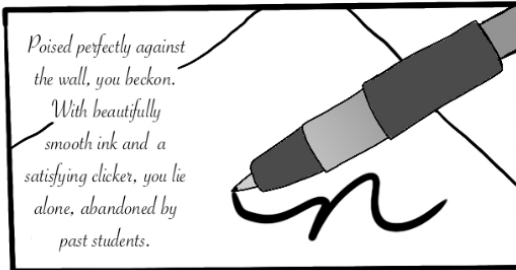
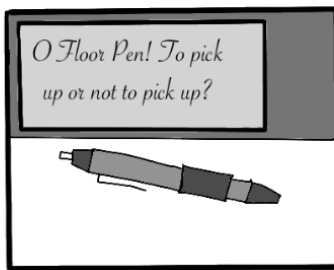
Wednesday, October 7

Xavier 5-7 (M-Z)

1:15-3:15 PM Jr. Ring Orders
1:50-2:50PM Freshman Class Mass/Senior Advisor Meeting

calendar | Jack Rybak

SLUH SERS



art | Nathan Rich

Men For Life

Interested in learning about a variety of right to life issues? Email menforlife@sluh.org to sign up to join. First meeting on Monday Oct. 5 and Wednesday Oct. 7 at 1:50 pm in 215C.

Message from the Editors:

Due to issues relating to COVID-19, issue 85.03 was made completely from home. We would like to send a special thanks to the SLUH IT Department and our Advisor, Mr. Vitellaro, who made a "homeade" paper possible. No matter what, we will continue to "Value the Truth," even from home!

Prep News Volume 85, Issue 3

Editor in Chief

Carter "The White House" Fortman

News Editors

Jacob "home world" Sprock
Noah "maple leaf" Apprill-Sokol

Sports Editors

Luke "SLUH football field" Altier

Features Editors

Sam "operating table" Tarter

Core Staff

Jack "heaven's gates" Figge
Nathan "\$100 bill" Rich

Jack "my grades" Rybak

Staff

Louis "18th green" Cornett
Luke "sunflower field" Duffy

Reporters

Jackson "Cooperstown" Cooper
Jack "my fantasy football team's stats" Feise
Peter "Cardinals logo" James
Ethan "bear playing guitar" Lee
Louis "my Minecraft world" Miller
John "Buster" Posey
Declan "Star Wars poster" Richards
Michael "tree house" Robinson
Carter "Union Jack" Spence

Credits

"What is your Zoom Background?"

Roarke "the Bahamas" Unrau

Contributing Photographers

Dr. David "Macbeth" Callon
Mrs. Kathleen "periodic table" Chott

Contributing Artist

Jack "Flower Days" Janson

Advisor

Mr. Giuseppe "Tiempos font library" Vitellaro

Moderator

Mr. Steve "trash compactor from Star Wars: Episode IV" Missey