

## STATE CHAMPION BOWLERS RAISE \$4200 FOR HANDS FOR HOPE IN PRO-AM TOURNAMENT



**By Brian Burke '26**  
*Staff Writer*

In early November, the state champion Saint Joseph bowling team participated in a fun and competitive charity tournament, organized by the Chair of the English Department Mr. Chris Harring '05. In collaboration with The Marisa Tufaro Foundation, Saint Joe's used the tournament as a fundraiser which allowed the school to donate over \$4,200 to Hands for Hope. Hands for Hope is a non-profit organization that provides food for the hungry throughout Middlesex County. Hands for Hope took advantage of this generous donation to feed families in need throughout the holiday season. The Marisa Tufaro Foundation honors Marisa Tufaro of Edison, New Jersey who was born with a complex cardiac defect and was only 13 years old when she tragically passed away. She is the daughter of Saint Joseph Alumni Greg Tufaro, Class of '85.

The student athletes and coaches paired up with a member of the faculty and staff at Bowlero North Brunswick to raise money to assist food insecure families. The student athletes and coaches who participated were EJ Chin, Devon Kiessling, Will Cunningham, Zander Kozak, Jason Park, Joey Lamoreaux, Josh Lamoreaux, Ryan Abbott, Brian Burke, Caeleb Chendorain, Coach Rusty Thomsen, and Assistant Coach Brendan Sosinski.

They were paired with Mr. Tim LeCras, Mrs. Petra Jones, Mr. Nick Romanak, Mr. Roel Mercado, Mr. Charles Neri, Mr. Josh Rogan, Mrs. Alicia Bonelli, Mr. Randal Regan, Ms. Persis Bessada, Mr. David Arva, Mrs. Tracey Coudriet, and Mr. Chris Harring, respectively. These pairs helped raise money and competed for the first ever golden pin. The tournament was close, but EJ Chin and Mr. Tim LeCras came out on top and were pleased to receive the golden pin.

Sports programs throughout Saint Joseph High School make significant contributions to The Marisa Tufaro Foundation. One might say this is just "The St. Joe's way."





# TWO DISTINCT ONE-ACT PLAYS ALIGN

**By Giovanni Oliveti '24**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

This fall, Saint Joseph High School Theater Company held their “Double Feature” of two one-act plays in the Michael J. Catanzaro Theatre.

The first of the two one-act plays was *Waiting for the End of The Word* by Jonathan Shanahan, starring Giancarlo Hailes-Perilla '24 acting as “War”, Jason Magistre '24 acting as “Pestilence,” and Giovanni Fighera '26 acting as “Death.” The play analyzes the difficulties that “War,” “Pestilence,” and “Death” face as they struggle to wait for “Famine” to begin Armageddon, leading them to question the effects of their actions as they try to maintain symmetry of the group.

The second of the two was *Future, Here* by Jeremy F. Richter and performed by Christian Concepcion '24, Aryan Jeena '24, Rohan John '25, Elikem Amenuvor '25, and Xavier Giangrante '27.

*Future, Here* focuses on a group of friends who are at a remote location and each have a backpack and cellphone to their name, symbolizing their only connection to the “outside world.” On their phones, they are notified of daily news, and every night they convene to share what they have learned. The presence of a clock serves as the timer to the end of their presence together. The friends question where they will end up and fear learning about their new destination

Theater director Mr. Paul Caruso opened up the play each night drawing the audience’s attention to the overlap of themes between these distinct plays.



Mr. Caruso also proudly shared how the actors had the unique opportunity of even conferencing with Jeremy F. Richter, author of *Future, Here*, to gain invaluable insight on how to best perform the play.





# THE ANNUAL GREEN TIE GALA HONORING JOHN P. SHIBLES '65

By Santino Oliveti '26  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, November 11, over 220 St. Joseph alumni, faculty, staff, and parents gathered together at the Heldrich in New Brunswick to celebrate The Fourth Annual Green Tie Gala. The Green Tie Gala not only serves as a great opportunity for busy alumni to come back together, but also as one of our school's most important fundraising events all year.

The Gala was dedicated to the late John P. Shibles '65 and all those in the class of '65, the first graduating class from Saint Joe's.

As guests arrived, they were greeted by a group of our student ambassadors who were checking them in, taking coats, and directing them to cocktail hour.

Seniors Thomas Ogradnik '24 and Tyler Quesnel '24 were also in attendance, entertaining the crowd by playing the piano and guitar, respectively. Before the evening officially began, Thomas played the national anthem as the ambassadors, led by Ms. Nancy Alfano, sang the lyrics. Throughout the night, with the help of an extensive parent and volunteer committee, guests were able to participate in raffles for baskets and prizes all with the intention of benefiting the students at Saint Joe's.

After an evening of entertainment and dancing, produced by the band *The Infernos*, the attending guests as well as the younger alumni classes were invited to the post-gala afterparty, to continue in a night of brotherhood.



## RONAN PELL '25 EARNES PERFECT SCORE OF 1520 ON THE PSAT

By Ved Vyas '26  
Staff Writer



Every year, approximately 1.4 million juniors across the country take the PSAT hoping to achieve excellence. But, only about 1% of them are able to get the perfect score of 1520. Scoring 1520 on this exam means earning a distinction among thousands of high schoolers in the country and earning a national merit scholarship. We are proud to announce that Ronan Pell, a junior at Saint Joe's, was one of the few to earn a 1520 on this crucial exam.

Ronan studied independently using SAT practice tests and also participated in the PSAT prep course offered here, by Mr. Arva and Mr. Harring. Ronan's studying method was to focus on one section at a time for practice tests and this enabled him to master all of the concepts before moving on to the next section.

After taking the exam, Ronan Pell believed that there was a slim chance he would receive a perfect score. However, when his results were announced, he knew that all his hard work had been rewarded.

Ronan Pell is an inspiration to all the students here at Saint Joe's and everyone can learn that, in the words of Ronan himself, "working hard-even when the award or result is far away- pays off."



# VERSATILITY IN ACTION: JEREMY DECARO, AN IMPACTFUL LEADER

By William Kwiatkowski '24  
Staff Writer

Jeremy Decaro embodies versatility on and off the field through his elite play, adaptability, leadership, and service.

A true athlete, Jeremy DeCaro leads Saint Joseph High School's athletics as a pivotal player on the football, basketball, and track teams. There is no "offseason" for DeCaro, as he looks to his other sports to help hone skills because, as he says, you "can't learn in a weight room".

"A lot of the skills and attributes needed for those other sports carry over onto the football field. Being involved in other sports allows my body to be constantly moving and working in ways different to football that in the long run will benefit me on the field."

Within his own sport, Jeremy DeCaro exemplifies his versatility, dominating as a running back, wide receiver, and, even on the flip side of the ball, strong safety.

"Versatility has helped me contribute in a variety of ways to my team's success. It allows me to be in the best position to be able to make plays in all three phases of the game for my team."

Decaro made his presence on the field felt at all levels. On the offensive side of the ball, Decaro combined for 1249 yards and 16 touchdowns. His elite athleticism and ability pushed him to another level.

"I feel I have an edge on my competitors with the ability to just adapt and change with the game."

Decaro helped lead the Falcons to an incredible 7-2 regular season, constantly leaving a mark on the Falcons performance.

"As a player you never want to be one dimensional and limited to a specific thing, so I believe being able to play multiple positions at a high level is always a benefitting factor; again not only for myself but for the team as well," Decaro said.

Adapting on the field and being coachable go hand and hand. A leader his teammates look up to, Decaro said,



"Being able to see the younger guys benefit from my leadership pushes me to act as a better person off the field as well."

DeCaro, as a captain, displays leadership in the way he carries himself saying, "It comes down to the little things like how I treat my family, friends, teachers or just anybody in general."

DeCaro added "What I do on the football field only lasts so long, and the greater impact will always be how I conduct myself in my own life off the turf, while still showing the younger guys who look up to me how to truly act as a young man."

DeCaro will continue his football career at Marist University, starting in the fall of 2024. DeCaro's versatility should help him fill a variety of roles with the team, but his most likely landing place long term is at running back, a position that he has played much of his life.

Marist is a Division 1 school who plays football in the Pioneer League of the FCS. Long time head coach Jim Parady retired at the end of last season, giving DeCaro the opportunity to make an impact on a new coaching staff once he arrives on campus.

Jeremy hung up his green and black cleats as one of the very best football players to ever suit up as a Saint Joseph Falcon.





# Edison Rotary Seniors of the Month for November

In the month of November, three of the Saint Joseph High School Seniors were named *Edison Rotary Senior of the Month*. Below are their biographies, highlighting their accomplishments and service throughout their four years at Saint Joe’s.

### Thomas DeAmoron’s Biography

Thomas DeAmorin is a senior at Saint Joseph High School. He is a three sport varsity athlete on the cross country and track teams. He has achieved President's List honors the past three years for his academic excellence. Thomas is the president of the creative writing club. He is involved in the Vignette, the literary and arts magazine, and has won awards for his work in each of his high school years. Thomas is also a member of several other clubs at St. Joe’s and he volunteers in many Campus Ministry events, as well as those in his community. He is active in community service projects with his siblings that focus on environmental sustainability. Thomas plans to further explore his passion for creative writing in college.

### Ryan Xavier’s Biography

Ryan Xavier is a senior at Saint Joseph High School, who resides in Woodbridge. In school, he is an active member of Falcon & Friends, Campus Ministry, freshmen tutoring, and Cardboard City Sleepout. He enjoys participating in the fine arts, such as performing in musicals at his school and Mother Seton Regional High School, as well as leading masses as a lead cantor in the choir. As an active member of the Saint James parish, Ryan volunteers in the food pantry and Bible summer camps. He is also a co-captain of the Varsity tennis team as well as a leader of the Computer Club. As a member of the Science National Honor Society, International Thespian Society, and the Tri M Music Honor Society, Ryan plans to pursue mechanical engineering and explore his passions for math and physics.

### Michael Lee’s Biography

Michael Dylan Lee, born in Edison, NJ is currently a senior at Saint Joseph High School. Michael is a proud member of the National Honor Society, the Campus Ministry Council and most recently served on Congressman Frank Pallone’s Youth Advisory Council. At school, Michael is the founder of ImmiGREAT, a club that aspires to educate and raise awareness of the plight of hardworking immigrants. Michael thrives in activities that empower, and help marginalized communities to rebuild through programs such as JusticeworX, which helps those struggling with poverty. He is also active with Falcon & Friends, which serves the developmentally challenged community, and Cardboard City, which raises awareness and donations for the homeless. Michael is also an officer with the Investment Club and is on the Track & Field team. Michael plans to pursue a career in law.





# GREATER FALCON COUNTY

With some GMC Tournaments still looming, the Falcons have excelled so far in the regular season, staking their claim at or near the top of the county in several different sports.

**BASKETBALL**  
16-6 (10-0 IN GMC)  
  
-1ST FULL SEASON UNDEFEATED GMC RECORD SINCE 2016  
-UNDEFEATED VS STA  
-EARNED #1 SEED IN GMC TOURNAMENT



**JEREMY CLAYVILLE '24**

**BOWLING**  
17-0 (12-0 IN GMC)  
  
-5TH CONSECUTIVE UNDEFEATED GMC REGULAR SEASON (SINCE 2020)  
- 64-2 TOTAL RECORD IN GAMES THIS SEASON  
-EARNED #1 SEED IN GMC TOURNAMENT  
- WILL CUNNINGHAM '26 1ST SAINT JOE'S INDIVIDUAL GMC CHAMPION



**E.J. CHIN '24**

**HOCKEY**  
11-3-2 (4-0 IN GMC)  
  
-OUTSCORED GMC OPPONENTS 43-7 IN FOUR GAMES  
- GAVIN SZILVASI '24 HAS A .940 SAVE % AND TWO SHUTOUTS  
- JAKE DRUMM '24 AND HUNTER MABEE '25 HAVE 105 COMBINED POINTS IN JUST 16 GAMES




**GAVIN SZILVASI '24**

**SWIMMING**  
4-3 (4-0 IN GMC)  
  
-WON GMC RED DIVISION REGULAR SEASON TITLE  
- 2ND PLACE IN GMC TOURNAMENT  
- TIM KOU '25 FINISHED FIRST IN THE 50 M FREE  
-FALCON RELAY TEAMS SWEEPED THOSE EVENTS IN THE FINALS



**ARYAN JEENA '24**

**WRESTLING**  
14-3 (7-0 IN GMC)  
  
-4TH CONSECUTIVE UNDEFEATED GMC REGULAR SEASON (SINCE 2021)  
- GMC TEAM TOURNAMENT CHAMPION (2ND CONSECUTIVE)  
- BRIAN CHRISTIE '24, JOHN WHITACRE '24, ANDREW BOUCHARD '25, AND TYLER WHITFORD '26 WON INDIVIDUAL GMC TITLES.



**BRIAN CHRISTIE '24**