

The Guardian



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SJR's First Open House is a Success



Photo by Karyn Ochiuzzo

Prospective students and their families are gathering in anticipation of SJR's first Open House for the 2021-2022 school year.

By Nicholas Steinhauser '22

On September 19th, SJR held one of the most packed and involved Open Houses that they have had in a very long time.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, Saint Joe's recent open houses have not been too large, mainly due to limited attendance brought on by pandemic restrictions and fears of getting sick.

However, at the most recent Open House, attendance was at an all-time high, with the school barely able to hold all of the attendees in front of the building. Prospective and current students alike bonded over their interest for Saint Joe's, as the soon-to-be Green Knights were able to learn what SJR was all about. The spirit and liveliness of Saint Joseph Regional High School was truly present at this Open House.

When the Open House started at 11:00 AM, families interested in Saint Joe's arrived on school grounds, and they were greeted with the welcoming faces of current SJR students and faculty. The senior ambassadors introduced the families to the school community and directed them to the stations where they needed to check in. Once they did this, the

families were then brought to the mall in front of the SJR building, where Mr. Bruno spoke about the great things St. Joe's has to offer.

When he was finished, all of the Open House attendees were divided into six groups, which were led by senior ambassadors across the school campus. Through these student-led tours, families learned about the environment of Saint Joe's, as well as the academics and extracurriculars that the school offers.

On the Open House tour, families had the opportunity to learn more about six important components that make SJR a vibrant school: academics and programs of study, the theater department, the campus ministry program, school technology and the media center, freshman guidance and transition to high school, and athletics and extracurricular activities. Prospective students were able to learn why each of these make Saint Joe's a unique school.

Families were given more insight to the outstanding SJR football, wrestling, baseball, and golf teams, all of which performed amazingly during the 2020-2021 school year. They got to see how technology has shaped the school and were introduced to the school-issued chromebooks that each student is required to use.

Families learned about the great service programs and campus ministry events that SJR offers every year. They also saw how dedicated the freshman guidance program is to introducing their children to the new environment. The theater program was another area of focus, as the families caught a glimpse of the phenomenal plays and musicals that SJR offers.

After the tours were complete, the families were directed to the back of the school parking lot, where they could view the dozens of different clubs at St. Joe's, ranging from Chess Club to UNICO Aces. The prospective students also had the opportunity to see each sport and discuss with coaches about any future plans to join a team. At this time, they could also socialize with the current students and play games, thus invoking the lively atmosphere at SJR.

With all of the activities and opportunities to learn more about the school, prospective Green Knights seemed to have an amazing time at the Open House, and hopefully most of them will become permanent students at SJR for the next four years.

New Teacher

SJR's New Campus Ministry Director: Mr. Becker



Photo by Luis Saenz '22

Mr. Becker is excited to start his first year as the SJR campus minister.

By Michael Mainelli '24

Campus ministry is a huge part of a St. Joe's, and following the departure of Mr. LoGiudice, we have a new head of Campus Ministry. Mr. Scott Becker is excited to start his tenure at SJR helping students find their faith. Mr. Becker graduated from St. Vincent College in Lotruha, Pennsylvania and is currently attending a graduate program at Notre Dame University.

This year is a reentry into teaching for Mr. Becker. Before St. Joe's, he taught one year at Saint Mary Catholic High School. Between the occupations, Mr. Becker worked as a youth minister for three years. Now, he is the Campus Minister, freshman theology teacher, and teacher of the senior leadership class at SJR.

Mr. Becker has an interesting history with Catholicism. In his early high school years, he was angry at the Church and blamed God for the misfortunes that happened in his life. Due to this, he believed that God willed bad things to happen.

However, Mr. Becker's faith evolved over time. When he experienced God on a retreat, he started to take his faith more seriously and realized that God allows all things to happen, not just bad things. Through this retreat, he learned that he should be thankful for God, not spiteful.

Mr. Becker wanted to serve for life in a way that put him close to God and his religion. He first tried priesthood, but he realized that it was not right for him and instead went into young ministry. It was indeed becoming a youth minis-

ter that helped Mr. Becker get back into Catholicism.

Mr. Becker worked as a youth minister for three years, but he decided to move on from that career path to then become a campus minister. He believes that campus ministry allows him to help people grow and discover their Catholic faith.

Mr. Becker has only spent about five weeks at St. Joe's and already loves it. The SJR community has already welcomed him, and he is very impressed with how the school's campus ministry program works. He is also very excited to partner with athletic and performing arts programs to help expand campus ministry.



Photo by Luis Saenz '22

Mr. Becker speaks to the new freshmen on the freshman community weekend about faith and service.

Please email letters to the Editor to sjrguardian@sjrnj.org

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News

SJR Lacrosse Runs in Tunnel to Towers



Photo by Tanner Kurtz '22

(From left to right) Nico Kross '22, Owen Finetto '22, Patrick Shutz '22, and Jared Zevzavadjian '22 are excited to run in the Tunnel to Towers race.

By Thomas Brennan '24

On Sunday, September 26th, the St. Joe's lacrosse team participated in the Tunnel to Towers run in New York City. The run was an event to remember those who passed on September 11th, especially the numerous first responders. The race simulated the heroic path one of the firemen took to rescue people, and it raised money for the Tunnel to Tower Foundation.

This run is dedicated to Stephen Gerard Siller, who was the youngest sibling of seven in his family. Early in his life, both his parents passed away, and he was consequently raised by his brothers. Stephen experienced some hardships as a kid, but with loving siblings, he was able to persevere and eventually become a fireman.

On September 11th, Siller had finished his shift at his Brooklyn firehouse. He planned to play golf with his brothers, until he received a call about a plane hitting the North Tower.

He proceeded to enter the city but was stopped at the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel because of security issues. He was determined to help, so he carried his 60 pounds of equipment and ran through the tunnel into Manhattan. After he got through the tunnel, he arrived at the Twin Towers, where he sacrificed his life to save others.

The St. Joe's lacrosse team decided to participate in this event due to this story, and to grow closer as a team. Head Coach Dan DaPonte said, "I think the Tunnel to Towers event will serve as a memorable day for our student athletes. As a teacher, I realize that today's high school students were not alive on September 11th, 2001. As much as they may

hear about and learn about 9/11 in school and at home, the coaching staff thought it would be more memorable if they participated in something that would leave a lasting impact on them. I could not be more proud of the boys and families that participated with us. This will definitely be an annual event for SJR."

Coach DaPonte pointed out that the current St. Joe's generation didn't experience these events. We can't imagine or think about it the same way, but going on the run and hearing about the story gave us a better understanding of the horrors that happened that day.

When the team emerged from the tunnel upon reaching Manhattan, there were FDNY and NYPD personnel lining the course. They wore banners with the images and names of the fallen first responders.

This opened the team's eyes to the number of people who lost their lives trying to save others twenty years ago. Seeing firemen running the same event as the team in their full equipment was powerful. Many members of the team and their families visited the 9/11 Memorial after completing the course.

One of our senior captains, Nico Kross, added, "it was a great time with the team, and it was for a great cause. It was a perfect way to get our team to be as one and to honor those who have fallen. Overall, it was a great experience."

The Tunnel to Towers run was more than just a 5-kilometer charity run. It was about bringing thousands of people together to honor the brave people of 9/11. The Tunnel to Towers run was a moving experience, and the funds that were raised supported heroes and their families. The event brought the St. Joe's lacrosse team together and taught them an important part of our country's history that is hard for our generation to fully grasp.



Photo by Tanner Kurtz '22

The St. Joe's lacrosse team gets ready to take off on the Tunnel to Towers race.

News

New Leads on Identity of Zodiac Killer



A composite sketch of the Zodiac Killer, who may have been identified as Gary Francis Poste.

By Jaden Hernandez '22

The Zodiac Killer: one of America's most notorious serial killers. The man behind this alias has had this notoriety for over fifty years. The Zodiac Killer was a man who committed multiple murders in the late 1960s and was famous for his complex ciphers that he would send to law enforcement agencies and newspaper offices. To this day, there are still Zodiac ciphers that have yet to be cracked, so there is still information to be acquired.

The Zodiac Killer sent out four ciphers in the late 1960s to early 1970s. At this point in time, all ciphers claimed to be solved, but only two have been recognized as solved by government entities like the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The first Zodiac cipher was solved on August 7th, 1969, about a week after the Zodiac Killer sent it out to the press. It was dubbed Z 408, because it was a Zodiac cipher that contained 408 characters, or simple letters. One begs the question then, "if it were just simple letters, why are other ciphers yet to be solved?" The answer is that the Zodiac created his own alphabet in tandem with his ciphers. The first one was deciphered by a high school teacher and his wife. One portion of the cipher read:

"I like killing people because it is so much fun it is more fun than killing wild game in the forest."

The second Zodiac cipher was called Z 340 and was sent on November 8th, 1969. This was the second and last cipher to be officially cracked, according to the FBI. It was

cracked in December of 2020, but not by anyone professional or a part of the government. It was solved by David Oranchak, a software developer, Sam Blake, an applied mathematician, and Jarl Van Eycke, a warehouse operator and computer programmer. An excerpt from this cipher states:

"I hope you are having lots of fun in trying to catch me... I am not afraid (of death) because I know that my new life will be an easy one in paradise."

The third Zodiac cipher, Z 13, was sent on April 20th, 1970. It is the shortest one, being only 13 characters, but can be argued to be the most important. It read, "My name is --," and is followed by 13 characters of the Zodiac's language. It's the simplest of the four, and would be the key to identifying who the Zodiac Killer is.

The fourth Zodiac cipher, Z 32, was sent on June 26th, 1970. Before the 32 characters, the Z32 letter read, "The map coupled with this code will tell you where the bomb is set. You have until next fall to dig it up."

The bomb in reference here refers to a detail in the Z 32 letter, where the Zodiac threatened to blow up a full school bus. French engineer Fayçal Ziraoui believes that he has solved both the Z 13 and Z 32 ciphers. For the Z 32, Ziraoui believes it reads, "LABOR DAY FIND 45.069 NORT 58.719 WEST." These coordinates target a school in South Lake Tahoe, California.

For Z 13, Ziraoui believes that it is a group of jumbled letters, and he was able to handpick "K A Y R" from the group. He believes it references Lawrence "Kane" Kaye, who was a primary person of interest by police, and was singled out as the man who kidnapped Kathleen Johns and her daughter, both of whom are suspected to be victims of the Zodiac.

Now, in October of 2021, a group called The Case Breakers, which is a group of 40+ former law enforcement investigators, military intelligence officers, and journalists that investigate cold cases, believe they have identified the Zodiac. They believe it is Gary Francis Poste, a man who died three years ago in 2018. Due to new forensic evidence and photos from Poste's home, they believe Poste is the man that committed the murders and sent the letters.

Despite this, the FBI has not confirmed the validity of either Ziraoui's or the Case Breakers' works. So, as of this moment, we have potential answers, but no clarity.

So, is the Zodiac Killer truly identified? That is uncertain. His identity may never be confirmed by the government, and this is a reality that people should come to terms with.

Entertainment

David Lowery's *The Green Knight* is a Success

By Ashton Samson '23

There's a little bit of Gawain in all of us. That's my principle takeaway from *The Green Knight*, David Lowery's new adaptation of one of the best-known Arthurian works: the 14th century chivalric romance, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Those who know next to nothing about the original text or any such legends and are looking for a straight action film might be left a bit disappointed. Other than a brief scene towards the end of the film (that isn't even based in reality), there are no *Game of Thrones*-esque battle sequences, the pacing is sluggish, and there is a rather dense, ambiguous nature to the whole thing, with no shortage of symbolism and entire scenes that can be left up to interpretation.

However, those who are avid fans of Arthurian legends and are somewhat familiar with the original poem should rejoice. *The Green Knight* is one of, if not the best adaptations of an Arthurian legend that remains faithful to its source material, all while adding a new dose of originality and flavor to a timeless legend. Why is it timeless, you might ask? It's timeless because, going back to where I began, we all have a bit of Gawain in us.

As ambiguous as *The Green Knight* may be, one aspect that could not have been made any clearer is the communication of its main theme, which is honor and the ways we can achieve it. You can have all the debates you want about what several characters' motivations and purpose to the film are, but it doesn't really matter in the long run.

What, in my mind, makes the movie so satisfying is the masterful expression of the theme of honor. Gawain's whole journey of self-discovery, revolving around how difficult it is to achieve greatness as a knight, is the means by which Lowery explores the timeless themes of honor, chivalry and the accepted code of knighthood.

The film and Gawain's journey is akin to a classic and quite brilliant coming of age story, one of moral and spiritual development. As Gawain learns about how to be a great knight, so do we. It is at this point where we begin to see the ingenuity in the title. *The Green Knight*, of course, refers to the enigmatic giant who is the catalyst for Gawain's journey.

However, on a deeper level, it could refer to the main character's naivety regarding the realities of both knighthood and being a king. Thus, he is a "green" knight, someone who is lacking training, sophistication and worldly experience. When the title for a film is clear in its meaning and relates back to the themes featured in the work, such is the case here, you know you're in good hands.

Dev Patel as Gawain handles the evolution of his character

with just the right amount of subtlety. The transition of his character from an ignorant coward to an honorable man is not jarring or glaring, but rather a gradual transformation. As the film progresses, he realizes just how much he really wants to be faithful to the code of knighthood and succeed in being worthy of honor. It is this view of honor that Gawain ultimately grasps that brings a sense of universality to the tale.

Everyone wants to be worthy of honor, not just a knight. While we may all have that desire, most importantly, we all have to learn at one time or another that one cannot cheat one's way to gaining honor, akin to when Gawain wears the magic sash. Sometimes, doing the truly honorable thing isn't easy. The journey to that realization in this wonderful film is a thrilling adventure, with an emphasis on masterful execution, inspiring cinematography, excellent acting, and thematically sound material that has and will continue to endure throughout the ages. No matter what, legends never die.



The Green Knight exemplifies the greatness of being an honorable person, while also providing entertainment through Gawain's journey into knighthood.

Open House



The first SJR Open House for the 2021-2022 school year took place on September 19th.

Counter-Clockwise from top right (All Pictures R-L);

Principal Bruno '05 talks to a prospective family interested in joining the St. Joe's community;

Conor Mahoney '22 gives a speech in front of the entire crowd of prospective families;

The Green Knight giving a warm welcome to Open House participants;

The Parents Guild serving food to students and parents;

The hayride brought prospective families around the St. Joe's campus.

All photos by Karyn Ochiuzzo



Mass of the Holy Spirit



The Mass of the Holy Spirit at SJR took place on September 21st.

Clockwise from top left (All Pictures L-R);

Jeffrey Guneratne '23 singing in the chorus during Mass;

James Titolo '22 offers the Eucharist to Robert Egan '22;

Father Vincent D'Agostino with the new Eucharistic Ministers, who include (from left to right) Aidan Woods '22, James Titolo, Daniel Rappa '22, Stephen Carrozza '22, and Nino DeMarco '22;

Father Vincent D'Agostino consecrating the bread and wine into Christ's Body and Blood;

Daniel Rappa offers the Eucharist to Jalen Wade '22.

All photos by Tanner Kurtz '22 and Luis Saenz '22



News

SJR Celebrates Mass of the Holy Spirit

By Michael D'Eletto '22

On Tuesday, September 21st, Saint Joseph Regional High School celebrated the Mass of the Holy Spirit, in which students and faculty come together to ask the Holy Spirit to bless the new academic year.

The Mass of the Holy Spirit is an annual tradition dating back to the sixteenth century for Catholic schools around the world. The service was celebrated by Father Vincent D'Agostino of Our Lady of Mercy in Park Ridge.

This Mass was different from other Masses regularly held at SJR. As the school's first full gathering of the year, the Mass of the Holy Spirit was intended to bless the St. Joe's community and guide us through the new school year.

"It is important to start off the school year spiritually on the right foot," according to theology teacher Mr. Peters, who added, "overall, the Mass went well, and I was pleased with the experience."

The Mass of the Holy Spirit seeks to bring the gifts of the Holy Spirit to the students and faculty of SJR. These gifts consist of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, fear of the Lord, and piety.

In the spirit of new beginnings, as part of the Mass, five new



Photo by Luis Saenz '22

Jack Laux '24 (right) teaches a new freshman (left) the ways of altar serving.



Photo by Luis Saenz '22

RJ Buscher '24 reads a Bible reading during the Mass, with Mr. Becker by his side.

Eucharistic Ministers were commissioned into the Catholic Church, allowing them to administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion. These students were Stephen Carrozza '22, Nino DeMarco '22, Daniel Rappa '22, James Titolo '22, and Aidan Woods '22.

Additionally, newly elected members of the student council were congratulated and recognized as they began their terms. The Executive Committee that was inducted consisted of Conor Mahoney '22 as President, Patrick Schutz '22 as Vice President, RJ Buscher '24 as Secretary, and Jeff Guneratne '23 as Treasurer.

The senior officers to represent student council were announced to be Pierce Kelly as President and Thomas Bayer as Vice President. The junior officers were Fintan Henry as President and Charles Wicker as Vice President. The sophomore officers were Thomas Brennan as President and James Montesano as Vice President.

After the Mass of the Holy Spirit, it feels like the 2021-2022 school year is truly underway. There was a notable feeling of hopefulness among the SJR students now that we can all be together again and are embarking on what is beginning to look like a return to a traditional and successful school year.

Sports

SJR Finishes Construction on New Field



A birds-eye view of the new Coach Tony Karcich Field, built over the summer of 2021.

By Conor Mahoney '22

The morning of June 6th, 2021, will be a day that the Green Knight family will always remember. The previous evening, after the Class of 2021 graduation ceremony, somebody set fire to the stage on the Coach Tony Karcich Field. A day that should have been a celebration for the Class of 2021 turned into a sad and confused weekend.

Nobody believed that someone would do this; as a school community, we hoped it was some kind of accident. However, the Bergen County Arson Unit investigated the scene and concluded that the damage was indeed caused by arson.

We took a hit, but in typical Saint Joe's fashion, we got right back up and realized that it was time to rebuild and come together even more as a community.

Our athletic department and administration considered any possible next steps. Should we patch up the burnt section? Should we replace the entire field? Since this field had its ninth football season of use coming up, and the field was set to be replaced every 10 years, the decision was made to replace the entire field.

It was a challenge to completely renovate the entire field by August 28th, which was when the Green Knights football team was set to take on Good Counsel of Maryland. After planning and coordinating with the turf company, everyone realized that the timing was going to be tight, but it would hopefully be done on time.

Now the planning had to begin. The SJR development office, led by Tony Karcich (for whom the field is named), began to raise funds for the new field. Insurance helped the funding process, but there was still work left to be done. A construction team was assembled, and the design of the new Coach Tony Karcich field was proposed.

The key changes that were made from the old field included the yellow end zones, a new logo of a shield with the Vir Fidelis on it, and the location of the SJR name on the field.

The damaged turf on the field was removed in late July. After the turf producing company had issues with Covid-19, the date of installation was pushed back two weeks, and the field would not be ready for the football

team's home opener.

The new Assistant Athletic Director, Ms. Sharon Kozuch, played a key role in expediting the process. The turf began to be laid down in late August, and the field was completed and ready for the football team's opening game against DePaul Catholic on September 11th. Father Vincent D'Agostino blessed the new field before this game began. Tony Karcich and his family were also invited to attend this game with a few friends and alumni.



This is a close-up view of the new Coach Tony Karcich Field.

Sports

Football, 1-2, Looks to Rebound After Loss



Photo by Karyn Ochiuzzo

Fintan Henry '23 (left) and Aidan Huvane '25 (right) hold the American flag for the pregame 9/11 prayer.

By Jake Persaud '23

On the twentieth anniversary of September 11th, the Green Knights took the field against the DePaul Catholic Spartans. The boys in green ran onto the field ready to deliver a show to fans, most of whom haven't been to the games since 2019. This game was their first home game at Tony Karcich Field after a fire burned parts of it in early June. A 9/11 pregame ceremony was held to honor those who lost their lives that day. Unfortunately, St. Joe's was unable to secure the victory and lost 17-0 to DePaul Catholic.

The theme for the game was 9/11, as shirts saying "Never Forget" were sold to students. The funds raised from the sale went to the McCarthy '86 Memorial Scholarship, which was meant to financially assist incoming freshmen. The scholarship was named after Rob McCarthy '86, a SJR alumni who was killed at the World Trade Center on 9/11. McCarthy left behind a wife and a son at the time, who were present on hand for the football game's coin toss. On display, outside the merchandise shack, was a flag gifted by one of McCarthy's classmates, United States Air Force Pilot Patrick Ober '86.

A pregame ceremony was held at 12:45 to honor the nearly three thousand victims of 9/11. On the field was a pipe/drum combo by the DEA's Brendan Hogan and Bergenfield

Fire's Kevin Schade. A color guard consisting of Hillsdale's BSA Troop 109 Jack Laux '24, Aidan Huvane '25, and Eagle Scout Fintan Henry '23 was also on the field during the pipe/drum combo. The Montvale Fire Department had a truck parked at the field in support of the school, courtesy of Michael Cintineo '06 and Daniel Demarest '07.

Kickoff was at 1:00 PM. The Spartans received the ball first. Not much action went on for most of the first quarter, until DePaul running back Tyler Brown rushed for a 14-yard touchdown. After a successful PAT (point after touchdown) by Brown, the Spartans led 7-0 at the end of the first quarter. Nobody scored during the second quarter, leaving DePaul Catholic with a 7-0 lead at the end of the first half. In the third quarter, Brown kicked a 17-yard field goal, giving the Spartans a 10-0 lead. During the fourth quarter, DePaul quarterback AJ Rodriguez passed the ball to wide receiver Marshawn Ferguson for a 2-yard receiving touchdown. After another successful PAT by Brown, the Spartans secured a victory and shut out the Green Knights 17-0.

SJR quarterback Luke Henrich '23 recorded 45 passing yards on 8 completions and 21 attempts, along with -3 rushing yards on 9 attempts. Wide receiver Kenyon Massey '24 recorded 5 rushing yards on 2 attempts. Running back Yasin Willis '24 recorded 16 rushing yards on 5 attempts. Running back Luke Tucci '23 recorded 2 yards on 3 receptions and 0 receiving yards on 3 receptions. Wide receiver Jayden Wimberly '22 recorded 34 receiving yards on 4 receptions. Outer linebacker and strong safety Jack Smiechowski '22 recorded 1 interception.

In total, SJR recorded 45 passing yards and 8 completions on 21 attempts, 20 rushing yards on 19 attempts, 58 receiving yards on 8 receptions, and 1 interception.

After the game, defensive player Jimmy Mullen '23 was interviewed:

Q: How did you think the game went from your stance?

A: Offense played well. Defense played well. We both played our hearts out, we did what we had to. Stuff happens, and that's the end of the game, so we gotta pick up and worry about next week.

Q: The defense was great for most of the game, but had a couple of mishaps. What do you think you guys can do, as well as the offense, to learn from this week and use for the next game?

A: Everyone should just do what they have to do, execute, and we'll be fine. We just gotta run the ball hard, pass the ball, play pass and run, and we'll be fine.

Sports

SJR Defeats Pope John to Improve to 2-2



Photo by Karyn Ochiuzzo

Luke Tucci '23 runs to the hole for one of his two touchdowns during the game.

By Jake Persaud '23

The Green Knights took the field on September 25th to play the Pope John Lions at Pope John XXIII High School in Sparta, New Jersey. After losing 17-0 two weeks ago to the DePaul Catholic Spartans, SJR defeated the now 1-4 Pope John 31-5, improving to a 2-2 record.

Kickoff was at 1:00 PM. To begin the scoring, quarterback Luke Henrich '23 threw the ball to outside linebacker and strong safety Jack Smiechowski '22 for a three-yard receiving touchdown. After a successful PAT attempt by kicker Marcos Ruiz '23, SJR led 7-0 to end the first quarter.

In the second quarter, Ruiz kicked a twenty-eight-yard field goal, giving the Green Knights a 10-0 lead. Later in this quarter, running back Luke Tucci '23 ran for a twenty-eight-yard rushing touchdown. After another PAT made by Ruiz, St. Joe's led 17-0. Unfortunately, the chance of a shutout was gone when Lions kicker Jack Morgese kicked a twenty-four-yard field goal, leaving the score at 17-3 by the end of the first half.

During the third quarter, Tucci ran for another twenty-eight-yard rushing touchdown. After Ruiz made another PAT, SJR led 24-3. Later in the third quarter, Henrich threw the ball to wide receiver Donovan McKoy '23 for a twenty-five-yard receiving touchdown. With another PAT by Ruiz, the Green Knights led 31-3 at the end of the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, a punt was blocked in the end zone and recovered by Pope John for a safety, ending the game with a 31-5 win for St. Joe's.

Henrich had 63 passing yards, 2 touchdowns, and 7 com-

pletions on 10 attempts, along with 25 rushing yards on 4 carries. Quarterback Joseph Stern '22 had 12 passing yards and 1 completion on 2 attempts. Quarterback Ryan Cunningham '24 had 0 passing yards and 0 completions on 1 attempt, along with 4 rushing yards on 1 carry.

Wide receiver Kenyon Massey '24 had 0 rushing yards on 1 carry. Running back Yasin Willis '24 had 103 rushing yards on 17 carries. Wide receiver and defensive back Jaden Wimberly '22 had 1 rushing yard on 1 carry, 17 receiving yards on 3 carries, and 19 punt return yards on 2 returns. Offenseman Devin Miller-singh '22 recorded 32 rushing yards on 7 carries.

Full back and Tight end Brendan Stapleton '22 recorded 5 rushing yards on 1 carry. Tucci had 72 rushing yards and 2 touchdowns on 4 carries. Smiechowski had 3 receiving yards on 1 reception, 6 tackles (3 solo, 3 assists), as well as 30 interception yards off of 1 interception, and 108 punt yards on 3 punts. McKoy had 40 receiving yards and 1 touchdown on 3 receptions.

Tight end, full back, and half back Brendan Errity '23 had 15 reception yards on 1 reception. Safety Trey Watkins '22 had 3 total tackles (1 solo, 2 assists). Outside linebacker Peter Schuh '22 had 3 total tackles (1 solo, 2 assists). Wide receiver Emmanuel Laracuenta '22 had 2 tackles (1 solo, 1 assist). Linebacker Cooper Kurtz '23 had 1 tackle (solo).

Strong safety Joseph Barrise '22 recorded 3 tackles (assists). Linebacker Roberto Padilla '22 recorded 3 tackles (2 solo, 1 assist). Linebacker Raquan Harvey '24 recorded 2 tackles (solo). Linebacker AJ Fricchione '23 had 3 tackles (1 solo, 2 assists). Defenseman Jalen Wade '22 had 1 tackle (assist), 2 interception yards on 2 interceptions, and 32 kickoff return yards on 2 returns. Defensive end James Mullen '23 recorded 4 tackles (1 solo, 3 assists), and 1 fumble recovery.

Cornerback JaTy Mayes '22 recorded 3 tackles (2 solo, 1 assist). Defensive back Pierce Kelly '22 had 4 tackles (3 solo, 1 assist). Defensive back Brandon Wu '22 recorded 4 tackles (1 solo, 3 assists). Linebacker Leone Titolo '23 recorded 1 tackle (assist). Linebacker Ricky Anastasi '24 recorded 2 tackles (1 solo, 1 assist). Defensive tackle Stephen Laguerre '23 recorded 2 tackles (1 solo, 1 assist) and 1 forced fumble. Linebacker Louis Soto '22 recorded 2 tackles (2 assists). Defensive end Jeremy Mendez '23 recorded 3 tackles (1 solo, 2 assist), 1 sack, and 1 forced fumble. Ruiz recorded 403 kicking yards on 7 kickoffs, 4 PATs, and 1 field goal.

The Green Knights take on the Montclair Cavaliers on Saturday, October 2. Both teams are 2-2 in their respective leagues, looking for their third win. Kickoff is scheduled for 1:00 PM at Tony Karcich Field at SJR.

Sports

SJR Cross Country Returns for New Season

By Shane Brennan '22

The Saint Joseph Regional cross country team is back running again. The team, which graduated no members from last year, has competed in two meets.

The returning senior members of the team are Shane Brennan '22, Saul Garcia '22, Nick Steinhauser '22, Tom Mendoza '22. These four have worked very hard throughout their three years of running together and will continue to do so in their final season. They will be aided in the return of Fintan Henry '23 and Jeff Guneratne '23, who both showed great improvement last year as sophomores. In addition, Matthew McCarvill '24 also returns from a freshmen season that saw him gain valuable experience by running the 5k.

The team has also added two freshmen in Dylan Gutowski '25 and Aidan Koliopoulos '25. These two are joined by transfer Dylan Salerno '24 as the newcomers on the team.

Despite not graduating anyone, the team did lose valuable member Thomas Brennan '24, who chose not to run cross country this season. The newcomers will be looked upon to fill in new roles for the team, which is very small despite having four seniors on it.

The team showed great promise in the county opener. Despite Fintan Henry '23 and Tom Mendoza '22 both unable to attend the race, it was still a large success. Nick Steinhauser '22 ran faster than his time from last year, despite there being an extra month to train last year. Jeff Guneratne '23 also showed great improvement by running three minutes faster than his time from the previous county opener.



Photo by Erika Brennan

Nick Steinhauser '22 keeps ahead of the competition from West Milford.

The county opener also saw the third course change in the past three years. When asked about the course, Saul Garcia said, "I was happy with the course. Honestly, the sand is not too difficult to run on for me. The hardest part (of the season thus far) is getting used to running every school day again."

This quote illustrates one of the major changes to the course, as the sand is back after a year of absence. The course at Darlington County Park is notorious for its sand, which slows down many runners. Garcia also highlighted another change this year, which is that there are now a team practices everyday. This is something that was not possible last year due to Covid-19 restrictions.

For the freshmen, the change did not matter, as Aidan Koliopoulos and Dylan Gutowski were both excellent in their race. Koliopoulos in particular ran a 10:38-minute 2900-meter race.

Three days later, the team ran at the Big North United Batch meet. Fintan Henry and Tom Mendoza ran their first race of the season. At this meet, SJR competed against DePaul Catholic, Don Bosco Prep, Bergen Catholic, and Paramus Catholic. The team had a rough race, but managed to beat DePaul. Jeff Guneratne and Saul Garcia filled out the team's top five, behind the returning trio of Henry, Mendoza, and Shane Brennan. The top seven was rounded out by both Nick Steinhauser and Matthew McCarvill.

While it was a good start to the season, the team must put in a lot of work if they want to gain victories over Paramus Catholic in the future. This SJR cross country team has great potential and the work ethic to improve and excel in a competitive league.



Photo by Erika Brennan

Aidan Koliopoulos '25 performed very well at the first meet, running a 2900-meter race in under eleven minutes.