



# The Blue Jay



February 2017

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## Fr. Fronk takes helm as 30th president

*Ex-military chaplain 'excited to be here'*

By Jonathan LeBrun  
News Editor

A new president took office in January. But not just in Washington, D.C.

The Rev. Christopher S. Fronk, S.J., officially assumed his duties as the 30<sup>th</sup> president of Jesuit High School on Jan. 25.

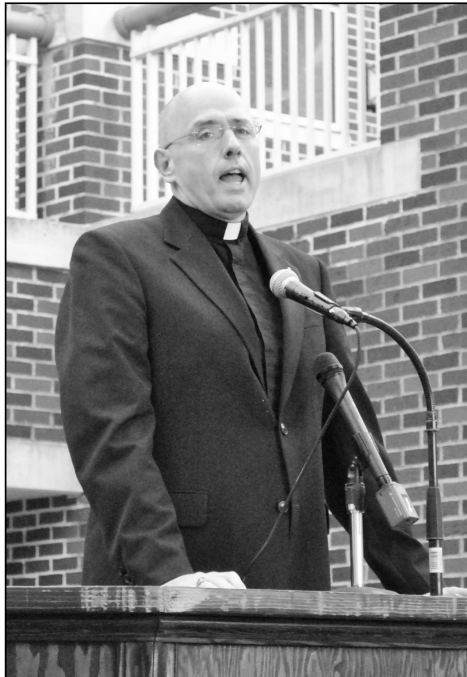
The following Friday, he addressed the gathered community at Morning Assembly in the Traditions Courtyard.

After prompting an enthusiastic "Good morning, Father"

from the student body, Fr. Fronk acknowledged his recent predecessors, saying that he has big shoes to fill, considering the legacies of both the Revs. Anthony McGinn, S.J., and Raymond Fitzgerald, S.J.

Fr. Fronk said he plans to continue this academic year by building on the foundations laid by his predecessors.

Fr. Fronk comes to Carrollton and Banks following a career in military service, most recently serving as command chaplain aboard the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush. Previously, he also spent a year-



The Rev. Christopher S. Fronk, S.J., addresses Morning Assembly officially introducing himself to the student body in his first week as president.

Staff photo by Richi Fernando

long deployment as chaplain to troops on the front lines in Afghanistan.

Earlier in his life as a Jesuit, he also taught in high schools and universities in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

New to New Orleans, and without a previous direct connection to the Jesuit High School, Fr. Fronk described himself as the

new guy.

"Come up to me, introduce yourselves, say hello," he said, encouraging students to get to know him. "It will help me to appreciate this new experience that is the welcoming community of Jesuit High School."

"I am excited to be here and to roll up my sleeves and get to work."

## Blue Jay is ranked as best paper

The Blue Jay newspaper has been named "Best Newspaper" at the Tom Bell Silver Scribe journalism competition.

Staff members participated at the competition at Loyola University's School of Mass Communications in the fall. The 39<sup>th</sup> annual competition, co-sponsored by the Press Club of New Orleans, features schools from across the metro area.

Individual awards also went to the following Blue Jay journalists: In the live competition rounds, sophomore Reed Darcey took second place for Best News Photo; senior Wesley Bennett Faust took second place for Best Photo Gallery.

Among the Maroon and Gold Awards for already published work, senior Matthew O'Neill won third place for Best Feature Photo. Freshman Jonathan LeBrun won second place for Best Sports Story. Senior William Fine won first place for Best News Story. And junior Donald Barrett, current editor-in-chief, took first place honors for Best Editorial for his memorial tribute to the Rev. Raymond Fitzgerald, S.J.

## Fr. O'Neal honored



The Rev. Norman O'Neal, S.J., concluded 55 years of service to Jesuit High School last month, most recently serving as alumni chaplain. Before he left to move to the Jesuit residence at Grand Coteau, he was honored at a reception where faculty, staff, family and alumni offered thanks for his years of guidance and influence. Among those expressing best wishes were, from left, faculty and staff members Susan de Boisblanc, Leslie Merritt, Stephanie Cutrer, Nilda Rivera, and Top Abshire.

## Swimmers finish 2nd in tight state competition

By Peyton Toups  
Staff Writer

For the fourth year in a row, Jesuit High School won runner-up in the Allstate-LHSAA Championship Swim Meet in Sulphur.

In a close meet in the state championship, the team fell to the Bears of Catholic High in Baton Rouge by a slim 53 points.

"We had an exceptional team," Coach Bret Hanemann said. The team's greatest victory,

he said, was the taking of individual state titles by seniors Jack Jackson and Noah Wilkins.

Also, seniors Josh Armond and Jackson, sophomore Connor Schwartz and freshman Michael Foley won the state title in the 400-yard freestyle as a team.

Among the rising stars on the team are juniors Jack Boudouin and Patrick Murray, sophomores Davis Edwards, Charles Korndorffer and Schwartz and freshmen Ryan

See SWIMMING, Page 6

# Teachers connect recalling their own time as students

*Britsch, Holmer return with Alumni Service Corps*

By Jonathan LeBrun  
News Editor

## Teacher Feature

For faculty members Jason Britsch and Jordan Holmer, who started teaching here this year, it might be difficult to call their colleagues by their first names.

It's not that their fellow teachers are aloof or unwelcoming. It's just that not too long ago, Holmer and Britsch were sitting in their classrooms – as students.

The pair make up this year's complement of the Alumni Service Corps. It's a program for recent college graduates to return to their alma mater for an academic year to experience the possibility of teaching as a career.

Founded in 2013, the program has produced several faculty members. The program was begun by the Rev. Raymond Fitzgerald, S.J., modeling it after similar programs at Jesuit schools across the country. From the beginning, it has been supervised by English teacher Michael

Prados, who serves as a mentor for the alumni participants.

Britsch and Holmer, both members of the Class of 2012, each teach two slots of courses in their respective departments, Britsch with the English department, and Holmer on the Computer Science faculty. In addition the ASC members help tutor students, assist at various school events and retreats, and generally become a part of the community for the students.

Prados described their work as outstanding. "They are committed to the four components of the program," he said – service, community, simplicity, and spirituality.

Holmer said he has always remembered the school's advice to get involved. As an eighth grader, he joined the Academic Games Club, which then had slight participation.

"It was me, another eighth



Faculty members Jason Britsch, center, and Jordan Holmer chat with students in the Traditions Courtyard. Each member of the Class of 2012, Holmer and Britsch are this year's participants in the Alumni Service Corps.

grader and two seniors," he recalled. Not long after joining, he helped develop it into a major competitor in whatever tournament the club competed. It was during his time as a Blue Jay, he had developed an academic interest in mathematics and computer sciences.

Holmer's interests led him to attend the University of Marquette in Milwaukee, where he majored in engineering. Following his participation in the Alumni Service Corps, he said he hopes to pursue an engineering career.

Britsch also was actively involved in school life during his

time as a student. He was a member of Campus Ministry, Peer Support, and the National Honor Society. A talented performer in J-Troupe, he improved comedy branch of the Phillectic Society, he also starred in a senior one-act play, "The Monkey's Paw." Britsch was a co-valedictorian of his graduating class.

Upon graduation, Britsch chose to attend the University of Dallas, he said, because "it was Catholic, small, and had a sense of community." He earned a degree in history and political science. An e-mail Jesuit sent to him while college made him aware of the Service Corps. In

addition to teaching English I, he also moderates the Video Games Club and helps out with Campus Ministry.

He said that he's considering a career in teaching but also may pursue graduate school and the possibility of a political internship.

Both Britsch and Holmer said they are grateful and appreciative for the opportunity to return to Carrollton and Banks to display lessons learned and become role models for today's students, who might also consider returning one day to experience life from the other side of the classroom.

# Humble service marks Gogineni's time at Jesuit

By Philip Hourgettes  
Features Editor

## Blue Jay of the Month

When told he was being named Blue Jay of the Month, senior Nikhil Gogineni not only said he didn't believe he deserved it, but even introduced others who he thought should be honored.

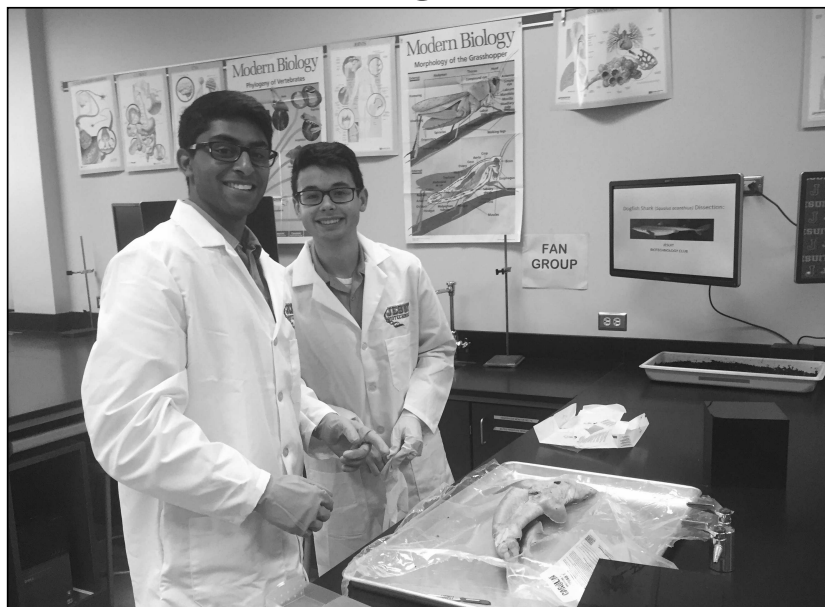
That quiet humility is just part of how this Blue Jay seems to be doing everything right. That humility and kind nature has earned him the respect of his classmates and faculty.

"Nikhil is that guy that everybody naturally likes, and everyone tries to emulate," senior Graham Buck said. "He is truly an example for us all."

Nikhil said he enjoys spending free time listening to music or playing basketball. That free time is likely sparse, however, as he is about as involved in school life as it gets.

Nikhil is the treasurer of National Honor Society, a member of Mu Alpha Theta, and a senior leader on Peer Support.

Although these academic organizations are time consuming, Nikhil still makes time for passions of his own, acting as president of the table tennis team and an active member of the debate team.



Senior Nikhil Gogineni, left, works on a biology specimen with classmate Troy Broussard. Being part of the new Bio-Technology Club is just one example of Gogineni's life at Jesuit. The Blue Jay of the Month also is committed to service, as evidenced by his leadership of the 'Hams for Fams' program to help feed families.

Staff photo  
by Wesley  
Bennett Faust

Wrapping up 2016, however, he led a project with an even greater impact.

Nikhil is vice president of "Hams for Fams." Motivated by the success of the annual Jesuit Thanksgiving Drive, "Hams for Fams" is a non-profit charity founded by a group of seniors who have made it their mission to feed families in need during Christmas.

This year, the organization helped feed 100 families.

As the group's vice president and chairman of the board, Nikhil was instrumental in the growth of "Hams for Fams."

He handles the organization's planning and he plays a vital role in the execution of getting the food to the families in need.

"He is the most reliable

board member, and the positive attitude that he brings acts as a driving force in the organization," said senior Davis Martin, co-founder of the organization.

Nikhil acknowledges a sense of pride in his role, saying he gets much back from the work.

"I'm not just doing this to be a part of the program," he said. "I truly enjoy it, and the camaraderie and relationships I have

built are quite gratifying."

His role in the program has had an impact on his life, as well. He said it has allowed him "to see the true reality of New Orleans."

This eye-opening experience has assured him that we all can help tackle pressing problems in our community.

"Knowing you have the ability to help someone in need is a great feeling."

# JCAP seeks to expand social awareness

By Palmer Montalbano  
Staff Writer

The Jesuit Community Action Project, known as JCAP, is being revitalized by seniors Jaime Colón and Jack Quaglin with a renewed vigor towards informing students on current social issues in our country and city.

Among the issues that the group has recently addressed is homelessness. JCAP is creating and printing pamphlets on the problem of homelessness in New Orleans and will be distributing them around campus.

The pamphlets will include facts about the extent of homelessness in the city, as well as suggesting ways that individuals can reach out and help those who are homeless.

The goal of JCAP is to regularly raise student awareness about other various topics such as hunger, poverty, environmental issues, and racism.

The club plans, however, to do more than just further the discussion on such pressing topics. The members of JCAP also are taking action to help those in need.

Among the projects it is hoping to complete are filling small backpacks with necessities, such as non-perishable food, clothing, and maps of the city highlighting helpful resources, which they will pass out to the homeless in an effort to alleviate some of the



Members of the Jesuit Community Action Project work on a pamphlet highlighting issues of homelessness in New Orleans. The club seeks to increase awareness of various social issues and show students what they can do to help. Members include, from left, seniors Jack Quaglin, Palmer Montalbano and Jaime Colon.

Staff photo by Wesley Bennett Faust

physical challenges they face every day.

In addition, the club's members hope to engage in genuine encounters with the individuals they aid.

By expressing the love of Christ to those suffering homelessness, JCAP members also

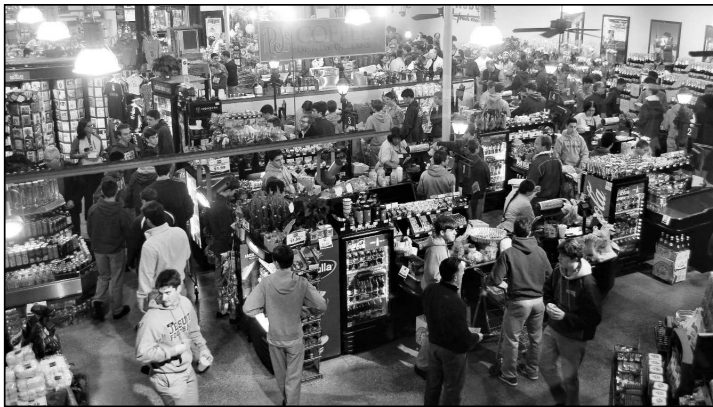
reaffirm their inherent dignity, something that those living on the street may rarely see on a daily basis.

Overall, JCAP hopes that its endeavors will aid in reaching solutions to the social problems that exist all around us.

## Club of the Month

The Jesuit Community Action Project meets every two weeks on Thursdays during the second half of lunch. Guidance Counselor Mollie Roberts is the organization's moderator.

# Thanksgiving Drive serves more than 450 families



By Donald Barrett  
Editor-in-Chief

"We are all members of the same body of Christ. Our call is to love as Jesus loved."

With those words from Theology teacher Susan de Boisblanc, the Blue Jay community set off on the day before Thanksgiving for one of the highlights of the year at Jesuit, distribution of the Thanksgiving Drive baskets to families in need.

Following the annual prayer service, the monthlong drive culminated with deliveries to more than delivering food to more than 450 families across New Orleans.

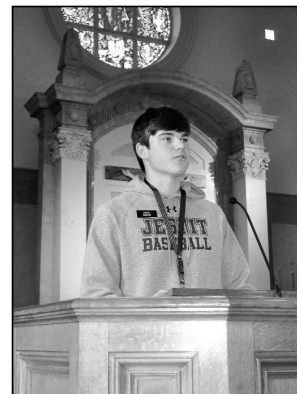
This annual tradition, started in 1927, allows Jesuit students to serve some of the nearly 28 percent of New Orleanians who live in poverty and may not otherwise be able to afford a Thanksgiving

dinner.

The drive is an all-hands-on-deck affair – each homeroom and many student organizations collect dry goods and money throughout the month of November. On the day before Thanksgiving, Blue Jays rose early to gather at Robert Fresh Market at 5:30 a.m. to purchase perishable goods for the needy families using money raised in homerooms.

After shopping, students and faculty brought the food back to school where each homeroom then organized the items into large boxes complete with everything from a turkey to stuffing to cranberry sauce and cookies.

With the vast amount of donated items, each family often received two or three boxes full of food. For many students, the highlight of the day is delivering the baskets to the families in need. Many realize that they receive back as much from their acts of charity and love as they give.



Senior Davis Martin offered a reflection at the prayer service before the distribution of Thanksgiving baskets. Earlier that morning, left photo, Blue Jays converged on Robert's Fresh Market to complete the grocery shopping. The final step was loading up the cars, below, and making the deliveries to the families.

Staff photos  
by Richi Fernando



# Phils' fest runs gamut, drama to comedy

**Seniors direct shows, raise \$1,800 for food bank**

By Peyton Touns  
Entertainment Editor

From intense drama to silly comedy, the Philelectic Society offered something for all tastes at its annual senior-directed One Act Play and Improv Comedy Festival.

Over the course of the weekend, Jan. 19-21, the members of the Phils performed seven plays, ranging from about just 10 minutes long to about a half hour.

The dark psychological drama "Lockdown" by Douglas Craven was compelling, as it centered on a group of students and teacher experiencing a potential terrorist attack or shooting at a school. Locked in their classroom, unsure if the event is real or merely a drill, the emotional stakes were high. Matt O'Neill directed the piece.

Along with the largest cast, lighter fare was offered with "Law & Order: Fairytale Unit," playwright Jonathan Larson's storybook sendup of the popular television crime franchise. Directed by Bailey Termine and Eddie Medina, the whimsical comedy had a pair of detectives investigating a crime incorporating characters from nearly every fairy tale one could squeeze in, along with a plethora of puns.

The only musical of the festival was an original piece directed and conceived by Gabriella Trentacoste, from the Academy of Sacred Heart and the New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts. "Lover's Lane" was a sweet romance featuring junior Garrin Mesa and sophomore Diana Ledet from Ursuline Academy. They sang and danced to classic American songs by George Gershwin.

NOCCA senior Catherine Sillars wrote and directed "Toni & Gibson," a poignant comedy about a teen couple's first date. The play was a finalist in the Young Actors Studio National Playwriting Competition, and a semi-finalist in the Blank Theatre Young Playwright's Festival.



Members of Jesuit's Philelectic Society appear in 'Lockdown,' an intense drama set during a possible terror attack at a school. Directed by Matt O'Neill, the play was part of the annual senior-directed One-Act Play and Improv Comedy Festival. Staff photos by Alex Tran



Senior Kyle Bardell starred with Mount Carmel senior Rachel Michel in 'Toni & Gibson,' a poignant comedy written and directed by Catherine Sillars, a senior at the New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts.

The changes in social interaction wrought by technology were the center of the very funny "Call Me" by Michelle Markarian. It was co-directed by Matt Kives and Ellanor Patton from Isidore Newman.

The raucous family comedy "Louder, I Can't Hear You" by Bill Gleason left the audience roaring. It was helmed by Brice Catalano and Lindsey Falgoust from Haynes Academy.

Dominican's Sylvia Owen directed Will Boersma's nerdy comedy "The Boys, the Bed and the Balsa."

In addition, audiences were treated to a performance of laugh-inducing games by the J-Troupe, Jesuit's improv comedy team, practicing what it calls "the art of unscripted chaos."

The annual play festival also serves as a fundraiser for the Phils to aid the Second Harvest Food Bank of New Orleans. Admission to the shows was either \$5 or a donation of five canned goods. The festival raised \$1,800 and nearly 200 pounds of food. The proceeds raised will provide around 5,400 meals to those in need across the city.

*Tickets on sale for  
spring musical,  
epic 'Les Miserables'*



As it celebrates its centennial year, as the oldest continually operating performing arts group in New Orleans, the Philelectic Society also is preparing for one of its biggest musicals, the epic hit, "Les Misérables." Director Kate Arthurs-Goldberg recently completed casting the dramatic musical – drawing on more than 70 student actors from Jesuit, as well as schools from across the metropolitan area.

Tickets for the show, which runs in the Jesuit Auditorium March 30-April 1, and April 7-8, are now available. Advance tickets are \$10 for students, \$15 for adults. Tickets at the door will be \$15-\$20. For information, visit the Phils' website at [www.jesuitnola.org/co-curricular/philelectic-society](http://www.jesuitnola.org/co-curricular/philelectic-society).

## Barbecue joint satisfies pork lovers

By Philip Hourgnettes  
and Hunter Tracey  
*The Taste Buds*

Ray Gruezke, a Jesuit alumnus and organizer of the growing Hogs for the Cause, has opened his own barbecue restaurant in remembrance of his great-grandfather Andreas Frey. The owner of the upscale restaurant Rue

127, Gruezke opened Frey Smoked Meat Co. in November.

Although we visited on a Wednesday afternoon, Frey was lively and welcoming. We were seated immediately and the service was great. The restaurant itself pays homage to the history of barbecue while maintaining a vivacious atmosphere: the decor resembles a traditional Western barbecue restaurant; however, the

large windows, music, and outdoor seating offer an alternative to the dreary old barbecue shack.

Frey's menu is divided into several sections, including appetizers, platters of meat, barbecue sandwiches, sides, burgers – divided into griddled "flatties" and grilled "fatties" – and mac and cheese.

In lieu of an appetizer, we ordered the bacon and pepper

jack mac and cheese, one of four types offered. The cheese-to-macaroni ratio was extraordinary. The bacon added a savory aspect to the dish, and the combination of the pepper jack and the bacon made for a flavorful appetizer. However, the portion size seemed small compared to the other menu items.

See TASTE BUDS, Page 6

**Frey Smoked Meat  
Co.**

**4141 Bienville St.**  
(behind Office Depot)

**504-488-RIBS**  
[freysmokedmeat.com](http://freysmokedmeat.com)

**The Taste Buds  
give it:  
\*\*\*\*1/2**





Junior Trey Aucoin (20) races to defend the goal from a Brother Martin attacker in the district match played on Jan. 28.

## Determined soccer team heads to state

By Reed Darcey  
Sports Editor

A year ago, Jesuit soccer suffered one of its most disappointing losses in recent memory when the Jays fell to the hands of the Catholic High Bears 2-0 in the quarterfinals of the state playoffs, snapping an impressive streak of 18 consecutive semifinal appearances.

Jesuit's current campaign to the state championships is marked with a vengeance on a quest to begin a bigger and better streak and prove that last season was an outlier.

For a normal team, a 7-3-3 start is respectable. The Blue Jays, however, consider that record which they donned entering district play unsatisfactory.

In the district opener, Jesuit put up a tie — this one a frustrating 0-0 against John Ehret. The team dominated the first half, but missed several scoring opportunities.

"The first half we completely controlled the game, we completely dominated, we had all the possessions," Coach Hubie Collins said. "We created probably three, if not four, quality goal-scoring opportunities, including a penalty kick. We didn't convert those and then — credit John Ehret — they had a little bit of belief starting the second half. Ehret got through the first half, and then as the game went on I thought we lost a little bit of composure, and the Patriots kept their cool at the back."

Desperate for some momentum, the Jays steamrolled L.W. Higgins 8-0 for their first district win. A morale booster was important, for the team's next match had been circled on their calendar.

The all-important match was a revenge game against Catholic High. The Bears had already beaten the Jays 1-0 in a tournament contest on Nov. 25, but this meeting was different — it was a district tilt at John Ryan Stadium for Jesuit's soccer homecoming match.

At that game, the Blue Jays who had won state titles in 1987, 2002, and 2007 were honored. This year's players pounced on the opportunity to impress their predecessors.

The first goal was scored in the first two minutes of play when senior Patrick Rees struck a brilliant header off a corner kick from junior Christian de Gracia. "We've been working on getting out fast, [getting] set pieces, corner kicks, and free kicks," Collins said, "so it was great for Pat and great for the team that we scored a goal off a corner kick in the first two minutes of the game, which is fantastic. It really settled the team down and allowed us to play our game."

Senior Vincent Baumer then slammed in a shot from 25 yards away to give the Jays a two-goal lead that they would not relinquish. "We put some seven or eight great passes together," Collins said, "and Hunt made a great little cross to Vincent, who shot and buried it in the back of the net. It was fantastic; a great team goal."

"We certainly felt that we played well enough (against Catholic) in Houma on that day (Nov. 25) to get a result, but we didn't. We didn't want to make the same mistake today. ... We're delighted that we got the result," Collins said.

The squad carried the drive into their next three games defeating Bonabel 2-0, Chalmette 8-0, and Rummel 5-0. Sophomore striker Ashton Perkins scored three goals in those three games, helping Jesuit build momentum as they began prep for a match against Brother Martin that would decide the district title.

The Jays entered the game against the Crusaders fresh off a 2-1 victory over Grace King on Senior Night and a 1-1 draw with Newman. They now sat only a half of a game behind Brother Martin, so the Blue Jays needed a victory to claim district title; the Crusaders needed at least a tie. Blue Jay morale faded in the 29th minute when a Crusader scored the first goal of the game, but the home crowd's spirits were lifted when de Gracia tied the match eight minutes later with a goal of his own. Unfortunately, that score was the last one of the game despite the Jays' out-shooting their opponent 6-0 in the second half.

The team now has their sights set on the state tournament later this month.

# Hard-playing football team splits season

By Reed Darcey  
Sports Editor

Coming off a disappointing state title defense in 2015, Jesuit's 2016 football season ended as a tale of two teams. When they were good, they were great. And then there were the other games.

Looking ahead, the gridiron Blue Jays aim to be more consistent and try to make another underdog run at a state championship next year. Here's a review of the 2016 season.

The Jays had a chance to open the season on a strong note and gain momentum in three non-district games before district play.

They mostly capitalized, winning two out of the three in victories against Warren Easton and Escambia High.

Opening district play, the Jays fell to St. Augustine 27-23. The team was off to a strong start at halftime leading 17-7, but relinquished all momentum coming out of the break.

The team lost in large part due to penalties as two touchdowns were negated by holding calls and the would-be game-winning touchdown was called back for an illegal forward pass.

"Penalties hurt, they hurt all the time," said Coach Mark Songy. "They're just like turnovers, you can't have them. The team that makes the fewest number of mistakes wins. ... If you're going to make mistakes, you have to overcome them. We were not able to overcome them."

In the 97th edition of the Great American Rivalry series, Jesuit needed a win not only to beat arch-rival Holy Cross but also to gain momentum heading into important district games against strong teams, and they did just that, winning 38-0.

Offensively, the Jays were led by senior quarterback Denny McGinnis who completed all eight of his passes and senior

## SEASON SCOREBOARD

vs. Warren Easton (Sept. 1)  
WIN 13-6

vs. St. Paul's (Sept. 9)  
LOSS 13-10

vs. Escambia (Sept. 16)  
WIN 34-13

vs. St. Augustine (Sept. 23)  
LOSS 27-23

vs. Holy Cross (Sept. 30)  
WIN 38-0

vs. John Curtis (Oct. 7)  
LOSS 14-7

vs. Rummel (Oct. 15)  
LOSS 17-10

vs. Shaw (Oct. 22)  
WIN 44-0

vs. Franklinton (Oct. 28)  
WIN 56-21

vs. Bro. Martin (Nov. 4)  
LOSS 28-10

vs. Rummel (Nov. 12)  
(Playoffs)  
LOSS 24-10

running back Connor Prouet who scored twice and rushed for 83 yards.

He was named game MVP. Defensively, second team team, All-American senior linebacker Cameron Crozier led a defensive shutout and returned an interception for a touchdown, helping to seal the victory.

The Blue Jays looked to carry this newfound momentum into their Homecoming game against John Curtis. The team started strong and headed into the halftime break up 7-0. However, once again it was a tale of two halves for the Jays as they squandered their lead and lost 14-7.

After the game, Songy said

he was "proud as hell of my kids. [They] played their behinds off. We scratched and clawed. We can work on it, and we can build on that." He touched on his team's resiliency by saying "we got a lot of fight for everybody," claiming Jesuit is better than the record indicates.

Jesuit's losing streak grew to two games when the Jays lost a hard-hitting, old school, defensive battle to Archbishop Rummel 17-10.

Still, the Jays marched on. They demolished Archbishop Shaw 44-0 in the first game both teams played at Zephyr Field and destroyed Franklinton 56-21 behind a Jesuit-record-breaking six touchdowns scored by Prouet.

The Blue Jays then fell at the hands of Brother Martin 28-10 in their regular season finale. The Jays gained only seven total first downs, committed seven penalties, and threw two interceptions.

A stagnant offense led to a sapped defense that struggled to tackle and eventual gave up a season-high in points.

Any momentum the Jays had left was slowed by Rummel who ousted the squad from the playoffs in the opening round 24-10.

Held to a season-low 181 total yards, woeful, one-dimensional offense, headlined by inconsistent quarterback play, was what ultimately defeated the Jays.

The solid defense was left on the field for far too long, making them prone to big plays that hurt Blue Jay morale.

The Jesuit state title run of 2014 now feels like a long time ago, for the Jays have been bounced from the playoffs in the first round two consecutive years.

Songy commented on the inconsistent play that has plagued the program for the past two seasons calling it "up and down."

"We played a very tough schedule," he said, "we played inconsistently, but we always played hard."

## The Blue Jay

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## Grudge match!



In preparation for Jesuit's prime-time wrestling dual meet against Brother Martin in the Birdcage, wrestling coaches Sheridan Moran in blue and Tim Falter, donning the mask, put on an exhibition of their own during lunch in Traditions Courtyard. Forecasting Jesuit's win against Brother Martin later that night, Moran (sporting Jesuit wrestling duds) pinned a Crusader-clad Falter to the raucous applause of the many student and faculty onlookers.

Staff photo by Richi Fernando

# Wrestlers score win against Brother Martin in key dual meet

By William Fine  
Staff Writer

The Jesuit Blue Jay wrestlers accomplished a feat that no other wrestling team in Louisiana had achieved since 2011: they beat Brother Martin in a dual meet.

On a night where the Blue Jay faithful came out in droves, the Jays, led by Coach Sheridan Moran, fed on the infectious energy of the crowd and pulled off the upset of the five-time defending champions.

Coach Moran summed up the match as "just a real gutsy performance all the way around."

The meet started at the 195-pound weight class where junior Thomas Arseneaux won by decision to put the Jays on the board 3-0.

Following pins at the 220-pound and 285-pound weight classes respectively by sophomore Perry Ganci and senior Corey Dublin, the Jays had an early 15-0 lead.

The Jays had all the momentum as the Brother Martin fans stood in shock. However, the cross-town opponent soon mounted a comeback as the weight classes turned to the lightweights.

With consecutive pins at 106-pounds and 113-pounds, the Crusaders had climbed back into the meet with the score being 15-12.

To make matters worse, the Crusaders had a defending state-title winner wrestling in the next



Sophomore Luke Eccles is in the process of taking down an opponent from the Archbishop Shaw Eagles in a recent meet, in which the Blue Jays were victorious. The wins over both Brother Martin and Shaw leave the team in a strong position heading into the state championship meet.

weight class. However, sophomore Luke Eccles pulled off the unexpected, winning his match by a decision. Jesuit had once again seized the momentum.

The Crusaders were not finished though and pulled off victories in the next three weight classes, one by decision, one by major decision, and one by pin. The Jays soon found themselves trailing 25-18.

In the 145-weight class, junior Eli Larriviere won a tight match 1-0, scoring the lone point on an escape.

In the 152-weight class, junior Nathan Koenig also won a tight match 4-3. The Jays had pulled within one point, 25-24.

With senior William

Rosevally wrestling next at 160-pounds, the Jays seemed poised to take the lead. Rosevally delivered the win but it was not without controversy.

Leading 9-7 with just seconds left in the final period, Rosevally's opponent seemed to have secured a takedown to tie the score.

The official ruled that time had expired before the takedown occurred giving the Jays the match victory and the lead.

The Jays then sealed the victory at the 172-pound weight class with junior Paul Treuting pinning his opponent.

The Crusaders won the last match at 182-pounds but it was too late. The Jays won 33-28.

The Jays also defeated the Archbishop Shaw Eagles in a shutout on Jan. 26 in the Birdcage.

Although the Crusaders were favorites to win state again this year, the recent wins by no means guarantee a state title for the Blue Jays.

Brother Martin will be back no doubt with a vengeance in the state tournament and Holy Cross appears to have mounted a strong team this year as well.

However, the Jays will head into the state championship tournament in Bossier City on Feb. 10 in a good position and strongly encouraged to bring the state title back to Carrollton and Banks.

## Swimming

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Danna, Brennan Kernion and Foley.

The Catholic High Bears scored a total of 483 points to the Blue Jays' 450 points at the meet on Nov. 19.

"The greatest disappointment was the final score, but other than that, no regrets," Hanemann said. As noted on Jesuit's website, in the 65 years that prep swimming has thrived in the state, Jesuit swim teams have garnered an unprecedented 37 state championships and finished in second place 19 times.

"We knew it was going to be a close battle for first, and we came in prepared and ready to fight for the title," said Schwartz who placed in four competitions: the 50-yard freestyle, the 100-yard freestyle, the 200-yard freestyle relay, and the 400-yard freestyle relay.

For next season, Hanemann hopes the swimmers stay on the path they were on this year and give their best effort, so they will capture their 38<sup>th</sup> swimming state championship.

## Taste Buds

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The main course, and a Frey's specialty, is the pulled pork platter. Immediately as the waiter set the platter on the table, we were astounded by the size of the portion. This slate of pork was something that two people could comfortably split; and for the price of \$12, that was certainly a pleasing sight.

From the first mouthful, I was taken aback. The pork was extremely tender, not too much fat, not too thick, but just right. It was doused in a specialty sweet homemade sauce, which complemented the pork well.

Along with the platter, you receive two sides. Our first side was one you would expect to be a signature at any barbecue joint — baked beans. These, however, were nothing to write home about, tasting like almost any other. The slight kick seemed too strong for a baked beans dish.

A more pleasant surprise came with our second side, French fries. These fries were crisp and salty outside and savory inside. They were not over-salted or spiced as most fries are, and we didn't see a soggy fry in the batch. Ketchup wasn't even necessary.

Frey will soon be recognized as one of the city's best barbecue restaurants, and it is a must-try for those looking for new options near Jesuit.

In addition, prices are quite reasonable: Mac and cheese is \$6; platters are \$11-15, with the exception of ribs; and burgers are \$11-14. Specialty milkshakes also are available for \$10.

Overall, the Taste Buds give Frey Smoked Meat Co. four and a half out of five golden forks.