



The Blue Jay



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New leaders aim for future success

Officers already planning next year

By **Matthew Torres**
Staff Writer

As we approach the conclusion of this school year, the newly elected 2016-17 Student Council Executive Board is already beginning to formulate plans for next year.

William Fine, who will be a senior next year, will serve as the new president.

"I hope for next year to be a fantastic year full of fun and exciting events," he said. "I hope for Blue Jay spirit to be at an all-time high!"

In addition to Fine, the Executive Board for the new academic year includes rising senior Guy Cresson as vice president, and rising juniors Eddie Redmann as treasurer, and Leo John Arnett as secretary.

All four Blue Jays said they plan to make next year as enjoy-

able for the student body as possible.

Fine noted that he and his colleagues won't wait for the fall to get started.

"Plans for next year will be made over the summer to ensure a successful and fun-filled year," he said. The Council will be well-prepared for the opening days of school come August.

The new leadership brings a wide range of interests and perspectives to service in the Student



Student Council leaders, from left, President William Fine, Vice President Guy Cresson, Treasurer Eddie Redmann and Secretary Leo John Arnett promise a memorable year for 2016-17.

Council. They said they hope that this will allow them to foster creativity.

Fine and Arnett are both members of the Blue Jay Band

and its powerful drum line. Each also has served as leaders in their

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A SOBERING LESSON



Upperclassmen learned valuable lessons at the annual mock car crash staged in the school parking lot last month. The vivid program included members of the Jesuit Philhellenic Society portraying the students involved in the crash, along with Louisiana State Police troopers, paramedics, medical teams from the University Medical Center trauma unit, and the Orleans Parish coroner's office. In the scenario, sophomore Garrin Mesa, left photo, lays dead atop the hood of one car, while junior Matthew O'Neill is trapped, crushed in the blue car. At right, junior Bailey Termine, who was behind the wheel of the red car, is arrested for drunken driving.

Mock crash impacts students' emotions, future decisions when behind the wheel

By **William Fine**
Editor-in-Chief

A milestone of any teen's life is getting his driver's license. Driver's ed classes emphasize the importance of safe driving habits and the rules of the road, but few lessons hit home as much as the mock car crash, presented annually by the Jesuit guidance department.

"The mock crash has been one of the most important things I've done at Jesuit," junior Bailey Termine said, "not only for myself but just in general."

In the scenario, Termine played the

part of a student who was driving drunk, causing a head-on collision with another car. Once the sophomore, junior and senior classes were gathered along the edge of the parking lot, the scene of the accident was revealed. Atop the hood of one mangled car lay sophomore Garrin Mesa, thrown through the windshield and now dead on the scene.

"It had a very emotional impact for me, a lot more so than I thought, which just kind of gave me this idea of what it could feel like if this situation were to play out in real life," Termine said.

The scenario played out everything

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After using the 'jaws of life' to extract him from the car, EMT workers prepare to transport the severely injured Matthew O'Neill to the hospital emergency room. By not wearing his seatbelt, O'Neill's injuries include crushed legs, traumatic brain injury and severe chest wounds.

Cadets honor counselor



Longtime Jesuit guidance counselor Andrew Schiro stands before the Honor Guard as the commendation saluting his years of service is read to the community at the annual MCJROTC Parade last month.

Staff photo by Wesley Bennett Faust

Schiro receives salute of MCJROTC at battalion's annual parade, review

He has provided a listening ear and a shoulder to lean on for countless Blue Jays, especially those underclassmen just getting accustomed to life at Jesuit High School.

For his 35 years of service, the MCJROTC honored guidance counselor Andrew Schiro last month during its 29th annual Parade and Review.

The ceremony, which was held on April 7, was viewed by the entire student body, faculty and administration on Will Clark Field.

The commendation honoring Schiro cited not only his tenure with the Guidance Department, but his dedication to living out the Jesuit ideals of being a man of faith and a man for others.

"An astute counselor, he is deeply concerned for the well-being of his students, always making time to meet with them and to help them with their problems," the commendation reads.

"He is especially effective with the younger students as they navigate the sometimes difficult transition to Jesuit. His friendly, caring demeanor and sincere interest in his students make him easily approachable and have made him a trusted counselor for many students."

Schiro is currently the counselor for the pre-freshman class, a position that he has held for the



The Honor Guard leads the individual companies onto Will Clark Field for the annual MCJROTC Parade and Review last month.

Staff photo by Richi Fernando

past 17 years.

He is a 1975 graduate of Nichols State University, and earned his master's degree in Education in Guidance and Counseling from Loyola University in 1980.

He came to Jesuit in 1981, where he has served as a counselor for each grade level.

It is estimated that he has

worked with more than 8,700 students, adding to that number each year.

In addition to his role in the Guidance Department, Schiro has coached the golf and tennis teams.

He is the moderator of the Golf Club and assists in the Peer Support Program, and mentors younger colleagues.

Following the commendation, the Drill Team and Band performed and passed in review before the honoree and assembled community.

The Parade and Review is a historic tradition for the U.S. Marine Corps and is one of the highlights of the year for the Jesuit MCJROTC.

Car crash

Continued from Page 1

that happens following such a crash, from the arrival of paramedics and police, the vital life-saving efforts, and transport to a hospital emergency room.

It also includes the arrest of the drunken driver, and the reactions of parents getting the phone call or visit they hope to never receive.

"It was a life changing experience. There was a point where you forgot it was fake and thought that this could really happen to any of us," said junior Kyle Bardell, who played the driver of the other car.

While he was uninjured, his passenger, portrayed by junior Matthew O'Neill, was trapped in the car, his legs crushed and suffering traumatic injuries to his brain and chest.

"The experience was traumatic, even though there was no injury or harm actually taking place," O'Neill said. "The places my mind went to try to create the character that I played were not good."

"But being able to participate and hopefully make a difference through the crash is gratifying," O'Neill said.

The portrayal of such an accident is designed to increase the awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving, distracted driving, and participating in high-risk behavior that can lead to such a crash and possibly fatal consequences. Such behavior doesn't just involve drinking; driving while texting or just horsing around with friends can distract a driver for that split second that can lead to tragedy.

Following the main presentation, State Police troopers, doctors and nurses from the University Medical Center trauma unit, and counselors answered questions. A common theme in their comments was that virtually all such accidents are completely preventable. They urged all students to talk with their parents and agree to call them before ever getting behind the wheel impaired or in a car with anyone who is.

"I think if my example of drunk driving and the consequences that followed make at least one person think twice before driving drunk, I did an OK job," Termine said. "Personally, I made a pledge to myself and my parents to always have a plan to get home if a situation like that should ever arise."

Sophomore Leo John Arnett played a friend of one of the victims. He noted the long-term effects such a crash can have on those left behind.

"The mock crash showed me a whole new perspective on the impact a crash like that has," he said. "[It made me] think about the effects it has on my parents and family and friends. Because of the crash and the people who participated, I will now blatantly remember how something like that crash impacts the people close to me. I'm so thankful to have participated in it."

Council

Continued from Page 1

class level on the Student Council. Fine also has been editor-in-chief of *The Blue Jay*.

In addition to participating in

track and field – he's a javelin thrower – Cresson is a member of Campus Ministry, Peer Support and tutors eighth graders.

Arnett and Redmann are both members of the Sodality and have both been leaders in their class level on the Council.

Redmann also is on the Prep Quiz Bowl team and the Fencing Club.

Along with a new Executive Board, two faculty members will become the new moderators for the Student Council: Justin Genovese and Khanh Nguyen.

Genovese has served as a junior and senior guidance counselor for two years, and is one of the moderators for the Peer Support organization.

Nguyen is a geometry and physics teacher, and is a moderator for the Mu Alpha Theta club.

For Blanchard, senior year has been a commanding performance as a Blue Jay

By Donald Barrett
News Editor

Blue Jay of the Month

From his first days at Jesuit High School, Austin Blanchard has taken command of what it means to be a Blue Jay.

With four years of hard work and dedication towards both Jesuit and the MCJROTC program, Blanchard's journey to Carrollton and Banks almost never happened.

His Jesuit journey began during his eighth-grade year when he was faced with a choice — apply to Jesuit or to Archbishop Shaw. Although Shaw was closer to his residence, “the sense of community, spirituality, and academic rigor” drew him to Jesuit.

Inspired by his father, MSgt. Tim Blanchard, who served his country for 21 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, Austin joined the MCJROTC, where he felt even more at home.

Beginning as a cadet his freshman year, he rose through the ranks to achieve, as a senior, the highest position in the program — battalion commander. He has been charged with the training and preparing of the 106 cadets to meet the requirements of the program.

His first major test came on Dec. 1, 2015, for the ROTC Annual Inspection; a test that he passed with flying colors. Under his leadership, the battalion was ranked outstanding in both drill and individual cadet inspections.

As an active participant in the program and a high achiever, Blanchard leads the Armed Drill Team and is a member of the Color Guard. These teams repre-



Senior Austin Blanchard puts some of his cadets through their drill paces for a final time before handing over his commanding officer duties in the Jesuit MCJROTC.

Staff photo by Jae Kweon.

sent Jesuit at many functions throughout New Orleans and compete in a number of drill meets, garnering several awards.

“What you put in is what you get out of it,” Blanchard has exemplified these words of advice since he began his Jesuit career.

Over the years, he has invested plenty of time and hard work into both ROTC and Jesuit. Along with his responsibilities as battalion commander, which can take several hours per week, Blanchard must also find time for academics, membership in the National Honor Society, and his

personal life.

The key to handling this daunting plate of work, he says, is to keep a “positive mind set,” a lesson he said he learned from Fr. Raymond Fitzgerald, S.J.

After successfully handling this work and responsibility for four years, he is seeing the fruits of his labor.

Through his time in the ROTC program, Blanchard said that he believes he has gained an increased “work ethic and a heightened sense of self-discipline.”

He has also been able to establish a closer relationship

with LtCol. Huete and MGySgt. Pisen, each of whom he said has always been there to offer a guiding hand. For Blanchard, leaving these relationships and comforts of home next year is a bittersweet experience. While he is excited about moving on to a new stage of life, he said that he’ll miss the camaraderie at Jesuit, especially in the ROTC.

Next year, Blanchard plans to take his talents to Louisiana Tech University in Ruston. Embarking down an unusual path, he plans to study cyber engineering, a unique major offered only at La. Tech. His ulti-

mate goal is to enter into the field of cybersecurity, serving his country in some capacity.

With his commitment to serving his fellow students and cadets, Blanchard has successfully led the ROTC and influenced the lives of those around him. If his future is anything like his past, Blanchard will go on to do great things.

As he says goodbye to Jesuit, Blanchard wants to be remembered as a hard working person who was friendly and easily “approachable.” A goal that, in the eyes of his fellow cadets, he has certainly achieved.

Love of teaching just adds up for Lavie

By Philip Hourguettes
Staff Writer

This month's teacher feature shines the spotlight on math teacher John Lavie.

Lavie began his career in the school system primarily as a coach. He coached Brother Martin's basketball team, winning back-to-back 5A state titles in 2004 and 2005.

After Hurricane Katrina and a brief stint at Holy Cross, decided to return to Jesuit to teach.

It was, indeed, a homecoming. A member of the Class of '83, Jesuit also has always been in Lavie's blood. He was the fourth of his brothers to attend the school. On returning to Carrollton and Banks, he already knew many of the faculty.

Lavie is known as a gifted



Math teacher John Lavie assists Jesuit senior Chandler Ancar with his Analysis problems.

Staff photo by Jae Kweon

mathematics teacher, knowledgeable of the entire spectrum of the subject. He has experience in

conducting the classes of Geometry, Algebra II, and Analysis. He also is the modera-

tor for the Investment Club.

Furthermore, Lavie applies his knowledge towards assisting

Teacher Feature

students with the ACT, one of the most important tests regarding college admission and scholarships. Lavie participates year round with tutoring for the ACT for students both in and out of his classroom. His strategies and tips go on to help many students in improving their scores on this critical test.

Lavie said that he enjoys the learning process and possesses the firm belief that each and every student is capable. Some of his favorite aspects of teaching include the “success stories,” in which students have been able to overcome difficulty and come to master the material. Seeing his students excel makes teaching all

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Future Iron Chefs?

Blue Jay foodies, members of one of the newest clubs on campus, cook up delicious treats for their competitions.



Culinary Club cultivates cub chefs' cooking chops

By Ian Fogarty
Staff Writer

Amid the stress of a Blue Jay's academic responsibilities, the Culinary Arts Club provides its participants an appetizing way to unwind.

Attracting food fanatics from all grade levels, the newly formed organization boasts many talented young chefs, many of whom often cook for their own families. The members bring their own homemade dishes to school, have a social during lunch, critique each other's cooking, and share recipes.

Each week, members attempt to make a new dish based

Club of the Month

on the theme of that week. For example, sophomore Gavin Sheng was awarded "Best Dip" at a recent meeting for his bacon fondue.

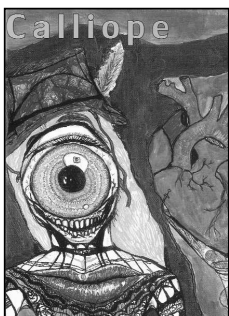
The club's co-founders, seniors Joshua West and Charles Glass, both stressed the importance of being able to cook, describing it as a "survival skill" for college and a "game changer" when it comes to dating.

Their inspiration for starting the club was the TV show *Chopped*, a competitive cooking show on the Food Network. In the show, chefs are required to prepare an appetizer, an entrée, and dessert using a different set of required ingredients for each

dish. After each round, the dish of the person to be eliminated is placed on the chopping block. The last person standing wins that episode of *Chopped*.

West and Glass consider the show a great education for familiarizing the viewer with lesser-known ingredients and for displaying how to prepare them using different techniques.

The club members invite all foodies to stop by during one of their socials to share their ideas on the various recipes and the different dishes. Whether your forte is cooking or simply eating, the Culinary Arts Club is definitely a cub worth checking out for a fun and relaxing time conversing with Blue Jays and enjoying their culinary talents.



Calliope magazine draws national honor

The Blue Jay congratulates our more literary cousin, *Calliope*, on its recent recognition among the finest high school literary magazines in the state.

The 2015 edition of *Calliope* recently received a rating of "Excellent" by the Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines. It is admin-

istered by the National Council of Teachers in English.

This year's edition of *Calliope* is now available.

The 2016 issue includes more than 50 pieces of poetry, fiction, and artwork by students. To get extra copies, see moderators Travis Smith or Gary Wyss in the English Department.

Rooftop pool? Myth started long, long ago

By Kevin Credo
Opinions Editor

Thoughts of a Blue Jay

We have a lot of traditions that permeate every aspect of life at Jesuit. Looking at assemblies, rotating schedules and our iconic uniform, it's hard to think how anything here *couldn't* ultimately stem from some approved document available in the Discipline Office.

However, one unofficial tradition stands as a hallmark of the culture on Carrollton and Banks: the passing down of the myth of a swimming pool located on the roof of the school. Every eighth grader or incoming freshman is told of the legendary and "exclusive" site. Some have even paid for tickets to access it!

This initiation ritual of sorts has been a part of the "school canon" for decades. But just what does it mean, and where did it come from?

After looking into the subject, I managed to get the wonderful opportunity to look through some of the school records in the Alumni Office on the third floor of Paquette Hall. If there was any way to find the source of this ages-old joke, it would be amidst the documentation of antiquated score tallies and advertisements from a time when one of Coca-Cola's biggest hooks was that each bottle was sterilized. The information I've found on the subject is gathered from these documents as well as the accounts of various faculty members.

Alumni Director Mat Grau remembers that the rumor was definitely already well established by 1968 when he graduated, so it's understandable that it must have started sometime between then and the school's shift to Banks Street in 1926. The work has been referenced multiple times by the school community over the years, especially making the publications in the more recent years.

In 1997, a student by the name of Aron Culotta referenced the myth in a newspaper article, trying to dispel the rumor that the extra pricing on Cokes (50 cents, 15 cents more than the going rate at the time) was to pay for ongoing maintenance costs of the legendary pool.

In 2013, the joke showed up twice on the descriptions for the website's Photo of the Day, one with Julio Minsal, S.J., on the roof deck and the other celebrating the success of a phone drive, complete with alumni dipping their feet in a mock kiddie pool on the same deck.

The joke behind the idea

was Photoshopped into one of the recent yearbooks on a page dedicated to school spirit. It also has been included in *Calliope* submissions on more than one occasion, and it's undoubtedly been featured countless times in various Creative Writing classes.

These examples come from just the most recent years, and all of them are tertiary to the fact that it's mostly an oral tradition. (Interestingly enough, a "pool on the roof" joke appears in the 1995 film *Hackers*, but this in all likelihood has no relation to the Jesuit tradition.)

All of these references over the years are nice, but they don't exactly point out the origin of the traditional hoax. To actually assess when it might have come about, a few different factors need to be kept in mind. Since the legend likely came about between 1926 and 1968, it only makes sense that the ongoing construction in the school could have played a part in the joking that a pool would go "on the roof," since one was not included in the finished Roussel Building, which was completed in 1957.

Another noteworthy fact is that in the year 1965, the swimming team was coached by Fr. William Hill, S.J. Since the priests would have been among the select group of people allowed onto certain areas of the school such as the roof over the residential wing, perhaps this could have played in to some joking statement that took hold with the team and escalated from there. The specifics are hard to pinpoint, but maybe some record or alumnus will come forward with the absolute truth. It would be a JHS historian's dream.

While the specifics of when it began and who may have started it are interesting, the legend's origins might be less important than its overall meaning for the school body. In its most base form, it might represent a sense of "immediate connection" between the school and its athletics, because the thought of a secret pool right under (above?) our noses would be much more romantic than the outreaching morning rituals that the actual swim team faces.

My search came across a similarly dreamed-of athletic site in a 1986 football pamphlet, showing a doctored image of the school, but with a green football field next to it right in the place of the bustling Carrollton intersection (long before all the land

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Phils' *On the Town* a helluva show!

By Peyton Troups
Staff Writer

The Jesuit Philelectic Society recently brought 1940s New York City to life with its spring musical production of *On the Town*.

The show centers on three sailors on 24-hour shore leave in the Big Apple, ready to take in all of the sights – including finding dates for the night.

Seniors Thomas Hellmers and Henry Mason, together with junior Eddie Medina, portrayed the comedic trio Ozzie, Chip, and Gabey, as they see Gotham City and meet girls, all while belting out American Broadway classics, such as “New York, New York (A Helluva Town).”

Running for six performances over two weekends in mid-April and sporting a robust ensemble cast of around 70, the Phils captured the spirit and excitement of the period.

Following the raucous overture that recalls a Saturday morning cartoon, the show opens with the slow, workman’s song, “I Feel Like I’m Not Out of Bed Yet,” sung by a perfectly laid-back senior, Adam Ledet, and company.

The play soon erupts into a breakneck pace as the sailors hit the shore.

Ozzie, Chip and Gabey rush into their respective adventures, meeting young ladies such as the budding anthropologist Claire de Loone, played by Sacred Heart sophomore Lauren Haefele, cabbie Hildy Esterhazy, performed by Newman junior Ellanor



Junior Matthew O'Neill and senior Ben Gillen lead the dancing troupe of sailors in one of the classic dances in *On the Town*, presented by the Philelectic Society last month. The show was directed by Kate Arthurs-Goldberg and choreographed by Kenny Beck.

Theater Review

Patton, and the girl of Gabey's dreams, Ivy Smith, played by Dominican junior Sylvia Owen, who has won the coveted title of subway queen, Miss Turnstiles, for the month.

Ozzie and Claire get “Carried Away” in the Museum of Natural History, while knocking over a dinosaur and getting chased by the crazy professor who built it, Waldo Fiment, played by a comically disgruntled senior Ben Gillen.

The duo then precede to run to Claire's apartment and escape the suspicions of her fiancé, Pitkin W. Bridgework, performed by an astutely understanding

Ledet.

Meanwhile, Chip hops in a taxi and reluctantly becomes the object of Hildy's affections as she begs him to “Come Up to My Place.” Her persistence pays off and continues as she wiles Chip with a spunky “I Can Cook, Too” in her apartment.

The lovelorn Gabey shines as he sings “Lonely Town” while moping around alone, searching for his elusive Ivy. He finds her at Carnegie Hall, practicing vocal work with the comedic drunk Madame Maude P. Dilly, played by Ursuline junior Allison Hoss.

He sets a date with the aspiring dancer and singer before he meets up with his friends and their new dates to hit the

Manhattan nightclub scene.

The fast moving play takes the audience to Carnegie Hall, Coney Island and the subway, among other locales. Such numbers as “Lucky to Be Me” and “Some Other Time” reverberated throughout the auditorium to sold-out audiences.

The show was successfully directed by Kate Arthurs-Goldberg and choreographed by Kenny Beck, Class of '79.

Though more than 70 years old, the Leonard Bernstein score and book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green still play well to 2016 audiences, showcasing talents from the Big Easy that might just be ready for the Big Apple.

Pool

Continued from Page 4

for Will Clark Field was acquired).

Furthermore, I believe that the myth has gone on for so long that different adaptations strike different chords across members of the school community. Each of you has probably heard your own versions over the years.

This reminds me of a point in class when my Latin IV teacher, Joe Knight, discussed a myth's historical and cultural significance over the validity of any particular “canon.”

The pool on the roof, even though it isn't up there, might still just be real because we have made it so. The legend is a part of Jesuit culture that has come a long way over the years. And like *The Aeneid*, it still has many retellings and iterations to come, only waiting for Fama to deliver.

Lavie

Continued from Page 3

the more sweet for Lavie.

That positive nature is reflected in his classroom and in his upbeat, sometimes eccentric, teaching style.

“I love my students,” he said, explaining where that style comes from. “I love being around youth and the energy they bring.” Such an attitude makes every day a fun adventure for Lavie.

His devotion is not limited to the classroom. As a husband and a father of three, family is foremost for Lavie; and family activities are prominent in his life. Lavie also has a strong love for the outdoors, whether spending time on a hike or simply walking his dogs.

While Lavie no longer pursues coaching, many of his students still honor him with the title “Coach.” It remains a fitting one, for his teaching style, energy and love for his students matches what he previously brought to the basketball court. His students are fortunate to have a mentor of such a kind demeanor and big heart.

Maestro preps Quiz Bowlers on opera

Historic form remains vital, conductor says

By John Howell
Staff Writer

Art is often considered one of the pinnacles of man's intellectual and cultural feats, but despite such a lofty label, the question of just what constitutes art has haunted admirers for as long as the pen could ink up paper and the brush could paint on canvas.

Opera aficionados, however, have no problem defining their art form and its intent; for, as acclaimed conductor Robert Lyall pointed out, opera is the only form of art to have been wholly created, not evolving from another form.

Lyall, who is the artistic and general director of the New Orleans Opera Association, spoke to members of the Jesuit Prep Quiz Bowl team and other interested students about the history and development of the art



Conductor Robert Lyall, artistic and general director of the New Orleans Opera Association, gave members of the Prep Quiz Bowl team, and other interested students a primer on the history of opera last month.

form. He was invited by Quiz Bowl moderator Ron Rossi to help expand the team's knowledge of the arts, which often comes up as topics in Quiz Bowl tournaments.

In addition to his duties with the New Orleans company, which he joined in 1998, Lyall has worked and performed with many of the finest orchestras and opera singers across the world.

Lyall gave an overview of the origins of opera and discussed the development of the complex art form – incorporating

everything from music to singing to dance to acting to scenic design – from the 16th century to contemporary times.

It all began in 16th century Florence, with a group of philosophers, musicians, theologians and poets called the *Camerata de Bardi*. They laid out the principles and doctrine of what would become a new art form, blending the sweetness of the spoken word with the vivid emotions of music, all of which would exemplify the ideas of Greek tragedy and philosophy.

As Lyall noted, with a sly grin, artists are rarely bound by rules for very long. As opera developed, those heady Greek themes would give way to more directly passionate and human drives – namely love and death.

Lyall also showed that opera is not as foreign an art as some might imagine, as he played a number of musical selections that were unexpectedly familiar, the music having become a part of popular culture.

Indeed, he noted that opera remains a living form, and that new and modern stories are being told.

This past season, the New Orleans Opera presented a well-received production of *Dead Man Walking*, an American opera based on Sr. Helen Prejean's story of a nun and a man on Death Row at Angola, the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

The conductor's visit allowed students to expand their knowledge of a side of world culture that is often unseen and pre-judged to be stodgy and dull. But, through its rich history and the passions evoked by the music, Lyall showed just how exciting opera can be.

Join The Blue Jay

The Blue Jay is looking for new editors, writers and photographers for the 2016-17 school year. If you'd like to be part of the award-winning team covering the life and times of Jesuit High School, contact the newspaper's moderator, Ted Mahne, in Room 301 for an application.

Consecutive champs: Lacrosse, tennis

Jays defeat Brother Martin to take league's 5th La. title

By Matthew Lulich
Staff Writer

Lacrosse continues to grow in popularity and in numbers, and as the club sport has its eyes on eventual sanctioning by the state athletic association, the Jesuit lacrosse team continues to lead the way.

The varsity team wrapped up another successful season on April 24, defeating rival Brother Martin 15-6 at the Louisiana High School Lacrosse League championship game at Joe Yenni Field.

It was the team's fifth consecutive state title.

The team entered the playoffs with a 7-0 record in district play, and a 15-1 overall record.

Before tackling Brother

Martin for the championship, the Blue Jays defeated the St. Paul Wolves in the semifinal match, 19-6.

It was in defeating St. Paul's earlier in the season that Jesuit clinched the district title.

"When your team goes undefeated in district play and loses just a single in-state game all year, you worry about overconfidence, but our group gave it everything it had on both days," said Head Coach Steve Krobort '05.

"I'm so proud of these guys, especially our seniors, who made sure our team was ready to roll when it counted most."

Junior Noah Martin scored four times and assisted on three other goals. Junior Briggs Lucia added four goals of his own.

Senior Max Murret, the team captain, finished the champi-

onship game with two goals and three assists.

Scoring single goals were senior Dominic Sunseri; juniors Michael Smart, Jack Cronvich and Parker Simoneaux, and sophomore Aiden Roberts.

Defender Gray Cressy finished with a combined seven ground balls and takeaways, while fellow defender Sammy Martin had six. Sunseri added four. All three are seniors.

With junior Bennett Faust leading the way, the Jays controlled 11 of 24 face-offs.

Murret has a scholarship to play at the University of Tampa next year.

The following players have been selected for the 2016 LHSLL All-District Team for the south district: Max Murret (attack), Noah Martin (attack), Parker Simoneaux (midfield), Dominic Sunseri (midfield), Connor Martinez (SSDM), Gray Cressy (defense), Sammy Martin (defense), Rob Hinyub (goalie).

Team effort wins dozen matches, 9th championship

Despite being the returning champions, the Jesuit tennis team went to the state playoffs last month as the underdog to Catholic High.

But in a tightly close tournament, the Blue Jays came out ahead claiming the state championship for the ninth consecutive year.

The Jays scored 12.5 points to Catholic's 11.5, securing the state title. Teams earn one point for every match won at state, with a half-point bonus for semifinal wins.

"That's about as close as it gets," Coach Travis Smith said. "Coaches talking about total team efforts is almost cliché, but this was the real deal. Every single team member notched at least one of those 12 wins."

Senior Brandon Beck and junior Trey Hamlin scored the

Jays' final point by defeating teammates Jack Steib, a junior, and Cristian Archaga, a senior, in semifinal action.

Beck and Hamlin earned their second consecutive appearance in the doubles final with a 7-5, 6-4 win.

One court over, Catholic High's No. 1 doubles team lost their semifinal to St. Paul's, mathematically clinching Jesuit's team title.

At that point, the only remaining drama was whether or not Beck and Hamlin would claim the doubles crown.

But St. Paul's top-seeded Shiell brothers, Kurt and Kent, who had already helped out Jesuit by eliminating Catholic from contention, didn't do the Jays any more favors, playing nearly flawless tennis to beat Beck and Hamlin 6-2, 5-7, 6-1.

Baseball team slams a strong playoff streak

By Jonathan LeBrun
Staff Writer

The road to baseball glory for the Blue Jay baseball team has been a hard fought journey on a quest for a state title. The team has been in an uphill battle in playing a challenging non-district schedule and in the treacherous Catholic League.

With a combination of determination and talent, the Blue Jays have steadily advanced to the playoffs, advancing into the state quarterfinals after defeating the Destrehan Wildcats in a pair of games, 1-0 and 5-3.

In Game 1, Nick Ray singled in the only run of the game as Brandon Briuglio shutout the Wildcats with a stellar pitching performance. In the second game, senior Mason Mayfield picked up the win, closing out the game. Offensively, Austin North knocked in Ray for the go ahead run. Briuglio followed with another RBI hit to seal the deal.

At press time, the Jays were preparing to play either Hahnville or Baton Rouge Catholic in the quarterfinals. (For the latest scores and all Blue Jay sports news, visit jesuitnola.org.)

Starting the season, the Jays participated in a number of tournaments. The team played in the Jesuit Invitational, WGNO classic and the Hahnville Invitational. Notably, Jesuit's defeated two of the highest ranked teams in Louisiana, Sam Houston and Barbe, to win the Barbe Invitational tournament.

The first round of district play began in late March against John Curtis. The Jays lost that game by one run. The team then rallied to beat Archbishop Rummel with a 4-1 victory.

Holy Cross was next. The Blue Jays again lost by one run but bounced back to defeat St Augustine and Archbishop Shaw, 10-0 and 11-6, respectively.

The last game of the first round was against Brother Martin. Jesuit jumped ahead in the first inning with a run. The Crusaders answered with one run in the third inning and another in the sixth inning to defeat the Jays. The Jays ended the first round of district play with a 3-3 record.

The second round began in early April against Rummel, resulting in a one-run loss. The team struck back the next day with a 5-4 win over Brother Martin in a 10-inning game at John Ryan Stadium.

Grand season for soccer has early end in playoff run

By William Fine
Editor-in-Chief

It was a bittersweet end of the season for the Blue Jay soccer team. Despite a remarkable regular season, the team faced a 2-0 loss in the quarterfinals of the state playoffs against Catholic High School in Baton Rouge. Despite the earlier than usual exit in the playoffs the team still accomplished several amazing feats.

Although the quarterfinal loss left the Jays out of the semifinals for the first time since 1998, that streak speaks to the dominance of Jesuit soccer throughout the years.

This season's record of 23-4-2 earned the Jays the district title and the fourth seed in the state of Louisiana.

The team also saw several players garner individual honors. Patrick Rye, Cole Retif, E. Grant Lazier, and Connor Maheu were all placed on the Louisiana High School Athletic Association All-State Academic Scholar Boys' Soccer Composite Team. This is quite a feat because in order to be named to this team, players had to have a 4.0 GPA.

The Jays started off the playoff run strong start. The Jays seeding was high enough to earn them a first round bye before the team pulled off a 3-1 victory against Sulfur High School. The Jays were propelled by three goals in eight minutes toward the end of the first half. Junior Christopher Pitre began the scoring brigade and he was followed by sophomore Braden Brignac and junior Hunt Navar.



Senior captain Patrick Rye and the rest of the Blue Jay soccer team gave their all but came up short in a state quarterfinal playoff game against Catholic High.

The win set up a road matchup with 12th-seed Catholic High. Jays Coach Hubie Collins summed up the game appropriately.

"It just wasn't our night," he said.

The night started off on the wrong foot when the Jays' bus broke down on the way to Baton Rouge. The team ended up arriving safely to the game with only a slight delay. Things did not get any better when the game started. The Jays were not able to muster much of an offensive attack, while Catholic threw attack after attack at the Jays throughout the first half.

In the second half, Catholic received a penalty kick when the referees unfortunately whistle the Jays for handball in the penalty area. Goalkeeper Shane Lanson saved the penalty kick but the rebound fell right at the feet of a waiting Catholic player who scored. It is difficult to come

back from any deficit in soccer but especially difficult to do it in the second half on the road. The Jays gave a fantastic effort but as Collins said, "Their defense did a real nice job stifling our creativity." In the Jays frantic attempt to tie up the game, Catholic was able to break through with one more goal late in the second half for the dagger.

The Jays were certainly disappointed closing their season so early in the playoffs, but sometimes it just might not be your night. The Jays will lose key contributors from this year's team including offensive juggernauts Chase Rushing, Dillon Fuchs, and Jose Aleman as well as stalwarts of the backline of Patrick Rye, Nick Slay, Ethan Camet, and Michael Pou. However, Collins has proven time and again that no matter how many players the Jays lose, he will still put together a highly competitive roster.

*Late sports updates courtesy
of the Jesuit website.*

*For full scoreboards and photo galleries of all
Blue Jay sports, visit jesuitnola.org.*