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BAND/ORCHESTRA/CHAMBER CHOIR/SINGING SAINTS~~The Music Program has had great success this year! In October, the 75 members of the Singing Saints participated in a 500th Anniversary Reformation Celebration in the Kaufmann Center in Kansas City with members of KC Lutheran Churches and members of the KC Symphony, on October 15. The Chamber Orchestra also performed for the Celebrate the Ministry event in the Concordia Community Center and in November, presented J.S. Bach's "Wachet auf" for strings and tenors in worship at St. Paul's Church. In December the Singing Saints and the Chamber Orchestra performed in Heit's Point for their Christmas Program and at the State Bank of Missouri Christmas party, as well as many local congregations during Advent. The semester ended with the annual Christmas concert on December 10, with the Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band, Singing Saints and Chamber Choir all performing.

In January, the Singing Saints touring choir had a 3-day weekend choir retreat at Heit's Point, and in February, three of the five SPLHS members of the All-Conference band were selected for 1st chair. March was busy, with both the Chamber Choir and the Singing Saints entering the Choir State Music Contest on March 9, in Booneville and BOTH ensembles receiving top ratings in both performance and sight-reading from all 4 judges! Soon after, the Singing Saints went on their annual domestic tour and circled around for a short mid-tour stop in order to have 15 soloists and ensembles perform in the District Solo and Small Ensemble Contest in Sedalia. This was a successful day, with 11 of the 15 entries qualifying with exemplary rating to perform at the State Contest on Thursday, April 26. April began with the Singing Saints performing their home concert, on a blustery, snowy evening! The Concert Band and the Chamber Orchestra performed their annual spring concert in the SPLHS dining hall on the 29th, much of the concert under the direction of student teacher, Miss Rasch. On May 4, the Chamber Orchestra and Singing Saints performed for the Lutheran Bible Translators Mission Dinner Event. The final event includes the choir preparing for its first ever international choir tour, where they will perform in Germany, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary. They leave on the 17th of May and return on the 4th of June. Thanks to EVERYONE--parents, faculty, community members, and especially students, for the faithful support, encouragement, commitment and sacrifices made as we enjoyed together proclaiming God's Word in song! Thanks most of all, to our all-powerful God, who gives the gift of music to display His glory and power both here and abroad.

VOLLEYBALL~~The goal of the Saints Volleyball program was to become the best version of our team that we could. Players arrived at the gym every day, ready to work hard towards that goal. A 3rd place finish in the I-70 conference tournament was a season highlight; a pleasant reward after a long day of volleyball on homecoming weekend. The Lady Saints saved some of their best volleyball for the last match of the season. Against a team that dominated them earlier in the year, Saint Paul was much improved, battling Lexington in a back and forth match before falling to the eventual district champs in two close sets. Senior Meghann Roepe, juniors Karson Troth, Chloe Fuhrmann and Lynda Bennett all earned individual honors for a team whose strength was a broad and level pool of talent.

LADY SAINTS GOLF~~Girls golf won 2 events on the year and placed in the top half in their tournaments. Senior Madison Easterly led us in scoring for the year. Team members included Madison Easterly, Malaina and Maggie Pitsch, Katie and Kelsie Rehkop, and Melody Chen.

CROSS COUNTRY~~After taking a two year hiatus from cross country, St. Paul High School once again fielded a cross country team this fall. Our team consisted of 18 runners. The men's team had five runners that competed regularly and two soccer players that competed when schedules allowed. The women's team was made up of 11 runners (nine of those being Norwegian students), plus a manager, and an assistant, Coach Gramenz, whose help was invaluable. Many of these student athletes had never run cross country before, so coming in with basically no mileage underneath of them and getting to the point of running 3.1 miles for races was quite an accomplishment in and of itself.

We participated in eight meets, not counting the District and State competitions. The ladies' team captured a 2nd place finish overall at Odessa with Lady Saint, Eirin Sekse, leading the team with a first place individual finish, and then they claimed a 3rd place team finish at Marshall. As we neared the end of the season, we had three ladies place in the top 15 in Districts which qualified them for the MSHSAA Class 2 State XC Championships in Jefferson City, MO. Out of 164 runners that competed that day, Eirin Sekse crossed the finish line in 88th place, Lea Blomvaagnes in 111th place, and Henriette Austrheim claimed 122nd place. We also had some incredible personal records that were set by guys and gals alike throughout the season.

The theme verse on our team shirt summed up what we were about this year. It came from Hebrews 12:1, "...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." It was a true honor and pleasure to coach this team. "Run for the One!"

Team members are as follows: Jonah Lange, Andrew Self, Nate Slimmer, Jackson Wells, Nick Slimmer, Brett Mueller, Ian Isdell, Eirin Sekse, Lea Blomvaagnes, Henriette Austrheim, Rachel Self, Synne Nedreboe, Ada Aadland, Sigrid Gravning, Anna Royuk, Lena Nordal, Maren Kvam, Nora Vangdal, and manager, Jada Strickland.

BOYS SOCCER~~The Saints finished their season 17-5. The highlight of the season was a championship in the Clinton Invitational, including a win over eventual state runner up Sacred Heart. The season ended on a tough note, losing on a late goal 1-0 to the top ranked team in Class 1 in the district championship match. Looking back though, these players faced a daunting schedule with a target on their backs the whole season and have some very good results to look back on. Special thanks to assistant coaches J. T. Toensing, Mike Rodewald, and Willie Brasel. Those earning individual honors are:

Clay Lampen: All District, All Region, Region Defensive Player of the Year, 1st Team All State, State Defensive Player of the Year

Ammi Phillipos: All District

Eric Setre: All District, All Region, 2nd Team All State

Nathan McCaslin: All District, All Region, HM All State

Eivind Solheim: All District, All Region, HM All State

Harrison Boynton: All District, All Region, Region Goalkeeper of the Year

MATH TEAM~~Math Team participated at three contests this year; Smith-Cotton, Fort Osage, and the I-70 Conference meet. The team took 2nd overall in our division at both the Smith-Cotton and Fort Osage contests. They highlight, however, was winning the I-70 Conference meet for the 15th consecutive year. Out of the eight individuals given All-Conference honors, the top four were from Saint Paul.

ACADEMIC TEAM~~The Academic Team had a very good season this year, fielding a good team of knowledgeable kids. The team competed in the I-70 Conference Tournament, winning all of their matches in Pool Play to earn the one seed in the bracket, and eventually claiming the championship. For the second year in a row, the team competed in competition at the District Level, once again going undefeated in pool play and bracket play, moving on to the State Tournament at the Class 3 level. The team fell short of a sectional win after losing two straight matches to Barstow. Although they did not get the chance to advance to the State Finals, some of the players received honors throughout the season, with Jesse Muehler and Christoph Marsh being named 1st and 4th All-District respectively. Jesse, Christoph, and Zack Copus also received All-Conference honors

SAINTS FOOTBALL~~The Saints Football Team had a difficult season, especially after graduating a well-rounded class in the spring. Despite facing an intense schedule, the Saints did their best to keep up, with many fresh faces starting Varsity to pick up the slack. Falling short of a winning season, the team finished with a record of 2-8, but their record does not quite reflect the passion and effort the boys put in throughout the tough weeks of competition. They stood together in defeat, and celebrated together in the victories, and as always, we look forward to continuing to compete in the coming years.

We will miss our seniors next year, a number of whom received honors throughout the season. We are also graduating a good team of managers who never failed to bring water, morale, or laughs in times of need.

SAINTS FOOTBALL CHEERLEADERS 2018 SEASON~~ Varsity Squad Members:

*Co-Captains- Molly Hubbard (So.) & Kaitlyn Cross (So.); Senior- Caitlynn Grass; Juniors- Camilla Aalvik, Kristin Engelsen, Mona Karlsen, Radka Kissova, Sophomores- Vera McRoberts, Anna Royuk, Lillian Strathman, Breawna Woods. Bleacher Creature Mascots- Hope Muehler (So.), Andrew Anderson (So.), Matthew Rudowske (So.) Naomi Ray (Jr.) Managers: Dorcas Salifu (Jr.), Naomi & Eunice Ray (Sr.) Coaches: Andrea Schmidt & Amy Gerdts

This group of cheerleaders worked hard and came together to perform an outstanding “Star Wars” dance/stunt program for Homecoming. I am always amazed at how they peak at just the right time. They like to push themselves to try new stunts, and sometimes that means getting kicked in the face. (Sorry, Bre.) We always enjoy introducing “American cheerleading” to any international students who want that to be a part of their experience, so thank you to the girls from Norway and Slovakia who were gutsy enough to give it a try! Great season. Great squad. Great fans. See you next season!

SAINTS BASKETBALL~~Boys basketball had a successful season. The kids used their God given ability on the court to accomplish the goals we had set as a team. They were champions of the I-70 tournament, the I-70 season and Class 3 District 15. This team also took 2nd place in the Lafayette County tournament. I would like to thank our seniors Jose Alicea, Mark Allen, Micah Gerdts, and Dusan Sljapic. Other team members included Elijah Muehler, Micah Lemmons, Dobrivoj Andrejic, Trey Beerman, Dominic Alicea, Aaron Kirby, and Luke Roepe. I would like to thank Peter Lemmons, Clint Stuenkel and Eric Gramenz for helping us coach. A special thanks to Jesse Muehler and Andrew Richter for managing.

SAINTS BASKETBALL CHEERLEADERS 2017-18 SEASON~~

Boy's Team Squad Members: *Co-Captains- Kaitlyn Cross (So.) & Molly Hubbard (So.); Junior- Radka Kissova; Sophomores- Vera McRoberts, Anna Royuk, Breawna Woods.

Girl's Team Squad Members: Sophomore- Lillian Strathman; Freshmen- Savana Duffy, Michaela Federwitz, Abbigail Haase Coaches - Andrea Schmidt & Amy Gerdts.

Small, mighty, dedicated & willing to learn would be accurate descriptions of these two squads. We may not have had as *many* cheerleaders as other teams, but our basketball cheerleaders had more energy, enthusiasm and volume than the rest. I am proud of each girl's individual accomplishments this season, and I look forward to next winter with them. Thanks, parents, for supporting the squad. I am blessed to be their coach!

LADY SAINTS VARSITY BASKETBALL~~The 2017-2018 Lady Saints basketball team completed their season with a 10-15 won/loss record and a 2-5 I-70 Conference record. This was an improvement over the previous season's 5-21 and 1-6 record. Members of this year's varsity were: Cynthia Bennett-So., Lynda Bennett-Jr, Chloe Fuhrman-Jr, Joanna Peuster-So, Malaina Pitsch-Jr, Tori Ritzma-Jr, Rachel Self-Fr, Jada Strickland-Jr, Karson Troth-Jr and Shani Yoesel-Jr. The team continued to improve even through an eight game losing streak after the Christmas break. After making some adjustments to positions, the team began to play some very good basketball and won 6 of their last 8 games. Chloe, Lynda and Karson led the team in scoring with 10.6, 7.7, and 7.2 points per game respectively. Lynda led the team in assists with 85 and steals with 44 for the season, and Chloe led the team in rebounds with 214 for the season.

The girls certainly improved as a unit against some very tough I-70 Conference competition and 3A competition during district play. It bodes well for next year, as there are no seniors on the team this year. Several girls received honors at the end of the season, which were well deserved. Chloe was named to the I-70 All-Conference team; she and Karson were selected to the District 15 3A All District team and Lynda and Chloe were selected to the KMZU Dream Team.

I especially want to thank Coach Eric Gramenz and Coach Tiffany Bennett for their help and support throughout the year. Thanks also to Noelle Schnelle for keeping the scorebook for varsity games and Kay Oehlschlaeger and Silje Bergesen for managing the varsity team. Additionally, Kay kept the scorebook for junior varsity games and Synne Nedreboe and Eline Roeberg were our junior varsity managers. Kaitlyn Rehkop and Noelle Boyle assisted by filming games for the team. Finally, thanks to all the fans that supported us throughout the year.
John Berman & Eric Gramenz—Lady Saints Coaches GTGTG

LADY SAINTS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL~~The JV Girls' Basketball team had a solid year finishing 7-6. We had a good mix of experience with juniors Tori Ritzma and Shani Yoesel providing leadership and a strong group of freshmen who made an impact on the team. The girls showed a lot of improvement throughout the year with the team pulling out several close games and almost winning a couple more while being short-handed. The players on the team were; Juniors, Tori Ritzma, Shani Yoesel, Ada Aadland, Lena Nordal, and Eirin Sekse, Sophomore Cynthia Bennett, and Freshmen Grace King, Maggie Pitsch, and Rachel Self. I would also like to thank Coach Tiffany Bennett in helping coach the girls this year. I'm looking forward to coaching the returners next year and continuing to see their improvement.

SOFTBALL~~The Lady Saints finished the 2018 softball season with a record of 4-10. We did not finish with as many wins as we would have liked, but we improved throughout the season and the girls showed great character and work ethic. Lynda Bennett and Chelsea Dillon received I-70 all-tournament team honors. Team members include: Meghann Roepe, Lynda Bennett, Chelsea Dillon, Rachel Gresham, Chloe Fuhrman, Malaina Pitsch, Katlyn Rehkop, Tori Ritzma, Mona Karlsen, Kristin Engelsen, Cynthia Bennett, Kaitlyn Cross, Jenna Frerking, Kylie Frerking, Joanna Peuster, Anna Royuk, Eliada Scheiwe, Breawna Woods, Lauryn Bonar, Maggie Pitsch, and Kelsie Rehkop. Jesse Muehler and Shani Yoesel served as team managers and Coach Marsh was assisted by Kevin Brackman

BASEBALL~~The baseball team has enjoyed a good season overall with a record of 6-5 as of time this was written. We won Consolation in the Conference Tournament with Micah Lemmons and Aaron Kirby being named on the All-Tournament team. The team has been an enjoyable group to coach this year, working well together and has vastly improved from the beginning of the year. Members of this year's team were; Seniors, Alex Beck, Micah Gerdts, Nathan McCaslin, Brett Mueller, and Andrew Richter, Juniors, Micah Lemmons, and Aiden Muehler, Sophomores, Jonathan Grass, Avery Johnson, Aaron Kirby, Josiah Kunkel, Milan Ratkovic, and Luke Roepe, and Freshmen, Duncan Armstrong and Peyton Arnold. A big thank you also goes to Bart Mueller, Doug Griffith, and Aaron Hentges for assisting me in coaching the team this year.

BOYS GOLF~~We had a lot of interest and new faces in golf this year. Out of the 12 kids that played we only had one returning golfer and that was our only senior Harrison Boynton. We wish him the best of luck and will miss not having him on our team next year. We had 4 freshman, 5 sophomores, and 2 juniors that joined the team this year. They all showed good signs of improvement and are looking forward to having them back on the team next year. Congratulations to Trey Beerman for getting 7th place in conference golf.

GIRLS SOCCER~~This year's season felt a bit abbreviated, with games cancelled due to weather and not participating in districts. This was unfortunate, because this was definitely a team that could have gone somewhere in the postseason. We had twenty new players on the team this year, seven new starters. Even with the lack of familiarity, we were still able to win a trophy at the Tolton Tournament. We will likely have a few players named to the All-Region and/or All-State teams, but those are yet to be determined.

TRACK & FIELD~~For the most part, Boys' Track and Field had a year of building for the future. While we did not garner a lot of medals, a number of athletes achieved personal best performances. A highlight of the season was finally breaking through with a medal winning performance at Conference in the 4 x 800 meter relay (Ian Isdell, Joshua Rudowske, Erling Mostad, Nathaniel Slimmer).

While Girls' Track and Field also had a season where we looked to personal best performances rather than medals as a measure of our success, our contingent of girls distance runners did enjoy considerable success. Eirin Sekse, Lea Blomvaagnes, and Rachel Self earned medals in most of our meets this year.

WRESTLING~~The 2017/18 wrestling season was a success the minute Thomas stepped on the mat in early December at the Lone Jack Tournament. Thomas went out that day and pinned his first two opponents in the first period and the season was under way. Thomas competed extremely well during the season finishing in the top 4 of the 5 tournaments he entered, often against much larger schools with high powered wrestling programs. He topped that off with a 4th place finish at districts qualifying him for the state tournament. Thomas walked out onto the floor at Mizzou arena as one of the top 16 wrestlers in the state of Missouri at his weight class, and though he didn't medal, he represented his school, his family and his faith as a Saint Paul wrestler.

Sam had a tough road this season with injuries slowing him down. It started off in December with a hand injury putting him on the sideline for the first half of the season. Sam was starting to build momentum and get on track at the end of the season finishing 3rd at the Higginsville tournament against high-level competition. I was starting to believe he could qualify for state when injuries struck again and a severely sprained ankle kept Sam out of practice all week of districts. In true Sam fashion, he taped his ankle and wrestled to the best of his abilities at districts losing a heartbreaker at the very end just missing a trip to state.

DRAMA~~ Season Record: 2 - 0

Fall Play Summary: *Arsenic and Old Lace* – Joseph Kesselring

We meet the charming and innocent ladies who populate their cellar with the remains of socially and religiously "acceptable" roomers; the antics of their nephew who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt; and the activities of the other nephew—these require no further description or amplification here.

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE is a must for all nonprofessionals, a ready-made comedy hit. –

Dramatists Play Service

Spring Play Summary: *Granny Smyth Goes to Washington or... She Was the Appel of His Pie - Sue Rae*

The crazy antics of jewel thief extraordinaire Inna D. Skies, also known as the Costumed Cat Burglar take the cake (or should we say pie?!) in the little town of North Bend in the Washington Territory. She disguises herself as the famous pie baker Granny Smyth and attempts to “fence” the hot jewels (which she fondly refers to as “ice”) by posing as sweet Ida Mae d’Pye’s long-lost grandmother. Mae already has her hands full thanks to the dotting attention of local delivery man and handsome hero Dan D. Dawdling. When he overhears customer Al Amode requesting ice cream on top of his peach cobbler, he takes it upon himself to find ice for Mae. The two plotlines weave together in hysterical fashion as Dan tries to buy ice for the ice cream and Inna tries to sell her “ice.” To top things off, two agents of the Criminal Retrieval Security Taskforce (known as CRuST), come into town but suspect that Dan is the jewel thief! Witty word play flies across the stage as fast as a pie in the face as the good town folk and our dashing Dan rescue the real Granny and give Inna and her henchmen their just desserts. This sweet delight is ideal for dinner theatre (or dessert theatre!) and is also great for fundraising with a pie sale! – Pioneer Drama Service

Miss Parkhurst and I are very thankful for the time, talent and dedication of all those who were involved with our productions this year. To all of the parents, families, coaches, audience members - we also thank you for your support.

I would also like to express much gratitude for Miss Parkhurst and her service and leadership during her years here at Saint Paul and the enthusiasm she brought to our program. Blessings on your new endeavors, Miss P.!