

Honors housing coming to Wimmer

Anthony Caporale, Staff Writer



Honors housing for sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be located in Wimmer Hall, beginning in the fall of 2021. (SOURCE: SVC FLICKR)

In March, Fr. Paul Taylor, O.S.B. and the SVC administration announced that new Honors housing will be available in the fall of 2021 for students in the honors community.

Fr. Brian Boosel, O.S.B., the director of Saint Vincent's flagship Honors Program, has been working with Taylor, to create the new honors housing. Also involved are Dr. Michael Krom, director of Benedictine Leadership Studies; Dr. Dana Winters, director of Fred Rogers Scholars; Dr. Stephen Jodis, director of STEP Scholars (Science, Technol-

ogy, Engineering And Mathematics Talent Expansion Program); and Dr. Jason Jividen, director of Aurelius Scholars.

"It is very exciting," Boosel said. "We have talked about it for a number of years now."

The Honors housing will be located in Wimmer Hall and will be open to any sophomore, junior or senior who is a member of one of the five components of the Honors community.

"The purpose is to form an intentional academic environment for

Continued on page 2

Campus Ministry hosts women's health event

Julia Snyder, Copy Editor

Campus Ministry tackled an unusual topic this week: women's reproductive health. Naomi Whittaker, MD, spoke to students over Zoom about the Creighton Model system and NaPro Technology as an approach to health.

"Periods shouldn't be painful, and there is more to women's health than birth control," Whittaker said.

The system claims to be an alternative to hormone treatment with birth control pills.

"When women face hormonal problems, most mainstream doctors immediately prescribe women with the birth control pill," an advertisement for the presentation stated. "However, this is rarely effective because it merely masks the problem instead of fixing the problem at its root. The pill also has many harmful long-term side effects."

Whittaker hopes students took away from the presentation an appreciation of the complexity of women's health.

"I hope students learn about the science of the amazing system in the woman's body . . . and how to help the reproductive system function optimally for gynecological health and potentially fertility," Whittaker said. "Women can be empowered

Continued on page 4




NEWS


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our website
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Sports


Bearcat sports and those relating to SVC




Basketball and Swimming Teams Prepare for Early Return
By Luke Mich With health concerns a priority, Vincent basketball and swimming teams will b




Spikeball Club Hosts An Tournament
By Luke Mich On Oct. 25, Spikeball Club had fall tournament on the intramural field behind




European soccer sparks interest at SVC
By Luke Mich Soccer is known as not just "the game," but also for being the most popular spo



Frisbee Still Occurring C Limitations
By Luke Mich Most recently, attention to SVC been given towards football practicing in the u



PAC Releases Spring Schedules
By Luke Mich On Sept. 17, at roughly 3 p.m., Presidents' Athletic Conference announced the



Football practice resum new guidelines
By Luke Mich You may have noticed recently football team has been practicing on the vari

The plan for Honors housing in fall of 2021

continued from page 1

students. We want to offer more to individuals; to create stronger communities. It will also build friendships that will last a lifetime," Boosel continued.

However, even before Saint Vincent announced the new housing opportunities, the school was already seeing the success of the program. Last fall, Saint Vincent created two honors pods housed

John Hurley, a freshman biology major who currently lives in the Honors pod, explained why he took advantage of the opportunity.

"The main reason was the quiet study hours, free TV, and to be with a group of guys that are dedicated," Hurley said, adding that he has enjoyed the experience. "The guys are great. And we do a lot of events together. I definitely would

**"The purpose is to form an intentional academic environment for students. We want to offer more to individuals; to create stronger communities."
- Fr. Brian Boosel, O.S.B.**

on the fifth floor of St. Benedict Hall. The experiment, only open to freshman Honors students, allowed the school to test the future Honors housing plan.

"This fall, we opened it up to incoming freshman with the various Honors Programs; 12 men and 12 women took advantage of this opportunity," Boosel stated.

The pods supplied residents with a TV, a Keurig and a bookcase. Also, the pods had earlier quiet hours that are optimal for studying.

recommend it to anyone wanting join."

Honors pod wants to continue living in Honors housing. What started as a pilot program with 24 freshmen has become the future of the Saint Vincent Honors community.

"We are journeying together to develop the best life for the mind," Boosel said. "And the new housing will help this."

SVC celebrates unprecedented spring Homecoming

Luke Mich, Sports Editor



Mary Popp and Kyle Watson, Homecoming Queen and King for the 2020-21 school year. (SOURCE: STVINCENT.EDU)

On April 10, Saint Vincent held its first football game at Chuck Noll Field since the 2019 season. This game had a special importance, as it was designated the Homecoming game, with the annual ceremony of the Homecoming court and the crowning of Homecoming King and Queen. Kyle Watson, crowned Homecoming King for the 2020-21 school year, detailed how the first Homecoming ceremony during the COVID-19 era took place.

"The crowning this year took place during halftime of the home football game against Waynesburg," Watson, a senior integrated science major, said.

Besides not taking place during the fall like traditional football seasons, Watson said the only difference for this Homecoming compared to previous ones was that

there no parade prior to the ceremony.

Mary Popp, Carlee Kilgus, Jenna Lafko, Sarah Maidment, Lauren McSwigan, Tom Bash, GESCO Camille, Michael Cella and Matthew Evans were members of the Homecoming Court. Popp was crowned Homecoming Queen.

As expected, COVID-19 and student handbook regulations were still held in place for those students watching the game and ceremony, as well as for those on the court. An internal residence life memo noted that students would be expected to sit in a designated section on the grass, instead of in the bleachers.

"The way we walked was a bit different because we couldn't do it in pairs, so we had to walk by ourselves," Watson noted.

The large spectator turnout did

lead to some discipline problems, according to a Student Affairs email that was sent to all students on April 14.

"Unfortunately, many Health and Safety Policy and other conduct violations took place at last Saturday's game. Concerns have been voiced from a number of attendees sharing how upset, offended and concerned they are about the actions they witnessed - actions which do not reflect Saint Vincent's values," the email said.

According to a Review writer who attended the game, those violations included obscene jeering and harassment by fans as well as extensive public drinking. Numerous students appeared to violate distancing guidelines. In response, Residence Life initiated new precautions for the April 17 home football game. Spectators at that game did not turn rowdy.

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ARTS & CULTURE

Campus Ministry hosts women's health event

continued from page 1

with the knowledge of the menstrual cycle through the Creighton Model system and NaPro Technology.”

But NaPro may not be the best choice for every situation.

“I do think that over-prescription of birth control is a problem, but I also think it can help a lot of people—it helped me a lot; it changed my life and made me a functional human again,” Dr. Michelle Duennes, assistant professor of biology, said.

Duennes also raised concerns about the evidence, or lack thereof, behind the NaPro approach. Before the event, she did some research into NaPro on the website naprotechnology.com.

“On their website specifically, I wasn’t able to find a single article that was specifically about how the NaPro Technology itself directly leads to increases in fertility in the patients that have been treated with it,” Duennes explained.

She found one article from 2011, but was disappointed that it didn’t explain how it got the data it used.

“They don’t say the sample sizes, they don’t say how the data was collected. Mostly I was interested in the sample sizes,” Duennes said.

She went to the presentation hoping to get answers from Whittaker.

“The data is there, you just have to know how to look for it,” Whittaker said, in response to Duennes’ question. “Randomized, controlled studies—you’re not going to find that. There’s no financial incentive.”

“I really was just wanted some answers about the technology, and maybe some references and graphs, and that’s not what she gave me,” Duennes said.

“I really wasn’t trying to personally attack her. I hope it didn’t come across that way. I just had some questions about the efficacy of the technology.”

Maggie Hines, a senior biology major, said that Whittaker’s response was disappointing.

“It felt very dismissive,” Hines said.

And Duennes did not find the lack of funding for a peer-reviewed study to be a convincing excuse.

“The NIH regularly funds research into to efficacy of IVF, through the CDC, which they actually publish on the NaPro website,” Duennes explained. “So there’s lots of funding that they could apply for to fund this study.”

Frannie Andreola, a junior biology major, also found the lack of data concerning.

“Something that stuck with me was that she said they need better marketing for NaPro,” Andreola said. “To me, if it is an effective technology, and if it is helping women, then they should be pushing for peer-reviewed studies for it to be taught in standard medical school.”

Andreola also wished the role of Campus Ministry in organizing Whittaker’s visit had been more clear in advertisements for the event.

“I don’t think it should have been marketed as a pre-health event,” Andreola said.

Hines agreed.

“It’s kind of scary to see this event trotted out as something for pre-health professionals. They did not say it was sponsored by Campus Ministry,” she said.

But for Br. Barnabas O’Reilly, O.S.B., who organized the presentation, the topic hits close to home.

“Many of my friends including my sis-

ters have been very blessed by the NaPro approach to medicine, and I thought if my loved ones had known about NaPro when they were in college it may have been super helpful,” O’Reilly explained.

Miriam Donovan, a sophomore graphic design and philosophy major, was excited to attend the presentation.

“I’m interested in this topic because I haven’t heard of NaPro before. I’ve always wondered about why doctors don’t seem to put much funding or research into birth control alternatives,” Donovan said.

Joe Heldrich, a senior politics major who attended the event also expects to use what he learned about NaPro in the future.

“It includes and educates a husband (or future husband) in understanding what happens in his wife’s (or future wife’s) body,” Heldrich said.

And O’Reilly sees NaPro as a way to integrate faith into medicine.

“I think that both men and women should know that NaPro is a wonderful example on how faith has influenced a field like medicine,” O’Reilly said.

But Andreola wished the presentation had focused more on the health issues and less on religion.

“It seems like they’re very concerned with the dichotomy between NaPro doctors and normal, secular gynecologists, and I think if they really believe in their technology so strongly they should try to bring in secular gynecologists and make this a standard option and not make it so much about the morality,” Andreola explained. “I think it would appeal to more people.”

SPORTS

Tennis, Finally

Luke Mich, Sports Editor



Junior biology major Josh Boland volleys back the ball in a match against Franciscan on April 9. The team won 5-4. (SOURCE: ATHLETICS.STVINCENT.EDU)

While both Bearcat tennis teams were among the most recent teams to have played pre-pandemic in 2020, the teams did not face as much luck this season. With the exception of the track teams (which started later due to a preceding cross-country season this semester) and golf teams, the tennis teams were the last to start play this semester, with their opening matches occurring March 20.

Sophomore tennis player Evan Ray, an accounting and finance major, discussed the current sea-

son.

"Our first match was against Geneva, [which] we won 6-3. We have nine regular season matches," Ray said.

The only difference between men's and women's tennis is that the women's team plays one less regular season match, along with some scheduling changes. The 2021 season started far later than usual. Last school year, which followed the normal schedule, the men's team started play in late February, while the women's team began play in fall, with their first match in Au-

gust of 2019.

The initial plan for this school year was for both teams to have their seasons occur during the fall semester.

"We started training for this season when we got back on campus this fall. During the fall, we trained three days a week," Ray stated.

Plans for a fall season were soon axed, however, and the season got pushed to the spring. And as the spring approached, practices became more frequent.

"Since mid-February we have been practicing every day to prepare for the spring season," Ray said.

Like most SVC sports this year, all matches are against teams in the conference, which limits the amount of matches they will play this season. Another similarity is the COVID-19 measures put in place.

"We get randomly selected from the Athletic Department every week to get tested for COVID-19. We also have to wear masks and social distance while playing and practicing," Ray concluded.

With both teams coming off a win at the time of this publication, they will hope to keep the wins coming this week. The women's team awaits their first playoff opponent later this week, while the men's team plays their last regular season match on Thursday, April 22 against Waynesburg.

Team Standings

Baseball

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	22	0	W22
Grove City	13	7	L1
Saint Vincent	12	9	W2
Bethany	12	10	W2
Franciscan	9	9	L2
Westminster	9	13	W1
Geneva	7	14	L2
Chatham	6	14	L3
Thiel	7	13	W1
Waynesburg	6	14	L1

Schedule: @Waynesburg 4/24 1 and 3 PM, Waynesburg 4/25 2 and 4 PM

Softball

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	24	2	W6
Geneva	26	4	W5
Bethany	13	13	L3
W&J	11	12	W2
Grove City	11	13	L1
Waynesburg	11	13	L4
Saint Vincent	9	14	L5
Chatham	7	13	W1
Franciscan	8	16	W1
Thiel	1	21	L1

Schedule: @Geneva 4/24 11 AM and 1 PM, @Bethany 4/27 3:30 and 5:30 PM

Men's Soccer

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	1	1	L1
Geneva	6	1	L1
Grove City	5	1	W3
Westminster	4	3	W3
Franciscan	3	3	L1
Waynesburg	3	3	W2
Bethany	3	4	W1
Saint Vincent	3	4	L2
Chatham	1	7	W1
Thiel	0	8	L8

Schedule: @Thiel 4/22 3 PM, @Westminster 4/25 Noon

Women's Soccer

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	7	0	W4
Westminster	5	1	T1
Chatham	5	1	W1
Waynesburg	3	5	W1
Franciscan	2	4	T1
Saint Vincent	2	5	L3
Geneva	2	4	L1
Thiel	2	4	W2
W&J	1	2	T1
Bethany	1	6	L3

Schedule: @Thiel 4/22 6 PM

Men's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	6	1	W5
Westminster	7	2	W1
Saint Vincent	6	2	W1
W&J	2	2	W2
Thiel	3	4	L2
Chatham	3	4	W1
Bethany	2	6	L2
Franciscan	0	8	L8

Schedule: @Chatham 4/21 7:30 PM, Thiel 4/24 Noon, @Franciscan 5/1 1 PM

Women's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	6	0	W6
Thiel	5	1	W3
Chatham	6	2	W1
Saint Vincent	5	3	W1
Franciscan	3	3	L2
Bethany	1	3	L1
Westminster	1	7	L3
Waynesburg	0	8	L8

Schedule: @Chatham 4/22 7:30 PM, Thiel 4/24 3 PM, @Bethany 4/25 4 PM

Women's Tennis

Team	W	L	Streak
Franciscan	6	1	W6
Westminster	6	2	L1
Grove City	6	2	W1
W&J	3	2	W1
Geneva	4	4	W1
Thiel	2	5	W1
Saint Vincent	1	4	L3
Waynesburg	1	6	L1
Bethany	0	6	L6

Schedule: End of Season

Women's Volleyball

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	10	1	W7
Geneva	10	2	L1
Grove City	7	5	L1
W&J	7	6	L1
Bethany	5	5	L1
Chatham	5	5	W2
Franciscan	3	6	W1
Saint Vincent	3	7	W1
Thiel	2	9	L9
Waynesburg	2	10	L2

Schedule: End of Season

Men's Track & Field

Schedule: @Bethany 4/21 3 PM, PAC Championships @West Virginia University 4/29 and 4/30

Result: 2nd at Bethany, 5th at Thiel, 4th at Grove City

Women's Track and Field

Schedule: @Bethany 4/21 3 PM, PAC Championships @West Virginia University 4/29 and 4/30

Result: 8th at Bethany, 9th at Thiel, 10th at Grove City

Football (South)

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	3	0	W3
Saint Vincent	2	2	W1
Bethany	1	2	W1
Waynesburg	0	4	L4

Schedule: @Carnegie Mellon 4/23 6 PM

Men's Tennis

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	5	2	W5
Saint Vincent	4	2	W1
Westminster	4	3	L1
Franciscan	4	3	W2
Geneva	2	5	L4
W&J	0	3	L3
Waynesburg	0	4	L4

Schedule: @Waynesburg 4/22 3:30 PM

OPINION

Immigration Ignorance: Response to "Compassionate Border Policy?"

Desmond Stone, Student Contributor

I'd like to respond to Kevin Martin's opinion piece on immigration, published in the April 2 issue. I believe there are several areas in which his opinions show a lack of full understanding about why we are seeing an increase in illegal immigration, or immigration to the United States in general.

First off, to say that from a domestic perspective, the reason for the increase in immigration has to do with what President Biden has said and done in his term so far is not entirely accurate. Yes, President Biden has done what he said he would do and lessened the flawed deterrence theory of policies, but that does not fully explain why people are still coming. Even under the former administration, which implemented policies that Kevin seemed to support, people were still crossing the border illegally by the thousands. Why is that? Do the words of our president not mean anything to those who are doing so? Exactly—they don't care about what the President says, and why should they? They aren't American citizens; they are people who are fleeing for their lives to the United States in the hopes of protection and safety. In short, these people are desperate, and no matter what kind of policies are put in place, they are not going to stop trying.

Second, the claim that the end of the Migrant Protection Policy (MPP), sometimes called the "wait in Mexico" policy mentioned by Kevin, was a mistake by Biden—let's explore

that claim. The MPP, according to Human Rights Watch, went into effect on Jan. 25, 2019. The first Mexican city to house migrants under the MPP legislation was Tijuana, which was ranked the #1 deadliest city in the world by USA Today for its high murder rate. The next cities which would house those under the MPP legislation were Mexicali and Ciudad Juarez. Ciudad Juarez, on those same rankings, was placed at the #5 deadliest city. In July of 2019, according to Human Rights Watch, the MPP expanded to cities such as Nuevo Laredo and Matamoros, Mexico, both of which are on the United States State Department's Do Not Travel list. Sure, let's put those already in a vulnerable position into more danger; that makes sense.

Third, there is a semantic problem with the way Kevin labeled those coming across illegally. He gave them the label of immigrants, which is only true for some of them. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) defines immigrants as those who make the conscious decision to leave their country for a foreign nation, which means they could have made the decision to stay where they were: they had that freedom to choose. On top of that, regular immigrants have the ability to return to their country whenever they want. However those we see crossing the border at this moment are not ones who have such a freedom, especially those swept up by the MPP legislation. Human Rights Watch states that most of those who

are put into MPP cities are those who are asylum seekers. Why does this matter? Because the IRC defines an asylum seeker as one who is seeking international protection from the dangers of his or her home country. So unlike normal immigrants, they are held to be reasonably fearful for their lives if they return to their home countries. The idea that those seeking asylum by just showing up at the border are doing something illegal is also discredited by the IRC. The IRC states that according to both international law and U.S. policy, seeking asylum at the immediate border is not illegal at all.

Fourth, presenting a 'gag-order' regarding the housing of unaccompanied children and unaccompanied adults as anything new is wrong. According to a 2018 PBS report, the Trump administration did the same thing. So this kind of policy is not unique to either administration. I understand this is an opinion piece: however, for someone who wrote a piece entitled "Stop obsessing over politics," I would have liked to see a more reserved approach to this discussion from Kevin. In any case, I believe that this issue of illegal immigration is not one that we can simply divide based on political ideology. At the end of the day, regardless of whether you are moderate, left-leaning, right-leaning, fully Democratic or fully Republican, no one can deny that there are flaws with how both sides have handled the situation.

Get vaccinated — even if you don't trust the vaccine

Jonathan Meilaender, Editor-in-Chief

Saint Vincent hosted a free Pfizer vaccination clinic for students on April 21, with enough capacity to vaccinate hundreds. If you were not among them, you should join them as soon as you can. You should get a shot even if you don't trust the vaccine and do not want to get vaccinated.

Unlike some people, I don't believe it is crazy to hesitate. I know many good people with reservations. This vaccine is a new vaccine. This disease is a new disease. And it is perfectly normal to be wary of new treatments. For many people, this is a time of uncertainty, and many people do not trust common public health approaches to containing COVID-19. Many people are weary and disappointed. They are tired of trying new things.

So let's assume that you are a student who does not trust the vaccine, and probably someone who does not trust masks and lockdowns, either. You should still get immunized as soon as possible. And you should not wait for other people to go first. Why?

Because the cost-benefit analysis makes sense. The risk of long-term side effects from the vaccine is extremely low—much lower than “long COVID.” Do we have years of data for the vaccines? No. But tens of millions of people have already received Pfizer's shot, and the safety profile is excellent. So something could turn up down the line—but it probably won't, unless this vaccine behaves in a very unusual way. And, if you want to wait until more people take it, bear in mind that lots of people already have taken it. In Israel, for example, 60% of the population has been vaccinated. COVID-19

cases are vanishing; consequently, so are restrictions. In January, the small nation had nearly 10,000 cases a day. Today? 34.

That's the benefit: an end to the restrictions you probably dislike and possibly never supported. This benefit is not guaranteed. Variants could overwhelm the vaccine. Maybe immunity wanes. But the chances of success are pretty good—much better than the chance of side effects. So there's a tiny chance of harm, but a high chance of benefit.

But why get it now? Why not wait a little, just to be safe? Because your task is not “to be safe.” Where is the honor in being safe? Who is ever praised for staying safe and letting other people take the risks? Look: you are probably not at risk of death from COVID-19. But other people are. Your decision to get vaccinated protects them. You are taking the risk so that the old, the weak, the sick, don't have to do so. This illness may not threaten you, but it does threaten the elderly. It kills them at alarming rates. And it is a brave thing to take a risk in order to protect them, just as it would be brave to go to war to defend your country. In fact, if you do not trust the vaccine and take it anyway, you are much more courageous than someone who does trust it. Do not let other people get in line ahead of you.

So you have a perfect right to refuse the vaccine. And, who knows, perhaps you have a medical condition that makes it advisable to do so. For most of us, though, it's better to get vaccinated—and not because anyone told us to do so, but because it is the right thing to do. The right thing to do is not always fun. It is not always what we want to do. But it is right. That's what matters.

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