

The Printed Voice of Saxony

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The Crusader



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Reporting Crusader life since 2003

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"SO LONG, SWEET SUMMER"



New and Improved at SLHS

New things are great, aren't they? Everyone loves getting a new phone or a new pair of shoes or maybe even a new car! Whether you are a seasoned veteran or a first year Crusader, a lot of awesome new things are happening. Obviously, new things happen every year. For example, freshmen are at a brand new school with students and

classmate Mason Lewis added, "There's more work than grade school, but I'm having lots of fun." Along with all of the new freshmen, there are four new juniors--Lexie Barnes, Liza Davila-Voigt, Alexa Pewitt and Jacob Homer--joining the Saxony family. "I really like all the new people I've met at Saxony, especially my friends Gracie, Allie, Addi, Casey, Miranda,

their kids to a high school where they will learn about God."

Along with the record-breaking number of new students, there are also new teachers and staff! One of the new faces to the Saxony teaching staff is Ms. Stevenson, who lives in Jackson and is teaching physical science and biology. The next new teacher, Mrs. Benkendorf, makes her home in Uniontown and teaches religion, Algebra I, College Algebra and Statistics. Another new teacher is Ms. Hinkebein, who currently resides in Jackson and teaches Spanish I. Finally, Mrs. Rivers, who comes to us from Cape Girardeau, is conducting both Concert and Chamber Choir. Last but not least, the new addition to the office staff is Mrs. Ozark, who hails from the great city of Perryville.

Each of these new staff members was asked to reveal one fun fact about herself. - Ms. Stevenson: "I run 5k's, on top of being an amputee."



teachers they don't know; sophomores are no longer jokingly teased for being freshmen; juniors have moved to a new locker hallway; and some seniors have already contracted the deadly disease known as senioritis. However, this year, more than just the usual new things are happening here at Saxony.

As returning students have noticed, there are a lot more navy, white and gold shirts walking through the halls this year. That's because, once again, the freshman class has set a new record, 66 students, for the biggest freshman class in the history of Saxony! When asked about what it was like starting high school, freshman Sam Schnabel said, "It's exciting and scary at the same time." Fellow

Laurel and Maci," said junior Lexie Barnes. With the addition of 70 new Crusaders this year, the student population has reached an all-time high of 239 students! Principal Mark Ruark had this to say about the continued growth of the student body, "We're going to put some kids on diets to reduce the size of students' bodies...No, all kidding aside, I think there are many factors that contribute to our growth here at Saxony. First, our Lutheran feeder schools have had large 8th grade classes, and we're receiving a large percentage of those classes. Another factor is more and more people are learning about Saxony and all the success that we are having. Finally, I think that in this day and age parents want to send



Mrs. Benkendorf

- Mrs. Benkendorf: "I am a pastor's wife, a pastor's granddaughter, two pastors' niece, a pastor's cousin, but not a pastor's kid."
- Ms. Hinkebein: "I love playing The Legend of Zelda."

- Mrs. Ozark: "I am currently attending Missouri Baptist University to obtain my Master's in School Guidance Counseling."

- Mrs. Rivers: "For the last five years, I have been playing in the orchestra for Saxony musicals."

Something else new is the way students and teachers order lunches! Before this year, students came into homeroom, and told their homeroom teacher what kind of lunch they wanted. With technology increasing its presence in the classroom, students now order their lunch from their own tablet. This new procedure for ordering lunch is both quicker and easier. The way

lunch is paid for is also different. Now, this too is electronic. Students all have a PIN number that they punch into the keypad, and the price of the lunch is automatically taken out of that student's lunch account.

As everyone knows, Saxony has a long list of many amazing clubs and sports for its

students to be a part of. The newest addition is Praise Band. This is a group of extremely talented students who are using their gifts to glorify God through music. They are led by junior Jade Samanta. "We play contemporary Christian music, and I hope the



implementation of this club will help the student body worship more effectively," said Jade. The current plan is for them to perform at chapel twice a month.

With all these new things going on, SLHS is just becoming better and better. The staff of The Crusader wishes everyone the best of luck and God's blessings throughout the rest of this school year!



Mrs. Rivers



Ms. Stevenson



Mrs. Ozark

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Kick the Dust Up

Much like the start of a race, the 2016 Saxony cross country season has kicked off with a bang! This year's team, led by nine seniors, accompanied by many returning members, plus four freshmen, and once again Coached by Mr. Clair has already been very prosperous. The Crusaders have three meets under their belt, all of which have featured great times for the runners; none greater, though, than the Arcadia Valley race that was held on September 10. This race resulted in numerous personal records (PR's) by the Crusader athletes, including one by senior Josh Varnon. When asked about the race he said, "It was

a great day and everyone ran an amazing race!" Sophomore Caleb Cornelius ran the fastest race of the day for the Crusaders, finishing with a time in the 17-minute range and finishing fourth overall in the boys varsity race! This race is just a small taste of the great accomplishments seen thus far.

New teammates have cemented bonds and have pushed each other to their breaking points, displaying courageous acts of hard work and dedication while still having a lot of fun. When asked to summarize the season thus far, senior Katie Richmond replied, "This new season has brought new faces,

unforgettable memories, harder workouts, but still the same awesome carbo loads."

This year for the cross country team promises to be a superb one, so make sure you go out and support the team by attending their meets! They have upcoming nearby meets at Cape Central on the 17 and Oak Ridge on the 20.



VolleyBallin'

The new-look Crusader volleyball team members have had one of the best starts in school history. They started off their season unsure of what was to come from the fresh varsity faces and first-time head coach Wendi Zickfield. Now, they are quite certain of a successful season, perhaps even the school's first district title.

The Crusaders started off with an impressive second place finish at the Woodland Invitational tournament. This is the best finish Saxony has ever had in that tournament. They continued their hot streak with the program's first win over the Indians of St. Vincent—and in only 2 sets. Then, two days later the Lady Crusaders improved to 2-0 on the regular season by handling Sikeston with ease in another

clean sweep. The junior varsity squad snatched its first match victory of the season, against Sikeston. The next week Varsity added another convincing regular season win against Woodland. The Lady Crusaders then achieved another awesome feat by overcoming the Valle Catholic Warriors for the first time in school history and in dramatic fashion. They defeated the Lady Warriors by 2 points in each set to keep their unblemished regular season record alive at 4-0.

Laurel Mueller said she thinks this team

has been so successful, because, "We work extremely well together, and we are all very motivated to reach our full potential this season." She also stated that the positive attitudes from the new coaches have been key as well.



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Get a 'Kick' Out of Soccer!



all. This is considered by many the best season of the year. Yes, the leaves are changing and it begins to cool off outside, but it also brings about the presence of fall sports. One of these sports, known as "the beautiful game," is soccer.

Led by coaches Max Weiser, Chris Crawford, Hunter Coe and six seniors, five of whom played last year, the Saxony boys soccer team is ready to get its own shot at a state title. With a current record of 7-3 (as of the date of printing), all 25 team members believe they are in good shape to achieve their goal. This year the offense is also running at a much faster rate. Senior Keevin Dyke leads all scorers so far with eleven goals, and junior Luke Daniel following him closely with nine. Senior captain Drew Zieba gave his predictions and expectations for the fresh season, "I think that we have a great chance to do big things this season. There's no reason we can't go far this year."

So, if you haven't seen a soccer game yet this year, walk a couple hundred feet to the fields and watch the Crusaders kick some butt! Good luck and God's blessings on the upcoming season.

Two Swimmers Are Better Than One

Meet Ian Cameron and Josh Wydra, the sole members of Saxony's boys swim team. Although swimming is often considered an individual sport, these guys prove that there's no "I" in team—both in and out of the pool. The swimming stroke both of them like the best is the freestyle, and in their spare time, Josh and Ian love to read anything they can get their hands on.

Although they share many similar interests, these swimmers have their differences. Ian has been swimming for twelve years, while this is Josh's first year in the pool. What exactly inspired these two students to be the lone representatives of Saxony's boys swim team? Josh loves swimming and being in the water, while Ian enjoys the great team aspect.

This year, both swimmers placed in the

August 20 Notre Dame dual meet—Josh got 3rd in the 50 free, and Ian received 1st in the 200 free and 100 fly. On August 27, they also competed at the Ladue Invitational in St. Louis—with Josh scoring 39th in the 50 free and Ian receiving 10th in the 200 IM. Overall, both Ian and Josh have done best in the freestyle races—Josh's personal record is 28.9 seconds in the 50-yard freestyle, and Ian completed the 500-yard free in 5:14.60. This October 1, be sure to cheer on these two determined athletes as they compete at Cape.



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Crew-saders

The Lady Crusader softball team is working through the struggles of a rebuilding season with enthusiasm and effort. Even though the Crusader softball team hosts five players who have never played organized softball until this year, they are competing every day with players who have played the sport for the majority of their lives. Lone senior Emily Buerck and Coach Lewis have taken the challenging task of blending these mostly inexperienced and young players together head-on by emphasizing teamwork and fundamentals. Although they have not had an abundant amount of success on the field yet, they are getting better every single day in practice.

The Lady Crusaders have some raw

talent and potential that they are trying to tap into as they get closer to district play. Emily said to maintain a positive attitude, they've installed a "Two Second Rule," which is where you have two seconds after something bad happens to figure out how to fix it and then get over it and move on. Every day she says they work on all the fundamentals of softball and

game situations, and it paid off with a win over East Prairie just this week! The future is bright!



Golfing "Fore!" a Cause

Many people from "Farrar" and wide attended the 16th Annual Saxony Lutheran Golf Tournament at the Cape Country Club golf course September 9! We had a great turn out, with 170 golfers participating in the fun. They had sixteen groups of four tee off in the morning round and twenty-seven groups in the afternoon. Luckily for the parents, grandparents, relatives, and supporters of Saxony attending the event, the rain didn't show and everyone was in high spirits. The money raised goes to the general operation fund of Saxony. The tournament was a great success for the school and all the players!



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Sports at a Glance



Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, a new school year has started and that means the start-up of one of the most popular newspaper articles—spotlights!



This week our freshman spotlight features the quiet but original Garrett Richey.

Garrett lives in Cape Girardeau with his younger brother Max, his little sister Camille and parents Crystal and Charles. Let's dive into the mind of this new Crusader!

Q: Where did you go to grade school?

A: Trinity Lutheran.

Q: What sports/activities will you participate in here at Saxony?

A: I'm going to play soccer, basketball and baseball. I'm also going to join pep club.

Q: Who is your favorite teacher so far?

A: Right now, probably Mr. Z.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Chicken. Literally, any chicken.

Q: What are your thoughts on Donald Trump's hair?

A: It's pretty cool. I think it kind of looks like

Get 'Richey' Quick

cotton candy, if I'm being honest.

Q: What is your secret to being so tan?

A: I don't know. I like sitting at the pool and beach a lot. I get all the ladies that way.

Q: If you could do one thing in your lifetime where you only saw positive consequences, what would you do and why?

A: I would jump in front of a speeding train, because why not?

Q: Has this interview been a good experience for you?

A: Yes, of course!

So there you have it, Crusaders. Garrett is definitely a unique and original person that no one should ever miss the chance to get to know. If you see this young man in the hallways, introduce yourself and then tease him because he is still a freshman!

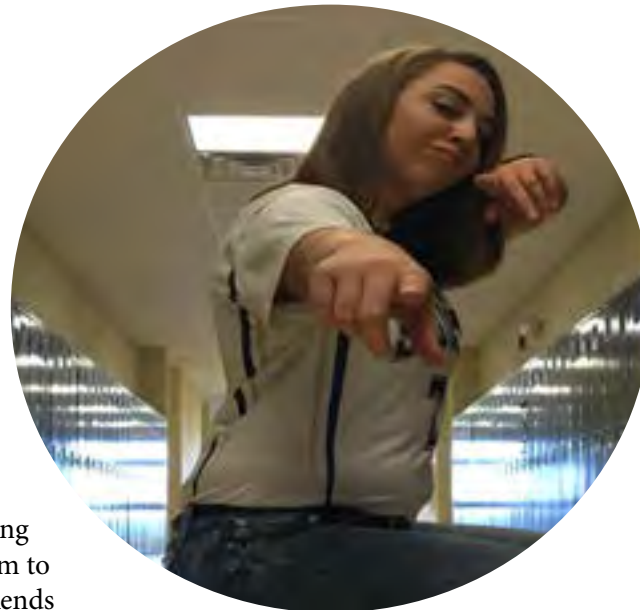
Bet on it with Moyers

It's pretty hard to miss a 5'10, self-described loud-mouth walking down the halls of Saxony- but in case you did, this spotlight should help you a bit in finding out more about Hannah Elizabeth Moyers.

Hannah was born in Columbia, Missouri, then moved to Jefferson City, and now resides in Cape with her mother and two brothers. Hannah and her family attend church at La Croix, where Hannah ponders the deep questions she would ask God. Hannah's most embarrassing memory at Saxony is her first day of school when she got into a fight with Mr. Love about Wikipedia. At Saxony, Hannah is involved in softball, soccer, pep club and cheer. Before she graduates, Hannah would like to become better at pitching. Hannah told me if she could bring any person to Saxony,

she would bring her best friend, Taylor Driver.

If Hannah were to write an autobiography, she would describe herself as lit, funny and clueless about what is happening around her; a great example of this is when she called the police because she thought someone was breaking into her house, but in reality it turned out to only be her uncle. Hannah's worst fear is commitment, and she wishes that she was better at expressing her feelings without having to use sarcasm to cover them up. Hannah spends her weekends sleeping and driving her brother's car until they get lost. In twenty years, Hannah hopes to have taken over her mother's doctor's office and become a successful doctor.



One last thought from Hannah: "Why can we drink a drink but not food a food?"

All Aboard the Choo Choo TRAEn.

It's mid-day at Saxony, and your day is stress free. Suddenly, the ground starts shaking and the lights start to flicker on and off. You're starting to panic thinking it's an earthquake, but the teachers calm you down saying it's just blasts from the quarry. However, I can assure you it's actually Tommy Lee Robinson III. He stands at 6'8" and is by far one of the biggest people in the SEMO region. Trae lives in Jackson with his mother and his two brothers. He also attends Prince of Peace Church in Sikeston. I sat down with the big man recently to ask him a few questions.

Q: Do you have any nicknames?

A: Robust, Trash, Big boy.

Q: What do you think is your best attribute?

A: My face and my fourth neck.

Q: What do you plan on doing after high school?

A: Eating and going to college.

Q: If you were old enough to vote, who would you vote for and why?

A: Donald Trump because he used to be a part of the WWE.

Q: Are there any ladies in your life?

A: Duh, my mom, my grandma and Addi Beussink.

Q: What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

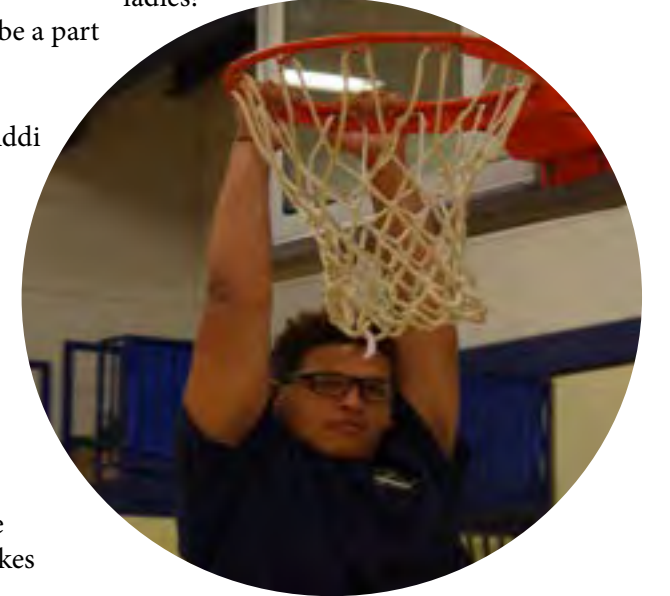
A: Hanging out with DELLY SQUAD and eating, of course.

Q: Do you have any shout-outs for anyone?

A: Shout out to Swazy, McDonalds and Swaggy Pdo.

After those answers I think we understand what kind of character the "Big Boy" is. So, when the ground shakes

and you think all hope is lost, just remember that it's not the quarry, it's Tommy, the big man roaming the halls of Saxony, and he means no harm. Oh, and he's single, ladies!



the hustle and bustle of Cape Girardeau, where she attended Trinity Lutheran for grade

Talkin' with Tessa

school and currently worships at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. Tessa has two older siblings, Trevor and Tara. Here at Saxony, Miss Allee is an integral part of the band, adding her clarinet expertise. Tessa is also a member of the Beta Club and is an avid supporter of all Saxony sporting events. I was lucky enough to sit down and talk with this outgoing Crusader.

Q: You just won a free trip to go anywhere in the world. Where would you go and why?

A: I would go to New York City. I could do lots of shopping and go see a Broadway show.

Q: If your friends were to describe you in three words, what words would they choose?

A: Happy. Crazy. Loud.

Q: What is the funniest thing that has ever happened to you?

A: Freshman year, I fell down the bleachers at a pep rally, then I got to pie Mr. Love in the face!

Q: How do you spend your free time?

A: I work, go to Saxony games and the movies, and hangout with my friends.

Q: What is something about you that no one knows?

A: I sometimes eat Ramen noodles without cooking them.

Q: If you could learn a new skill instantly, what would it be?

A: I would choose to learn gymnastics or how to dance.

Q: Finally, any shout-outs?

A: I want to shout out Katie Richmond, Annie Hurst, Jessy Cagle and Micah Mirly.



With school starting back, it is time once again to spotlight another shining star of the senior class. The first member of the Class of 2017 to be spotlighted this school year is the one, the only, Tessa Jo Allee. Tessa lives in the midst of

Advice without the Price

Hello confused, antsy freshmen, and returning students. Welcome to your number one source of advice for this school year! In this edition, we will be giving you a crash course on how to flourish in high school. While this may seem like quite an arduous task, there really isn't much to it! But for those of you who don't yet have a firm grasp on the thrilling and emotional roller coaster that is high school, you have come to the right place! A few select freshmen reached out to us with questions that were keeping them up at night, and here are the answers we believe to be the best possible solutions to your freshman needs.

Q: How do I make friends in high school?
A: First and foremost, one must evaluate his or her options. You want to make sure the group of friends you consider is a group that you can always be yourself with, be comfortable with, and is a group of people that you really get along with. Once you have the group picked out, it is very simple. All you have to do is make a conscious effort to go out of your way and talk to them.

Q: How do I avoid getting into trouble with the upper classmen?

A: Making upper classmen happy and not getting into trouble with them is not rocket

science, it is actually quite easy. In order to attain maximum favor among upper classmen, it is essential that one knows his or her place in the pecking order, which is Saxony. One must know that it is expected that underclassmen respect upper classmen, in hopes that when they are upper classmen they will be treated the same way. Having this kind of respect for the upper classmen is the wisest way to avoid getting into trouble with them.

Q: How do I make a name for myself at Saxony?

A: There are numerous ways to make a name for yourself at Saxony, but the most exciting, and probably best way is to get involved.

This could include various things, but we, as experienced seniors, suggest being a part of the Stronghold, which is one of the most exciting atmospheres you have the chance to be a part of at Saxony. We also recommend befriending fellow students and just participating in as many things as possible, whether it is extra-curricular activities or school-sponsored activities!

With this new insight, hopefully you will be able to conquer this wild zoo that we call high school. Best of luck! Until next time, this is Jonathan and Karsten signing out.



You don't have to Study, Bring a Blanket and a Buddy!



Who: All Students are invited!
When: Tonight @ 8:00 P.M.
What: Spend a night under the stars enjoying the movie Captain America Civil War with fellow students!
Where: In the grass beside the student parking lot, if skies are clear, or in the gymnasium, if there is rain.



Knowledge about College

Curious what college is like? Let's take a look into what Saxony alumni, Tess Daniel (16'), has to say about it.

Q: What has been the biggest change going from high school to college?

A: I think one of the biggest changes is the workload. You could go through three chapters in one week instead of several weeks like in high school. And, most of the time, in high school you would cram the night before for a test, but in college you have to study weeks before!

Q: What is the best part about college?

A: There's a lot of great things but probably not having very many classes a day. With my schedule, the most classes I have in a day is two, and then the rest of my day is open. It's so awesome, but it also requires you to manage your time well!

Q: What do you miss the most about high school?

A: Sports, without a question. I am going to sound like an old fart for a second, but seriously, don't take high school sports for granted! And not just sports, for that matter—anything you're interested in, whether its choir, drama, band, etc.! Don't take it for granted because unless you have the opportunity to continue your career, you will miss it so so much, so cherish it while you can!
Q: Any advice for the students at Saxony?
A: Keep working hard and strive to be the best version of yourself. Cheesy, I know, but there are some really great kids at Saxony, and each and every one of them is going to achieve great things and be extremely successful!

Q: What is one thing that you're weren't expecting to happen when you got to college?

A: How big the lecture halls are. I knew that Mizzou was a big school going into it, but going from 30 people in your class to 200 is a

bit different!
Additional information:
Quick shout out to my bros!!!! I love you guys and keep being awesome and try not to miss me too much!!!



Elect to Perfect



Here are your newly elected Student Council representatives! Student Body President- Drew Zieba; Student Body Vice-President- Jonathan Mueller; Student Body Treasurer- Laurel Mueller; Student Body Secretary- Ryleigh Sprengel; Senior Class President- Ben Daniel; Senior Class Vice-President- Tessa Allee; Junior Class President- Jade Samanta; Junior Class Vice-President- Londyn Lorenz; Sophomore Class President- Micah Mirly; Sophomore Class Vice-President- Sydney Russo; Freshman Class President- Claire Hadler; Freshman Class Vice-President Sam Varnon. Not pictured: Ben Daniel, Londyn Lorenz, Sydney Russo, Jade Samanta.

Saxony High Fashion

Spotlighted: fall's hottest trends straight from the halls of Saxony Lutheran High. Featuring sporty pieces and fresh new spins on the must-haves, this fall is all about athe-leisure. What's athe-leisure, you ask? It's the combination of athletic pieces and casual accessories to make the sportiest trend of the season in shoes and backpacks. Read on to learn about the best fall pieces seen around Saxony.



Adidas Superstar Sneakers:

The athe-leisure statement shoes. Classic and casual, these striped sneakers can be paired with anything to add instant style to an outfit. Add them to basic jeans or use them to give dresses an edge; either way, rest assured that you're walking around in fall's most on-trend sneakers.

Sperrys: The Preppy Original
Pop quiz: what's the most stylish guys' shoe that's been a favorite for years? It's—drumroll, please—Sperry Topsiders, the staple that can be seen on many of Saxony's own students. These tan boat shoes are so versatile they can complete any outfit, no matter the time of year or whether you actually own a boat or not.



Vera Bradley Backpacks: The Veteran

You know them. The classic brightly-colored backpacks with an array of patterns and styles as seen carried by many students at Saxony. They're the back-to-school staple that keeps coming back year after year. What keeps them in style for so long, you ask? The constantly updating patterns and colors, of course! This fall, watch out for the release of the Winter 2016 collection and a new array of Vera Bradley styles!



Pink Backpacks: The Rookie

They're maroon. They're black. They're... PINK! A new trend at Saxony, PINK backpacks are rivaling Vera Bradley for the most stylish backpack. Don't be fooled by the name, however; these backpacks come in an array of pretty colors and styles. It's not just on Wednesdays that we wear PINK anymore.



Tennis Shoes: The Sporty Staple

Have to go from school to practice? Want to jump on the athletic-inspired trend? Look no further than fall's brightest accessory-colored tennis shoes that can be seen anywhere from the basketball court to the very halls of Saxony. Perfect for either girls or guys, run to your nearest mall to pick up these sporty shoes today!

One America, Two Paths

With the upcoming presidential election in November, tensions are very high between the two candidates. Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton have been fighting for the presidential spot for some time now, and through all the name calling, controversial statements,

and personal attacks towards one another, it's safe to say that the two really don't like each other. It's not just the two that don't like each other, it's the entire Republican and Democratic population that don't get along. With two completely different philosophies, Republicans (the right) and Democrats (the

left) have fought for a very long time over which view is right or wrong. For example, Democrats support a moratorium on deporting undocumented immigrants while Republicans do not support amnesty for any undocumented immigrants and also support heavier protection of our country's borders.

The Left covered by Eli Bohnert

The Right covered by Wil Walker

The nation we live in is a very diverse place. Whether it is one's ethnic background, religious preference, immigration status, or any other label that can be used to divide us, we still all remain one America. That is why I think Hillary Clinton is the best choice for president. I would choose Hillary Clinton to be our Commander in-Chief because she will know on day one what she is doing. She has many years of experience in all levels of government. She understands how to run a country and she knows our allies and has already built strong relationships with them.

I would choose Hillary for president because she is a devout Methodist who values her faith and uses it in her everyday life and decision-making. I agree with Hillary that we should not break up families just because of their immigration status. We are a nation of immigrants. Did the Pilgrims check with the Native Americans about getting their immigration to America approved? Hillary has a plan to make college more affordable and as someone going to college in less than a year this is a huge deal to me and millions of other young Americans and their parents.

I do not support Donald Trump for President because I simply believe America is already great and his divisive attitude towards immigrants, Muslims, and women would tear our country apart. Trump has brought out the hate inside of so many people who want to blame the marginalized for problems mostly caused by corruption in our financial sector; problems they have nothing to do with. The groups he attacks already face an uphill battle living in this country, and he sure isn't helping them live the American Dream. I believe you should support Hillary to lead our country if you believe in family values, a strong economy, and electing someone who is extremely qualified for the job and will make smart, informed and though out decisions starting day one.



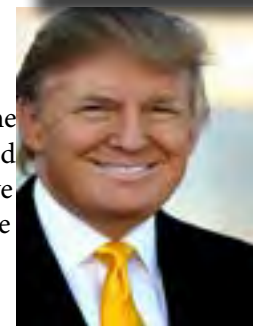
How Saxony Feels

Trump: 77%

Clinton: 13%

Johnson: 9%

Stein: 1%



If I were voting in November, my candidate pick would be Donald Trump. Why? One of my main reasons would be because he isn't politically correct...at all. In this day and age, political correctness is not what this country needs. Mr. Trump is not afraid to speak his mind and say what needs to be said. Whether it is about radical Islam, immigration, police brutality or any other things going on with the country, Trump will say what he feels and not hold back. Trump is also a businessman with a lot of experience. Now, I know this nation is a country not a company, but when it comes to dealing with money,

Trump knows very well what he is doing. I mostly agree with Trump on his immigration views, that undocumented immigrants do not need to be living in this country and we need to strengthen our borders. Trump is also correct on his foreign policies; we need boots on the ground in the Middle East fighting Islamic terrorists. We need to stop waiting for them to attack us, and instead attack them and end their terrorist regime.

I would never choose Hillary Clinton as the president of this country. How can people trust someone to handle a country, when that person can't even handle an email account? Over 30,000 classified emails, which were on her private email server and promptly deleted, have yet to be turned over to the FBI. Her case was inconclusive, so she wasn't charged with anything. Had she been a normal citizen, she would be serving a life sentence in prison. She may say she is a Christian with morals and values, but she is a very nominal Christian, if so. She doesn't show those values very often. You can call Trump a racist, a bigot, or an arrogant person who only cares about himself, but I feel that he is the best option for this country as President.

“Suicidal Spirit” Finds Salvation: Christian Singer Gives Testimony

We all are searching for someone to make our souls well.” Lacey Sturm, author, mother and former lead singer of the band Flyleaf, knows this well. On August 27 and 28, she visited La Croix Church to share her testimony about the grace of God.

When Lacey was a child, she saw God’s provision first-hand. Her mother, a single parent of six children, taught her family they were in God’s hands. He carried them through financial problems, eviction, and food shortages. However, when a tragic death struck close to home, Lacey’s belief in God faded as she sank into depression. Eventually, she moved in with her grandparents, looking for, as she put it, “a selfless reason,” to end her life. After various incidents at school, Lacey’s grandma did not know how to help. They argued over Lacey’s fights at school, and



her grandma told her to pay attention because her actions affected people outside of herself. But Lacey was still looking for that “selfless reason,” and the words turned in her mind until she was sure everyone would be better off without her. Lacey came home early the next day after one final episode, and her grandmother gave the only penalty she could think of: Lacey would go to church that evening. A quarrel arose because at this point, Lacey hated Christians, seeing them as insincere or misled. However, she finally gave in to her grandma’s demand. She didn’t know how it could hurt; she planned to commit suicide that night.

That evening, the pastor spoke, telling the “suicidal spirit” in the sanctuary that God

had a plan for her. She fought the urge to run. When the service ended, Lacey got up to leave, nearly bolting from the sanctuary. At the doors, she was met by a man who wanted to pray for her. He said the Lord would be a better father for her than any earthly father could ever be, and the Lord watched over her when she cried herself to sleep at night. He talked about Jesus’ sacrifice, asking to pray for her. As this perfect stranger prayed, Lacey felt the immense holiness of God. She did not commit suicide that night; instead, she went to sleep with the knowledge of the reality, love and grace of God. Now, she goes on tours with her husband, spreading God’s love through music all over America. Her story shows how God infinitely loves everyone, searching out every soul, wishing all to come to a saving knowledge of His forgiveness and grace. This reminds us of His marvelous promises, including Jesus’ words in Matthew 28:20, “... behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

September-October Birthdays

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| September | 20 – Kaleb Kiefer | 3 – Cassidy Klein | 21 – Eli Bohnert |
| 1 – Addison Beussink | 21 – Kennedy Dillow | 4 – Brianna Fouts | 22 – Mrs. Chambless |
| 2 – Ashley Fritsche | 21 – Landon Hall | 4 – Ms. Stevenson | 23 – Bailey Steffens |
| 6 – Kaleb Inman | 21 – Luke Richmond | 5 – Emily Killen | 24 – Joshua Wydra |
| 6 – Jonathan Klein | 22 – Clara Yokley | 5 – Hunter Yates | 24 – Matthew Wydra |
| 6 – Joanna Shaw | 22 – Mrs. Lorenz | 5 – Mrs. Geringer | 25 – Mrs. Mansfield |
| 6 – Katie Steffens | 23 – Courtney Kester | 6 – Riley Wachter | 26 – Jerron Goins |
| 7 – Samuel Varnon | 23 – Mrs. Wichern | 9 – William Rogers | 26 – Ralph Street |
| 8 – Stacie Nichols | 28 – Austin Fritsche | 11 – Conner Brewer | 26 – Whitney Unterreiner |
| 12 – Liza Davila-Voigt | 28 – Ireland Smith | 13 – Jake Wyatt | 28 – Nolan Brown |
| 14 – Emma Brune | October | 16 – Rachel Bohnert | 30 – Ian Bohnert |
| 15 – Audra Steffens | 1 – Ben Daniel | 17 – Jack Foeste | |
| 16 – Kalani Gill | 1 – Christopher Palmer | 17 – Mr. Berry | |
| 19 – Dalton Seabaugh | 1 – Maci Smith | 19 – Ethan Schuessler | |



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|--|---|--|--|--|--|----|--|
| | | | | | | | 1 BWW @ Cape Rock Invit VB @ Perryville Tournament 10:00 am XC @ ND |
| 2 4:30 SB @ Cape Central 8:00 pm VB vs Clair | 3 8:00 pm BSC @ Poplar Bluff | 4 Softball Districts 8:00 pm BSC @ Fredericktown | 5 Softball Districts 4:15 XC Chaffee/Saxony Inv. 8:00 pm BSC @ Home Game 8:00 pm VB @ Park Hills | 6 Softball Districts 8:00 pm Mass Band Concert Day | 7 Softball Districts JV VB @ Jackson Tournament 1:00 pm BSC vs Ponopolis | 8 | |
| 9 8:00 pm VB vs Jefferson | 10 4:00 pm BSC vs North County | 11 | 12 BSC vs Farrington 7:00 pm Fall Concert @ Saxony | 13 8:00 pm VB vs Berne | 14 BWW @ Lindberg Invitational 7:30 am Doug Johnson Tournament 10:00 am XC @ Farrington Invitational 10:00 am BSC vs Northwest | 15 | |
| 16 District Volleyball 8:00 pm BSC @ Skidmore | 17 District Volleyball 4:00 pm XC @ Conference West | 18 BSC District @ Gateway STEM 4:00 pm BWW @ Farrington Tour | 19 BSC District @ Gateway STEM | 20 BSC District @ Gateway STEM Halloween Dance | 21 BSC District @ Gateway STEM ACT St. Paul Dance | 22 | |
| 23 12:00 pm Crusader Dinner 12:30 pm 2018 S&MO School Fair | 24 S.A.C | 25 8:00 am Crusader Dinner | 26 BWW @ Conference Championship S.A.C. Activity Day | 27 No School | 28 11:00 am XC @ District Meet | 29 | |
| 30 Winter Sports First Day of Practice | 31 | | | | | | |



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