LEAGUE OF LEGENDS SPAWNS AT THE MOUNT

By Leo McGrath | Staff Writer

If you ask someone what the most popular competitions in America are, they’ll probably respond with football, basketball, baseball and others of the sort. But you might get an answer you wouldn’t expect: eSports. Many Mount Michael students are interested in eSports, particularly the multiplayer online battle arena (MOBA) game called League of Legends.

Though there are many students in each class who regularly play the game, one who stands out is junior Ryan Reid. “The best League player in the school is probably Reid,” junior David Mordan said. “He is at the highest tier.”

But before you go thinking he’s wasting his time on a useless hunk of code, you should know that the winning team of the 2014 championship won one million dollars. In fact, the world championship is often on Reid’s mind. “Its kind of a nice daydream of mine rather than a pipedream to go out and do that,” Reid said. It might be a ‘daydream’ but Reid does have skills. In the four years since he has started playing, he has ascended the tiers fast. He is now within the top thirteen percent in North America, although, it hasn’t exactly been easy for him.

“It was so hard that a while after I started I gave it up for a month,” Reid said. “But after that I started playing again and haven’t stopped since.”

And it has definitely shown. Teaming up with his favorite champion-character Ahri, he has a track record of about 1261 wins to 1231 losses. He generally plays against friends from Mount Michael, computer processed enemies or even complete strangers. There are teams of five on each side, and the goal is to battle your way through turrets and enemies to reach the farthest into the opponent’s base, to a point called the Nexus.

As if the five opposing champions weren’t enough, they all spawn mindless minions who do nothing but follow the three pre-set paths and attack the other team. That doesn’t even include the considerable amount of limited time game modes, such as ultra rapid fire and dominion. With 123 champions, four maps, and all the different games, it’s amazing to think that anyone could go far into the game, especially when you see how many people play it.

Everyday, League is played by 27 million people across the globe, with upwards of seven million playing at once, and around 67 million people logging on every month. To put that into perspective, during the most crowded hours, League can have four times the population of Nebraska playing at the same time and the amount of people who play at least once every thirty days is nearly the same as the amount of people who live in Thailand. “I think that the game is so popular because of its competitive attitude,” says Reid, “not to say I don’t like the gameplay, but the competitiveness is a big factor.”

Despite its popularity, you see more people attending the Mount Michael basketball games rather than seeing someone play a video game. But the virtual world is definitely gaining its popularity at the Mount as well, and in the future there could even be a possibility of having championships at the school. And with virtual sports starting to become as big of a deal as real ones, there is no doubt that League of Legends and eSports in general, are on the rise.

Academically, he ended up studying at five different colleges, obtaining a bachelor of arts, a doctorate of philosophy in education, a double major in psychology and theology, and multiple others, totaling 15 years of work.

For undergraduate, Hendrickson attended Marquette University, a jesuit college. “I did not know I was stepping into something that had so much history,” Hendrickson said.

During his freshman year at Marquette six Jesuits were working as teachers at the campus of Universidad Centroamericana “José Simeón Cañas.” The Jesuit priests were murdered in San Salvador in 1989, and about 1261 wins to 1231 losses. He generally plays against friends from Mount Michael, computer processed enemies or even complete strangers. There are teams of five on each side, and the goal is to battle your way through turrets and enemies to reach the farthest into the opponent’s base, to a point called the Nexus.

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MOUNT MICHAEL LOGO CONTEST

What is it? A contest for you to get your original work on the Mount Michael hat.

When? All drawings must be turned in by Monday February 16

Who? Any and all students who want to see their artwork on the heads of hundreds of their classmates

How? Your work can be hand drawn or drawn on a computer, but has to be original.

Where? You can either email it to bookstore@moun tmichael.org or turn it in by hand

Why? The glory, people, the glory! (And also a free hat!)

Interview with Creighton President - Continued from Front Page

Rev. Hendrickson, Creighton President, looks to teach others what he has learned from Mount Michael.

Two years later, Hendrickson began his journey to become a Jesuit. The first step is fairly unique, but is an important one.

“It is pretty crazy because we are given $35.00 and a one way bus ticket and we are sent off for six weeks traveling.”

During this experience he lived off the kindness of others. He would get a ticket to San Francisco and live there for two weeks, working at Saint Anthony’s Soup Kitchen. The soup kitchen would then give him a ticket to Phoenix where he met a man that allowed him to ride one of his motorcycles down to the Grand Canyon. The man eventually paid for him to travel to Louisiana to go to a monastery near there. Two airport workers drove him to the Trappist monastery after they heard him asking people for a ride.

After the pilgrimage, he spent a year as a missionary at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota driving a school bus for the students on the reservation and teaching a theology class in the school.

During his time with the Jesuits, Hendrickson has visited Central America, South America, India, Africa, Western Europe, Mexico, The Dominican Republic, and Haiti. During his time in East Africa in 2007, he contracted malaria twice. In 2006, he was ordained a priest at St. John’s Church at Creighton University.

Hendrickson says that “Mount Michael teaches students how to grow up and make an impact on peoples’ lives.” Hendrickson was a Mount Michael student that listened to what God was telling him and took advantage of all the experiences that were presented to him. He is a true testament that Mount Michael can help students achieve goals that seem far fetched.