

# The Collegian

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# The Collegian - January 26, 2021

Final Edition of Jan Term 2021

NEWS

# SAINT MARY'S STUDENT MAKES PROFIT FROM TRADING

1/25/2021

*Student athlete Trill Guzman works as a trader on the Foreign Exchange Market through iMarketsLive in order to grow finances during school.*

By Lenin O'Mahony  
News Reporter

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to alter the lifestyles of students across the country, changing how we socialize, learn, and work. However, as we all know, necessity is the mother of innovation, and this especially rings true at Saint Mary's College of California, where students are finding new and modern ways to work and stay busy during the ever constant lockdowns and stay at home orders.

For many students, in person work is either unavailable or simply too exposed and dangerous for themselves and at risk family members. For those same students however, the costs of living and the costs of obtaining an education are simply too great for unemployment to be an option. Students have car payments, book costs, housing fees, insurance, and medical bills to cover. They cannot afford to sit back on non-existent savings, which is an extremely frustrating situation to be in while facing the restrictions of living during a worldwide pandemic.

Trill Guzman, an on campus student and Division 1 rugby player for Saint Mary's, has been working as a trader on the Foreign Exchange Market as a way to make money while keeping busy at college. He does this alongside an education company called iMarketsLive. The goal of this company is to educate everyday people on how the Foreign Exchange Market works, so that they can make money from their own phones.

Guzman explained to me how he works with this company on this unique market in order to gain financial freedom as a full time college student and athlete. Guzman explains the process as such, claiming, "Let's say I want to visit England and I come with \$1000. Unfortunately, I can't use the U.S. dollar in England because they have a different currency called the Great British Pound. In order for me to purchase items and enjoy my time in England, I must change my U.S. dollar to pounds."

Guzman continues, explaining, "So, I go to the bank in England and in return for my \$1000, they give me £700(pounds). But, then I decided to come back to America and all I have is the £700(pounds) that I received from England. I then go to an American bank to convert

the money. However, instead of giving me \$1000 back, they give me \$1,200. You were actually able to gain an additional \$200. How does this work? Did the bank make a mistake and give me an extra \$200? The answer is no. What actually happened was the value of the U.S. dollar had increased since the last time I used it. This is how we make money."

Guzman works on Zoom calls through the company where small traders can imitate the trades of professionals, and through this process it's possible to learn about the market and actually make money alongside bigger traders. This process of predicting currency changes and investing based on those predictions can be a high risk, high reward situation, but it's open to anyone who would be willing to dedicate their time and energy.

"I started trading last May and since then I have been able to accumulate over 5 figures of profit in less than a year and have gained financial freedom" Guzman said.

These innovative ways to self educate, work, and live life prove that no matter how hard times get, Saint Mary's students will continue to push forward, refusing to allow the limits the world puts on them to hold them down. We are a community of dedicated students, athletes, and Gaels, who will look to inspire and lead with courage regardless of circumstance.

*Authors Note: If you have any interest in the work Trill Guzman does, you can contact him at [meg21@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:meg21@stmarys-ca.edu)*

# SAINT MARY'S MISSION AND MINISTRY CENTER HOLDS PRAYER OBSERVATIONS TO HONOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

1/25/2021

*The Saint Mary's community spoke on Martin Luther King's legacy as an activist and his connection to Christianity.*

By Riley Mulcahy  
News Reporter

In remembrance of Dr Martin Luther King Jr., members of the Saint Mary's community came together to recognize Dr King's life through prayer on Tuesday, January 19th. Brother David Caretti led the celebration, highlighting Dr King's faith and how his activism grew out of Dr King's love of Jesus. The event, which consisted of three time slots during the day, began with sections of Dr King's best-known speeches, each section running approximately twenty minutes in length. The space offered those in attendance to grapple with the intensity of Dr King's words, through prayer, silence and sharing out of reactions to the speeches and words shared in the session.

Tuesday's overarching theme was to assert Dr King's faith as essential to his work as an organizer and activist. Each of the sections had a quote from Dr King to tie the conversation together. After hearing Dr King's words, attendees read a prayer from Dr King, "Eternal God out of whose mind this great cosmic universe we bless thee. Help us to seek that which is high, noble and Good. Help us in the moment of a difficult decision. Help us to work with renewed vigor for a warless world, a better distribution of wealth, and a brotherhood that transcends race or color."

Dr Kathy Littles, Saint Mary's Senior Diversity Officer, read a prayer which said, impart, that Dr King's activism was not "limited" because of his Christian beliefs; instead, his activism was rooted in Christianity.

The first quote came from Dr King's 1967 Christmas sermon, "If we are to have peace on earth, our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Our loyalties must

transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective.”

Attendees pondered the quote, with one speaker relating Dr King's to Black Lives Matter's perceived misunderstanding, how Black Lives Matter's message can be accused of wanting power and supremacy instead of equality, which has been a misconception that African Americans have struggled with for generations.

In the second session, attendees were met with another quote from Dr King from his famous “Letter From Birmingham Jail,” “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.” Given the political tension in our times, Dr King's words are as poignant as ever. Attendees talked about the deep connotations of “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere”, especially with the recent events of the Washington DC riots and continued election misinformation.

Taken from a speech at an anti-war conference in Los Angeles in 1967, last session's quote revolved around Dr King's opposition to the Vietnam War and war in general. “It is not enough to say 'We must not wage war.' It is necessary to love peace and sacrifice for it. We must concentrate not merely on the negative expulsion of war, but the positive affirmation of peace.” Dr King's stance against Vietnam was controversial at the time of his death, which was not surprising for such a controversial historical figure. Dr Little shared a quote from Bernice King, the daughter of Dr King, “Don't act like everyone loved my father. He was assassinated. A 1967 poll reflected that he was one of the most hated men in America. Most hated. Many who quote him now and evoke him to deter justice today would likely hate, and may already hate, the authentic King.”

# DONALD TRUMP'S SECOND IMPEACHMENT CONTINUES

1/25/2021

By Annika Henthorn  
News Reporter

On January 13, 2020, Trump was impeached for “willful incitement of insurrection,” according to Politico. This charge stems from not only Trump’s tolerance of the capitol storming, driven by false claims regarding the integrity of the election, but the encouragement and justification of their actions. Intelligencer has revealed that January 26, the Senate Impeachment trial will occur and a final verdict will be determined.

Many questions arise from this trial, including if impeachment is just and legal considering he is no longer president, but a United States citizen. According to Politico, Senator Tom Cotton, a Republican from Arkansas, disagrees by saying that the “founders designed the impeachment process as a way to remove officeholders from public office — not an inquest against private citizens.” Essentially, he believes that since Donald Trump no longer holds that position of President that the trial is unnecessary and no longer the role of the Senate to deal with.

However, a University of Texas law professor has spoken to Politico on this matter. Steve Vladeck believes that a president should not be immune to punishment just because he got voted out. This trial is to ensure that he is never in a federal position of power again. In his eyes, how would it be fair for punishments to dissolve if one simply resigned before the

trial was set? This would defeat the whole purpose of holding those in office accountable for their actions.

The likelihood of Trump's conviction this time around though seems far more likely than his first trial of impeachment. Contrary to his first trial, there is a chance that some of the Republican Senate members might join the Democrats in his conviction. For example, Mitchell McConnell was one of Trump's strongest advocates against his impeachment during the first trial; however, this time, he is urging other Republican senators to keep an open mind. Many Republicans are not comfortable condemning Trump because despite him no longer being president, he is still very influential in the Republican party. According to Politico, Trump has even pledged to remain involved in future campaigns.

Although he still remains a force in the GOP, convicting Trump of these allegations could allow a better chance for other Republicans in the Senate to have a chance at winning the nomination in 2024. However, McConnell remains a crucial vote in this trial for if he votes to convict Trump, it is likely others will follow.

## SAINT MARY'S NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

1/19/2021

*Richard Plumb will be Saint Mary's College of California's 30th president, beginning his term in July of this year.*

By Victoria Vidales  
Editor-in-Chief

On Tuesday January 12th Saint Mary's Board of Trustees, and the Christian Brothers announced that Richard Plumb had been named the 30th president of Saint Mary's College of California. Effective on July 1, 2021, Plumb has been selected following the upcoming retirement of President James Donahue. Following a thorough presidential search process, Plumb will be the newest member of the Saint Mary's community, welcomed by both administration, and students.

In April of last year, President Donahue announced that he would be retiring in June of 2021, following eight years of leadership at Saint Mary's College. At the time of his announcement, Donahue spoke fondly of his opportunity as president, writing in a letter to

faculty, and students that to “lead an institution of such superb academic quality, one grounded in a deeply realized Lasallian Catholic mission guided by the Christian Brothers, one dedicated to the bonds of relationship among all members of the College community—this has been the most gratifying experience of my professional life.”

After months of work from the Presidential Search Committee, made up of board members, administrators, faculty, and staff members, Plumb was selected because of his experience, ideas, and leadership qualities. In a statement sent by David R. Ford on behalf of Board Chair Kevin Nagle, and Brother Donald Johanson, FSC, Plumb has been described as having the “experience, leadership skills, and personal talents to lead [Saint Mary’s] College to even greater levels of distinction and achievement of its Lasallian mission in the decade ahead.”

Plumb is a graduate of Syracuse University, earning a BS, MS, and PHD. Beginning a teaching career at the University of Kansas, Plumb transitioned into academic leadership roles, serving at Binghamton University, and Loyola Marymount University. His most recent role was at the University of St. Thomas, a position he has held since 2014.

The Presidential Search Committee, writes that Plumb has been chosen for this leadership position because he has shown “broad experience in strategic planning, curriculum development, financial management, fundraising, capital planning, and other critical skills necessary to leverage Saint Mary’s College’s distinguished history and write the next chapter for this remarkable institution.” As a first-generation college graduate himself, Plumb has created, and led programs that reach out to first-generation college students at other universities he has worked for, and hopes to do so at Saint Mary’s.

As a new president during a unique time in history, Plumb will have challenges his predecessors have never faced. However, the Presidential Search Committee is confident that Plumb is capable of any challenge thrown his way, and will lead the Saint Mary’s community further into the future with determination, and innovation.

# OPINION

## OUR CHANGE MUST START WITHIN

1/25/2021

Meaningful change in our country comes with goals for racial diversity, equity, and inclusion. Saint Mary's blundered when posed with the opportunity to reach these kinds of goals when finding a new president.

By Melanie Moyer

## Opinion Columnist

Saint Mary's and the United States have or will receive a new president this year. An email addressed to the Saint Mary's Community announced the appointment of Richard Plumb as Saint Mary's 30th president a little over a week before President Biden was inaugurated as President of the United States. The Presidential Search Committee stated that Plumb was selected due to his "broad experience in strategic planning, curriculum development, financial management, fundraising, capital planning, and other critical skills necessary to leverage Saint Mary's College's distinguished history and write the next chapter for this remarkable institution." Similar to President Biden, Plumb has extensive experience in his field and has shown he has the necessary skills to effectively run and improve the institution he has been elected president of. However, like Biden, Plumb carries on the tradition of white men occupying the highest position of leadership in their respective institutions. This should be considered by our country and the Saint Mary's community in the context of our commitment to diversity and equity.

Social activists in the Black community and beyond have been fighting for the recognition of our country's history of racial oppression and white supremacy for decades, but many people have only woken up to the truth of our country's systematized oppression of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color this year. Nonetheless, it should be noted that great strides have been made in the direction of educating people about these issues and making meaningful changes to heal our country's deep racial wounds in 2020. This healing has been made possible by active work towards goals of equity and inclusion largely by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, but also rely on work done by allies. If everyone in our country, especially those in positions of power and privilege such as white people, continued to actively work towards these goals specifically addressing racial oppression, progress will continue to be made.

The Black Lives Matter protests that took place over the summer have shown us that we need to do more than just symbolic actions in order to make the necessary changes in undercutting white supremacy. Saint Mary's plays an integral role in making changes both in our community and on a country-wide scale as an institution of higher education. This means our actions must go beyond symbolic and mean something in the general scheme of racial justice.

Saint Mary's was put in the unique position to fill a presidential seat during a time when our country was questioning its structures that uphold the dominance of the white

narrative. Some saw that the school had the opportunity to make significant changes in its historical leadership: Saint Mary's previous presidents lack diversity altogether. It is a problem when we look at the presidential line of an institution and only see white men. Though one of the school's initiatives is that "the highest quality of academic achievement can only be realized in communities that are culturally, spiritually and ethnically diverse—where all voices are heard, and all students have equitable opportunities to succeed and to serve," it is difficult to see how this is followed through with the continuation of a presidential line that lacks diversity. In the Presidential Search Committee's 'Kickoff' statement, they say they provided anti bias training for committee members and had a "strong and diverse" hiring pool, yet they failed to include whether or not there were any diversity requirements in place to ensure that they were considering Black, Indigenous, or People of Color in their process. If sports leagues like the NFL can implement strict diversity hiring principles, our college can as well.

Seeing that white men no longer represent the majority of our student body, at least not since women were permitted to attend the school in 1970, it would create meaningful change if Saint Mary's worked toward higher standards for diversity in its presidential selection. Having a president who looks like or comes from similar backgrounds as our Black, Indigenous, and Students of Color would have an immense impact on the standards of inclusion at Saint Mary's. Further, having someone in a position of power that has shared experiences living in this country as a Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color and/or a woman would allow them to understand the specific needs of our students and make changes accordingly.

Real change cannot be made if we continue to put privileged narratives in our highest positions of power. If our country is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion, we need to actively work towards electing a president who is not another white man. Similarly, if Saint Mary's is committed to these same principles, we need to do the same. It is obvious that Dr. Plumb is more than capable of fulfilling the tasks of an accomplished president, I am not questioning whether he has earned the distinction of being our college's new president. However, it is important we look inward at our institution's history of prioritizing the white male narrative before we can tote our standards of diversity and inclusion.

## **IT'S TIME TO REINTRODUCE THE POLITICIAN INTO CIVILIAN LIFE**

1/25/2021

*Politicians should be restricted to term limits, preventing them from becoming out of touch with the interests of civilians.*

By Katelyn McCarthy  
Opinion Columnist

After the defeat of the British in the Revolutionary War, King George III was told that George Washington was planning on resigning as commander-in-chief of the American forces instead of becoming the king of the fledgling nation. In response he stated, "If he does that, he will be the greatest man in the world."

Washington did do just that, though he would be called upon by his countrymen six years later to become their first president. After two terms, he declined to run for a third. Only three men ever ran for a third term: Ulysses S. Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, with FDR the sole among them to win. 6 years after his death during his fourth term, Congress passed the 22nd Amendment, which barred presidents from seeking any more than two terms in office.

No such term limits exist regarding congressmen. Many of our currently serving congressmen have treaded the sacred halls of the Capitol for twice the age of the average college student.

About 40% of the current House of Representatives has spent longer than the equivalent of two presidential terms in office. 48—that's almost half—of our current senators were formerly governors or members of the House of Representatives. 51—that *is* over half—have spent more than 8 years in the Senate, not including time spent in other branches of government.

We have created a cult of the politician, inducting them into halls not of service but of celebrity. We have allowed and, by our votes, enabled the development of an American aristocracy which we call "democracy." While it is true that our elected officials are elected, the fact that we speak of "political families" or blindly accept that the person who has headed our district for twenty years can and should continue to do so for another twenty betrays the idea that the politician exists in a class all of his own. This divides the citizen, who possesses complete and unsurpassable worth, from the politician, placing the latter above the former and

divorcing government from the people. Government, so conceived, becomes "Of the politician, by the politician, and for the politician."

Washington understood that the politician exists to serve the citizen. If one enters the political life, it ought to be with the intention of someday exiting that role. A state that exists to serve its own ends and not the ends of the entire unit is not a benevolent force but a totalitarian regime, or at least a regime with totalitarian tendencies. It is Mount Vernon, not the Capitol, that ought to be the politician's anchor. This is the surest protector against tyranny, corruption, and a self-serving political "class."

However, with such a high percentage of our politicians seemingly making the Capitol their Mount Vernon, term limits ought to be placed upon each house of Congress. Doing so would help clear our political waters muddied by corruption, reintroduce the politician into civilian life, and promote the election of representatives who remember what it is like to lack political clout.

If King George III were here today, sitting on his throne and stroking his chin as he gazed across the sea at our American continent, how many of our congressmen would he, according to his standard, rank among "the greatest men in the world?" Where is Washington among them?

Term limits would likely bring him back. I think the king would be pleased.

# CHURCH AND STATE: THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN POLITICS

1/25/2021

By Emmanuel Simon  
Opinion Columnist

To examine the role of the Church in political matters, one must understand the relationship between the Church and state.

The Church is not the state. The state is not the Church. These two institutions are different. But does that mean that the Church is separate from the state? Not quite.

Though the Church and state are two distinct entities, they share a common goal: to promote and achieve the common good. However, the way that the common good is achieved for both differs.

A state promotes the common good amongst its people by means of enacting just policies and laws. Policies and laws are just if they help the individuals in society flourish. Thus, a just state bans all things that are intrinsically evil, actions that can only be done unjustly. The state concerns itself with matters of environmental, immigration, criminal, economic, healthcare, and social issues.

Heard seldomly in our times, the mission of the Church is the salvation of souls for all persons. The Church teaches doctrines and dogmas that one must believe in order to go to Heaven, including on how one should live in order to live a good life. Ultimately, the Church concerns herself with matters of faith and morals.

The Church and state both differ in that some issues of politics are outside the scope of what the Church concerns herself with. For example, the Church has very little if not nothing to say about whether an I.D. is necessary to vote for elections. However, there are some things, things that deal with morals, where a just state and the Church pass judgment on, for example, that murdering innocent 40 year olds is always evil. Because the spheres of the state and Church overlap to a certain degree, the Church, in her eyes, can pass judgments on the state if the state ever tends away from the common good, the goal desired to be achieved by all societies. For this reason, rather than there being a separation

of Church and state, which is impossible and irrational, one must hold to a *distinction* between Church and state.

Inquiry concerning the Church's role in political matters is made easier. The Church can and does incorporate politics within its teachings and through the sermons of priests in all matters of morals. Thus, whenever the state acts out of hand, promoting something hurtful to the common good, the Church ought to step in and correct the errors of the state. If members of the Church act contrary to the common good, the state has the ability to penalize these members, since members of the Church are also members of a state. This by no means entails that the Church and state are two equal powers, for though they can cast judgment on each other, the Church can do so in respect to individuals and towards the state as a whole, whereas the state can only judge individual members of the Church, and not the Church as an institution.

The Church and state are meant to help individuals and communities flourish. Both Church and state are necessary prerequisites for living a good life, and therefore cannot be entirely separate.

# CULTURE

## SELENA: THE SERIES LEAVES OUT SELENA

1/25/2021

*While the series provides a detailed backstory of Selena Quintanilla's extended family, Selena: The Series, fails to showcase the personal life of the Queen of Tejano Music, instead pushing her to the back of the screen in favor of her family.*

By Victoria Vidales

Editor-in-Chief

*Selena: The Series* is the latest remake of the life, and legacy of Selena Quintanilla, an American girl who became a household name for bringing Tejano music into the spotlight. Starring Christian Serratos in the title role, this series, developed by Netflix, is meant to introduce Selena, and her story to the next generation of fans. Divided into two parts, the first released on December 4th, 2020, *Selena: The Series Part 1* attempts to portray the backstory of Selena's rise to fame, documenting her family's journey through financial hardships, formation of their band, and the beginnings of Selena's love affair with her eventual husband Chris Perez.

Although *Selena: The Series Part 1* does provide detailed background information regarding Selena's initial interest, and development in music, the series does not focus on Selena, but instead, follows the lives of her family members, namely her father Abraham. Although her family had a major role in developing the woman that Selena came to be, she is the star, the one people tune in to see. Instead, viewers are left watching a story mostly about her father, how he was stopped from pursuing his own music career, and instead unleashes his dreams onto his children. For a story with her name in the title, Selena only makes sparse appearances, with fans left wondering how Selena feels, and acts in situations presented on screen.

For his part Abraham Quintanilla is portrayed as a "perfect" figure in his daughter's life, the one who recognized her talent, connected her with her Mexican heritage, and is always there to provide the ideal advice to solve any challenge his daughter faces. His actions of removing Selena from high school, and abandoning Chris Perez at a deserted bus stop because he suspects Chris' romantic feelings for his daughter; are justified as the actions of

a concerned father, recognizing that his daughter has so much talent, that only he can know how to exemplify it.

For her presence Selena is not portrayed as the strong confident young woman her fans believe her to be, but instead, a scared, and emotional teenager, inexperienced with life, and love. She spends most of the series crying over her stage fright, lack of independence, and feelings for a developing crush. She is constantly coddled by her older sister Suzette, who for her effort, is portrayed as the doting, and knowledgeable sister, the female version of her father. Major life moments, notably Selena's brother A.B.'s marriage, and journeys in fatherhood, are skipped over, in favor of more arguments between Abraham, and their record producer. The budding romance between Selena, and Chris is flat, and quick, leaving out the deep bond the two did share.

Selena Quintanilla was a Latino icon, showcasing the beauty of Mexican culture with her innovation of Tejano music. In a genre dominated by men, Selena shattered both cultural and gender barriers, becoming a pioneer of Latina entertainers. With her band "Selena y Los Dinos" Selena's music soared to the top of music charts, earning her a Grammy, and stardom, all before she was 23. As her success in the Spanish music industry expanded, Selena ventured into other business avenues, becoming a trendsetter in fashion, and cosmetics. However, the foundation for her future successes is left out of this set of episodes, leaving an obvious disconnect between the woman fans heard on the radio, and the one portrayed to them on the silver screen.

Determined to honor their daughter, and sister's memory, the Quintanilla family have made several attempts to preserve the legacy of Selena, revamping her albums, maintaining a museum in her native Texas, accepting a star in her honor on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and producing the 1997 film *Selena*, starring Jennifer Lopez. Although their desire to continue to honor Selena may have inspired their involvement in this project, the series has fallen short of showcasing the incredible performer so many people loved, and the incredible woman so many people believed they knew.

*Selena: The Series Part 2* will premiere on Netflix on May 14th, which will bring the conclusion to Selena's journey. The series will undoubtedly follow her elopement with Chris, the beginnings of her English crossover album, and her tragic murder at 23 by the manager of her fan club Yolanda Saldivar. Hopefully, *Selena: The Series Part 2* will provide audiences with more of the Selena they all wish to see. With so many fans continuing to support her legacy there will be thousands of viewers who will tune in to watch the conclusion of Selena's story in May.



# SPORTS

## MLB OFFSEASON TRADES AND ACQUISITIONS

1/25/2021

By Mark Molz  
Sports Reporter

The MLB season is around the corner and with that comes a plethora of off season acquisitions and trades that you might have missed. This article highlights just some of the big moves that have shaken up the MLB before the 2021 season.

### **Lindor to the Mets**

The Subway Series just got a little more interesting this year. The Met's just landed one of the biggest deals in baseball this offseason by getting Francisco Lindor from the Indians. Lindor and teammate Carlos Carrasco will be heading to the NL East this season hoping to bring home some hardware for the Mets, who have long been behind the Yankees for the best team in New York.

Meanwhile, the Indians received a total of four players in the deal including infielder Amed Rosario.

### **Springer to the Jays**

Landing a 6-year, \$150 Million dollar deal to leave America is not half bad. The young Blue Jays just added a new lead-off man to their line-up in former All-Star George Springer. Springer, who is coming off some solid years with the Astro's, is getting the money he deserves. Yeah, so the Astros cheated and he was a member of the team during that whole thing. Doesn't mean Springer isn't one of the best outfielders in the game. Springer will join a line-up filled with young stars Bo Bichette, Vladimir Guerrero Jr., Cavan Biggio, and more. Watch for the Blue Jays to make a splash in AL East this upcoming season.

### **Corey Kluber to the Yankees**

The former two time Cy Young is headed to the Bronx as the Yankees are making their push for World Series favorites before the season begins. Kluber signed a one-year deal

with the Yankees after missing the entirety of the 2020 season due to a shoulder injury. The Yankees are hoping Kluber can reach his Cy Young form again as he returns from injury.

### **Liam Hendriks to the White Sox**

Arguably the best reliever in the game of baseball is on the move. Liam Hnedricks, a now former Oakland A, is taking his talents to the windy city to join an already loaded White Sox team. The White Sox roster contains the best catcher in baseball right now in Yasmani Grandal, and with Tim Anderson and Nick Madrigal in the infield they are definitely a contender to make it all the way in the 2021 season.

Hendriks signed with the Sox on a four-year, \$54 million dollar deal.

Blake Snell and Yu Darvish to the Padres

This offseason the Padres have loaded their rotation with star power to go with their already stacked line-up. The Padres have recently added Blake Snell, who is coming off a phenomenal performance in last year's World Series, Yu Darvish, last year's MLB wins leader, and Joe Musgrove who was in the Astros rotation during their 2017 World Series run.

These three stars will be pitching alongside Padres ace Dinesen Lamet and young gun Chris Paddack. While the Padres are making their push to be the best team in the league they still have to compete with the Dodgers who are the top team in baseball and not to forget to mention, in the same division as them.

### **Jon Lester and Kyle Schwarber to the Nationals**

The Nationals appeared to be in their World Series slump during the 2020 season. Finishing last in the NL East, they are looking to bounce back this season and regain their place on top of the podium. Lester will join a pitching staff with two of MLB's top starters in Max Scherzer and Stephen Strasburg. Schwarber will be adding his bat to a line-up that consists of the young superstar Juan Soto, slugger Josh Bell, and Trea Turner.

Schwarber and Lester both signed one-year deals.

Author's Notes:

For more information regarding the research of this article please visit the links below.

<https://www.mlb.com/news/francisco-lindor-mets-trade>

<https://www.mlb.com/news/george-springer-deal-blue-jays>

[https://www.espn.com/mlb/story/\\_/id/30719373/corey-kluber-finalizing-deal-join-new-york-yankees](https://www.espn.com/mlb/story/_/id/30719373/corey-kluber-finalizing-deal-join-new-york-yankees)

<https://www.mlb.com/news/liam-hendriks-white-sox-deal>

<https://twitter.com/MLB/status/1352327375250477062/photo/1>

<https://www.mlb.com/news/mlb-power-rankings-to-begin-2021>

<https://www.bleachernation.com/cubs/2021/01/18/washington-nationals-sign-jon-lester-to-a-one-year-deal-plus-a-mutual-option/>

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