360 families visit Open House

SLUH Night, Inside SLUH tours contribute to attendance drop

BY SAM CHECIK STAFF

SLUH hosted its annual Open House last Sunday, a day for prospective students to get a glimpse of SLUH. Three hundred sixty families visited, down from last year’s 380 and 400 in 2012.

Director of Admissions Anja Schmelter supposes the decrease is because of the increase in SLUH Night attendees and the increase in number of eighth graders who participated in an Inside SLUH visit this year.

In the first hour and a half, 200 families were already at SLUH, and “the line never slowed down,” according to Assistant Director of Admissions Adam Cruz. The heavy early attendance shows that SLUH was among many grade school students' first choices.

“Presumably, you go to the schools that you’re most interested in,” said Schmelter. “That was a good sign.”

Schmelter saw a surge of seventh graders again this year.

“It seemed like a lot of seventh graders, and truthfully, that’s what you would want,” said Schmelter. “You wouldn’t want an eighth grader’s first time to come to SLUH to be Open House, when it’s in November and the applications are due in November. In an ideal world, we have younger kids coming as kind of a first introduction to SLUH.”

Sophomore Adam Klefenor, one of the volunteer tour guides, said, “I was surprised about all the different ages of kids that attended. About of them were interested and very engaged with the tour guides.”

As with every Open House, funny stories, or tour-guides, as they’re called, emerged from the students.

“(Assistant Principal for Mission) Jim Linhares told me she saw a tour guide talking people into the maintenance closet downstairs, that’s definitely not in the route,” said Cruz.

For the past few years, SLUH’s Open House has remained in the same format, as far as events and planning continued on page 2

25 years later, El Salvador murders still resonate

watercolor | Mr. Don Finanace

In the early hours of November 16, 1989, six Jesuits, a woman staying with them, and her daughter in San Salvador, El Salvador were brutally murdered by government soldiers, as part of the ongoing violence there. St. Louis U. High will commemorate the 25th anniversary of this horrific event a week from today with a mass and a film about St. Louis U. High's perspective on the event.

The Prep News sought to provide perspectives from around the SLUH community, namely Jesuits and other faculty members with recollections of the day and the days immediately following. While some of them weren’t on faculty here at the time, we still found their overall perspective striking. For more information, see the spread on page 5.

McGrail, Gerard triumph in freshman STUCO election

First Student Council election to use email voting

BY SAM CHECIK STAFF

Freshmen Jack McGrail and Teddy Gerard were elected president and vice president, respectively, to the freshman class yesterday afternoon.

The nine or ten candidates per position—a record high since Spanish teacher Kate Toussaint has been STUCO moderator—were cut down to three each after primary elections on Wednesday.

Director of Educational Technology Andrea Nunziante suggested a new voting system for this year’s elections. Instead of the normal voting with the laptop carts during lunch, a Google survey was sent out to the freshman class so that they could vote on their devices and on SLUH’s computers. All votes were anonymous and each student could only vote once.

The process ran more smoothly, according to Toussaint.

“It was less work. Most of the freshmen voted in homeroom, so the freshman homeroom teachers were really helpful,” said Toussaint. “They gave them time to use their devices, if they had it, to vote.”

The speeches were held in the F. Joseph Schulte Theater during activity period yesterday. The three presidential candidates were McGrail, Buck Chechik, and Drew Kirkhoff. The three vice presidential candidates were Gerard, Rodolfo Gomez, and Will Perryman.

“I was really happy with their speeches,” said Toussaint. “I thought they did a good job. They all had a good message. They were serious, but they also had some humor.”

McGrail discussed the legacy at SLUH, though he mentioned that Francis Scott Key’s poem “The Star-Spanned Banner” was published 200 years ago, and even felt gutsy enough to make an age comment towards English teacher Barbara Osburg, asking her if she remembered it.

On a more serious note, McGrail said, “We’re not going to have announcements and of students saying that they’re going to see how it goes, “ said senior Steve Olwig.

“I think it’s a lot more peaceful and not as disruptive.”

Others have been a bit more hesitant, especially physical education teacher Patrick Zarrick, who was unable to deliver his much-anticipated and thoroughly delightful announcements re- garding intramurals, though he remains hopeful that the platform for his whisper will eventually return.

“I was in the office when Dr. Kesterson decided to do it and I saw a lot of the announcements he had. I certainly understand his frustration, the teachers’ frustr- ation. Having said that, I’ve been flattered by the num- ber of students and faculty who’ve come up and said that they miss the intramurals an- nouncements,” said Zarrick.

Kesterson has been con- sidering the change for years, especially since students have other ways of receiving annuncia- tions, like email. The TV monitors located throughout the building also display a running list of an- nouncements and of students summoned to Kesterson’s office continued on page 4

Kesterson tests week with no PA announcements

BY LEO HEINZ AND JACK SINSY COME STATE STAFF

The St. Louis U. High PA system fell silent this week after Assistant Principal for Student Life Brock Kesters- ton called for an indefinite halt to all PA announcements.

“Last week Mr. Beccar and I read so many announcements between activity period and after school and I said, you know what, I’m sick of hearing myself talk, we’re just going to do it. We’re not going to have announcements this week and we’re going to do it across the board, and we’re going to see how it goes,” said Kesterson.

Many have praised Kest- erson for the change, noting less hectic hallways and quieter homerooms.

“I honestly think it helps activity period get moving a lot faster, so that’s a plus,” said junior Steve Olwig.

“I’m a big fan,” said the- ology teacher Rob Garavaglia.

“I think it’s a lot more peace- ful and not as disruptive.”

Freshman service in its senior year

BY JACK KIEHL NEWS EDITOR

In January of 2011, nearly a month before the current senior class was even admitted to St. Louis U. High, the Community Service Program (CSP) made a proposal to the faculty for a program that would require a few hours of service each senior semes- ter. Nearly four years later, the freshmen who made the trip up to St. Peter and Paul, Shalom House, or Mc- Cormack House are now seniors. By the end of this year, nearly every current SLUH student will have participated in the program.

The idea for manda- continued on page 4

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Last Sunday’s Open House draws 360

(continued from page 1)

Juniors Cam Gunn and Alix Warner pose during the video.

D o you get lost in chemi-

cial equations? Can’t re-

member the formula for di-

hydrogen monoxide? Figur-

ing out when to ask a de-

structive reaction? Well, the

students in SLUH’s AP Chem-

istry class, who were there, “The

laws of physics are so exten-

sive. It doesn’t matter what

teacher you have. Can you

use it in a chemical reaction

or not? Can you write its elec-

tron configuration or not? Can

you use it in a chemical reac-

tion for that? That is not dif-

ferent from study group to

study group.”

The idea to start study sessions was also influenced by Russia’s personal experi-

cence.

“Chemistry was tough for me. I’m a hands-on, visual learner. It took me a few dif-

cult classes in my chemistry experience to really appreci-

ate what was going on, but I would pop into these study groups, and I would leave very frustrated,” said Russo.

“You can use it in a chemical reaction for that? That is not different from study group to study group.”

The idea to start study sessions was also influenced by Russia’s personal experi-

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“I noticed that we had this group of 35 guys or so who were currently immersed in a very rigorous chemistry curriculum who would be fantastic resources for our required sophomore course,” said Russo. “Chemistry is one of those things (and I’ve been teaching it for 15 years) that really is tough for guys.”

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cence.
As the sun disappeared behind the segmented dome of the Hill, and the light refracted off the polluted film on painting the sky bluish and monotonous, the orange, I ran up the Hill with my fellow seniors.

The path up the hill is unassuming and steep, but much of it is plain and unremarkable. “That was always how I described it,” one of my friends said. “A joke.” At the top of the hill, on like the sport that my friends and I had ventured up its crest; no one knew the secrets that it held. Weeds and beer cans dot the path along its way, each step studded with splotches of grass resembling the trails that had been our nurseries.

As we stood there to watch the sun set over the city, I saw many tweets by both men and women, offended by these tweets were meant as a joke, at the expense of the young women, offending because you think what they said was meant as a joke. If people take it personally, what were intended as a joke, putting in three full years, receiving as much as an average of about $40 an hour for the job. I have been having a tremendous number of people are not around, and so St. Louis U. High. Over the past few weeks, members of the community have taken part in the Missouri Community Garden’s first harvest.

Tending the tank: sophomore gets paid to take care of 3rd floor fish photo | Kevin Murphy

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Freshmen Service, a part of the SLUH experience after four years

(continued from page 1) The plan is just that, a plan, and the real thing itself is the work everyday. The idea is that there are a number of other things that are happening, and the main focus is to get involved in those things, and also to get involved in the program itself.

I know that my Imagining 18 group had that as one of our objectives, said theology teacher Alan Boreder. I'm not sure if that did (come from Imagining 18), but that was something we were seriously requested.

However, the exact protocol for how Kesterson can expect students to show up in his office is still being worked out. For example, if a student receives an announcement or is sought by Kesterson's office anytime after 6th or 7th period, Kesterson doesn't expect them to check the monitors and visit his office before the end of the day.

On Wednesday morning, Kesterson emailed students who failed to visit his office the prior day and he said fair share of demerits have been doled out for tardiness in viewing Gerard.

"We're still trying to navigate that," said Kesterson. There has also been speculation about whether or not Kesterson will continue to his usual message of staying safe and not getting into trouble over the weekend.

"I think he should," said Olingo. "I think it's necessary," said Longnette. "It's a helpful reminder about where (we) go to school and what (we) represent." As for if there would be announcements next week, Kesterson said, "I don't know. My initial thought right now is no."

Gerard talked about his commitment to SLUH and his helpful and creative personality will make SLUH a better place for not just the current class, but for the SLUH community overall, he wanted to make the SLUH experience more fun for everyone involved in it. Gerard also encouraged the pitch- ing of ideas from the class, while also discussing some of his own, like involvement in intramurals by talking with physical education teacher and intramurals announcer Patrick Zarrick.

Overall, the plan is just to make the SLUH experience for our class even better than it already is. So, I think we'll do a pretty good job making it more fun," said Kesterson.

This year, McGrail and Gerard are going to work with STUCO on Mission Week, the Freshman Class Dance, and whatever they want to work on for the betterment of the class. They will also work closely with freshman class moderator and English teacher Tim Cardo.

"They bring great energy and they're enthusiastic. They seem like they're ready to work," said Toussaint.
Remembering the Jesuit Martyrs of El Salvador

(continued from page one)

For decades, authoritarian governments controlled El Salvador. Political stability began to crumble in the 1970s, and a civil war between the Salvadoran military and a coalition of five guerrilla groups broke out in May of 1979.

The left-wing guerrilla groups fought against thestanding military dictatorship. They were unhappy with the widening gap between the rich and the poor. In a feudal-like system, a few dozen families owned much of the farmland in El Salvador. Campesinos, or peasants, worked the farm-land while the families reaped the economic benefits. Five guerrilla groups formed a coalition and organized a revolution.

The standing government in El Salvador was backed by four American states that feared the spread of communism. The United States provided millions of dollars daily to the government and was responsible for training Salvadoran soldiers at the School of Americas (SOA). Located in Fort Benning, Georgia, the SOA has trained thousands of Latin American soldiers in "commando and psychological warfare, military intelligence and interrogation tactics" since 1966.

A group of Jesuits from the Central American University (UCA) in El Salvador was sent as part of a network of Catholic universities in Central America. The UCA, located in urban San Salvador, was the first private university in El Salvador. The founding Jesuits saw education as a way to uplift the poor.

During the civil war of the 80s, the UCA became a hub of outreach against the government. Jesuits including Ignacio Ellacuria and Marc O’Baró used the UCA as a stage to project dissatisfaction with the government and a call for change.

After what was perceived to be fraudulent voting in 1989, the guerrilla groups moved toward the urban cities and took the offense on November 11th of that year. The US-supported military threat was met by the UCA and the approaching guerrilla groups. The military carried out a reconnaissance mission two days later, setting the Christmas Jesuit residence for weapons and evidence that the UCA trained guerrillas. Although the soldiers found nothing, they returned three days later to massacre the outpost Jesuits.

Early in the morning of December 24th, 1989, the UCA community was attacked by the National Guard. The soldiers marched the Jesuits, Elba Ramos, their cook, and her daughter Celina out to the garden where they were forced to lie on the ground to be shot. The soldiers intended to leave no witnesses and shot each victim in the head three times, symbolically splitting the brains of the intellectuals.

Word of the massacre reached Jesuit provinces and international media outlets the next day. At SLUH, reaction to the news was muted. A day of prayer and reflection was held two weeks after the murders. The national controversy of the continued funding provided by the United States to SOA-trained Latin American soldiers to combat the spread of communism was reflected in the SLUH student body. Current Assistant Principal for Mission Jim Limerick was a theology teacher at the time, described the political makeup of the student body around SLUH as "a conservative kind of ethos." The week of the day of prayer and reflection, two students wrote letters in the Prep News, one asking for more information about the martyrs, another criticizing the day for focusing too much on the assassination of El Salvador rather than the Jesuits themselves.

After moving from Spain and studying in Ecuador, Amando López, S.J. began to teach in El Salvador. He moved to teach at the Central American University in Nicaragua where he served families suffering under the Somoza regime. Lopez returned to the UCA as a theology and philosophy professor. “People from both sides of the conflict found him to be a trustworthy companion and friend and came to him seeking advice in confidence,” said Marcouiller.

Jose Ignacio Ommog, J.S., was the only native Salvadoran Jesuit. Lopez and Lopez studied in the United States and Spain. He brought back a passion for education to El Salvador and founded Fe y Alegría, a center for vocational training and education. He was one of the founders of the UCA. "Lolo was the main fundraiser and spirit behind the system," said Marcouiller.

In 1989, superior current of the SLUH Jesuit community Fr. Jim Barshik, S.J. was the Executive Assistant to the Provincial of the Missouri Province. On the morning of November 16, he received a phone call from El Salvador. He would be one of the first in the United States to hear of the atrocity. Here is his account of the morning:

“Whenever I give a retreat, I still use that incident as something to remind us about what it may be to be a Christian or a Catholic. To truly do it right, you may end up being considered dangerous by some people. So often, we just want to fit in. Maybe sometimes we need to be a little more dangerous, take the risk and say, ‘People may not like this or people may be upset, but I cannot not say this.’ (It requires) a certain amount of boldness, particularly when people are being hurt, which was really the situation in Salvador, to be willing to speak and say, ‘This is not right!’”

—Fr. Jim Barshik, S.J.

“—Fr. Chris Pinné, S.J.

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“‘The idea of blowing up the brains of these intellectuals … The Jesuits didn’t withdraw; rather, they turned the UCA into a place where they could go to get help and getting that into some hands up in D.C., because the concern back then was that the military involved in the killing had been trained at the School of the Americas by the U.S. At first, I didn’t understand. We didn’t know what was going on.’”

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—Ms. Suzanne Renard
**Football down early, loses to Hawks**

**BY MARTY JOHNSON SPORTS EDITOR**

The St. Louis U. High football team did everything it could to claw its way out of a 17-point deficit, but ultimately saw its season end at the hands of Hazelwood Central on Saturday in a 23-14 loss.

Entering Saturday’s game, the Jr. Bills knew they had an uphill battle in front of them. The Hawks hadn’t allowed a point since Oct. 4 against Hazelwood East and had scored fewer than 20 points only once in the season. After Central quarterback Mike Glass lofted a 38-yard touchdown pass to Xavier Sneed to make the game 17-0 with 8:26 to go in the first half, “said senior running back Andre Colvin.

Unfortunately for the Jr. Bills, the Hawks’ offense found success, methodically driving down the field and cutting the Central lead to three. “We dug ourselves a hole,” said senior captain Clark Conway.

SLUH’s defense rode this momentum for the rest of the game, allowing Central just four more points. “That really brought some fire to us.” said head coach Gary Kornfeld.

The Jr. Bills knew that the Hawks’ offense was pretty good in the second half, “said Conway. "And one to seven being 38 seconds is really a measurement of our ability to score on defense and every single play.”

**Soccer falls late to Chaminade**

**BY PATRICK SCHULER REPORTER**

The soccer team’s season ended in the District finals Saturday with a 2-3 loss to Chaminade in overtime.

The team had stopped McQuaid North in the first round of District 8, but Chaminade proved too great for a week later in the finals.

Chaminade had four great scoring chances early; they scored on their fourth, on a Jacob Pesek header off of a corner kick in the 16th minute.

Chaminade had four great scoring chances early; they scored on their fourth, on a Jacob Pesek header off of a corner kick in the 16th minute.

Chaminade was resilient, though. In the 25th minute, senior captain Clark Conway headed the ball past Chami- nade goalie Zach Pogue to tie the score at one going into halftime.

The momentum from Conway’s goal translated into a much faster, more aggressive SLUH attack in the second half. Senior Elliot Boedinger’s cross-goal shot put SLUH up 2-1 in the 45th minute.

SLUH’s plan after getting a lead was to play sound defense. They did just that, until the 71st minute when senior goalie Albert Reinwart’s back- ward-jumping save caused many to think that he landed in the goal.

Meanwhile, SLUH kept pressing offensively. Senior captain Colin Derdeyn’s second-half shot put SLUH up 2-1 in the 45th minute.

SLUH’s defense up to par with the Chaminade offense, allowing two goals, one in the 71st minute and one in the 79th minute, as Chaminade’s AI Anthon finished the third rebound off of a free kick by Pesek, tying the score at two as the clock ran out.

"To be so close and let it slip away was devastating," said senior Will DeMarchi. "All of our hard work seemed to vanish in a second." Having expended almost all of their energy in the first two halves, the players had little left in the tank for the last 15 minute-golden goal overtime period.

Chaminade started off overtime aggressively off of offense, placing two shots on SLUH’s net before the fourth minute, when Chaminade se- nior Kenny Massa slid a ball past Reinwart after working his way through the SLUH box to end the game and SLUH’s season.

"They were courageous," said head coach Charlie Mar-...
**Hockey wins first game handily, 10-4**

Junior Steve Lockwood stick handles against Timberland.

**B soccer becomes a unit, ends at 8-3-3**

**C hockey wins first game handily, 10-4**

**C football surprises with 8-2 record**

**Soccer shows grit, but to no avail**

**XC looks for third straight title**

**CCP too much for SLUH in OT**

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**XC looks for third straight title**
Senior Sam Gerbic is prepared before he donates blood. The drive collected 87 usable units.

Friday, October 31
Latin Club held a brief prayer service for Martin Luther, a Rolla Latin teacher who passed away recently.

Sophomore Pastoral Team discussed the all-school Martyrs’ Mass and the prayer service which some team members participated in on Tuesday, Nov. 3. They also chose roles for the all-school Martyrs’ Mass and talked about a Vocation Essay Con- tent and potential service proj- ects.

Yearbook congregated in art teacher John Moeller’s room and sorted photos.

Monday, November 3
There was no school due to the Faculty Retreat. The day featured talks on the theme of preparing English teacher David Callon, ceramic teacher Sarah Behboodi, and pastor of S.T. Joseph-

Jack Sullivan: I knew that we all race well. What are your goals for this year? I think, “Oh, it’s just right there, I can get it.”

Shayn: It’s usually, “Oh, this is going to hurt so bad.” I always remind myself that I am a child of God and I can do all things, through Christ, which strengthens me.

Matthew: I just think “Breathe, remember to breathe!” And don’t dread it. At the beginning, I worry a lot about going out too hard and not finishing strong.

Shayn: I just think it’s really nerverous, and thinking about it now I’m even nervier, just because you’re just wanting, “Can we start this already?” And it’s very frightening.

What’s your idea of the worst-case scenario during a race, or the worst thing that could happen?

Jack: Falling. Shayn: Falling is really bad. Getting swept up, two, three when bared / From India to the library, here I let/And me. I dare you to try. Those who answered correctly won a prize.

Students for Life had previously planned to chalk the sidewalks with pro-life messages, but because of an- clement weather, had to post- pone that to a later date. In- stead, they met and discussed plans for the year and current pro-life issues.

Wednesday, November 5
Student Council’s annual SLUH Blood Drive was held in the old cafeteria. The drive was coordinated with Mercy Health System with the help of Stu- dent Council and collected 87 usable units.

SLUH-PAC met to dis- cuss the results of Tuesday’s midterm elections.

Jack Sullivan: It is really hilly, though. Shayn: I never been thirsty.

When the gun is shot, what goes through your mind?

Matthew: Getting spooked has always been my nightmare, especially tripping and getting spooked.

During the race, when you feel like you’re hit the wall, do you get through that?

Shayn: Nothing. Matthew: That’s easy, a banana and a bagel toasted with peanut butter. And I rub my stom-

Matthew: I think it’s only 15 minutes of pain, and 15 min- utes in the bigger span of life is nothing.

When you cross the finish line, what’s your mindset?

Shayn: I feel like I’ve done what I’m supposed to do. I don’t care if you move me.

Jack: I hate as soon as you finish races because the one thing you want to do is sit down or lean over something and that’s what they don’t let you do. They make you keep walking which is the hardest thing.

What do you do to reduce stress?

Shayn: I’m never thirsty afterwards. After the race, that’s why I’ve never been thirsty.

Matthew: I like a little bit of water but just not too much. I’m just trying not to fall apart.

How do you feel about the State course?

Jack: That’s just so much harder. I do it just to see how far I can go and see if you can finish and it feels close because you can see it in reality and it really hurts.

Shayn: I hate how you turn the corner and you think that it’s the finish. And then you always start bunching up and I’ll pass the -/That marks that the three mile, I saw 200 of them, I’ll be the first to go on and there are always the State race and I know that the finish mark, my mind wakes up again and I feel the pain.