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News

"If nothing else, value the truth"

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Tuition to pass \$10,000 for '07-'08

Andrew Mueth
Features Editor

St. Louis U. High sent home letters to parents in March stating that the tuition for the '07-'08 school year will be \$10,250, an \$850 increase in tuition. The letter also announced a 19 percent increase in the financial aid budget.

The 9.04 percent tuition increase will go largely towards a four percent raise in faculty compensation. Faculty wages comprise 85 to 87 percent of the total budget, according to President David Laughlin.

This rate of increase aligns with the trend over the last few decades.

"If you looked at a 20-year history of tuition at SLUH, it's certainly within the range. It's relatively normal," said Laughlin.

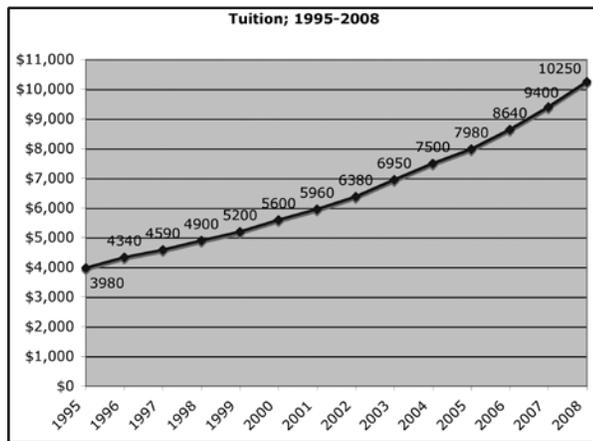
"Our greatest expense, certainly, is one of our greatest values, and that's our faculty compensation," Laughlin said. "That's the majority of our budget, and we do the best we can to make sure those folks have a responsible, decent, cost-of-living wage increase. So that's certainly the biggest portion of (the tuition increase)."

The school looks at the cost of living

increases, determined by the Consumer Price Index, to help determine the faculty raises.

The remainder of the additional funds raised by increasing tuition goes towards "general administrative expenses," said Laughlin.

These include facilities expenses and the running of various programs. Laughlin added that next year's budget is not yet final. He see **TUITION, 8**



Big fun Under the Big Top: Cashbah goes to the circus

Dan Behr
Reporter

Hundreds of St. Louis U. High alumni and parents plan to dress up in their finest clothes this Saturday to attend SLUH's largest fundraiser, the Cashbah auction. Raising money for scholarships and other programs, Cashbah is an annual SLUH tradition.



The Cashbah big top awaits Saturday's auction.

This year's Cashbah theme is "Under the Big Top." Under the guidance of chair-persons, or ring

leaders, to stick with the theme, Mary Reedy and Lori Aston, the gym and Danis Lobby have been transformed into the glittering interior of a circus tent. Volunteers have strung wide streamers and hung a trapeze from the ceiling, and the event will feature entertainers including clowns, SLUH jugglers, a man on stilts, and possibly even a fire-eater.

The usual auction items make their return this year, including the trio of puppies, donated by the Kainz family see **CASHBAH, 2**

SLUH to honor Sheridan with baseball stadium

Jim Santel
News Editor

The St. Louis U. High campus changed drastically during Paul Sheridan's eight-year tenure as school president. Tonight, Sheridan, S.J., returns to SLUH to see a part of the expanded campus named in his honor, as the baseball stadium will be christened as the Sheridan Stadium.

Vice President for Advancement Thom Digman said that the stadium is being named after Sheridan at the behest of an unidentified donor. Sheridan, who coached the freshman baseball team during most of his term as president, expressed some ambivalence about such recognition upon his departure see **STADIUM, 8**

Schumacher, '08, earns 36 on ACT

Brian Bettonville
Staff

Junior Stephen Schumacher became the eighth St. Louis U. High student to receive a perfect score of 36 on the ACT in the past four years. Schumacher joins Paul Barker, '05, Matt Ampleman, '06, Timo Kim, '06, Andrew Schroeder, '06, Joel Westwood, '06, Micah Manary, '07, and Todd Swift, '07 in this elite group of SLUH test-takers.

"I felt I was doing all right (on the ACT), but I felt kind of rushed on the math and the science," said Schumacher, who took the ACT on Feb. 10. "I had taken (the ACT) once before and I did pretty well on it."

The first time he took the test on Dec. 9 of last year, Schumacher earned a 35, a single point away from a perfect score. His retake

STUCO, Moran,

Peter Mackowiak
Core Staff

Student Council (STUCO) is planning to survey St. Louis U. High's student drivers to help decide how to address English teacher Rich Moran's parking proposal.

Moran's proposal calls for the administration to "grant parking advantages to cars that are neither SUVs nor large pickups" in both the student and the faculty/staff parking lots. Moran's proposal was introduced and hotly debated at STUCO's Feb. 22 forum.

STUCO met with Moran three weeks ago to clarify the specifics of the proposal, as they had only heard the plan in full at the forum. STUCO officers also asked Moran questions about his motives for presenting them the proposal and about possible changes that could improve the plan.

"We wanted to make sure that we understood where (Moran) was coming from, and to talk to him about how we might tweak (the proposal.) ... The meeting gave us a good idea of where to go from the forum," said STUCO moderator Brock Kesterson.

STUCO met on Wednesday to determine the best way to act upon the proposal. They decided to survey SLUH drivers to get an idea of what kinds of cars students drive and how many students carpool to school. STUCO hopes to distribute the survey before

on February's test, however, gave him the extra point for a perfect score.

Earning a perfect score on the ACT is an incredible accomplishment. Of the 1,206,455 students who took the ACT in 2006, only 216 received a perfect score. This group of students greatly exceeded the national average, which was 21.1 in 2006 and 20.9 in 2004 and 2005.

Schumacher has performed well in other academic areas as well. He scored a 227 out

hone eco-friendly parking policy

Easter Break.

The results of the referendum will chiefly determine how STUCO chooses to structure a proposal to the administration. Kesterson said that their options include granting parking advantages based on type of car, whether or not the driver carools, or some combination of the two.

Moran cited enforceability as a potential roadblock to any such proposal, but he believes that the SLUH community is capable of change. Kesterson added that, "(Enforcing a policy) is going to take help from security... or staff or student moderators. It's going to take an effort, but if the students understand what is at stake, hopefully they shouldn't have a problem adjusting."

Senior privilege is another issue that the proposal would have to address. STUCO President Paul Merrill said that STUCO would be willing to include seniority in a new plan (senior carpoolers parking closer than junior carpoolers, for example), but that the issue would not stop a plan from happening.

Moran said that there are flaws in the proposal, such as the situation where a type of SUV could be more efficient than a smaller car. "It's not going to be completely fair, but what you want from a social policy is something that guides people toward greater social justice."

of 240 on the PSAT and currently has a 4.43 GPA. With achievements like these, the future

looks very bright for Schumacher.

"I've been thinking about (the seminary) for a long time. My parents have told me that it would probably be better to go and get my college experience and get a degree and then go to the seminary, and I think that's pretty good advice,"

said Schumacher. He added, "I think if I go into the seminary, I would probably go with

see **SCHUMACHER, 12**



Steve Schumacher, the most recent member of the St. Louis U. High student to receive a 36 on the ACT.

CASHBAH

(from 1)

ily, and assorted SLUH memorabilia. However, there are also many newer, more exotic prizes, including trips to Hawaii, Montana, Discovery Cove in Orlando, and Kiawah.

This year's Cashbah car is a hybrid Toyota Prius, donated by the Newbold family. Sports memorabilia plays a big role in every Cashbah, but this year with a Cardinals World Series victory, there is a huge increase in tickets, jerseys, and a variety of other sports-related prizes. There is also an impressive amount of fine jewelry, some with SLUH motifs such as the Fleur-Des-Lis, and antiques.

SLUH father Steve DeBrecht has worked daily for the past couple weeks to finish up the refurbishing of all the antiques. Along with the individual prizes, which are for the most part donated by businesses, alumni, or families, there are

see **BIG TOP, 8**

Vision 2000 and class at SLUH: A *PN* special report

Charlie Landis & Jim Santel
News Editors

As students walk from the parking lot full of 350 automobiles, chances are that quite a few of them will be wearing Polo shirts, Birkenstocks, and North Face or Columbia jackets. Chances are even better that each student will have a cell phone in his pocket. The presence of these expensive items, as well as the new athletic facilities and the forthcoming multi-million dollar Student Life Center (part of the school's \$32 million Vision 2000 expansion program), may reflect a pattern of increasing wealth at St. Louis U. High.

"Every kid has a cell phone," said economics teacher Peggy Pride. "You see lots of iPods. Those are two expensive devices. When I started here I didn't see anything like that."

Pride said that families at SLUH seem to increasingly come from the wealthy upper-middle class, rather than the working class. These changes may have occurred because of the increasing economic pressures faced by the middle class families that look into attending SLUH.

Pride gave her definition of a middle class family as, "probably one that owns their own home, has adequate transportation, every season the kids get new clothes, they might go on a vacation, they probably have some savings, probably both parents work. They're not living paycheck to paycheck, they're living pretty good. ... They have a nest egg that's for college; they might have also another nest egg for emergency."

Pride also described a typical upper middle class family as "probably more skilled, so they earn higher wages. ... (and they are) someone who has more education or training." Pride said that the displays of affluence around the school are an example of conspicuous consumption, an economic concept described by Hoarst Veblin.

"(Veblin) said that the consumption we have, what we buy, we don't buy for utility. We don't buy it for satisfaction—we buy it to impress someone else," Pride said.

Pride said that conspicuous consumption can be applied to some aspects of Vision 2000: "The school has to 'keep up with the Joneses.' Really, this is kind of a struggle. ... We have to keep up with the Joneses to keep the enrollment, because we're competing with CBC, with the schools in West County. And so do you keep up with the Joneses with fields in the back (of the school)? Visual representations? Or do you keep up with the Joneses by hiring the best teachers, paying them good money, and providing professional development—paying for the best academic environment you can create?"

"I'm not denying the fact that a lot of that V2K money is going to technology, and the school has upgraded its technology, and that's fabulous. I'm saying there's plenty of other ways to improve the academic (environment). ... Some of that money could have gone to a few more teachers," Pride said. She added that her AP classes have about 28 kids each, and that the optimum class number "would be 24 or 25."

The gradual demographic shift from working to upper middle class is likely the result of the ever-increasing cost of

attending SLUH. Currently, SLUH costs \$9,400 to attend. This price tag, according to Vice President of Advancement Thom Digman, makes it hard for middle class families to attend school here. "I think (affording SLUH) is a struggle for families, and that's something we constantly keep an eye on. That's probably the reason why we discount our education as much as we do, as a way of trying to keep it affordable for all families."

SLUH discounts its tuition by \$3,362. The actual cost of educating each student for '06-'07 is \$12,762. The gap in tuition is covered by alumni donations, fundraisers such as Cashbah, and interest earned from the school's endowment. Next year, tuition will increase again to \$10,250 (see article, pg.1).

Physics teacher Paul Baudendistel said, "If I'm a parent, and I'm struggling to pay for Catholic grade school education, and I see that line that says \$10,000, I don't even want to look further than that. ... Our population has changed."

Laughlin commented in an interview with Andrew Mueth about tuition, "If I worked really hard to keep (tuition) to four digits this year, it's going to go to five (next year anyway)."

Board Chairman Tom Santel, '76, said that the Board's biggest challenge is keeping costs down, and that the increase in tuition comes largely from the decline of the Jesuit population.

Said Digman, "I think that it is true that families make a sacrifice to send their boys here. I think the number one issue that we as a school struggle with is to provide the best quality education that we can at the most affordable price that we can. I think that is probably the number one issue that we worry about the most, that we work towards. I think we do a pretty fair job, but we'd sure like to be better, and we're constantly searching for ways to ensure that we keep this place affordable for families of all means."

When Ralph Houlihan, S.J., attended SLUH from 1948-1952, tuition was fixed at \$180. According to *Westegg.com's* inflation generator, \$180 in 1952 is worth about \$1,471.13 in 2006 dollars.

"Any kid that had a car was very special," he said. Now, the student lot is saturated with cars. Houlihan also added, "Even (in 1948) we had a mix (of economic classes). We had a guy in our class who was very wealthy."

Houlihan added that SLUH has an academic program akin to those at elite area schools John Burroughs and MICDS while maintaining a tuition half of that at those schools.

According to a chart from the U.S. Census Bureau, the upper middle class comprises about 15 percent of the American population, and consists mostly of households of over \$100,000 with two incomes. Upper middle class families, according to the Census Bureau, are "white collar professionals" with graduate degrees, while lower middle class workers have bachelor degrees and earn \$32,000-\$60,000 a year.

Throughout the nation, Pride said, "The rich are getting richer and the poor are coming up, but at a slower rate than the rich." She added, "The middle class is shrinking."

Pride said that the average SLUH family probably rests between the upper middle and middle classes. "I think we're on the

see CLASS, 12

Apathy, new policy cancels ACES mixer

Jim Margherio
Reporter

As February came and went, many in the St. Louis U. High community wondered at the cancellation of one the month's more anticipated events: the ACES mixer. Held annually during February in honor of Black History Month, the ACES mixer is a fun and friendly way to raise awareness for the group. The Association for Cultural Enrichment at SLUH hopes to attract students from all areas of St. Louis to come and enjoy themselves in an open and relaxed atmosphere.

In previous years, the mixer has been a success. The reasons for its cancellation,

according to Director of Diversity Robert Evans, were a "lack of interest" among ACES members, along with the new mixer policy stipulating that boys from other schools would not be allowed to attend SLUH hosted mixers. This policy was instituted for the school year in order to prevent some of the rowdy behavior displayed at mixers during the past.

Evans said he is disappointed with the policy. According to Evans, the ACES mixer is supposed to be a night when anyone and everyone can get together and celebrate diversity, and create an accepting and inclusive atmosphere. As long as the new policy is in place, severely restricting attendance, Evans

argued that the mixer can't provide such an atmosphere.

Junior Aaron Shepard wholeheartedly agreed with Evans. He said that the new policy "defeats the purpose" of the mixer, and he knows that students from other schools, especially girls, "didn't like (the policy) at all."

Shepard also agreed that lack of participation in ACES was a reason for the mixer being cancelled. He added that leadership is "not what it used to be," citing his freshman and sophomore years as being much more active.

Shepard remains hopeful that next year, ACES will once again be in full swing, including the mixer.

44 SLUH students attend Mission Mexico trip

Christian Ronzio
Core Staff

Forty-four SLUH students, four teachers and several parents teamed up to build three houses for the homeless in Reynosa, Mexico, over spring break, from March 19-24. Reynosa is a large border city, with almost 500,000 inhabitants. It is located across the border from McAllen, at the southern tip of Texas, roughly 100 miles from the Gulf of Mexico. SLUH students joined with a group from Cor Jesu Academy to build seven houses over four days.

SLUH's Mission Mexico is run through Strategic Alliance, which sets up trips year round for groups to build homes in Reynosa. Strategic alliance "attempts to help churches and individuals reach out to other cultures through short term mission trips," according to Strategicalliance.org. Since 1993, Strategic Alliance has been responsible for the construction of more than 1000 homes in Spanish "colonias."

Colonias are neighborhoods on the outreaches of Reynosa. They are made up of roughly 400-700 houses apiece. They have no paved roads, and the houses rarely have anything but dirt for the floor.

The homes cost \$2800 apiece, in addition to the cost of goods for the family of the house. Fundraising began during the first semester by STUCO Vice President for Pastoral Activities Kyle McCollom, who was

also in charge of the trip.

Each of the three SLUH teams was designated to build a home from the ground up for a specific family. At the end of the build, the homes were furnished with gifts students were able to pack in bags, such as flashlights and clothing, as well as a mattress, a small gas stove, and a table.

Day one of construction consisted of laying the cinderblock foundations and building the floor. Most teams also finished and raised one or two walls.

Each of the teams finished the walls and began the roof on day two, and tried to complete the painting.

Day three was a finishing day used mostly for the completion of roofs and the installation of floor and window rim, tasks far more difficult in practice than in theory.

The homes built would be considered little more than large shacks in the U.S. They were 20 feet by 12 feet with three windows, a door and a loft. There was no insulation or other luxuries. Even so, the homes were a tremendous improvement upon the existing structures where the families lived, and each of the families was truly grateful.

"It was amazing," said senior Joel Schmidt. "Seeing the progress we made at the end of each day and the impact that it had on each of the families was amazing. It was a lot different from normal service because it was a much more physical impact, but it carried the same emotions."

Senior Joe Vitale said, "The best part

of the trip for me was seeing the house we built last year. It was great to see how much the family was able to grow after we gave them the foundation of a house."

Planning for the trip began as far back as last summer, when three committees were created to oversee the trip, according to McCollum. The pastoral, construction, and executive committees each took over a part of the trip.

"The main thing for this year was to keep track of everything that we did," said McCollum. "I made a binder which includes dates, and timetables for planning. We want this to be easy to organize for years to come and ensure that it goes smoothly next year and into the future."

Students raised some of the required \$9000 through volunteering at Soular Octoberfest and STUCO drives. The rest came in donations from NHS, Mother's Club, Father's Club, and various individuals.

"The money is definitely something we have to worry about for next year," said McCollum. "The organizations that gave us the money don't have the resources to keep that up year after year. We're definitely looking for other sponsorships next year."

Mission: Mexico is set to continue for years to come, with junior Eric Lampe taking the reins from McCollum for next year's trip. To see the trip blog, visit Missionmexico2007.blogspot.com.

Waterpoloers easily remain undefeated

John Martin, Ray Kreienkamp
Reporters

Over the past three weeks, the Waterpolobills (7-0) have mowed through their opponents, thus defending their No. 1 state ranking every week so far. Despite the blistering start, the season has had some bumps, most notably against Oakville on Mar. 21, when the Jr. Bills eked out a 7-6 victory.

“We didn’t play the game the way we wanted to, Oakville seemed to control the pace of the game,” commented Ray Kreienkamp.

Despite this bump, the Jr. Bills have rolled otherwise. On Mar. 15, they shut out the Chaminade Red Devils, their foe from last season, in a convincing 7-0 victory. In the same way, the Jr. Bills beat MICDS 13-5 and Kirkwood 12-1, teams who have always been competitive water polo schools.

On Wednesday, the Jr. Bills continued their unbeaten streak by taming the Marquette Mustangs 15-5. Just 40 seconds into

the game the AquaJocks had already struck twice. Junior Tim Dale scored off the first play of the game, and Kreienkamp followed with a goal of his own seconds later. The quick attack set the tempo for the game, and the Bills coasted into an easy victory.

The Jr. Bills success thus far has been created by the teamwork of a very talented team. Jim Heafner, the Jr. Bills 2-meter, has come fast out of the gates and ranks among the top scorers in the state. Heafner has scored no fewer than three goals in every game, and just this week was named Fox 2 Athlete of the Week. The offense has also been anchored by Dale, and the strong counterattack skills of Tom Tandler and Jake Roeckle.

Kreienkamp and Kerry Read have both brought a strong defense to play in front of Jason Appelbaum. Appelbaum, the Jr. Bills’ goal-minder, has absolutely dominated the net. His goals against average of 1.91 is over three times better than the second-best goalie in the state. Clearly, the Jr. Bills are playing well, but they still have areas of improve-

ment that need to be addressed as the season moves along.

“Although we have a good record, we haven’t really played up to our fullest potential as a team,” stated Read. While the team has much room for improvement, it is always a good sign when a team is undefeated and still unsatisfied with its play.

The Jr. Bills have a very important week ahead of them. Today, the Jr. Bills will travel to Chicago to play for the first time out-of-state in SLUH water polo history.

“It will be an interesting tournament because we will be rooting for Lindbergh for the first time in school history. We want St. Louis water polo to have good representation,” explained head coach Paul Baudendistel.

Because of the season change, the Jr. Bills now have the opportunity to play against out-of-state schools. The Jr. Bills look to be challenged and get some good games this weekend.

see **OFF THE DEEP END, 13**

Basebills slam competition, start unbeaten

Dan Everson
Core Staff

Solid hitting. Dominant pitching. Aggressive base running. Clean defense. The St. Louis U. High Basebills have featured all of these tools en route to a 5-0 record, including 63 total runs scored against opponents’ five.

The Jr. Bill reserves had a chance to star when Cleveland came to SLUH on Mar. 27. Giving the substitutes some playing time did not cost the Computerteacherbills much, though, as they took down the Commanders 13-0, ending in the fifth inning thanks to the mercy rule.

Many of the Jr. Bills’ runs scored because of Cleveland pitchers’ lack of control (12 walks). Four of the first five came home in exhilarating fashion, though, when junior designated hitter Kyle Brennan ripped a 3-2 delivery over the right-field fence for the first home run of the season—a grand slam.

Three pitchers, juniors Zach Villmer and A.J. Greiner and freshman Andrew Ostapowicz, combined to no-hit the Commanders. They struck out eight of the total 15 batters

faced, complementing the efforts of Brennan and the GrandSalamibills’ offense.

Belleville West traveled to campus the previous day for what was a closer contest. Junior pitcher Matt Holtshouser faced trouble early on after an error on the first play of the game. He calmly worked out of trouble, though, and did not surrender a hit until the fourth inning—the only hit against him through his six innings of shut-out baseball. He picked up the win as SLUH defeated the Illinoisans 6-0.

“Wow. Wow. Excellent. He was around the plate,” head coach Steve Nicollerat said of Holtshouser’s performance. “He had some great defense behind him, too, that day.”

Holtshouser indeed relied on his defense to get 16 of his 18 outs, and they turned in some spectacular plays. Third baseman

PHOTO BY WILL HARTZLER



Senior Andrew Balzer checks, kicks, and pitches strikes versus DeSoto.

David Eagleton made a Rolen-esque backhand stop and a long throw to first to open the top of third with an out. Junior shortstop Adam Belgeri followed with a leaping snag of his own. The GoldGlovebills turned two double plays, and an inning-ending 4-6-3 in the sixth featured a remarkable sliding stop by second basemen Joe Rabe.

The Jr. Bill offense took advantage of two walks and a fielding error to go up 3-0 in the second. They threatened again with two outs in

the third, with Belgeri on third and Kenny

see **JUPITER, 13**

Linharesbills face steeplechase en route to second place behind McCluer at Wash. U.

Matt Lawder
Reporter

With temperatures hovering at an astounding 75 degrees, SLUH set to work showing the field at Washington University last weekend that this year's team will be as powerful as last year's state championship squad.

The meet opened with the 4x800-meter relay, where the team of Nathan Banet, junior Mike McCafferty, sophomore David Kuciejczyk-Kernan, and freshman Caleb Ford raced to third place with a time of 8:30.39. Sophomore sprinter Ronnie Wingo soon followed with the year's first event victory, capturing the 100-meter dash in 10.88 seconds.

The meet continued at a painstakingly slow pace with an obscene number of heats for each event. After long deliberations, Matt Lawder stumbled onto the track to cruise to a second-place finish in 4:23 in the 1600. Next, the 4x100-meter relay squad of Ryan Bren-

nan, Kaelan Mayfield, junior Matt Miller, and Wingo sped to victory in 43.45. Brennan came back later with another good showing in the 400, placing fourth in 52.50.

In the 800, McCafferty raced again to points, this time edging into eighth place with a time of 2:06.95. Mayfield also returned to race the 200, scoring more points with a seven place finish in a time of 23.75.

Finally, the meet reached the premier event of the afternoon, the 2,000-meter steeplechase. A rarely seen event (this is the only time this year SLUH will race in this event), the steeplechase consists of five laps around the track with five large barriers spanning the lanes, which each racer must hurdle. In addition to the hurdle, there is a water pit that the racer must jump over after one of the hurdles.

Each year it is a sight to behold as athletes go crashing into the water, splashing the crowd. This year, the crowd was once again appeased, with a girl sinking almost fully

underneath the water and one boy tripping over the hurdle and face-planting into the pit. SLUH had two racers score: Sam Emery placed fifth in 6:59.13 and junior Steve Schumacher set the new school record with a third-place finish and a time of 6:58.38.

After the crowd had its appetite filled with the steeplechase, they received a nice dessert with the 3200. SLUH entered all freshmen into this varsity event, throwing them to the wolves to see how they would fare. Ford ran an amazing 10:17.71 for sixth place, followed closely by freshman Bill Gabler in eighth with a 10:20.85. Both times were just shy of SLUH's freshman record.

The meet concluded with SLUH finishing second behind McCluer.

Distance coach Joe Porter said after the meet, "It was an impressive showing this early in the year. I think we (should) take these results and we work with them and can really have a great squad by the end of the year. This team really shows promise."

Mimlitz drains threes in faculty/senior finale

Kevin Casey
Core Staff

More students than usual packed into the gym to watch the annual St. Louis U. High faculty vs. seniors basketball game on Friday, March 9. Although the game promised to be exciting—a promise the players of the game most certainly kept—students and teachers alike came to get a glimpse of P.E. teacher Joe Mimlitz, the unanimous star of the game.

After 29 years at SLUH, Mimlitz announced he will be retiring at the end of this school year. "I wanted to give him one last game," explained history teacher Dave Barton, who asked Mimlitz to play on the faculty team. "He's always been a favorite of the students and a lot of the faculty, too."

This was apparent for senior Joel Berger, who attended the game. "Probably (almost) everyone showed up just to see Mr. Mimlitz," Berger said. "It was kind of cool just to watch him; I'd never seen him play before. He's supposed to be a really good basketball

player, from what I've heard."

Simply "good" may be an understatement, though, as could be seen from watching the game. "In the warm-ups before the game started I think he made seven or eight three-pointers in a row," said Barton.

Sophomore Dave Blount reiterated this, saying, "(The game) was very entertaining, a lot of action going on. You had ... Mimlitz hitting threes like crazy. It was pretty good stuff."

Mimlitz hit two threes for six points

during the game, which the faculty won in the final minute.

Barton continued, "He's better than most of the (teachers), even now. He's definitely



P.E. teacher Joe Mimlitz steps on the court for the Faculty All Star basketball game to cheers from the faculty sections.

PHOTO BY ANTHONY SIGILITO

in better shape than many of us. He can still shoot the ball."

Despite the fact that he still plays basketball regularly in leagues, Mimlitz hadn't participated in the SLUH faculty-senior game in at least 15 years. "Years ago when I was

younger I played. We've got a lot of younger faculty, and they tend to play," Mimlitz explained. "You realize your age after see SMOKIN' JOE, 14

Two students reflect on Reynosa experiences

Drew Burkemper & Kevin Mueller
Reporters

Thursday morning I found myself lying across three 1x4s—Mexican wood—fifteen feet in the air, and I wondered why this had to be the windiest day of the week. What did we do to deserve this? Wind can snap whole trees apart, much less the warped, knotted wood I was on. Fighting this force in order to position a sheet of razor-sharp tin was not the most intelligent idea. But it was an amazing experience.

I learned to trust fellow builders Ryan Pliske, Kenny Gravlin, and Dominic Zanaboni while overcoming my fear of heights. Yeah, okay, we probably shouldn't have been on the roof to start. Still, I became closer to those three classmates in one day than I had in four years. We became a team. Each person knew what to do when and how to do it. I held the top of the sheet as Ryan drilled the lower screws and Kenny handed us drills. We would then maneuver across and attach the next sheet. After we finished with some added help from Joel Schmidt, I looked at the fruit of our efforts. What was a pile of lumber three days earlier was now a house, and tomorrow we would make it into a home.

This was something. Many people talk about finding God through the people; well, I found Him through building that house. A group not exactly adept at building constructed a house from plywood and 2x4s and walked away with minimal injuries after following directions that were often incorrect. It certainly was not all our doing (although Ryan and I will take all the credit thrown our way)—it was God's. He worked through everyone.

By the second day, we all had our roles. Mr. Bommarito, Kenny, and Mr. Preis could straighten the curved plywood (this Mexican wood was tricky stuff) to make a wall flush with the frame of the house with best of them; Alex, Zak, Joey, and Mrs. McCollom owned the paint; Matt Rice was filming our every move and just being strong; and we all could measure and hammer with decent skill.

Our group, the blue team, was one unit, working with one another towards a common goal: building a house. The four of us on that roof was an extension of that unit, a unit formed out of necessity and made possible by the grace of God. It was pretty dominant.

This was my second year on the mission trip. When I returned home last year, I found myself questioning the impact of what we had just done. Honestly, does one house in one small, dirt-poor village make a difference? This year, I received my answer.

Late Friday morning, after our home was completed and dedicated, six of us returned to the site where we built last year. Our family had added an extension to their home, but the main building had remained untouched. We were immediately welcomed with immense hospitality and gratitude. The mother brought out pictures from last year, and we joked and reminisced for a few moments. Paul Merrill gave Gladys, the seventeen-year-old daughter, a rose because we all knew that he was her favourite from their relationship the year before. Looking around the house, we saw how our building was holding up (very well) as well as the plaque we had given the family last year, which still hung in a prominent spot.

While talking to the family, we learned that the mother has tumors and arthritis. This struck a chord with me because my grandmother is currently battling cancer. Realizing that my situation and the situation of a family in this colonia were nearly identical gave me a new frame of mind. For the first time, I really saw how similar we are, because our families are going through similar things.

Before we left, the mother told us several times how much the house meant to her, and that she prayed for us every day. Last year, fourteen strangers came into her life for four days, and she still remembers our names and prays for us each day. That is cool. That is the impact we had on this family. That moment in our reunion was the highlight of the trip for me, and left me with no doubt of the impact we had on the lives of the people in the colonia.

—Drew Burkemper

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While in Reynosa Mexico for SLUH's annual spring break mission trip, I was trying to find out what exactly was pulling me there. As one of only three freshmen on the trip, I went into this experience with an open attitude. I signed up last October to assist in building a house for a family in need in an area with nothing. The thing is, I didn't know exactly why I felt the call to go there. It all finally started to make sense as we pulled into the actual building site, a trash dump renovated into a settlement of makeshift houses known in the area as "the colonia."

Along with the garbage, terrible stench, and the most disgusting looking dogs I've ever seen, the colonia was also filled with a large, happy, faith-centered community of people. The time in between actually constructing the houses was spent playing with the children of the colonia. Although I spoke no Spanish prior to the trip, I soon realized that the universal language of the smile was the most important form of communication between two people.

Out of all the children I interacted with while in Mexico, I felt a very special connection with an eight-year-old boy named Irvin. Like most of the boys in the area, he loved soccer. Though it was something very simple, I instantly found something I had in common with him through our interest in the sport. Though we couldn't understand a word the other was saying, we were able to laugh and form what I believe to be a real friendship. Going into this, I figured playing with the kids would be a real bonus to the actual building, but I never actually expected to form a relationship with one of them.

The ability to form a friendship and connect with someone, though not being able to speak understandably to each other, I believe, is one of the most fascinating gifts we've been given. After understanding this, I realized my calling for the trip. I wasn't called on this mission simply to help the people of Reynosa, but also to discover myself and the great blessing of a human being's ability to interact and love with anyone they come into contact with—something that will stay with me forever.

—Kevin Mueller

TUITION

(from 1)

noted that Vision 2000 comes from an entirely separate pool of funds and has no relation to the tuition increase.

Laughlin is proud that SLUH has increased next year's financial aid budget 19 percent, from \$925,000 this year to \$1.1 million next year.

"That (increase) is based on budgetary decisions," Laughlin said. "We want to continue to be as aggressive as possible in offering as much financial aid as we're able to, and still operate a program at a quality level for schools. It's a triangle of sorts: you've got tuition, you've got the program you want to offer, and you've got the financial assistance that's a proud tradition here. So I think our board and our administration has worked very hard ... to try to start making some different decisions about how much

financial aid we're going to allocate."

Laughlin called the aid increase "a proactive step, not a reactive step"—that is, the increase is not a response to worries from parents about paying tuition.

Assistant Principal for Academics Mark Michalski, as well as Admissions Director Craig Hannick, say that there are no more people than usual who are deciding SLUH is unaffordable to them, regardless of the tuition increase. Both stressed that admissions are need blind, and the 19 percent increase in tuition assistance will help meet even more families' needs.

Even with the tuition increase, there is a \$3,700 gap between the cost of educating one student and his tuition.

Laughlin also said that SLUH charges less in additional hidden fees that many other schools do, including technology and

licensing fees, despite the "proliferation of technology" at SLUH.

"I think if there were someone else who's at four figures, and we're at five figures ... some of that is what you mail off in a letter on paper, and then there's the reality of what you pay. I'm proud of what we have to offer, and that's the economy in which we have to offer it."

Finally, Laughlin emphasized the value of a SLUH education in terms of the 19 Advanced Placement courses offered. He said that 70 percent of last year's graduating class used at least some of their AP credit. This amounts to "thousands of dollars" of savings on college from using AP credit, according to Laughlin.

BIG TOP

(from 2)

baskets put together by homeroom moms and donated by students and their families.

Cashbah doesn't come without a cost, and this year's expenditures are estimated somewhere between \$80,000-\$90,000. However, "that's just a drop in the bucket compared to the amount the auction actually raises," said Digman. Cashbah, with the help of hundreds of parent, alumni, corporate, and student volunteers, raises hundreds of thousands of dollars for SLUH each year. Some of this money comes simply from donations made during an intermission in the oral auction. The money collected goes to many things, including scholarships.

Work on Cashbah started just days after the end of last year's auction. However, Reedy and Aston, along with the help of SLUH father Kent Newbold and alumnus Mark Montavanti, '72, did not take control until September. Working for hours in SLUH's basement, Reedy and Aston said that hosting Cashbah "is a full work day, basically a full-time job." Along with these parent volunteers, hundreds of parents and alumni have come in—some almost full time, others when they can—to create a productive and entertaining night.

The big top will be filled to capacity this year. "We are busting the doors down. We are sold out and at capacity," said Vice President for Advancement Thom Digman. Nearly 850 parents and alumni are thought to be attending this year's fundraiser.

STADIUM

(from 1)

in the fall of 2005.

Sheridan's successor, David Laughlin, persuaded Sheridan to attend the dedication at a president's conference in January, under the auspices that Sheridan had been a baseball coach and that he was the driving force behind the Vision 2000 expansion program, of which the stadium is a part; however, Laughlin didn't tell Sheridan the stadium was being named after him. (Invitations sent to select members of the school community said that Sheridan was unaware the stadium would be named after him.)

Laughlin, who said that the dedication is "probably the worst-kept secret," told Sheridan of the ceremony's purpose last week so that the former president could prepare remarks for tonight.

Varsity baseball coach Steve Nicollerat said that as a coach, Sheridan "brought a real sense of importance and a real sense of appreciation" to the baseball program.

"Anytime the President takes time out of his schedule to teach a class"—Sheridan taught a unit of freshman theology while at SLUH—"and to coach," Nicollerat said, "I think that gives him a real appreciation for what a teacher does on a daily basis."

Both Laughlin and Nicollerat said that tonight's ceremony is about more than just baseball. "It's to honor someone who inspired

the mission of the school," Laughlin said.

The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 6:15, although this time is subject to change, as it is between the games of tonight's doubleheader and doesn't account for extra innings. Tom Cummings, S.J., will bless the stadium, and Laughlin will preside as master of ceremonies.

The ceremony will culminate with the unveiling of a new scoreboard in the stadium's right field, with the stadium's new name on top. Director of Facilities Patrick Zarrick estimated the scoreboard's cost at about \$30,000. Laughlin said that the ceremony would be much simpler than October's dedication of the Drury Plaza, which featured a thunderous fireworks display. Sheridan will throw out the first pitch of the second game, which will commence around 7 p.m.

The ceremony intentionally coincides with the preview party for Saturday night's Cashbah auction. The party will double as the reception for the ceremony, and Digman said that he expects about 250-300 guests on hand for the dedication, including fans, invitees, and preview party attendees. In case of inclement weather, Digman said that the ceremony will be moved into the gym, where the scoreboard's unveiling will be viewed via closed-circuit television.

Ultimatebills overcome bad calls, missing players to start 3-0

Matt Hubbard
Photography Editor

The St. Louis University High Ultimate Frisbee team started its season by going 3-0 in their first three weeks.

The Frizzbills faced Marquette High School team first. Last year, the Marquette team crushed the Jr. Bills and went undefeated in five games. Luckily for the Ultimatebills, Marquette lost most of its star players to graduation, and the Jr. Bills were able to win 15-8.

Near the end of the game Marquette became desperate and began making questionable calls, since the game is self-refereed, including a call that robbed a touchdown from junior Kevin Grosch.

Later, captain Andrew Austermann made a dazzling sliding catch that carried him out of bounds. The Ultimate rule is that if the first impact is inbounds, then the catch is fair. Another Marquette player attempted to call Austermann out, but Austermann wouldn't let that fly and called himself in.

In week two of the Jr. Bills' Ultimate season, they went up against the Francis Howell Central (FHC) JV team. This game required the team to trek out to St. Charles. Team captain Matt Hubbard showed up a half-hour before game time, but it was ten minutes after game time before he was finally joined by enough players for a starting lineup. FHC could have begun assessing points for the Huck'n'runbills' tardiness but decided to give the Bills a little clemency. For the few points, the Jr. Bills had to play "savage," or without subs, until two more players showed up to relieve some of the thirsty players.

Despite the lack of subs (FHC had over ten subs) and the heavy winds that tossed the disc around, the Discbills won 15-4.

The third week of the season set the Undefeatedbills against Kirkwood High School's team. The game took place on the new soccer field. The game seemed to be a polar opposite to the FHC game as the Jr. Bills had over ten subs and Kirkwood played

with only one, but the game ended with the same outcome as the week before, as SLUH won, this time with a score of 15-5.

Team moderator Tom Broekelmann commented, "This year

we're getting a lot of help from some fairly inexperienced players. They've been able to pick up the fundamentals of the game and provide great support for our more seasoned players."



Senior Kevin Stephenson breaks the loose Cup defense thrown by the Marquette team.

TQBills sink Pirates' ship

Rory Faust
Reporter

The Jr. Billiken volleyball squad trekked to Pattonville to take on the Pirates this Wednesday. In their season opener, the Jr. Bills easily handled the Pirates in a two game, 25-14, 25-16 match, despite not playing their best volleyball.

Leading the team to victory were sophomore Mike Adams and junior Pete Hock, with eight kills each, and junior setter Justin Cole, who had 24 assists.

The team looks to improve on teamwork and match intensity as the season progresses. With development in these two areas, they can become the dominant team in the region.

Next week the Jr. Bills play three games in a row, starting on Monday against Chaminate, with the home opener on Wednesday the 4th versus Parkway Central.

Druids claim Priory tourney title

Andrew Puliam
Reporter

The St. Louis Druids, including 10 starters from St. Louis U. High, has had a very successful season to date. Comprised of students from SLUH, Vianney, CBC, and DuBourg, the Druids are led by senior captains Ryan McDonald and Dan Wachter.

The season started off with the Priory tournament. The Druids, not letting the harsh conditions impair their game, beat the Chaminate/Kirkwood team to face Priory in the finals. The Druids had beaten Priory in pre-season play, but they proved to be a much tougher team than before. Thanks to great defense, and a very long run from Vianney's Pat Ryan, the Druids clinched the championship, starting off the season on the right track.

The next game was against Eureka. Playing in conditions as terrible as those

at the Priory tournament, the Druids found themselves fighting for every yard. With mud up to the ankles engulfing most of the field, getting the ball out to the backs for long runs proved very difficult, and the offense relied on short runs.

SLUH senior Adam Hilterbrand, nothing short of a brick wall, has not only been a strong presence on defense, bringing down anything that comes near him, but has also been a tremendous help on offense, driving through hordes of players and being key to short field gains. Eureka fell to the Druids 12-5, giving the Druids an undefeated record in the opening weekend.

Nick Godfrey said confidently about the rest of the season, "We're going undefeated."

The next game showed the potential of the Druids. Following a tough game against Eureka, the Druids steamrolled the Chami

see **THYROID, 14**

PN dominates in baseball

Michael Kirner
Reporter

The STUCO vs. PN baseball game was played on the football field on the last Tuesday of the 3rd Quarter in front of a very small crowd. The game started out in a fierce deadlock that only a rivalry of this magnitude could generate. While PN frequently found the ball slipping from their fingers into the hands of STUCO, STUCO found it difficult to capitalize on their early opportunities. It was a while into the half before Jim Heafner, leader of the senior class and sworn slayer of PN, broke through the wall of Matt Hubbard for the first goal of the day. PN followed up with a quick transitional offense, quickly passing the ball into STUCO territory before STUCO was set on defense. Nevertheless the speed of defenders Paul “feral” Merrill and Chris deDominate caught the snooze editor Charlie Landis and tagged him before his throw, thus rendering his would-be goal useless, and leaving the score 1-0 at the half.

Really the PN didn't stand a chance and was lucky to hang so close to the greatness

Lacrosse defeats Wentzville

Austin Klages, Sean Landgraf
Reporters

On Wednesday, March 14, the Jr. Bills started off their lacrosse season with a shutout conference victory against Wentzville. Junior Jack Reichenbach led the team in goals, scoring four against the Indians. Goals were scored by several other team members, including captain Paul Heffernan, making the final score 16-0. SLUH's defense shut down Wentzville, allowing them to have only two shots against goalie Zach Schmuke.

Though they have only played one game, SLUH is ranked number one in Missouri by laxpower.com. With the proper motivation and leadership, the team can go all the way.

See page 14 for results of last night's game against the Gray's Lake Rams.

of STUCO for so long. STUCO came off the sidelines with a fresh torrent to break PN for good. The brothers Heafner contributed more goals to STUCO, with help from Matt “the sniper” Rice and a self bash from Paul Merrill (which doesn't actually count as 2 points, it's really just more insight into the control of the game that STUCO held). Yes, PN did end up breaking the shutout with a 3 vs. 2 break away in the 2nd half, but while Tom O'Keefe may think he's slipped a goal past the grizzly Michael Kirner, everyone else knows he was tagged, twice, and only one goal that counted got into STUCO's net.

Like any STUCO vs. PN baseball game harsh words and aggression were abundant, but kept civilized. After all it's just a game, right? Not exactly. So much hinges on these bragging rights games that it isn't allowed to go down without some type of

drama. In the end some said the score was 6-1 STUCO, others 9-1 STUCO, still other extremist PNers will go with 4-2 STUCO. The important thing is the common ground amongst these different scores. STUCO won, and always will.

PHOTO BY WILL HARTZLER



Just as the gallant and dashing Spartan king Leonidas staved off the savage attacks of the animalistic Persian hordes in the modern cinematic classic 300, so Prep News Editor Charlie Landis (with beautifully flowing locks, center) holds off the STUCO mob, who didn't even have the decency to wear shirts.

Tennis wins opener over Clayton, 6-1

Nathaniel Hogrebe
Reporter

The St. Louis U. High tennis team opened its 2007 season with confidence on Wednesday with a 6-1 victory over the perpetually tough Clayton squad.

Abe Souza began the day with a 6-0, 6-1 win over Clayton's top player. Nathaniel Hogrebe and sophomore Gabe Vitale quickly followed with a straight set doubles victory after falling behind 4-1 in the first set.

The rest of the team, however, experienced a bit more trouble with their Clayton opponents. Freshman Joe Murphy-Baum lost his singles debut in straight sets while the Tennisbills split sets in each of the remaining four matches.

Displaying their mental toughness, the top two doubles teams fought back to clinch the two remaining points needed to defeat

the Clayton team.

The Federerbills did not stop there, claiming the two remaining singles matches in three sets.

The highlight of the day came during a marathon match lasting two and a half hours when A.J. Koller came from a 5-0 deficit in the third set to win 6-4, 1-6, 7-6.

The tennis team continues its quest today at 4 when it battles McCluer North at Dwight Davis Tennis Center in Forest Park.

Quote of the Week

“Life is to be lived, not controlled; and humanity is won by continuing to play in the face of certain defeat.”

— Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*

First-ever SLUH student exchange to China

Special to the *Prep News*

Zach Linneman, Kris Sirevaag, Matt Venker

Editor's note: Our school has hosted Chinese foreign exchange students from the Nanjing Foreign Languages School for ten years. This year, for the first time, Dr. Ching-Ling Tai led three students on a two-week trip to this school to make the exchange program mutual. Dr. Tai already organizes and leads a bi-annual trip to China during the summer, but her newly created one is oriented around studying rather than tourism; students were not allowed to speak English and lived with a Chinese host family for the duration of the trip.

In line with Dr. Tai's famously strict and academic demeanor, we went to school six days out of the week, with half-days on Saturdays but most days until 5:00 p.m. This is the normal schedule at "Nan Wai" (Nanjing Foreign Languages School's nickname.) We attended classes ranging from Ancient Chinese Literature to Chinese Opera Class, which had its very own French-, Italian-, English-, Chinese-speaking opera-singing teacher. We also visited famous historical sites in Nanjing, such as Confucius' Temple and the Presidential Palace, led by Chinese students

Learning

occurred outside the classroom as well. It had to. Every meal and social interaction was a small Chinese quiz. After a few days, we all had an "A" in using Kuai Zi (chopsticks). One day, Zach was dropped off by the bus, alone, nearly, he felt, a mile from his host-family's house. When he finally made it back, his host father informed him that there was a second apartment with the same name as the one that he had scribbled in his little notepad.

All of our host families had very comfortable rooms for us, but we had to get used to Chinese beds. Chinese believe that for good posture the mattresses should be a hard plank of wood. Kris said that he woke up that first morning cold, still tired, and stiff from the fourteen hour plane ride and the hard bed. By the end of the trip we became used to the bed more.

Breakfast in China was very different. We were given more than one sees on a table for breakfast. In fact, every meal we were always given too much to eat. No matter how much we ate our host families always seemed to have more and more. We also tried many

new dishes. Including fish heads, Chinese chicken noodle soup (that had mushrooms instead of noodles and a whole chicken feet and all in the bowl), and roadside Chinese barbecue. The roadside food is the Chinese equivalent to fast food, it's no good for you but it tastes really good.

Each day in China was different. One day we went ice skating in an Olympic Center, the next we were in Chinese physics class.

Although we never took a test, got a grade, or did any homework we did try to understand the students and teachers. After all, the reason we went to China in the first place was to study and improve our Chinese.

The biggest difference in everyday life was the traffic on the streets. Every day Matt and Kris took the bus and Zach rode a bike to and from school. No students had cars, only bikes. The streets were always full of people. Cars drove fast and wove between other cars while people on bikes expertly navigated through the crowds. The crowds were also huge. Imagine after a Cardinals' game when everyone is trying to get out of the stadium at once, now visualize that everywhere all the time. That is China.

Matt stated that before our trip, it was impossible to imagine what living in China for two weeks could possibly be like; not only had he never been out of the country prior to the day we left, but he had never even seen pictures of what Nanjing looked like.

When we arrived he was more or less blown away by how beautiful

China is, and how different city life in Nanjing is compared to St. Louis. Instead of walking down barren streets in St. Louis, you would pass by dozens of trees and flowers every city block, not to mention the scenic rivers flowing in and out of the city, and the mountains just outside the city. The city itself was also rather impressive. Not only are there plenty of ancient structures remaining from the Ming dynasty (and some parts even before that) to give you a chance to see historical parts of China, but also more modernized places to have fun. Even the days we didn't take any trips, but rather spent all day in class, were interesting and fun.

By the end of the trip we were telling jokes in Chinese and citing appropriate Cheng Yu (Chinese idioms). Zach felt especially proud of his Chinese when he was able to come up with an idiom while out to a fancy dinner the last night in Nanjing: "Chi de ku zhong ku, fang wei ren shang ren" (literally, "Once you have experienced the bitterness among all bitterness, you will become a person above people"). We were eating a chicken dish seasoned with Chinese vinegar!

The two weeks seemed to pass by like two days. We had only just arrived and began understanding Chinese culture before we



Senior Zach Linneman rings a large bell during the China trip.

PHOTO USED WITH PERMISSION FROM ZACH LINNEMAN

(from 3)

boundary between those two (classes). I know we have kids on the low end of income, (and) we have lots of families at the top end probably, and I would think the average is more so on the border between middle class and the upper middle class.”

Science teacher Charlie Busenhart said, “If middle class is based upon the percentage of income earned in the United States I would say we have more people in the *upper* middle class than we had in the past.”

According to Baudendistel, “The student body is definitely more affluent than it was 15 or 20 years ago.”

Santel said, “Generally, everyone is more wealthy (now) than back when I was a kid (in 1976).” In 1976, tuition was \$700, which translates to \$2533.80 in today’s dollars. Said Santel, “(The tuition then) was quite a stretch. ... It’s never been cheap.” He said of the current economic makeup of SLUH compared to 1976: “I think it’s similar.” He also said, “I hope (SLUH) is for all classes ... I hope it’s for lower income, middle income, ... I wouldn’t call it a rich kids school.”

Houlihan said of SLUH trending more towards the upper class, “It’s very difficult to explain, are there differences (in class) today? I have a gut feeling that there are, because I think it is true that we’re squeezing the middle class.”

Houlihan proposed that SLUH raise the tuition for every student to the actual cost of attending, and then offer all of the money generated by the endowment as aid for those who need it. “Obviously, do the math, you’ve got 1000 people, (and) at 3600 bucks (the subsidy that each student currently receives from the endowment) a pop, that’s a lot of money. Now, what if (all of) that money were available for scholarship? Would that change the nature of the school?”

Houlihan explained that charging the entire cost to everyone would allow for those who could pay more to actually pay the entire cost. Adding the additional \$3,600 subsidy from every student would also increase the amount of money available for aid, allowing more families who could not afford \$13,000 or \$10,000 to receive more aid. “I’m not saying that’s the (entire) solution,” he added.

Houlihan said of his proposal, “I think it would squeeze the middle class less, (but) you’ve got issues there (where) some people might not want to take aid; they want to pay their own way.”

Busenhart mentioned that in his experience on the budget committee, families were sometimes reluctant to take aid from the school because of a “pride factor.”

According to Assistant Principal for Academics Mark Michalski, who coordinates work grant and financial aid for students, \$975,000 of aid was given out to students this year. He said that recently, there have been “fewer students who qualify for aid” than in the past. Normally, the average rate of students who receive aid is around 25 percent; this year it is 22 percent. However, Michalski said that there is “no significant change in the type of student that’s applying for financial assistance,” and that there is “great socio-economic diversity” at SLUH.

Michalski said that from his viewpoint, he cannot detect a class shift at SLUH. According to Michalski, “We run the continuum here.”

Director of Admissions Craig Hannick also said that he has not seen a significant shift in the wealth of the pool of applicants.

Said Digman, “We continually make the statement and we stand by the statement that if a young man is academically qualified to come here we will work like crazy to make sure that it is affordable for that family, and we provide significant amount of financial assistance in order to help those families that are struggling to try to afford an education at St. Louis U. High.”

He added that V2K does not make attending SLUH more expensive. “There’s a supposition that what were doing through V2K elevates us into a higher bracket. That’s not the case,” Digman said.

Santel said that the new facilities are not meant to be used by just wealthy students, because, “It’s not just wealthy kids who want nice things.” He also mentioned that during previous expansions at SLUH, such as the addition of the library, gym, and theater, there were always people who thought the new buildings were too expensive or unnecessary.

A quote from former SLUH president Robert Costello (1992-1997) used to appear on the SLUH website. Costello stated that his proudest moment as president was handing a diploma at graduation to the son of one of St. Louis’s wealthiest executives and then to the son of a cab driver. This quote no longer appears on SLUH’s homepage. With the current changes to the school, has this balance of cab driver’s sons and executive’s sons shifted? Will the new V2K facilities already in place, as well as the Student Life Center, change this demographic even more? As the wealth gap in the world widens and the middle class slowly shrinks, it is important that SLUH, a school committed to social justice, remains a place known for its academic excellence for all classes, not its multi-million dollar facilities.

SCHUMACHER

(from 2)

the Jesuits. I’ve been thinking about that for a couple of years and been asking the Jesuits here (at SLUH), and I think that would be the place for me.”

Schumacher has embraced the idea of college, as he visited nine different schools over spring break. Among these schools, he cited the University of Notre Dame, Washington University in St. Louis, and the University of Chicago as the frontrunners, as well as Vanderbilt University, which he has yet to visit. Schumacher has also looked at Ivy League schools.

Schumacher said, “The problem is that almost none of those schools give academic scholarships and they’re all really expensive.”

Hal Deuser (former SLUH dad) from Commerce Bank will be here next Tuesday, April 3 to educate anyone interested—including parents or alums—on various college savings plans at 3:15 in the Currigan Room.

March 30, 2007

JUPITER

(from 5)

at first. Nicollerat called the forced balk, in which Aston attempted to catch the pitcher off-guard (and thus force a balk, which would allow Belgeri to score) by leaving for second while the pitcher was still on the mound. No balk was called, and Belleville tagged Belgeri in a rundown for the final out. Nicollerat, though, saw a balk and argued the call—but to no avail.

After a Belleville pitching change to start the fifth, Eagleton lined a single on his first pitch, starting a rally that brought home three more for the Ecksteinbills. Catcher Josh Cole earned two of the RBIs by curling a double inside the left-field line.

Rain postponed the Sheridanbills' Friday game against DeSoto, resulting in a double-header last Saturday: the make-up versus DeSoto and a previously-scheduled match-up with McCluer North. On a perfect day to play two, the Jr. Bills defeated DeSoto 12-5 and closed the evening with an 8-0 win over McCluer.

In game one, the Louisville Sluggerbills jumped out early, scoring five runs on five hits in the bottom of the first. Rabe ignited the rally with a lead-off walk, and off-the-wall doubles by Brennan and junior Dan James kept the fire burning.

DeSoto became the first team to score off SLUH in the top of the third with a string of three hits on Andrew Balzer. The Omahabills replied with two of their own in the bottom of the frame, highlighted by Brennan's second extra-base hit of the day—an RBI triple over the center fielder's head.

DeSoto lingered, however, and managed three more runs in their half of the fifth, thanks largely to two walks from junior pitcher Chris Drete and a throwing error by Eagleton. Again the Jr. Bills fired back, though, posting a five on the scoreboard in the bottom of the inning. DeSoto errors facilitated the rally, which climaxed as Eagleton avenged his fielding error with a base-clearing, 3-RBI triple to left-center. The C++bills held on for the 12-5 win.

The Stars of McCluer North seemed to pose the first real threat to SLUH, as they became the only team (so far) to hold SLUH scoreless through at least two innings. In fact, Stars' pitcher Zack Doyle kept SLUH at bay for 3 1/3 innings, escaping jams with well-

timed strikeouts in the second and third. In the fourth, though, pinch hitter Jason Bradley hit a two-run single to put SLUH ahead and drive Doyle from the game.

Valiant as Doyle's effort was, he could not approach Gabe Pilla's dominance on the mound. Pilla surrendered only two hits and a walk through his six innings of work, dimming the Stars on a beautiful Saturday night.

"(Pilla was) excellent," Nicollerat said. "We made a (pitch-selection) adjustment after the first inning. ... I thought that helped, but Gabe was the one who had to do it. He's out there on the mound; he's making the pitches. He kept the ball extremely low, and Josh (Cole) called a nice game."

The Los Angeles AngelsofAnaheimbills blew the game open in the fifth, putting up five runs in inning five for the second time of the day. Brennan continued his hot night with a two-run double right on the right-field line, and Belgeri added his own RBI double. Eagleton crushed a 2-2 pitch to deep center, just missing a dinger, but had to settle for a sac fly and an RBI.

Nicollerat commented on Brennan's success in the DH spot: "Wow, he's popping the ball. He's really hitting the ball hard. He's a really big bat in our offense."

The American Familybills tacked on one more run for good measure in the sixth, completing the 8-0 shutout.

SLUH opened their 2007 season on a cold, rainy Tuesday not fit for spring break as Gateway Tech visited on Mar. 20. Pilla started on the mound and appeared in trouble, loading the bases with two outs. He managed the key inning-ending K, though, and SLUH tyrannically controlled the game thereafter.

In an eternal bottom of the first, 13 bases on balls helped the Walkmehomebills to a 17-run frame—a tally so huge it did not come close to fitting under the "1" column on the scoreboard in right center. SLUH scored seven more in the bottom of the second, this time based mostly on their three doubles and three singles. (There were two more walks, for the record.) Gateway somehow managed to hold the Doubledigitbills to a goose egg in the third, but the 24-0 damage was so bad that Nicollerat surrendered SLUH's at-bat in the bottom of the fourth, allowing Gateway

to hit for six straight outs. The result was a quick 1-2-3-4-5-6 "inning" and the end of a painstaking game to watch, thanks to the mercy rule.

In going 5-0, the SLUH pitching staff has been impressive, surrendering just five runs in five games for a 1.13 team ERA. "Our pitching has been around the plate, and they're changing speeds well," Nicollerat said. "If you don't walk anybody, and you're not making any errors, they've got to get three hits to get a run. And there've been two or three or four innings where they've had two hits, but they haven't got the third one. And that's what we've got to be able to do ... make the other team string together three hits."

Even after a quick start, Nicollerat still looks to improve. "It's a long season," he said. "We can get better everyday. Every time we go out to practice is a chance to get better."

The Jr. Bills resume play tonight as they host the SLUH Classic. The game will start after SLUH dedicates the stadium to former president and C-baseball coach Paul Sheridan, S.J. The tournament continues tomorrow, with SLUH's games at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon.

OFF THE DEEP END

(from 5)

Heafner commented, "We look forward to new competition in Chicago. Latin School of Chicago should be a very tough game."

On Tues., Apr. 3, the Jr. Bills will play one of the more important games of the season when they face off against the talented DeSmet Spartans at 7 p.m. at Chaminade. It will be a good indicator for how the rest of the season will go, and it will be a game the Jr. Bills will need to win. Please come Tuesday and cheer the Jr. Bills on against these talented rivals.

PN Nightbeat

The Volleyballbills defeated Oakville 25-16, 25-21 last night. The team was able to come out strong and maintain high intensity throughout the match. Junior Pete Hock had ten kills and Rory Faust contributed nine kills. Tyler Caldwell finished the match with a decisive kill.

Calendar

Mar. 30 - Apr. 13

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Schedule R
 Sr. Class Liturgy
 IM Kball- F/Soph/Jr
 Cashbah Preview Party
 V BB SLUH Classic, 4:30 pm
 V TN vs. McCluer North, 4 pm
 V WP Schaumburg Invitational in Chicago
 Tator Tots, Brunch (Biscuits/Gravy,
 French Toast, Eggs), Funnel Cakes

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Cashbah
 V BB SLUH Classic @ SLUH, 10am/
 12:30 pm
 V WP Schaumburg Invitational in Chicago

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Palm Sunday
 Junior Kairos Retreat
 April Fools

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Schedule R
 IM F/Sr Kball
 V Golf vs. Westminster @ Glen Echo,
 3:40 pm
 V/JV TN vs. Marquette, 4 pm
 V WP vs. John Burroughs, 4 pm
 V/JV VB vs. Chaminade @ Chaminade,
 5/6 pm
 Pretzels, Chicken Rings

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Schedule R
 IM Sr Kball
 College Rep (sign up in counseling office):
 Louisiana State University @ Jr/Sr
 Lunch
 V BB vs. DuBourg, 4:30 pm
 C BB vs. DuBourg @ Affton, 4:15 pm
 V Golf vs. DeSmet @ Forest Park,
 3:30 pm

JV Golf vs. DeSmet @ Creve Coeur,
 3:30 pm
 JV T&F vs. DeSmet & CBC @ DeSmet,
 4 pm
 V/JV WP vs. DeSmet @ Chaminade,
 7/8 pm
 V/JV VB vs. Parkway West @ Parkway
 West, 4/5 pm
 Nachos, Sandwich by Inch

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Schedule R
 Fr English Tutorial
 Jr Class Lit
 Parent-Teacher Conf (by appointment
 only)
 C BB vs. Whitfield, 4:15 pm
 V T&F Webster Invitational @ Hixon Jr.
 High, 4 pm
 V/JV VB vs. Parkway Central, 4/5 pm
 Pizza Sticks, Tony's Pizza/Lil' Charlies

SMOKIN' JOE

(from 6)
 in something like that."

Mimlitz not only started in the game, but he also scored the first basket, putting one more through the net later on. Even with his skill on the court, the seniors proved to be a close match for the TeacherBills.

The game went back and forth between the teams, but in the end the faculty pulled through and won "just narrowly," according to Berger. "We almost had them this year, we almost had them."

"I was honestly afraid we were going to lose," admitted Barton. The game wasn't clinched until history teacher Brock Kesterson made a steal at the half-court, allowing computer teacher Tim Rittenhouse to make the game-winning shot with three seconds left. "It was a thrilling victory," Barton added.

"Honestly, I thought the seniors played very well," said Mimlitz. "I was really impressed. They could have won that game. If we'd have had another half I'm not sure we would have won."

He continued, "It's really a big game, I think, for seniors. I think we overlook the fact of the students. (The teachers) are there every year. I think it's important that the students get to play in something like that.

"I really appreciate the (faculty) asking me to play. It's nice that people came out there, like the students themselves that day. I didn't have a chance to thank people for that. That's as nice a thing as I've ever had done to me at St. Louis U. High, and I'm really grateful for that. It meant an awful lot to me."

It's moments like this, of his generous appreciation, that have made Mimlitz, as Barton put it, "a favorite of the students and the faculty."

"I've really, really enjoyed St. Louis U. High. It's really been fun, it's not like going to work. The people (I have) worked with, the students—it's a great place. I've taught in seven high schools—I changed jobs right and left, mainly for coaching reasons—and I stayed at this one for 29 years for a reason."

"He's got heart," concluded Blount on Mimlitz and the basketball game. "It was good to see him out there."

For those of you who missed the game, it will be featured on YouTube in the next couple of weeks.

PN Nightbeat

Despite two goals from Sam Lay, the St. Louis U. High Lacrosse team fell to the Gray's Lake Rams last night, 5-3. The Rams scored four unanswered goals, and two crucial ones in the fourth quarter, to seal the win.

THYROID

(from 9)

nade/Kirkwood team, 37-0. The experienced team, with 12 senior starters out of 15 total positions, received four tries (touchdowns) from McDonald and received a try from the unstoppable Bryan Warner.

The following week, the Druids played their biggest rival in the area, DeSmet. McDonald gave the Druids their only try of the game, which turned out to be a predominantly defensive battle. The Druids defense was able to hold DeSmet at only one kick, successfully keeping them out of the try zone. Many times throughout the game, DeSmet was only yards away from scoring, but was driven back time and time again.

McDonald commented, "We are an experienced team," and that experience certainly paid off in this grueling match, filled with great defensive plays from every position.

In what turned out to be another tough game, the Druids beat Francis Howell 6-5, receiving all six points on two kicks from Godfrey.

One of the reasons the Druids have been so successful this year, has been the ability to strike from many positions. The next game for the Druids is today at 4:30 at the Forest Park Jewel Box fields.