



Committee evaluates seven period day

Timo Kim, Kyle Kloster
Core Staff

In theology classes throughout this week, St. Louis U. High students have completed surveys concerning the seven period day. The survey is part of a larger general poll of the SLUH community's opinion evaluating the seven period schedule.

In August 2000, SLUH instituted the current seven period class schedule with the hope of remedying the rigidity of the former six period schedule and better serving a new curriculum. After recommending the change, the committee that introduced the seven period day had agreed that after a period of time the seven period

day would be evaluated.

This year, with a new North Central Accreditation in progress, the Scheduling Committee has assembled and begun this assessment of the current schedule. The North Central Accreditation is a periodic reevaluation which schools complete to ensure the effectiveness of their education. Recent faculty, parent, and student surveys all attempt to gather information to further this evaluation process, focusing on finding a consensus on the overall benefit or hindrance to SLUH students.

Written by committee members English teacher Steve Missey and ceramics teacher Mary Whealon, the teacher survey asked the faculty how the new schedule had impacted teaching methods and

the learning environment.

"Ideally, the schedule of the school reflects its mission (and) its goals, so you want a schedule ... to encourage that, ... but the flipside is if you change the schedule, you're changing the emphasis," said Missey. "The question is, how does it change and, from a teacher's perspective, how do they perceive that change?"

Overall, teachers did not notice a large change in either student performance or their own performance as a result of the seven period schedule. Moreover, although they supported the increase both in student responsibility and flexibility for their time management that the seventh period brings, they had to sacrifice

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Fine Arts Show

PHOTO BY MATT SCIUTO



Juniors Rob Livergood and Josh Rockers and senior Paul Niehaus perform Beethoven's Ninth Symphony during last weekend's Christmas show. The show also featured dancing by dance classes and a performance by the SLUH Chorus.

Swimming, H₂O polo to switch seasons

Tim Huether
Sports Editor

Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) will move the boys' water polo season from the fall to the spring, the boys' swimming season from the winter to the fall, and the girls' swimming season from the spring to the winter. The decision was suggested for approval by MSHSAA's Swimming Committee in June of 2003.

MSHSAA discussed the resolution in its area meetings last January. MSHSAA see **A MAN FOR ALL, 4**

Meditation Monday spreads its wings

Andrew Schroeder
Reporter

Many students have been wondering what Meditation Monday is as they pass the flyers hanging in the hall and see the announcement on the scrolling announcements. "Well, we're not really quite sure yet," said senior Mike Granger, the mastermind behind the work in progress that is Meditation Monday.

Granger came up with the idea earlier this year, and fellow seniors Kevin O'Neill, Matt Odenwald, Luke Dang, and Jason Murphy helped to get it started. Their plan was to meet in the chapel on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to listen to music and just relax. However, they have had only one successful meeting in the chapel because of problems with the sound.

The group doesn't incorporate religion into their meetings, because, according to Granger, "(we) want to keep it

open," he said.

In addition to the music sessions during activity period, Meditation Monday includes movies and music concerts shown in 215c after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They have been asked to take a month-long hiatus during December with the movies so they don't "freak out the moms doing Adoration," according to Granger. They have so far shown the movie *Apocalypse Now* and the concert *Phish: Live in Vegas* in past weeks.

When the seniors return after Senior Project at the end of January, Granger hopes to get the meditating going again with classic rock and jam-bands like Pink Floyd, the Grateful Dead, and Phish. He also wants to expand the horizons of Meditation Monday to some types of jazz and bluegrass music in the future. So if you're looking for a place to relax during activity period and get away from the busy day, the chapel is the place to be on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays next semester.

Charity drives bring hope, help

Dan Everson
Reporter

Two charity drives have been taking place at SLUH this Advent: STUCO's International Awareness Drive and the Association for Cultural Advancement at SLUH (ACES) holiday toy drive. These drives will supply hundreds of the poor with some much-needed Christmas cheer. Deliveries are scheduled to take place over the next week.

ACES' annual holiday toy drive aims to provide Christmas gifts for St. Louis families plagued by HIV/AIDS. ACES President Chris Cahill emphasized this goal: "We try to make their Christmas a little brighter." These families are of many ethnicities, including Bosnians, African, and Asian Americans.

With a larger membership than they had last year, ACES plans to gather most of the toys and other goods for the poor families themselves, "setting an example for the rest of the school," as Cahill put it. They will, of course, accept extra donations from non-members as well.

ACES collections will be completed on Dec. 21, the last day of school before Christmas break. They will later deliver the items to a yet-to-be-determined food pantry for distribution to families in need.

STUCO's International Awareness Drive has similar goals to ACES' toy drive: improve the holidays for lower income families. President Joe Eggleston estimated that about \$4,000 worth of goods will be donated. "(But) that's really rough," he confessed.

Each SLUH homeroom has adopted one of forty participating families. STUCO homeroom representatives and senior advisors received a sheet detailing their particular family's needs, such as cleaning supplies or toiletries. This was also a change from last year, when children in the families made special requests for specific Christmas gifts. Throughout the last several weeks, homerooms have been collecting these goods for delivery.

Delivery is set to take place tomorrow, Dec. 18. Homeroom reps or other designated students will arrive at SLUH
see MAGI, 8

Chess nuts roast Alton

Matt Angeli
Reporter

Last Wednesday, St. Louis U. High's chess team convincingly defeated Alton in a match that was close at only one of the five boards. With fourteen minutes left on each player's clock, the Alton chess player at board three proposed a draw when neither side could get its king to take total control of the center. Junior Matt Angeli accepted on the basis that his team had already clinched the game with victories at boards four, five, and one, played by seniors Isaac Dripps, Luke Dang, and Brian Nienhaus, respectively.

Nienhaus, president of the chess club, was already ahead by two pawns at board one when he forked his opponent's rooks with a knight. Behind in material, the player for Alton fell to a crushing stacked rook attack that sealed his king in behind three pawns.

Ben Geisman, SLUH's board two player, finished last, but not least, as he persuasively won with a queen, some pawns, and his king versus his opponent's lone king. He was ahead in material throughout most of his match.

Both Dang and Dripps won their games while being ahead in material throughout almost all of their matches. Dang's opponent brought his queen out too early and ended up helping Luke in his development. Dang got the major pieces out and took control of the center of the board.

Alton ended up bringing four additional people, so other members of the chess club were able to play some unofficial but still competitive games. The Rookbills' next meet is on Jan. 5 at O'Fallon High School in Illinois. Their next home match is the following week on Jan. 12.

**Merry Christmas
from the Prep News!**

Hand sanitizers placed in cafeteria to fight germs

Andrew Mueth
Core Staff

Last Friday, Scott Gilbert, R.N., announced the installation of two mean, green, germ-fighting hand-sanitizer dispensers at the entrances to the cafeteria. Gilbert addressed the student body at the end of Friday's fine arts assembly, telling the students where the new hand sanitizers were and instructing the students in the art of cleanliness.

According to Gilbert, Director of Admissions Craig Hannick and Gilbert himself made the decision to install hand sanitizers last year but did not follow through on the idea, seeing little need for the devices. However, with this year's shortage of flu vaccines, Gilbert felt that the school "needed to take some steps into protecting staff, faculty, and students."

Two hand sanitizers were installed, the first inside the west doors of the cafeteria, and the second on the outer wall of the cafeteria by the doors on the east side of the cafeteria, closer to the lunch line. Mr. Cleanbills entering the cafeteria now

have the ability to clean their hands before they eat lunch, without having to walk to the restroom.

The hand sanitizers were "very affordable," said Gilbert. The school used the budget money that would have gone towards flu shots to pay for the hand sanitizers and their refills. Each sanitizer costs \$5, and a one liter refill of the solution costs \$7. Gilbert says that each sanitizer will have to be refilled every other day at the current usage rate.

Gilbert thinks that the message he is trying to teach with the hand sanitizers, that hand washing is a necessary means to fight disease, is as important as killing germs with the hand sanitizers.

According to <http://addition.cnn.com/2004/HEALTH/12/13/cold.flu.desk/>, office desktops have almost 21,000 germs per square inch on top of them, and telephones have more than 25,000 germs per

square inch. According to a study by the American Journal of Infection Control, the use of hand sanitizers in schools reduced absences by 28%.

"It's a well-documented fact that hand washing is the first line of defense to prevent the spread of the flu," Gilbert said. "The message should be that hand washing is important all the time," whether or not there are flu shots. The hand sanitizer lotion, made by Purell, "kills 99.9% of germs in as little as fifteen seconds," according to the product package.

"It's actually a little disappointing that we have soap in the bathrooms all over school, but students refuse to go and wash their hands before lunch. It's kind of a shame," Gilbert lamented. He is glad, however, to send the right message to students about hand washing.

Gilbert has noticed a "huge response" to the new sanitizers, and says that they have been used properly so far. Gilbert emphasized last Friday that, unlike soap and water, one squirt of the hand sanitizer is enough to clean anyone's hands.

Gilbert plans to monitor the use of the hand sanitizers over the next few months to determine whether or not he will take them down in the spring after the flu season or leave them in their places for the remainder of the year.



The sanitizer prepares to sanitize.

Talent Show next Tuesday

It's almost Christmas, and that means that it is time to see the students of St. Louis U. High perform in the annual SLUH Talent Show. This year's performances promise to be as entertaining as ever. The show is to be held Dec. 21 in the theater directly following the varsity basketball game against DeSmet.

The jam-packed show will consist of twenty acts to entertain and humor the audience. Said Marty Wilhelm, "We have

dancing, singing, juggling, poetry, and a whole lot of grapes being shoved in Kenny Reagan's mouth."

Continuing with the performances, STUCO president Joe Eggleston said, "N'Sync and the Beastie Boys are going to be there." These are just two of the many musical and dance performances being held at the concert.

Admission for the show will be free; however, donations are going to be accepted.

All the proceeds from the night will go to buying toys for the patients at St. Louis Children's Hospital. —Compiled by Sean Powers



Seniors Tim Rogers, Phil Hof, Joe Eggleston, and Bob Stretch strike a pose while rehearsing a dance for the STUCO talent show.

Christmas Eve Mass
Next Friday, Dec. 24, a Christmas Eve Mass will be held in the chapel starting at 10 p.m. Christmas music will begin the celebration around 9:30 p.m. All Jr. Bills, past and present, and their families are invited to attend.

A MAN FOR ALL

(from 1)

then voted on the resolution, passing it by a slim margin.

According to MSHSAA Executive Director Becky Oakes, the issue has been discussed “for about the last ten or fifteen years.” Many people associated with girls’ sports have noticed that girls have only basketball in the winter, and a plethora in the fall and spring. “We thought it would bring a positive change for the ladies,” said Oakes, even though it would leave boys with only two sports in the winter as well.

Why touch boys water polo? Why not just change boys and girls swimming?

SLUH swimming head coach Fritz Long said that USS and USA swimming competitions occur in the spring. When high school swimming takes place in the spring as well, the best swimmers opt for the USS and USA meets, instead of high school meets. To increase high school participation, MSHSAA and many others wanted to move swimming out of the spring and water polo in.

Long said, “So in moving the girls’ season out of (the spring), you have girls able to swim for both high schools and for their USS and USA teams during that spring season when a lot of those meets come up. And obviously you wouldn’t want to move boys there because then you’d have the same problem but on the boys’ level. So a lot of people thought that the only way you could actually solve that problem was to move water polo. They thought that water polo, you know, doesn’t have that problem.”

However, because water polo is so popular, Long said, “I believe that you might actually have fewer guys go out for USS and USA year round teams because they’d rather be playing polo. So I think that might actually backfire.”

Long said, “The (people) that (were) really pushing for this other than those who want girls in a different season are those parents, adults, and the coaches that are involved in USS or USA year-round programs. Because a lot of the big meets

that year-round swimmers go to are in the spring, they felt that it would be better for their swimmers (if the high school season was not in the spring).”

Oakes acknowledged that the USS and USA teams also influenced the decision to move the season. She said that MSHSAA keeps track of applications for swimmers to compete in the meets, and that “clearly, the number (of meets) is very concentrated in the spring—both the regional and the national competitions are during the spring season. The fall and winter are free for swimming in general.”

To allow for adequate pool time for each sport, boys swimming and water polo had to be moved as well. The new seasons will certainly affect each of the three sports, but many believe that boys water polo, now in the spring, will be affected most.

Water polo head coach Paul Baudendistel commented on a number of issues surrounding spring sports: “There are lots of issues associated with spring sports that are unique to spring sports. One is spring break. It falls right in the middle of the season. One is that the seasons typically end after the school year is over. One is apathy, especially of seniors, towards sports in the spring of their senior year, both the senior athletes and fans. All of those are significant issues, and (they are) compounded by the fact that there are the greatest number of sports in the spring.”

Water polo season in the spring is “going to be different because, usually during the summer we have the Jungle Cats. It’s Mr. Baud’s team that he runs, and it’s pretty much (composed of) varsity players,” said sophomore water polo player Paul Merrill. “It’s nice to have that go right into the fall.”

Merrill is also concerned that conditioning during the winter instead of the summer would be a significant change.

Wehner agreed with Baudendistel on a number of problems associated with spring sports. “If I’m the water polo coach, I worry about senioritis,” said Wehner. “With a lot of athletes, when they’re se-

niors, in the spring of their senior year, they kind of say, ‘I don’t know if I want to do this anymore.’ I mean, it’s spring, the weather is nice, you have things like spring break to deal with.

“If (as a water polo coach) I practice and compete over spring break, well then I might lose some athletes who say ‘I’m going on spring break with my parents, or I’m going on spring break somewhere else.’”

“Plus,” added Wehner, “Mr. Baudendistel recruits a lot of freshmen that just come into the school in the fall and he garners their interest in water polo. Well, are you still going to be able to get those freshmen out in the spring?”

The spring also brings a larger array of sports to compete for potential water polo players. With lacrosse, baseball, volleyball, track and field, rugby, tennis, golf, and Ultimate Frisbee, prospective water polo players will have to make a tough decision.

Chaminade’s Athletic Director, Tom Fiala said, “I suspect (the switch to spring) could be a disadvantage. One reason would be that boys already have so many sports in the spring. And adding another sport in the spring like that concerns us as far as what kind of conflicts that’s going to cause.”

While these changes will affect SLUH, they will have more of an impact on other schools whose water polo players play other sports as well.

Baudendistel said that the change in season might prevent new schools from joining the 21 who currently have water polo programs.

With the polo season in the spring, explained Baudendistel, if you “approach an athletic director and say, ‘Hey! Let’s add this spring sport!’ (The sport) probably is not going to happen. So there is concern not only that the sport will not grow, but in fact that if we lose enough kids to those other spring sports, then some schools that currently have teams won’t be able to have enough kids for a viable water polo team ... At the lower

see SEASONS, 10

Warner leads Rossbills past Vianney, 58-56

Last-second win improves team to 3-2

Henry Samson
Reporter

Any basketball player will tell you that, at some point during the season, the odds will be against him. The St. Louis U. High basketball team had a rough awakening to that fact at the conclusion of the Webster tournament. The Jr. Bills fell last Friday to the preseason No. 2-ranked Webster Statesmen in a hard-played battle, and then the next day lost to Lee's Summit in a game senior Dan Henry said he "would rather forget about." Commenting further, Henry said of the Summit game, "We played terrible."

However, there are two sides to every coin. After two blowout wins, the Jr. Bills met the Statesmen in a contest that was constantly in motion from the tipoff. Webster came out pumped, dunking their first four baskets. Senior courtmaster Dave Goettelmann said, "It was exciting to watch, almost like a college game going back and forth so much."

Even with the onset of Webster's high-flying antics, senior forward John

Warner answered the challenge with a dunk of his own that sent the fans wild. Capitalizing on the quick play, the Bills built up a lead, but Webster found a way to fight back and led 22-20 at the end of the first quarter.

The second quarter brought flurries of buckets for SLUH, which Webster managed to answer. But fouls and turnovers plagued the Jr. Bills, causing the score to slip to 43-34 in favor of the Statesmen at the half.

Two bad ingredients entered the game in the second half. Webster came out of

the locker room re-energized, and the Bills came out a little rusty. After being outscored 25-15 in the third quarter, there

was little hope the Jr. Bills could pull off a victory. After trading points for the remainder of the game, Webster emerged on top by 14, 82-68.

The next day, SLUH clashed with Lee's Summit in the third place game. After a slow first half in which the Jr. Bills were outplayed and looked a far cry from their opening form last week, SLUH was down 29-21 at half.

Then a time bomb went off in the second half.

The Jr. Bills were outscored 43-20 and could not hit any field goals, suddenly going cold for some unknown reason. Their cellar of field goals and second chances seemed to be unalterably cobweb-strewn.

Defense and momentum for the transition offense came to a halt. Nothing shined for
see LAY-UP, 8



Senior Curtis Hoette (white, 32) puts up a shot while junior Paul Cheney (10) looks on. SLUH defeated Vianney, 58-56.

Takedownbills take second in Ritenour Tourney

Jesse Zacher
Reporter

The St. Louis U. High varsity wrestling squad set out to defend their crown as last year's Ritenour Invitational Tournament champions on Saturday, but they fell just short, losing to Lafayette High School and placing second overall. SLUH, however, did place first in their pool of the tournament.

The team wrestled some good matches and ten wrestlers placed in their weight classes. Phil Clerc (130 lbs.), Mike Doherty (135 lbs.), Tom Gezella (171 lbs.), and Eric Gass (215 lbs.) all placed fourth. Andrew Mueth (112 lbs.) had a couple of pins and placed second. Andrew Poulin (119 lbs.), John Holden (140 lbs.), Shaun Whalen (160 lbs.), and Dave Franklin (189 lbs.) all had very good days and took second as well.

Senior heavyweight David Caldwell, however, led the night. Caldwell did not need to work too hard to open the tournament, pinning Elijah Williams of Career Academy in eight seconds. He pinned opponents Earnest Lotts of Riverview and Darius Hunter of Hazelwood as well. Caldwell won the tournament in grand fashion: after falling behind by three points with only thirty seconds to go, he quickly reversed and nearly pinned Addison Myers of Lafayette to seal the win, 7-5.

On Tuesday night at the Griffin dome, the varsity wrestling team suffered its first loss in a dual meet. Both Vianney and SLUH were close throughout the meet, but with a final pin for Vianney in the 152-lb. class, the Griffins pulled ahead to win 34-30. Each match was hard fought, and the competition put forth by Vianney was remarkable.

Caldwell brought the first win with a 39 second pin over Vianney's Nick Neckkick at heavyweight. Poulin also won by pin over Chris Tim at 119 lbs. Clerc pulled off the win with a clutch reversal in the third period, which was followed by an unearned reversal by opponent Brett Krassingier. Clerc still held on to his win, 4-2. Holden worked plenty of good moves and dominated most of his match with an 8-4 win over Andy Vineyard. The meet ended with Whalen's 9-3 victory over Corey Stika.

The Wrestlebills next see action when they face CBC this coming Saturday at 10 a.m. After that, they have a short break until the holiday tournaments at Mehlville and DeSmet. The JV tournament at Mehlville is Dec. 30, and the varsity squad competes in the Spartan Tournament on Dec. 28 and 29.

Nothingbutspeedosbills win Marquette Relays

Kevin O'Neill
Reporter

Last Friday and Saturday, the St. Louis U. High swim team competed in the Marquette Relays. Hoping to defend their first place finish in the 2002 and 2003 Marquette Relays, the U. High swim team was ready to race. After the preliminary heats on Friday, the Speedobills qualified in the final heats for every event. In the finals, held the following afternoon, the Speedobills performed exceptionally well, placing first in the relays yet again.

Scoring 338 total points, the Speedobills defeated Lafayette and Chaminade, who scored 302 and 300 points, respectively. Although the Lafayette Lancers had previously defeated the SLUH team in dual meet competition, the FoPoCoCoBills had better success in the unique relay meet format. In the meet, the SLUH team won both the 900-yard freestyle progression relay and the 300-

yard backstroke relay.

In the 900-yard freestyle progression relay, two swimmers each swim a 200-yard freestyle, and a third swimmer finishes the race by swimming a 500-yard freestyle.

Seniors Adam Trafton and Tim Szewczyk each swam the 200-yard freestyle,

while freshman David Miller swam the 500-yard portion of the relay. With a time of 8:52.92, the Speedobills finished six seconds ahead of both Chaminade and Parkway Central.

"Tim started us off with a lead, and David just brought it home," Trafton said.

In addition to swimming in the freestyle progression relay, Szewczyk and

Miller swam in the victorious 300-yard backstroke relay team. This unique relay, during which swimmers dive off the blocks and roll to their backs to swim the rest of the race, was completed in a time of

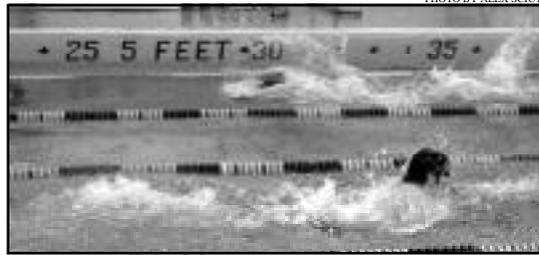
2:48.63. In this event, Lafayette finished in second place behind the Nearlynakedbills.

Despite only winning two events, the Speedobills won the Marquette Relays because of their

overall depth. In the many other events, the Speedobills had three second-place finishes, two third-place finishes, and two fourth-place finishes.

The Jr. Bills also added more state qualifying swimmers to their roster, as senior Brendan Harris, swimming the first leg of the 300-yard butterfly relay, fin

see SWIM, 7



Two Jr. Bills lead the swimming team to victory against Parkway West, 111-76.

Heafner is Mo. water polo Player of the Year

Greg Mantych
Reporter

Out of the many milestones produced by the St. Louis U. High water polo team this year as a whole, senior Tim Heafner is being acknowledged as an individual for his accomplishments. Heafner was recently named the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* Player of the Year.

However, this honor is not new to the SLUH water polo community. Bill Dahlmann was distinguished similarly in 2002, a fellow teammate of Heafner's that same year.

"It's really a team achievement, too," said Heafner, "because their talents really complemented mine. As well as (my team's) support, I really appreciated (the support) from my family."

Heafner comes from a competitive swimming family of three other brothers, including older sibling Tom, who introduced Tim to water polo before his freshman year. Heafner's desire for the sport

grew as he became more and more familiar with it and developed into one of the most solid players SLUH has ever had. He even shared a season with his older brother when he played on varsity as a sophomore.

In addition, Tim's younger brother Jim holds the same team relationship, since they both got the chance to compete together this year.

"He is the most aware player we have ever had," commented head coach Paul Baudendistel, "and he would know just what to do in any situation."

Heafner led the team as well as the area with 99 goals and muscled his way to the top of several more statistics, weighing in at 200 lbs. and standing 6'2" tall.

"I noticed Tim started getting big in 8th grade," recollected fellow Belleville resident Steve Azar, "and he wore a lot of sleeveless shirts."

Heafner's physical talents translated to strong athleticism.

"He could have excelled at any sport

here at SLUH," said Baudendistel, "and luckily he chose the water polo program."

As well as fame from local fans, Heafner's playing has also caught the attention of prestigious colleges. He has received scholarships and offers to play at Iona, Fordham, Loyola Marymount, and Santa Clara.

California is renowned for its emphasis and skill in the sport of water polo. With Loyola Marymount and Santa Clara both being California teams, Heafner would get the chance to play among some of the nation's best.

"California would be a great place for me to get competitive experience," said Heafner, "but I would be grateful to go and play anywhere."

Whatever college he chooses to play at, Heafner will surely make a sound addition to that team and succeed. Being an avid swimmer, Heafner competes for the SLUH swim team as well, so everyone should take some time to watch him and the entire team dominate the water.

Caldwell, Simmons make All-State FB first team

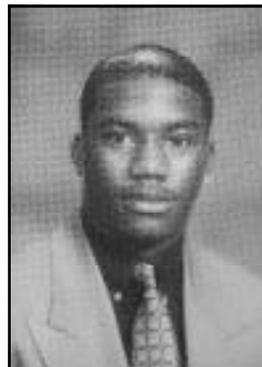
Seth Clampett
Core Staff

Last Wednesday, Dec. 8, two of St. Louis U. High's own made the elite All-State football team, joining only 33 other Jr. Billikens who have ever received the honor. Junior Stephen Simmons was named one of the three top running backs and senior David Caldwell joined the team as one of the five best defensive linemen in the state.

Head coach Gary Kornfeld said, "It's quite an accomplishment. Any time you're selected All-State, especially first team as these two guys are, (it's) an achievement. You're in a select group."

19 players have been honored as All-State players while Kornfeld has worked at SLUH; ten players have received the honor since he became head coach. The list of past All-State football players includes John McArthur, '95, who now helps the coaching staff, and Matt Herzberg, '84 (the father of current senior Matt), who was named to the list as both a junior and a senior.

The list of All-State players is compiled by various sports writers from around



Simmons.

the state during the weekend of the state championship games. They select several players for a first and second team in all divisions.

Caldwell said he found out that he had been named to the All-State team the next morning. "Somebody told me that they saw that I had made All-State in the paper," he said.

Caldwell proved his value with a combined 52 tackles, 40 solo and 12 assists. He also had two sacks and one fumble recovery.

Caldwell said of his achievement, "I was kind (of) suprised. I felt pretty good. It really came as a shock to me. I thought (the list) was already out. It shocked and suprised me, but I'm pretty happy about it."

Caldwell has not been offered any athletic scholarships in light of making the All-State team, and he will "probably not" play football next year.

Simmons learned of his accomplishment the Wednesday the results came out when his mother called and "told me to go

SPEEDO

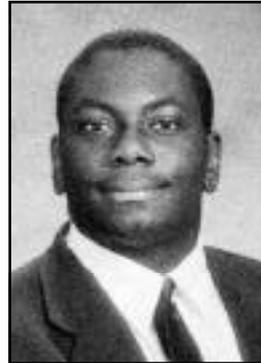
(from 6) ished his 100-yard butterfly with a time of 57.72.

Much of the victory can also be attributed to the successful performance by the diving team. The diving team, consisting of juniors Zack Berndsen, Nick Ruemker, and sophomore Jim Heafner, placed third out of the fourteen teams. With a combined score of 480.25, the divers captured 32 points.

After winning the Marquette Relays, the Speedobills swam against Parkway West on Tuesday, Dec. 14. The Speedobills easily defeated Parkway West by a score of 111-76. Once again, Wes Going qualified for state, with a time of 50.25 in the 100 freestyle. Going is now qualified to swim five individual events at state in addition to two relays.

buy a paper."

Simmons said "I feel proud (and) I'm (going to do) better next year, and I'm going for the (SLUH all-time rushing) record." This season, Simmons rushed for 1,269 yards, averaging six yards per carry and scoring 14 touchdowns.



Caldwell.

Senior captain Matt Herzberg said of his teammates, "I think they are two great guys. They deserve it more than anybody on the team from

their performance. Simmons is a great team player and Caldwell speaks for himself. I'm glad for both of them. It's been a great experience playing with both (of) those guys, and they've brought a lot to our team."

Offensive coordinator Rob Chura said of the honor, "I think it is a very deserving honor for both of them. Stephen obviously did so many things for us offensively, (so) it's very fitting. David played on both sides of the ball, and whichever side he was on, offense or defense, he was really critical and important in our success. It's a geat honor for both of them."

Kornfeld added, "It's a great honor at the end of the year for guys who have stood out, and I think both those guys have."

Announcement from the Pulse:

Our new website is interactive! You can view the song that's playing and make requests. Even if there isn't a DJ in, your song WILL BE PLAYED! Just visit www.sluh.org/pulse.

The Prep News congratulates *St. Louis Post Dispatch* all-Metro soccer players:

Senior Brent Zang:

First team, defender

Senior Tim Weir:

Second team, midfielder

Junior Zach Weiss:

Honorable mention, midfielder

LAY-UP

(from 5)

the Jr. Bills that night as they hit the wall, losing to Lee's Summit 72-41.

Eager to avenge their two previous losses, the Jr. Bills entered the realm of MCC play Tuesday night at home against the Vianney Golden Griffins. This time the coin had flipped as SLUH emerged with a down to the wire victory, 58-56.

Unfortunately, the Jr. Bills dribbled into an unlucky trend of multiple fouls and a slow, traditional half court style game, which was much to their disadvantage, especially since Vianney has a forward measuring 6'3", 285 lbs.

The first half was characterized by lead changes and key shots from both teams; SLUH played some nitty gritty defense, leading by one point at halftime, 21-20. This game, it already seemed, was going to be an absolute war until the final

whistle.

The Jr. Bills came out firing in the second half. Goettelman emphatically dropped two of the team's nine bombs from behind the arc immediately, a perfect "we're here to battle" statement. But Vianney answered back with a couple volleys of their own, leading by the end of the third quarter, 36-35.

The fourth quarter proved to be the most exciting. Both SLUH and Vianney stepped up the intensity level of the game and went back and forth until a key moment. Vianney, caught in double bonus penalties with a good amount of time left in the game, fouled Warner twice, giving him four crucial free throws. Warner iced all four, and it looked like the game could be closed as the Jr. Bills held a five point lead going into the final minute of the game.

Then things got hectic. Vianney scored four quick points to the Jr. Bills' two. Sitting on a three point lead with 35 seconds left, SLUH was content until a Griffin dropped a bomb from the corner, silencing the crowd and tying the game at 56.

After the ensuing chaos, SLUH found itself with a full court inbound, 7.2 seconds left, and a prayer resting on the shoulders of senior Curtis Hoette.

"The plan," said Hoette, "was for me to drive down court and kick it out for a shot. But no one was open and they cleared the lane, so I took the drive."

In March Madness-esque style, Hoette navigated through traffic and laid the ball against the glass. It bounced twice on the rim in Hollywood fashion and dropped through the net at the final buzzer. Jubilant cries went up from the SLUH fans, as Vianney's hope of a comeback had been shattered in an instant.

Henry remarked that it was key to start off with a win in the MCC. "We want to win the MCC this year. But we still have things to work on." One of these things is fouls. The Bills have racked up 46 fouls in the last three games combined, a number that must go down if they want to keep winning.

Round two of MCC play begins tonight at 7 p.m. at Chaminade. Anything can happen in MCC games, so come out and support the team.

MAGI

(from 2)

by 9:00 a.m. for donuts in the commons. After receiving directions, the students will personally deliver the gifts to their respective families, an action known to create Christmas joy for the givers as much as the recipients.

Eggleston recalled his experiences from freshman year, "I went (to the delivery) with my senior advisor. ... It's amazing how thankful (the families) are ... and how welcoming, too."

Editor's note: See page 9 for Paul Barker's reflection on his experiences delivering gifts during his SLUH career.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

PHOTO BY A. WOODROW SCIUTO



The Spanish Christmas tree appears to loom large in the Jesuit wing Lobby.

—PERSPECTIVE—

Hiding behind a coat: delivering gifts to the needy

Paul Barker

Special to the *Prep News*

Editor's Note: We at SLUH speak of being "men for others" on a daily basis, and the need to be men for others is heightened in the Christmas season. The perspective below is an account of senior Paul Barker's experiences of being a man for others in the Christmas spirit.

Rows of washcloths, Listerine, lip balm, DVDs. This is the first time I've shopped Target alone, and like most of the everyday tasks that come naturally to other people, it's baffling me. Where are the paper towels? I'd expected to walk right in and see a display of them, Brawny and Bounty and the rest, waiting for me at the door. Isn't that how these stores work?

For the third time in my high school career, I'm helping put together my homeroom's Christmas gift to a needy family in St. Louis. The first time, my freshman year, my mom bought me something small, batteries or nail clippers, to take into school as a contribution. Our homeroom gathered a mound of things in baskets, and a week before Christmas break I tagged along with two of my senior advisors to the family's house. They were Bosnian and quite poor, and their home was in a part of the city I'd never seen before. I hadn't known what to expect—I thought we would drop off the items and head home. But they invited us in, a grandmother, a mother and father, an older daughter, two young ones, and we talked for over an hour. The daughter did nearly all the talking, and her English was pretty good. The old woman rocked back and forth and cried. The father offered us cigarettes and beer, which we refused. I recall being incredibly uncomfortable, hiding as best I could behind the coat of my senior advisor, offering small laughs when it seemed appropriate and wondering about the time.

My junior year I forgot to buy my assigned item, and so, as penance, I volunteered to deliver the presents again. My sister drove me to the Vietnamese family's house, which turned out to

be only a couple of blocks from our own. Once again it was an older daughter who spoke enough English to carry on a conversation. My sister had learned how to handle herself—I hadn't—and so she began to take things out of their bags and explain what some of them were. The mother began to cry. "She's just happy," the daughter said. "It's okay." I was prepared this time, but I still didn't know what to say. They showered us with thank yous an hour later when, finally, we made our way out the door.

This year I'm a senior advisor, and in the past few weeks it's fallen on me and the three seniors in my room to organize the drive. I couldn't rally support from the freshmen to come along and shop with me, so I went to Target alone with the money we'd raised. I couldn't afford all of the items, but I got what I thought were the important ones: toiletries, bath towels, a warm blanket, and (when I finally found them) paper towels.

On the way home, my history with the Christmas fundraiser struck me. I remembered the feel of the families' homes, the smell of breakfast still in the air. I recalled their disbelief at the amount they'd been given and their insistent gratitude. I thought of the solidity of my senior advisors three years ago and my sister's hopeful maturity. And, driving myself home, suddenly aware of my age and my gradual transformation into someone who could go to the store on his own and buy what was needed, I promised myself I'd make a couple of the freshmen come along to deliver. They can hide behind my coat if they need to, but the moment of a family accepting such a tremendous gift—and the weight that kind of exchange carries with it—is something they have to see.



Prep News Eveningbeats *Racquetball*

The U. High Racquetball team dismantled the Golden Griffins of Vianney yesterday afternoon at the Vetta Sports Complex, giving up only a total of only 33 points and winning all seven matches. The Jr. Bills received especially stellar performances from No. 3 seed Justin Langan and No. 6 seed Joe Hejlek. The two won their matches 15-0, 15-1, and 15-1, 15-1, respectively. Head coach Joe Koestner called the match one of the quickest in recent history.

Latin Football

A Latin Football game for the ages pitted the Slaves against the Groundlings. The two teams checked each other, until the Groundlings pulled ahead by three. As the clock sunk to zero, the Slaves kicked a clutch field goal from midfield, ending the game in a tie as the crowd went wild.

SEASONS

(from 4)

end, there is real concern that teams are going to have to fold.”

However, Baudendistel does not foresee these problems as much of an issue at SLUH. “All of those things that make (the water polo season) more difficult (in the spring) will be less of an issue at SLUH than they are at other schools,” Baudendistel said.

While the lower end water polo programs may suffer, the upper tier may thrive with new competition from teams from Illinois, who play in the spring.

Baudendistel pointed out another advantage for moving water polo to the spring: “A good thing is it comes after swim season, so if there are (swimmers) who are kind of on the fence about, ‘Should I try out for water polo or not?’ at least it will be easier to identify who those kids are.”

Overall, said Baudendistel, “I feel very comfortable having (water polo) as a fall sport, because your football and soccer players tend not to be your water polo players. And I don’t know that that’s true with lacrosse, golf, baseball, and tennis.

“I think the negatives outweigh the positives as far as Missouri water polo,” he added.

In moving from the winter to the fall, swimming will undergo relatively few changes when compared with water polo, or even girls’ swimming.

SLUH swimming head coach Fritz Long said, “I don’t know if it will actually affect the swimming program other than the guys who were playing water polo always came into the swimming program pretty much in shape. (The swimmers) will probably be a bit more out of shape in the beginning of the season. But I don’t think it would change anything else too much.”

Wehner downplayed the effect the season switch will have on boys’ swimming. “Water polo is the thing that’s going to get affected the most. I don’t think swimming will be affected that much.”

Oakes recognized that there are some disadvantages, including coaching and fa-

cility issues. However, she said that is the reason the extra time before the switch was built in. “The few years until we change the season will give schools time to resolve those issues,” said Oakes.

Said Nerinx Hall’s Athletic Director Nancy Milward in an e-mail, “(Swapping the swimming and water polo seasons) is not a new issue. We started about 15 years ago to try and get the girls’ swimming and diving season changed to winter to bring more equality to girls’ sports in the winter ... The third time it was put on the ballot there (were) a lot of issues dealing with club swimming for girls versus high school swimming and how unfair it was for boys to be able to swim high school and club but the girls had to make choices. The better (female) swimmers were not swimming for their high schools, but for club teams. The third time it reached the ballot there was a lot of discussion on the move. Not all schools were in favor of moving the seasons. It only passed by 7 votes.”

The resolution, which has been discussed in part for nearly fifteen years, was defeated in balloting two times prior to being passed.

Many, including Baudendistel and Fiala, are frustrated at the way MSHSAA went about passing the changes. Baudendistel said, “This has been proposed several times, and basically they kept voting on it until they got the voting results they wanted. And now, people from the area have called and said, ‘Look, can we have another vote?’ and they’ve said, ‘No.’”

Fiala said, “I don’t know how many times they did it, but two years prior to that they voted on it, and two years prior to that they voted on it, so I know that this was at least the third time that they had voted, at least within in the last five years. That is somewhat disturbing, the fact that each time it was a fairly close vote, but they just kept bringing it back to the table until they finally won by (a few) votes.”

Fiala suggested that although the season switch was intended to help girls, in some cases it may have the opposite effect. “I have spoken to a number of co-ed

schools that were opposed to switching the seasons,” Fiala said. “Some of the people I had spoken to had a number of girls swimmers (who) were cheerleaders. And evidently their cheerleading covers the fall and the winter, basically with football, soccer, and basketball, and they were concerned about that. (Changing the seasons will) eliminate (female swimmers) from being cheerleaders.”

Cor Jesu Academy’s and Nerinx Hall’s Athletic Directors, Marianne Haberstroh and Nancy Milward, respectively, disagreed. “I think that (the move) gives another sport for the girls. They only have one sport in the winter. So it gives another sport for the girls in the winter,” said Haberstroh. “I think that the competition with some of the other spring sports (right now) definitely hurts the enrollment of the swimming program.”

Milward said, “I think that it is a good move for girls’ sports because I think, in the next 5 years, with the moving of girls’ swimming, it will open the door for lacrosse—girls’ and boys’—to become a state recognized sport like field hockey.”

However, the move could hurt the availability of pools for the girls. According to Haberstroh, many of the private schools use college or university pools, and the winter is the college swimming season.

“I’m sure that you could come up with advantages from a girls’ perspective, but then again there’s a perspective which has disadvantages with girls,” Fiala said. “But I know that there were certainly a lot of schools that I talked to that were opposed to (the change), and they were dealing with boys and girls.”

Long said, “The big issue of the whole thing overall is just that it’s not just high school teams. (MSHSAA is) not all concerned about what is best for the high school student. They’re looking at the big picture of state competition, regional competitions, national competitions, where they fall, and stuff involved with them. They’re looking at more than just Missouri high schools.”

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SOCOM

(from 1)

both class time and material without gains in critical thinking, reflection, or spirituality. Also, 40 of 56 survey responses expressed an interest in exploring alternative scheduling possibilities.

“Jesuit education is about learning to appreciate aesthetic experiences,” said Missey. “Teachers seem to be saying that they have lost class time ... (so) we just don’t have much time to reflect ... or to linger on a problem ... it’s just this kind of stampede from one thing to the next because we’re tight (on time).”

Committee member Charlie Busenhart conducted the parent survey during Open House, asking sophomore, junior, and senior parents to answer questions concerning their opinions on their student’s schedule and work load and how the seven period schedule affects

MORE

(from 10)

Oakes said, “If you take a pad of paper, and you list all the advantages and the disadvantages, you are going to find that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.”

She continued, “Whenever you make a major adjustment like (changing seasons), there are about two or three years of adjustment time.” Oakes believes that after time swimming and water polo will find their niche and will thrive in the new season.

“In the end,” she said, “(we) have to look at the numbers. There are about 100 girls’ and boys’ swimming teams while there are only 18 water polo schools. You have to look at where the greater good is.”

Get to know your...

A patron of the *Prep News* since his years as a pleasingly plump freshman, this *wunderkind* writer is known best for his odd adolescent development. A convert who left the sweaty, ringworm-infested wrestling mats for the greener pastures of literary excellence, he is our sports editor. He is Tim Huether.

each.

Said Busenhart, “(The survey) is a study of time to find out if by doing the seven periods, did we harm students in terms of the amount of time they have to do work that they want to do ... How much time is spent on people doing a paying job? How much time might be spent on community service? ... Do we need to change it or is it working?”

The survey also asked parents how the seven period day affected students’ work load and, by extension, their other activities. Parents generally responded with support for the seven period day, although for various reasons.

Some parents cited that the opportunity to take an additional course enhanced their son’s education, while other parents said that their sons needed the unscheduled study period during the day to succeed in SLUH. However, parents did not feel that the seven periods overburdened

their sons.

“They felt their sons were doing just about the right (amount of homework),” said Busenhart. “The 30 minutes in each subject per night, counting what they do during the day, would be what they expect.”

This week, the student surveys attempted not only to gain student insight, but also to see how well the seven period schedule has answered the problems of the previous six period schedule.

According to a May 1998 school-wide student survey on the successes and failures of the six period day, there were two major student sentiments. First, students felt that although the class schedule adequately prepared them for college, it did not accommodate all of the electives that they wanted to take, especially in fine arts and computers. Second, many students wanted the opportunity to have a

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“ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS” CREDITS

Volume LXIX, Issue 15

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Quote of the Week

“That’s my middle-west—not the wheat or the prairies or the lost Swede towns but the thrilling, returning trains of my youth and the street lamps and sleigh bells in the frosty dark and the shadows of holly wreaths thrown by lighted windows on the snow.”

—Fitzgerald’s *The Great Gatsby*

by Andrew Mueth

Calendar

Dec. 17-Jan. 3

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

Schedule R
Senior Semester Exams
IM Basketball Fr
V SW vs. Cape Girardeau, Notre Dame, 5:00
V/B BB @ Chaminade, 5:30/7 p.m.
C BB Blue @ Chaminade, 4:00 p.m.
Cookies, Pizza

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

V/B BB @ Bishop DuBourg, 4:30/6 p.m.
V/JV/C WR @ CBC, 10:00 a.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

Schedule R
Senior Semester Exams
IM Basketball Fr.
C WR vs. Northwest House Springs, 4:30 p.m.
Cheese Garlic Bread and Pizza

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Schedule R
Senior Semester Exams
IM Basketball So.
Young Republicans
STUCO Talent Show
V/B BB vs. DeSmet, 5:30/7 p.m.
C BB Blue vs. DeSmet, 4:30

C BB White vs. DeSmet, 3:15
Bosco Sticks, Chicken Rings and Hot Wings

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Christmas Break thru Jan. 2, 2005

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

V/B BB @ Parkway West, 5:30/7 p.m.
C BB White vs. CBC, 11:30 a.m.
C BB Blue vs. CBC, 10:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Alumni Mass, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

JV WR @ Mehlville Tournament, 9 a.m., thru 29th
C BB Blue @ Jennings Tournament thru 29th

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

V WR @ DeSmet, The Spartan Tournament, 9:00 a.m.
V BB @ Collinsville Tourn. thru 30th

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

C WR vs. CBC, 10 a.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2005

Schedule R
Senior Grades Due
Senior Service Project Missioning Service, 9:30 a.m.
Sisyphus Manuscripts Due
B BB @ CBC Tournament thru 7th
C BB Blue @ St. Mary's, 4 p.m.
Seasoned Fries and Pizza

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

V SW @ Parkway Central, 4:00 p.m.
Fiestadas and Crispito Burrito

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

V/JV Wr @ MICDS Tournament, 6:00 p.m.
V SW vs. Mehlville, 4:00
Toasted and Baked Ravioli

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

V/B BB vs. Hazelwood West, 4:30/6 p.m.
C BB White @ Westminster Tournament
C WR @ Ft. Zumwalt West, 4:30
Cookies, Mostaccioli with Bread Sticks

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

V/JV WR @ Vianney Tournament thru 8th
C BB Blue @ CBC, 4 p.m.
Bosco Sticks and Stuffed Crust Pizza

COMMS

(from 11)
scheduled study hall during the school day outside of activity period.

At that time, many of the students who wanted to take extra electives did so through special schedules created by Assistant Principal for Staff Development Art Zinselmeyer, who was then the Dean of Academics.

"Many times, Ms. Whealon would have a serious ceramics student in a class with first year ceramics students. ... You can see the mismatch of that," said Zinselmeyer. "So, the idea was thought, 'Well, if we add another period to the day, a seventh period, then maybe that would give kids an opportunity to take these courses that they want to take.'"

Besides offering greater schedule flexibility to students, the seven-period schedule change also needed to accom-

modate curriculum changes that had accompanied the North Central reevaluation. The freshman biology requirement changed from a one semester human biology course to a full year general biology course, and Global History I became a full-year course which met three times a week. For the rest of the school, all theology courses began to meet daily, and graduation now required four semesters of physical education.

Now, the new Scheduling Committee is evaluating the success of the seven period day in terms of its goals, the difficulties that it brings, and the current school environment.

"What is the best use of time for students to learn and faculty to teach?" asked principal Mary Schenkenberg, who heads the committee.

She continued, "It's one of the situa-

tions that every school grapples with Learning is taking place at SLUH. Whether it is the best environment or the only environment is the question."

Zinselmeyer added, "We are still dealing with basically an 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. school day, and all we did was jam more into that 8 to 3 I would say that it did achieve some of its results, but is it a good success?"

In addition to the results of these surveys, committee members also plan to visit area schools with different schedules to evaluate those schedules while seniors are away on project in January. Pending the conclusions of the Scheduling Committee, the current schedule may be changed or replaced, but as of yet, the committee has not yet made any decisions concerning the schedule.